

Putting Together the Transfer Fair Puzzle



Prepare Before the Transfer Fair

Take a moment on Friday night to **visit the convention website** at <http://convention.neptk.org/> and click on the logos for each college attending. This will give you a chance to learn a little bit more about each college in advance. You can narrow down your choices to specific geographic regions if you desire. By knowing a little about each college in advance, you can better utilize your time with the admissions representatives – don't forget that **two hours goes by quickly!**

Remember to Keep Your Options Open

Many of you already have "dream colleges" in mind or are planning on only applying to one institution. If a college seems too far away, perhaps they have an on-line or distance education program. If the idea of attending a women's college or technical college doesn't immediately appeal to you, ask the admissions representative why they think it's a good idea. Keep in mind that many private colleges actually cost *less* than public ones due to financial aid. **Don't be afraid to explore your possibilities** by speaking to several schools.

Think Ahead – For Yourself & Others

Not planning to transfer for another year or more? **Talk to admissions representatives now anyway!** Bear in mind that next year's fair might be after each college's application deadline, so you might not get another chance to meet with representatives in the future. Also, advisers and students who are not planning to transfer can use this opportunity to **help chapter members by obtaining information for them**, or even invite admissions representatives to visit your college.

Ask Great Questions

It is important not to be shy when approaching a school's table. Admissions representatives are here to answer questions and help students – give them a warm Phi Theta Kappa welcome by showing your interest! Create a great first impression by **asking some intelligent, constructive questions:**

- *If a list of the programs of study is not prominently displayed: "Do you offer a major in_____?"
And/or: "What are some programs this school is known for?"*

(continued on reverse)

(continued from other side)

- "Are you co-educational? Do you specialize in the liberal arts or technical programs?"
- "How many undergraduates attend this school? Why do you think this is a good size?"
- "What sorts of career opportunities have recent graduates had?"
- *If the financial aid information is not on the table/is not specific enough:* "Could I have some information about tuition and financial aid? Do you offer Phi Theta Kappa scholarships?"
- "How can I visit your college? Do you have any open houses I could attend?"

If you like the sound of a school, it's time to **ask more specific questions** about student life, academics, and so on. And one of the final questions to ask, if this is the case, is: "**Could I sign up for the mailing list?**" Usually, there will be cards on the table for you to fill out.

Keep Track of Your Information

Getting a business card from an admissions representative, **taking relevant information from a display table**, and having a **nice long conversation with the representative** are all ways to remember a particular school – and for *them* to remember *you*! If it is possible to **jot down notes** about a college, do so.

After the fair, **review all of the materials** and get a more in-depth look at the school. Check out websites, contact admissions offices (and, if possible, the representative from the fair) with any additional questions, and figure out if, in fact, a particular school should go on your list of schools to apply to.



Ask Phi Theta Kappa Alums for Advice

Don't forget that many of our Phi Theta Kappa alums have gone on to some of the very colleges represented at our fair! Ask the admissions representatives if they can put you **in touch with a Phi Theta Kappan** currently on campus. You can also **ask NERA, the New England Region's alumni association, if they can put you in touch with a local Phi Theta Kappan** who has experience with the institution(s) you're interested in. The amazing Phi Theta Kappa network is always here to help you, at your two-year college and beyond!

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