**Hello PDC’ers!**

On March 30, we hosted Brian Trecek, Director of Admissions, and he held a Q/A session regarding Marquette University School of Dentistry. Here are information that he shared with us!

**Marquette Experience**

-Debt is a given when you go to dental school, so it doesn’t make a difference if you go to a private or public school. The benefit of attending Marquette is that you are guaranteed a job after graduation

-Students gain early clinical experience. Students begin working with their patients during year one

-Students go through rounds. Four student groups (freshman to seniors) collaborate in working with patients. Everyone has a part to present relative to what they are learning at their specific year.

-The facility at Marquette is patient centered and friendly

-Marquette has high tech simulation labs

-At the rural outreach in Wisconsin, students serve in underserving communities at different clinical sites.

-Accreditation every 2 years: 98% graduation rate

**What are characteristics of a strong application?**

-Rigorous course load

-Grades that are consistent

-Strong standardized test scores

-Good quality letters of recommendations

-Applicants that show maturity, leadership, service, and good communication skills

-Applicants that are well oriented to the profession

**Apart from GPA and DAT scores, Marquette also considers these factors:**

-Career and research experiences

-Active in student organization

-Volunteer work with the underprivileged

-Mission work

-Leadership

-Characteristics that would bring diversity to the class

-Interest in addressing oral health disparities

-First generation college student

-Significant exposure to dentistry

-Overcoming unusual hardship

**Marquette has specialty clinics in:**

-Orthodontics

-Endodontics

-Prosthodontics

-Pediatric Dentistry

-Advanced Case

-Surgical Services

**Words of Advice:**

-Dental schools are not an easy place to get into. It’s important to be knowledgeable about the schools you apply to as opposed to applying to 20 schools and hoping for the best.

-Don’t be discouraged about seeing GPA averages. People with high and low GPA’s get rejected and accepted respectively.

-Applying early is very important. Early applications are seen very early and get admitted sooner. AADSAS takes 4-6 weeks to process. There is no need to have your DAT taken before you submit your application, but update it as soon as you can.

-It’s important to be a good student with an upward trend from freshman to senior year. It’s also important to challenge yourself with a rigorous coursework.-

-There are lines of demarcation. You may not be considered even if you have great experiences outside academics if you fall below a certain GPA and DAT score.

-Participation in long term volunteering position is better than short term in multiple positions

-Leadership position is highly considered and evaluated

-During your interview, body language, participation, and overall behavior is important. The person you are is more important than being prepared for the questions.

If you have any questions for Brian, here is his contact information:

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