**COLLEGE 105 TIME TO PREPARE & CREATE A STRATEGY FOR APPLYING**

**FROM THE DESK OF THE DEAN**

**TOPIC 2**

**BREAKDOWN OF SAFE, REACH & STRETCH SCHOOLS**

**90% - 60% - 20% ODDS OF ADMISSION**

I would breakdown your list of school's into what professionals believe are Safety 90% and above, Reach 50% and above and Stretch 20% and below. In today's environment what seems like a safety, or reach school may not be depending on how students from your school, community, and region have applied. Colleges and Universities have a limit on how many kids they will take from each school because they prefer more diversity from different schools in the area and geographic diversity.

For example - at your school you may have a 3.8 weighted GPA and 3.6 unweighted GPA with a 29 ACT and 1280 SAT. USC is your top choice and very popular among students from your school and community. You are ranked 51st out of 80 that applied this year. Despite your very solid grades and great extracurricular's, USC is not going to take number 51 ranked of the 80 that applied unless there are special circumstances. Those special circumstances - you are a recruited athlete, auditioned on campus or your family makes a huge donation. So apply to USC if you like but do not plan on getting in.

When you start applying, please apply to 3-6 safety schools, 3-6 reach schools and 1-2 stretch schools. Of course you can apply to more but the numbers provided will give you lots of choices at the end of the process.

**DISCUSSION QUESTION 1**

Select 3-6 Safety Schools 90% chance to apply. Explain why you selected your top 2? What will you study?

**DISCUSSION QUESTION 2**

Select 3-6 Reach Schools 60% chance to apply. Explain why you selected your top 2? What will you study?

**DISCUSSION QUESTION 3**

Select 3-6 Stretch Schools 20% to apply. Explain why you selected your top 2? What will you study?

**DISCUSSION QUESTION 4 – SET UP CALL WITH THE DEAN**

**Please have your questions and assignments available to discuss in a 15-30 minute block.**