



**UCONN** |

THE GRADUATE SCHOOL

# Connecting Admissions Criteria, Outcomes, and Competencies

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- **Doctoral Research University: Highest Research Activity**
- **Enrollment**
  - 32,037 total
  - 7,139 graduate
- **Degrees conferred**
  - 229 Certificates
  - 1750 Master's
  - 379 Doctoral



# Master's Admissions Attributes: Northeast Regional Focus Group

- University of Connecticut
- Southern Connecticut State University
- Worcester Polytechnic Institute
- University of Massachusetts - Amherst

1. Defining applicant's potential for success
2. Information collected and considered
3. Ability of information materials to predict success

# Potential for success

What is success?

- Degree completion
- Placement in meaningful position

# Potential for success

- Typical criteria: GPA, GRE, degree-granting institution

**BUT** these may disadvantage underserved students

- Better criteria: Evidence of critical thinking, relevant experience, persistence, tenacity

# Information collected

- GPA
- GRE, GMAT
- Prior educational institutions
- Personal statement
- Letters of recommendation

# Predicting success

- GPA and GRE/GMAT are of limited use
- Personal statements and faculty recommendation letters reveal many important things

**BUT** they are very inconsistent and subject to coaching and familiarity bias



# Workshop at UMass - Amherst (Sept 2017)

NEAGEP participants + associates

- Replace personal statement and letters of recommendation with
- Self-assessment on qualities important for success
- Recommender assessment on qualities important for success