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## **College Admission Test: Screening for College Aptitude**

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## COLLEGE ADMISSION TESTS

SCREENING FOR COLLEGE APTITUDE, by Francis C. Madigan, S.J. and Manuel Gapud. Cagayan de Oro City: The Research Institute for Mindanao Culture, Xavier University, 1968. xiii, 65 pp.

The study describes and discusses the use of tests for screening of applicants for entrance into Xavier University. The importance of the study for the Philippine scene is emphasized by the correlation studies done. Many insights and implications gathered raise questions for further investigation (p. 53-55).

It was inevitable (p. 6-7) that the researchers clarify the use and type of foreign tests. The reviewer agrees with their statement with respect to selective admission but would like to point out that many responsible for interpretation and use of test results are too rigidly bound by manuals. The consequence of this rigidity is the failure to help individual students before and after their entrance into college. Despite this shortcoming, the use of tests in the decision-making process of admission is necessary for an institution and *this study* seems to confirm this by its finding (p. 53).

The reader who ploughs through the statistics and the tables will be well rewarded. However, the combining of the *Otis Self-Administering Test of Mental Ability* and the *California Test of Mental Maturity* should be eliminated because those tests are measuring different aspects of intelligent behavior. Perhaps the Non-Verbal score of the CTMM could be used for counseling (found valuable at the Ateneo de Manila University and the American School in Japan). The slighting of this area by the present investigators is understandable in the light of not finding it useful for screening purposes.

A noteworthy point is the necessary use of longitudinal analysis with respect to individual students noted throughout the study. The importance of local norms (p. 6), the concept of grading, and critical cut-off scores hinted at in the study, are relevant topics which demand further investigation.

This book can be recommended wholeheartedly to Admission Officers, Counselors, and for use in graduate schools.

JAMES F. CULLIGAN