

Higher Education Finance & Operations Update



Trends

UGA aims to increase graduate enrollment

The University of Georgia is implementing a new plan to increase its graduate student enrollment. To ensure that its graduates are well-rounded for careers in both industry and academia, UGA is offering new funding opportunities, unique interdisciplinary programs, and a wider array of professional development opportunities. To increase funding, UGA expanded its Voluntary Incentive Program and hired grant coordinators. UGA is aiming to offer new interdisciplinary master's and doctoral degree programs to add to its already large array of disciplines. According to the Bureau of Labor Statistics, careers that require a master's degree are expected to grow 14% from 2014 to 2024, while careers requiring a doctoral or professional degree are expected to grow 12%. The University of Georgia is determined to meet this demand.

Lean/Cost Savings

New Infrastructure to generate energy savings at Univ. of Massachusetts - Amherst

Partnering with Brightery (a solar energy equipment supplier), the Univ. of Massachusetts at Amherst will install ~15,500 solar panels across its campus and generate significant energy for University operations. The project and partnership will deliver 1/5 of the University's energy needs, generate \$6.2M in savings over the next 20 years, and provide scholarships and funding for STEM education, career mentoring, and a new learning lab on-campus. Installations are to be completed by the end of this year.

Feature Story

Rising Fees at USC

The University of South Carolina's rising fees are generating concern among students. Course specific fees for the College of Engineering and Computing were the main fees of concern.

- **Two years ago, the fee was \$200 per semester. Today, it's \$918**

Students feel powerless to these changes because, once they are approved, they are tough to revert. USC officials blame these fees on the decline in state funding and support.

- **The State supported 23% of the school's 2007-2008 budget, now, it only supports 10.5%**

USC's President argues that these schools and course-specific fees are better than raising tuition. By adding fees for only specific schools, programs, or courses, it helps raise money for that specific program.

Capital Projects

New Center for Penn State's School of Engineering

Penn State's \$16.5M, 60,000 square foot building is strategically designed to encourage meaningful interactions between its School of Engineering's faculty/students and business/industry partners. The Advanced Manufacturing and Innovation Center (AMIC) is the first U.S. innovation center where academia and industry come together in an open lab environment. The west wing of the AMIC consists of faculty space, classrooms, and two specialty work areas. The new area expands the college's Advanced Manufacturing Lab. A second lab contains the region's "most powerful environmental scanning electron microscope." AMIC's east wing is reserved for industry tenants. As a result of the new center, research activity at Penn State has increased by 58% since 2012.

Innovation (in Analytics)

Translating Data to Meaningful Information

The Campus Tech 2016 Technology Trend panel discussed how analytics can play a significant role on college campuses. Analytical tools can answer complex questions, including factors that affect student performance. For example, to understand the student life cycle and its impact, the Univ. of Maryland Univ. College combined multiple sets of data (including enrollment, course completion, and financial data) into one platform for common analysis. Through analytics, faculty can also better respond to students by pinpointing student specific needs. Analytics must be combined with work-flow and interaction tools to truly be effective.



Other Headlines

Trends continued:

Gov. Haley directs SC agencies to plan possible budget cuts - Education: ~\$86.2M

Money magazine releases 2016 top colleges ranking

Tuition at public colleges has soared in the past decade, but student fees have risen faster

College endowments seen posting worst returns since 2009

The 10 majors and colleges that produce the highest-earning grads

Colleges brace for changes to FAFSA

Industry chaos prompts universities to divorce medical centers

Facts may trump rankings in college choice marketplace

Resource Allocation:

Colleges prioritize affordability for first-year students

How the University of California and public schools use reserve funds to keep pace

How to build a better budget model

Innovation:

NC State to lead southeast manufacturing innovation hub

NC State boosts efforts to commercialize research discoveries

The sixteen most innovative people in higher education

Lean & Cost Savings

Cuts questioned at Univ. of Chicago

UNC cuts funding, caps tuition

Building transparency and campus-wide literacy around university finances

Change management research highlights for higher education

Institute finance support team works with campus counterparts

How beta testing can help minimize investment risk for new programs

Revenue Generating:

Crowd-sourcing approach to helping solve campus revenue issues

Colleges brace for investment losses as tuition pushback mounts

Capital Projects:

Real estate's real deal in higher education

Academic Science and Laboratory Building at Southern Connecticut State University

Enrollment growth spurs space expansion: business building at Tulane

The paradox of new buildings on campus

New visitor center takes shape at UC Berkeley

Space Utilization:

Campus 2025: Crash course on the most impactful trends on campus space

Syracuse Univ. invests \$9M in summer updates to classrooms, campus

Other:

America as 100 college students (Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation)

Reprogramming our financial GPS