

THE MINDSET OF A PRESIDENT

How today's leaders view the direction of higher ed.



The challenges facing college and university presidents are not likely to diminish any time soon. As they confront questions on the value of a degree and how much to prepare graduates for the work force, they will continue to re-evaluate their judgment on the future of higher education.

What were presidents thinking about?



Is a college degree still worth more than it was five years ago?

54%

of presidents from 2013-2015 say

YES



Is the financial stability of higher ed headed in the wrong direction?

65%

of presidents in 2015 say

YES



What is more important, academics or real-world experiences?

2013

38%
ACADEMIC

2014

44%
ACADEMIC



Presidents and employers differ on the value of a degree and its usefulness in career preparation.

1/3

of presidents said it is more difficult to launch a career now than it was 10 years ago.



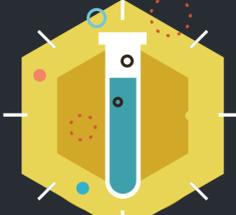
How do presidents like to measure success?



Balanced budget



Strong reputation



Quality faculty & programs



Student placement record



U.S. News & World Report



U.S. Dept. of Education



Outside Entities

Nearly half the presidents from private sector institutions believe it's inappropriate for the government and outside entities to rate their colleges.



61%

of presidents are 60 years or older. Of those, nearly one-third said they were likely to retire in the next five years

LOOKING FORWARD

Trends that concern presidents, such as new technology, changing demographics, and rising costs will continue and as a result, the debate over what direction higher education should take will likely grow. How presidents at our nation's colleges and universities take advantage of this opportunity is the real question.