

---

## FEDERAL RELATIONS

### Higher Education Act: Ban on Student Level Data

One of the biggest problems within higher education is the lack of comprehensive, accurate data on student outcomes at each college and university in the U.S. We simply do not know enough. As a result, students and families are left in the dark as they make the critical decision of which college or university is the right fit; policymakers struggle to appropriately hold accountable institutions receiving taxpayer dollars; and institutions lack the information they need to assess their performance and improve.

An amendment to ban a federal unit record system was added to the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008. As a result, the federal government cannot collect and report the information students and families need on outcomes at colleges and universities. Those who supported the ban expressed concerns with privacy and security of data as well as the potential for federal overreach. However, those apprehensions can be addressed through proper safeguards and should not be an excuse for denying students and families better information and blocking transparency.

Lifting the ban on student-level data to permit for limited and relevant information collection would allow the federal government to provide aggregate information on employment outcomes of graduates of institutions, including salary. For Wayne State University, this would provide more than anecdotal evidence of the success of our students. This data could show both short and long-term results. Importantly, the data could be broken down by academic program to account for significant differences among various disciplines. This could allow students and families to set realistic expectations of possible future earnings and appropriately minimize borrowing.

While the U.S. Department of Education's revamped College Scorecard provides salary information, it is one aggregate figure at the institutional level and is not broken out by academic program and confusingly includes outcomes for graduates, dropouts, and those still enrolled. This obscures the large variations in salaries across programs and the benefits of earning a degree. Additionally, the data is incomplete as it only includes those who take out federal student loans.

Student-level data is also needed to provide accurate persistence and graduation rates for postsecondary students. Because of the prohibition against student-level data, the federal government reports graduation rates for only those students who start and finish at their first institution and attend full-time. Transfer and part-time students are not included in the current calculations despite the fact that nearly 55 percent of those who earn a bachelor's degree attend more than one institution and over 60 percent of students at community colleges attend part-time. How can students select the institutions most successfully serving students without knowing accurate graduation rates? This could also help WSU potentially derive more accurate graduation rates than is currently the case.

Institutional attempts to collect employment information through alumni surveys are no substitute for federal student-level data as surveys often suffer from self-selection bias and low response rates.

---

The Student Achievement Measure (SAM) is a successful initiative of the higher education community to provide more comprehensive information on student progress and completion. WSU participates in SAM. SAM provides a powerful model of the type of information that would be available if the ban were lifted. However, SAM is voluntary and does not capture outcomes for all institutions that a federal student-level data system would. It is therefore not the official data included in the U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs' college comparison resource, or other public and private transparency tools. Including with strengthening Pell Grants, reducing student debt and increasing funding for scientific research and development, among other things, this issue will be key as Congress considers the reauthorization of the Higher Education Act.

### Presidential Candidates Positions on Higher Education

In advance of the election for President, Federal Affair Director James Williams reached out to the two major political campaigns to get their official policy positions on higher education. He was able to get detailed information in speaking with representatives from the Clinton campaign and they have posted much of the same information on their website. He was unable to secure a meeting with a representative from the Trump campaign. As such, the information below regarding Trump's positions is based on an article published in "Inside Higher Education" and from an interview done by the National Association of Student Financial Aid Administrators. Aside from a general overview, the Trump campaign's website does not have much detail on this subject.

#### ***Hillary Clinton (D) - "The New College Compact"***

##### College Costs

- More than half of the total funds of Clinton's "New College Compact" will go toward grants to states and colleges. These grants will ensure that students do not need to take out loans for tuition and help reduce the burden of living expenses at four-year public colleges.
- The funds in the New College Compact will also provide free tuition at community colleges and support private nonprofit colleges that keep costs low and provide value.
- Under Clinton's proposal, students will contribute to their costs through earnings from working 10 hours per week.
- Students from families making \$85,000 a year or less will be able to go to an in-state four-year public college or university without paying tuition, and students from families with incomes up to \$125,000 will pay no tuition at these schools by 2021.
- Clinton's plan would create a \$25 billion fund to support private nonprofit schools that serve low- and middle-income students, such as private Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs).

##### Student Aid

- Clinton plans to increase college enrollment by simplifying the FAFSA.
- Clinton would provide early Pell Grant eligibility notification to students.
- Under Clinton's proposal, Pell recipients would be able to use their grants fully for living expenses, since Pell Grants are not included in the calculation of Clinton's proposed "debt-free education."
- Clinton's plan would restore year-round Pell Grants.

---

### Student Loans

- Clinton's plan would "significantly cut the interest rate on student loans."
- Clinton would allow current borrowers to refinance their student loans at the current federal interest rate. Around one-third of the funds for Clinton's "New College Compact" would go toward relief on interest from student debt.
- Clinton's plan would "consolidate the four income-based repayment programs into a single program with the same rules for everyone: Every student borrower will know they can enroll in a program where they never have to pay more than 10 percent of income, with college debt forgiven after 20 years so that those who consistently make payments can move on in their lives."
- Clinton would streamline the process through which borrowers enroll in income-based repayment by using existing government data. She would allow borrowers to opt to have their student loan payments deducted from their paycheck through a new payroll deduction portal.
- Clinton announced that she would take immediate executive action to offer a three-month moratorium on student loan payments to all federal loan borrowers so borrowers would have a chance to consolidate loans and sign up for income-based repayment plans.
- Under Clinton's plan, entrepreneurs would be able to defer their student loans with no payments or interest for up to three years.
- Clinton's plan would reward public service through loan forgiveness for AmeriCorps members and teachers who teach in high-need areas or in subjects with teacher shortages.

### Innovation and Accreditation

- Clinton's plan would build on experiments allowing federal student aid to be used for high-quality career and lifelong learning programs with promising or proven records. "Title IV funds will be a lever to ensure accreditors are open to low-cost, technology-enabled programs... we will rigorously evaluate outcomes to make sure these programs work," her plan said.

### College Completion

- Clinton would build up initiatives like TRIO and GEAR UP. She would make new grants to the colleges and universities that invest in "student support, quality child care, partnerships with early childhood providers, emergency financial aid, and other interventions proven to boost completion, especially for low-income and first-generation students."
- Clinton's plan would increase funding for the Child Care Access Means Parents in School Program (CCAMPIS) from \$15 million to \$250 million per year, in addition to a compact with states or institutions to match this funding.

### Accountability

- Clinton would "embrace bipartisan efforts for schools to share in the risk, such as the principles envisioned in the Student Protection and Success Act," introduced by Sens. Orrin Hatch (R-UT) and Jeanne Shaheen (D-NH). "Our colleges and universities should

---

be upfront about graduation rates, likely earnings, and likely debt, and how those metrics compare with other schools," her plan said.

- On for-profit accountability, Clinton's New College Compact would close the 90-10 loophole and would "defend and strengthen the gainful employment rule to ensure that for-profit schools adequately support students to complete their degrees and prepare students for work."
- Clinton's plan would "crack down on law-breaking for-profits by expanding support for the CFPB, FTC, DOJ, and VA to enforce laws against deceptive marketing, fraud, and other illegal practices."
- Clinton would streamline the process by which students can cancel their debt. "She will also give defrauded GI Bill students another chance to use the education support they have earned," the plan said.
- Clinton would ban repeat offenders, or "the servicers and bill collectors who consistently break the law and mislead or overcharge borrowers – from contracts to service federal loans."

### ***Donald J. Trump (R)***

#### College Costs

- The Trump campaign would fight proposals for debt-free public higher education and tuition-free public higher education.
- The Trump campaign would reject President Barack Obama's proposals for a state-federal partnership to make community college free for new high school graduates.
- Trump called on institutions, particularly those with large endowments, to spend more on students to lower the cost of college. The Trump campaign would push institutions to spend from their endowment and would reconsider "if those with large endowments deserve to keep those endowments tax-exempt."

#### Student Loans

- Trump wants to move the government out of lending and restore that role to private banks. He believes local banks should be lending to local students.
- Trump wants colleges to play a role in determining loan worthiness on factors that go beyond family income. For example, colleges should factor in future earnings when deciding whether or not to give a student a loan. Schools should think carefully before liberal arts majors at non-elite institutions are allowed to borrow based on their future earnings.
- Trump said he would implement an income-contingent repayment plan where a borrower would make payments capped at 12% of the borrower's income. After 15 years, remaining debt would be cancelled.

#### Accountability

- Trump believes that all colleges should have "skin in the game" and share the risk associated distributing with student loans. No institutions should be exempt from this risk, even schools with histories of educating many students from low-income families.
- The Trump campaign believes that the risk for giving student loans needs to be substantial enough to change the way colleges decide whether to admit students and

---

what programs they offer. For example, colleges should be careful lending to liberal arts majors because they don't necessarily have job security after graduation.

- The Trump campaign hopes that many colleges will continue to provide remediation, but he also said that colleges should not be admitting students that they aren't confident can graduate in a reasonable time frame and find jobs. Admissions and loans should be based on a partnership between the student, the bank, and the college, he said.

#### Innovation and Accreditation

- The Republican platform calls for new systems of learning, including technical institutions, online universities, lifelong learning, and work-based learning in the private sector.

#### Regulatory Burden

- The Trump campaign feels that federal regulations are responsible for much of increase in "administrative bloat" and cited a 2015 Vanderbilt study on the cost of compliance with federal regulations.

### **STATE RELATIONS**

#### Warrior Day in Lansing

Coordinated by the Division of Government and Community Affairs, the University will host a Wayne State University Warrior Day at the State Capitol on March 21, 2017. Our goal is to have a wing of the State Capitol filled with displays and booths that lawmakers and their staff can observe, and interact with our students/faculty to learn more about the great things they are learning/doing at WSU. We will also host a luncheon for participants, state elected officials and their staffs. We will also have the students meet with their respective state representatives and/or senators for a brief meeting in their offices at the Capitol, or during the luncheon.

All of the details have yet to be finalized, and participation in this event will likely require students to be away for most of the day. Participants will be transported from campus to Lansing via bus in the morning and return to campus in the afternoon. President Wilson will participate and the Board of Governors will be invited to do so as well.

We have already sent out a letter to all of the Deans on campus to inform them of this event and request participation from their school or college.

#### Meeting with the State Budget Director

In October, VP Patrick Lindsey, State Affairs Director Greg Bird and Dean Farshad Fotouhi of the College of Engineering met with the State Budget Director and members of his staff to discuss a potential Capital Outlay proposal for engineering schools.

This is a "reboot" of an idea the Governor had discussed a couple years ago but never moved forward. The Governor is interested in increasing the number of students who attend and graduate from engineering schools in the state. He would also like to see that those students stay in the state to work following their graduation. He is exploring the idea of offering those

---

institutions who offer engineering funding for Capital Outlay projects. This initiative would probably be separate from the normal Capital Outlay process.

Dean Fotouhi talked about the positive aspects of the WSU Engineering Program and how it could benefit from such funding. He also discussed the project he envisioned using that funding for.

State Budget Director John Roberts was quite candid with us. He agreed that this is an idea that the Governor had explored at one time and may look into again. However, he was adamant in saying that it is not a sure thing that this would be proposed by the Governor during the next budget cycle. They are just meeting with various schools to see what their thoughts would be and how they might use the funding.

The Director also said that WSU should submit its normal Capital Outlay project in November and not necessarily submit this engineering project. Dean Fotouhi will be putting some additional information together for us to submit to the Budget Office regarding the special Engineering Capital Outlay initiative.

#### URC Brown Bag Lunch

The latest URC Brown Bag lunch was held on September 19<sup>th</sup> at the Capitol in Lansing. More than 20 lawmakers and staff attended.

The theme was "Mobility in the 21st Century." The speakers discussed the technological advances in mobility taking place in our state to gain greater insights into the future of transportation and Michigan's potential to shape that future. WSU's Stephen Remias, an Assistant Professor, Civil and Environmental Engineering, addressed the luncheon on behalf of WSU.

#### Dinner with Incoming House Members

On December 12, 2016, WSU will participate in a dinner hosted by Kelley Cawthorne for the six new incoming members of the state House of Representatives from Wayne County. The purpose of this dinner is to acquaint these newly elected lawmakers to issues important to higher education in general and WSU in particular. Representatives from DTE Energy will also be in attendance at this event.

#### Economic Development Proposal

We will soon meet with Greg Tedder of the Michigan Economic Development Corporation (MEDC) and representatives of several of the business incubators from across the state to discuss a proposal to fund economic development work in neighborhood commercial corridors. Ned Staebler and others from TechTown will attend, as well as representatives from other business incubators from Kalamazoo, Ann Arbor, Lansing and Grand Rapids.

The coalition has had several conference calls and is in the process of putting together a proposal to submit to the MEDC and the Legislature for the coming fiscal year.

---

Legislation re: FOIA

We have been monitoring House Bill 5826, which would prohibit a public body (like a public university) from taking legal action against those making Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) requests. The legal officers from the public universities are aware of the legislation and oppose the bill.

Unfortunately, the bill recently passed the House of Representatives by a vote of 102-5. The bill now sits in the Senate Government Operations Committee where it awaits further action. There is no word when this bill may be taken up by the committee.

First Lady's Campus Sexual Assault Summit

Nine individuals from Wayne State University attended the second annual Campus Sexual Assault Summit hosted by First Lady Sue Snyder in late September. WSU was one of the sponsors of the event.

In the weeks following, a team from WSU then submitted an application for a grant to the state for a portion of the \$500,000 funding allotted in the state's budget for sexual assault measures on campuses across the state. We hope to hear soon as to whether or not WSU's application will be approved for funding.

WSU and the Schenzhen Initiative

Per an inquiry from VP-Research Steve Lanier, we put Ahmad Ezzeddine and Farshad Fotouhi in contact with Brian Connors, who is the Executive Director of the Michigan-China Innovation Center, to explore whether or not the University could be involved with the Shenzhen Initiative.

The Center, based in Detroit, receives funding from the State of Michigan (MEDC); it is operated independently as a 501(c)3 entity. The goal of the Center is to attract Chinese investment into Michigan.

We have heard that both of the other two research universities are involved in the Shenzhen Initiative and will also participate based on Mr. Connors recommendation.

Meetings with Potential Gubernatorial Candidates

The Division of Government and Community Affairs is in the process of scheduling meetings between the potential candidates for Governor and Wayne State President M. Roy Wilson. Two Democratic candidates have reached out to us to request meetings: former Senator and current Ingham County Prosecutor Gretchen Whitmer and US Congressman Dan Kildee. We have secured a date for Prosecutor Whitmer's meeting and are working with the Congressman's office to secure a date for his meeting.

We will also be reaching out to the potential Republican candidates for Governor to schedule meetings with President Wilson.

---

### Legislative Calendar

Because of the upcoming elections, the state legislature has been out of session for most of the summer and fall. They are scheduled to resume session for four scheduled days in November. The House of Representatives will most likely hold their leadership elections in one of the two earlier session days in November. The agenda and number of days they will be in session for the remainder of the calendar year will most likely be based on whether or not the Republicans maintain control of the House.

## **COMMUNITY RELATIONS**

### National Make-a-Difference Day

Partnering with the AmeriCorps Urban Safety Program and Wayne State University's Center for Urban Studies, and the WSU Dean of Students Office, Government and Community Affairs coordinated the University's participation in Make-A-Difference Day 2016. More than 150 students attended the Thurgood Marshall Elementary School: Safer Pathways to School Event which secured 10 vacant properties, cleared three blocks of trash, and removed a block of graffiti from a vacant property in the Thurgood Marshall School vicinity. This project has directly increased safety for students walking to and from school.

AmeriCorps secured materials and trained volunteers, Boulevard Trumbull Towing sponsored the purchase many of the supplies, and WSU's Dean of Students Office supplied student volunteers, and the Detroit Police Department and cleared all properties and provided support throughout the day. Children's Education Division Neighborhood Legal Services provided lunch for the volunteers. University Television film the event to use as footage for the 2017 MLK Tribute Program.

### Combined Charitable Contributions Campaign

Every year Community Affairs hosts the United Way for Southeastern Michigan (UWSEM) and the Black United Fund (BUF) combined charitable contributions fundraiser. United Way provides our community with an independent safety net of health and human services by supporting a number of community service agencies. The Black United Fund is a community-based resource center that assists community efforts through referrals, funding, consultation and/or technical assistance. Both organizations provide numerous community service programs through a large network of volunteers and donors. This year's campaign chair is Dean Matthew W. Seeger, College of Fine, Performing and Communication Arts, and the co-chair is Dean Cheryl E. Waites, School of Social Work. The 2017 campaign will start in mid-November and end in mid-December, with the goal of raising \$80,000.

### 2017 Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute Program

Wayne State University will host its annual *Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Tribute* at the Max M. Fisher Music Center on Friday, January 13, 2017. We are finalizing details for US Olympic Champion Allyson Felix to serve as the keynote speaker.



---

Net proceeds from the luncheon will support *Adopt-A-Classroom*. *Adopt-A-Classroom* is a nationally recognized organization that invites the community into classrooms to increase opportunity for student success by empowering teachers with community partnerships and funds to purchase resources for their classrooms. Since 2008 more than 40 classrooms in the Detroit area have been sponsored thanks to the support of our event sponsors.

## **GOVERNMENT HEALTH AFFAIRS**

### Visit by White House Drug Czar – Michael Botticelli

The White House Director of National Drug Control Policy, Michael Botticelli, visited Wayne State University on September 13<sup>th</sup>. Senator Carl Levin and the Levin Center hosted his visit, which included a stop at a Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) and the WSU School of Medicine. Botticelli's visit was to help bring awareness to the importance of health care professionals in the fight against the Opioid epidemic. He provided a guest lecture at the School of Medicine to first- and second-year medical students. The visit also included a lunch with key community and university leaders including U.S. District Attorney Barbara McQuade.

As a result of his visit, the School of Medicine agreed to the White House's pledge to adopt new national guidelines on curriculum reform to better educate future physicians on how to prevent Opioid abuse in their patients. The visit also showed WSU's excellence to a key member of President Obama's staff. In preparation for Botticelli's visit, the WSU Task Force for Safe Use of Controlled Substances completed a list of 20 priorities for the university to implement in its response to the Opioid epidemic.

### Psychiatry Residency Training Grant

WSU has partnered with DMC on a psychiatry residency training program for decades. A large portion of funding for the program comes through a state grant, whereas DMC pays us for teaching services. Nearly ten years ago, DMC received a million dollar plus increase in funding from the state due to a change in the Medicaid match formula. Unfortunately, DMC never passed on those increases to WSU. In fact, we have not received an increase in funding for the program for more than a decade. As a result, we have experienced annual shortfalls in funding for the program. To that end, WSU informed the DMC this past month that we are formally requesting an adjustment to our contract specific to this program. The Detroit Wayne Mental Health Authority is also a partner in the program and has also expressed concerns as to DMC's payment methodology. The DWMHA has agreed to our proposed change. We are now waiting for DMC's response.

### Graduate Medical Education (GME) Reform – MiDoc's

We recently held a meeting in Lansing with the director of state Medicaid, the Governor's budget office, and the Governor's health care advisor, to establish their interest in the MiDocs proposal. It was apparent from the meeting that there is interest. We received a strong recommendation from the state Medicaid director to include his office in designing the funding mechanism for MiDocs to ensure we maximize federal funding opportunities. We will be following up with all parties involved to further craft the proposal for preparation to the Governor and legislature for the FY18 budget. A summary of MiDocs is provided below.

---

In response to the multitude of concerns state legislators on the state Medicaid GME Program, we worked with the legislature in 2013 to create the MiDocs program. MiDocs is a consortium of Central Michigan University, Michigan State University, the University of Michigan, Wayne State University, and Western Michigan University, and their medical schools, to create a pilot program that will help create new physicians practicing in primary care and other targeted specialties to train and serve post-residency in the most medically underserved communities in the state. Furthermore, the program will be needs based, focused on quality metrics, be financially accountable and transparent, and will produce an annual audited statement that shows the efficacy of the program, based on those guiding principles.

The MiDocs consortium submitted their report to the legislature in April including a plan for a pilot program. The pilot program will include a leadership role for the Michigan Area Health Education Center and will create a new legal entity named MiDocs, which will distribute program funding on behalf of the legislature.

#### Association of American Medical Schools (AAMC)

Doug Skrzyniarz has been elected as the Chair of the AAMC's government relations group, which is an association of government affairs executives from academic medical centers around the country. He has also been asked to be a panelist at their national conference taking place this month in Seattle, Washington.

#### Lycaki-Young Fund

We are now preparing for the FY18 budget process in securing the \$5.6 million in funding for the Lycaki Young program. These are state general fund dollars that reside in the department of Health and Human Services budget. The state recently hired a new state director for psychiatry. There is some concern that she may look to alter support for the Lycaki Young fund but that remains to be seen. We will be working with her office and the state to ensure support of the fund for the FY18 fiscal year.