LEHIGH UNIVERSITY

Assessment Symposium 2016

The Path to Prominence
and a 90% (or Better) Graduation Rate
or, a bit about Operation Graduation

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"BOT 14" Apirational and Peer Institutions and Lehigh
6 Year Graduation Rates -- 2012-2014 Data (3 Year Average)

Institution	Graduation Rate
University of Pennsylvania	96.0
University of Notre Dame	95.3
Brown University	95.3
Northwestern University	93.3
Georgetown University	93.3
Cornell University	93.0
Vanderbilt University	92.7
Tufts University	92.0
Rice University	91.3
Emory University	89.3
Carnegie Mellon University	87.7
Lehigh University	87.0
University of Rochester	84.7
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	83.7
George Washington University	80.0

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6 Year Graduation Rate by Race/Ethnicity -- Average of 2012-2014 Data (3 Year Average)

Institution	Total cohort	Asian	Black Non-Hispanic	Hispanic	White Non-Hispanic	Race/ Ethnicity Unknown	Nonresident Alien
University of Pennsylvania	96.0	97.3	93.0	93.0	95.7	96.7	95.3
Brown University	95.3	96.7	94.7	94.0	95.7	95.0	91.3
University of Notre Dame	95.3	91.7	89.0	94.3	96.0	94.3	88.0
Northwestern University	93.3	95.3	91.7	91.7	93.3	91.3	89.7
Georgetown University	93.3	93.3	89.7	91.7	94.7	93.3	86.3
Cornell University	93.0	95.7	87.7	89.3	94.3	93.3	88.3
Vanderbilt University	92.7	93.3	87.0	90.7	93.3	92.7	89.7
Tufts University	92.0	93.3	84.0	89.0	94.0	89.3	86.7
Rice University	91.3	96.7	86.3	91.0	91.0	94.7	87.7
Emory University	89.3	91.7	87.0	90.7	89.3	87.7	85.0
Carnegie Mellon University	87.7	92.0	76.7	83.0	89.0	86.3	84.0
Lehigh University	**87.0**	**87.7**	**68.7**	**79.3**	**89.7**	**87.3**	**80.3**
University of Rochester	84.7	87.3	71.0	72.3	87.0	84.0	80.7
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	83.7	85.7	69.0	79.3	85.0	54.7	72.7
George Washington University	80.0	78.7	73.0	77.7	80.7	80.3	80.3
Lehigh's rank (out of 15)	**12**	**12**	**15**	**13**	**13**	**11**	**13**

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6 Year Graduation Rate by Race/Ethnicity -- Average of 2012-2014 Data (3 Year Average)

(Ranked by Endowment)

Institution	US News Rank 2016	Endowment	Endowment per Student FTE	Total cohort
University of Pennsylvania	8	$ 9,582,335,000	$ 405,207	96.0
University of Notre Dame	15	$ 8,189,096,000	$ 642,736	95.3
Northwestern University	12	$ 7,501,116,000	$ 389,851	93.3
Emory University	20	$ 6,981,307,921	$ 454,364	89.3
Rice University	15	$ 5,553,717,000	$ 822,651	91.3
Cornell University	15	$ 4,646,133,725	$ 209,512	93.0
Vanderbilt University	15	$ 4,046,250,000	$ 347,020	92.7
Brown University	14	$ 2,999,749,000	$ 335,580	95.3
University of Rochester	32	$ 2,015,282,553	$ 181,950	84.7
Tufts University	27	$ 1,590,045,000	$ 143,467	92.0
George Washington University	56	$ 1,576,508,000	$ 73,789	80.0
Georgetown University	20	$ 1,461,276,000	$ 95,172	93.3
Carnegie Mellon University	20	$ 1,235,967,714	$ 105,620	87.7
Lehigh University	**44**	**$ 1,215,926,000**	**$ 182,654**	**87.0**
Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute	39	$ 654,099,000	$ 91,803	83.7

Six-Year Graduation Rates
Private Universities Accept between 25% and 49.9% of Applicants

Total	White	Black	Hispanic	Asian/ Pacific Islander			American Indian/ Alaska Native	Two or more races	Nonresident Alien
				Total	Asian	Pacific Islander			
68.9	74.6	47.1	62.7	77.7	77.8	65.9	58.8	79.5	72.8

[1] Includes data for institutions not reporting admissions data, which are not separately shown.

NOTE: Data are for 4-year degree-granting postsecondary institutions participating in Title IV federal financial aid programs. Graduation rates refer to students receiving bachelor's degrees from their initial institutions of attendance only. Totals include data for persons whose race/ethnicity was not reported. Race categories exclude persons of Hispanic ethnicity. Some data have been revised from previously published figures.

SOURCE: U.S. Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics, Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS), Fall 2002 and Spring 2007 through Spring 2015, Graduation Rates component; and IPEDS Fall 2008, Institutional Characteristics component. (This table was prepared December 2015.)

**FOR GRADUATION FORECAST INFORMATION
PLEASE CONTACT JENNIFER JENSEN, DEPUTY PROVOST
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Operation Graduation
Getting to 90% (or better)

Challenges

- Increasing graduation rates is a long-term effort

- Easy to identify *generally* why students leave; much harder to identify *specific* factors to change

- Improving retention and persistence is a diffuse process that involves coordination across many campus units

- Building a "critical mass" of students of color is a medium-term effort

- Difficult to discern, in advance, what retention efforts and programming will be most cost-effective

- Cultural change – creating a more welcoming and inclusive environment – is a difficult and long-term effort

- Some initiatives are expensive

Operation Graduation
Getting to 90% (or better)

Some recent initiatives:

- Setting a goal! Part of the Path to Prominence

- LUSSI (for incoming freshmen)

- Late financial aid to returning students

- Half-semester, 2 credit course to maintain full-time status (and financial aid) for students dropping courses

- CAS academic advising office (opened Fall 2015)

- Two-semester version of MATH 21 for engineering students (began fall 2015)

- FIRST Student Organization

- First Generation Initiative

- Data Analytics Project (Fall 2016)

Operation Graduation

Improving our first year retention and graduation rates will require sustained effort from all parts of the Lehigh Community:

Administration, Faculty, Staff, and Students

(and Trustees and Alums)

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Thank you!

Questions?