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 workforce, they will continue to re-evaluate their judgment on the future of higher education.

What were presidents thinking about?

- Balancing budgets
- Enrolling students
- Proving the value of a degree
- Measuring educational quality
- Competing for students

2013 - 38% of presidents
2014 - 44% of presidents
2015 - 54% of presidents

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

54% of presidents in 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

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

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

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.