

DATA DIALOGUE

Office of Institutional Effectiveness

Comparing Institutional Rankings: A Focus on Institutions Yielding High Return on Investment for Underserved Students

March 21, 2018



DOMINICAN UNIVERSITY

Where Learning Demands More

Plan for this Dialogue

1. Review the IERC Study
2. Remind you of DU rankings across other systems
3. Discuss 3 Key Questions:
 - *What contributes to Dominican's ranking on the IERC metric?*
 - *What institutional strategies could contribute to moving our standing on success rankings such as this one – and others?*
 - *What value do we place on ranking systems?*



Setting the context about college ranking



But like it or not, ranking IS a driver

Three College Choice Drivers

Proportion of Students Citing as Top Driver



63%
Reputation



52%
Job Outcomes



51%
Aid Awarded



What's Difficult About Effecting Change?

- Requires years to improve
- Investments costly
- Outside EM control

- Difficult to measure
- Dependent on students
- Outside EM control

- Lowers tuition revenues
- Discount increases required to stay competitive
- Largely determined by EM



What the IERC study set out to investigate

Replicate an IERC study of Missouri IHEs to identify a new metric for determining success - and therefore better rank colleges who are helping traditionally underserved students to “overcome barriers, earn a degree, and achieve a livable wage”



What data did they use?

Publically available IPEDS and federal Scorecard data to determine those 4-year institutions that fostered degree completion and job success combined with less debt



Three categories of variables used:

1. **Categorical predictors** (sector, locale size, locale type, region in the state)
2. **Continuous predictors** (UG student enrollment, cost, % of degrees awarded by field)
3. **Outcome variables** (retention, 6-year grad rate disaggregated by race, median debt of grads, default rate, median earnings 10-years after entry)



Performed multiple regression analyses to distill the variables into 2 PRINCIPAL COMPONENTS

Component 1: SUCCESS	Component 2: DEBT
<p>Retention rate</p> <p>6-year completion rates – all</p> <p>6-year completion rates – Black students</p> <p>6-year completion rates – Hispanic students</p> <p>Median earnings 10-years after entry</p>	<p>Median debt at graduation</p> <p>3-year cohort default rates</p>

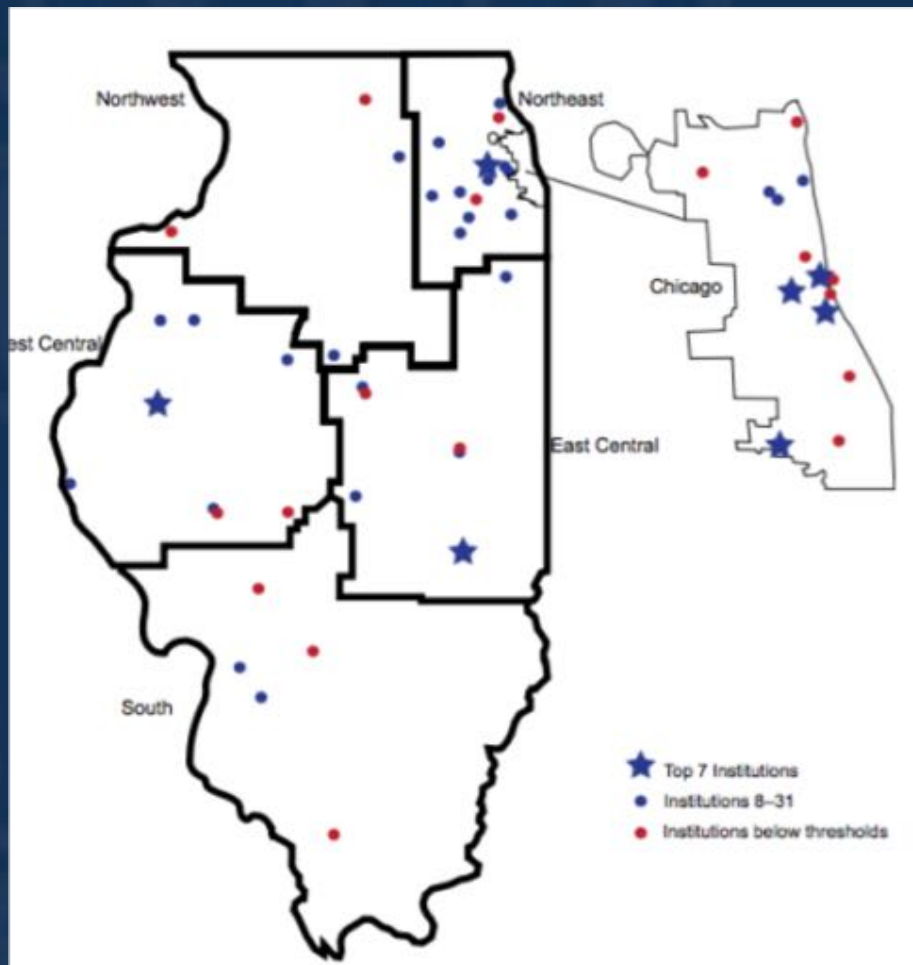


Then derived the final formula. . .

Success – Debt =
Return on Investment (ROI)



Included in the IERC Study



Analysis included:
55 four-year colleges or universities

- 4-year public ($n=11$)
- private nonprofit ($n=38$)
- private for-profit ($n=6$)



IERC Findings

1) Disproportionately higher number of underserved students attended for-profit institutions

- *Low-income students constituted 69% of the for-profit enrollment, compared to 38% and 42% of nonprofit and public institution enrollment, respectively*

2) Success component was positively correlated with institutions that had a higher number of degrees awarded in STEM fields and negatively correlated with net price for \$0 - \$30,000 income families

3) 7 institutions emerged with ROIs ≥ 1



IERC Findings: Ranked top 7 institutions for ROI

Top 7 Institutions	ROI
University of Illinois Chicago	4.1
Illinois Institute of Technology	1.5
Elmhurst College	1.3
St. Xavier University	1.3
Eastern Illinois University	1.1
DePaul University	1.1
Western Illinois University	1.0



IERC Findings: Ranked top 7 institutions for ROI

Top 7 Institutions	ROI
University of Illinois Chicago (Competitor)	4.1
Illinois Institute of Technology	1.5
Elmhurst College (DU aspirant)	1.3
St. Xavier University (DU peer)	1.3
Eastern Illinois University	1.1
DePaul University (Competitor)	1.1
Western Illinois University	1.0
RANKED 16 th (tie): Dominican University	0.0



How did Dominican rank?

Strong on success outcomes

low on debt metrics

which resulted in a
moderate rank on return on investment



Dominican rank – detailed:

Top tier on SUCCESS (tied 7th out of 31)

Mid-point (tied for 16th out of 31) for ROI

Bottom tier (24th out of 31) for DEBT metrics



Table A1

Institutions (N=31) Ranked on each Metric

Rank	SUCCESS		Debt		ROI	
1	Illinois Institute of Technology	1.4	University of Illinois at Chicago	-2.8	University of Illinois at Chicago	4.1
2	University of Illinois at Chicago	1.3	Judson University	-1.4	Illinois Institute of Technology	1.1
3	DePaul University	1.1	Quincy University	-0.9	Elmhurst College	1.0
4	Elmhurst College	1.0	Saint Xavier University	-0.7	Saint Xavier University	1.0
5	Illinois College	0.9	Western Illinois University	-0.6	Eastern Illinois University	1.0
6	University of St Francis	0.8	Benedictine University	-0.5	DePaul University	1.0
7	Aurora University	0.7	Eastern Illinois University	-0.5	Western Illinois University	1.0
8	Dominican University	0.7	Southern Illinois University-Edwardsville	-0.4	Aurora University	0.9
9	Knox College	0.6	Eureka College	-0.4	Judson University	0.9
10	Eastern Illinois University	0.6	Concordia University-Chicago	-0.4	Benedictine University	0.9
11	Bradley University	0.6	Elmhurst College	-0.3	Quincy University	0.9
12	Saint Xavier University	0.5	Northern Illinois University	-0.2	Bradley University	0.9
13	Western Illinois University	0.4	Aurora University	-0.1	Loyola University Chicago	0.9
14	Millikin University	0.4	Olivet Nazarene University	-0.1	Illinois College	0.9
15	Illinois State University	0.3	Illinois Institute of Technology	0.0	Trinity Christian College	0.9
16	Loyola University Chicago	0.3	DePaul University	0.0	Illinois State University	0.9
17	Lewis University	0.3	Trinity Christian College	0.1	Dominican University	0.9
18	Trinity Christian College	0.1	Loyola University Chicago	0.2	McKendree University	-0.8
19	McKendree University	0.1	Monmouth College	0.2	Millikin University	-0.8
20	Benedictine University	0.1	Bradley University	0.2	Knox College	-0.8
21	Lake Forest College	0.0	McKendree University	0.2	University of St Francis	-0.8
22	Monmouth College	-0.2	Illinois State University	0.3	Northern Illinois University	-0.8
23	Northern Illinois University	-0.4	Millikin University	0.5	Concordia University-Chicago	-0.8
24	Quincy University	-0.5	Dominican University	0.7	Monmouth College	-0.8
25	Concordia University-Chicago	-0.7	North Central College	0.7	Southern Illinois University-	-0.8

How does Dominican compare to the top 7, specifically?

We score **above the mean of the top 7** institutions for:

Retention rate

6-year all-students graduation rate

6-year Hispanic graduation rate

We have a lower loan default rate



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How does Dominican compare to the top 7, specifically?

We score **below the mean of the top 7 institutions** for

6-year African-American graduation rate

Graduates' median earnings after 10 years

Higher median debt amount for our graduates



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Where Learning Demands More

IERC authors referenced 5 success strategies

1. Strong and committed leadership to addressing student success and equity achievement gaps
2. A coordinated and caring community
3. Specific early college experiences
4. Flexible and sufficient financial aid
5. Just-in-time academic supports



Other Dominican Rankings

19th in U.S. News and World Report “Best 20 Regional Universities in the Midwest”

- Rose from 27th in 2017
- 8th time in last 10 years DU has been among the top 20

5th among a select group of 15 Midwest regional universities recognized as *Best Value Schools*

- *Achieved by having high quality academic programs at a comparatively low cost of attendance*

	In The Top			
College Overall	15%	10%	5%	1%
Best for the Money	★			
Best for the Money With Aid		★		
Best for the Money With Aid (Great Lakes)		★		
Best for the Money With Aid (Illinois)		★		



U.S. NEWS Indicators and Weightings

RANK			27	19		
Weight	Indicator	Subfactor Weight	Used for 2017 Rankings	Used for 2018 Rankings	Change 2017 to 2018	Notes
22.5%	Peer Assessment		2.8	2.9	0.1	Increase
22.5%	Retention					
	Ave. Fall-to-Fall Freshman Retention Rate (4-yr average)	20%	81%	79%	-2%	Decrease
	Ave 6-Year Graduation Rate (4-yr average)	80%	63%	62%	-1%	Minor decrease
20.0%	Faculty Resources					
	Percent of Classes < 20	30%	62%	61%	-1%	Minor decrease
	Percent of Classes > 50	10%	0.2%	0.0%	0%	Minor increase
	Ave. Faculty Salary (2-yr average)	35%	\$ 98,223	\$ 98,015	\$ 208	Minor decrease
	Proportion of Faculty with Highest Degree	15%	87%	87%	0%	Stable
	Student-Faculty Ratio	5%	12/1	11/1	1	Increase
	Percent of FTE Faculty Who Are Full-Time	5%	63%	71%	8%	Increase
12.5%	Student Selectivity					
	Acceptance Rate (lower rate gets higher ranking)	10%	63%	64%	1%	Lower rate gets higher ranking
	Freshmen in Top 25% of HS Class	25%	51%	56%	5%	Increase
	ACT Composite (25th-75th percentile)	65%	19-24	20-25	1-pt	Increase
10.0%	Financial Resources* (per student)	Rank score	NA	38	NA	
7.5%	6-Year Graduation Rate Performance (diff. between predicted/performance based on 2017 rates: Predicted (57%) vs Actual (62%))		1%	5%	4%	Increase in graduation rate from 59% last year to 62% improved this score
5.0%	Average Alumni Giving Rate (2-yr average)		16.6%	15.4%	-1.2%	Decrease
100%	Total					
	Overall Score		69	69	0	

Dominican University
U.S. News and World Report Data
2009 - 2018*

	<u>2009</u>	<u>2010</u>	<u>2011</u>	<u>2012</u>	<u>2013</u>	<u>2014</u>	<u>2015</u>	<u>2016</u>	<u>2017</u>	<u>2018</u>
Overall Score	55	57	61	62	66	69	65	63	69	69
Peer Assessment	2.7	2.8	2.8	2.9	3.0	2.9	2.8	2.8	2.8	2.9
U.S. News Rank	22	20	19	19	16	13	19	20	27	19
Retention										
Freshman Retention Rate (4-yr Ave.)	81%	80%	80%	80%	81%	81%	82%	82%	81%	79%
Graduation Rate (6-yr Ave.)	64%	66%	68%	67%	68%	66%	63%	63%	63%	62%
Predicted Graduation Rate (current year)						58%	60%	54%	58%	57%
Actual Graduation Rate (current year)						66%	63%	63%	59%	62%
Faculty Resources										
Percent of Classes < 20	63%	62%	63%	62%	62%	63%	61%	59%	62%	61%
Student-Faculty Ratio	12/1	11/1	12/1	11/1	12/1	11/1	11/1	10/1	12/1	11/1
Percent of FTE Faculty Who Are FT	62%	59%	66%	70%	66%	66%	67%	64%	63%	71%
Student Selectivity										
Acceptance Rate	85%	71%	72%	81%	59%	57%	60%	61%	63%	64%
Freshmen in Top 25% of HS Class	49%	49%	50%	49%	50%	49%	48%	48%	51%	56%
ACT Composite (25th-75th Percentile)	20-25	20-25	20-25	20-25	20-24	20-24	20-24	20-24	19-24	20-25
Alumni Giving	25%	23%	22%	21%	20%	20%	19%	17%	17%	15%

* Please note that the rankings are published in the fall of the academic year. For example, the 2018 rankings were released for publication in September 2017.

Comparing Rankings for the IERC top 7

IERC Top 7 Institutions	IERC Rank ROI	Comparable US News Rank*
University of Illinois Chicago (Competitor)	4.1	
Illinois Institute of Technology	1.5	
Elmhurst College (DU aspirant)	1.3	Ranked 11
St. Xavier University (DU peer)	1.3	Ranked 64
Eastern Illinois University	1.1	
DePaul University (Competitor)	1.1	
Western Illinois University	1.0	
RANKED 16th (tie): Dominican University	0.0	Ranked 19



Dialogue

1. What contributes to Dominican's ranking within this IERC metric?
2. What institutional strategies could contribute to moving our standing on success rankings such as this one – and others?
3. What value do we place on ranking systems?

