

Coping with Lingering Effects of Sluggish Economic Growth while Promoting Student Success

Moderator:

Michael Solt, California State University, Long Beach, Long Beach, California

Panelist:

Robin D. Anderson, University of Portland

Paul Jarley, University of Nevada, Las Vegas

Richard S. Lapidus, California State Polytechnic University, Pomona

Norman S. Wright, Utah Valley University

The American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) in a recent policy brief notes that many issues will confront higher education in the U.S. in 2011. Some are perennial and some have more near-term causes, but each will have effects that vary from state to state. AASCU recognizes that state legislatures must also deal with a variety of additional problems, such as deferred maintenance and capital improvements, enrollment of undocumented students, and helping veterans enroll and graduate. Although all of the issues that AASCU highlights have university-wide effects, business schools will have to respond to these problems while continuing to teach large numbers of students and fostering faculty research efforts.

A panel of deans will explore how the concerns that AASCU identifies are likely to affect business school strategic management, faculty development, and program management. The top issues for higher education in 2011, according to AASCU, include:

1. State operating support for public higher education.
2. College completion and educational attainment agendas.
3. Student readiness to attend college.
4. Tuition prices and policy.
5. State supported student financial aid.
6. Economic and workforce development.
7. States' political climate.

Structured more as an open dialogue than as a series of presentations, this panel will address these looming issues from the business school perspective.