Redesign the Carnegie Classifications to be more usable and modern, better describing the diverse landscape within higher education and incentivizing actions that benefit students.
THREE-YEAR TIMELINE

February 2022: 2021 Carnegie Classifications finalized

March 2022: Carnegie Foundation and ACE begin partnership
ACE outreach/engagement begins

November 2023: Announce revised Basic and research updates

Early 2024: Release framework for Social and Economic Mobility classification

Early 2025: Release Basic and SEM classifications; allow for review and appeal processes before finalizing

Summer/Fall 2024: Finalize 2025 classification methodologies

January 2024: Announce new Community Engagement campuses

Spring 2024: Announce new Elective classification(s)

June 2024: Announce new LPP campuses

July 2022: Community Engagement and Leadership for Public Purpose applications opened

2022 2023 2024 2025
NOVEMBER 1 ANNOUNCEMENT

- In the 2025 Carnegie Classifications, we will shift the Basic Classification to be more multi-dimensional, better reflecting the breadth of missions across higher education.

- We are making improvements to the research methodology:
  - More transparent, clear, and easy-to-replicate information about how the R1 and R2 groups are determined
  - New designation to identify research happening at all types of colleges and universities
CONTEXT ON THE CURRENT CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION FRAMEWORK
STRUCTURE FOR THE BASIC CLASSIFICATION
IN TOTAL, THERE ARE 33 CLASSIFICATIONS

All institutions

Tribal Colleges and Universities

Special Focus Institutions

Doctoral Universities
Master’s Colleges and Universities
Baccalaureate Colleges
Baccalaureate/Associate’s Colleges
Associate’s Colleges
CURRENT BASIC CLASSIFICATION

All institutions

Tribal Colleges and Universities

Doctoral Universities
- Doctoral/Professional Universities
  - High Research Activity
  - Very High Research Activity

Master’s Colleges and Universities
- Smaller Programs
- Medium Programs
- Larger Programs

Baccalaureate Colleges
- Arts & Science Focus
- Diverse Fields

Baccalaureate/Associate’s Colleges
- Mixed
- Associate’s Dominant

Special Focus Institutions

Associate’s Colleges
- High Transfer-High Traditional
- High Transfer-Mixed Traditional/Nontraditional
- High Transfer-High Nontraditional
- Mixed Transfer/Career & Technical-High Traditional
- Mixed Transfer/Career & Technical-Mixed Traditional/Nontraditional
- Mixed Transfer/Career & Technical-High Nontraditional
- High Career & Technical-High Traditional
- High Career & Technical-Mixed Traditional/Nontraditional
- High Career & Technical-High Nontraditional
CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATIONS ARE USED THROUGHOUT HIGHER EDUCATION

- State performance funding and/or state agency reporting and benchmarking
- Federal reporting and legislation
- Media organizations, including US News rankings and Washington Monthly rankings
- Institutional planning, strategic goalsetting, and benchmarking
- Faculty pay and recruitment
- Institutional research
- Philanthropic grant-making
- Part of eligibility criteria for other organizations and associations
- Judicial arguments and decisions, including U.S. District Courts and state courts
# HOW THE CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATIONS ARE USED BY US NEWS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Doctoral Universities</th>
<th>National Universities</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Master’s Colleges and Universities</td>
<td>Regional Universities</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate Colleges: Arts and Sciences</td>
<td>National Colleges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate Colleges: Diverse Fields</td>
<td>Regional Colleges</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate/Associate's Colleges: Mixed Baccalaureate/Associate's Colleges</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Baccalaureate/Associate's Colleges: Associate's Dominant</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
LIMITATIONS OF A SINGLE DIMENSION
ALL OF THESE INSTITUTIONS HAVE THE SAME CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION

UTAH STATE UNIVERSITY
- 30% Pell
- 12% Students of color; 1% intl
- $325M R&D

FLORIDA INTERNATIONAL U.
- 48% Pell
- 81% Students of color; 8% intl
- $246M R&D

PENNSYLVANIA STATE UNIVERSITY
- 23% Pell
- 28% Students of color; 8% intl
- $979M R&D

$979M R&D
$246M R&D
$325M R&D
LIMITATIONS OF A SINGLE DIMENSION
ALL OF THESE INSTITUTIONS HAVE THE SAME CARNEGIE CLASSIFICATION

UNIVERSITY OF HOUSTON-DOWNTOWN
- 66% Pell
- 86% Students of color; 5% intl
- $1.8M R&D

SUNY EMPIRE STATE COLLEGE
- 61% Pell
- 37% Students of color
- $9.1M R&D

ALABAMA A&M UNIVERSITY
- 68% Pell
- 98% Students of color; 2% intl
- $9.1M R&D
### POTENTIAL MULTI-DIMENSIONAL CLASSIFICATION FOR THE 2025 BASIC*

**EXAMPLE A**
- Degree and certificate mix
- Instructional program mix
- Size

**EXAMPLE B**
- Instructional program mix
- Primary degree awarded
- Highest degree awarded
- Size
- Location type

**EXAMPLE C**
- Size
- Primary degree awarded
- Residential-ness
- Instruct. program mix
- Location type
- Distance learning/learning modality
- Transfer

**SEPARATE LISTINGS**
- Research

Potentially use different characteristics based on primary degree awarded.
POTENTIAL MULTI-DIMENSIONAL BASIC CLASSIFICATION: UNIVERSITY 1

PRIMARY DEGREE AWARDED
- Bachelor’s Degree

HIGHEST DEGREE AWARDED
- Doctorate

PROGRAM MIX
- Comprehensive

SIZE
- Very Large

RESEARCH DESIGNATION
- $250M R&D spending
- 200 research doctorates

DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROFILE
(# DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED)

- Bachelor's: 13,000
- Doctorates: 600
- Master's: 150
- Certificates: 200
- Associates: 3,500

2021: Doctoral U.: Very High Research Activity
POTENTIAL MULTI-DIMENSIONAL BASIC CLASSIFICATION: COMMUNITY COLLEGE 1

**PRIMARY DEGREE AWARDED**
- Associate Degree
- Bachelor’s Degree

**HIGHEST DEGREE AWARDED**
- Bachelor’s Degree

**PROGRAM MIX**
- Comprehensive

**SIZE**
- Medium

**LOCATION TYPE/LOCALE**
- City

**TRANSFER**
- High transfer

2021 DEGREE AND CERTIFICATE PROFILE (# DEGREES AND CERTIFICATES AWARDED)

- Bachelor's: 2,500
- Associates: 700
- Certificates: 20

2021: Baccalaureate/Associate's Colleges: Associate's Dominant
OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY
WHAT WE HAVE HEARD AND LEARNED ABOUT THE RESEARCH METHODOLOGY

• R1/R2 chase is real
• Perceived to measure research quality/impact
• Methodology is complex and not well understood
• It rewards comprehensiveness
  • Spurs institutions to manipulate reporting or launch un-needed doctorate programs
  • Furthers systemic inequities and elitist view of higher education
• Research staff number is unreliable and game-able
• R1 cut is normative, relative, and arbitrary – simply splitting the group in half
  • Not possible to state definitively how an institution can become R1
• Does not capture other forms of research (professional, undergraduate, etc.)
QUICK HISTORY OF THE RESEARCH INDEX

METHODOLOGY

1973 & 1976

R1: Top 50 by federal research grants (if awarded 50+ Ph.Ds)
R2: Top 100 by federal research grants (if awarded 50+ Ph.Ds)

1987 & 1994

R1: Receive at least $33.5M (1987) or $40M (1994) in federal research grants and award 50+ Ph.Ds
R2: Receive $12.5–$33.5M (1987) or $12.5–$40M (1994) in federal research grants and award 50+ Ph.Ds

2000

Research – Extensive: Award 50+ Ph.Ds across 15+ disciplines
Research – Intensive: Award 10 Ph.Ds across 3+ disciplines or 20+ overall

2005 to today

Very High – very high level research activity; awarded 20+ Ph.Ds (spent $5+ million starting in 2018)
High – high level of research activity; awarded 20+ Ph.Ds (spent $5+ million starting in 2018)
“BRIEF” VERSION OF THE 2021 METHODOLOGY

1a. Calculate the aggregate index score:
• Rank each of the 7 measures individually in ascending order, where low = 1
• For each of the 7 measures, multiply the rank by the appropriate PCA coefficient (right) to create a weighted rank
• Sum the weighted ranks to create a single number for each institution
• Create a version of the index that starts at zero (subtract the minimum value from each score)

1b. Calculate the per capita index score:
• Rank each of the 3 measures individually in ascending order, where low = 1
• For each of the 3 measures, multiply the rank by the appropriate PCA coefficient (right) to create a weighted rank
• Sum the weighted ranks to create a single number for each institution
• Create a version of the index that starts at zero (subtract the minimum value from each score so the resulting minimum value is 0)

2. Calculate distance to origin for each index pair
3. Convert to standardized form (subtract overall mean and divide by population standard deviation) and rank from highest to lowest
4. Determine cutoff: Largest “gap” between points below median

Aggregate analysis (first principal component explained 70% of the total variance)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Coefficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;E R&amp;D Expenditures</td>
<td>0.905</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Non-S&amp;E R&amp;D Expenditures</td>
<td>0.809</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>S&amp;E Research Staff</td>
<td>0.913</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctorates: Social Sciences</td>
<td>0.880</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctorates: Humanities</td>
<td>0.846</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctorates: STEM</td>
<td>0.920</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Doctorates: Other Fields</td>
<td>0.597</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Per-capita analysis (first principal component explained 71% of the total variance)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Measure</th>
<th>Coefficient</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Per-capita S&amp;E R&amp;D Expenditures</td>
<td>0.931</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per-capita Non-S&amp;E R&amp;D Expenditures</td>
<td>0.643</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Per-capita S&amp;E Research Staff</td>
<td>0.939</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

THE RESEARCH ACTIVITY INDEX RESULTS IN A RELATIVE RANKING, WITH ROUGHLY HALF OF THE INSTITUTIONS IN R1 AND HALF IN R2
WHAT THIS DISTRIBUTION LOOKS LIKE
## 2025 Carnegie Research Designations

### Research 1: Very High Research Spending and Doctorate Production
- Spent at least $50 million in total R&D in a year, as reported to the NSF HERD Survey
- Awarded at least 70 research/scholarship doctorates in a year, as reported to IPEDS

### Research 2: High Research Spending and Doctorate Production
- Spent at least $5 million in total R&D in a year, as reported to the NSF HERD Survey
- Awarded at least 20 research/scholarship doctorates in a year, as reported to IPEDS

### Research Colleges and Universities
- Spent at least $2.5 million in total R&D in a year, as reported to the NSF HERD Survey
- Does not include institutions designated R1 or R2

---

For the 2025 classifications, institutions will receive the higher of either:
- Three-year average (2021, 2022, 2023)
- Most recent single year (2023)
QUESTIONS?

mgunja@acenet.edu, sgast@acenet.edu