

Cost effective practices that promote student success

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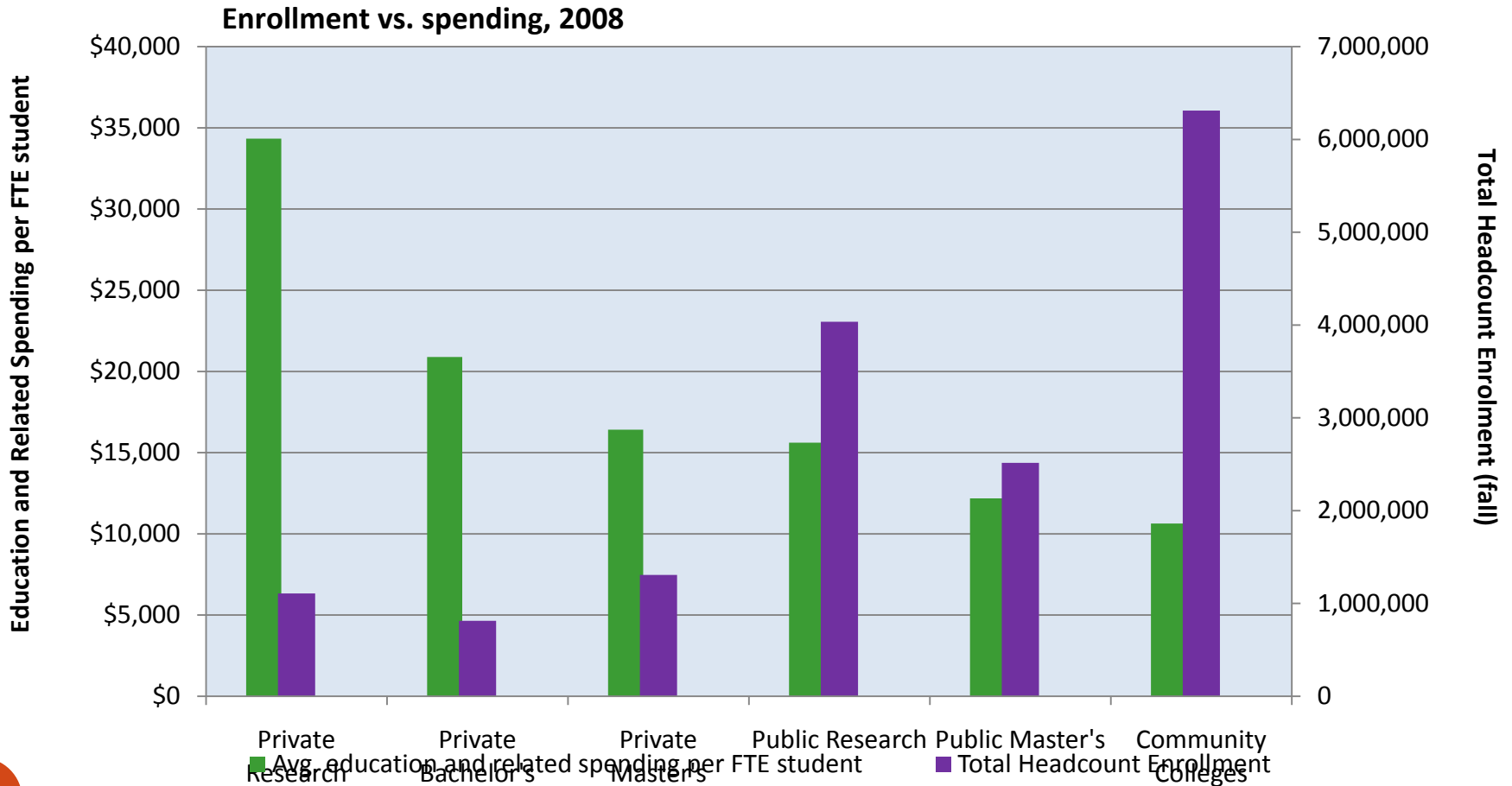
Elements of the presentation

- Trends in financing, and what they suggest about future financing strategies
- What the research says about the relation between spending and student success
- The “ISS” (Investment in Student Success) pilot project to model ways to measure cost-return

Highlights from trends research

- Costs are not increasing as fast as prices – and costs are declining in many institutions
 - In small privates, competition for students and growing use of tuition discounts means net tuition revenues per student may be going down – despite rising sticker prices
 - In many public institutions, tuitions are increasing to replace lost state funding
- Stratification of wealth – with the majority of students going to students with the least to invest in their success – versus rising costs and spending in institutions that serve relatively few students

NATIONAL: WHERE THE MONEY GOES, WHERE THE STUDENTS ARE ENROLLED: E&R SPENDING PER FTE STUDENT/ENROLLMENTS



Spending increases/declines

- Spending is increasing fastest in administration, academic support, sponsored research and auxiliary enterprises
- Spending for instruction is declining slightly in all types of institutions – even the wealthiest
- Spending for student services has increased among private institutions, has been largely stagnant in public institutions

Research review...for evidence about

- Spending and student retention, degree attainment, R&D funding
- Use of full-time/part-time faculty
- Spending on student services
- Student financial aid
- Costs of degree production

Tentative conclusions

- Intentionality matters as much or more than money alone
- Spending on instruction and student services pays off in learning, retention and graduation
- Student aid programs are generally not designed with the goal of student learning or degree attainment
- Excess units cost institutions money, cost students in time and money, and do not get students to the finish line

Investment in Student Success: Pilot Program



Report “Calculating Cost-Return
For Investments in Student
Success”
Published December 2009
By Jobs for the Future and
the
Delta Cost Project

Primary findings...

- Assessments do not include cost information
- Program costs per student varied widely (from \$59 to \$1,601 per student) – all a fraction of the average costs per student (from \$6,802 to \$19,108 per student for these institutions).
- Seven of the thirteen programs showed an increase in retention that could be associated with participation in the student success programs.

The cost-return calculator

- Templates for recording student evaluation information
- Templates for recording unit cost information
- Places to include institutional cost data