

The Risky Academy: Environmental Scan for May 2013

ENROLLMENT

Hispanic high-school graduates enrolled in college at greater rates than did their white counterparts last year, according to a new analysis of Census Bureau data by the Pew Research Hispanic Center. [Latino High-School Graduates Outpace Whites in College Enrollment](#)

College enrollment in the spring-2013 term dropped by 2.3 percent compared with the same term a year ago, according to a [report](#) released by the National Student Clearinghouse Research Center. Though the report noted that spring enrollments are typically lower than fall enrollments, it said that the gap between the two has been widening, with spring-2013 enrollments lower than fall-2012 totals by 5.4 percent. [College Enrollment Fell by 2.3 Percent This Spring, Report Says](#)

STUDENT AFFAIRS

A national fraternity with chapters on more than 125 campuses must stand trial over the drinking death of a Wabash College freshman, an Indiana court said in a ruling that may force the organizations to take more responsibility for misconduct at chapter houses. [National Fraternities Face More Legal Risk After Court Ruling](#)

LAB SAFETY

UCLA chemistry professor Patrick G. Harran will stand trial on felony charges stemming from a laboratory fire that killed a research assistant more than four years ago. In the preliminary hearing, the prosecution continued to emphasize the following points: 1) the PI is ultimately responsible for the safety and health of those working in his/her laboratory; 2) the PI is responsible for lab staff receiving adequate training for working with hazardous materials and for hazardous processes; and 3) training and procedures (including use of PPE) for working with hazardous substances and for hazardous processes should be documented. [UCLA professor to stand trial in death of assistant in lab fire](#)

Safety advocates have been holding out hope that the unprecedented criminal prosecution of UCLA professor Patrick G. Harran might finally persuade researchers to take laboratory safety more seriously. Now, the federally chartered National Research Council plans to convene a commission to begin a yearlong analysis of what steps might help quell the rash of lab accidents on university campuses. And in a relatively new approach, the study's director has included on the commission several behavioral scientists, hoping they'll help the panel figure out why already-understood safety practices are so often ignored by lab personnel. [Lab Safety Is Tackled as a Problem of Behaviors as Much as Standards](#)

SEXUAL MISCONDUCT

A settlement was announced on May 9 between the federal government and the University of Montana at Missoula over reports of sexual assault. "Institutions of higher learning across the country must be absolutely tireless in their determination to fully and effectively respond to

reports of sexual assault and sexual harassment on their campuses," Roy L. Austin Jr., deputy assistant attorney general for the Civil Rights Division, said at a news conference. [Federal Probe of Sexual Assault at U. of Montana Yields 'Blueprint for Colleges'](#)

A group of students, faculty members, and alumni accuse administrators at Occidental College of failing to protect women from sexual assaults and not taking reports of sexual assault seriously. [Faculty at Occidental College Criticize 2 Officials for Handling of Assault Cases](#)

City police have uncovered 126 reports of crimes at Elizabeth City State University going back to 2007 that were never investigated by campus police, including 18 reports of sexual assaults. The campus police chief resigned in the wake of a reported sexual assault at a dormitory last month. The State Bureau of Investigation is looking into allegations of obstruction of justice and witness intimidation by campus police. [126 crime reports not checked at Elizabeth City State](#)

Students at Dartmouth College, Swarthmore College, the University of California at Berkeley, and the University of Southern California announced that they had filed complaints with the U.S. Department of Education over the institutions' alleged mishandling of sexual-misconduct cases. [4 More Colleges Are Targets of Students' Complaints Over Sexual Assault](#)

DIVERSITY

The pool of college graduates who earned degrees in the 2007-8 academic year was considerably less diverse than the overall student body, and that finding presents challenges for colleges because more and more individuals seeking a higher education do not fit the prototype of a traditional student, concludes a broad analysis of student outcomes released by the American Council on Education. "The future of higher education essentially depends on its ability to resolve the chronic gap between the incoming and the graduating cohort of students." [Report Explores Diversity Gap Between College Graduates and Student Body](#)

COMPLIANCE

In one of the most severe penalties ever assessed to a university for violations of a federal campus-crime law, the U.S. Department of Education has fined Yale University \$165,000. A quick skim of the findings shows violations for not reporting 4 sex offenses between 2001-2002, failure to properly define the campus to include (and thus include in its statistics) 7 buildings within the Hospital area (located across street from campus, and used in some part for educational purposes), and failure to include some policy statements in their 2004 Annual Security Report. [Yale U. Is Fined \\$165,000 Under Crime-Reporting Law](#)

The U.S. Department of Education has fined the University of Texas at Arlington \$82,500 for misclassifying crimes and underreporting disciplinary actions under the Clery Act. [U. of Texas at Arlington Faces Fine for Misreporting Crime Data](#)

Idaho State University will pay \$400,000 to settle allegations that it violated the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA), the federal law that governs the privacy of medical records. An investigation by the federal office found that the university's risk assessments were incomplete. [Idaho State U. Will Pay \\$400,000 to Settle Medical-Records Case](#)

Regulatory risks are the number one threat facing companies in a variety of industries, according to a recent KPMG survey of C-Suite executives. Seventy percent across all industries

said that regulatory changes have caused either substantial or moderate changes in their risk management and reporting processes in the past two years. [Regulatory Risks: Be Very, Very Afraid](#)

PRIVACY

Less than three months after Harvard University administrators admitted to signing off on secret searches in the e-mail accounts of more than a dozen resident deans as part of a cheating investigation, one leader implicated in those controversial searches is stepping down. [Harvard Dean Steps Down Following Secret Searches of E-Mail Accounts](#)

RESEARCH

Three medical researchers at New York University have been charged with commercial bribery for allegedly trading information about their magnetic-resonance-imaging research for payments from a Chinese company. [3 NYU Researchers Are Accused of Secretly Sharing Information With China](#)

ATHLETICS

The University of Tennessee at Knoxville has fired the director of its Office of Student Judicial Affairs amid an inquiry into whether she had improper relationships with athletes. [U. of Tenn. Fires Judicial Officer Amid Investigation of Improper Relationships](#)

Rutgers coach, Brian Brecht, “did use inappropriate language and exhibited unprofessional behavior on occasion,” but “the instances were infrequent and not directed at individual players.” As a result, the university said, it “found no criminal or university-policy violations” and reinstated him. Mr. Brecht was suspended with pay last month amid a broad investigation of Rutgers coaches that followed the dismissal of the men’s basketball coach for abusing his players. [Rutgers U. Reinstates Men’s Lacrosse Coach Accused of Verbal Abuse](#)

The University of Wisconsin at Green Bay will retain its head men’s basketball coach, Brian Wardle, after an independent investigation into accusations that he mistreated at least one former player. [U. of Wisconsin-Green Bay Coach Keeps Job After Investigation of Alleged Abuse](#)

INTERNATIONAL

Since the Boston Marathon bombings three weeks ago, the U.S. government has enacted just one significant security change: It has ordered increased scrutiny of international students coming into the country. [Amid Security Worries, Student Visas Come Under New Scrutiny](#)

Looking to further broaden Indiana University's international reach and to increase educational and research opportunities for its students and faculty, IU President Michael A. McRobbie visited South Korea, China and Taiwan. Students from China and South Korea accounted for more than half of IU's international enrollment of 7,700 this past academic year. The Institute of International Education ranks IU 11th among all U.S. universities in the number of international students. [McRobbie Set For Trip to Asia](#)

Betsy Palmer, an associate professor of education at Montana State University at Bozeman, died on Monday as a result of injuries suffered in a landslide while leading a group of 16 students on a study trip in Nepal. [Landslide Kills Montana State U. Professor Leading Study Trip in Nepal](#)

New York University's law school has announced that it will shut down a legal-education program it had introduced in partnership with the National University of Singapore. The move marks the second time in the last year that NYU has decided to end a program in Singapore due to financial woes. [Financial Troubles Lead NYU to End Law Program in Singapore](#)

HUMAN RESOURCES

A union for part-time faculty members at a Michigan college has filed an unfair-labor-practice complaint alleging that administrators violated a collective-bargaining agreement by unilaterally reducing the number of hours that part-time instructors can teach. Under the new Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which takes effect in January 2014, employees of large companies who work 30 hours or more a week must receive health benefits from their employers. Before the law takes effect, some colleges have begun limiting adjuncts and other part-time employees to no more than 29 hours a week. [As Adjuncts See Their Hours Cut, Some Are Fighting Back](#)

A 2012 PayScale study reports that 47% of the Gen Y workforce is opting for employment at smaller firms versus 23% who choose companies of more than 1,500 employees. Large companies could be losing out to extremely valuable talent due to a bureaucratic workplace culture that dissuades employee input and collaboration from all levels. Like each generation before, Gen Y brings a substantial amount of knowledge and expertise to the workplace, but won't stick around long if they can't contribute to the bigger, broader company mission. [As employees "lean in", companies must "listen in"](#)

As online courses multiply outside the formal structures of academe, professors increasingly have opportunities to [earn cash on the side](#) by freelancing. [Online Course Platforms Offer Paid Freelance Gigs to Professors](#)

FINANCIAL AID

A lack of reliable and transparent data on college costs and a complicated financial-aid-application process create an information gap that makes it difficult for students to pay for their higher education, according to a new report on overhauling the federal student-aid system from America's Promise Alliance. They suggest that the gap could be closed by increasing financial literacy. [Lack of Financial Literacy Complicates Student-Aid Process, Report Says](#)

Numerous information-gathering requests that colleges must complete to receive federal student-aid funds can divert time and money from their mission to educate students, says a recent report from the Government Accountability Office. It mentions difficulties with certain consumer-disclosure requirements, such as providing information about enrollment, graduation rates, cost of attendance, and campus safety. Rather than one particular requirement creating a burden for institutions, the cumulative burden of several requirements for compliance presents a "substantial challenge." [Report Examines Burden of Federal Student-Aid Programs' Requirement on Colleges](#)

GOVERNANCE

A bill that would restrict some powers of the University of Texas Board of Regents won tentative approval in the Texas House of Representatives. The measure, which one lawmaker dubbed the “higher-ed governance clean up bill,” would establish that the regents cannot terminate a university president without a recommendation to do so from the system’s chancellor, and that if a chancellor does make such a recommendation, the board is not required to heed it. Regents would also be required to attend ethics training before being allowed to vote on budgetary or personnel matters. [Texas House Approves Bill That Would Restrict Board of Regents’ Powers](#)

[Major governance changes](#) that Pennsylvania State University’s Board of Trustees approved this month are likely to improve the university’s creditworthiness, according to a report released last week by Moody’s Investors Service. The agency is not upgrading its rating of Penn State, but in the report, which is available only to Moody’s subscribers, it says the “significant changes” in Penn State’s governance structure and oversight practices “are a credit positive because they strengthen the oversight and management of the university, allowing emerging risks to be appropriately assessed and not overlooked.” [Governance Changes Improve Business Outlook at Penn State](#)

ERM EVENTS and MEETINGS ATTENDED BY IU STAFF

GRC Fundamentals Workshop: GRC Strategy, Process & Technology, by GRC 20/20, May 6

Indiana University Enterprise Risk Management Committee meeting, May 23 - Risk Area "Health Services" discussion with Risk Owner Craig Brater

Ryan Chizum achieved the Certified GRC Professional designation, May 29

NEW ERM RESOURCES

COSO released the 2013 Internal Control-Integrated Framework. It is expected to help organizations design and implement internal control in light of many changes in business and operating environments since the issuance of the original Framework in 1992.

<http://www.coso.org/>

This monthly publication is being sent to all IU Risk Owners and others participating or interested in the IU Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) initiative by Merri Beth Lavagnino, Chief Risk Officer for IU, in order to increase awareness of current trends affecting enterprise risk in higher education. Please reply to her at mb1@iu.edu if you would like to be taken off the mailing list, or if you have others you would like to add to the mailing list. Thank you!