THE EFFICACY OF STRATEGY IN HIGHER EDUCATION - A METHODOLOGY

Jeffrey Litwin

Abstract

All research intensive universities (RIU’s) want to expand their scope of operations. Research performance is a key driver of institutional reputation which underpins a university’s ability to generate revenues from all sources. Achieving an accelerating rate of growth of the virtuous cycle, in which increasing research performance enhances institutional reputation which, in turn, facilitates increasing research performance, is the desired objective of RIU’s. This shared objective is contributing to an intensification of the competition for research funds.

Successfully competing for research funds depends on realizing an increasing share of the federally financed research funding that is available to academic institutions. To this end, RIU’s are using strategic processes with varying degrees of intensity and formality in an effort to achieve their objectives. The question arises as to whether these strategies produce desirable outcomes. That is, are some expressions of strategy more closely associated with an increased share of federally financed research funding than others?

This methodology provides insight into this question by presenting a model that exposes the strategic emphases of individual RIU’s which are correlated with the changes in the shares of federally financed research funding actually realized by the institutions. Using this method, the relationship between strategy and institutional performance is observable which can be used to inform the process of strategy formation.
Introduction

All research-intensive universities (RIU) want to create the virtuous cycle which, depending on their degree of success, constitutes the rate of growth of their institution. Burton Clark (1992) describes a process whereby RIU’s strive to create the best conditions for research and recruit the best students and the most prestigious, accomplished, or promising faculty that is within their capabilities. These factors enhance research performance which, over the course of time, results in strengthening an institution’s reputation (Lang, 2004; Geiger, 2004). In turn, a prominent reputation attracts more of the best students and researchers who generate greater research revenue for their institution. In this way, increasing research performance leads to a strengthened reputation and, if reputation is the driver of growth, then achieving growth is founded in successfully competing for research funds. This is not a static process. If the virtuous cycle is not being continually fed, an institution’s rate of growth will be eroded by a collective attack that is neither malicious nor coordinated, but represents the effort of each RIU to achieve the same end. This phenomenon underlies the proposition that competition for research funding is intensifying among RIU’s. The use of strategy and strategic processes are widely used in the belief that it will enhance competitive effectiveness as affirmed by Keller’s (1983) remark that, “any organization with competitors, with aspirations to greatness, or with threats of decline has come to feel the need for a strategy.” (p. 75) Many similar statements have followed.

This paper details the methodology used to enhance the understanding of the efficacy of strategy in the competition for research funding among RIU’s. In order to conduct the study, research data, accessed from the National Science Foundation (NSF), were collected for 39 RIU’s and for the national market of the United States. The study used the data to compare differences in the research priorities of individual RIU’s and to determine whether these differences, which are reflective of underlying strategies, have any relationship to the changes in the size of the shares of the market they held during the decade ending in 2000. In this way, it may be possible to relate certain manifestations of strategy with market outcomes.

The first contribution this paper can make relates to the measurement of strategic performance. There is currently no universally accepted or used indicator to gauge strategic performance in the higher education research market in the United States (Feller, 2000; Hauger, 2000). Benchmarking is the method most widely used by RIU’s to measure strategic success which is, in general, a process of selecting a group of institutions that are determined to be comparable for the stated purpose and then calculating performance against the peer group. Inevitably, selecting the group involves subjective judgments (Lang, 2000) made by those that are likely to be accountable for the institution’s relative performance. The inherent conflict, real or imagined, increases the probability that the information produced will be less credible to external accountability agents. It should be quickly added that this remark is not intended to suggest that benchmarking is not an important, valuable, and evolving tool. Pennsylvania State University (Penn State, 2004), which is among the most transparent reporters of research activity, uses NSF federally financed science and engineering field categorizations to produce currency and ordinal rankings in what is essentially a peer group for each of its areas of research. Penn State, and similar reporters, has advanced the practice of strategic outcome measurement of research beyond a more subjective peer group method in that it ranks itself against the entire population of institutions that outperform it in each of the NSF fields in which it is strategically interested. This method enables a quantitative ranking in which changes in the institution’s relative market position can be tracked over time. Strategic success will be reflected in a higher ranking or fewer outperforming institutions. In addition, Penn State compares its total and federally financed research performance using this method.

Glasgow University (GU a., 2001), which is one of the more sophisticated reporters in the United Kingdom, uses a method that, in many ways, is similar to Penn State’s in that it ranks itself in each Unit of Assessment (RAE, 2001) using an ordinal ranking. In addition to ordinals, GU uses percentiles to describe its position relative to all institutions that submitted work in each Unit of Assessment; in effect, generating a national positioning in each market segment in which it operates. Interestingly, GU appears less interested in a national ranking of its total or federally financed research performance than its RIU counterparts (GU b., 2001). The major factor that distinguishes GU from RIU rankings is that RIU’s use currency as the basic unit of comparison whereas GU follows RAE scores to underwrite its ranking system. Since the RAE scoring system is based on the peer review of scholarly production (such as publication) it is innately judgmental (Braxton, and Boyer, 1986). In this sense, the benefit of using currency as the basic unit underpinning strategic performance rankings is that, despite its reductionist nature, it is highly objective...
and, among RIU’s, nearly universally used.

The methodologies described above recognize the notion that measuring strategic performance requires comparisons with the performance of competitors. A successful strategic process will advance an enterprise’s rankings, whether expressed as an ordinal, a percentile, or in currency values. In the instance of benchmarking using currency values, the most common and current form of measuring strategic research performance among RIU’s, the question must be asked as to the performance of the peer group in relation to the total market. If a university’s ranking is rising among its peers and the group’s collective performance is simultaneously rising versus the market, than that university is experiencing real growth. However, if the peer group is declining versus the market, even a university that is rising within its group may be experiencing real decline. Over the long term, the later scenario can have a surprisingly adverse impact, much as inflation deflates the purchasing power of money. To overcome this problem, an indicator that relates institutional performance to the market in an objective, quantitative, easily understood, easily derived, and universally applicable manner is required. To this end, this paper proposes the use of the change in share of the research market as the indicator used to measure the strategic performance of RIU’s.

Strategy can be defined as a pattern in a stream of resource allocations (Mintzberg, 1972), and in limited resource environments such as exists in the academic research market, this forces choices between investing to enhance the capacity of one research portfolio component to a greater extent, or at the expense of others. The reasons behind these allocations is strategy; the actual allocation is the activation of that strategy. In other words, strategy is not the value of resources allocated to a particular research portfolio component; strategy is the value of the allocation in relation to allocations made to other research portfolio components or other areas in the university requiring resources. Strategy is about choices (Porter, 1996; Ansoff, 1988). Given an appropriate lag time, investments in research capacity generally result in increased research performance. As such, it can be expected that a research portfolio component that has continually received the largest share of investment in research capacity will eventually achieve a rate of growth in research performance that outstrips other components in the portfolio. At a certain point, this component is likely to become the largest component in a university’s research portfolio. This situation is most apparent in universities that conduct research in the medical sciences. Observing relative changes in the research performance of portfolio components of RIU’s can be used as a mechanism to track the consequences of strategic decisions.

If strategic input is the relative size and change in size of investments in capacity, just as the strategic input of a mutual fund is the array of assets it decides to hold over time, then the strategic success of these decisions is an institution’s research performance relative to the market. If a university has made the right investments in research capacity, then, ceterus paribus, it will experience a rate of growth in research performance that is greater than the rate of growth of the market. In other words, its share of the market will increase. Strategy then, is the search for the balance of portfolio components that produces the desired outcome which, in the case of the research market, is the fastest rate of growth in the share of the market.

The national research market that is used in this study, as defined below, is “Federally financed R&D expenditures at universities and colleges,” as reported by the NSF (NSF e.). This selection was made based on each of the four major academic research funding components, namely, the federal government, internally allocated resources, industry, and state governments, meeting all four of the following conditions, presented here in brief:

The first condition relates to the degree of plurality in a system of research funding to the extent that it enables any researcher in any institution the ability to submit proposals for support through a national inter-institutional bidding process. Such a system promotes the widest possible range of exploration while creating intense competition, a combination of attributes that strengthens the system as a whole (Ben-David, 1972; Birnbaum, 1983). In addition, David Dill’s 1997 article succinctly describes how such a system protects the social welfare by, for example, establishing an informed market that fosters economic efficiency through controlled prices, increased rigor, discipline, and quality in the conception, preparation, execution, and management of research, and by helping ensure that the range and methods of research are in the public interest. The national open bidding condition is a market attribute that serves to strengthen the system by forcing each participant to continually improve. It most closely describes that segment of research funding that is provided by the federal government. Internally allocated resources are a source of research funding that does not meet the open bidding condition since these funds are rarely
available to other than the home institution. Likewise, state sponsored research funds are almost never available to universities outside of the home state.

Industry funding is not a monolithic source of funds. A significant proportion of industry sponsored research is conducted by the largest companies close to their headquarters (Statistics Canada, 2000). The proximity factor disqualifies most RIU’s from bidding on most industry sponsored contracts. In addition, industry sponsored research is almost entirely applied in nature (Etzkowitz, Webster, and Healey, 1998) and most faculty are not engaged in research of this type (NSF e.). As such, the proportion of industry sponsored research that is open to national bidding is likely a small portion of total industry sponsored research funding which, in turn, only represented seven percent of the entire value of research performed by academic institutions in 1996 (Jankowski, 1999). As a consequence, industry funded research has been deemed not to meet the open market condition.

A commitment to long term research is foundational to RIU’s and the second condition relates to the risk that universities have to take when they make investments in the capacity that supports their research, such as tenured faculty or fixed infrastructure, that can take decades to yield a full return. Long term market predictability significantly reduces the risk of making these investments since the offsetting revenue can be reasonably estimated. With systematic risk substantially mitigated, the major challenge for RIU’s becomes the more controllable operational risk which relates to the set of actions and decisions that are made in an effort to earn a share of an existing market.

Federal financing of university research represents a very predictable and dependable source of research funding as demonstrated by the smoothness and relatively constantly sloped line in the figure below.

Funding from industry must be considered as volatile if for no other reason than businesses that supply the funds are themselves volatile. The stock markets exemplify this where corporate decisions are made from quarter to quarter and long term planning is only valid as long as the short term results support the plan. In addition, businesses are not likely to undertake research projects whose duration spans more than a couple of years (Feller, and Roessner, 1995) and, as such, this funding source does not meet the second condition. While the foci of state sponsored research funding can change abruptly, most often when new administrations come to power, these changes more often reflect the relatively slow evolution of local economies. For this reason, it can be argued that state sponsored research does meet the second condition. Finally, self-financed research, even with internal competitive pressures (Massy, and Zemsky, 1994), should be regarded as meeting the second condition.

The third condition asks the question of what proportion of an enterprise’s revenue stream constitutes a strategic imperative. One method of approaching this issue is to speculate what might happen in a disaster scenario. That is, if a portion of an enterprise’s revenue stopped flowing, what would be the consequences?

In 2000, research funding from industry was 6.9 percent of all research performed by RIU’s (NSF g.). These funds are dispersed across a range of disciplines although there is a degree of concentration in the life sciences fields. It is also notable that industrial sponsored research comprised a proportional maximum of 30.8 percent of Duke University’s research performance and as little as 0.9 percent of the University of Chicago’s in 2000. While this range makes it difficult to generalize, it can be suggested that, in a disaster scenario, an RIU losing not more than 10 percent of its total research income would not have to make survival type re-alignments to its total faculty complement or overhead structures. 32 of the 39 RIU’s meet this criterion. This statement is a reasonable assumption even in cases where industry sponsored research comprises more than 10 percent of research performance in several departments within an RIU. A similar scenario can be described for state sponsored research which comprised eight percent of total research expenditures in academic institutions in 1996 (Jankowski, 1999). As a consequence, it can be stated with a reasonable degree of confidence that neither of these two funding sources meets condition three. However, at an average of 67.8 percent of the RIU’s 2000 research performance, the same cannot be said for federally
financed research expenditures. Indeed, if not for federal research funding, there would be no RIU’s as we know them.

The fourth condition is an attempt to determine which research revenue streams contribute more directly and to the greatest extent to an RIU’s virtuous cycle. In other words, if one research revenue stream helps establish an RIU’s national and international reputation to a greater extent than other streams than it should be considered as more strategically important. Given that state sponsored and internally allocated research streams have already been disqualified from inclusion in the research market they will not be considered at this point. The determination of whether federally financed or industrial sponsored research revenue streams meet condition four relies on the criterion of whether the research is peer adjudicated because this is the common denominator upon which international reputational comparisons are made (Liu, N.C., and Cheng, Y., 2005; O’Leary, J., 2004; The Center, 2003). Simply put, industry sponsored research does not meet this condition and federally sponsored research, by virtue of the method used to award funding, is peer adjudicated.

Since the federally financed research component of research income meets all four conditions, it was chosen as the market for this study. It should clarified that this argument is not suggesting that research income is not important from all sources or that investments in capacity do not enable competing for multiple income streams, it is only meant to describe a market comprised of a buyer and sellers that is identifiable, for which analytic data are available, and which can be reasonably argued to be a proxy for understanding the research strategies of RIU’s.

The second contribution this paper hopes to make is the introduction of several performance indicators that, when taken together, form the backbone of the methodology herein used. Of special note are indicators entitled the Institutional Strategic Indicator (ISI) and the Market Strategic Indicator (MSI). Both of these indicators rely on portfolio theories (Markowitz, 1990; Naylor, and Tapon, 1982; Henderson, 1973) that are interpreted to support the following statements: In a multi-unit enterprise, the largest and fastest growing units or portfolio components are of greater strategic importance to the enterprise than small contracting components. Similarly, large fast growing market segments provide greater strategic opportunities, ceterus paribus, than small declining market segments. Lastly, enterprises want as many large fast growing portfolio components in market segments that are also large and fast growing as possible. RIU’s that have research components that have achieved the later status will maximize their return on investment which, in the research market, is the generation of a greater value of research performed, as measured in real terms against the market as a whole. In other words, return on investment in the research market is measured by changes in market share. The use of ISI and MSI in the methodology described in this paper is intended to assist strategists that operate in the research market to more accurately locate the market positions of their institutions and that of their competitors.

The third contribution this study makes is that, if it is determined that a certain strategy is more closely associated with market success than other strategies, than RIU’s will want to adopt such a strategy. Perhaps more to the point, if any readers of this paper are in a position to influence research strategy, and who are convinced that the methodology presented herein is sound, and that the preliminary conclusions reached reasonably follow from the data, than research strategic processes in higher education will be better focussed.

The fourth significant contribution that this study might make is to add a special case to the extensive body of research that has been done on the efficacy of strategy. This study is a special case because it overcomes one of the most common criticisms of research published in this field which is the difficulty in defining industry boundaries (Barney, J., 2001; Boyd, B., 1991). The national market for federally financed research is a closed system in that there is only one buyer and a fixed number of identifiable sellers whose activities can be effectively monitored through the reporting function of the NSF. In addition, it is a complex and highly competitive market which makes its study non-trivial and of possible interest to strategists and economists alike.

**Definitions**

**National Market:**

The national market is highly fragmented (Geiger, R., and Feller, I., 1998) and behaves, more than other forms, as a monopolistically competitive market. In this market type, Michael Porter’s (1985) differentiation strategy is the only way to achieve market success which, given that RIU’s are non-profit organizations, can only be measured by observing changes in the market shares that occur among competitors. In this study, the national market is defined
as the total of all federally financed R&D expenditures in
colleges and universities, as reported by the colleges and
universities that received those funds and regardless of
which federal agency provided those funds. As previously
described, even though universities receive research
funding from other sources, for the purposes of this study
these sources have been excluded. In addition, and for
the reasons provided below, amounts from all NSF fields
entitled “Other, nec,” and from “Other Sciences, nec,” and
“Bioengineering/biomedical,” (NSF a.) were excluded.

1990a: 1990a is the arithmetic mean of data from the
circumstances 1990a is the arithmetic mean from the years
1988 through 1992 inclusive. The purpose for using an
average of years is to mitigate the risk that 1990 was an
anomaly. For greater certainty, when the term ‘1990’ is
hereafter used, it refers to that actual year.

2000a: 2000a is the arithmetic mean of data from the
years 1999, 2000, and 2001 inclusive. In later specified
circumstances 2000a is the arithmetic mean from the years
1998 through 2002 inclusive. As in the case of 1990a, the
purpose for using an average of years is to mitigate the
risk that 2000 was an anomaly. For greater certainty, when
the term ‘2000’ is hereafter used, it refers to that actual
year.

Field: A field is a category of research as defined by
the NSF. For example, Physics is a field of research that
is defined to include, “Physics as well as Acoustics,
Atomic/Molecular, Chemical, Condensed Matter,
Elementary Particles, Nuclear Structure, Optics, Plasma,
and Theoretical/Mathematical Physics.”(NSF b.) There are
21 fields in this study as listed on Figure A. A field may
also be referred to as a research category or a portfolio
component or, in the case of the national market, as a
market segment or a market.

Currency: Since this study compares percentage
changes in the relative sizes of fields and market shares,
the effect of currency inflation does not impact the
results and, as a consequence, the decision was made to
present all currency amounts in nominal United States
dollars. For greater certainty, the model was run for the
national market using constant 1996 dollars and, while the
percentage measurements were smaller then when using
nominal dollars, the results were identical.

RIU: An RIU is a university that was a member of the
Association of American Universities (AAU) from 1988
to 2002 inclusive, and which was classified by the NSF as
one of the top 100 recipients of federal research funding
from 1988 to 2002 inclusive, and which was categorized
by the Carnegie Foundation as a Research University I
in its 1987 and 1994 surveys and as a Doctoral/Research
University-Extensive in its 2000 survey. The final filter
used to define an RIU relates to the consistency of the
data that each RIU reported in the annual NSF surveys.
Institutions which otherwise qualify were subjected
to a Ratio Variance test and were excluded from the
study if the ratios of their Total Reported (the sum of
all expenditures categorized into fields) to Total Actual
(the total federally financed R&D expenditures reported)
changed by more than plus or minus 12.5 percent between
1990a and 2000a. The decision to use this cut off point
was based on the existence of a gap in the ratios from
slightly more than 10 percent, to the next institution at
nearly 20 percent. The reason for excluding RIU’s using
this method was that large ratios indicate inconsistent
reporting in one or more fields which could, in turn, affect
the results of this study. The list of RIU’s can be found on
Appendix A.

x-axis: On a two dimensional plain, the x-axis represents
the values on the horizontal dimension.

y-axis: On a two dimensional plain, the y-axis represents
the values on the vertical dimension.

NS: The Equalized Value for Percent of National Share
(NS) is an indicator that corresponds to the equalized
values for the proportion that each field represented of
the national market in 2000a. The first step in generating
NS for a field is to determine the percentage that each
field represented of the national market in 2000a. For
example, in 2000a Mathematics was 1.41 percent of the
$16.06 billion national market. This data can be seen in
the column entitled ‘2000a Percent of National Spending’
on Figure B. Since NS comprises one of two equal parts
of MSI, an indicator defined below, all values of ‘2000a
Percent of National Spending’ were adjusted by the factor
that equated the largest value to one. In the national
market, Medical had the largest share in 2000a at 35.32
percent and this value was used as the denominator for
all values of ‘2000a Percent of National Spending’. For
example, Astronomy was 1.59 percent of the national
market in 2000a. When divided by 35.32, the value of NS
for Astronomy equaled 0.0449. NS relies on the concept
that the greater the proportion that a portfolio component
represents of an organization’s total portfolio, the greater
is its strategic importance. NS ranks 2000a federally
financed R&D expenditures by field in proportion to the
national market.

\textbf{ΔNS:} The Equalized Value for Percent Change in Share of National Spending (ΔNS) represents the equalized values for the change that occurred in the proportion that each field represented of the national market between 1990a and 2000a. The first step in determining ΔNS is to find the percentage change in ‘2000a Percent of National Spending’ from ‘1990a Percent of National Spending’.

For example, Civil Engineering was 1.32 percent of the national market in 1990a and 1.50 percent in 2000a which means that its share grew by 13.49 percent during the period. (1.50 is 13.49 percent larger than 1.32.) Agriculture’s share was 4.17 percent in 1990a and 3.62 percent in 2000a, representing a decline in share of expenditures of 13.24 percent. In contrast to NS which can only have positive values, ΔNS can be either positive or negative. In order to equalize ΔNS to NS, the largest value of ΔNS was equated to one. In the national market Political Science had the largest ΔNS at 27.20 percent and this value was used as the denominator for all values of ‘Percent Change in Share of National Spending’.

Completing the earlier Agriculture example, the decline of 13.24 percent in share, divided by 27.20 produced a ΔNS for Agriculture of -0.4868. The concept of ΔNS is that portfolio components that grow relatively rapidly are absorbing resources at a faster rate than other portfolio components. In the case of a zero-sum game, such as exists in the national market, resource absorbing portfolio components are taking resources from other components. The decisions that result in these allocations represent strategic activation.

\textbf{MSI:} The Market Strategic Indicator (MSI) is the sum of NS and ΔNS.

\textbf{Mean MSI:} The arithmetic mean MSI is the sum of all Fields for MSI (which is 0.1721) divided by 21, which is equal to 0.0082.

\textbf{IS:} The Equalized Values for Percent of Institutional Spending (IS) indicates the equalized values for the proportion that each field represented of an RIU’s federally financed research expenditures in 2000a. The first step in generating IS for a field is to determine the percentage that each field represented of the institution’s research expenditures in 2000a. For example, Chemistry was 3.65 percent of the $298.563 million spent by the University of Pennsylvania in 2000a. This data can be seen in the column entitled ‘2000a Percent of Institutional Spending’ on Figure D. Since IS comprises one of two equal parts of ISI, an indicator defined below, all values of ‘2000a Percent of Institutional Spending’ were adjusted by the factor that equated the largest value to one. At the University of Pennsylvania, Medical had the largest share in 2000a at 51.02 percent and this value was used as the denominator for all values of ‘2000a Percent of Institutional Spending’.

For example, Chemistry was 3.65 percent of the University of Pennsylvania’s expenditures in 2000a. When divided by 51.02, the value of IS for Chemistry equals 0.0716. As is the case for NS, IS relies on the concept that the greater the proportion that a portfolio component represents of an organization’s total portfolio, the greater is its strategic importance.

\textbf{AIS:} The Equalized Values for Change in Share of Spending (AIS) represents the equalized values for the change that occurred in the proportion that each field represented of an RIU’s federally financed research expenditures between 1990a and 2000a. AIS is determined by finding the percentage change of ‘2000a Percent of Institutional Spending’ as compared with ‘1990a Percent of Institutional Spending’. For example, at the University of Pennsylvania, Sociology was 0.79 percent of spending in 1990a and 0.97 percent in 2000a which means that its share of institutional expenditures grew by 23.04 percent during the period. (0.97 is 23.04 percent larger than 0.79.) Physics’ share was 5.39 percent in 1990a and 3.77 percent in 2000a, representing a decline in share of expenditures of 30.03 percent. In order to equalize AIS to IS, the largest value of ΔIS was equated to one. At the University of Pennsylvania, Political Science had the largest ΔIS at 77.89 percent and this value was used as the denominator for all values of ‘Percent Change in Share of Institutional Spending’. Completing the earlier Physics example, the decline of 30.03 percent in share, divided by 78.89 produced a ΔIS for Physics of -0.3855. As is the case with ΔNS, the concept of ΔIS is that, in a limited resource environment, portfolio components that grow relatively rapidly are absorbing resources faster than other portfolio components. The decisions that enable these resource allocations represent strategic activation.

\textbf{ISI:} The Institutional Strategic Indicator (ISI) is the sum of IS and ΔIS.

\textbf{Mean ISI:} The arithmetic mean ISI is equal to the sum of the ISI’s from all RIU’s (which is 113.4242) divided by the total number of fields reported by all RIU’s (which is 628). The mean ISI is 0.1806.

\textbf{ΔMS:} The Change in Share of the National Market (ΔMS) is the percentage difference in the share of the national market held by an RIU in 2000a as compared
with 1990a. The national market share held by an RIU in 1990a is determined by dividing its Total Reported for 1990a by the Sum of all Fields in the national market in 1990a. Dividing the University of Pennsylvania’s Total Reported in 1990a of $128,994 million by the national market’s Sum of all Fields in 1990a of $8,634.825 million produces a market share of 1.49 percent. Determining the University of Pennsylvania’s 2000a share of the national market entails dividing its Total Reported in 2000a of $298.563 million by the national market Sum of all Fields in 2000a of $16,056.698 million producing a market share of 1.86 percent. This makes it possible to state that the University of Pennsylvania’s share of the national market grew by 24.47 percent during the period. (1.86 is 24.47 percent larger than 1.49.) ΔMS is the critical measurement of strategic success in this study since it measures the actual performance of an RIU in relation to all other RIU’s and in relation to the national market. Any RIU that has increased it market share to a greater degree than its competitors has achieved a better strategic outcome.

In the final stage of this methodology, each RIU’s research portfolio was plotted on a graph called the Strategic Portfolio Array in which the x-axis is ISI and the y-axis is MSI. Quadrants are formed by an x-axis intercept at the Mean ISI and a y-axis intercept at the Mean MSI. The chart, which in some respects echoes the Boston Consulting Group Growth-Share Matrix (Henderson, B., 1973), displays the number of points or incidents that occurs in the quadrants which are then counted for each RIU. Each array represents the realized strategy (Mintzberg, H., and Waters, J. A., 1985) of an RIU in that it can be observed which fields were more or less important during the study period. A correlation was then made between the variance among the number of incidents in the quadrants and the ΔMS’s of the RIU’s.

Selecting and Accessing Data

Federally funded research is that source of research funding that has been the sustaining source of funds upon which America’s public research capacity and capability has been built and within which America’s RIU’s compete (Rosensweig, R., 1992). The NSF presents federally funded research data in two forms. The first is a survey series generally entitled, “Federal obligations for research to universities and colleges.” (NSF c., NSF d.) This form was not used because some research funding obligations span several periods and, in some instances the obligations may not have been satisfied. Both of these factors tend to add unnecessary complications. The selected form was a survey series generally entitled, “Federally financed R&D expenditures at universities and colleges.” (NSF c.) The NSF provides this survey data for all recipients of federal research funds, broken down by science and engineering field, for annual periods beginning in 1972. These data were used because they reflect a current cash accounting methodology wherein each survey participant reports the research it performed in each annual period, regardless of when the funding was received. Thus, a clean ‘cut-off’ is achieved. Importantly, from 1988 through 2002, the NSF’s survey methodology, including field definitions, data reporting instructions, corrections for errors and omissions, and data presentation, did not change in any way that would materially impact the results of this study. However, users of NSF data should access the most currently available surveys because minor adjustments are made when reporting institutions provide updated information in subsequent reporting periods.

The two main categories of data that were collected for this study were for the national market and for each RIU:

National Market Data

For the national market, the required data were retrieved from various NSF websites (NSF c.; NSF d.). A chart was set up on a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet to receive the data from the NSF websites on which the y-axis was the NSF fields and on which the x-axis was the years 1987 through 2002 inclusive (see Figure A). For convenience purposes, the order in which the fields were reproduced on the sheet matched the NSF surveys and remained consistent across the national market chart and those of the RIU’s. A row at the bottom of the national market chart, labeled the Sum of all Fields, represents the total of federally financed R&D reported in fields as spent by colleges and universities in each year.

Prior to using the data in the model it was examined for anomalies to ensure that study results were not skewed by the inadvertent inclusion of unusual events. It is important to note that the steps used to prepare the national market data were also applied to the data of each RIU.

The three most obvious irregularities in the national market data were that the reporting of research activity in the field of BioEng begins only in 1999, reporting in the field of Metal & Mat. begins only in 1990, and that the nature of the research activities that occurred in all fields in which the acronym, “nec” appeared (NSF c.) required an accurate description or would have to be disqualified from use in the study.
Extrapolation was used in cases where there were missing years of data and where this technique provided a result that was reasonable in the circumstances. The Extrapolation Rules used to establish whether extrapolation provided results that were reasonable were as follows:

(1) At least three consecutive years of data were required to extrapolate the next consecutive year at either end of the known series, but not both;

(2) At least four consecutive years of data were required to extrapolate the two consecutive years at either end of the known series, but not both;

(3) At least six consecutive years were required to extrapolate the next three consecutive years at either end of the known series, but not both;

(4) The maximum number of known years was always used;

(5) The maximum number of years that could be extrapolated was three;

(6) No datum was used to extrapolate more than once.

The method used to extrapolate missing data was to determine the slope of a line using the first and last values in the known series. When divided by two, the average annual change in expenditures results. This amount was added or subtracted, as appropriate, to the last known series value to provide the extrapolated value of expenditures for the next year. The final step was repeated when multiple years were being extrapolated.

The Extrapolation Rules enabled establishing values of research expenditures for Metal & Mat. in 1989 of $130,453 thousand and in 1988 of $121,744 thousand. The method described required the disqualification of BioEng as a usable field in this study.

The exclusion of all “nec” fields was an important decision because, in some disciplines, it represented a significant proportion of the total. For example, “nec” represented between 21.2 and 35.5 percent of expenditures in the Engineering Sciences in the years 1987 to 2001. At the risk of sounding glib, the problem arose when trying to define what research was being done. The NSF’s definition was such that it was possible for an RIU to classify the same research differently from year to year or for the same research to be classified differently across RIU’s. In addition, “nec” research may have been comprised of one-time events, projects that were incomplete, or that, as was the case in Metal and Mat. and BioEng, grew to a size sufficient for the NSF to establish a separate field. All of these examples are meant to support the notion that the research that occurred in “nec” fields was unknowable and transient, which could not be understood as a strategic thrust. As such, all “nec” fields were disqualified from the study.

After making the aforementioned adjustments, which included the disqualification of all “nec” fields and BioEng, the 21 remaining fields and the Sum of all Fields comprised the national market data used in this study (see Figure A). The same 21 fields were used for the RIU’s.

The next step was to check for anomalies in the data presented in each field. This was important to negate the possibility that the expenditures in any field in the component years of 1990a or 2000a were exceptional. The threshold used to capture these exceptions had to balance the dampening effect inherent in the defined terms of 1990a and 2000a against the reality that research expenditures in some disciplines fluctuated widely from year to year. As a consequence, it was determined that only very low probability events should trigger an additional adjustment. The Exceptions Methodology used was as follows:

(i) The procedure was undertaken for each field

(ii) The percentage change from one year to the next year was determined for all years beginning with the percentage difference from 1988 to 1989 and ending with the percentage difference from 2000 to 2001.

(iii) The arithmetic mean of the percentage changes was determined. There were 13 percentage changes.

(iv) An amount equal to two standard deviations of the percentage changes was determined.

(v) A range equal to the mean determined in point (iii), plus or minus two standard deviations, as determined in point (iv) was established.

(vi) Each percentage change was compared with the range and all amounts that out lay the range were identified.
(vii) If any of the identified amounts were from the years 1989, 1990, or 1991, then an adjustment was triggered.

(viii) The adjustment affected 1990a only in the specific field in which the exception occurred. The adjustment was that, instead of using the arithmetic mean of data from the years 1989, 1990, and 1991 to establish 1990a, the arithmetic mean of the five years of 1988 to 1992 inclusive was used.

(ix) Likewise, if any of the identified outliers were from 1999, 2000, or 2001, then an adjustment was triggered such that 2000a became the arithmetic mean of data from the five years 1998 to 2002 inclusive.

In the national market, Aero/Astro, Electrical, Astronomy, and Medical for 2000a were adjusted as described.

Processing the Data

The national market data were now adequately prepared for use in the model as shown on Figure B.

(a) The first column to the right of the field names is 1990a. The Sum of all Fields displays the total of the 21 field values, which was $8,634,825 thousand. It is important to note that the Sum of all Fields for 1990a is not necessarily equal to the arithmetic mean of data from 1989, 1990, and 1991, since some field values may be the arithmetic mean of five years. Coincidentally, the Sum of all Fields for 1990a is the arithmetic mean of the Sum of all Fields in 1989, 1990, and 1991, but this is not true for the Sum of all Fields for 2000a.

(b) The next column, entitled 1990a Percent of National Spending, is the percent that each field represented of total spending in 1990a. For example, expenditures in Electrical in 1990a of $418,109 thousand were 4.84 percent of the 1990a Sum of all Fields which was $8,634,825 thousand. This calculation was made for each field and, by definition, the Sum of all Fields for this column is 100.00 percent.

(c) The following two columns respectively are 2000a and 2000a Percent of National Spending and were created using the same procedure described in point (a) and (b) above. As a matter of confirmation, the Sum of all Fields for 2000a was $16,056,698 thousand and was 100.00 percent for 2000a Percent of National Spending.

(d) Percentage change in Share of Spending is the name of the next column, a name that accurately reflects its meaning. This column represents the percentage change from 1990a Percent of National Spending to 2000a Percent of National Spending. For example, Ocean was 3.03 percent of national spending in 1990a and was 2.65 percent of national spending in 2000a, a decline of 12.68 percent (2.65 is 12.68 percent less than 3.03). In the column entitled Percent Change in Share of Spending, this result appears as -12.69. There is no need to determine the Sum of all Fields for this column although, as a separate statistic, and at the risk of confusing the meaning of this column, it is interesting to note that the nominal value of the national market grew by 85.95 percent during the study period.

(e) The following two columns are NS and ΔNS respectively (see Definitions). There is no need to determine the Sum of all Fields for these columns.

(f) The final column is MSI. MSI for each field is the sum of NS and ΔNS and is a factor representing the strategic market opportunities that each field holds for the RIU’s. The greater the value of MSI, the more market potential there is.

RIUs

Institutional Strategic Indicators (ISI’s) were determined for the RIU’s using, with notable exceptions and additions, the same operations that were used to determine the national market MSI’s. Using the example of the University of Pennsylvania, the following steps were followed to determine the ISI’s for every RIU.

A chart was set up on a Microsoft Excel spreadsheet to receive data accessed from the NSF’s Caspar website (NSF d.) and using the procedure described on Appendix B. The chart’s x-axis is the years 1988 to 2002 inclusive and the y-axis is the 21 fields. At the bottom of the y-axis are two rows labeled Total Reported (which is equal to the sum of the fields on the chart), and Total Actual (which is equal to Total Reported plus all disqualified fields). Total Actual data were required only for the years 1989, 1990, 1991, 1999, 2000, and 2001. All fields were subjected to the Extrapolation Rules and the Exceptions Rule, the results of which are displayed on Figure C. Notably, the University of Pennsylvania reported research activity in 16 fields.

Once the above described operations were complete, the data were ready to use in the model as displayed on Figure D:
(a) The first column to the right of the field names is the defined term 1990a. At the bottom of this column is the Total Reported and the Total Actual for 1990a.

(b) The next column, entitled 1990a Percent of Institutional Spending, is the percent that each field represented of the Total Reported in 1990a. For example, at the University of Pennsylvania, expenditures in Psychology of $1,465 thousand in 1990a were 1.14 percent of the 1990a Total Reported of $128,994 thousand.

(c) The next column is called 1990a Percent of National Spending. The important figure in this column is the Total Reported which is the national market share held by the RIU in 1990a. Specifically, this figure is determined by dividing the Total Reported in 1990a of $128,994 thousand by the national market Sum of all Fields for 1990a of $8,643,825 thousand which is equal to 1.49 percent.

(d) The next column is the defined term 2000a. At the bottom of this column is the Total Reported and Total Actual for 2000a which, once known, can be used in conjunction with the 1990a data to run the Reporting Variance test. Since the University of Pennsylvania's reported variance was -1.38 percent, it qualifies as an RIU.

(e) The next two columns are 2000a Percent of Institutional Spending and 2000a Percent of National Spending which are derived using the same method as was used in steps (b) and (c) above with the exception that 2000a data were used instead of 1990a data. Importantly, the Total Reported for 2000a Percent of National Spending was 1.86 percent.

(f) The next column, entitled Percent Change in Share of National Spending, is determined by finding the percentage difference between 1990a Percent of National Spending and 2000a Percent of National Spending. The important figure in this column is the Total Reported since this is $\Delta$MS for this institution (see Definitions). Specifically, the Total Reported for the Percent Change in Share of National Spending was 1.49 in 1990a and was 1.86 in 2000a resulting in an increase in market share over the study period of 24.47 percent (that is, 1.86 is 24.47 percent larger than 1.49). $\Delta$MS for the University of Pennsylvania is 24.47. From a practical perspective, it is important for an RIU to understand how it is performing in each field in its research portfolio. While not specifically used in this study, the national share for 1990a, 2000a, and the Percent Change in Share of National Spending has been determined for each field for every RIU.

(g) The next column is the Percent Change in Share of Institutional Spending. Using the earlier example of Psychology, at the University of Pennsylvania 1990a Percent of Institutional Spending was 0.87 percent and was 0.85 percent in 2000a which means that Psychology's share of spending declined by 2.64 percent during the study period (that is, 0.85 is 2.64 percent less than 0.87). The Percent Change in Share of Institutional Spending is determined for all fields.

(h) The following two columns are IS and $\Delta$IS respectively (see Definitions). There is no need to determine the Sum of all Fields for these columns.

(i) The final column is ISI. ISI for each field is the sum of IS and $\Delta$IS and is a factor representing the strategic priority that each field is to an RIU. The greater the value of ISI, the more strategically important it is to the RIU.

(j) A Strategic Portfolio Array is created for each RIU as displayed on Figure E. The four quadrants are formed by an x-axis intercept at the Mean ISI (which is 0.1806, see Definitions) and a y-axis intercept at the Mean MSI (which is 0.0082, see Definitions). The quadrants are hereafter referred to as the northwest (NW), northeast (NE), southwest (SW), and southeast (SE).

(k) Each field is plotted on the array such that the value of “x” is ISI and the value of “y” is MSI for coordinate points at (ISI, MSI). For example, ISI for Chemical at the University of Pennsylvania was -0.2972 and MSI for Chemical was -0.106 creating a coordinate point or incident for Chemical at (-0.2972, -0.106). This incident occurs in the SW quadrant. All fields where research activity was reported are plotted on a separate array for each RIU.

(l) The number of incidents in each quadrant were counted and recorded.

Calculating the Results

$\Delta$MS, the number of fields in which research activity was reported, and the number of incidents that occur in each quadrant is now known for each RIU. Figure F displays the compilation of this data.

(i) The first two columns of Figure F are the RIU's sorted in descending order according to their $\Delta$MS's. For
example, the University of Pennsylvania, which is fifth from the top, had a ΔMS of 24.47.

(ii) The next column is the number of fields in which research activity was reported for each RIU. For example, the University of Pennsylvania reported activity in 16 fields. At the base of this column is the total of the number fields reported by all RIU’s followed by the mean number of fields per RIU which was 16.10. In other words, during the study period, the average RIU reported federally financed research in slightly more than 16 fields.

(iii) The next four columns record the number of incidents that occurred in the quadrants of each RIU’s Strategic Portfolio Array. Following the example of the University of Pennsylvania, there were no incidents in the NW quadrant, four in the NE, 10 in the SW, and two in the SE quadrant. At the base of each of these four columns is their correlation to ΔMS, the total number of incidents that occurred in the quadrant, and the mean number of incidents. For the entire population of RIU’s, the average number of incidents in the NW quadrant was 2.62, there were 3.31 in the NE, 7.31 in the SW, and 2.87 in the SE quadrant. On average, the SW quadrant had more than twice the number of incidents of any other quadrant. The SW quadrant is 45.4 percent of the average number of fields (7.31 divided by 16.10). The correlation to ΔMS is critical in this study as it provides insight into the relationship between the number of incidents that occurred in various quadrants of the RIU’s and their market performance as expressed by ΔMS. While interpretations of this data are presented elsewhere (see Interpretation), it can be said that at -0.32 there does appear to be a moderate inverse relationship between the SE quadrant and ΔMS. That is, as ΔMS declines, the average number of incidents in the SE quadrant will tend to increase. At 0.29, a slightly weaker but direct relationship exists between the SW quadrant and ΔMS.

(iv) The following series of columns are analytic attempts to find the combination of quadrants that yields the highest correlation. Each combination employs the principal that every institution’s mix of portfolio components is relative only to the portfolio of which it is a part. In other words, every set of IS and ΔIS’s are specific to the portfolio of the RIU from which they were derived. Methodologically, this requires that the number of incidents in the quadrants of any RIU be viewed in relation to the number of fields in which that RIU reported research activity. In this way, a ratio is produced whereby the number of incidents in a quadrant or combination of quadrants is always divided by the number of fields in which research was reported by the corresponding RIU. Following the example of the University of Pennsylvania, the column entitled “SW/#fields” was determined by dividing the number of incidents in the SW quadrant (10) by the number of fields (16) to produce the ratio 0.63. Significantly, this method yields a correlation between the “SW/#fields” column and ΔMS of 0.41 which is a stronger result than the 0.29 produced without using the ratio method. In Figure F all analytic columns use the ratio method.

(v) The analytic columns on Figure F represent attempts to find those quadrants or combination of quadrants that produce the strongest correlation. As earlier mentioned, each combination uses the ratio method. For example, the second analytic column is labeled Max Spread/#fields. This is the largest number of incidents in any quadrant of an RIU less the smallest number of incidents in any quadrant. The 0.41 correlation indicates that the greater the spread, the more likely that there will be better market performance. In addition, combinations were tested to determine whether any strategic trend was emerging from the data and many of the test columns are not shown. Notably, there can never be a perfect correlation since there can never be a perfect strategy that was perfectly planned and perfectly executed. In the case of universities, Baldridge, Curtis, Ecker, and Riley’s (1986) argument that varied and often conflicting goals serves to emphasize this point.

Interpretation

In order to more completely present the results of this study, the Strategic Portfolio Array and its component parts should be more thoroughly understood. A preliminary description follows:

The NE quadrant may be the most straightforward to describe in that it is populated with an RIU’s largest and fastest growing fields which are in the largest and fastest growing market segments. While an RIU should want as many fields as possible in the NE quadrant, moving fields into this quadrant will usually require a substantial investment. Fields in this quadrant are strategically important to an RIU in that any significant shock could have repercussions for the RIU beyond the directly corresponding loss of research revenue. This raises the issue of intensity in that a shock to a field represented by an incident that is a greater distance from the source than others is likely to have a greater impact on the RIU. In addition, the juxtaposition of an incident to a line which is 45 degrees from the x-axis can provide other types of insights. For example, an
incident that occurs above the 45 degree line may represent increased susceptibility to market fluctuations. Below the line occurrences may represent, depending on the actual size of the market segment, unsustainably large market shares. In all cases, retention of human capital is essential to maintaining operations in the NE quadrant. An additional factor to consider in respect of the NE quadrant is that fields with low dollar values of research can have exaggerated ΔS’s because small changes tend to have a large effect on the Percent Change in Share of Institutional Spending. This suggests a limitation for the practical use of the model in its current form. However, for the purposes of this phase of the study, the methodology will not go beyond the already described processes.

The NW quadrant is interesting for several reasons including the notion that time could be a more significant analytic factor than other fields. This quadrant represents a situation in which fields are low priority to RIU’s but operate in important market segments. The time factor is important to know because RIU’s that have incidents in this quadrant may be at the early stages of attempting to develop high priority fields that would eventually reside in the NE quadrant. Alternative situations, in which an incident has been in the NW quadrant for an extended period, could mean either a missed opportunity or that an RIU is satisfied to be a very minor niche player in an important market segment. Perhaps an RIU simply wants to maintain a presence in the market. A vector analysis, whereby the direction of movement of an incident over time as well as its inertia, would provide the kind of dynamic view of an RIU’s array that would help answer some of these questions. Incidents in this quadrant should be considered unstable and are likely to drift towards the NE quadrant given the influence that powerful market forces can exert. Incidents in this quadrant represent the best opportunities for growth.

The SE quadrant represents fields that are very important to an RIU but operate in low potential markets. On the surface this seems like a high risk situation in that an RIU may be overly reliant on a field in which it holds an unsustainably large market share. However, there may be instances where the market size is substantial enough to support some relatively large players. In this regard, the risk factor could be determined by a market concentration measurement such as a Herfindahl analysis. Another important aspect of the SE quadrant is that it would be most difficult to move a field into the NE quadrant. In cases that could be considered as high risk, a vector analysis could help an RIU understand whether its exposure to limited markets is increasing or diminishing. This points to the inherent instability in this quadrant where fields are likely to drift towards the SW. RIU’s with fields in this quadrant are destined to be niche players.

Finally, the SW quadrant is populated by fields that are of strategically low value to RIU’s and that operate in markets that are relatively small and may also be contracting. The somewhat negative connotation suggested by this description is not necessarily reflective of what is the more probable reality. The story of the SW quadrant may lie in the notion that all RIU’s are, to varying degrees, comprehensive institutes of higher education. Fields such as Mathematics, Economics, or humanities and other disciplines that are outside of the realm of this study enhance comprehensiveness and as a consequence, can lead to an interpretation of the SW quadrant that could be called the sustaining fields. That is, the vitality of a comprehensive university may be evidenced by the academic activity occurring in the fields in this quadrant. In this regard, the SW quadrant represents fields that help RIU’s sustain their comprehensive make-up.

Conclusion

The methodology presented in this paper is a step forward in the development of quantitative tools that can be used to more directly observe the research strategies realized by RIU’s as well as whether those strategies have had a positive or negative result. As a consequence, new management and accountability tools may become available for those involved in the operation and control of research operations in higher education.

The study itself suggests that those RIU’s that realized a specialization strategy increased their market share to a greater degree than RIU’s that realized other strategies or than those whose strategies were a less pure manifestation of specialization. A specialization strategy is reflected by an organization’s repeated allocation of disproportionately large amounts of its resources to the same portfolio component so that, after a certain period of time, that component’s strategic value to the organization becomes accentuated. Notably, specialization and differentiation strategies are different. In multi-unit enterprises, differentiation relates to second stage resource allocation decisions about the goods and services offered by an enterprise in relation to competitors. Specialization is a consequence of primary resource allocation decisions which, as Mintzberg (1972), Porter (1996), and Ansoff (1988) would suggest, is the
basic manifestation of strategy. For example, primary strategic decisions relate to where in the organization resources should be allocated while secondary decisions are more related to how to spend them. The two strategies are not mutually exclusive. Indeed, in order for an RIU to enjoy market success it must employ both. In practical terms, RIU’s must invest, at an accelerated rate, in fields in which the underlying research is differentiated from other RIU’s research in those fields. In that way, research funding is won and, to use a colloquialism, success breeds success.

A pure specialization strategy would present on a Strategic Portfolio Array as a single incident in the NE quadrant with all remaining incidents in the SW quadrant. Such a position would be a recognition that incidents that occur in the NW and SE quadrants are, from a market perspective, inefficient and as a consequence, diminish an RIU’s ability to advance against competitors. The results of this study support this notion as evidenced by the -0.46 correlation between the analytic column labeled NW+SE with ΔMS. This relatively strong correlation is interpreted to mean that the fewer the relative number of incidents in the NW and SE quadrants, the better will be an RIU’s relative market performance. The 0.46 correlation between SW+NE and ΔMS describes the complementary relationship to the above whereby the greater the proportion of incidents that occur in the SW and NE quadrants, the better an RIU’s market performance is likely to be.

A significant discrepancy exists between the view of a pure specialization strategy, where there would be a single incident in the NE quadrant, and the expected desire of every RIU to have as many incidents as possible in the NE quadrant. The research shows that the average RIU has between three and four incidents in the NE quadrant and that the correlation of NE to ΔMS, at 0.13, is weak. As such, providing an RIU has a number of incidents in the NE quadrant that is at least 3 (the mean number of incidents in the NE quadrant, less the standard deviation, is more than two), it has the potential to be a market out-performer. However, the number of incidents in the NE quadrant is not an indicator of market performance. Having made this point, it should be added that the degree of intensity may reveal additional insights which, as earlier described, relates to the distance of incidents from the source.

The differentiating factor in this research is in the relative number of incidents in the SE quadrant and, more importantly, in the NW and SE quadrants, as the previously highlighted correlation shows. The conclusion to be drawn from this research is that RIU’s with at least three fields of specialization and more of their remaining fields in the SW quadrant than otherwise, are most likely to be market out-performers.

REFERENCES


Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching b. Received by Facsimile on March 30, 2005 from Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, Jacki Calvert.


APPENDIX A

The following constitutes the population of universities that are defined as research intensive in this study. They will be referred to as RIU’s.

**Name of Institution**
- California Institute of Technology
- Carnegie Mellon University
- Case Western Reserve University
- Columbia University
- Cornell University
- Duke University
- Harvard University
- Indiana University
- Johns Hopkins University
- Massachusetts Institute of Technology
- Michigan State University
- New York University
- Northwestern University
- The Ohio State University (Main Campus)
- Princeton University
- Purdue University
- Rutgers, The State University of New Jersey (New Brunswick Campus)
- Stanford
- University of Arizona
- University of California - Berkeley
- University of California – Los Angeles
- University of California – San Diego
- University of Chicago
- University of Colorado at Boulder
- University of Florida
- University of Iowa
- University of Maryland (College Park)
- University of Michigan-Ann Arbor
- University of Minnesota-Twin Cities
- University of Missouri-Columbia
- University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Rochester
- University of Southern California
- University of Virginia
- University of Wisconsin-Madison
- Vanderbilt University
- Washington University
- Yale University

**Future Referencing**
- Cal Tech
- Carnegie Mellon
- Case Western
- Columbia
- Cornell
- Duke
- Harvard
- Indiana University
- Johns Hopkins
- MIT
- Michigan State
- New York University
- Northwestern
- Ohio State
- Princeton
- Purdue
- Rutgers
- Stanford
- University of Arizona
- UC-Berkeley
- USLA
- UC-San Diego
- University of Chicago
- University of Colorado
- University of Florida
- University of Iowa
- University of Maryland
- University of Michigan
- University of Minnesota
- University of Missouri
- University of North Carolina
- University of Pennsylvania
- University of Rochester
- USC
- University of Virginia
- University of Wisconsin
- Vanderbilt University
- Washington University
- Yale

**Sources:**
- Association of American Universities (AAU)
- Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching
APPENDIX B

Procedure for Accessing RIU Research Data

For the RIU data, the following procedure is followed:

Go to <http://caspar.nsf.gov> (NSF d.)

Choose “Data Source” and select “NSF Survey of R&D Expenditures at Universities and Colleges”

Click “Select Data Source(s)”
A new page will open

Click the tab entitled “Modify Analysis Variables”
At the bottom of the page is a box. Choose “Federally Financed Academic R&D Expenditures”

Click “Select”

Click the tab entitled “Modify Classification Variables”
At the bottom of the page is a box. Choose “Academic Institution (standardized)”

Click “Select”
In the bottom box choose “Academic Discipline, Detailed (standardized)”

Click “Select”
Scroll up the page to the section entitled “Year”
For “Display:” choose “Selected Values in Column”
For “Include Total?” choose “No”
For “Selected Values:” click “Edit”
A new page will open.
In the box on the right, any values that appear should be removed, press “Remove all Values”
In the box on the left, choose 1988 through 2002 inclusive.
Click “Add Value(s)” Click “Save”
The page will return to the “Modify Classification Variables” page
Scroll to the section entitled “Academic Institution (standardized)”
For “Display:” choose “Selected Values in Row”
For “Include Total?” choose “Yes”
For “Selected Values:” click “Edit”
A new page will open.
In the box on the right, any values that appear should be removed, press “Remove all Values”
In the box on the left, choose all 39 RIU’s. After selecting each RIU, press “Add Value(s).” Do not press “Save” until all RIU’s have been selected.
Once all 39 RIU’s appear in the box entitled “Selected Value(s),” press “Save”
The page will return to the “Modify Classification Variables” page
Scroll to the section entitled “Academic Discipline, Detailed (standardized)”

For “Display:” choose “Selected Values in Row”
For “Include Total?” choose “Yes”
For “Selected Values:” click “Edit”
A new page will open.
In the left box, choose only those fields included in the study. Each time a field or group of fields is highlighted, click “Add Value(s)” Once all fields appear in the box on the right, click “Save”
The page will return to the “Modify Classification Variables” page
At the top of the page click on “View Table”
The table will open. It can then be copy and pasted, exported or transcribed to an Excel file.
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**Editor**

Daniel W. Lang  
Professor and Senior Policy Advisor to the President  
University of Toronto  
Room 6–278  
252 Bloor Street West  
Toronto, ON M5S 1V6

Email: dan.lang@utoronto.ca

**Membership Inquiries**

Canadian Society for the Study of Higher Education  
c/o CSSHE Secretariat  
P.O. Box 34091  
RPO Fort Richmond  
Winnipeg, MB R3T 5T5

Email: csshe@cc.umanitoba.ca  
Website: www.umanitoba.ca/csshe
### Figure A

**Table: National Market Research Expenditures by Year by Field (Adjusted)**

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<th>Civil</th>
<th>Electrical</th>
<th>Mechanical</th>
<th>Metal &amp; Mat</th>
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<th>Environmental</th>
<th>Mathematics</th>
<th>Computer</th>
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Source: (NSF d.)
## FIGURE D

### CALCULATION OF ISI FOR THE UNIVERSITY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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### FIGURE F

#### THE RESULTS

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| Northwestern        | 36.78 | 15       | 5    | 3    | 3    | 8    | 1       | 0.53    | 0.47    | 0.73    | 0.27    | 0.47    |
| U of Colorado       | 34.35 | 19       | 5    | 3    | 4    | 11   | 1       | 0.58    | 0.53    | 0.79    | 0.21    | 0.58    |
| U of Missouri       | 31.74 | 16       | 1    | 4    | 3    | 8    | 3       | 0.50    | 0.44    | 0.75    | 0.25    | 0.50    |
| Washington U        | 29.31 | 16       | 2    | 4    | 9    | 1    | 0.56    | 0.50    | 0.81    | 0.19    | 0.63    |
| U of Pennsy         | 24.47 | 16       | 0    | 4    | 10   | 1    | 0.63    | 0.63    | 0.88    | 0.13    | 0.75    |
| U of Arizona        | 21.57 | 19       | 2    | 5    | 8    | 4    | 0.42    | 0.32    | 0.68    | 0.32    | 0.37    |
| Cal Tech            | 15.43 | 13       | 0    | 3    | 6    | 4    | 0.46    | 0.46    | 0.69    | 0.31    | 0.38    |
| Case Western        | 13.33 | 14       | 3    | 3    | 8    | 0    | 0.57    | 0.57    | 0.79    | 0.21    | 0.57    |
| U of Florida        | 12.37 | 20       | 4    | 3    | 10   | 3    | 0.50    | 0.35    | 0.65    | 0.35    | 0.30    |
| U of Virginia       | 11.30 | 14       | 3    | 4    | 11   | 0    | 0.61    | 0.61    | 0.83    | 0.17    | 0.67    |
| U of N. Carolina    | 11.20 | 11       | 0    | 4    | 6    | 1    | 0.55    | 0.55    | 0.91    | 0.09    | 0.82    |
| U of Maryland       | 6.54  | 18       | 1    | 4    | 3    | 10   | 0.17    | 0.50    | 0.39    | 0.61    | -0.22   |
| Vanderbilt          | 3.15  | 16       | 3    | 3    | 7    | 3    | 0.44    | 0.25    | 0.63    | 0.38    | 0.25    |
| Duke                | 2.89  | 15       | 3    | 3    | 7    | 2    | 0.47    | 0.33    | 0.67    | 0.33    | 0.33    |
| Rutgers             | 0.78  | 18       | 3    | 3    | 4    | 8    | 0.22    | 0.28    | 0.39    | 0.61    | -0.22   |
| Harvard             | 0.41  | 11       | 3    | 3    | 4    | 1    | 0.36    | 0.27    | 0.64    | 0.36    | 0.27    |
| Indiana             | -0.36 | 12       | 1    | 5    | 6    | 0    | 0.50    | 0.50    | 0.92    | 0.08    | 0.83    |
| Michigan State      | -3.54 | 11       | 1    | 4    | 4    | 2    | 0.36    | 0.27    | 0.73    | 0.27    | 0.45    |
| U of Michigan       | -3.56 | 19       | 5    | 2    | 10   | 2    | 0.53    | 0.42    | 0.63    | 0.37    | 0.26    |
| Ohio State          | -3.85 | 19       | 4    | 3    | 10   | 2    | 0.53    | 0.42    | 0.68    | 0.32    | 0.37    |
| U of Minnesota      | -4.74 | 18       | 5    | 2    | 8    | 3    | 0.44    | 0.33    | 0.56    | 0.44    | 0.11    |
| UCLA                | -5.35 | 18       | 4    | 3    | 9    | 2    | 0.50    | 0.39    | 0.67    | 0.33    | 0.33    |
| USC                 | -7.35 | 19       | 5    | 2    | 9    | 3    | 0.47    | 0.37    | 0.58    | 0.42    | 0.16    |
| U of Iowa           | -7.93 | 16       | 4    | 3    | 7    | 2    | 0.44    | 0.31    | 0.63    | 0.38    | 0.25    |
| Columbia            | -9.24 | 17       | 4    | 3    | 8    | 2    | 0.47    | 0.35    | 0.65    | 0.35    | 0.29    |
| UC San Diego        | -11.85| 13       | 3    | 3    | 6    | 1    | 0.46    | 0.38    | 0.69    | 0.31    | 0.38    |
| Stanford            | -12.64| 18       | 5    | 1    | 9    | 3    | 0.50    | 0.44    | 0.56    | 0.44    | 0.11    |
| Yale                | -12.89| 17       | 2    | 3    | 9    | 3    | 0.53    | 0.41    | 0.71    | 0.29    | 0.41    |
| U of Chicago        | -15.22| 12       | 2    | 4    | 6    | 0    | 0.50    | 0.50    | 0.83    | 0.17    | 0.67    |
| UC Berkeley         | -15.78| 16       | 4    | 3    | 4    | 5    | 0.25    | 0.13    | 0.44    | 0.56    | -0.13   |
| U of Wisconsin      | -17.34| 20       | 3    | 4    | 12   | 1    | 0.60    | 0.55    | 0.80    | 0.20    | 0.60    |
| U of Rochester      | -22.19| 14       | 1    | 4    | 6    | 3    | 0.43    | 0.36    | 0.71    | 0.29    | 0.43    |
| Purdue              | -22.29| 18       | 2    | 3    | 7    | 6    | 0.39    | 0.28    | 0.56    | 0.44    | 0.11    |
| New York            | -25.40| 11       | 0    | 5    | 0    | 6    | 0.00    | 0.55    | 0.45    | 0.55    | -0.09   |
| Cornell             | -25.58| 18       | 3    | 3    | 9    | 3    | 0.50    | 0.33    | 0.67    | 0.33    | 0.33    |
| Johns Hopkins       | -25.92| 20       | 2    | 5    | 10   | 3    | 0.50    | 0.40    | 0.75    | 0.25    | 0.50    |
| Princeton           | -27.57| 16       | 2    | 4    | 5    | 5    | 0.31    | 0.19    | 0.56    | 0.44    | 0.13    |
| Carnegie Melon      | -29.16| 13       | 3    | 1    | 5    | 4    | 0.38    | 0.31    | 0.46    | 0.54    | -0.08   |
| MIT                 | -34.67| 18       | 3    | 2    | 6    | 7    | 0.33    | 0.28    | 0.44    | 0.56    | -0.11   |

**Correlation to ΔMS**: -0.16, 0.23, 0.29, -0.32, 0.41, 0.44, 0.46, -0.46, 0.46

**Total # of Fields**: 628, 102, 129, 285, 112

**Mean # of Fields**: 16.10, 2.62, 3.31, 7.31, 2.87