




October 8, 2012

# PRESIDENT'S FORUM




# Landscape of Higher Education

- Shaping our future: How should Higher Education help us create the society we want?
  - What has changed?
  - What are we facing now?
  - What can we do?
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# Where we were - Views of Higher Education

- Once upon a time, Higher Education enjoyed broad public support
    - State Legislatures and regularly increasing support
    - Students and families – investment in Higher Education was bound to payoff
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# Where are we now?

- Public trust in Higher Education is declining
  - Tuition costs are rising and much is being said around the country about climbing student debt
  - Higher Educations' "promise" seems to be under siege
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# Two Strategies to Consider

- Focus on staying competitive in the global economy
  - Transformation of the General Education curriculum
  - STEM
- Work together to repair an ailing society
  - Concept of grand challenges



# But there are new challenges

- In addition to these strategies, we also have to consider – and embrace – the startling changes in which course content may be offered...
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# Massive Online Open Courses

- Commonly referred to as “Moocs”
- MOOCs were largely unknown until a wave of publicity last year about Stanford University’s free online artificial intelligence course attracted 160,000 students from 190 countries.
- So....where will this lead Higher Education? How should we respond?
- There are two camps of views...



# One view...

- Some see MOOCs up-ending the whole model of higher education, allowing students to complete full courses of study in a non-traditional format, particularly with international students, which have made up a large part of the student body in early MOOC courses.



# And another view...

- Others see MOOCs playing a much smaller role, with the MOOC system of “badges” or certificates for course completion integrated into programs higher education institutions already offer.

# What do Faculty Think about Moocs?

- Undergraduate versus graduate courses
- The personal interaction?
- How to guard against cheating?

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**“You have reached the Math Department.  
Professor Ashton is out right now.  
To leave a message, please press  
12875.3901<sup>2</sup> - 4973.9995 + 43/96Y + 45x.”**



# Thought-provoking times...

- So what do we do as a major public university to position ourselves for the future?
  - What are and will be the expectations of young people of the next generation?
  - How do we evolve and adapt?
  - How do we maintain our core missions and role in society as we evolve?
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