

Cracking the Nut, Part 3

It may simply have been a coincidence, but the day on which President Hopkins announced that the university would no longer be hosting the first presidential debate, the *Chronicle of Higher Education* released its annual data on the taxable compensation received by public university presidents in the U.S.

On the list simply indicating total taxable compensation, Dr. Hopkins ranked 10th. These are the top 25:

Renu Khator University of Houston	\$1,300,000
Michael R. Gottfredson University of Oregon	\$1,215,142
Michael K. Young Texas A&M University at College Station	\$1,133,333
William H. McRaven University of Texas system	\$1,090,909
Mark P. Becker Georgia State University	\$1,051,204
Lou Anna K. Simon Michigan State University	\$850,000
Patrick T. Harker University of Delaware	\$841,187
Steven Leath Iowa State University	\$820,461
Elson S. Floyd Washington State University	\$805,880
David R. Hopkins Wright State University	\$803,320
Eric J. Barron Pennsylvania State University at University Park	\$800,000
Michael V. Drake Ohio State University	\$800,000

James P. Clements Clemson University	\$775,160
Mark S. Schlissel University of Michigan at Ann Arbor	\$772,500
Robert E. Witt University of Alabama system	\$765,000
Robert A. Easter University of Illinois system	\$763,915
E. Gordon Gee West Virginia University	\$763,175
John C. Hitt University of Central Florida	\$748,830
Robert L. Barchi Rutgers University at New Brunswick	\$742,509
Timothy Michael Wolfe University of Missouri system	\$734,083
Stuart R. Bell University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa	\$730,000
Robert L. Caret University of Massachusetts system	\$702,818
Michael M. Crow Arizona State University	\$701,200
Judy L. Genshaft University of South Florida	\$692,650
Samuel L. Stanley Jr. Stony Brook University	\$690,640

On the list ranking the compensation of the public university presidents by the number of full-time students at their institutions whose tuition is required to pay their compensation, Dr. Hopkins also ranked 10th:

Renu Khator University of Houston	151.1
Michael R. Gottfredson University of Oregon	122.5
Mark P. Becker Georgia State University	122
John C. Hitt University of Central Florida	117.6
Michael K. Young Texas A&M University at College Station	117
E. Gordon Gee West Virginia University	109.7
Judy L. Genshaft University of South Florida	108.1
Steven Leath Iowa State University	106.1
Richard C. McGinity University of Wyoming	94.6
David R. Hopkins Wright State University	92
Mark B. Rosenberg Florida International University	84.7
John W. Kelly Florida Atlantic University	82.8
Samuel L. Stanley Jr. Stony Brook University	81.9
Stan L. Albrecht Utah State University	81.5
W. Kent Fuchs University of Florida	80
Michael V. Drake Ohio State University	79.7

David W. Pershing University of Utah	76.8
Ray Watts University of Alabama at Birmingham	74.8
Stuart R. Bell University of Alabama at Tuscaloosa	74.3
Satish K. Tripathi University at Buffalo	74.1
Elmira Mangum Florida A&M University	73.5
J. Bernard Machen University of Florida	72.4
Ricardo Romo University of Texas at San Antonio	71.2
Michael M. Crow Arizona State University	69.2
Ronald M. Berkman Cleveland State University	68.9

And on the list ranking the compensation of the public university presidents by the percentage of their institutional budgets required to pay their compensation, Dr. Hopkins ranked 11th (the dollar amount is the amount that their compensation represents out of every million dollars in the institutional budget:

Quentin Wheeler State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry	\$3,350
Thomas J. Elzey South Carolina State University	\$3,160
Mickey L. Burnim Bowie State University	\$3,159
Robert A. Altenkirch University of Alabama at Huntsville	\$2,806

Carine M. Feyten Texas Woman's University	\$2,513
Leslie K. Guice Louisiana Tech University	\$2,173
John M. Rudley Texas Southern University	\$2,161
Ronald M. Berkman Cleveland State University	\$2,155
Dan R. Jones Texas A&M University at Commerce	\$2,093
David Wilson Morgan State University	\$2,078
David R. Hopkins Wright State University	\$2,069
Kenneth R. Evans Lamar University	\$2,038
Joel S. Bloom New Jersey Institute of Technology	\$1,977
Peter J. Fos University of New Orleans	\$1,952
John E. Christensen University of Nebraska at Omaha	\$1,863
Judith A. Bense University of West Florida	\$1,863
James W. Abbott University of South Dakota	\$1,851
Myles W. Scoggins Colorado School of Mines	\$1,847
Flavius Killebrew Texas A&M University at Corpus Christi	\$1,800
Cheryl Bunnett Schrader Missouri University of Science and Technology	\$1,766

Steven H. Tallant Texas A&M University at Kingsville	\$1,718
Glenda Baskin Glover Tennessee State University	\$1,703
Arthur C. Vailas Idaho State University	\$1,673
Mark P. Becker Georgia State University	\$1,652
Thomas F. George University of Missouri at St. Louis	\$1,552

Over the past several years, I have done a series of posts on the compensation of the presidents of Ohio's public universities. In most years, those presidents have all ranked among the top 100 in the nation, and I have asked rhetorically what other rankings, of any kind, include all of Ohio's public universities. I could ask something comparable with respect to the lists in this communication, but I am fairly certain that someone would counter that Dr. Hopkins' compensation is in no way responsible for the current budget issues that his administration is attempting to address.

Perhaps. But there is a "trickle down" effect on salaries, in particular among the top tiers of university administration. In some later communications, we will focus more pointedly on that effect. But I will close this communication simply by pointing out that the state measures (see chart below) administrative overhead against course completions, and degree completions, administrative/student headcounts, and administrative/total expenditures, the results very much contradict the administrative assurances that we have addressed administrative bloat more effectively than many of the other public universities in Ohio.

Now, it is possible to rationalize our poor ranking on the first two measures by pointing to our being an "open-admissions" institution, but that does not explain our poor ranking on the third and fourth measures.

ADMINISTRATIVE PRODUCTIVITY MEASURE (APM)

Institution	A	B	C	D	E	F	Productivity		Efficiency	
							E/B	F/B	B/C	A/D
	Administrative Salary Expenditure	Administrative Employee Headcount	All Employee Headcount	Educational and General Expenditure	Student Course Completed FTE	Student Degree Completions	Overall			
							Course Completion Ratio	Degree Completion Ratio	Administrative Headcount Ratio	Administrative Expenditure Ratio
Akron	\$58,189,883	946	2,383	\$335,560,378	18,165	5,347	19.20	5.65	39.7%	17.3%
Bowling Green	\$58,901,566	1,001	2,080	\$279,094,285	13,356	4,118	13.34	4.11	48.1%	21.1%
Cincinnati	\$163,678,260	2,727	5,867	\$679,827,909	26,224	9,758	9.62	3.58	46.5%	24.1%
Cleveland State	\$49,351,850	768	1,540	\$224,953,687	11,210	3,965	14.60	5.16	49.8%	21.9%
Central State	\$8,720,507	157	347	\$36,998,226	869	282	5.53	1.80	45.2%	23.6%
Kent State	\$109,057,716	1,860	3,970	\$495,776,649	25,756	8,306	13.84	4.46	46.9%	22.0%
Miami	\$76,576,483	1,366	3,604	\$384,522,001	14,366	5,149	10.52	3.77	37.9%	19.9%
Ohio State	\$535,575,333	8,416	15,486	\$1,605,105,384	41,913	15,621	4.98	1.86	54.3%	33.4%
Ohio	\$103,734,620	1,714	3,669	\$516,934,601	23,863	8,903	13.92	5.20	46.7%	20.1%
Shawnee State	\$8,527,957	156	359	\$47,195,744	3,131	742	20.11	4.77	43.4%	18.1%
Toledo	\$72,206,632	993	2,998	\$391,352,163	13,805	4,705	13.91	4.74	33.1%	18.5%
Wright State	\$76,701,496	1,215	2,385	\$276,066,431	11,403	3,708	9.39	3.05	50.9%	27.8%
Youngstown State	\$33,375,713	574	1,107	\$136,481,413	8,267	2,198	14.40	3.83	51.9%	24.5%

NEOMED is excluded from the analysis due to the effect(s) of their consortium-based relationships with other Ohio public institutions of higher education on the data elements utilized in the calculation.

OHIO DEPARTMENT OF HIGHER EDUCATION