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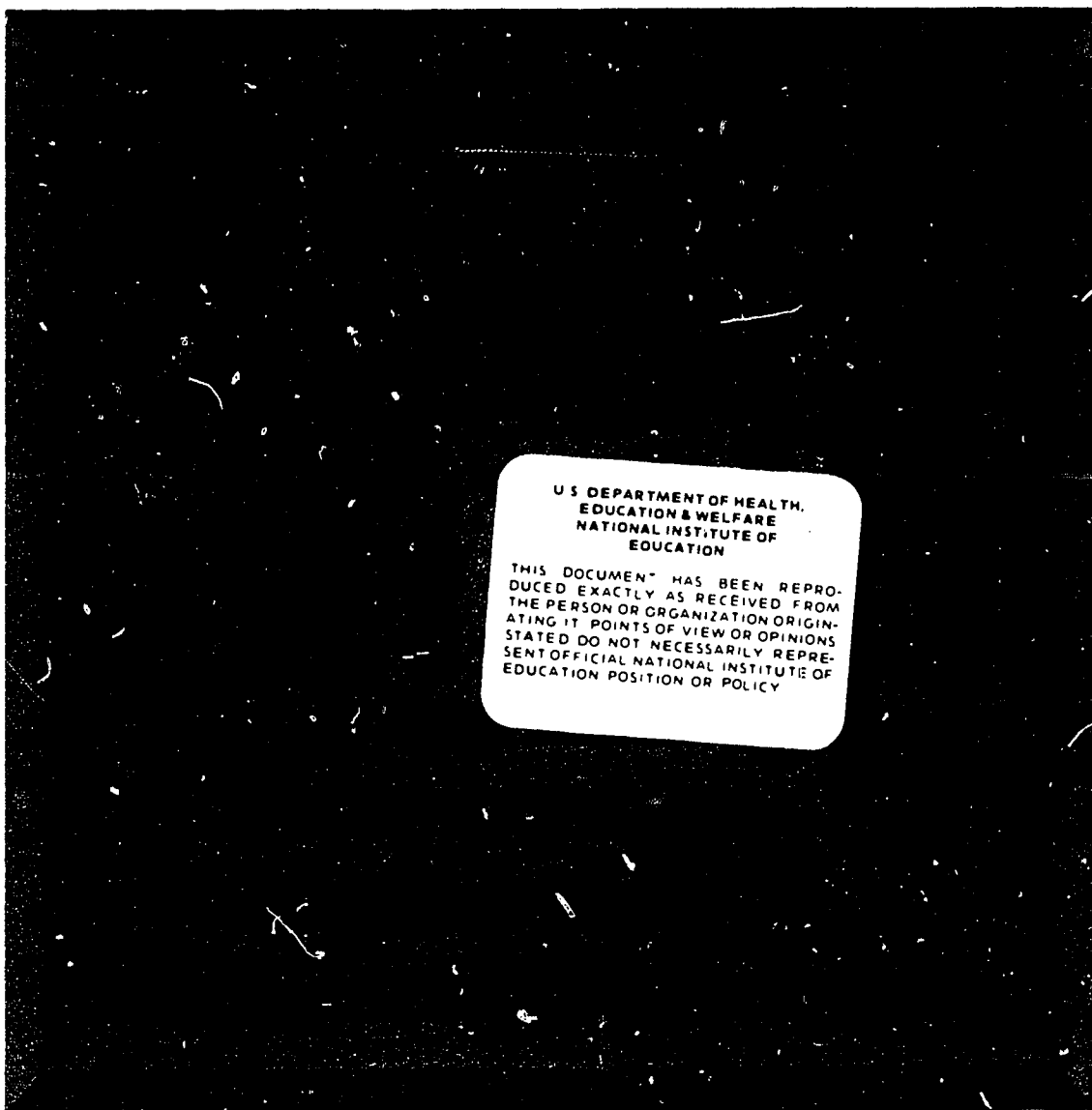
ABSTRACT

The 32nd survey of the Higher Education Panel deals with the level of support over the past five years for foreign area research activities within organized centers at research universities. The survey was prompted by a concern that support for research in international affairs has declined sharply in recent years. Data were received from 48 universities having organized research centers; data include: total funds available for foreign area research and their distributions; primary sources of support (federal government, foundations, institutions, and private sources); changes in level of support, according to geographic area of study, general study topic, and specific problem in interstate relations; expectations for funding in the near future; and percentage of support change in selected categories. The questionnaire is included. (MSE)

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Foreign Area Research Support Within Organized Research Centers at Selected Universities, FY 1972 and 1976

Frank J. Atelsek and Irene L. Gomberg



HIGHER EDUCATION PANEL REPORTS, NUMBER 32
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

DECEMBER
1976

AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION

Roger W. Heyns, *President*

The American Council on Education, founded in 1918, is a council of educational organizations and institutions. Its purpose is to advance education and educational methods through comprehensive voluntary and cooperative action on the part of American educational associations, organizations, and institutions.

The Higher Education Panel is a survey research program established by the Council for the purpose of securing policy-related information quickly from representative samples of colleges and universities. *Higher Education Panel Reports* are designed to expedite communication of the Panel's survey findings to policy-makers in government, in the associations, and in educational institutions across the nation.

The Higher Education Panel's surveys on behalf of the Federal Government are conducted under grant support provided jointly by the National Science Foundation, the National Institutes of Health, and the U. S. Office of Education (NSF Grant SRS-7517251).

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FOREIGN AREA RESEARCH SUPPORT WITHIN ORGANIZED RESEARCH CENTERS
AT SELECTED UNIVERSITIES, FY 1972 AND 1976

Frank J. Atelsek
Irene L. Gomberg

Higher Education Panel Reports
Number 32 December 1976

American Council on Education
Washington, D.C. 20036

*We gratefully acknowledge the assistance and support of
Dr. Stephen Bailey, Dr. Rose L. Hayden and Becky Owens of ACE's
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FOREIGN AREA RESEARCH SUPPORT WITHIN ORGANIZED RESEARCH CENTERS
AT SELECTED UNIVERSITIES, FY 1972 AND 1976

This thirty-second survey of the Higher Education Panel deals with the level of support over the past five years for foreign area research activities within organized centers at research universities. The nature and tone of the nation's international relations depend in large measure on our understanding the problems and goals of other nations. Such understanding, in turn, stems chiefly from the knowledge produced by research centers at our major universities. The present survey was prompted by a concern that support for research in international and foreign affairs has declined sharply in recent years.

Methods Summary

The data for this report were collected as part of the continuing research program of the Higher Education Panel (HEP) of the American Council on Education. The Panel was created in 1971 for the purpose of conducting quick-turnaround surveys on topics of general policy interest to the higher education community and government agencies. Based on a network of campus representatives at 643 institutions broadly representative of all colleges and universities in the United States, the entire Panel, or a subset, may be used for any given survey.

The survey questionnaire (see Appendix A for a copy along with covering letters) was initially mailed to the 83 institutional Panel members which were classified as research universities under the Carnegie scheme.¹ Of these, 26 subsequently reported that they had no organized research centers; these institutions were eliminated from the survey base. Usable data were received from 48 of the remaining 57 eligible institutions, for a response rate of 84 percent.

Results

The following sections summarize the major findings from the survey. The reader should note that not all institutions provided answers to all questions, so the number of respondents varies slightly from item to item in the tabulations.

Funds Available for Foreign Area Research

The sources and level of support for foreign area research centers at the 44 universities

¹Under the Carnegie classification, institutions termed *research universities* are among the 100 institutions which (1) received the greatest federal support of academic science for at least two years between 1968-69 and 1970-71, or (2) awarded the greatest number of doctorates from 1960-61 to 1969-70.

responding to the question on funding (item #1 on the survey questionnaire) are shown in Table 1.

Table 1

Distribution of Total Funds Available for Foreign Area Research, by Source:
All Institutions
(N=44)

Source of Funds	1971-72 Dollars	Actual 1975-76		Constant Dollars ¹	
		Dollars	Percent Change	Dollars	Percent Change
Federal government	8,093,900	10,529,400	30.1	7,641,100	-5.6
Foundations	8,511,700	7,396,700	-13.1	5,367,700	-36.9
Institutional funds	3,569,900	4,988,300	39.7	3,620,000	1.4
Other private sources	940,600	2,082,200	121.4	1,511,000	60.6
Total	\$21,116,000	\$24,734,000	17.1	\$17,949,300	-15.0

Note: Amounts are rounded to the nearest hundred dollars.

¹Constant dollars are based on the Consumer Price Index (deflator = 72.6).

In the five-year period from 1971-72 through 1975-76, the funds available for foreign area research increased from \$21.1 million to \$24.7 million. Viewed in terms of constant 1971-72 dollars, however, this change represents an overall decrease of 15 percent in purchasing power. On a constant dollar basis, the decline in foundation support was particularly extreme: a 37 percent decrease since 1971-72.

In 1971-72, the federal government and private foundations each provided about two-fifths of the foreign area research funds (Table 2). By 1975-76, the federal government share rose slightly (to 43 percent), whereas foundation support dropped markedly (to 30 percent). Proportionately, the use of the institution's own funds increased slightly during the period (from 17 percent to 20 percent). Though "other private sources" accounted for under 10 percent of the

Table 2

Percent Distribution of Total Funds Available for Foreign Area Research, by Source:
All Institutions
(N=44)

Source of Funds	1971-72	1975-76
Federal government	38.3	42.6
Foundations	40.3	29.9
Institutional funds	16.9	20.2
Other private sources	4.5	8.4
Total Percent	100.0	100.0
Total Dollars (Actual)	\$21,116,000	\$24,734,000

Note: Amounts are rounded to the nearest hundred dollars

total funds, the proportionate increase was substantial, almost doubling during the five-year period to reach over \$2 million by 1975-76.

Relation to Funding Levels

Are the changes in overall support for foreign area research associated with the current funding levels of the responding institutions? Table 3 shows the five-year changes in total foreign area research support for institutions at various funding levels.

Proportionately, the greatest erosion has occurred at institutions with low funding levels. In aggregate, the 19 universities whose current funds for foreign area research totaled less than \$250,000 experienced a 39 percent decline (in constant dollars) over the five years since 1971-72. For the 10 institutions whose foreign area research funds totaled \$1 million or more, the decline was 19 percent; and for the 15 universities at the intermediate level of funding (\$250,000 to \$1 million), there was an increase of about 7 percent.

Table 3

Total Funds Available for Foreign Area Research, By Current Level of Funds

Total Funding All Sources		1971-72 Dollars	Actual 1975-76		Constant Dollars ¹	
Current Level	Number		Dollars	Percent Change	Dollars	Percent Change
Over \$1 million	10	\$13,765,700	\$15,446,000	12.2	\$11,209,000	-18.6
\$500,000-\$1 million	7	3,156,500	4,673,200	48.0	3,391,300	7.4
\$250,000-\$499,999	8	1,723,800	2,538,200	47.2	1,842,000	6.9
Below \$250,000	19	2,470,000	2,076,700	-15.9	1,507,000	-39.0
Total	44	\$21,116,000	\$24,734,000	17.1	\$17,949,300	-15.0

Note: Amounts are rounded to the nearest hundred dollars.

¹ Constant dollars are based on the Consumer Price Index (deflator=72.6).

Prime Sources of Support

Each institution surveyed was asked to list its primary sources of foreign area research support for 1975-76 academic year. Their responses are summarized in Table 4.

Of the 105 primary sources of support cited by respondents, one-half were agencies of the federal government, chiefly the Agency for International Development (AID) and various offices within the Department of Health, Education, and Welfare. Private foundations were cited as primary support sources in 30 instances, with the Ford Foundation and the Rockefeller Foundation being most frequently mentioned. Eight institutions reported that they drew on their own funds as primary sources, and three institutions said they received major support from foreign governments.

Table 4
Primary Sources of Current Research Support
(N=43)

Primary Source	Institutions Reporting Source ¹
<u>Federal Government</u>	
Department of Health, Education and Welfare	18
Office of Education	6
National Institutes of Health	3
Other	9
Agency for International Development	18
National Science Foundation	7
Department of Defense	2
National Endowment for the Humanities	2
Other	6
<u>Foundations</u>	
Ford	15
Rockefeller	6
Other	9
<u>Institutional Funds</u>	
	8
<u>Other Private Sources</u>	
Foreign governments	3
Other	11

¹ Institutions were asked to report up to three primary sources; therefore the total number of sources mentioned exceeds the total number of institutions responding.

Changes in Support for Specific Topics

During the past five years, some research topics suffered significant decreases in support, while others were able to attract substantially more support. Table 5 summarizes these changes, as reported by the 38 universities responding.

Of the 42 instances of significant changes reported in support for topics categorized as geographic areas (e.g., China, the Middle East), 69 percent were significant decreases, and 31 percent were significant increases. The decreases were especially notable in the support of research on South Asia, the Soviet Union and Eastern Europe, and Africa. A total of 15 institutions indicated declines in support, and none indicated increases. Four of the five institutions

Table 5
Changes in Level of Support for Foreign Area Research
(N=38)

Topic	All Institutions ¹ Reporting Topic	Reports of Increased Support	Reports of Decreased Support
<u>World Areas</u>	<u>42</u>	<u>13</u>	<u>29</u>
China	3	2	1
South Asia	6	0	6
East Asia	7	4	3
Middle East	3	2	1
Africa	4	0	4
Western Europe	1	0	1
Soviet Union & Eastern Europe	5	0	5
Latin America	5	1	4
Canada	2	1	1
Area Studies	3	1	2
Other	3	2	1
<u>Problem Areas</u>	<u>55</u>	<u>35</u>	<u>20</u>
Communications Systems	3	2	1
Development	13	5	8
Education	4	3	1
Energy	3	3	0
Environment	3	3	0
Food	4	3	1
Medical Care/Health Planning	4	3	1
Population	7	6	1
Urban Growth	2	1	1
Economics	2	1	1
Anthropology	1	1	0
Geography	1	1	0
Other	8	3	5
<u>Dynamics of Interstate Relations</u>	<u>21</u>	<u>17</u>	<u>4</u>
Arms Control/Disarmament	6	5	1
Conflict Resolution	4	3	1
Drug Control	1	1	0
East/West Relations	1	1	0
International Economic Policy	1	1	0
International Organizations	1	1	0
International Law	2	1	1
Law of the Sea	1	1	0
Comparative Legislative Research	1	1	0
U.S. Foreign Policy	1	0	1
Other	2	2	0

¹Since institutions reported more than one topic, the total number of topics reported exceeds the total number of institutions responding.

reporting shifts in support for Latin American studies labeled these shifts as significant decreases.

The situation was much more favorable for research on problem-related topics (e.g., energy, urban growth). In 55 instances, institutions reported significant changes in support of such topics, and 35 (or 64 percent) of these were increases. In particular, research on problems of population, food, environment, energy, health, and education attracted significant increases in support over the past five years.

Similarly, research on the dynamics of interstate relations (e.g., arms control/disarmament, drug control) attracted more support over the period. Seventeen (or 81 percent) of the 21 significant shifts in support for such topics were increases. Studies relating to arms control and conflict resolution accounted for these support increases in eight of the ten institutions reporting such shifts.

Expectations about Future Funding

Survey respondents were asked to indicate the direction and extent of any expected shifts in funding for foreign area research during the next year. Table 6 shows their responses.

Table 6
Expectations About Next Year's Funding Levels (1976-77)
(In Percentages)

Funding Source	Sharp Decrease	Moderate Decrease	No Change	Moderate Increase	Sharp Increase	Total Percent	Number of Institutions
Federal government	8.9	17.8	33.3	37.8	2.2	100.0	45
Foundations	16.3	20.9	46.5	16.3	0	100.0	43
Institutional funds	5.0	20.0	65.0	10.0	0	100.0	40
Other private sources	5.3	7.9	60.5	23.7	2.6	100.0	38

The respondents were optimistic about federal support, with 40 percent expecting at least a moderate increase and only 27 percent expecting a decrease. The remaining one-third believed federal support would hold at its present level. The outlook with respect to foundation support was rather bleak: Only 16 percent expected increases, whereas 37 percent anticipated decreases and 47 percent hoped to maintain the current funding levels. Respondents were also pessimistic about additional funding from within their institutions: Only one in ten expected any increases from this source, and one in four anticipated a decline.

There was moderate optimism about funds from other private sources, although such sources account for less than 10 percent of the funds currently available for foreign area research. One-fourth of the institutions having access to such funds expected the level to rise while only 13 percent expected a drop.

Only two of the 166 separate responses, however, indicated any expectation of sharp increases from any of the funding sources.

Funds for Research-Related Activities

The survey respondents were asked to indicate recent changes in support for the specific types of activities which usually underpin the research process associated with foreign area studies: e.g., library, release time from teaching, travel, grants and fellowships. Their responses are shown in Table 7.

Table 7

Level of Change in Selected Categories of Foreign Area Research Support
(In Percentages)

Category of Support	Sharp Decrease	Moderate Decrease	No Change	Moderate Increase	Sharp Increase	Total Percent	Number of Institutions
Library	14.0	27.9	34.9	18.6	4.7	100.0	43
Release time from teaching, institutional support	9.3	11.6	58.1	18.0	2.3	100.0	43
Release time from teaching, external support	9.1	31.8	34.1	22.7	2.3	100.0	44
Grants and fellowships	15.9	29.5	34.1	18.2	2.3	100.0	44
Publication and dissemination of results	9.5	23.2	35.7	23.8	4.8	100.0	42
Travel	4.5	45.5	22.7	27.3	0	100.0	44
Transnational collaborative research	2.3	20.9	46.5	23.3	7.0	100.0	43
Language programs	11.1	33.3	33.3	16.7	5.6	100.0	18
Other	10.0	10.0	30.0	10.0	40.0	100.0	10

More than two-fifths of the respondents noted that, over the past five years, funding for libraries, externally supported release time from teaching, grants and fellowships, travel, and language programs decreased moderately or sharply. The most stable category was institutional support for release time from teaching for the purpose of conducting foreign area research, with almost three-fifths of the respondents reporting that such support remained constant during the period, one-fifth citing decreases, and the remaining one-fifth citing increases. In contrast, fully half of the respondents noted decreases in travel funds for research-related purposes, and 45 percent indicated declines in foreign area research grants and fellowships at their universities.

Appendix A: Survey Instrument

AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION
ONE DUPONT CIRCLE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

HIGHER EDUCATION PANEL

April 26, 1976

Dear Higher Education Panel Representative:

Enclosed is the thirty-second survey of the Higher Education Panel. It concerns the level of support for foreign area studies at research universities over the past five years. This survey is being conducted by the American Council on Education at the request of Stephen Bailey, its Vice-President, in cooperation with the staff of its International Education Project. A letter from Dr. Bailey which explains the purpose of the survey and its importance to pending policy decisions appears on the cover of the survey form.

We hope you will encourage an early reply from the appropriate official at your institution. In most instances, the head of international programs or the research administrator at your institution may be an appropriate respondent. As usual, however, we leave the selection of the respondent to your best judgment.

Please note that for this survey the requested return date is May 12th. It would be most helpful if you could forward this survey form immediately so that the respondent has adequate time to reply. Only a small number of major research universities have been included in this survey. Therefore, its success depends on a full response. We hope you will help us achieve it.

Again, thank you for your past and continued cooperation.

Sincerely,



Frank Atelsek
Director

FA:ec
enclosure(s)

AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION
ONE DUPONT CIRCLE
WASHINGTON, D. C. 20036

OFFICE OF THE VICE-PRESIDENT

April 2 1976

Dear Colleague:

The question of the adequacy of federal government and private support for advanced, international and foreign affairs research has now reached White-House-level attention. Patently, the national security, and the felicity of U.S. international relations generally, depend in the long run upon the quality of knowledge about other nations -- their images of reality, their goals, their troubles.

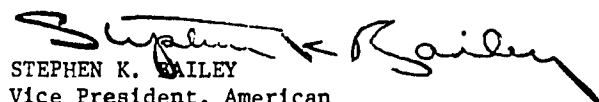
U.S. universities are, and have been, major sources of such knowledge. There are signs that support for their knowledge production function in international and foreign affairs has been seriously eroded in recent years.

The White House and Congress need hard evidence to ascertain the validity of these signs and to assess the specific nature and extent of any actual change.

Your assistance is vital. We urge you to complete and return this survey as soon as possible.

With special thanks for your cooperation.

Sincerely yours,


STEPHEN K. BAILEY
Vice President, American
Council on Education and
Director, International
Education Project

Illustrative List of Foreign Area Research

I. World Areas

- A. China
- B. South Asia
- C. East Asia
- D. Middle East
- E. Africa
- F. Western Europe
- G. Soviet Union and Eastern Europe
- H. Latin America

II. Problem Areas

- A. Communications Systems
- B. Development
- C. Education
- D. Energy
- E. Environment
- F. Food
- G. Medical Care/Health Planning
- H. Population
- I. Status of Women
- J. Transportation
- K. Urban Growth

III. Dynamics of Interstate Relations

- A. Arms Control and Disarmament
- B. Conflict Resolution
- C. Drug Control
- D. East/West Relations
- E. North/South Relations
- F. International Economic Policy
- G. International Organizations
- H. International Law
- I. Trade and Business Relations
- J. Law of the Sea

MAILGRAM

April 30th, 1976

REGARDING OUR HIGHER EDUCATION PANEL SURVEY #32 ABOUT
FOREIGN AREA RESEARCH SENT TO YOU APRIL 26TH: PLEASE
RESTRICT RESPONSES ABOUT FUNDING TO ORGANIZED CENTERS,
REPEAT CENTERS, OF FOREIGN AREA RESEARCH ONLY. PLEASE
INFORM RESPONDENTS ABOUT THIS CLARIFICATION IMMEDIATELY.



5. For the following support categories, please indicate the extent of change in support for foreign area research at your institution over the past five years (since academic year 1971-72) by checking the appropriate column:

Category of Support	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; text-align: center;"> <div>Sharp Decrease</div> <div>Moderate Decrease</div> <div>No Change</div> <div>Moderate Increase</div> <div>Sharp Increase</div> </div>				
	(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)
A. Library: New acquisitions and general library support, including the servicing of research materials	—	—	—	—	—
B. Release time from teaching for the purpose of conducting foreign area research - funds coming from within your institution	—	—	—	—	—
C. Release time from teaching for the purpose of conducting foreign area research - funds coming from external sources	—	—	—	—	—
D. Grants and fellowships for students and faculty to engage in foreign area research	—	—	—	—	—
E. Publishing and disseminating results of foreign area research	—	—	—	—	—
F. Travel to reinforce professional skills (conduct research, attend conferences, seminars, etc.)	—	—	—	—	—
G. Transnational collaborative research	—	—	—	—	—
H. Other major activities (e.g., advanced language training) - specify:	—	—	—	—	—
_____	—	—	—	—	—
_____	—	—	—	—	—
_____	—	—	—	—	—

6. Briefly, please assess the impact of the two most significant changes you have noted above.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR ASSISTANCE. PLEASE RETURN
THIS FORM BY May 12, 1976

PLEASE RETAIN A COPY OF THIS
SURVEY FOR YOUR RECORDS

TO: HIGHER EDUCATION PANEL
AMERICAN COUNCIL ON EDUCATION
ONE DUPONT CIRCLE, N.W.
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20036

Person Completing Form _____

Office _____

Phone _____

Any questions? Call (collect) (202) 833-4757

Appendix B:

List of Surveyed Institutions with Organized Foreign Area
Research Centers (48 out of 57 responding)

University of Arizona
Auburn University, Main

Boston University

University of California, Berkeley
University of California, Davis
California Institute of Technology
University of California, Los Angeles
University of Cincinnati, Main
Colorado State University
Columbia University, Main Division
Cornell University Endowed Colleges

Duke University

Emory University

University of Florida
Florida State University

Georgia Institute of Technology, Main

Harvard University
University of Hawaii at Manoa

University of Illinois, Urbana
Indiana University of Bloomington
University of Iowa
Iowa State University

Johns Hopkins University

Louisiana State University, Baton Rouge

University of Miami
University of Michigan, Ann Arbor
Univ. of Minnesota, Minn.-St. Paul
University of Missouri, Columbia

University of N. Carolina at Chapel Hill
Northwestern University

Ohio State University, Main
University of Oklahoma, Norman
Oregon State University

University of Pennsylvania
University of Pittsburgh, Main
Princeton University
Purdue University, Main

Rice University
University of Rochester

University of Southern California
Stanford University
Syracuse University, Main

Temple University, Main
University of Texas at Austin, Main
Texas A & M University, Main
Tufts University
Tulane University of Louisiana

University of Utah

Vanderbilt University
Virginia Poly. Inst. and State U.

University of Washington
Washington State University
Washington University
Wayne State University
West Virginia University
University of Wisconsin, Madison

Yale University

American Council on Education

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