

UNIVERSITY SENATE

April 20, 2020

"The outlook for higher education is changing to negative...universities face unprecedented enrollment uncertainty, risks to multiple revenue streams, and potential material erosion in their balance sheets."

-Moody's

"Colleges across the nation are scrambling to close deep budget holes and some have been pushed to the brink of collapse after the coronavirus outbreak triggered financial losses that could total more than \$100 million at some institutions...some say huge shares of their reserves have been wiped out amid wild swings in the stock market....Even if campuses reopen this fall, many worry large numbers of students won't return. There's widespread fear that an economic downturn will leave many Americans unable to afford tuition, and universities are forecasting steep drop-offs among international students who may think twice about studying abroad so soon after a pandemic.

-Associated Press

"Higher education is not going to be the first thing on a governor's list [of funding priorities]. There will be so much less tax revenue, and so many states depend on sales tax. There is no sales tax if there are no sales. It can be a crisis for some going forward."

-Susan Shaman, co-author of The College Stress Test

"We expect to see declines of charitable support of higher education giving in the next two fiscal years. When the economy contracts, charitable giving in general also contracts."

-Ann Kaplan, Council for Advancement and Support of Education

Affordable universities have a competitive advantage

"...a global pandemic and fears of a recession along with soaring college costs and record student loan debt will push more students and families to choose local and less-expensive public schools rather than private universities far from home."

-CNBC / Robert Franek, editor-in-chief of The Princeton Review

"Heightened by fears of a sharp economic slowdown brought on by the coronavirus outbreak, a majority of students and parents now say affordability and dealing with the debt burden that often goes hand-in-hand with a degree is their top concern..."

-CNBC /The Princeton Review's 2020 College Hopes & Worries survey