

2nd Annual Statewide Trustees Conference | September 23, 2014

# The Year Ahead

## Uncertainties, Continuities & Challenges

Richard M. Freeland, Commissioner



MASSACHUSETTS  
Department of  
Higher Education

The Year Ahead

## Acknowledgements

### ■ Office of Trustee Relations (OTR)

- Jennifer Perkins, Mike Mizzoni, Dena Papanikolaou

### ■ OTR Advisory Committee

- Mohan Boodram, Trustee, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
- Joe Burchill, Chair, Framingham State University
- Richard Covel, Trustee, Massachusetts Maritime Academy
- Claude Lancome, Trustee, Salem State University
- Richard Logan, Trustee, Framingham State University
- Buffy Lord, Trustee, Massachusetts College of Liberal Arts
- Stacy DeBoise Luster, Chair, Quinsigamond Community College
- Royall Mack, Chair, Middlesex Community College
- Michael Mahan, Trustee, Fitchburg State University
- Lou Ricciardi, Chair, Bridgewater State University
- Cynthia Rose, Trustee, Bristol Community College
- Steven Seeche, Trustee, North Shore Community College

### ■ College and University Trustees

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## Uncertainties

- **Transition in State Government**
  - **Turnover in Board Membership**
  - **Turnover in Presidencies**
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## Continuities

- **the Vision Project**
    - Scaling Best Practices
    - Campus Strategic Plans
  - **Collaboration and Efficiency**
    - System Level
    - Campus Level
  - **FY2016 Budget Discussions**
    - Importance of a unified message
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The Year Ahead  
**Challenges**

- **A New Context for Public Higher Education**
- **More Effective Use of Performance Data**
- **Two Priorities for Campus Boards**

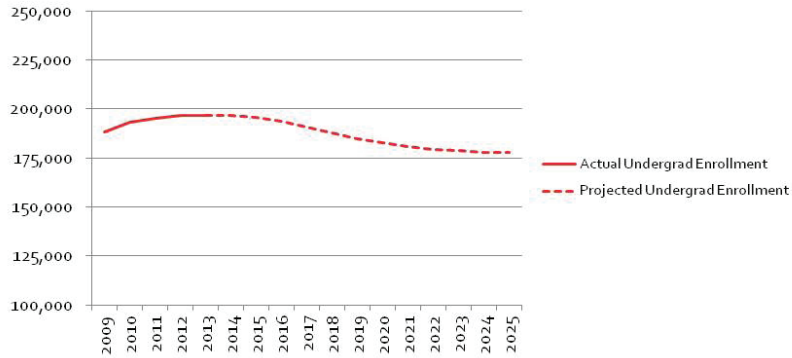
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Challenges

## **A New Context for Public Higher Education**

## Worrisome Signs

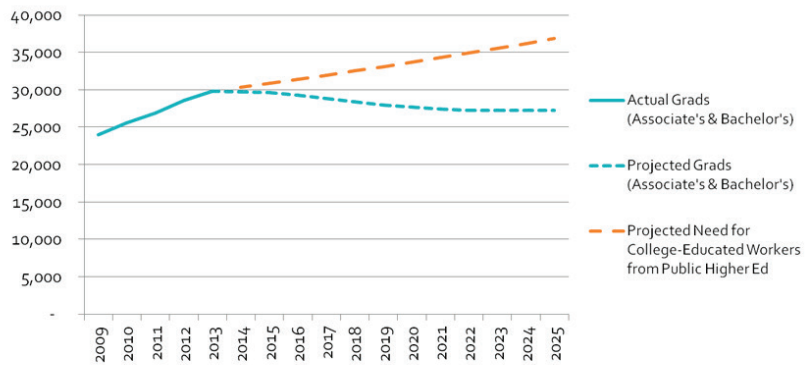
### Projected Declines in Undergraduate Enrollment in Public Higher Education...



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## Worrisome Signs

### ... Lead to Projected Declines in Graduates from Public Higher Education



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## Worrisome Signs

- **New Context for Public Higher Education**

- Declining degree production
- Increasing need for college grads
- Projected ten-year degree gap

Projected Cumulative  
Gap by 2025:  
**-55k-65k**

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## Higher Education Response to New Context



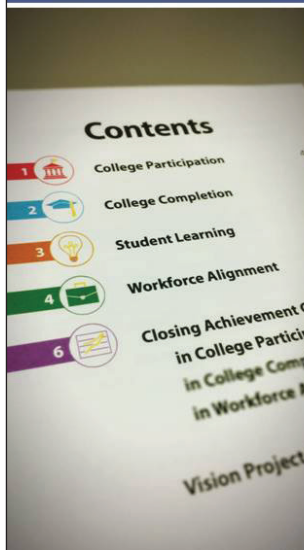
- **Boost Student Success Rates**
  - Especially at community colleges
  - Especially in areas of high workforce need
- **Close Achievement Gaps**
  - Scale successful campus practices
- **Attract, Retain & Graduate More...**
  - Adults 25+
  - Veterans
  - College-going high school grads leaving MA

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Challenges

# More Effective Use of Performance Data

## Challenges: More Effective Use of Performance Data Campus-Level Data Dashboards



- Using the Dashboards
- Enhancing the Dashboards
- Supporting Campus Boards

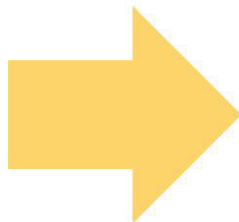
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Challenges

## Two Priorities for Campus Boards

Challenges: Two Priorities for Campus Boards

### Issues for Special Focus



- Fiscal Oversight
- Sexual Assault

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## Conclusion

- **We are making progress**
  - Performance, Support, Attention
- **We have a long way to go**
- **Crucial role of college & university trustees**