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TIMELY DATA CIRCULATED WHILE CURRENT

SINCE 1958 EIGHTEENTH YEAR
Number 221 December 1976 Page 1411

GRAPEVINE
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Reports on state tax legislation; state appropriations for universities, colleges, and junior colleges; legislation affecting education beyond the high school.

SPECIAL NOTE: This December issue goes into the mails in early November in order to make timely circulation of CORRECTIONS to Table 51 (the 50-state summary table) which appeared in the November issue (page 1410).

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Statement of ownership and circulation of GRAPEVINE is on page 1412 (reverse hereof).

CORRECTIONS for Table 51, page 1410, GRAPEVINE (November 1976), No. 220.
(In thousands of dollars)

States	Year 1966-67	Year 1974-75	Year 1976-77	2-yr gain per cent	10-yr gain per cent
(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)	(5)	(6)
Indiana*			322,224	30	209
Louisiana**			214,998	16	147
Maryland***		208,960		23	
Totals		11,252,470	13,911,885	#	#

*\$17,983,000 added. This amount was previously omitted from the appropriation to the Scholarship Commission.

**Decreased \$30,000,000 to correct arithmetical error.

***In order to make comparisons over two year, \$27,256,000 was added to the total for fiscal year 1974-75 for salary increases and fringe benefits previously unreported.

#Percentages of gain over two years and ten years are unchanged, standing at 24% and 293%, respectively.

The corrections have been transmitted to the National Association of State Universities and Land-Grant Colleges, and to the Chronicle of Higher Education for their forthcoming publications. Figures for three states are affected; but only negligible changes are made in the 50-state totals; and the 2-year and 10-year percentages of nationwide gain are unchanged, standing at 24 per cent and 293 per cent.

FLORIDA. A 19-page Final Report and Recommendations has been released by the Florida Post-Secondary Education Finance Committee. The document is addressed to the state senate, the house of representatives, and the state planning council for post high school education.

The committee was composed of two senators, the commissioner of education, a member of the Board of Regents, a trustee of a public junior college, and four "citizens-at-large," including a banker, a lawyer, a director of adult education, and a university student.

There are 24 recommendations, some of which seem pedestrian or aimed at relatively small segments of the entire state-wide educational system. They include the customary press for impossible uniformity of terminology, undesirable sameness of offerings, and unattainable comparability of unit costs; notably observing, however, that "the problem is not unique to Florida, and the solutions are neither quick nor easy."

For its bearing on reasonable university autonomy, Recommendation 4 is perhaps most interesting. It says: "A new basis for funding higher education should be developed....that avoids the negative consequences of the present funding basis."

The committee named reduction of the quality of course content, unnecessary prerequisites and grade inflation as alleged "undesirable incentives" associated with the current scheme of making funding too dependent on numbers of FTE students in separate program or instructional units; and hence recommended lump-sum funding. It remarked that "The State University System could be funded without regard to FTE with a fixed dollar amount and an annual percentage increase for a period of time sufficient to test this approach."

The foregoing touches only one of the 24 recommendations. Presumably copies of the 19-page report can be had from the Florida Department of Education, Tallahassee, Florida 32304. It bears no date of issue, but came out in early 1976.

GRAPEVINE is not a publication of any institution or association. Responsibility for any errors in the data, or for opinions expressed, is not to be attributed to any organization or person other than M. M. Chambers. GRAPEVINE is circulated to numerous key persons in each of the fifty states.

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MARYLAND. Table 52 supplements Table 17, page 1382, GRAPEVINE (July 1976).

Table 52. Allocations of state tax-fund appropriations to the separate campuses of the University of Maryland, fiscal year 1976-77, in thousands of dollars.

Institution (1)	Sums allocated (2)
University of Maryland	52,560
Main campus, College Park	52,560
Ag experiment station	3,213
Coop extension service*	3,580
Ctr, Environ & Estuarine Std*	1,653
Subtotal, C P - \$61,006	
Baltimore City campus	15,178
University Hospital*	11,708
Sch of Medicine	6,618
Sch of Dentistry	3,144
Sch of Nursing	1,945
Allied Health	383
Subtotal, B C - \$38,976	
Baltimore County campus	10,626
Eastern Shore campus	3,366
General U expenses	2,537
Total, U of Maryland	116,511

*The arrangement of the various components does not correspond precisely with current administrative structure. The same is true in a few other states. Medical schools or university hospitals or cooperative agricultural extension services are sometimes administratively independent; but are nonetheless grouped with the university for the sake of reasonable comparability with state universities and land-grant universities of other states.

NEBRASKA. The State Board of Equalization, which is empowered to fix the state income tax rate, is reported to have voted on August 12, 1976, to raise it to 17 per cent of each taxpayer's federal income tax liability. The prior rate was 15 per cent.

There was some thought that Governor James Exon might call a special session of the legislature to consider cutting state expenditures this year so the income tax rate would not need to be raised; but it was said that leaders in the unicameral legislature assured the governor that there was no possibility that the legislature would reduce state expenditures this year.

MINNESOTA. Table 53 supplements Table 59, page 1313, GRAPEVINE (August 1975). These figures include additional funds allocated since the original biennial tabulation was published. (See GRAPEVINE, page 1406, November 1976.)

Table 53. Allocations of appropriated funds for operating expenses of the state university system in Minnesota, fiscal year 1976-77, in thousands of dollars.

Institutions (1)	Sums allocated (2)
State universities	
Mankato	15,407
St. Cloud	13,711
Moorhead	8,101
Bemidji	7,736
Winona	6,528
Southwest	5,054
Metropolitan State	1,269
Computer rental	1,847
Student loan match	175
General research	25
Board off & central account	1,391
Total	61,243

MISSOURI. Table 54 supplements Table 19, page 1383, GRAPEVINE (July 1976).

Table 54: Allocations of appropriated funds by the Board of Curators of the University of Missouri to the several campuses, fiscal year 1976-77, in thousands of dollars.

Institution (1)	Sums allocated (2)
U of Missouri	
Columbia	67,752
Kansas City	21,626
Rolla	13,818
St. Louis	12,293
University-wide*	12,220
Total, U of M	127,709

*Includes: Research services, \$1,522,390; Statewide extension services, 5,804,356; System operational support, 4,892,783.

PENNSYLVANIA. "Regionalism in higher education" is in a fairly new and developmental (if not to say experimental) stage. The state has approximately a dozen demarcated regions.

As an example one might take the Lehigh Valley (Region 2) which is a seven-county area having 23 degree-granting institutions, including 2 state colleges, 3 branch campuses of the Pennsylvania State University, 3 community colleges, 11 private nonprofit colleges, and 4 proprietary schools.

Apparently the principal concern within the regions is for long-range planning, studies and recommendations, not for immediate operation or administration. Regionalism obviously produces some decentralization of planning, which may very well be an excellent service.

If regionalism is actually the means of enlisting the interest and participation of many people in each region, it may improve the Commonwealth's state-wide planning by keeping it close to the grassroots, and by greatly augmenting public information about higher education throughout the state.

Irene Elizabeth Jordan is Coordinator for Regionalization, in the Pennsylvania Department of Education, Box 911, Harrisburg, PA 17126. From that office comes a small bimonthly newsletter, Higher Education Planning (HEP). Its issue for July/August 1976 is Vol. 3, No. 3 (10 pages).

RHODE ISLAND. The 5 per cent general sales tax rate is increased, for one year only, to 6 per cent. Appropriations for 1976-77 are said to be some \$45 million higher than for the preceding year, with much of the benefit going as state aid to local schools and improved salaries for state employees. Higher education also benefited.

KEEP HIGHER EDUCATION MOVING
A new book by M.M. Chambers. A beam of constructive optimism into the gloom of the 1970's. Interstate Printers & Publishers, Inc., Jackson at Van Buren, Danville, IL 61832. Tel. (217) 443-0500. Pp. 350. Postpaid, \$12.95.

UPDATE OF FACULTY AND STAFF BEFORE THE BENCH

The Colleges and the Courts: Faculty and Staff Before the Bench is a 290-page hardback book published in 1973 by the Interstate Printers and Publishers, Inc., of Danville, IL 61832, at \$8.75 per copy, postpaid. Copies can be purchased from that source.

Carrying the story up to mid-1976 is a 70-page paperbacked *Update* published by the Department of Educational Administration, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61761, at \$3 per copy postpaid, with discounts for quantities.

Judge-Made Law for Faculty Members

Here is a succinct recital of some sixty decisions of higher courts in some thirty states and the federal jurisdiction, on currently litigated issues involving teachers of all ranks in all types of universities, colleges, and community colleges.

Can a professor be summarily fired because she publishes an article questioning the propriety of the college's purchasing of equipment from a firm in which the chairman of the college board of trustees is a large stockholder?

If not, can the professor be awarded punitive damages against the individual trustees who voted to discharge her unjustly? You may be surprised by the current answers to both of these questions.

The Times Are Changing

Many new stances are gradually being adopted by state and federal courts regarding such matters as discrimination in appointments, salaries, and promotions based on sex, race, national origin, and political beliefs. We are in an era when freedom and justice for faculty and staff members are really advancing, though often slowly. Everyone should have some accurate knowledge of what is going on.

Order *Update of Faculty and Staff Before the Bench* (Pp. 70; \$3 postpaid) from the Department of Educational Administration, Illinois State University, Normal, IL 61761. (Payment must accompany orders.)

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COMPARING FISCAL YEAR 1976-77 WITH FISCAL YEAR 1970-71

Always remembering that the neatly arranged numerals can not represent exact or absolute comparability among states or institutions in the real world, look at Table 55, on the reverse of this page.

First, the aggregate of the sums appropriated by the fifty states for the fiscal year 1976-77 is almost exactly twice the comparable figure for fiscal year 1970-71. The gain is about 99.5 per cent. This exceeds the rate of inflation over the same period, and means perhaps about 50 per cent real gains, nationwide.

By a simple device the table undertakes to show the changes in the relative rankings of the 50 states, according to the magnitude of their appropriations for 1971 and for 1977. Observe that nine states maintained their rankings with no change: California, 1; New York, 2; Ohio, 7; Florida, 8; Wisconsin, 10; Indiana, 12; Arizona, 27; New Mexico, 38; and Idaho, 39.

Twenty-one states went up at least one place, and twenty went down. The number one rocket appears to be Alabama, rising from 30th to 16th place. Others surging upward at least three places are Minnesota, 15 to 11; Virginia, 16 to 13; South Carolina, 29 to 23; Nebraska, 36 to 33; and Alaska, 46 to 40.

Downward went the rankings of Washington, 9 to 15; Missouri, 17 to 20; Colorado, 21 to 24; Kentucky, 22 to 26; Connecticut (steepest toboggan), 25 to 32; Hawaii, 34 to 37; Maine, 42 to 46; and South Dakota, 44 to 47.

In every instance there are multiple demographic and economic developments that explain the changes perhaps in part, but the variables are so exceedingly numerous and difficult of precise quantification that they do not yield to meaningful manipulation. Let Gung-ho statisticians, econometrists, and computer-ologists exert themselves, but not forget that statistics are no substitute for judgment! Behind each figure there is a complex of historical, geographic, demographic, and other factors, including political and economic influences.

GRAPEVINE's figures are uncopyrighted and available to anyone wishing to use them, in whatever combinations with other data that may be desired. Such users are responsible for their own methods and results. More power to them! The figures have to be in a sense "preliminary" because they are assembled and organized before the mid-point of the fiscal year to which they appertain; they are also in a sense "self-correcting" because they are circulated to key persons in every state some months or weeks before the annual summaries are made.

There is a good deal of "rounding" in the handling of the figures, and there is some tolerance of cavalier disposition of marginal items involving relatively minuscule sums, to avoid delays that would otherwise accumulate. The object is not at all to produce an auditor's report of past expenditures; but to turn out a timely and reasonable approximation of current appropriations which will provide an ongoing view of what the fifty state legislatures are actually doing by way of state tax support of higher education of all levels and types.

The scene is not as gloomy as is widely thought. Yet there are hundreds of questions that this simple exhibit poses but does not answer. For example, why did Florida and Arizona--states that have had the highest rates of growth of total population for twenty years--not improve their relative rankings in support of higher education? Their attraction for retired persons will not explain this fully.

Table 55. APPROPRIATIONS OF STATE TAX FUNDS FOR ANNUAL OPERATING EXPENSES OF ALL HIGHER EDUCATION, FOR FISCAL YEARS 1970-71 AND 1976-77, IN THOUSANDS OF DOLLARS.

Year 1970-71	States	States	Year 1976-77
\$817,126	1 Cal	Cal	1 \$1,825,400
746,529	2 N Y	N Y	2 1,251,096
475,533	3 Ill	Tex	3 918,589
343,691	4 Mich	Ill	4 680,971
343,515	5 Tex	Pa	5 659,781
309,521	6 Pa	Mich	6 593,939
260,690	7 Ohio	Ohio	7 502,225
241,356	8 Fla	Fla	8 434,857
190,903	9 Wash	N C	9 407,977
181,237	10 Wis	Wis	10 364,056
175,931	11 N C	Minn	11 323,554
173,979	12 Ind	Ind	12 322,224
154,430	13 N J	Va	13 316,042
146,652	14 Ga	N J	14 315,338
143,448	15 Minn	Wash	15 310,131
136,134	16 Va	Ala	16 268,919
131,571	17 Mo	Ga	17 265,562
121,813	18 La	Md	18 256,777
120,961	19 Md	Mass	19 240,034
116,093	20 Mass	Mo	20 236,782
110,624	21 Colo	Iowa	21 222,671
108,710	22 Ky	La	22 214,998
108,062	23 Iowa	S C	23 210,239
98,598	24 Tenn	Colo	24 206,236
97,353	25 Conn	Tenn	25 200,889
96,578	26 Ore	Ky	26 200,503
83,351	27 Ariz	Ariz	27 184,786
82,031	28 Kas	Ore	28 176,653
77,446	29 S C	Kas	29 173,777
74,825	30 Ala	Miss	30 154,036
72,189	31 Miss	Okla	31 152,263
69,467	32 Okla	Conn	32 145,888
58,719	33 W Va	Nebr	33 121,980
55,169	34 Hawaii	Ark	34 114,936
54,922	35 Ark	W Va	35 114,460
48,386	36 Nebr	Utah	36 108,937
45,320	37 Utah	Hawaii	37 97,884
41,639	38 N M	N M	38 82,047
31,506	39 Ida	Ida	39 70,156
31,413	40 R I	Alaska	40 64,829
29,156	41 Mont	R I	41 64,771
27,783	42 Me	N D	42 48,865
23,249	43 N D	Mont	43 47,099
21,202	44 S D	Del	44 44,928
20,230	45 Del	Nev	45 42,357
17,000	46 Alaska	Me	46 42,260
15,908	47 Nev	S D	47 38,382
14,758	48 Vt	Wyo	48 33,821
14,672	49 Wyo	N H	49 22,859
10,938	50 N H	Vt	50 20,138
974,320	Totals		13,911,885
139,486	Averages		278,238
97M	Medians		200M