

8QLYHUVLW\ &RXQFLO RQ 7HDFKLQJ
5HSRUW DQG 5HFRPPHQGDWLRQ V DRGH * &RPSHU HQVOLDRQ DW % F
\$SULO

,QWURGXFWRQ

7KH 8QLYHUVLW\ &RXQGLE\ RYKH FBDFRKYLRQVWZ DFR DFRNHN LQW
JUDGH FRPSUHVVLQR DW % RYFRPQ & R G DQVLRDQVQV WQR/RPDKNDW
EH ZDUUDQWHG DUBRPSIOHI[OQLVQ RQHSFDVA BI HGXFDWLRQ D
QRW UHVWULFWHG WR %RVWRQ & R G HJWKH)UQXWADV SRXJHWAD
JUDGHV DQG WKH QXPEHU R G \$OJUDQFHUHDWH & R G K DV QVWVKH C
DYHUDJH JUDGH RI WKH JUDGH DV RYRQJ FODVYKIQQQPEHU RI S
JUDGHV LQFUHDVHG IURP LQ WR

WUHQQV FRQWLQXH JUDGH FRPSDWHVWV RQVZS OBEIXHFW DQG H
HIILDFD\ DV DQ HGXFDWLRQ DV DRIRDDV, LQDQGE RSDRQW WEHW
GHSDUWPHQWV DQGHVFKSRDQV DW 7K&V) EDXUXHM DDVQHG IDLYHQ M
D GHSDUWPHQW ZLWK LQHQDLWR R G JURDGH D QX DWLQW HZLVOK KR
RWKHU EHQHILWV DVVRFLDWXIGHZLVWK LQL GHSDQDQPHV QWKDQLV

7KH 8&7 YLHZV WKH FRQWLQXDLGHVUDQGRVRIKERSVKU BMEWDJ
%& DV D SUREOHP DUDHGDDWL* RQV RWRPDRVEHDFVQDHWU BAKDQ UDL
DFDGHPLF FKDOOHQJHV DQG H[SHFWDWLRQV IRU RXU VWXG
E\ VLP\$O\ UDLVLQJ JUDGHS/HUEXUYHWXG HLOWVH PQRXDO FK
FRXUVHV EHFDXVW DW DGHQV VQR O R BQML YSHU RYULGXILG DQFLQ I
WKH FKDOOHQJH +RZHYMUD ERPSIOHRLQV VEHVWKHQD JUDGLQ
SHGDJRJ\ %RVWRQ & ROOHJH QHZGR RMRDR R QK D QHZHWDUNL Q
VWXGHQWV ± DQG KRVDVQLR QV WKHQDQ H[SRJUDQGHLQQDDW R
D ODUJHU V\VWHPLF SUREOHPHBRDDVH G V WRWWW DFKQQ JDFWL
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ZH RIIHU WKH IROORZLQJ UDFRPPHQGDWLRQV DWLEPHGDNH
DZDUHQHV RI WKH SUREOHP DW %& VQHG DFRJ \$VUR RRVWHFQES

5HFRPPHQGDWLRQV

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&ROOHJH WKH 8&7 PDNQV WIKRZHFRRP RHHQGDOLLRI WKDW WK
UHFRPPHQGDWLRQV LI LP SHSH R QDGHGJ HDVH QJXWKH ISUREVOV
IHHO WKHVH UHFRPPHQGDWLRQV FDQ EH XQGHUWDNHQ HDV
WKHP DV WRWDO VROXWLYRQ WVR WKRXSUGR E Q S VZRI EWHQJHI
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,W LV FOHDU WR WIOHDBN&7RWNKQZVWKBUIH DERXW JUDGHV
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DQG WKH SHUFHQWDJHQRQWRVWIDIOJUDGGHDEWPHR&UMD
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EH SURYLGHG

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IDFXOW\ FKDLUV DQG GHDQV

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DUH HQWHUHG ELQD&SULREPWRVWPHDQSSSRYDO ,QWKL
PHPEHUV FRXOG LQVWDDQWDE XWHLRQKR UUHDFKGFH&UVH E
VXEPLVLRQ 7KH 8&7 VXS&S&UJHW WKIDWLGMDPDE XWDNH
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,QLWLDWH ZLGH GLVFXVLRQ RI JUDGHV DQG JUDGLQJ
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OLW&WOH LGHD RI KRZ WKHLU FROOHDJXHV JUDGHG
(DFK VFKRRO VKRXOG&G&M&Q&D&B&U&P&K L&S&H&U&K&D&S W&X&Q&G&H&U
RI DQ&C FRPPLW&WHH RU WKHLU (3&TV 7KH /DZ 6FKR
DQG KDV HVWDEOLVK&H&G&EH&UD&D&X&D&R&X&U&A&D&Q&M&Q&M V&I
ERWK ODUJHU DQG VPDOOHU FODVVHV
)DFXOW\ REYLXVO\ Q&H&G&L&W&H&H I&O&R&F&L&R&L&P&W& W&R&Z&H
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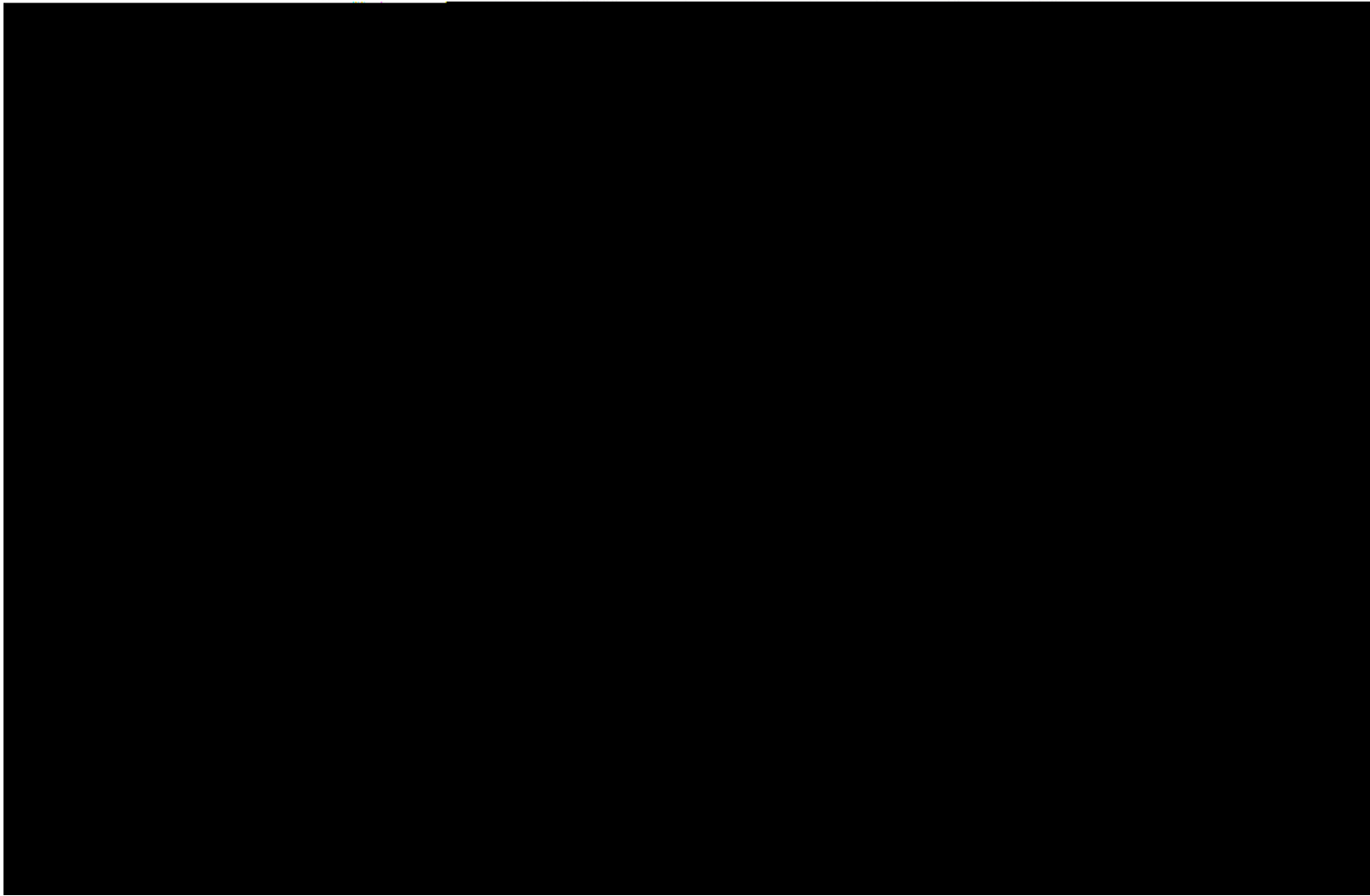
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)DFXOW\ VKRXOG EH DMNHGDGR UGLOCHUMERLWLRQXGH
HYDOXDWLRQV DQ SDHYWHZISWRHFHDQQKDFK \H DU

\$UH 7KXVH 0HDVXUHV 1HFHVVDU\"

LPSO\ WKDW WKH DFDGHPLR IH 1/8H FDFXVLRQKDDY G U S P D Q H G G
VWXGHQWV KDYH JRWYQH Q F W W H D B L Z O Y B E S W W M S H H D L W H W R K D Y H
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VWDWLF EXW GHFOLQL Q Q W H Q W H B W R D P X O D F K B O D H Q Q J L Q J F D
7KH DUJXPHQW WKDW E D F R O W H O D F R U I R Q F H I Q Q V L Y B G L V R Z D
ORUH ULJRURXV JUDGLQJ L W H V P R K R X W W W G W R W R F R P S X O D W Q I H D U
VWXGHQWV PD\ UDQN WKHP O T K L H U L R Q W K R X U J K M H W Y D G K D S V L L R V
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REYLRXV WKDW W W K H W H X G F Q V O W U P H S E I F W V , I W K H U H Z H U F
JUDGLQJ HVWDEOLVKHG E\ G H S Y D L O X B M Q W Q D Q G L V G F J K V R R D M D F S
JUDGLQJ ZRXOG QRW EH DQ L V V X H

&ORVLQJ VWDWHPHQW

7R FRQWURO JUDG H H L V Q I L O R Q W L R O O D O H L W R V I U R R P W I K O G 8 Q I L G X
PHPEHUV WR GHSDUWPHQ W G O W K K I D L W R Y R / F W R R O I G I H F H Q Q H B G
WKLVSUREOHP 7KH 8&7 W W H R S P I D G B V H W E K H H W D R S H Q H D V D I L
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VROLG JUDGH GLVWULEX W Q B Q J G D W Q H O Q G L W H O F R V L R D Q I R Q J W K
8QLYHUVLW\ Z L R O Z E K H H D X E S Z H W G R W S L U D O R I J U D G H V D Q G D F K
GLVWULEXWLRQ



The above graph is a composite of 80 years of undergraduate grading in the US. Schools represented are listed below. This work would not have been possible without the help of many people including registrars, institutional assessment staff, archivists and random people who decided to search on the web and send me data. Thanks to all, Stuart Rojstaczer, stuart.rosh@gmail.com.

Figure 1

Schools Represented

Alabama 1991-2006

Appalachian State 1968-2006

Auburn 1924-2006

Carleton 1974-2004

Central Florida 1976-2006

Central Michigan 1977-2006

Colorado 1989-2006

Cornell 1990-2006

CSU-East Bay 1980-1999

CSU-Fullerton 1976-2005

CSU-San Bernardino 1965-2006

Dartmouth 1989-2006

Duke 1932-1960, 1969-2001

Florida 1989

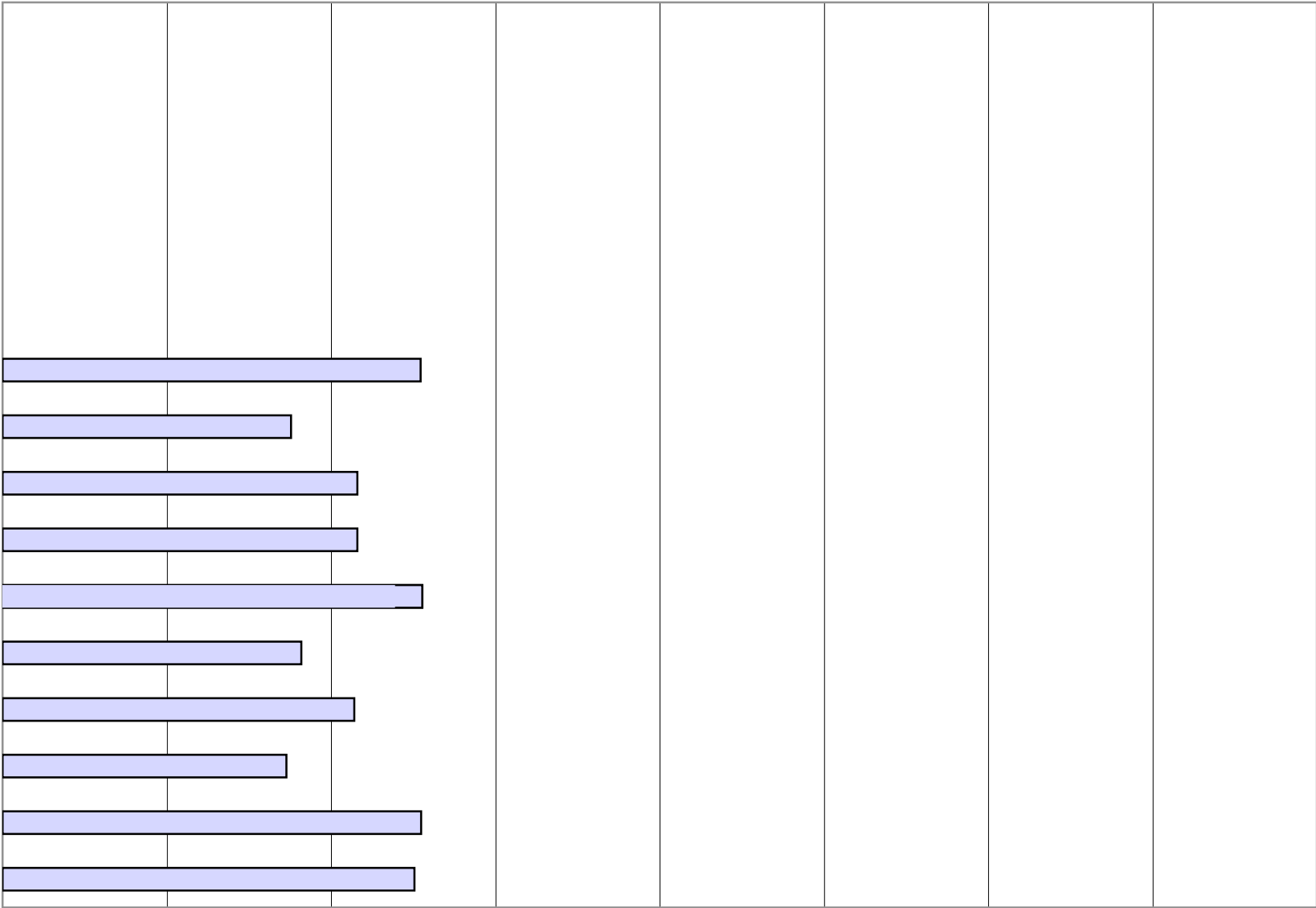


Figure 2