

State of Academic Affairs

Michael D. Amiridis
Professor and Provost

Provost Meeting
January 10, 2014



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What defines a global research university?



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- Innovative Teaching
 - Robust Research
 - Community Engagement

*Outstanding people in a culture
promoting innovation.*



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Goal of the Office of the Provost

Enhance the quality of our academic programs.

Ensure their sustainability



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Drivers for Change

- Enhancing academic quality and reputation
- Students' demand for more rigor
- A changing consumer market
- Utilization of disruptive technologies
- Opportunity to build niche programs



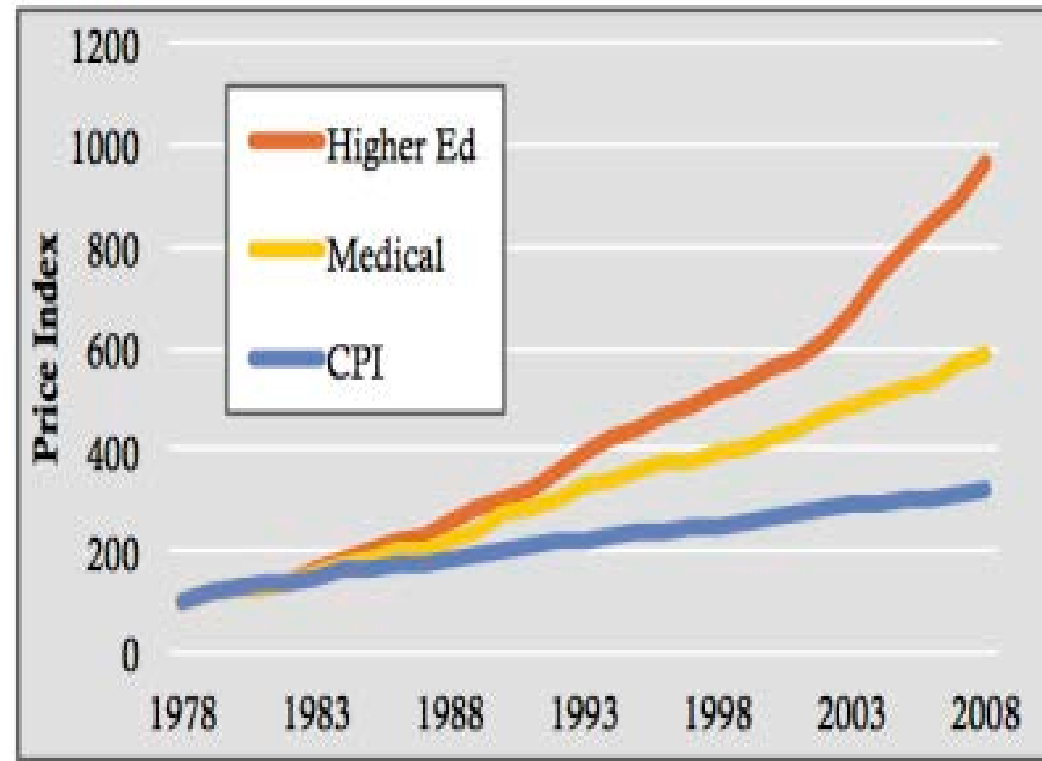
Drivers for Change

- State and federal funding challenges
 - Pressure for prioritization of resources
- Public's demand for access, affordability and accountability



Forbes (1/6/14)

- Higher Education Ground Zero for Disruption
 - Product does not work
 - Ridiculous Cost
 - Antiquated Business Model



Reasons for Optimism

- Transparency and accountability
- New technology applications
- Public-private partnerships
- Emphasis on outcomes and employability
- Globalization and student mobility



Comparison Groups

- **Peer group**

- Rutgers University
- University of Connecticut
- University of Georgia
- University of Kentucky
- University of Tennessee

- **Peer-aspirant group**

- Indiana University
- University of Maryland
- University of Missouri
- University of North Carolina
- University of Virginia

DATA FROM:

The Top American Research Universities, 2010 Annual Report

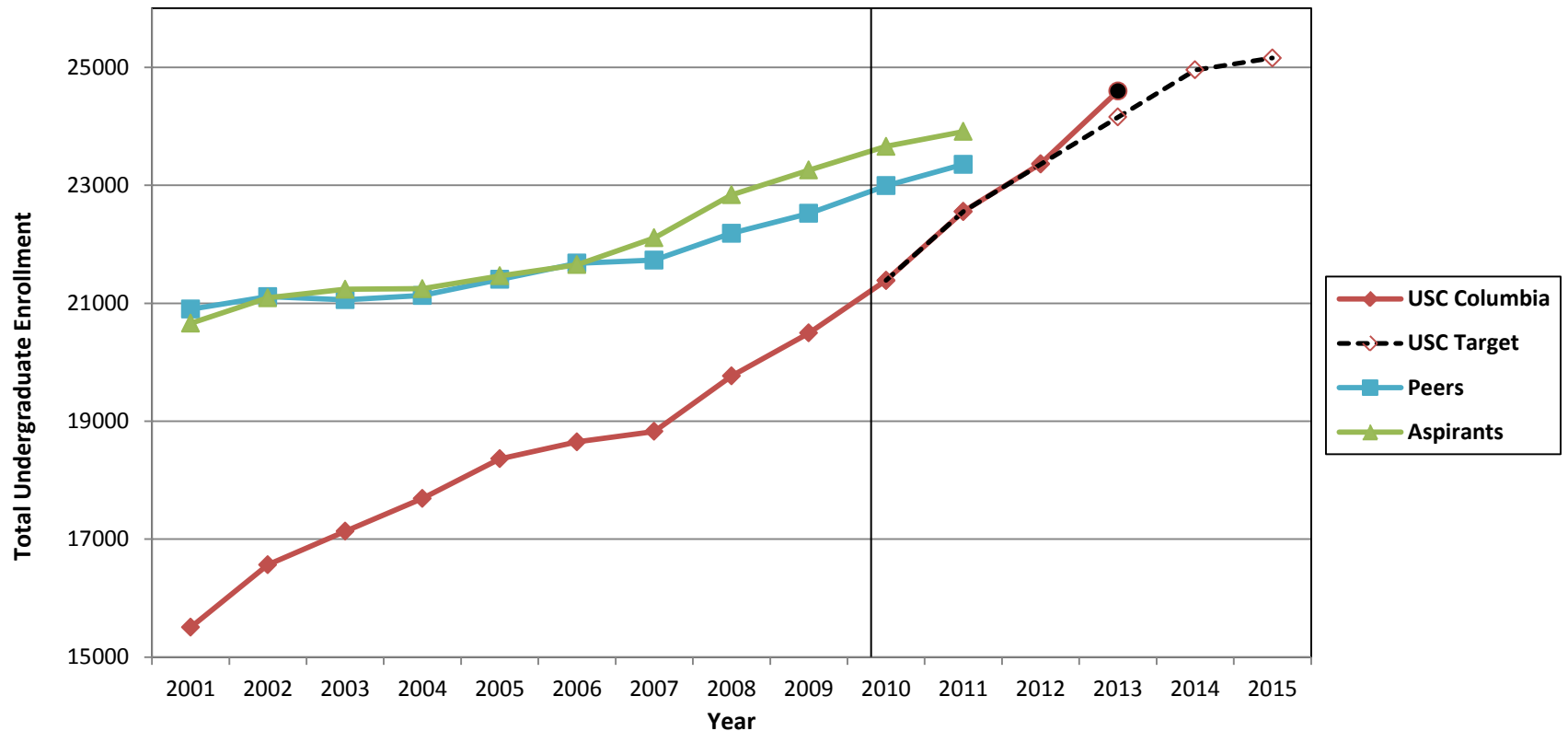
The Center for Measuring University Performance

by E.D. Capaldi, John V. Lombardi, Craig W. Abbey, Diane D. Craig



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Total UG Enrollment (headcount)



● 2013 Undergraduate Enrollment Estimate



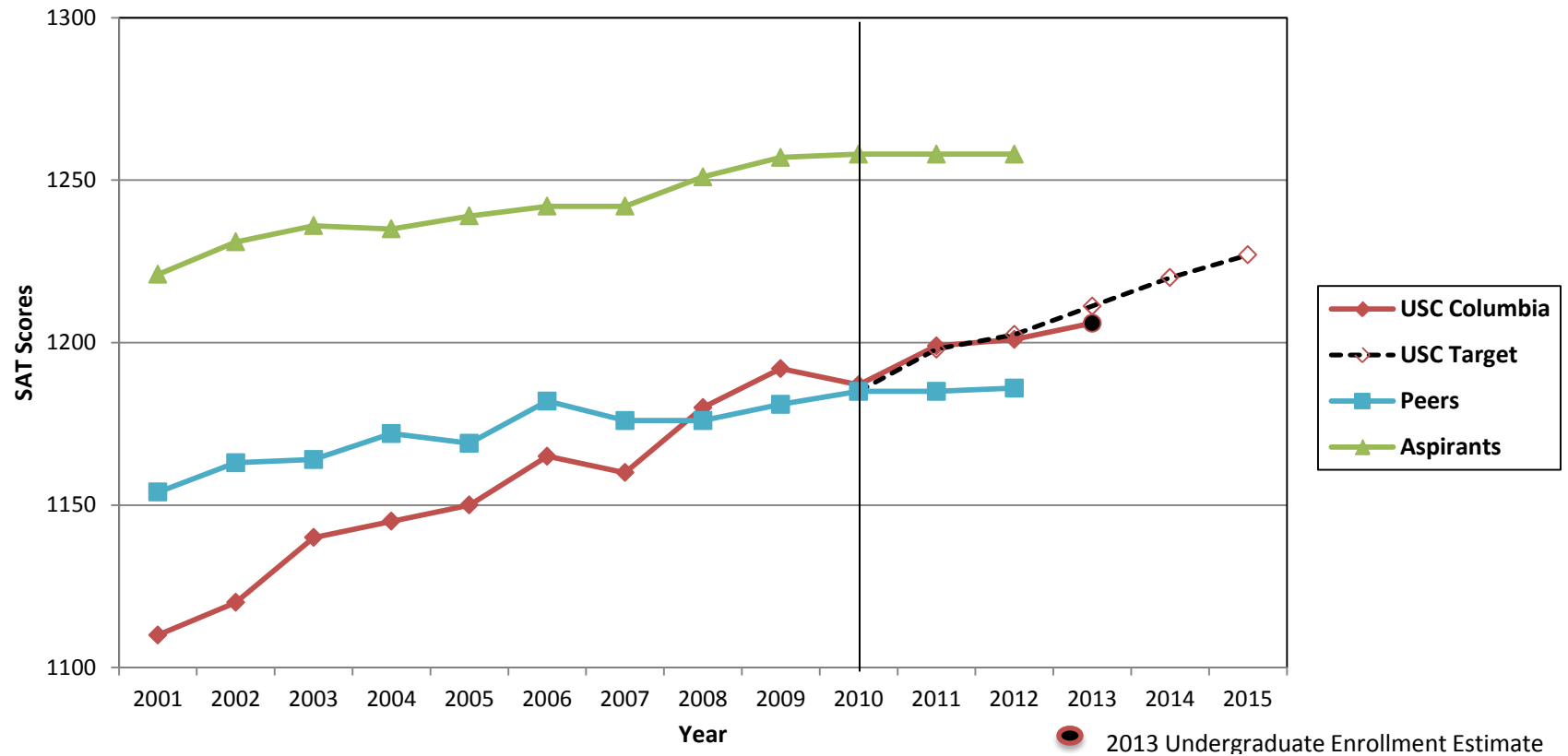
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Undergraduate Enrollment

- Freshman, Transfer, Retention Pipelines
- Bridge Programs
- Reputation of a National University
- Columbia and the regional campuses



SAT Scores



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SAT Scores

- South Carolina Honors College
- Capstone Scholars
- Strategic use of scholarships and need-based aid
- Reputation of different degree programs

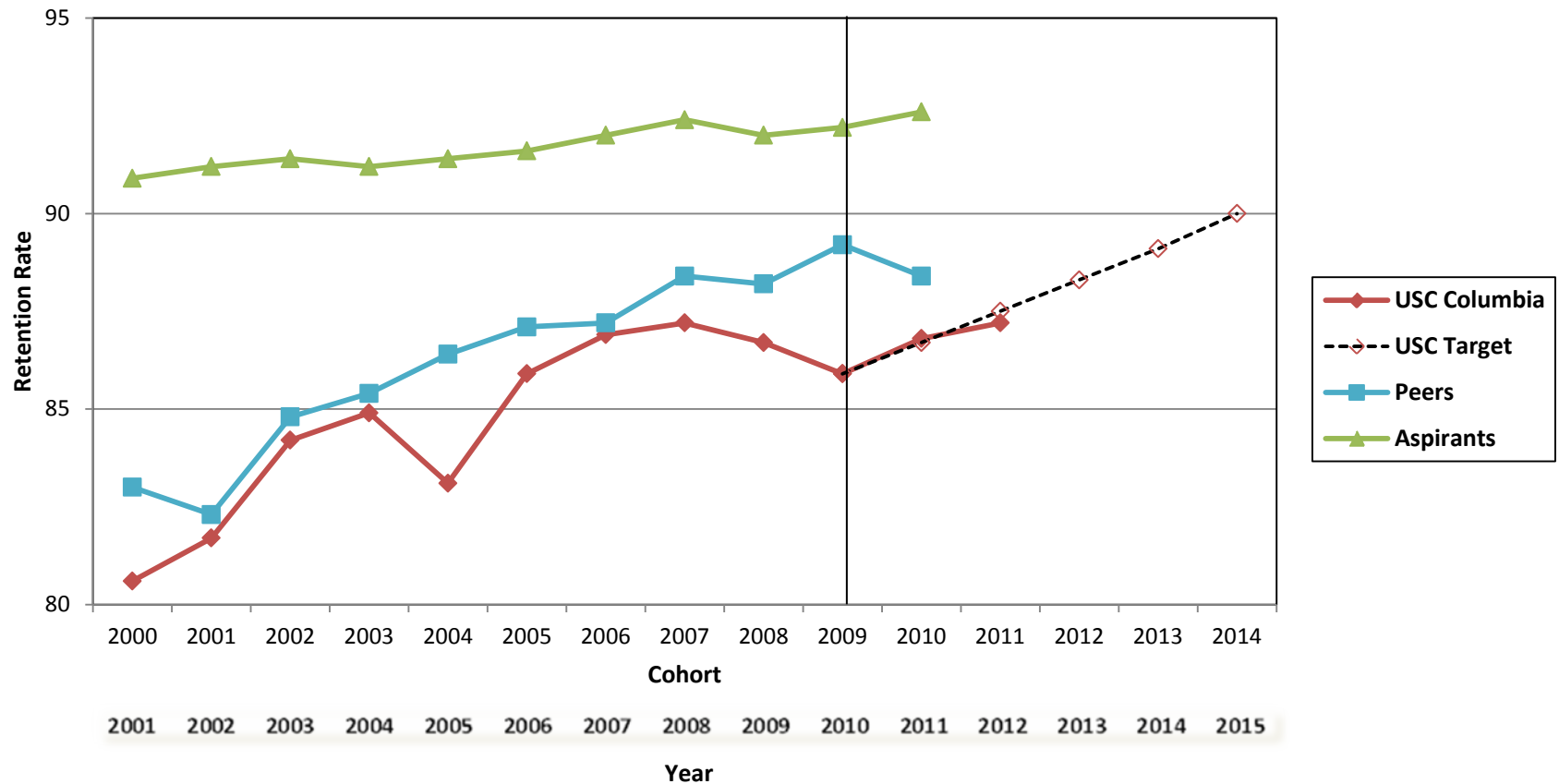


SC Honors College

- #1 ranked Public Honors Programs
 - Strength of curriculum: 440+ Honors courses/ year with average class size of 14.
- Freshman to sophomore retention rate 97.4%
 - Peers: Columbia, U Penn, and Yale at 99%; Brown, Cal Tech, Harvard, Princeton, Stanford and six other schools at 98%.
- Incoming class of 430 students
 - Largest and most accomplished in history.
 - Average SAT 1435
- Graduating “With Honors” requirements



Freshman-Sophomore Retention Rate



Freshman-Sophomore Retention Rates

- University 101
- USC Connect
- Standardized Advisement
- Cross-College Advisement



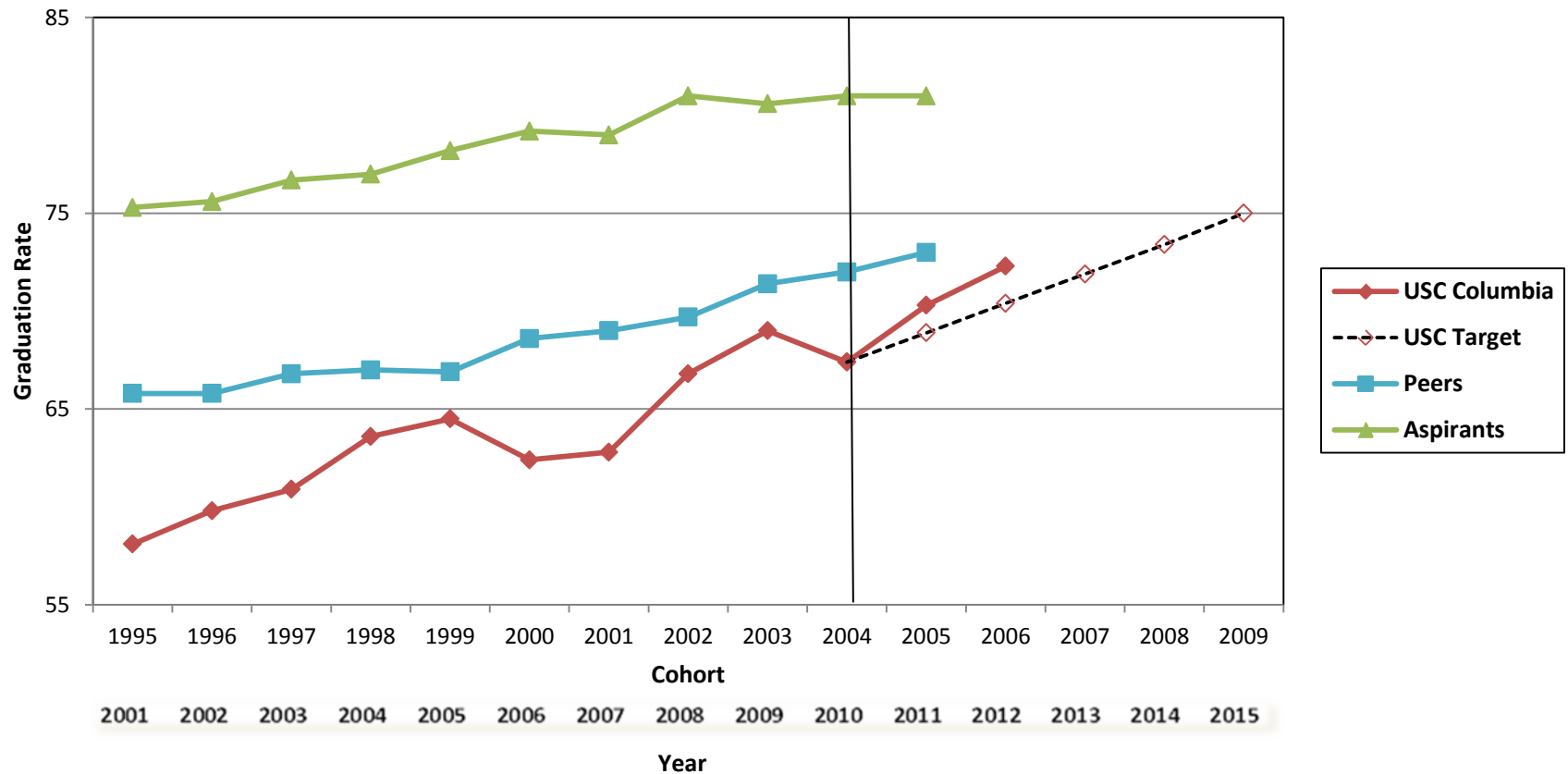
Student Advising

Focus on stronger advising systems

- Critical to student retention, progression, graduation, and placement
- Online advisor scheduling system implemented fall 2013 (SARS-Grid)
 - Defined expectations for advisors and students
 - Expand advisor discussions beyond course selection
 - Assist students with beyond-the-classroom learning opportunities
- Emphasis on cross-college collaboration
 - Improve coordination for students changing majors
 - Strengthen support for transfer students



6-year Graduation Rate

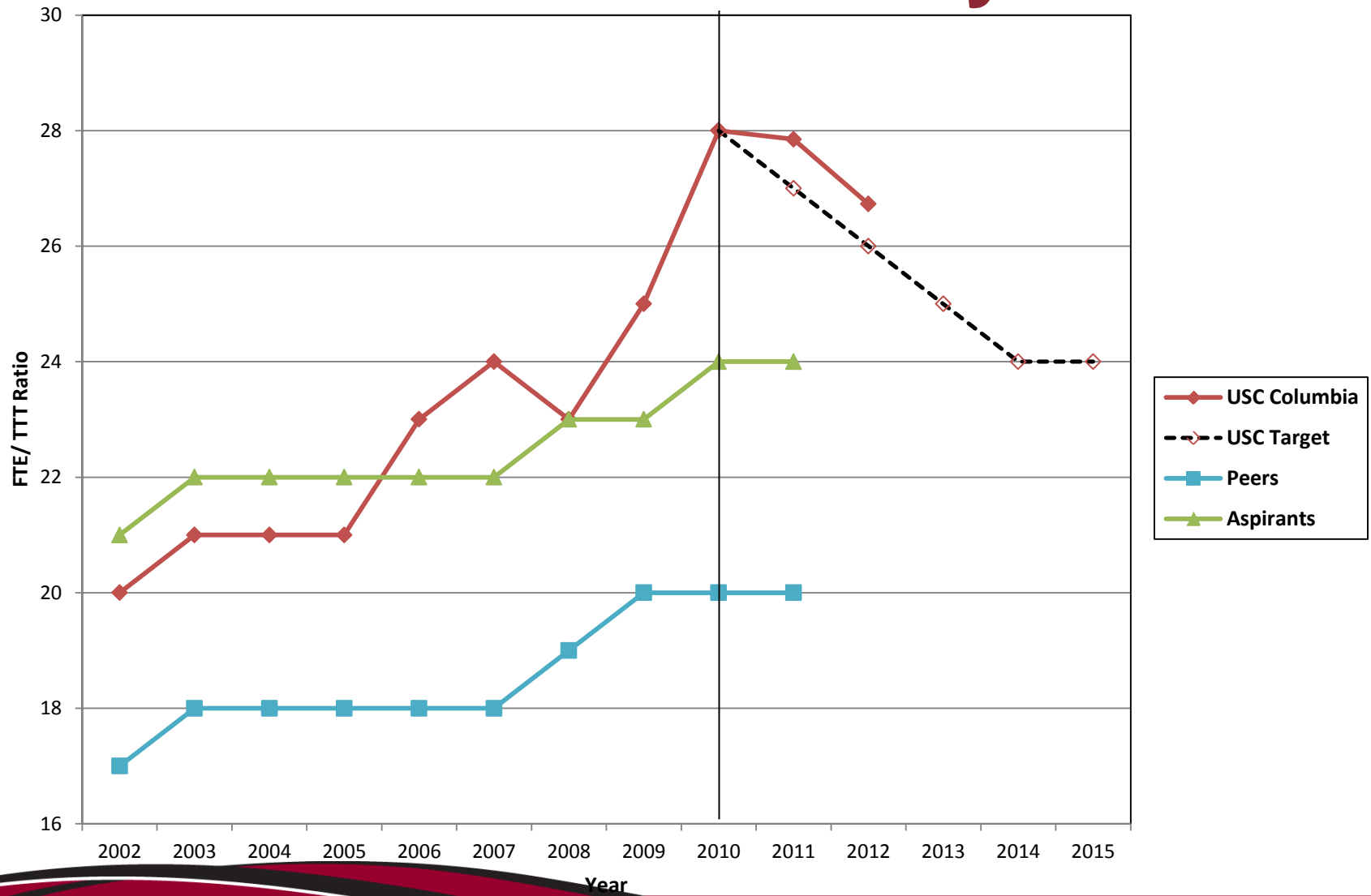


On Your Time Graduation

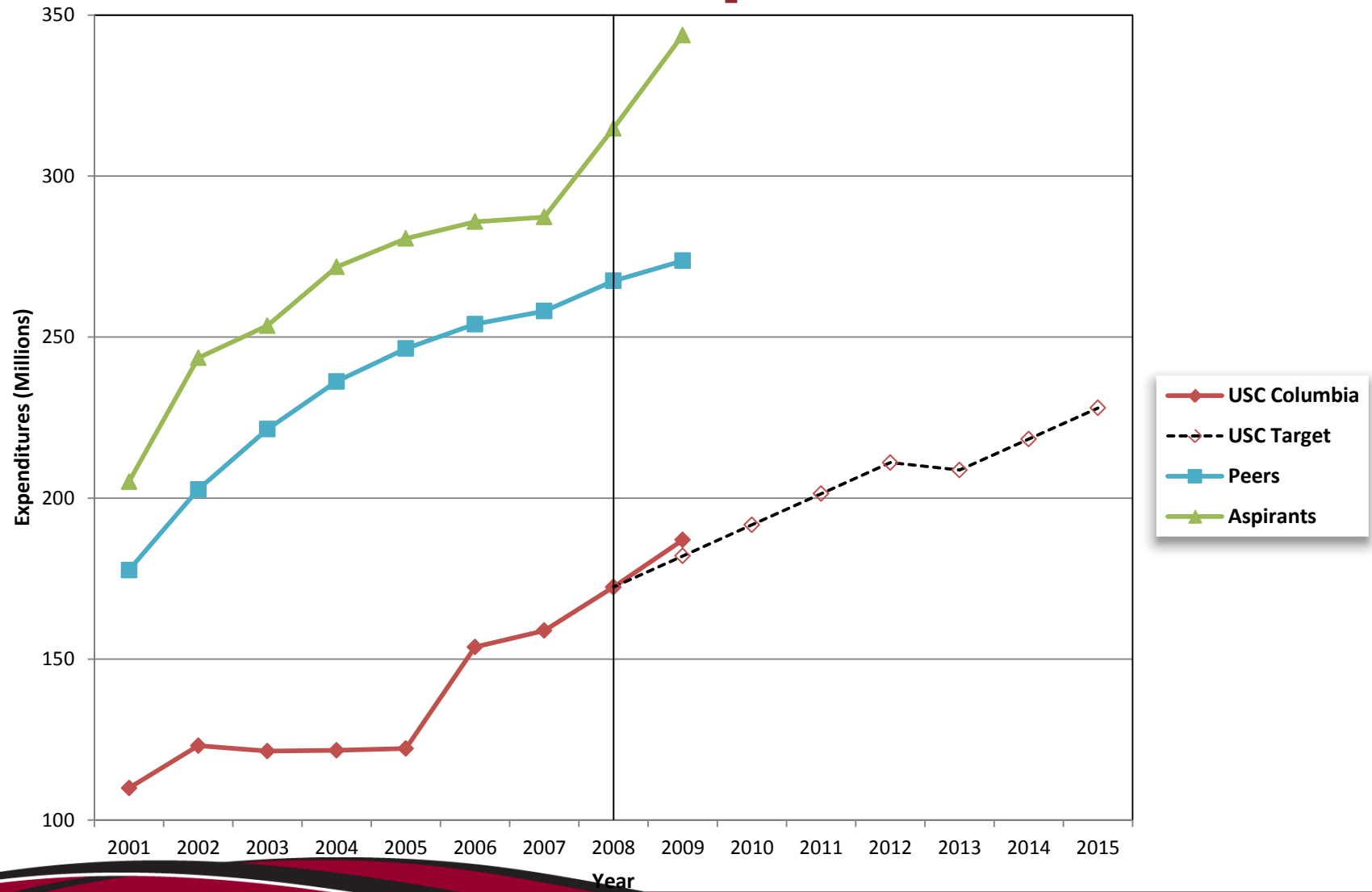
- ✓ Eight sessions over 12 weeks last summer (1-12 weeks in length)
- ✓ Summer language immersion institutes (2-year coursework in 8 weeks)
- ✓ Business institute for non-business majors
 - ✓ Marketing, Management, Accounting and Economics (12 weeks)
- ✓ High demand math and science courses (6 weeks)
- ✓ One-week labs this week (over 200 students)



Student-to-TT Faculty Ratio

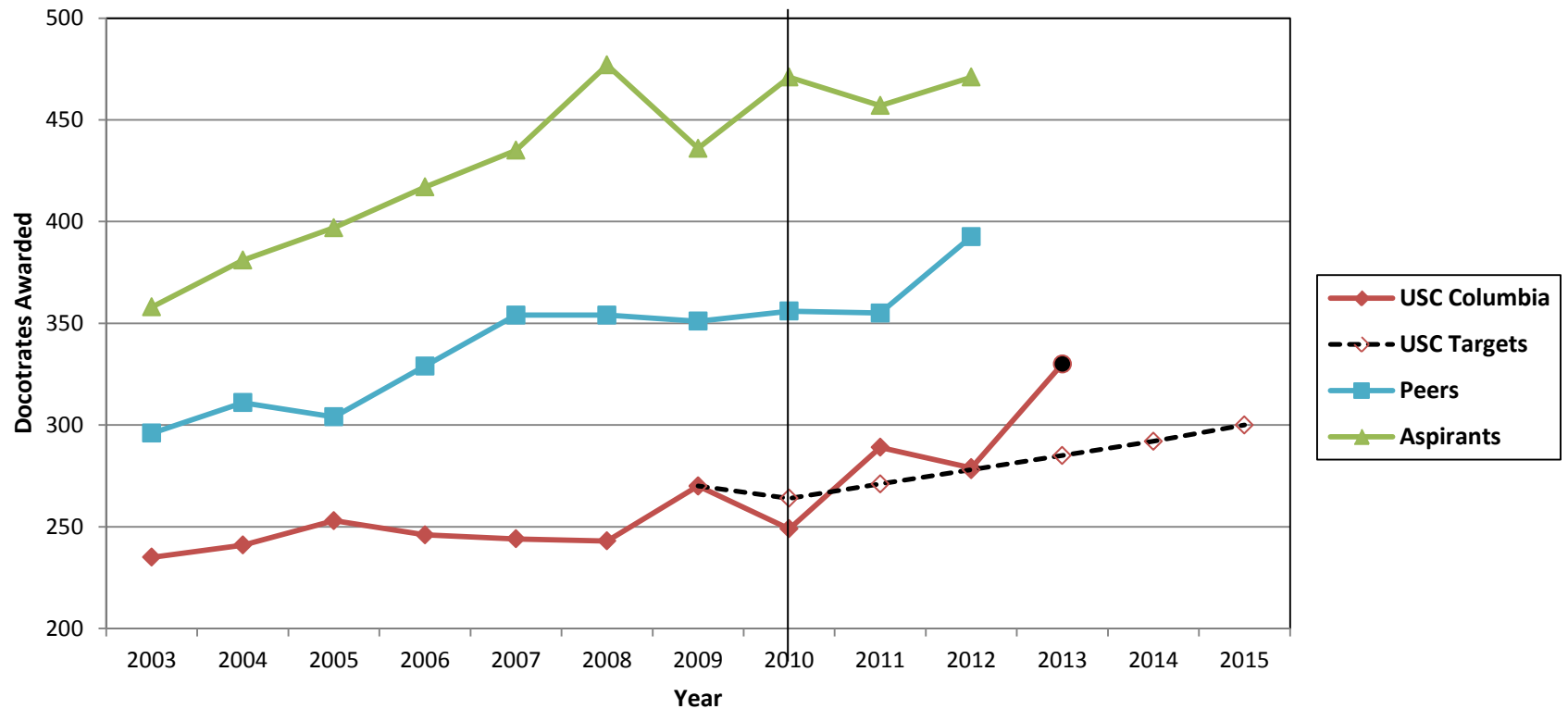


Research Expenditures



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No. 8: Doctoral Degrees

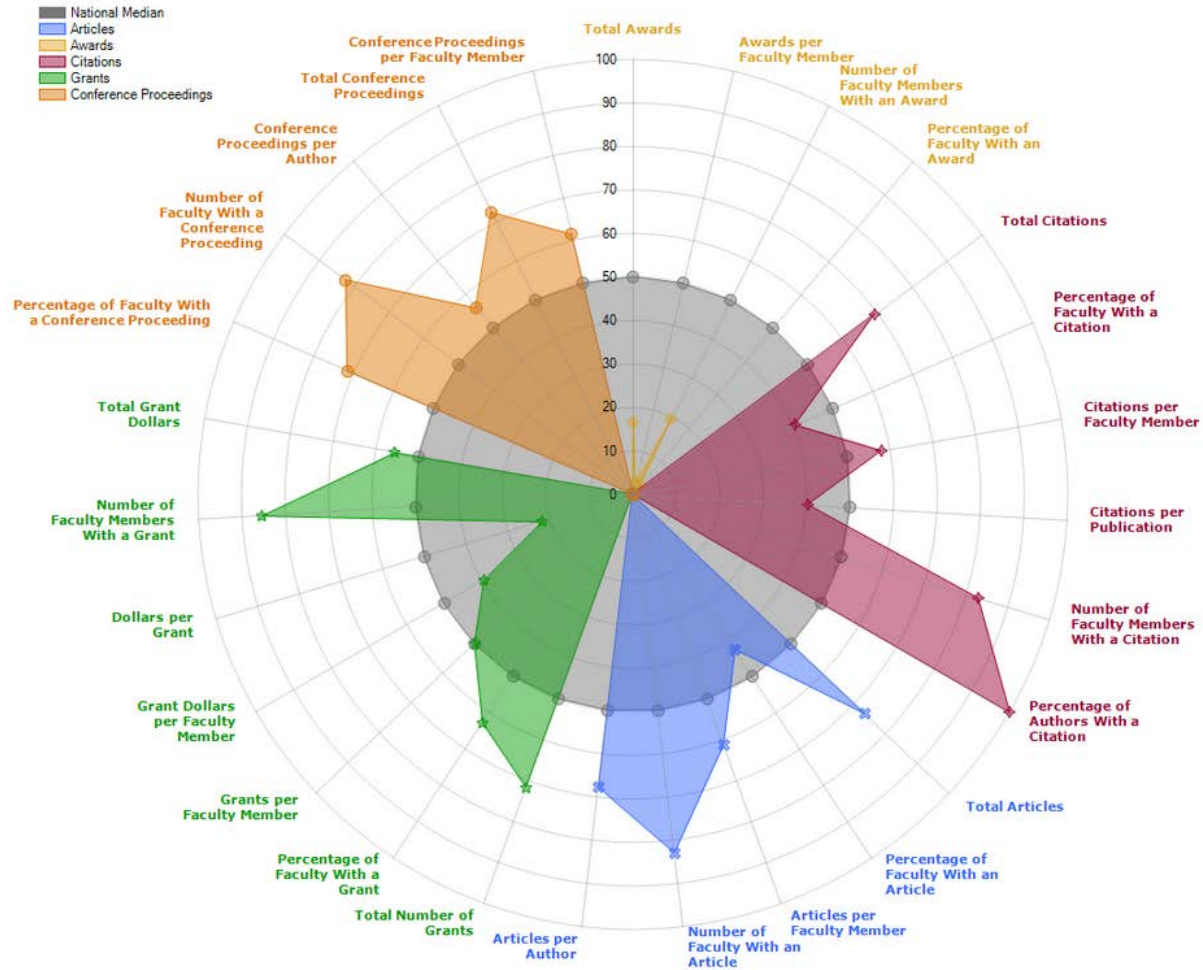


● 2013 Doctorate Degree Estimate



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Scholarly Productivity



How are other universities using the data?

Benchmarking - How do we compare to other universities at the discipline level?

Discipline peer selection – Who do we really look like?

Academic unit review – Strengths and weaknesses

Faculty review – Who are the stars? Support for review team, leadership service, retention decisions

Where is the money? – Are we getting our share of available grant funds?
Opportunities for diversification?

Strategic planning – Achieving institutional objectives

Strategic resource allocation – Investing for excellence in targeted areas—
cluster hires, team science

Custom analysis – program, dept, systems, other academic units—what would
we look like?

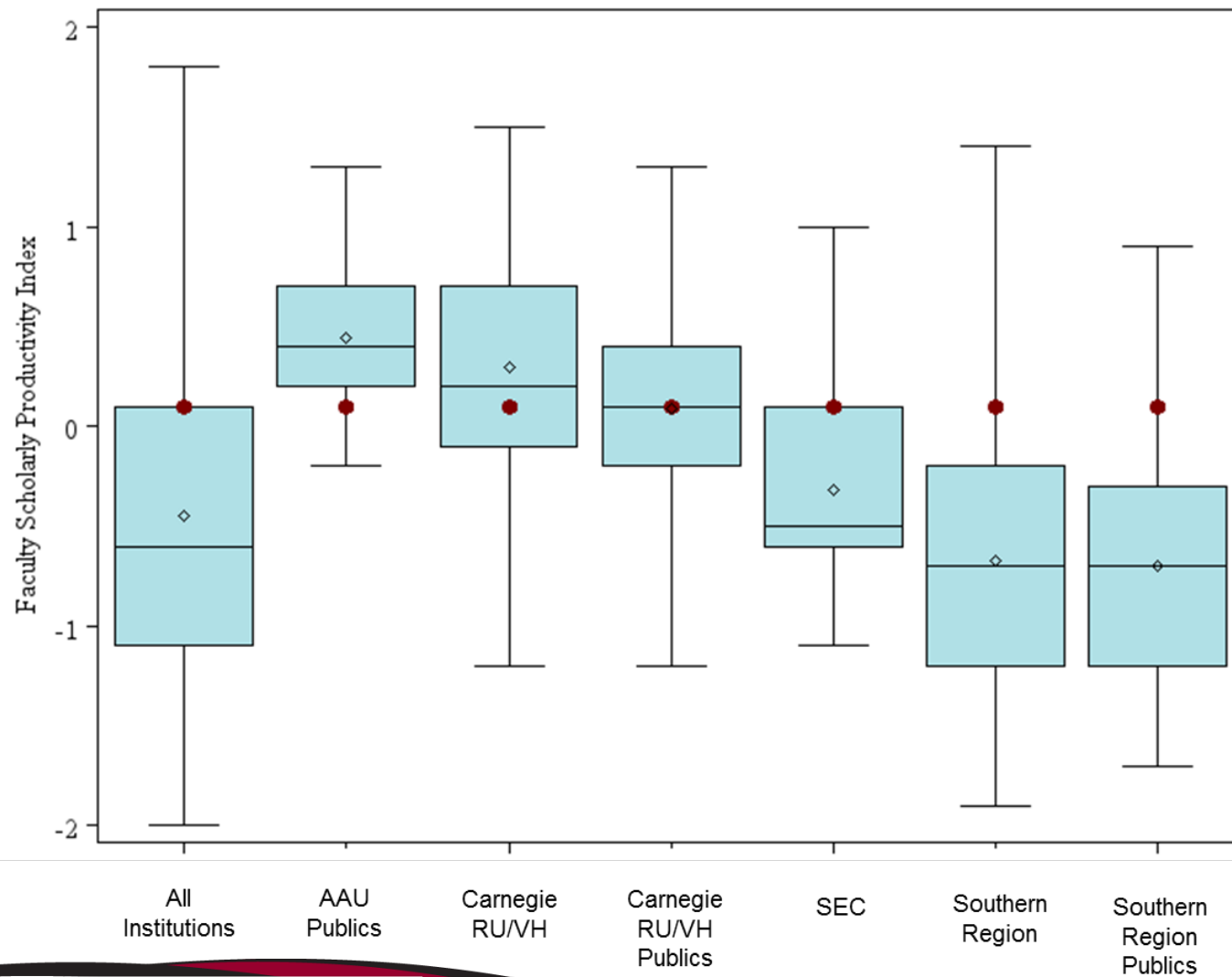


- 55th Largest institution based on number of faculty
- 46th Largest producer of scholarly books
- 61st Largest total peer reviewed journal articles
- 54th Largest in honorific awards received
- The University of South Carolina ranks 39th among public comprehensive doctoral universities in the US based on Academic Analytics' Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index (FSPI).



University of South Carolina

Institutional comparison



● University of South Carolina



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Priorities for 2014

- Faculty and research
 - Continue FRI program
 - Identify and support priorities for scholarly activities
 - Small number of Research Collaboratives
 - Fixed term operation and expectations
 - Financial support and infrastructure



Priorities for 2014

- Undergraduate Students
 - Support and expand recruiting
 - Departmental recruiting
 - Stronger faculty involvement
 - Strengthen advising and career counseling
 - Define expectations and provide technical support
 - Employability!!!



Priorities for 2014

- Teaching Innovations
 - Expand On-Your-Time Initiative
 - Bottleneck courses
 - Additional cross-college packages
 - New pools of summer students
 - Expand use of technology
 - Hybrid courses
 - Flip classrooms



Priorities for 2014

- Graduate Students
 - Doctoral education
 - Continuing support of Presidential Fellows
 - Recognition of important doctoral placements
 - Masters Students and Specialized Certificates
 - Coordinated recruiting
 - Niche markets in other countries

