

# Provost's Report

September 14, 2017



WILLIAM & MARY

CHARTERED 1693

# USNWR Rankings—Why they Matter

- Relevant Data
- Peer Comparisons
- It matters to those who matter to us



<b>USNWR Formula Categories and Weights</b>	<b>2017</b>	<b>2018</b>
<b>Undergraduate Academic Reputation</b>	<b>22.5%</b>	<b>22.5%</b>
○ Peer assessment survey	15%	15%
○ HS counselor assessment survey	7.5%	7.5%
<b>Graduation and Retention</b>	<b>22.5%</b>	<b>22.5%</b>
○ Six-year graduation rate	18%	18%
○ Freshman retention rate	4.5%	4.5%
<b>Faculty Resources</b>	<b>20%</b>	<b>20%</b>
○ Class size index		8%
○ Proportion of classes with < 20 students	6%	
○ Proportion of classes with ≥ 50 students	2%	
○ Faculty salary	7%	7%
○ Professors with terminal degree	3%	3%
○ Student-to-faculty ratio	1%	1%
○ Proportion of FT faculty	1%	1%
<b>Student Selectivity</b>	<b>12.5%</b>	<b>12.5%</b>
○ SAT/ACT scores	8.1%	8.1%
○ Freshmen in top 10% of HS class	3.1%	3.1%
○ Acceptance rate	1.3%	1.3%
<b>Financial Resources</b>	<b>10%</b>	<b>10%</b>
<b>Graduation Rate Performance</b>	<b>7.5%</b>	<b>7.5%</b>
<b>Alumni Giving Rate</b>	<b>5%</b>	<b>5%</b>

# W&M's Standing in USNWR

	2010	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018
<b>Overall Rank</b>	<b>33</b>	<b>T-31</b>	<b>T-33</b>	<b>T-33</b>	<b>T-32</b>	<b>T-33</b>	<b>T-34</b>	<b>T-32</b>	<b>T-32</b>
• Public Universities	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6	6
<b>Overall Score</b>	<b>64</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>69</b>	<b>67</b>	<b>65</b>	<b>68</b>	<b>70</b>
<b>Components of Overall Score</b>									
• Academic Reputation (5-pt. scale)	3.8	79*	79*	81*	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.7	3.8
• Graduation and Retention (rank)	18	19	19	24	25	27	28	28	28
• Faculty Resources (rank)	50	47	55	61	57	55	54	45	44
• Student Selectivity (rank)	32	30	31	32	30	25	31	32	33
• Financial Resources (rank)	88	85	97	112	114	110	113	112	111
• Graduation Rate Performance	Even	+4	+2	+2	+2	+1	Even	+1	Even
• Alumni Giving (rank)	42	35	34	33	29	29	26	20	18

# USNWR Rankings Highlights

- W&M remained tied for 32<sup>nd</sup> overall, 6<sup>th</sup> among public universities
  - Alumni Giving ranked 18<sup>th</sup> (up from 20<sup>th</sup>) among all leading national universities
  - Financial Resources ranked 111<sup>th</sup> (still the largest gap between overall quality and resources among leading universities)

# USNWR Methodology Notes

- There is a lag in the data.
  - For example, alumni giving is the two-year average of 2014-15 and 2015-16. Financial resources is the two-year average for FY15 and FY16.
- Every university's raw score is divided by the top raw score, so the top school's score equals 100.
  - Published overall score can move based on the numerator (us) or denominator (them).

# Evaluating Movement in USNWR

- Any change in overall score is subject to these questions:
  - A. Did W&M improve? **Yes.**
  - B. Did the top school improve? **Likely so.**
  - C. How much of each? **A more than B.**
- W&M's overall score improved from 68 to 70, indicating a gain relative to the top-scoring institution.

# Remarkable Stability

- Since 1996, W&M has ranked from 29<sup>th</sup> (2000) to 34<sup>th</sup> (1996, 2016), a range of five spots.
- Only five institutions have a smaller range in the USNWR rankings (2-Harvard and Stanford; 3- Princeton and Yale; 4-MIT).



# USNWR Top-50 National Universities in Rank Range, 1996-2018

