

Monday Matters: R1 status

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To: Dodge, Gail <gdodge@odu.edu>

Cc: Harvey, Rodger <rharvey@odu.edu>; Whitfield, Tiffany L. <tlwhitfi@odu.edu>

Dear Colleagues:

The announcement that ODU was awarded R1 status in the [Carnegie Classification](#) was tremendously positive for all of us. The classifications are recalculated every three years. Believe it or not, this is the year during which data will be relevant for the next classification. For example, the number of Ph.D.s awarded between July 1, 2022 and June 30, 2023 will be critical for maintaining our status as an R1 institution. I learned recently that there are more than three conferral dates during the year. For example, we have conferral dates on Jan 10, March 2, May 7, May 29, and June 27 in 2023.

John Nunnery from the Office of Research has spent a lot of time trying to understand what matters in determining the R1 status. Please see the attached presentation that he gave to the ODU Board of Visitors a couple weeks ago. For years we were at the high end of the R2 institutions. What pushed us over the edge and how can we maximize our resources to maintain R1 status? According to John there are 10 variables that matter:

1. Science and Engineering R&D
2. Non-Science and Engineering R&D
3. Number of Postdocs and Non-faculty researchers
4. Humanities doctorates
5. Social Science doctorates (includes non-clinical Psychology PhDs)
6. STEM doctorates
7. Other doctorates
8. Per-capita S&E R&D
9. Per-capita non-S&E R&D
10. Per-capita postdocs and NFRs

Note that #1 – 3 count twice because they count separately on a per-capita basis. These different criteria have different weightings. In addition, what matters is not the value of, for example, our science and engineering R&D, but rather our rank among other schools in this variable. The bottom line is that it is complicated. However, we can conclude that the number of PhDs awarded, the number of postdocs and non-faculty researchers, and research expenditure are all critical factors. I believe that we are doing a better job accurately counting non-faculty researchers and postdocs, which was a key factor in our recent success.

John has pointed out that the average R1 school has 2.4 times as many faculty as ODU has. Also, two-thirds of all R1 schools have medical schools.

Have a great week,
Gail

Upcoming Events:

- Science Fridays: 4 pm in PSB 1100
 - Oct. 14: Jiangwen Sun (CS) & Erin Purcell (Chem & Biochem)
 - Nov. 11: Sandipan Dutta (Math & Stat) & Jeff Olenick (Psych)
- [Mars Fest](#): Oct. 14 – 16, 6 – 10 pm

Gail Dodge
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