

New England Board of Higher Education
Legislative Advisory Committee

**DOING THE MOST WITH THE LEAST:
HOW STATE POLICYMAKERS CAN
SUPPORT WELLBEING, BELONGING
AND SUCCESS AT COMMUNITY
COLLEGES FOR AN EQUITABLE
PANDEMIC RECOVERY**

March 14, 2022

AGENDA



INTRODUCTION



LAC UPDATES FOR SPRING 2022



PANEL PRESENTATION



OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A



LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATES



ADJOURN





INTRODUCTION AND NEBHE UPDATES

SEN. DAVID WATTERS, LAC CO-CHAIR

MICHAEL K. THOMAS, PRESIDENT, NEBHE

TODAY'S PANELISTS

Sara Goldrick-Rab | Founder, The HOPE Center for College, Community and Justice; Professor of Sociology at Templeton University; Award-Winning Author

Linda Garcia | Executive Director, Center for Community College Student Engagement

Pam Eddinger | President, Bunker Hill Community College

Alfred Williams | President, River Valley Community College

Audrey Ellis | Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Northern Essex Community College

Eudania Aquino | Student Ambassador, Northern Essex Community College



KEY DATA POINTS AND TRENDS

RACHAEL CONWAY, POLICY AND RESEARCH CONSULTANT, NEBHE

SENATOR DAVID WATTERS, NEW HAMPSHIRE, CO-CHAIR OF THE LEGISLATIVE ADVISORY COMMITTEE (MODERATOR)



**ENROLLMENT
DECLINES**



**INSUFFICIENT
AID**



**BASIC NEEDS
INSECURITY**



MENTAL HEALTH



TECHNOLOGY



ALL MEETING MATERIALS ARE AT: [NEBHE.ORG/LAC-MATERIALS](https://nebhe.org/lac-materials)



NATIONAL PERSPECTIVES



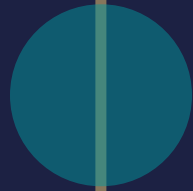
SARA GOLDRICK-RAB

Founder and President, The HOPE Center for College, Community, and Justice, Professor of Sociology & Medicine at Temple University, Chief Strategy Officer for Emergency Aid at Edquity, Founder of Believe in Students, and Award-Winning Author



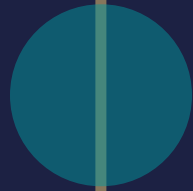
LINDA GARCIA

Executive Director, The Center for Community College Student Engagement at the University of Texas at Austin



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REGIONAL PERSPECTIVES

PAM EDDINGER

President, Bunker Hill Community College (Boston, MA) and
Chair, U.S. Advisory Committee on Apprenticeship

ALFRED WILLIAMS

President, River Valley Community College (New Hampshire)

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ON-THE-GROUND PERSPECTIVES



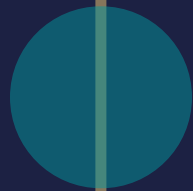
AUDREY ELLIS

Director of Institutional Effectiveness, Northern Essex
Community College (Boston, MA)



EUDANIA AQUINO

Student Ambassador, Northern Essex Community College;
Human Services major



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OPEN DISCUSSION/Q&A

MODERATOR: SEN. DAVID WATTERS

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BREAK (15 MINUTES)

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LEGISLATIVE SESSION UPDATES



MODERATOR: RACHAEL CONWAY, POLICY AND RESEARCH CONSULTANT, NEBHE



1. CONNECTICUT
2. MAINE
3. MASSACHUSETTS
4. NEW HAMPSHIRE
5. RHODE ISLAND
6. VERMONT



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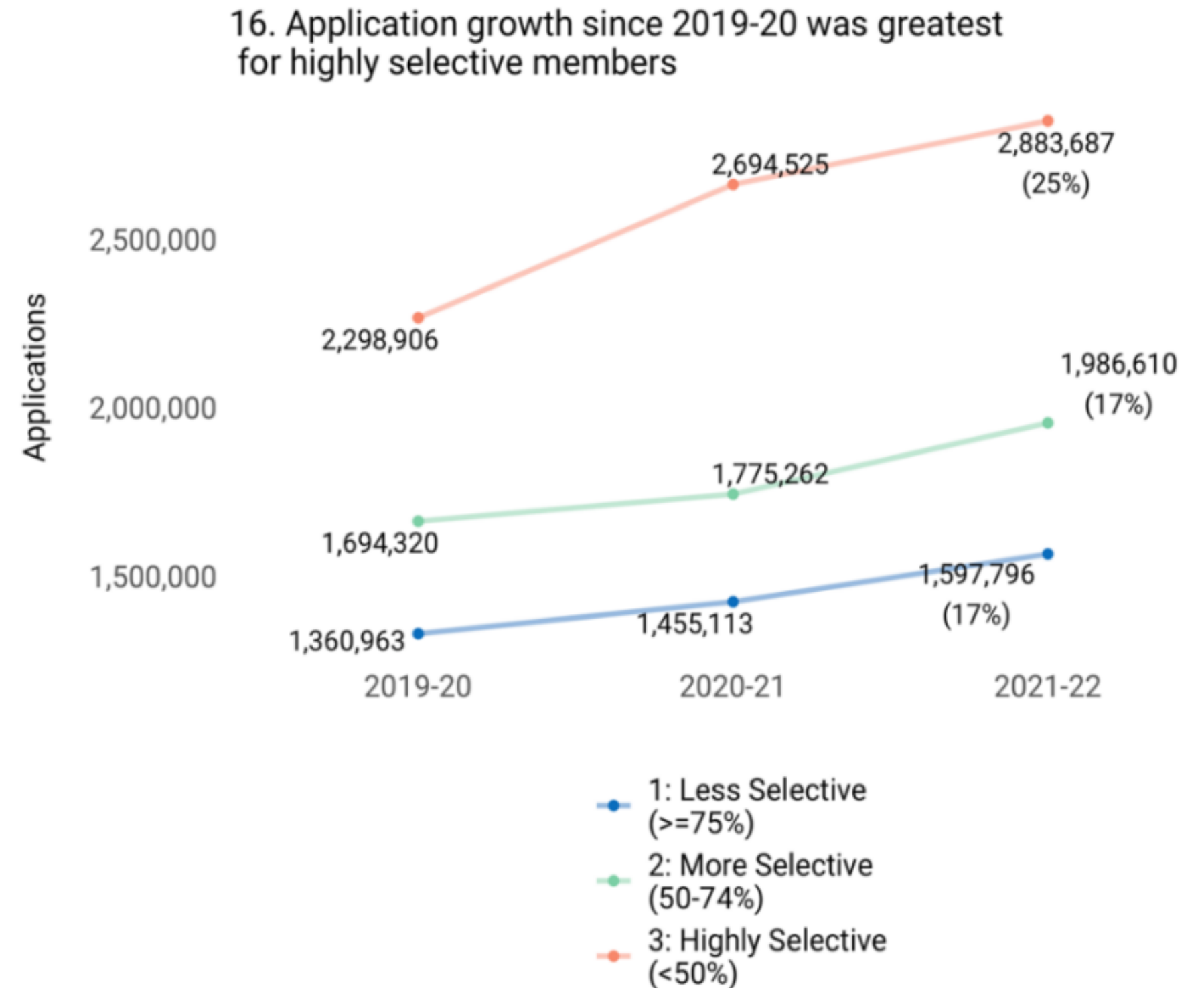
QUESTIONS FOR DISCUSSION

- What are some of the top legislative priorities for your state when it comes to higher education and workforce development?
- Every New England Governor has now delivered their State of the State Address. How do your Governor's priorities align with your legislative agenda around higher education/workforce issues?
- This is an unusual year, in part because many states have additional federal coronavirus emergency resources to spend. How do you see this fact impacting your work and/or legislative priorities in 2022 in the areas of higher education and workforce development?

NATIONAL TRENDS IN COLLEGE APPLICATIONS

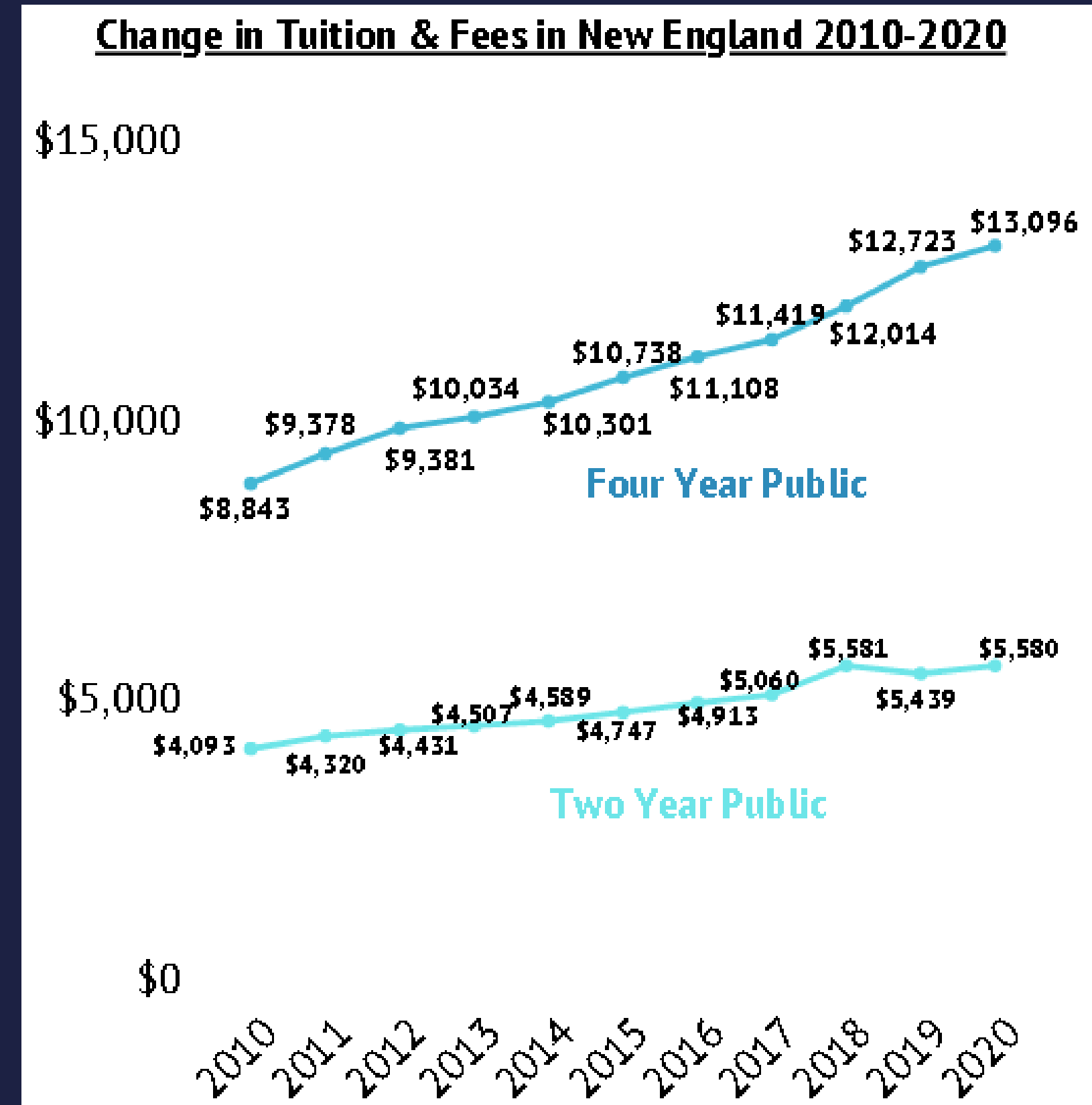
- Less selective institutions like community colleges are not seeing the same increase in application volume that moderately or highly selective institutions are seeing.
- Fewer first-year applications leads to shrinking revenue streams for these institutions.

Figure 16. Application volume by selectivity since 2019–20



REGIONAL TRENDS IN TUITION & FEES

- Average annual price of in-state tuition and fees in New England, before financial aid:
 - \$5,365 at public two-year institutions
 - \$13,096 at public four-year institutions
- Average in-state tuition and fees have increased by 2.7% at both public two and four-year institutions since 2019-2020
- Since 2010-11, average in-state tuition and fees at public two- and four-year colleges in New England have increased by 36% and 48% respectively
 - Median household income in the region has increased by only 19% over the past 10 years.



READ THE FULL TUITION AND FEES REPORT AT NEBHE.ORG

REGIONAL TRENDS: COLLEGE MERGERS

- **CONNECTICUT:** Merger of Connecticut's 12 community colleges approved by the *New England Commission of Higher Education (NECHE)*
 - Under the plan the state's individual community colleges will become Connecticut State Community College
- **NEW HAMPSHIRE:** Senate lawmakers poised to move ahead with a plan to merge Granite State College in Concord with the University of New Hampshire (H.B. 1218)
- **VERMONT:** A 2021 proposal will unify the state's three residential colleges, Castleton University, Northern Vermont University, and Vermont Technical College, under a common accreditation in Academic Year 2023-2024
 - The combined institution will be named Vermont State University. The new president is expected to be named April 15, 2022.
- **MASSACHUSETTS:** A possible candidate?
 - Enrollment at Massachusetts community colleges has dropped 32.61 percent over the past decade
 - Declines range from 56.2 percent at Roxbury CC to 23.27 percent at Bunker Hill CC
 - This change was expected based on population and demographic shifts, but the pandemic impact may have specifically impacted low-income students and students of color.

OTHER NEBHE UPDATES

A NEW REPORT ABOUT PROMISE PROGRAMS (FREE COLLEGE POLICIES) IN NEW ENGLAND

- Visit nebhe.org --> Policy & Research --> Reports and Analysis

ESTABLISHING A COMMISSION ON THE EFFECTIVENESS OF HIGHER EDUCATION BEHIND BARS

- We are seeking legislative participants from all six states who have a keen interest in prison higher education. If you are interested or know of someone who might be feel free to contact: Sheridan Miller smiller@nebhe.org

NORTH STAR COLLECTIVE

OPEN EDUCATION RETREAT





MEETING ADJOURNED



STAY TUNED FOR INFORMATION ABOUT THE
FALL 2022 MEETING



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