



Program Evaluation System





Poll

What is the biggest financial challenge in managing academic programs?

- a. Shrinking budgets and rising costs
- b. Difficulty in quantifying return on investment for initiatives
- c. High costs associated with certain programs/courses
- d. Educating stakeholders on the financial impact of program closures



Panel Discussion

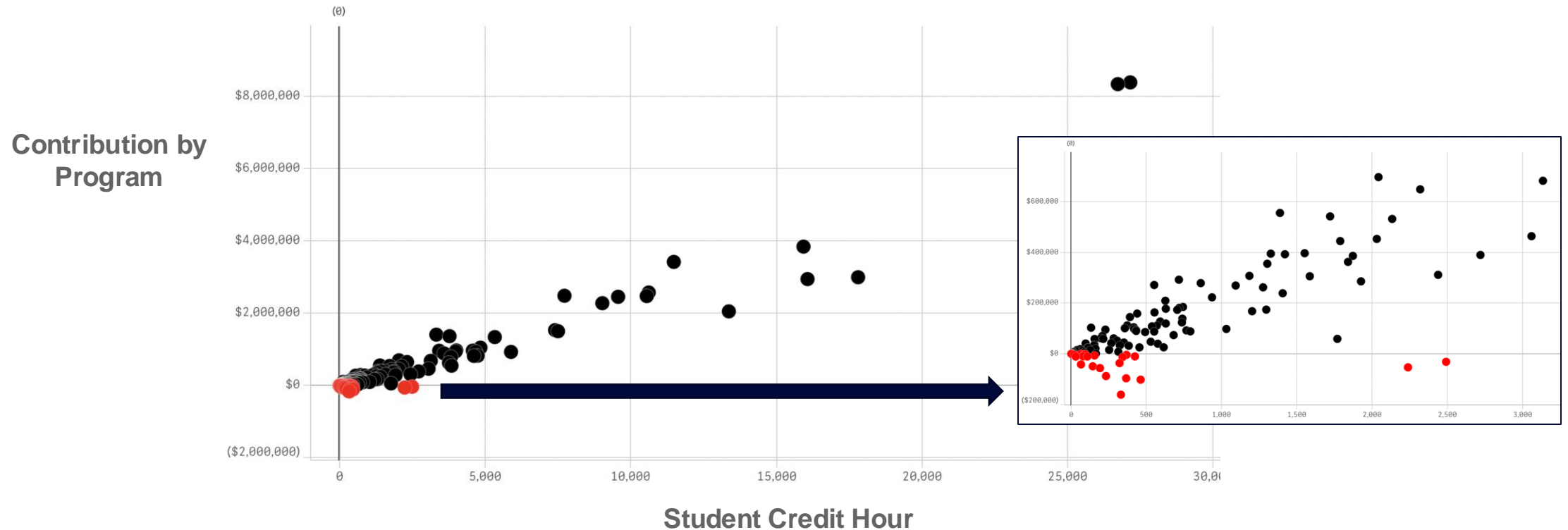


What are the financial challenges associated with managing academic programs?

Program Economics

Most programs make money; even small ones.

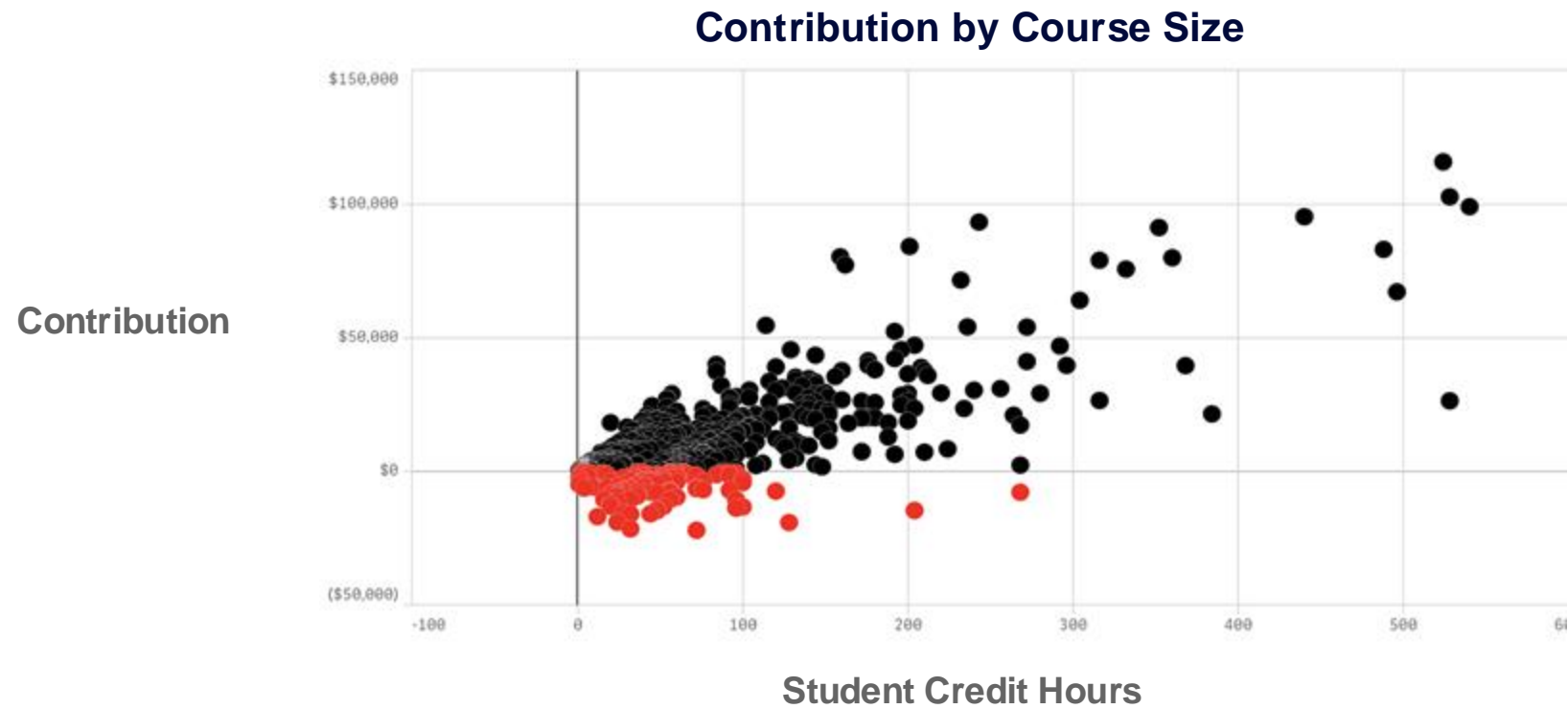
Contribution by Student Credit Hour



Source: Gray DI's PES Economics and Outcomes



Courses Cost Money





Panel Discussion



How can I best educate our Board of Trustees members about how program closures may not be an ideal budget fix?



Poll

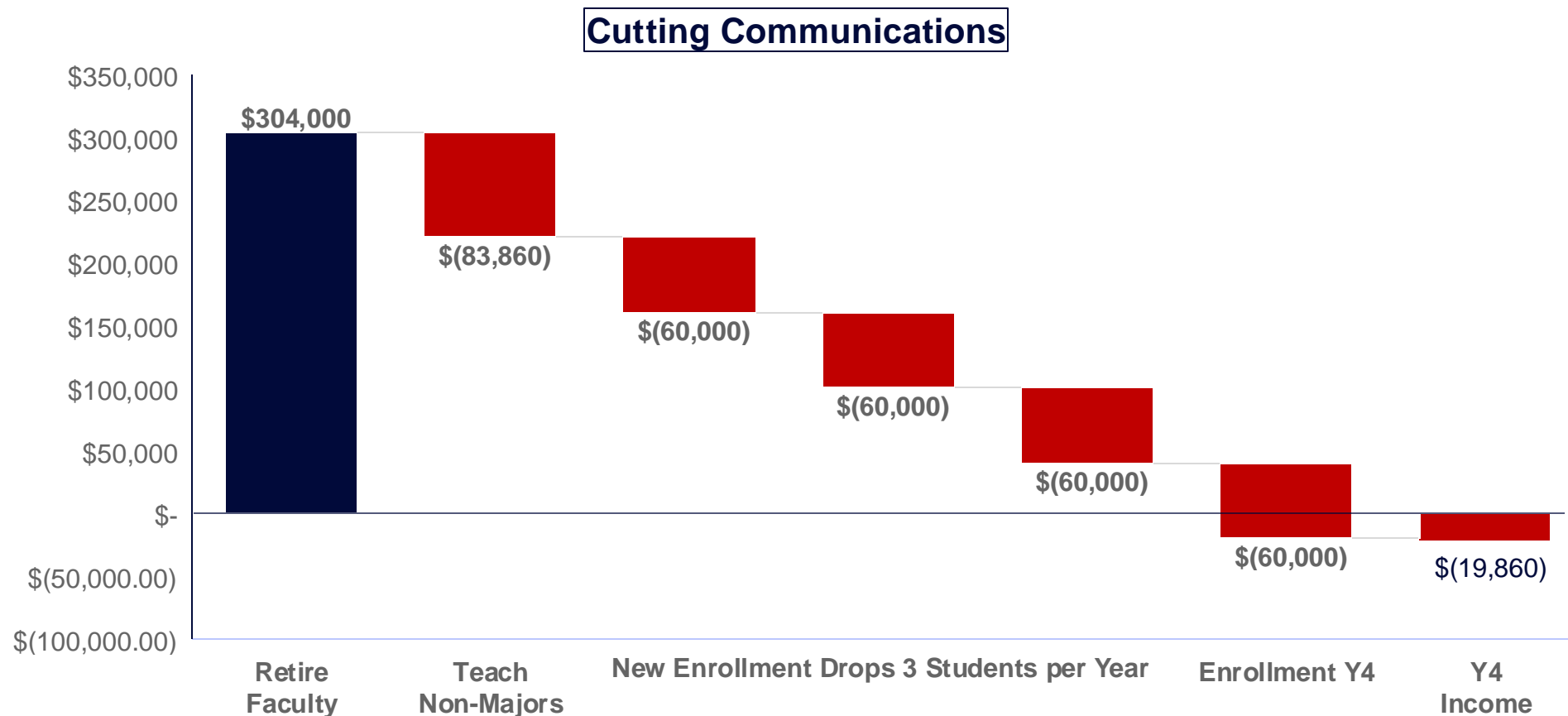
Which strategy do you think is most effective to achieve fiscal fitness for your institution?

- a. Identifying and reducing under-enrolled classes
- b. Optimizing faculty workload and release time
- c. Growing and starting new programs
- d. Using internal and external data for better decision-making



What happens when you cut a program?

Example: Cut program with six new enrolls, 22 total enrolls, 2.9 faculty, and \$104,000 margin.





Panel Discussion



How do you address shrinking budgets and rising costs to achieve curricular efficiency, and what role does revenue play in this process?



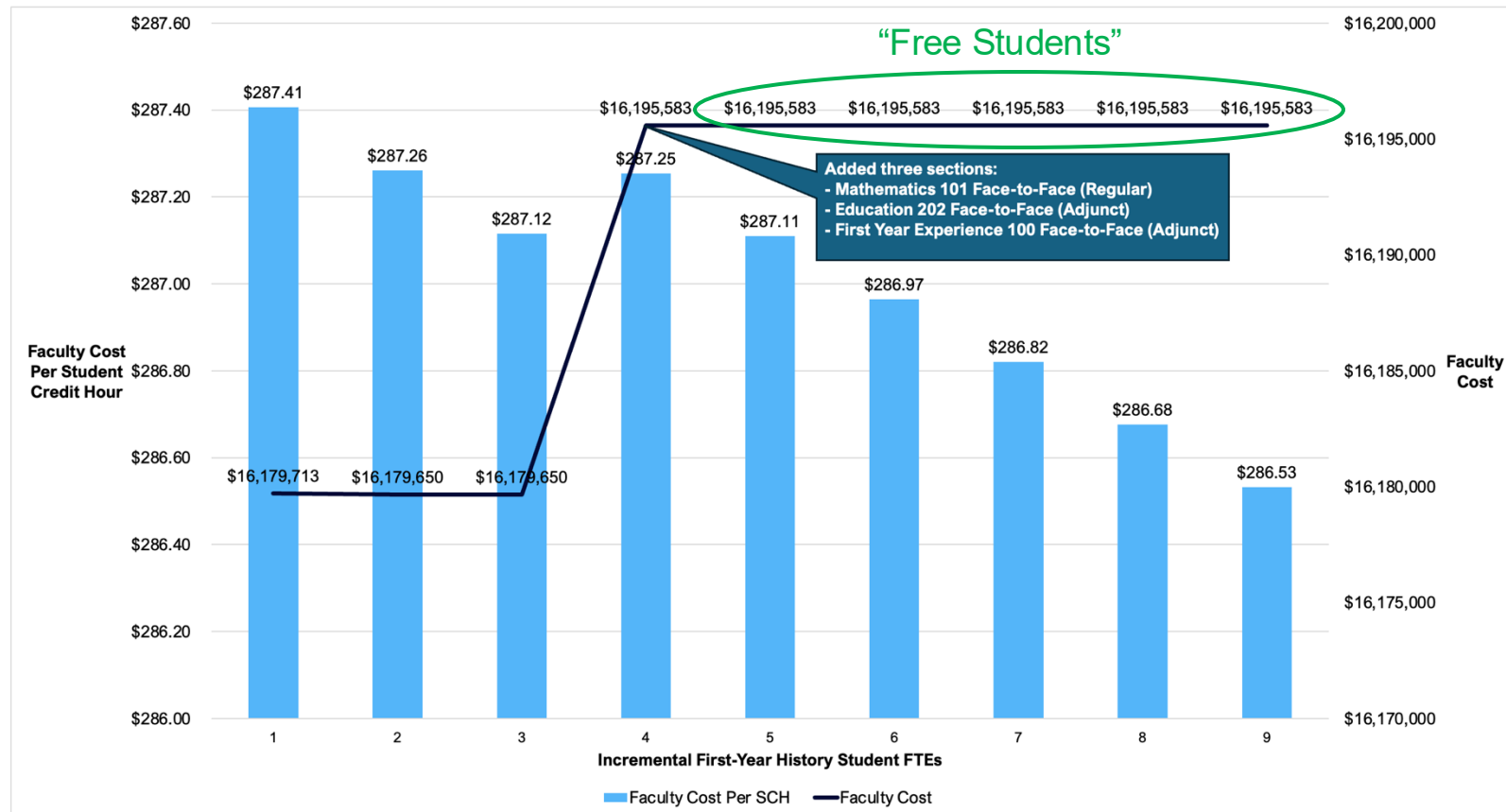
Panel Discussion



Which budgetary model best supports initiatives with a difficult-to-quantify return on investment for the institution?



How much will it cost to add a History program?



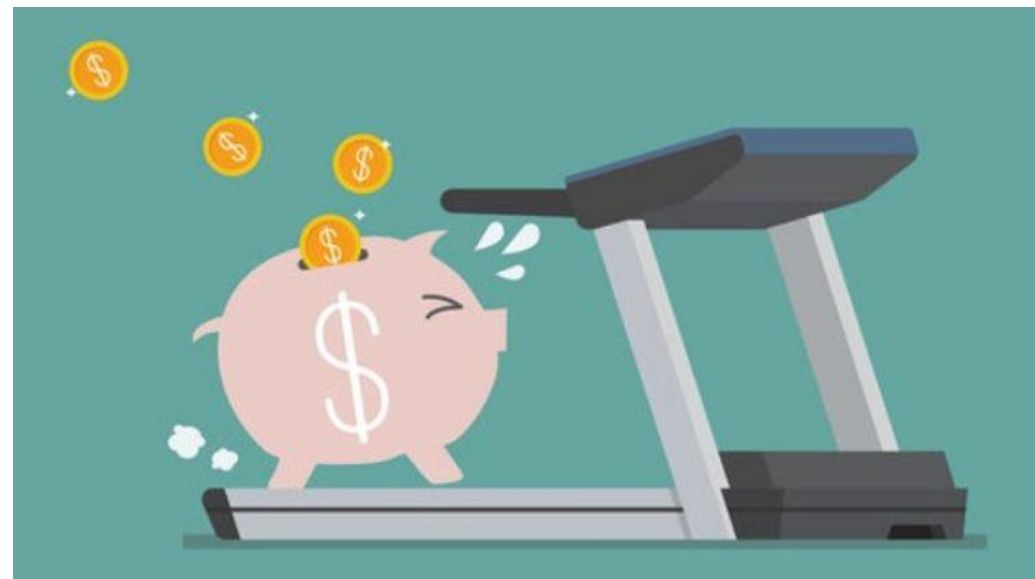


What is Fiscal Fitness?

It ensures that an institution can fund its mission, survive crises, and serve its constituencies.

How do I get fiscally fit?

- Identify excess capacity
- Optimize your internal data
- Grow and start new programs
- Achieve efficiency by focusing on course optimization and faculty workload
- Instead of cutting programs, identify and reduce under-enrolled classes
- Focus on high DFW rates in specific courses
- Re-evaluate faculty release and unallocated time
- Use tools that allow you to see across both internal and external data to make the best decision for your institution

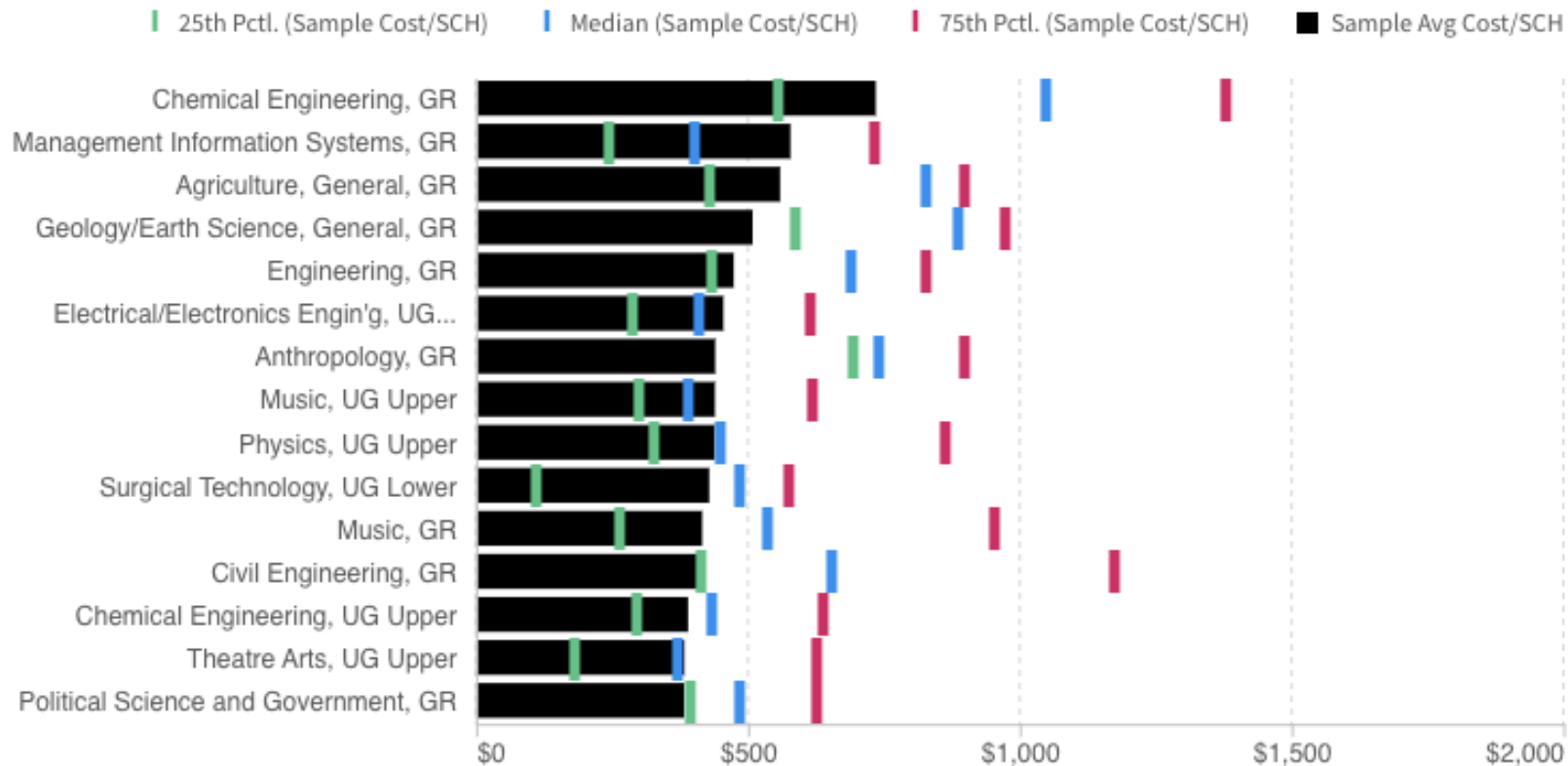




Fast Facts: Highest Cost per SCH Courses

The highest-cost area is graduate Chemical Engineering.

Sample Average: Course Subject and Level

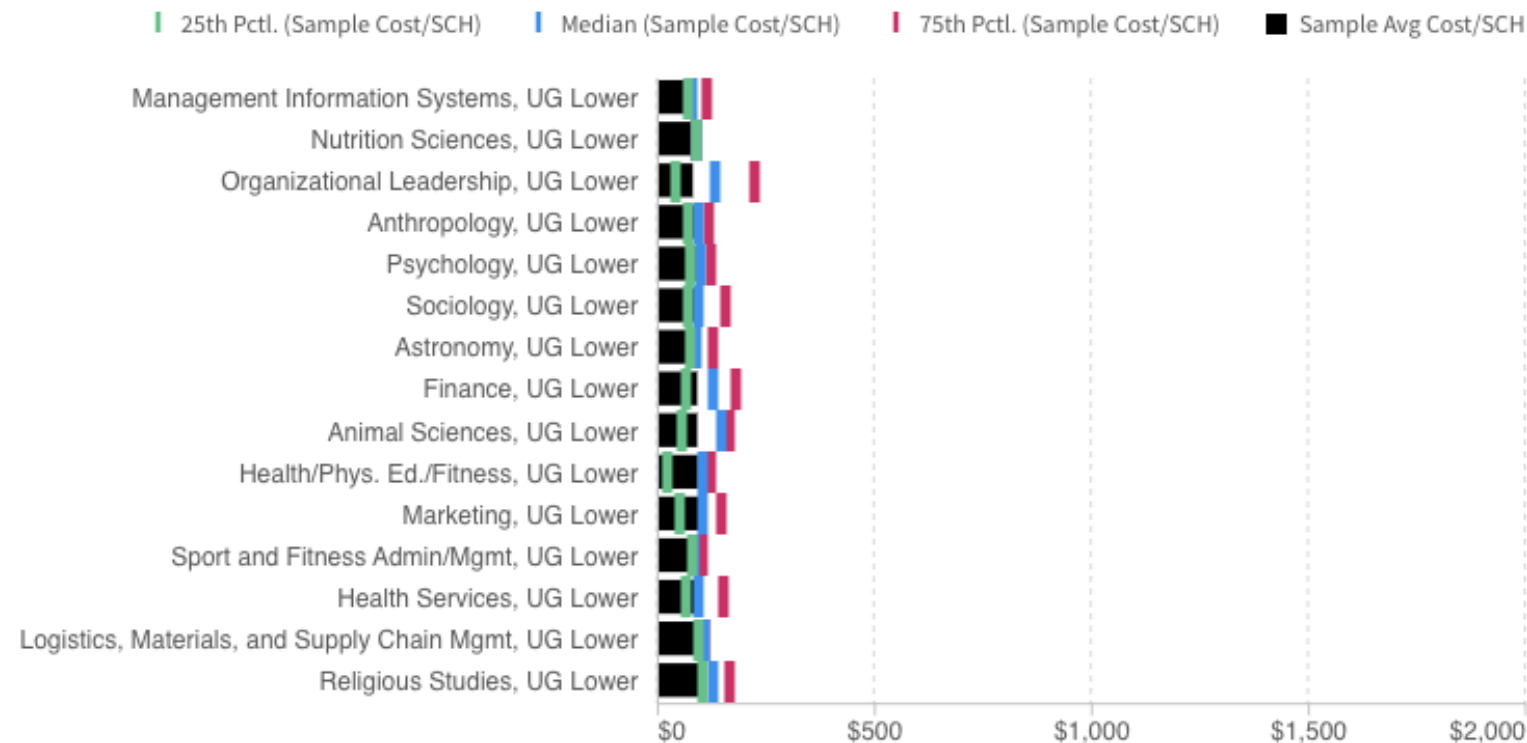




Fast Facts: Lowest Cost per SCH Courses

The lowest-cost area is lower-level undergraduate Management Information Systems.

Sample Average: Course Subject and Level

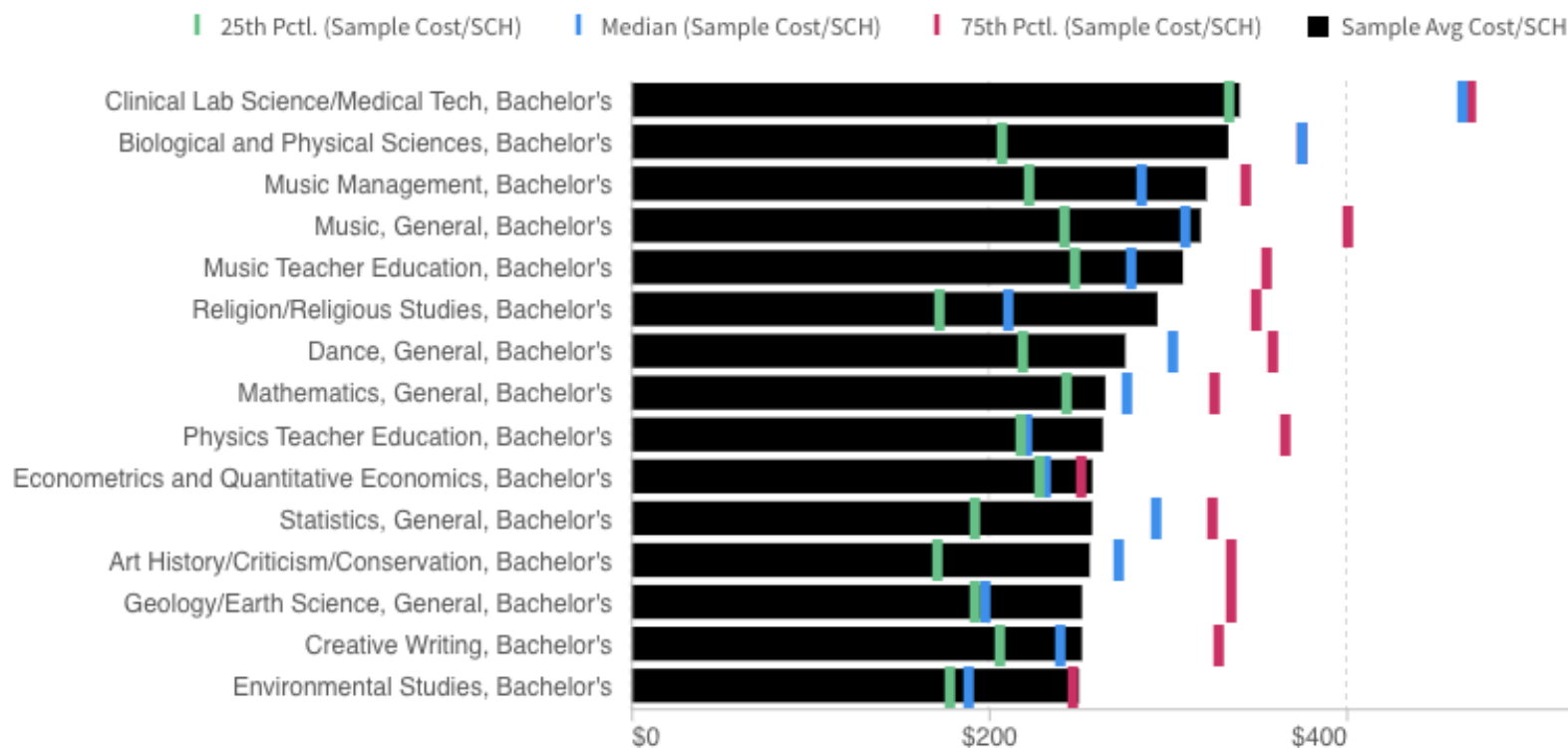




Fast Facts: Highest Cost per SCH Programs

The highest-cost bachelor's program is Clinical Lab Science.

Sample Average: Program and Award Level

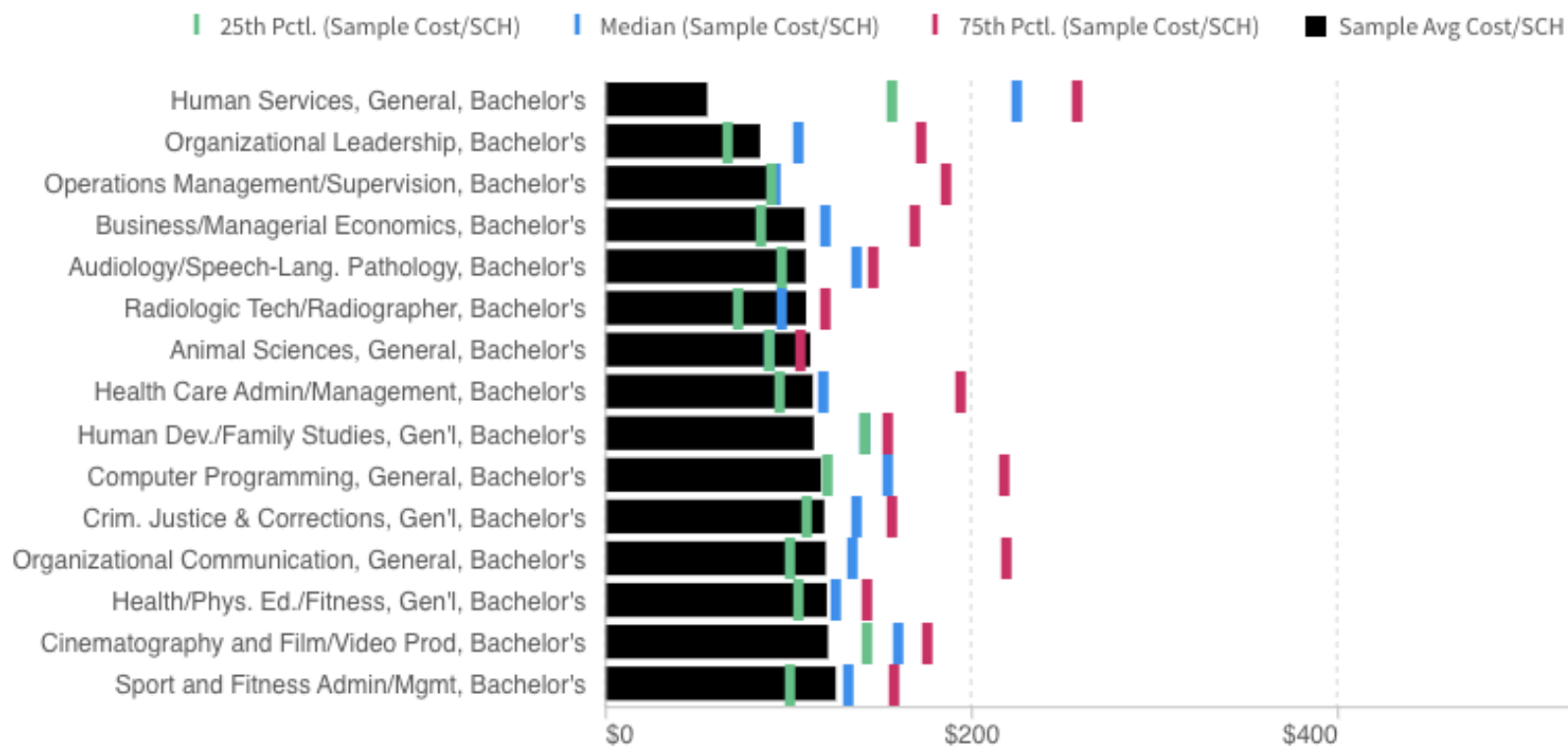




Fast Facts: Lowest Cost per SCH Programs

The lowest-cost bachelor's program is Human Services.

Sample Average: Program and Award Level





Don't forget about growth!



Gray Decision Intelligence Resources

Coming in March – Master Class Series

Date	Topic
Tues., March 4	Foundations of Academic Program Evaluation
Tues., March 11	Fiscal Fitness to Fund Growth
Tues., March 18	Market Demand: The Key to Program Growth and Relevance
Tues., March 25	Managing and Sustaining Program Evaluation
Tues., April 1	Embracing Innovation: The Future of Program Evaluation

Register here:

<https://www.graydi.us/2025-master-class-series>

Coming in February – Monthly Webinars

Featuring Quinn Koller

Director of Institutional Effectiveness,
Accreditation, and Academic Assessment at
Utah Valley University

Topic	Date
Demand Trends Webcast: Community Colleges	Wednesday Feb 26 at 2 PM ET
Demand Trends Webcast: Bachelor's and Above	Thursday Feb 27 at 2 PM ET