

## **Challenges of Higher Education in North America & A Path for Survival for Colleges/Universities**

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### **Abstract**

Universities and colleges are facing grave challenges in multiple different fronts – declining enrollment and impending demographic “cliff” with further reduction in the number of 18 year old High School Seniors, the serious disconnect between the needs of the work place and the preparedness/skillset of college graduates, increased competition from overseas and continued outsourcing of higher skilled/high paying jobs and the burdens of college education debt and people questioning the cost-benefit of traditional college degrees. Every week there is a news story of some college or university closing or merging with a bigger institution.

Given this scenario what is the path for survival for institutions of higher education? The author explores the needs for radical reform and puts forward concrete solutions that need to be implemented in an expeditious manner. The “changes” he recommends are not only necessary for the survival of the institutions at risk but are likely to keep American economy competitive with the rest of the world.