As a trusted voice for public research and land-grant universities across North America, APLU convenes, collaborates, and advocates with leaders of member institutions and partners to advance the public good. APLU helps public research universities cultivate the talent, discoveries, and engagement that equitably fuel the success of our communities and world.

**Our Mission**

**Promote** a greater understanding and appreciation of the value of public research and land-grant universities and advocate for resources and public policy to strengthen their impact.

**Advance** the role of public research and land-grant universities as engaged partners in service to their communities.

**Support and cultivate** institutional change to more equitably serve learners and ensure their success.

**Foster** a policy and practice environment that strengthens global leadership in discovery and innovation.

**Ensure** every member maximizes the value of their membership.

**Our Core Values**

- Curiosity
- Collaboration
- Diversity, Equity, Inclusion

- Excellence
- Public Service
- Integrity
APLU is the only presidential higher education association that engages with public research universities’ entire senior leadership teams.

**APLU’s councils** enable senior public university leaders working in similar positions to come together to address critical issues and expand their knowledge-base within their professional area of expertise.

APLU undertakes a wide array of projects and initiatives along with its members while providing a forum for public higher education leaders to work collaboratively to better meet the challenges and opportunities facing public universities. The association’s work is fueled by an active and effective advocacy arm that engages member institutions by working with Congress and the Administration to advance federal policies that strengthen public universities.
**APLU’s commission structure** enables senior leaders with different responsibilities or roles across universities to come together to address critical issues and expand their knowledge-base in areas of common interest regardless of position.

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**ANNUALLY... APLU’S MEMBER INSTITUTIONS**

**ENROLL**

- 5 million undergraduates
- 1.3 million graduate students

**AWARD**

- 1.3 million degrees

**EMPLOY**

- 1.3 million faculty & staff

**AND CONDUCT**

- $49.5 billion in university-based research
Strengthening the Public and Land-grant University Community

**Networking**
APLU hosts in-person and virtual meetings throughout the year through its councils, commissions, boards, and projects and initiatives. APLU convenings help public research and land-grant university leaders from across the U.S., Canada, and Mexico network and learn from each other. Most of these conferences are exclusively for APLU members. Those meetings that are open to non-members and have a registration fee are significantly discounted for members.

**Leadership Development**
Public university leaders engaged with APLU are offered multiple leadership development opportunities throughout the year. The APLU council and commission structure allows senior leadership to work with colleagues on critical issues throughout the year.

**Staying Informed**
APLU communications help university leaders stay informed on emerging issues, regulatory and legislative updates, national and international trends, and more. From our weekday Morning News Scan, to APLU’s bi-weekly newsletter, A Public Voice, to regular updates from our councils/commissions, APLU ensures public research and land-grant university leaders have the knowledge they need.

**Driving the Public Higher Ed Agenda**
APLU serves as a trusted national voice of public research and land-grant universities, elevating their work, and speaking out on issues and challenges that warrant the public’s attention. Working in partnership with its members, APLU drives the public policy agenda in Washington to advance the interest of public and land-grant universities and the students they serve.

**Participating in Innovative Practices and Grant-Funded Work**
APLU projects and initiatives, often funded through outside grants, allow public university leaders to work together to study, pilot, and help scale innovative practices to drive greater student success, conduct public impact research, and help communities address their greatest challenges.

**APLU Awards**
Annually, APLU’s four institutional awards programs highlight achievements in community engagement, student success and degree completion, internationalization, and innovation and economic prosperity. These peer-selected awards honor and help recognize leading universities in these areas and share those cutting edge practices with others so they can draw from them.

Email [info@aplu.org](mailto:info@aplu.org) to learn more about specific groups or projects at the association and how you can become involved!
Key APLU Work

Advocacy
APLU partners with member institutions to advocate before Congress and the Administration for critical higher education, research, and economic and community engagement policies that strengthen public universities and benefit the students they serve.

Degree Completion & Student Success
APLU supports and advances quality degree completion efforts at public universities through disseminating good practices, building networks, accelerating necessary reforms, and recognizing outstanding achievement.

- **Powered by Publics** — Engages 130 member institutions, shepherding student-centered transformation around issues such as unnecessary curricular hurdles, holistic advising, and financial literacy, among others.
- **Aspire Alliance** — A 5-year, $10 million NSF-funded effort to diversify STEM faculty and promote more inclusive teaching practices.

Community Engagement & Economic Development
APLU helps public research universities engage with their communities and regions, tackling societal challenges, creating great places to work and live, and advancing economic growth and prosperity.

- **Innovation and Economic Prosperity Universities** — Cohort-based program to help institutions strengthen strategy and practice around economic development while also recognizing institutions with a demonstrative commitment to promoting regional economic opportunity.

Research and Science Policy
APLU promotes robust federal funding and assesses policies and university practices designed to support research, one of the core missions of our member institutions.

- **Science & Security** — APLU is working with its members and federal research and intelligence agencies to address ongoing and emerging foreign security threats and ensure the security of the research enterprise.

Issue-Focused Initiatives
APLU’s broad scope of work also includes projects and initiatives focused on food & agriculture; urban initiatives; data & analytics; online learning & adaptive courseware; public impact research; STEM education; rural students; international programs; and more.

- **Using Data to Drive Decisions** — VSA Analytics is a web-based subscription service APLU created to better support and enhance institutional use of data for strategic planning and decision making. This accessible tool allows users to build custom visualizations and graphical reports in just minutes.
APLU Membership

251 members

226 universities

22 systems

3 affiliates

50 States +
Canada and Mexico
+ District of Columbia and five U.S. Territories

23 Historically Black Colleges and Universities

30 Hispanic-Serving Institutions

8 Canadian Members

5 Mexican Universities

All 100+ U.S. land-grant institutions, including...

56 1862 Land-grant Universities

19 1890 Land-grant Universities

36 1994 Land-grant Universities*

*The 36 native American institutions designated as 1994 land-grant universities are represented through the American Indian Higher Education Consortium (AIHEC)