Study: Health care data address interests of health professionals more than patients

Although the Affordable Care Act calls for increasing publicly available information about health care services, a new study by AIR experts finds limited public use of existing data partly because the information tends to reflect the interests of health care professionals rather than the priorities of consumers. To supplement the study, AIR experts helped create a policy framework to increase patients’ engagement in health care. Both appear as articles in this month’s issue of *Health Affairs*.

Most NCAA D1 schools spend up to six times more on athletics than academics, report finds

The athletic departments of most public colleges and universities competing in National Collegiate Athletic Association Division I sports typically spend three to six times as much per athlete as their institutions spend to educate each student, according to a new report by AIR's Delta Cost Project. "Academic Spending Versus Athletic Spending: Who Wins?" shows that the median athletic spending for institutions competing in the top tier, the Football Bowl Subdivision, was $92,000 per athlete in 2010 while median academic spending per full-time student totaled less than $14,000.

University of Southern California sociologist Manuel Pastor joins AIR's Board of Directors

Dr. Manuel Pastor, a professor of American Studies and Ethnicity at the University of Southern California and an expert on immigrant integration and the social conditions facing low-income urban communities, has been unanimously elected to the Board of Directors of AIR. At USC, Dr. Pastor directs the Program for Environmental and Regional Equity and co-directs the Center for the Study of Immigrant Integration.

Data show share of first-year undergraduates taking remedial courses declining


IN THE MEDIA

Colleges overproducing elementary teachers, data find
Senior Researcher Jim Lindsay describes how use of teacher-workforce data varies among states. *Education Week*, 1/22/13

At many top universities, intercollegiate sports come at an academic price

New pressure on colleges to disclose grads’ earnings
VP Mark Schneider says more information will empower students. *The Hechinger Report*, 1/16/13

How will Medicare pay beneficiaries in the years to come?
Senior VP Marilyn Moon discusses Medicare's solvency. *Weekday on KUOW*, 1/7/13

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VIDEO

Jill Yegian of AIR’s Health and Policy Research Group talks about the challenges and opportunities in creating health insurance exchanges. > Watch

Youth engagement needs to "constantly happen," says teen roundtable participant

Nineteen youths accepted AIR’s invitation to talk in
front of juvenile justice and other policymakers and practitioners about how harsh school discipline has affected them and the risks and challenges of the "school-to-prison" pipeline. Participants ranging from 16 to 24 shared their experiences at the listening session, "Roundtable: The Perspectives of Young People Affected by Harsh School Discipline" at AIR headquarters in Washington, D.C.

**AIR researchers examine Cleveland’s methods to improve conditions for learning**

In "Avoid Simple Solutions and Quick Fixes," AIR researchers examine the Cleveland Metropolitan School District's efforts over the past four years to improve safety, order, and conditions for learning. The authors found that district-wide approaches based on school-level data improved student attendance and student behavior and reduced such school removals such as out-of-school suspensions.