MacArthur Foundation

Notes on MacArthur Fellows Education Data Sources

Institution types were determined with the aid of the 2010 Carnegie Classifications, specifically the Basic Classification (level of degrees awarded), Undergraduate Instructional Program Classification, and source of institution control. Private research universities include institutions that awarded at least 20 research doctoral degrees in the year previous to data collection (Carnegie codes: RU/VH, RU/H, DRU); specialized post-secondary institutions include all those designated as Special Focus Institutions by Carnegie (such as faith-related institutions, schools of art, conservatories, etc.); private master's level and/or professional focus institutions include those schools designated as Master's and Bac/Diverse in the basic classification or with an undergraduate instruction program that includes a professional focus (Bal, A&S+Prof, or Prof-F). The Carnegie system does not specifically identify liberal arts colleges; thus, the private, liberal arts colleges included here are those labeled by the Carnegie Classification as baccalaureate colleges with an arts and science focus (Bac/A&S); and an undergraduate instructional program with at least 80% of bachelor's degrees conferred in arts and sciences majors (A&S-F/NGC, A&S-F/SGC, A&S-F/HGC); and either private or private-not-for-profit control. Rather than trying to make the varying higher education systems of different nations fit into the U.S. system, international institutions are considered separately.

For those Fellows who received multiple undergraduate degrees, only the first (chronologically) degree is included in the data set. Data are based on self-reports from Fellows and/or publically available biographical resources for Fellows for whom self-reported data are not available.