

ARTICLES

PUBLISHED: FEBRUARY 5, 2024

Service

Higher Education

Industry

Education

Professional

CHUCK AMBROSE  
KANSAS CITY:  
816.983.8000  
CHUCK.AMBROSE@  
HUSCHBLACKWELL.COM

## Inside Higher Ed: 'Colleges on the Brink' Broken budgets, not hostile takeovers, are the biggest challenge for most presidents

Broken budgets, not hostile takeovers, are the biggest challenge for most college presidents, Husch Blackwell's Chuck Ambrose and Michael T. Nietzel, president emeritus of Missouri State University, write.

As co-authors Ambrose and Nietzel document in their book, *Colleges on the Brink: The Case for Financial Exigency* (Rowman & Littlefield), many colleges and universities now find themselves in various degrees of financial precarity. Every higher education sector is facing such risks: public and private schools, two-year and four-year institutions, and for-profit and not-for profit colleges are in the same leaky boat. A prolonged stretch of sinking enrollments, a global pandemic, funding uncertainties, a public increasingly skeptical of the value of higher ed, and a tendency to overbuild and overspend have left hundreds of colleges facing unsustainable futures.

Read the full article: 'Colleges on the Brink': Broken budgets, not hostile takeovers, are the biggest challenge for most presidents