

Saint Louis University
School of Education
PhD in Higher Education Administration
Spring 2017 Written Comprehensive Exam

PART B: Afternoon Questions

INSTRUCTIONS: Please respond to **three (3)** of the following questions. Type your answers in **14 pt Arial, double-spaced** and use **headings** to organize your responses. Put your exam number at the top and number your responses using the question numbers below (e.g., 1B, 2B, 3B, etc.). Be sure to **SAVE** often. You have 3 hours to answer your questions.

B1. Frederick Rudolph, in *The American College & University: A History*, discusses several important leaders in American Higher Education who have made lasting impacts on the development of institutions of higher education. From the following list, please select five (5) individuals mentioned in Rudolph's text and describe (in no more than one paragraph each) what important contribution each made and why their contribution remains relevant to today's colleges and universities.

- Jacob Abbot (Amherst)
- George Ticknor (Harvard)
- Philip Lindsley (Nashville)
- James Marsh (Vermont)
- John Wheelock (Dartmouth)
- Francis Wayland (Brown)
- Charles Eliot (Harvard)
- Justin Morrill (US Congress)
- Andrew White (Cornell)
- Daniel Coit Gilman (Johns Hopkins)

(list continued on next page...)

- James P. Angell (Michigan)
- Catherine Beecher (Education Advocate)
- Charles Van Hise (Wisconsin)
- John Dewey (Chicago and Columbia)
- Robert Hutchins (Chicago)

B2. You are a senior budget manager at a large public university on the west coast. You are preparing to retire and have the opportunity to assist in the training of the individual who will replace you once your retirement begins in the coming weeks. What are some internal and external cost concerns common among many institutions of higher learning that you will share with the new recruit to assist her on her journey as the new budget manager? What societal, both national and international, issues exist that compound these concerns? What advice would you give in handling budget pitfalls and fluctuations? Describe other useful advice you will share as you depart for your new life of retirement.

B3. Introduction: Social Movements have grown steadily in number and intensity since the 1960s. Alberto Melucci, the great theorist of social movements, conceptualized social movements as a form of collective action that is based on solidarity, expresses the existence of a conflict, and requires the system in which its action occurs to alter its structure. That is, social movements emerge because the system needs alternation. In higher education, social movements can transform an institution's culture and frequently demand greater attention to social justice.

Tasks:

1. Identify and describe a current social movement that is impacting institutions of higher education in the United States, along with its challenges and opportunities.
(question continued on next page...)

2. Using Birnbaum's Four Frames framework, describe the characteristics of an institution that is positioned to (a) address the current social movement you identify and (b) incorporate greater social justice.

B4. As the assistant director of the Residential Life at a mid-sized public university, one of your goals for the next academic year is to assist the Residence Assistants (RAs) with intentional programming on their first-year student floors. The theme for these floors is "Mindful Living In and Out of the Classroom". You are asked by your immediate supervisor to draft a statement describing the theoretical framework that will be used as the foundation of these programs. In your statement include the following: 1. A description of three (3) developmental theories that will be the hallmark of your theoretical framework; 2. How these theories apply to first-year students; and 3. Two (2) program ideas, with learning objectives based on the developmental theories chosen, the RAs may use on their floors.

B5. Proposed legislation against "divisive" courses or events at public colleges and universities in Arizona alarmed scholars in that state and elsewhere before the bill reportedly died a quick death Tuesday. The bill was prompted by a course on white studies at Arizona State University and came after a spate of controversies involving scholars of race, many of them white, commenting on white people.

The law would have prohibited state institutions from offering any class or activity that promotes "division, resentment or social justice toward a race, gender, religion, political affiliation, social class or other class of people," or otherwise encouraged "solidarity or isolation" based on those categories. The state attorney general could have directed Arizona to withhold up to 10 percent of designated funding from any college district or university accused of violating the law

Use your knowledge of legal concepts within Higher Education to discuss the area(s) this article is touching on. Your writing may include topics such as, but are not limited to, boundaries of academic freedom within teaching, the legal status of students and faculty as they relate to decisions of the institution, tenure and non-tenure employment status, and judicial deference and higher education.