Summer reading

Sources: Individual university websites (retrieved May 13, 2015).

Tertiary education
From 2000 to 2012 the percentage of 25 to 64 year-olds with tertiary education has increased across all OECD member countries. The OECD average changed from approximately 22 percent to about 33 percent. Canada led the pack, rising from 40 to about 53 percent.


College financial aid
A lower percentage of the general undergraduate population receives financial aid from colleges and universities than do freshmen alone. In other words, financial aid often declines after freshman year. “More than 46 percent of freshmen get tuition discounts, according to an annual survey by the National Association of College and University Business Officers—but fewer than 41 percent of all undergraduates do.”


Bunkum research
The National Education Policy Center via its Think Tank Review project presents “Bunkum Awards,” recognizing lowlights in education research. Some issues in problem research arise repeatedly: mistaking correlation for causation; not accounting for potential reasons for results, such as selection bias; leaping from conclusions in one area to others that are not necessarily supported by the results; using small or barely statistically significant results to recommend broad policy changes; and starting studies from an ideological point rather than an objective hypothesis.