

# Educate yourself, guv

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Gov. Corbett needs to read Robert B. Archibald and David H. Feldman's book "Why Does College Cost So Much?" (Oxford University Press, 2010). The authors explain in economic terms that the rapid increase in sticker price for a college education is the same as in other service industries that employ a highly educated workforce and for which technology has not increased productivity. Similar sectors include the health care industry and legal services.

Technology has increased the quality of both education and research at colleges and universities, as well as contributing to increasing costs there. (Who wants to go to a college that does not offer wireless Internet? Who wants to employ a chemist or physicist working with equipment from the 1970s?)

Colleges and universities absolutely need to find ways to reduce costs and operate more efficiently. However, they are not the bastions of dysfunction and greed that Gov. Corbett often makes them out to be. Maybe if he read this book he would have a better understanding of why college has become so expensive and more thoughtfully work with the higher education community to remedy the problem.

Most of us are passionate about what we do and want to continue to share our expertise with students at a reasonable cost.

**Amanda L. Folk**

*Greensburg*

*The writer is a reference/public services librarian at the University of Pittsburgh at Greensburg's Millstein Library.*