

HERNANDEZ

New Haven Register

Quinnipiac University president John L. Lahey was the top-earning executive among private colleges in Connecticut, earning \$1.46 million in total pay, according to The **Chronicle** of Higher Education's Private College Executive Compensation Study released Sunday.

The earnings place Lahey 24th on the list of highest-paid college executives in the country among private colleges. Lahey's base pay of \$1.06 million was further supplemented by \$17,672 in nontaxable pay and \$377,496 in other pay, according to the study. Lahey's base pay is the ninth highest among private college presidents. Lahey said this spring he will retire in June 2018.

Quinnipiac vice president for public affairs Lynn Bushnell in a statement said the university adheres to "standards of corporate governance in establishing executive compensation for all senior-level officers."

"Compensation levels are set by the personnel committee of the Board of Trustees and are determined after reviewing compensation levels at comparable institutions," Bushnell said in the statement. "An independent compensation firm validates the list of appropriate peer institutions. The personnel committee sets salaries with an eye to attracting and retaining highly qualified and highly motivated executives, based on an annual review of agreed upon goals."

The study was based on data from the 2015 calendar year and found the average pay for private college presidents who served a full year in 2015 was \$569,932, according to a press release. The average was a 9 percent increase from 2014.

In New Haven, Yale President Peter Salovey earned \$1.16 million in total pay during the 2015 calendar year. Salovey's compensation included \$948,084 in base pay, \$53,741 in nontaxable pay and \$155,663 in other pay. The total pay amount is an increase from the \$977,219 he made in 2014. A spokesman for Yale University was not available for comment.

Salovey and Lahey were among a group of 58 presidents earning more than \$1 million in 2015.

"The number of presidents earning over \$1 million is unusually high in 2015. We attribute that, in part, to a market where presidents are negotiating more deferred compensation and bonus packages before they take the job," database reported **Dan Bauman** said in the release.

On the public side, University of Connecticut President Susan Herbst made \$852,773 in total pay during the 2015-16 school year, good enough to place her 13 among 254 chief executives in public schools, according to the study. Connecticut State Colleges and Universities Board of Regents President made \$413,487 in total pay during the same time span.

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