Visualizing Foreign Gifts to American Universities

CPSC547
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Motivation

• Schools receive a lot of donations – how do we ensure that they don’t come from unsavory sources?

• Section 117, Higher Education Act of 1965 [1]

• It is important to maintain transparency so that the public knows where the donations come from and for what purpose they are used for.

Data

- https://studentaid.gov/data-center/school/foreign-gifts
- https://www.kaggle.com/datasets/mylesoneill/world-university-rankings
Possible Exploration Questions

• Identify trends in donors and recipients of the schools.
  • Idea: can also merge with school ranking data to understand how ranking influences donor trends.

• Understand the ties that schools might have to certain donor countries, and how this may have changed over time.
  • Idea: tying it to topical news events.
How?

• Data and Task Abstraction
  • What type of data and datasets do we have?
  • What kind of tasks might a user take? How can the data be transformed?
• Developing requirements
• Picking the idioms and representations for the data
• Developing the visualization (Python, d3.js, or R)
• Validating the design

• E.g.