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Gardner-Webb University's Online Offerings Earn Top Ranking in North Carolina

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June 23, 2016

Digital Learning Opportunities at GWU Honored for Quality and Value

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University is being recognized for exceptional web-based learning opportunities and was recently honored as a 2016 Best Online College in North Carolina by Best Colleges, based in Seattle, Wash., and Houston, Texas. Gardner-Webb ranked fourth out of the top 15 institutions of higher education in the state. The University was selected based on academic quality and affordability.

GWU ranked ahead of several larger institutions, including the University of North Carolina at Charlotte (Charlotte, N.C.), North Carolina A&T State University (Greensboro, N.C.), and Campbell University (Buies Creek, N.C.). North Carolina State University (Raleigh, N.C.) was ranked first in the state for online offerings.

“We are delighted to see this ranking for Gardner-Webb’s online programs by Best Colleges,” said Dr. Ben Leslie, GWU Provost and Executive Vice President. “Controlling costs and tuition rates is indeed a priority for Gardner-Webb, because we recognize the critical importance of keeping higher education affordable and achievable for every income bracket. But our greatest priority is ensuring that the online educational experience is of the highest possible quality. At Gardner-Webb, we value affordability and emphasize an engaging online experience, flexible options, and above all, quality academic programs.”

Students at Gardner-Webb can take online courses to earn credits toward a range of degrees, and some undergraduate programs are offered in online-only formats through the Degree Completion Program (DCP). In addition, master’s degrees in accounting, business administration, English, international business administration, nursing, and sport pedagogy are also available in online formats at GWU.

According to BestColleges.com, schools are ranked based on their academic quality along with affordability and student experience. A school’s admissions rate and graduation rate account for 60 percent of the academic quality category; the remaining 40 percent is covered by retention rate and enrollment rate. The affordability and student experience category is composed of the average net price for low-income students (40 percent), loan default rate (40 percent), and the student-to-faculty ratio (20 percent).

Best Colleges seeks to empower students by providing the information needed to make informed higher education decisions. Through proprietary research, the team builds user-friendly guides and rankings that lead students of all ages on their personal path to a college degree, and aims to help students find the school that best meets their needs. For more information on the state rankings, visit BestColleges.com/features/best-online-colleges-in-North-Carolina.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University provides exceptional educational opportunities within a Christian environment, preparing students to think critically, to succeed professionally, and to serve faithfully as members of their local and global communities.