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College Choice Lists Top Online Master of Science in Nursing Programs

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Officials at Gardner-Webb University are committed to excellence in education and their graduate program in nursing is receiving special attention for its online offerings.

College Choice, an independent online publication, has ranked the top-50 online Master of Science in Nursing (MSN) programs in the country and Gardner-Webb University is included at number 42.

According to College Choice, “Our aim is to offer a ranking of the top online nursing programs that can be trusted to deliver excellence in education, flexibility, affordability, and results. The list was compiled based upon a variety of important factors, including faculty, technology, and student support, accreditation, and cost. Special attention was paid to the academic strength of the schools, along with their ability to both retain and graduate their students.”

GWU Hunt School of Nursing Dean Dr. Sharon Starr understands that earning an MSN degree can help expand one’s opportunities in the healthcare field. “Obtaining the MSN empowers nurses to become nursing leaders in areas such as education, administration and practice,” Starr explained. “These roles allow our graduates to be catalysts for positive change in the healthcare environment and also help them to have a positive effect on those who require care from the healthcare system. The Institute of Medicine report, *The Future of Nursing: Leading Change, Advancing Health*, stresses that more education for nurses is needed in order to deal with the realities of the healthcare system in the 21st century.”

College Choice utilized a variety of sources to determine the rankings, including the National Center for Education Statistics, the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education, the Accreditation Commission for Education in Nursing, individual program websites, and U.S. News & World Report to ensure the accuracy and credibility of the information compiled.

The GWU Hunt School of Nursing offers the online MSN program, in which candidates select an area of study designed to meet their needs in either nursing administration or nursing education. The University also offers a dual degree Master of Science in Nursing

and Master of Business Administration (MSN/MBA) and other unique degree combinations.

“The nurse educator and nurse administrator tracks are totally online so they allow maximum flexibility for the student,” Starr shared. “The MSN/Family Nurse Practitioner (FNP) is a hybrid program with a combination of face-to-face meetings and online requirements. With competitive tuition and a Christ-centered focus, our instructors are fully engaged with each individual student and provide them with maximum support.”

College Choice is an independent online publication dedicated to helping students and their families find the right college. They publish rankings and reviews that make choosing the best college easier, as well as resources to help students get into, pay for, and thrive at the college of their choice. The full list of rankings is available at CollegeChoice.net.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University’s purpose is to advance the Kingdom of God through Christian higher education by preparing graduates for professional and personal success, instilling in them a deep commitment to service and leadership, and equipping them for well-rounded lives of lasting impact, Pro Deo et Humanitate (For God and Humanity).