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Office of University
Communications

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University's Nursing, Business, Education Schools Receive Accolades in 2015 U.S. News & World Report Rankings

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. — Gardner-Webb University offers some of the best online graduate degrees in the country, and three University programs recently garnered outstanding national accolades in U.S. News & World Report's 2015 rankings.

The GWU Graduate School of Nursing and the GWU Godbold Graduate School of Business both received high marks in the U.S. News report, climbing into the top tier of college and university rankings for 2015. The GWU School of Education was also honored in the top half of the rankings for online education graduate degrees nationwide.

Each year, U.S. News & World Report surveys institutions and compiles statistical information to score online graduate programs of colleges and universities across the country. Scores are determined based on factors that include student engagement, admissions selectivity, peer reputation, faculty credentials and training, and student services and technology.

“It's important to remember that we're ranking programs, not schools,” U.S. News Editor Brian Kelly reminded. “These are degree-granting programs offering classes needed to complete the degree that are 100 percent online — the federal government standard for qualifying as distance learning programs. Online education is becoming an essential part of the higher education landscape. Students and employers are increasingly finding value in the way subjects can be mastered in a digital environment.”

In the 2015 U.S. News survey, Gardner-Webb's online graduate nursing program ranked No. 41 with a score of 75 points, a significant improvement from a No. 68 ranking and 69 points in 2014. “The ranking is evidence of the dedication to excellence of the faculty and the support from administration and the Graduate School, including Graduate Admissions,” offered Dr. Sharon Starr, dean of the GWU Hunt School of Nursing. “So many at the University have advanced the program and supported our students, everyone from the registrar to financial aid to the writing center.”

Gardner-Webb's team effort also helped the online graduate business program achieve a No. 37 ranking with a score of 62 points, higher than the No. 46 mark GWU's business programs received in 2014. “We are again truly honored to be recognized as one of the top

business schools in the country,” shared Dr. Anthony Negbenebor, dean of the GWU Godbold School of Business. “The consistent national and world recognition of our business school is an affirmation of our relentless pursuit of excellence in business education. We are grateful to our students, faculty, staff, administration and alumni for their contributions.”

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.