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College Choice Ranks Gardner-Webb Among Top Universities in the South

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. – Gardner-Webb University was named a top 50 Southern university by College Choice in its first annual "best of" list. The rankings were based on equally-weighted factors freshmen indicated were most important to their college decision, including academic reputation, financial aid offerings, overall cost, and success of graduates in the post-college job market.

"We are certainly gratified to see Gardner-Webb University included in the College Choice rankings," GWU Provost and Executive Vice President Ben Leslie offered. "It represents an encouraging affirmation of the overall quality in academics and the campus environment that the University has been striving for under President Bonner's leadership these last nine years. Hopefully, young people looking for a college or university will use rankings like these, along with other evidence, to help make the decision of where to go to college."

<u>College Choice</u> is an independent online publication dedicated to helping students and their families find the right college. The site publishes 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. Data was derived from several publicly available sources, including the National Center for Education Statistics, Payscale.com, and U.S. News & World Report.

The announcement is the latest report that placed GWU among the top Southeastern universities. Earlier this month, <u>GWU ranked No. 34</u> in the South in a nationwide report on more than 600 regional colleges, according to an assessment released by U.S. News & World Report.

"Improving the quality of graduate and undergraduate education in the context of Christian faith is a huge priority for Gardner-Webb," Leslie said.

Located in Boiling Springs, N.C., Gardner-Webb University blends a liberal arts core curriculum with more than 55 major and minor professional programs of study, a comprehensive academic experience that flows from our Christian commitment to intellectual freedom, service and leadership.