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Rankings Part of BusinessMBA.org's "Top 50 Best MBA Programs" List

BOILING SPRINGS, N.C. — Gardner-Webb's online Master of Business Administration (MBA) program is ninth best in the world according to BusinessMBA.org's list of the "Top 50 MBA Programs for 2012." The program is one of several graduate business degrees offered by Gardner-Webb's Godbold School of Business.

As part of BusinessMBA.org's mission to inform and educate prospective MBA students, the ranking highlights the top 10 business schools in each of five categories, including campus-based MBA, Executive MBA, Online MBA, and Marketing and Finance concentrations. Gardner-Webb emerged as No. 9 in the Online MBA category.

According to James Harrity, the site's executive director, the rankings were compiled without regard to cost of tuition. "With this ranking, we were interested in finding the best of the best, the highest quality MBA schools on the planet," he said.

In the site's news release announcing the rankings, Hannity mentioned Gardner-Webb specifically as among the "up-and-coming programs" that are "making their mark in the highly competitive online arena." Gardner-Webb's presence on the list, he said, is "exciting to see."

"This ranking reflects the outstanding dedication of our faculty, the outstanding work of our students, and the outstanding leadership of our president, Dr. Frank Bonner," said Dr. Anthony Negbenbor, dean of the Godbold School of Business. "It is deeply gratifying to see our name listed among the world's best business programs, especially since our mission—to honor God and serve humanity through business—is truly one of the world's most unique."

The report praised Gardner-Webb's program for making course lectures available via online streaming, for providing a flexible and engaging online program for distance learning students, and for making online offerings available to on-campus students, thereby enhancing student interaction in the online setting.

It also referenced Gardner-Webb's recent No. 1 ranking in U.S. News and World Report's list of America's Top Online Education Programs for 2012. GWU's graduate business program was ranked No. 1 for student services and technology, No. 15 for faculty credentials and

training, No. 27 for teaching practices and student engagement, and was one of only 14 institutions nationwide to make the Honor Roll in that report.

This was BusinessMBA.org's first annual edition of this ranking, which was developed based on publicly available information including accreditation, placement rates, and honors in other major rankings. More information is available at BusinessMBA.org.