

North Georgia ranks #20 among public universities in the South

8/17/2010 9:39:12 AM

by University Relations

(August 17, 2010) - North Georgia College & State University earned the #20 spot among the South's public regional universities in the 2011 edition of *Best Colleges* by U.S. News Media Group.

The rankings, which include evaluations of more than 1,400 schools nationwide, are available today at www.usnews.com/colleges, and will also be published in the September issue of *U.S. News & World Report*, on newsstands starting August 31.

"North Georgia has a strong history of developing professional, civic and military leaders who have a positive impact in their communities," said President David L. Potter. "Our consistent inclusion in this list points to the strength of our university and the outstanding educational experience we provide."

This marks the seventh consecutive year that North Georgia has placed in the top 25 public universities in the South, and a climb from the #23 position in the 2010 report. Over the past two decades, the *U.S. News* college rankings, which group schools based on categories created by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, has grown to be commonly used research tool for students and parents considering higher education opportunities.

Additionally, North Georgia was the top-ranked university in the South for the least amount of debt load for the class of 2009.

"With state appropriations declining for public universities, students are taking on an increased responsibility for the cost of their education through tuition and fees," said Kate Maine, director of university relations. "This report highlights the high-value experience North Georgia provides its students."

The 2011 Best Colleges issue provides an examination of how more than 1,400 accredited four-year schools compare on a set of up to 16 widely accepted indicators of excellence. Among the many factors weighed in determining the rankings, the key measures of quality are: peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving, and, for National Universities and National Liberal Art Colleges, "graduation rate performance" and high school counselor ratings of colleges.



North Georgia College & State University, a member of the University System of Georgia, is the state's second-oldest public university and is designated as a state leadership institution.

North Georgia offers more than 50 majors, as well as pre-professional, professional, master's, and doctoral programs and has an enrollment of nearly 6,000 students.

Additionally, as one of only six senior military colleges in the United States and a Corps of Cadets that comprises about 15 percent of the student population, North Georgia is designated as The Military College of Georgia. The other five senior military colleges are the Citadel, Norwich University, Texas A & M, Virginia Military Institute, and Virginia Tech.

North Georgia's 120-acre main campus, located in Dahlonega, is readily recognized by the gold-covered bell tower of its administration building, Price Memorial Hall. The university provides educational programs in Forsyth County and at Gainesville State College.