



PRESS RELEASE: Ferris Ranked 'Best Online Graduate Nursing Program' by U.S. News and World Report

Betsy L Musolf to: Archive

01/15/2013 04:36 PM

Here is a press release about Ferris State University's No. 1 ranking on the U.S. News and World Report list of "Best Online Graduate Nursing Programs." Any questions can be addressed to Sandy Gholston, News Services and Social Media Manager.



U.S. News report.doc

View the release online here: <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2013/january/nursing.htm>



UNIVERSITY ADVANCEMENT AND MARKETING

420 Oak Street, Prakken 101, Big Rapids, MI 49307

Phone: (231) 591-2021 Fax: (231) 591-2985

www.ferris.edu/news

For Immediate Release

Jan. 15, 2013

Sandy Gholston
News Services and Social Media Manager
Ferris State University
University Advancement and Marketing
sandygholston@ferris.edu, (231) 591-2021

Ferris Ranked 'Best Online Graduate Nursing Program' by U.S. News and World Report

BIG RAPIDS – U.S. News and World Report has ranked Ferris State University No. 1 on its list of ["Best Online Graduate Nursing Programs."](#) The list was released on Tuesday, Jan. 15.

Ferris' Master of Science in Nursing finished ahead of second-place Lamar University (Texas) and third-place University of Michigan-Flint. Michigan State University was 43rd in the rankings. Primary factors considered in the U.S. News and World Report rankings include faculty credentials, graduation rates, and student services and technologies.

"This is very impressive indeed for our University, the College of Health Professions and the School of Nursing for our online graduate nursing program to be ranked No. 1. I was very impressed by the

[methodology used by U.S. News and World Report](#) for its data collection,” said Matthew Adeyanju, dean of Ferris’ College of Health Professions. “I would like to extend congratulations to all of our faculty and staff and our online academic advisors for their efforts that have brought this outstanding recognition to Ferris.”

Historically, Ferris’ nursing programs have provided career mobility options for students in pursuit of a start in the field of nursing in addition to helping nurses who are seeking advanced degrees at the undergraduate, a Bachelor of Science in Nursing, and graduate levels, a MSN. The U.S. News and World Report ranking is a pride builder for the program and the University, according to Julie Coon, director of the School of Nursing. Coon expressed pride in Ferris’ top position in the “Best Online Nursing Programs” rankings.

“The School of Nursing is very proud to have our online MSN program ranked as No. 1 in this national survey,” Coon said. “While we have always recognized that this program is exceptional in terms of meeting the needs of today’s working nurse who aspires to complete a MSN degree, it is certainly wonderful to have this external validation.”

In Fall 2012, Ferris has approximately 100 students enrolled in its MSN program, which features learner-centered curriculum to equip nurses with the knowledge and skills that are vital for a variety of advanced specialty roles. The MSN program features three concentrations in specialty leadership roles: nursing administration, nursing informatics and nursing education. Ferris’ graduate program also is fully accredited by the National League for Nursing Accrediting Commission.

“Our enrollment has steadily increased from 2004-05 when we started the program with about six students to the 100 we have today,” Coon said. “The MSN has enjoyed a nice reputation and we attract students from all over the country, which is impressive when you think about all the online programs that students have to choose from. We likely don’t have the enrollment that some of the larger online universities provide, but I think that allows us to maintain the quality we do have.”

The creation of the 2013 rankings for “Best Online Nursing Programs” was a two-step process for U.S. News and World Report. Step one was to compile the list of schools offering these master’s degree programs online while step two was the data-collection progress from the listed institutions. The start of the data-collection progress began in late July 2012 and the closing date, Fall 2012. In all, 280 institutions (59 percent) replied and 101 (36 percent) said that they would be offering an online master’s program in nursing as defined in the survey.

“The categories that reflect the rating: student engagement, faculty credentials and training, admissions selectivity and student services and technology are all areas where the School of Nursing and the University have clearly placed a focus as the demand for online education continues to grow exponentially,” Coon said. “We are pleased to be able to showcase this outstanding example of effective online program delivery.”

To read more, visit:

<http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/nursing>

The methodology used to determine the rankings can be found on the U.S. News and World Reports website:

<http://www.usnews.com/education/online-education/articles/2013/01/14/methodology-best-online-nursing-programs-rankings>

To learn more about Ferris' nursing program:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/colleges/alliedhe/Nursing/homepage.htm>

--30--

Betsy Musolf
News Services Communications Specialist
Ferris State University
Advancement and Marketing
420 Oak St., Prudden 108
Big Rapids, MI 49307
Phone: (231) 591-2991