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University Relations

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**MORRIS**

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**UMM is #3 public liberal arts college in the nation, says U.S. News**

*Summary:*

(August 20, 2004)-The University of Minnesota, Morris is again ranked number three in the list of five top public liberal arts colleges in the nation by U.S. News & World Report in its 2005 rankings of America's Best Colleges. This is the second consecutive year that UMM has achieved this status, and has been the only college in the Midwest on the list.

"UMM's continued ranking among the very top public liberal arts colleges in America is very good news. It is an important and wide-spread public recognition of the excellence of our college, its people and its instructional program," said UMM Chancellor Sam Schuman. "And, recognition by U.S. News provides important external validation of what all of us on campus already know about our educational rigor, our quality and our achievements."

Other colleges included in the top five listing of public liberal arts colleges are Virginia Military Institute, St. Mary's College of Maryland, the University of North Carolina-Asheville, and Richard Stockton College of New Jersey.

Among criteria that the rankings considered, 92% of UMM's faculty are full-time, and only 5% percent of its classes number more than 50 students. Sixty-eight percent of the courses have fewer than 20 students. Student to faculty ratio at UMM is 14:1.

With 40% of freshmen in the top 10% of their class, UMM occupies the fourth highest ranking in its tier. Freshman academic profile is a key quality indicator, which UMM has consistently demonstrated throughout its over 40-year history. UMM was also recognized as one of the top 25 national liberal arts colleges at which students accumulated the lowest debt load.

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at [morris.umn.edu](http://morris.umn.edu) or call 888-866-3382.