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UMM one of only two Minnesota "Best College Buys"

Summary:

(September 30, 2003)-When searching for a bargain in higher education, the University of Minnesota, Morris should be at the top of the prospective student's shopping list.

UMM is one of only two colleges from Minnesota designated as one of America's 100 Best College Buys, according to the 13th Annual National College Survey conducted by Institutional Research and Evaluation, Inc. The designation follows closely on the heels of a report by U.S. News & World Report which named UMM as one of the top three public liberal arts colleges in the nation. UMM was the only public college in the Midwest to which U.S. News afforded this distinction.

"It is always nice to have outside evaluation consultants identify UMM in this positive manner," said Dr. Jim Mootz, associate vice chancellor for enrollment. "In today's higher education market with tuition on the rise, it is especially important for prospective students and parents to know that UMM has again attracted national attention by being acclaimed as one of "America's 100 Best Buys" which matches high quality education and reasonable costs."

Both in-state and out-state tuition for the 2003-2004 academic year at UMM is \$12,900.

To be considered for the designation, "America's 100 Best College Buys," an institution must:

- 1) be an accredited, four-year institution offering bachelor's degrees
- 2) offer full residential facilities including residence halls and dining services
- 3) have had an entering freshman class in the fall of 2002 with a high school GPA and/or SAT/ACT score equal to or above the national average for entering college freshmen
- 4) have an out-of-state cost of attendance in 2003-2004 for three quarters or two semesters below the national average cost of attendance or not exceeding the national average cost by more than 10 percent.

The survey goes on to show that the national average SAT score for entering college freshmen in the fall of 2002 was 1092. Entering freshmen at UMM scored an average of 1200. Survey results also showed that the national average ACT score for entering college freshmen in the fall of 2002 was 23. Entering freshmen at UMM scored an average ACT of 25.

Institutional Research and Evaluation, Inc. , which has been a consultant to higher education since 1989, is an independent research and consulting organization specializing in the recruiting and retention of students of institutions of higher education. Consistent with its mission, and as a guide by which institutions may be compared, the firm annually identifies the 100 American colleges and universities that provide students with the very highest quality education at the lowest cost.

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 or call 888-866-3382.