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## **UMM in Carnegie Classification**

*Summary: Under the revised Carnegie Foundation classification system, UMM has been identified as a more selective, exclusively undergraduate, four-year public liberal arts institution with a high concentration of majors in the arts and sciences.*

(April 10, 2006)-Under the recently revised Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching classification system, the University of Minnesota, Morris has been identified as a more selective, exclusively undergraduate, four-year public liberal arts institution with a high concentration of majors in the arts and sciences. The classification also notes UMM's small, highly residential atmosphere.

Only two other institutions have similar characteristics, St. Mary's College of Maryland and Virginia Military Institute, illustrating UMM's uniqueness in higher education.

"The new Carnegie Classification system is an effort to be more precisely descriptive," said UMM Chancellor Sam Schuman. "The description of UMM is an accurate one, and noting the attributes of 'more selective,' 'full-time,' and 'exclusively undergraduate' puts us, once again, in a class with very, very few other public liberal arts colleges."

The Carnegie Foundation classifies all accredited, degree-granting, non-specialized institutions of higher education in the U.S. The new system calls attention to ways that institutions resemble or differ from one another. Prior to the unveiling of the Carnegie Foundation's new classification system, UMM was categorized with similar schools with liberal arts experiences leading to a baccalaureate degree.

The Carnegie Commission on Higher Education first developed a classification of colleges and universities to support its program of research and policy analysis in 1970. The classification has been the leading framework for describing institutional diversity in U.S. higher education. It has been widely used in the study of higher education, both as a way to represent and control for institutional differences and also in the design of research studies. With its most recent revision, the single classification system was replaced by a set of new classifications, which provide different ways in which to view U.S. colleges and universities, offering researchers greater flexibility in meeting their analytic needs.

"The basic classification has been changed because the higher education landscape has become increasingly complex and multifaceted. We concluded that attempting to shoehorn all institutions into one category had introduced distortions, inaccuracies, and obscurities that could be avoided. We introduced the five new classifications to reflect these complexities," said Carnegie President Lee S. Shulman.

Founded by Andrew Carnegie in 1905 and chartered in 1906 by an act of Congress, The Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching is an independent policy and research center with a primary mission "to do and perform all things necessary to encourage, uphold, and dignify the profession of the teacher and the cause of higher education."

To learn more about the Carnegie Foundation Classification system, visit

<http://www.carnegiefoundation.org/classifications/>

[Judy Korn, University Relations, contributed to this story.]

Photo: Industrialist and millionaire Andrew Carnegie

Credit: Marceau, New York. "[Andrew Carnegie, three-quarter length portrait, seated, facing slightly left]." Copyright 1913. Prints and Photographs Division, Library of Congress.

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