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Summary: The University of Minnesota, Morris offers an extraordinary college experience for women, says Cosmo Girl! UMM is listed among 100 colleges nationwide in Cosmo Girl!’s 100 Best Colleges supplement.

(September 26, 2007)-The University of Minnesota, Morris offers an extraordinary college experience for women, says Cosmo Girl! UMM is listed among 100 colleges nationwide in Cosmo Girl!’s 100 Best Colleges, a supplement to the October 2007 issue. Cosmo Girl! partnered with The Princeton Review this year to list 100 best schools, “each of which offers an extraordinary college experience for women.”

UMM is one of only four Minnesota schools listed, in addition to Carleton College and St. Olaf College, both of Northfield, and Macalester College, St. Paul.

“We set out to find the coed schools that take a cue from women’s colleges and offer things like excellent women’s sports, leadership opportunities and intimate class sizes,” said the article. The supplement intentionally did not include women’s colleges.

Colleges were selected from more than 600 U.S. colleges and universities, based on 21 data points. The Princeton Review polled 80,000 female college students about campus safety, recreational/athletic facilities, average class size average lab size, student friendliness, degree of social and ethnic diversity on campus, city or town suitability, individual student happiness, the quality of professor instruction and career/job placement services and internship popularity.

Additional data was received directly from each school: availability of women's center services, above-average number of women's varsity sports teams, above-average number of women's club sports teams, percentage of students receiving financial aid, women exceeding 50 percent of faculty and small average class size.

"We are proud of these characteristics that make the campus environment a strong one for women and we're equally proud that the personal campus atmosphere and numerous opportunities make for a rich environment for men as well," said UMM Chancellor Jacqueline Johnson.

Student comments about UMM cited by the magazine include:

"Two popular events stick out in my mind as being a huge deal at UMM," shared one student. “The first is the annual tug-of-war contest between the two freshman dorms. Every year during Homecoming week, students from each of the two dorms (and upperclassmen who feel a strong connection with their former residences) gather together to participate in a tug-of-war. The winning dorm earns the right to name the pond between the dorms after their hall until the next tug-of-war.”

"A great organization for women on campus is the Women's Resource Center. This group organizes fun events promoting womanhood and offers wonderful services for women, including services for women who were or are victims
of abuse. Students at UMM are also proud to take part in Take Back the Night, including festivities and a walk from campus, through town, back to the campus."
- Rebekah, 21, senior

"Our school has support programs in place for all minority students, specifically for females we have WOCA, which stands for the Women of Color Association, and the Women's Resource Center. These programs are geared to help educate and support women and men about issues concerning females."
- LeAnn, 21, senior

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