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COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN DEVELOPMENT

Selected News Releases

UMaine Graduate Program Makes National Ranking

ORONO, Maine -- UMaine's graduate program in secondary education is among the top in the country, according to U.S. News & World Report's 1998 Guide to America's Best Graduate Schools. The program is ranked 21st, out of 191, and is tied with the University of California -- Berkeley. The rankings of academic quality are based on reputation, student selectivity, faculty resources and research activity.

The national recognition reflects the quality of UMaine faculty and the strength of both its academic and professional disciplines, according to College of Education and Human Development Dean Robert A. Cobb. It also is a strong quality indicator for the undergraduate program, which shares many of the same faculty and the commitment to preparing teachers, especially at the middle and high school levels, with strong liberal arts and subject matter backgrounds, he says.

Reputation counts for 40 percent of the ranking score and was determined through U.S. News nationwide surveys of Education School deans and a random sample of school superintendents who were asked to select the 25 best graduate education programs.

Such broad recognition suggests the national presence of the College's faculty not only in professional organizations and presentations, but also in their work with national media as resources on timely and controversial educational issues, Cobb points out. The College's well-established summer programs such as the Middle Level Institute which attract educators from many states and other countries also contribute to that reputation.

"This is affirmation that our work is recognized as being on-target and competitive with much larger institutions," says Cobb.

UMaine's secondary education graduate program outranks those of Arizona State University, SUNY--Albany, the University of Florida and the University of Northern Colorado. Programs in the top three are Michigan State University, Ohio State University and the University of Wisconsin, Madison.

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