

U. S. NEWS AND WORLD REPORT RANKS BEST COLLEGES

For the tenth consecutive year, all 10 of the Concordia colleges/universities are included in the annual rankings of America's Best Colleges by *U.S. News and World Report*.

The Concordias are recognized for a quality education and ranked in the top tiers of "America's Best Colleges." Rankings rest on reliable indicators of academic quality and a nonpartisan view of what matters most in education, according to the report. The indicators that are applied to each institution include peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, and alumni giving. Institutions are compared to similar institutions within their region (north, south, east and west).

Concordia colleges/universities are identified as "quality institutions" in three categories:

1. Liberal arts with a focus almost exclusively on undergraduate programs;
2. Baccalaureate colleges with an emphasis on undergraduate programs; and
3. Masters programs that offer a broad range of undergraduate programs with associate masters degree programs.

The annual edition of "America's Best Colleges" serves as a guide to help students make the right choices for their college education based on comparative institutional information. This year the review included an emphasis on teaching undergraduates. The majority of the information presented is devoted to such helpful hints as "Narrow the Search, How to Get In, How to Pay, and Surviving on Campus."

Members of The Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod can take pride in the fact that our heritage of Christian higher education continues to stand tall among other colleges/universities. Dr. Kurt Krueger, president of the Concordia University System, encourages parents and students to include a Concordia college/university in search of higher education. The ten Concordia colleges/universities in the Concordia University System offer 157 majors for undergraduates and 57 majors for graduates. Students received over \$69 million in financial aid last academic year.