

University of Arkansas Points of Pride

May 7, 2013

Degree Offerings, Enrollment & Size

- The U of A offers 213 baccalaureate, master's, doctoral, professional and specialist degree programs—more than any other college or university in the state.
- More than 4,500 new students—24,537 total (could reach 25.5K next year) (August 2012)
- Smartest, most diverse class ever: average ACT score of 26, and a GPA of 3.6, 32% in top 10% of class (August 2012)
- The U of A has more than 1,250 international students representing 121 countries (August 2012).
- Hold enrollment at 28,000—SEC average 30,000
- Approximately 50 new tenure-track faculty, 100 non-tenure track last three years
- Since the summer of 2010, more than 9,100 U of A students have received Arkansas Challenge Scholarships funded by the Arkansas State Lottery. Of those, more than 7,700 students or nearly 85% were still enrolled or had graduated as of Spring 2013.
- Honors College enrollment has increased by 17% since 2009 while maintaining an average ACT score of 31 and GPA of 4.0. More than 50% of Honors College students who graduated in the last four years have studied abroad. And 100% of Honors

College graduates have engaged in undergraduate research with faculty mentors.

Philanthropy

- Mid-year fundraising numbers: nearly \$62 million, approximately 15% over last year's midyear report. (February 2013)
- Six million dollar gift for Jim and Joyce Faulkner Performing Arts Center. (September 2012)
- Since 2008, the University has raised more than \$481,000,000 for new facilities, programs, and scholarships.

Research & Awards

- The U of A is the only university or college in Arkansas in the Carnegie Foundation's highest research classification. In 2012, the university recorded \$123 million in research expenditures.
- University of Arkansas students have already won numerous awards this spring (2013), including four National Science Foundation Graduate [Research Fellowships](#), as well as highly prestigious [Goldwater](#), [Udall](#), and [Truman](#) Scholarships.
- Emily Chase, an art major in the Fulbright College and an Honors College Fellow, won a Windgate Fellowship Award. She is the first UA student to ever win this award, which is arguably the most prestigious undergraduate art award in the nation.

- Nathanael Franks, a member of the third-ranked University of Arkansas men's track and field team, was named the winner of the 9th Annual Coach Wooden Citizenship Cup. As a Chancellor's Scholar at the university, Franks completed his undergraduate studies in 2.5 years and earned two degrees in December 2012 – one in chemistry and one in physics. (April 2013)

New Construction & Renovations

- BOT approval for new general classroom and lab building (September 2012)
- New Residence hall, Founders Hall, held beam signing on 1/18/13. Expected completion this summer.
- Ozark Hall, Vol Walker Hall and Hotz also expected to be completed this summer.
- Hillside Auditorium opened this semester. (Spring 2013)

Recognitions

- Recently recognized by the *Chronicle of Higher Education* as being one of the "Best Colleges to Work For." (August 2012)
- UA recognized as being among nine up and coming public Universities in most recent *U.S. News and World Report*. (September 2012)

- The University is consistently ranked as one of the nation's best public values by multiple sources including:
 - Kiplinger's Personal Finance — which ranked the U of A 65th on its top 100 'Best Values in Public Colleges' list for 2012-2013.
 - The Princeton Review — which recognized the University as one of the top 75 schools on its "2013 Best Value Colleges" list.
 - And Forbes — which ranked the U of A 44th on its "Top 100 Best Buy Colleges" list last year.
- The University has an annual economic impact on the state in excess of \$724 million.
- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked the Sam M. Walton College of Business No. 1 in the nation for fulltime MBA graduates employed at graduation. *U.S. News* also recognized Walton College as 27th best in the country among public undergraduate business schools.
- The Fay Jones School of Architecture tied for No. 1 in two different categories in the annual survey of "America's Best Architecture and Design Schools," a study conducted by the Design Futures Council and also published in the November/December 2012 issue of *DesignIntelligence*. Earning the top spot for "Regional Respect and Admiration" and "Best Small School Design Program," the Fay Jones School was ranked 19th in the nation overall.
- *U.S. News & World Report* ranked the School of Law 36th among public law schools.

- A 2012 *U.S. News & World Report* survey of college leaders across the U.S. gave the University a top-10 ranking among public universities for having made “the most promising and innovative changes” to advance academics and the student learning experience.

Athletics

- The graduation rate for student-athletes increased for the sixth consecutive year—and now stands at 73 percent. (May 2012)
- The men’s team hosted and won the 2013 NCAA Indoor Track and Field Championships, the 43rd national title for Razorback athletics in five different sports.

Goals

- Goal is to be Top 50 Public research University by 2021

Events

- Steve Wozniak, co-founder of Apple, spoke to the campus on April 6.
- Agriculture Secretary Tom Vilsack spoke on April 23rd as part of Dale and Betty Bumpers Distinguished lecture series.
- Honorary degrees to be awarded to President Ricardo Martinelli and Lee Bodenhamer this commencement.

- The University has hosted the Dalai Lama, Elie Wiesel, Jane Goodall and President George W. Bush in recent years as a part of its Distinguished Lecture Series. And in 2012, President Bill Clinton kicked off the Dale and Betty Bumpers Distinguished Lecture Program.