Moore School Gets Top Ranking For 18th Consecutive Year

The Moore School’s graduate program in international business is the top-ranked public university program in the nation and No. 2 among all institutions, according to U.S. News & World Report.

This marks the 18th consecutive year that the University of South Carolina program has been ranked either No. 1 or No. 2. The only public university ranked in the top five in graduate international business, the University of South Carolina outpaced the University of Pennsylvania (Wharton), Columbia University, Harvard, Duke (Fuqua), New York University, the University of Michigan-Ann Arbor (Ross), UCLA, and the University of California-Berkeley (Haas).

The ranking appeared in the 2008 issue of U.S. News & World Report’s “America’s Best Graduate Schools,” on the newsstands April 2nd.

“We are very pleased to continue our excellent ranking in U.S. News & World Report,” said Joel A. Smith III, dean. “Once again, our outstanding faculty, staff, and students made this happen.”

Thunderbird Graduate School (Garvin) of Arizona led the rankings. Wharton ranked 3rd, Columbia and Duke tied at 4th, the University of Michigan was 6th, Harvard and NYU tied at 7th, UCLA was 9th, and UC-Berkeley was 10th.

To calculate the specialty rankings—such as international business—magazine researchers asked for expert opinion from business school deans, program heads, and senior faculty about program quality, and also surveyed professionals who hire new graduates. Researchers also gathered statistical indicators that measure the quality of the school’s faculty, research, and students. These data came from surveys of more than 1,200 programs and some 12,500 academics and professionals that were conducted in the fall of 2006.

In August 2006, the Moore School was ranked No. 1 in undergraduate international business for the tenth year by U.S. News in its annual survey, “America’s Best Colleges Guide.”

Moore School Breaks Into Wall Street Journal Rankings

The Moore School of Business has for the first time been included in The Wall Street Journal’s annual rankings of top business schools. The school was ranked 49th out of 51 business schools in a “Regional Ranking” in the September 20 edition of the Journal.

The school was also listed among the top ten programs from around the world for the quality of its international business program, based on recruiters’ perceptions of business schools’ academic disciplines.

“We’re thrilled to be included in this ranking because it is totally focused on what recruiters think about our students,” said Moore School Dean Joel Smith. “It’s a tribute to the creative focus and energy of our Graduate Career Management Office.”

Moore Ranks Third for Fastest Return

In its bi-annual ranking of MBA programs, BusinessWeek ranked Moore School 3rd among schools for “fastest return” on an MBAer’s education investment. In its October 23, 2006 issue, the magazine evaluated costs and graduates’ salary increases after graduation and concluded that the “years to break even” for a Moore MBA were 4.39, placing USC’s business school ahead of such institutions as Notre Dame and Emory, and well ahead of others, including Northwestern, Columbia, Harvard, Stanford, and MIT.

In its overall rankings of MBA programs, BusinessWeek placed Moore among 30 U.S. Programs Also Considered for Ranking, after its Top 30 U.S. Programs and 8 Second Tier Programs. The rankings were based on surveys of soon-to-be graduates of MBA programs and surveys of corporate recruiters.

More (Moore) Rankings

The Moore School appeared in a number of rankings this year, including some first-time rankings.

A brand-new publication, ReportED, has ranked the Moore School’s MBA program 54th out of 100 programs worldwide and 32nd out of 50 U.S. MBA programs. The magazine surveyed students, recruiters, and faculty from around the world and consulted with organizations such as the AACSB (Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business International) and AMBA (Association of MBAs).

The Economist has ranked Moore School’s MBA program 94th out of 100 programs worldwide. The rankings are based on surveys of business schools and students.

While not a ranking per se, LatinTrade recently gave scores on a half-dozen characteristics to 66 MBA programs around the world, among them, USC’s Moore
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School. Based on a 1-5 scale, the Moore School scored above a “4” on every trait, and particularly well on “motivates teamwork” (4.76), “innovative curriculum” (4.65), and “diverse student body” (4.79). The results were based on surveys of alumni, students, recruiters, and faculty.

Darla Moore Inducted Into S.C. Business Hall of Fame

Philanthropist and financier Darla Moore, after whom the Moore School of Business is named, was inducted into the South Carolina Business Hall of Fame on May 24.

She was chosen by the selection committee of Junior Achievement of Central South Carolina, one of the sponsors of the Hall of Fame.

Moore is vice president of Rainwater, Inc. A native of Lake City, South Carolina, she earned her bachelor’s degree in political science from the University of South Carolina (USC) in 1975 and holds an MBA from George Washington University.

She has donated $70 million over the past nine years to USC’s School of Business, which was renamed in her honor in 1998. Moore has also contributed money to Clemson University’s Eugene T. Moore School of Education, named after her father.

Moore is the fourth South Carolina woman to be named to the Hall of Fame. The inductees are chosen on the basis of integrity, leadership, and impact on a community.

Moore founded and chairs the Palmetto Institute, a nonprofit think tank aimed at improving per capita income in South Carolina. Other projects of hers include improving the beauty of public spaces in Charleston and founding the Lake City Community Foundation to improve the quality of life for residents in Moore’s hometown.

She serves on the board of USC and the New York University Medical School and Hospitals. Moore was the first woman profiled on the cover of Fortune magazine and was named to the magazine’s list of the “Top 50 Most Powerful Women in American Business.”

She has served on numerous corporate boards, including Hospital Corporation of America and Martha Stewart Living Omnimedia. She currently serves on the boards of The South Financial Group and MPS Group, and on the National Advisory Board of JP Morgan. She was formerly a managing director of JP Morgan’s predecessor bank, Chemical Bank.

Moore School Professors Lead FDIB Program in Africa

Moore School of Business Professors Douglas P. Woodward and Robert J. Rolfe led a program to Africa May 12-29 for 15 business faculty from 11 U.S. colleges and universities. The program was designed to raise awareness about the economic, political, business, and cultural environments that exist in sub-Saharan Africa today.

The Faculty Development in International Business-Africa Program was conducted in Kenya and South Africa. It included more than two dozen business visits, cultural experiences, and academic visits and lectures. The participants also went on a safari at the Kenyan Maasai Mara game preserve.

“These FDIB programs give you a very different perspective, one that you can bring to the classroom,” said Rolfe, professor of international business at Moore. Co-leader Woodward is professor of economics and director of the Division of Research at the Moore School.

The FDIB-Africa Program is offered by a consortium of CIBER (Center for International Business Education and Research) universities, and is funded by the U.S. Department of Education.

The FDIB-Africa Program is lead-managed by the University of South Carolina. Cosponsors are Ohio State University, Florida International University, University of Connecticut, University of Florida, University of Maryland, University of Memphis, University of Michigan, and University of Pittsburgh.

Moore School Professors Andrew Spicer, William Kettinger, and Randolph Martin were among those who took part in the Africa program.

For the past 18 years, various Moore School professors have also conducted an FDIB workshop on the USC-Columbia campus designed to internationalize business school faculty from across the country and prepare them to teach international business. This year’s FDIB program was held June 4-9.