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NEWS RELEASE

Sept. 17, 2009

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UM MAKES WASHINGTON MONTHLY'S TOP COLLEGES LIST

MISSOULA —

The University of Montana was ranked 132nd out of 258 national universities by the Washington Monthly in its annual college rankings, released this month.

The independently owned political magazine, which began ranking colleges in 2005, judges schools based on three criteria: social mobility (recruiting and graduating low-income students); research (producing cutting-edge scholarship and doctoral degrees); and service (encouraging students to give something back to their country). UM ranked 196th, 143rd and 54th in the respective categories to earn its overall ranking of 132.

According to Paul Glastris, editor in chief of The Washington Monthly, the publication uses statistics compiled by the federal government and independent organizations nationwide to determine its yearly rankings. The rankings reflect what colleges are doing for the country, not just what they can do for students, he said.

“We appreciate very much this recognition of the work the University does that benefits the students, community and country,” UM President George M. Dennison said. “Too often the rankings have placed more weight on the dollars expended rather than the actual outcomes.”

The publication ranked Montana State University-Bozeman at No. 192.

To view Washington Monthly's rankings online, visit

http://www.washingtonmonthly.com/college_guide/.

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