

UC San Diego Ranked 7 th Best Public University in U.S. News & World Report Nationwide Survey

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Pat JaCoby

The University of California, San Diego ranked as the seventh best public university in the nation in the 2009 *America's Best Colleges* guidebook issued today by *U.S. News & World Report*, up one rank from the 2008 listings.

Among all 262 national universities-164 public and 98 private-UC San Diego is listed as 35th, up three ranks from last year, and tied in the current list with Georgia Institute of Technology, Lehigh University and the University of Rochester, N.Y.

Topping the ranks of national universities were Harvard, Princeton and Yale, respectively. UC Berkeley is ranked first among public universities; UC San Diego is tied at seventh with Georgia Institute of Technology and the University of Wisconsin-Madison.

A first-time category of "Up and Coming Schools" in the guidebook ranks UC San Diego as 14th among national universities. The category, according to *U.S. News*, was initiated "to identify colleges and universities that have recently made striking improvements or innovations-schools everyone should be watching."

The new 2009 guidebook includes a separate category for engineering schools. In it, the UC San Diego Jacobs School of Engineering is ranked 17th among engineering schools whose highest degree is a doctorate, and the school's biomedical/biomedical engineering department is ranked fourth in the nation.

To rank colleges and universities, *U.S. News* first assigns schools to a group of their peers, based on the basic categories developed by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching. Those in the National Universities group are the 262 American universities that offer a wide range of undergraduate majors as well as master's and doctoral degrees; some emphasize research. In each category, data up to 15 indicators of academic quality are gathered from each school and tabulated. Schools are ranked within categories by their total weighted score. Schools that receive the same number rank are tied and listed in alphabetical order.

Media Contact: Pat JaCoby, 858-534-7404