## **Local Schools**



## ASU Achieves Top Tier Ranking

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## **ASU** Achieves Top Tier Ranking

JONESBORO, Ark. - Arkansas State University has been ranked by the editors of *U.S. News & World Report* in *America's Best Colleges 2012* as a Tier I southern regional institution of higher education.

This is the second year in a row that ASU has achieved Tier I status and it provides additional objective evidence of institutional quality and value beyond that associated with the regional accreditation and twenty specialized accreditations earned and held by ASU.

"The entire campus community should feel justifiably proud of this signal accomplishment," Interim Chancellor Dan Howard commented. Higher undergraduate admission standards, improved retention rates, increased graduation rates, and larger numbers of alumni donors all contributed to this success.

Howard went on to underscore the centrality of faculty in helping to achieve this ranking by their commitment to the success of students and the special bonds forged between faculty and students that help students survive and thrive at ASU and to become successful alumni who remain connected and supportive of their alma mater.

He also stated that the warmth, friendliness and competency of the staff complement the efforts of the faculty, which helps to attract well-qualified students to ASU and to encourage students to persist through graduation.

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