What They're Saying About Rice

Rice University is considered one of the nation’s premier institutions of higher education. Here's why:

Fast Facts
- Consistently ranked among top 20 universities in U.S. overall and for Hispanic students
- Ranked among world's top 50 universities
- No. 1 in materials science research
- No. 1 best quality of student life
- No. 4 best value among private universities
- No. 10 for great financial aid
- No. 10 total number of National Science Foundation graduate fellows
- Two Nobel Prize winners in chemistry
- 72 percent of freshmen graduated top 5 percent of high school class
- 5:1 student-to-faculty ratio with median class size of 15
- Students from 88 countries and all 50 U.S. states
- 16 consecutive years of NCAA conference championship athletic teams

Undergraduate Education
U.S. News & World Report
- Ranked among top 20 national universities (every year since the rankings began in 1983)

Princeton Review
- No. 1 best quality of student life (2010 and 2011)
- No. 10 for great financial aid (2011)

Fiske Guide to Colleges
- A “Best Buy School” (2010 edition)

Kiplinger’s Personal Finance Magazine
- No. 4 best value among private universities (2010)

Forbes.com/Center for College Affordability & Productivity
- Ranked among top 25 of America’s Best Colleges (2010)

Graduate Education
National Science Foundation
- No. 10 total number of NSF graduate fellows (2008)

U.S. News & World Report
- Among top 10 for biomedical/bioengineering specialty; No. 9 for atomic/molecular/optical specialty; No. 9 for computer programming language specialty in computer science (2009)

Susanne M. Glasscock School of Continuing Education
- One of the largest providers in the nation of professional development for Advanced Placement and International Baccalaureate teachers
- Annually attracts more than 12,000 enrollees in credit and noncredit courses
- Has taught English as a Second Language to students from more than 100 countries

Research

Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index (Academic Analytics)
- The most productive research university in Texas (2008)
- Among top 10 research universities in the country (2008)

Patent Scorecard
- No. 1 Most Impactful Patent Portfolio among American research universities (2008)

School of Architecture
Design Intelligence
- No. 8 undergraduate architecture program (2009)
- Among top 20 graduate architecture programs (2009)

George R. Brown School of Engineering
U.S. News & World Report
- Among top 10 departments in biomedical/biomedical engineering (2008, 2009) and bioengineering (2010)

Princeton Review
- Among top 50 undergraduate computer game design programs (2010)

Times Higher Education
- No. 1 worldwide in materials science research (2010)

Faculty Scholarly Productivity Index (Academic Analytics)
- No. 1 program in computer science (2008)
- No. 10 program in computational science (2008)

Jesse H. Jones Graduate School of Business
The Economist
- No. 1 MBA program in Texas and the Southwest (2010)

Princeton Review
- Among top 15 for finance and accounting in Student Opinion Honors (2010)

Financial Times
- Among full-time MBA programs, No. 4 on “Best in Finance” list (2010) and No. 9 on “Best in Accountancy” list (2010)

Business Week
- No. 8 Professional MBA program (2009)
The Shepherd School of Music

- The only college selected for the John F. Kennedy Center for the Performing Arts Conservatory Project six years in a row
- One of the top orchestral training programs in the country, with alumni in famed orchestras, including the New York Philharmonic; the Cleveland Orchestra; the Boston, Chicago and San Francisco symphonies; and the Metropolitan Opera Orchestra in New York City

Fiske Guide to Colleges
- Among top 10 undergraduate music programs (2010)

Academics

Students
- 72 percent graduated top 5 percent of class
- 21 percent were National Merit, National Achievement or National Hispanic Scholars
- No. 1 for the percentage of students receiving National Science Foundation fellowships
- Undergraduate student-to-faculty ratio: 5:1
- Median class size: 15 students

Miscellaneous

Princeton Review’s Best 373 Colleges guide (2011)
- No. 2 for Lots of Race/Class Interaction between students of different backgrounds
- No. 10 for Great Financial Aid and for Happiest Students

Kaplan/Newsweek Finding the Right College for You guide (2011)
- No. 10 for Most Desirable Urban Schools
- No. 25 for Most Desirable Colleges Overall

Hispanic Magazine
- Selected as one of top 20 colleges and universities for Hispanic students

Athletics

2009–10 Highlights
- Baseball, men’s tennis, volleyball and golf earned berths in NCAA postseason play
- Baseball extends streak to 16 consecutive NCAA berths, one of only four teams to have active streaks of this length
- Men’s tennis made its eighth consecutive NCAA tournament and advanced past the first round for the fourth time in the last eight years
- Anthony Rendon named Baseball America’s national College Player of the Year and winner of the Dick Howser Trophy, the National Collegiate Baseball Writers Association player of the year award
- Meredith Schamun, National Volleyball Setter of the Year
- Baseball, volleyball and men’s tennis win C-USA team championships
- Bruno Rosa (men’s tennis) and Anthony Rendon (baseball) earned C-USA Player of the Year honors
- Christopher Brown becomes Rice’s first medalist in conference golf competition since 1989
- Six Owls earn Academic All-America honors, and a record four (John Berens, Jessie Boulavsky, Erin Scott and Katelyn Ostendorf) earned NCAA postgraduate scholarships
- Rice places a record 227 student–athletes on the 2009–10 C-USA Commissioner’s Honor Roll
- Women’s swimming records highest GPA among any NCAA Division I swimming program — men’s or women’s
- No. 1 academic ranking of Conference USA teams by U.S. News & World Report

The Journal of Economic Literature
- Dept. of Economics ranked No. 6 in public economics and No. 19 in mathematical and quantitative economics (2008)

Political Science Association
- Dept. of Political Science ranked No. 19 in scholarly impact (per faculty) (2004)

American Psychology Association
- Dept. of Psychology ranked No. 3 in productivity and No. 11 overall for industrial–organizational programs (2004)

James A. Baker III Institute for Public Policy
- Ranked as a top 40 think tank in the U.S. (2008–10)

Domestic and Foreign Policy Research Institute
- Ranked as a top 40 think tank in the U.S. (2008–10)

Rice Alliance for Technology and Entrepreneurship
- Assisted in launch of more than 250 new technology companies, more than 40 of which have been based on Rice University technology
- Home to world’s richest and largest business plan competition with more than $1 million awarded in 2010

Princeton Review and Entrepreneur magazine
- No. 6 graduate entrepreneur program in U.S. (2010)

Nobel Prize
- No. 9 in atomic, molecular, optical physics (2008)

Wiess School of Natural Sciences

Nobel Prize

U.S. News & World Report
- Dept. of Political Science ranked among top 20 best graduate schools in International Relations (2005)
- Dept. of Economics ranked No. 6 in public economics and No. 19 in mathematical and quantitative economics (2008)

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