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Princeton Review Says Law School is One of Nation's Best

ORANGE, Calif., Sept. 28, 2004  The highly regarded Princeton Review has included the Chapman University School of Law in its 2005 edition of Best 117 Law Schools, which is a student opinion-driven publication.

According to the publications vice president, Robert Franek, every school profiled offers students an outstanding law education, yet each one is distinctive in its academic programs and campus environment. We developed comprehensive profiles of the schools and compiled ranking lists in multiple categories to help students choose the best law school for them.

Among key comments in Chapman’s listing are: surprisingly personal administration, fully modernized facility, teachers meet individually with students, best professors, and clinics and practical opportunities are abundant.

The ranking recognizes the meteoric rise in the quality of Chapman’s program of legal education, said Parham Williams, dean of the law school. I am especially pleased that Chapman ranked fourth in the nation in the important category Best Quality of Life. We’ve worked hard to build that, so it’s wonderful to see that it is being recognized.

But that ranking of 4th in one category is only part of the incredible news, as Chapman President Doti calls it. There are 11 categories in all, and his analysis of the data reveals that Chapman is in great company.

Reports Dr. Doti: Only one California law school, Stanford, scored in the top 10 in three of the 11 categories. Chapman scored in the top 10 in two of the categories Best Quality of Life and Professors Rock. Only three other schools scored at least two top-10 rankings USC, UC Hastings and UCLA.

So it’s very accurate to say that our aspirations of national recognition and holding a place of significance in American legal education are coming to fruition. It’s also significant that these rankings are based on student responses rather than esoteric data.

The Chapman University School of Law was established in 1994, held its first class in 1995 and received full approval from the American Bar Association in 1998. Current enrollment is about 500 students, whose average LSAT score ranks them among the top third of all ABA approved law schools in the nation.