



the mustang

Winter 2012

University of the Southwest listed at 13 in 2012 edition of Best Regional Colleges

University of the Southwest earned the number 13 spot among Regional Colleges in the West in the 2012 edition of Best Colleges by U.S. News Media Group. The exclusive rankings, which include rankings of more than 1,400 schools nationwide, are available now at www.usnews.com/colleges, and were also published in the September issue of *U.S. News & World Report*.

Over the past two decades, the U.S. News college rankings, which group schools based on categories created by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, has grown to be perhaps the most commonly utilized reference resource for students and parents considering higher education opportunities.

The college ranking categories used in the 2012 rankings have been updated to reflect the 2010 edition of the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education's basic classification. As a result, some colleges have changed categories in the 2012 edition rankings. Consequently, while USW was ranked 84th in 2011 it is now ranked 13th in its current category.

Also included in the rankings for the first time are all for-profit institutions that meet the other U.S. News criteria to become eligible for the rankings. For more information about the 2012 Best Colleges ranking methodology, go to www.usnews.com/collegemeth.

"University of the Southwest has worked hard to establish a tradition of quality in the education we provide to students in our region and elsewhere," noted Jordan Bodine, dean of enrollment services. "This designation serves

as public confirmation of our continued efforts."

The 2012 Best Colleges feature the established rankings of the Best National Universities and Best National Liberal Arts Colleges, while also including rankings of A+ Schools for B Students, Great Schools at Great Prices, and Up-and-Coming Schools, among others. The 2012 Best Colleges package provides thorough highly utilized examination of how more than 1,400 accredited four-year schools compare on a set of up to 16 widely accepted indicators of excellence. Among the many factors weighed in determining the rankings, the key measures of quality are: peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving, and, for National Universities and National Liberal Art Colleges, "graduation rate performance" and high school counselor ratings of colleges.



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Congratulations

- **Dennis Atherton**, former Provost of University of the Southwest, retired in November after 12 years of service to USW.
- **Paul Campbell**, former USW Trustee, was recently appointed to the Community Development Council by Gov. Susana Martinez. Campbell is the owner of Forrest Tire in Hobbs.
- **Jeff Cearley**, '03 (MSE Administration), was named Hobbs High School principal. Cearley served as principal of Houston Jr. High since 2005 after serving as the HHS head football coach and economics teacher.
- **Christie Fadke**, friend of USW, received the Outstanding Citizen of the Year award at the Hobbs Chamber of Commerce and Hobbs Jaycees Junior Chamber annual banquet in Hobbs. Fadke is involved with the Hobbs Schools and volunteers with CASA, Southwest Symphony and the Lea County Women's Health Network.
- **Alisha Fortner**, '99 (BS, Elementary Education/Psychology), received the Outstanding Educator of the Year award at the Hobbs Chamber of Commerce and Hobbs Jaycees Junior Chamber annual banquet. Alisha has been a teacher in the Hobbs Schools for 12 years.

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2011 Fall Enrollment Figures Released

University of the Southwest officials released enrollment figures for the 2011 Fall Semester. Registration for 2011 is listed at 584 students, up from the 2010 count of 538. Of the 584 students, 252 are enrolled in USW's distance education graduate programs and 332 are undergraduate students.

The number of credit hours in which students enrolled also rose from 5,000 in 2010 to 5,708 this year.

In addition, the number of students choosing to live on campus has increased from 145 in 2010 to 185 this year.

Gary A. Dill, president for USW, credits the increased enrollment to several factors, including:

- hiring educational consultants in the area of student recruitment,
- expanding distance education majors to meet student demands,
- the addition of the volleyball athletic program,
- holding tuition costs steady from last year, and, but most importantly,
- the efforts of staff across the campus to provide a high level of quality attention to students through the entire process of program completion.

"Across the board, our staff members have assertively cooperated with each other to ensure our students have a smooth entry into our university and that they continue to experience that high level of attention as they complete their coursework and earn their degrees," said Dill.

USW's Master's Program in Counseling Ranked Number Four in Nation by The Best Colleges Website

San Antonio, Texas, Internet-based publication *The Best Colleges* recently released its top 10 online master's in counseling programs ratings and listed University of the Southwest at number four for its mental health counseling program.

In its description of USW, *The Best Colleges* stated: "This small, private New Mexico school offers an affordable online masters in counseling with intimate class sizes and a faith-oriented perspective." The ranking can be seen at <http://www.thebestcolleges.org/top-online-masters-in-counseling/>.

The Best Colleges publication, according to its website, bases its rankings on publicly available data evaluated according to several different criteria, including market reputation, accreditation, student satisfaction, ratio of students to instructors, and tuition.

"It's exciting to see our mental health online counseling program meet such high standards and be recognized on a national level as a program of excellence," said James Smith, vice president for academics and technology for USW.

USW offers two distance education programs in counseling: mental health counseling and school counseling.

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- **Kenneth "Buster" Goff**, former USW Trustee, was appointed to the State Fair Commission by Gov. Susana Martinez. Goff is a farmer and rancher in Hobbs and is the current chairman of the Lea County Water Users Association.
- **Judy Hanna**, '93 (BBA, Management) and '06 (MSE, Administration), received the Paul Harris Fellow Award from the Rotary Clubs. Hanna is the current publisher of the Hobbs News Sun and received the USW *Alumna of the Year Award* in 2010.
- **Julienne Holmes**, '10 (BAS, English), published a new book earlier this year entitled *The Stalker at Night*.
- **Ben Jaime**, friend of USW, received the Businessperson of the Year award from the Hobbs Hispano Chamber of Commerce. Jaime is the community relations director for Xcel Energy in Hobbs.
- **Virginia R. Miller**, '04 (BAS, Humanities/Fine Arts), was published in the April 2011 issue of *Literature for Kids*, with a nonfiction article entitled "1+1=Woof! Woof!"
- **Javier Perez**, '11 (BBA, Management), recently joined the Pettigrew & Associates team as a laboratory assistant.
- **Elaine Sena**, '06 (BBA, Management), received the Outstanding Young Woman award at the Hobbs Chamber of Commerce and Hobbs Jaycees Junior Chamber annual banquet. Sena served as the principal and administrator of the King's Gate Academy in Hobbs.
- **Sam Spencer**, USW Trustee, was named chairman of the Independent Community Bankers Association of New Mexico. Spencer is currently president and CEO of Lea County State Bank in Hobbs.
- **Charley Smith**, former USW Trustee, received the Silver Concho Award from the Lea County Cowboy Hall of Fame at the 34th annual Llano Estacado Party.
- **John Tydlaska, Jr.**, '69 (BBA), authored a newly published book entitled *America 2012, Return to Greatness or Further Destruction*.



USW Alumni Honored with Awards During Homecoming



Anne & Vern Henning (parents of Kevin Henning), and Carlos & Sheila Fuentes receive awards from Dr. Gary Dill.

University of the Southwest's Alumni Association presented awards as part of several activities scheduled for USW's 50th Anniversary Homecoming week and Mustang Test Drive. This year's awards were presented at the end of the first annual Alumni Chapel Service on Oct. 12, 2011, in the Scarborough Memorial Library Atrium on the USW campus.

Sheila Fuentes of Hobbs was selected to receive the Alumni Association's most prestigious award, the *Alumna of the Year*. Recipients of this award have distinguished themselves through personal or professional achievement. Recipients are loyal alumni who embody what it means to be a USW Mustang and recognize exceptional service to the community and demonstrate the values of a USW education: servant leadership, individual faith, responsibility, and initiative.

The current principal of St. Helena School, Fuentes graduated from University of the Southwest with a Bachelor's in Science in elementary education in 1998 and in 2004 she earned her Master's of Science in education administration.

Fuentes started her career teaching first grade in August of 1998 at St. Helena School and after six years of

teaching first, fifth, and sixth grades, became the principal of the school in 2004. This is her seventh academic year of service as principal of the private Christian school.

Fuentes firmly believes in the vision and mission of St. Helena's School and appreciates the opportunity to serve her students by providing a quality education in a positive Christian learning environment. Fuentes is a Hobbs native and is married to Carlos. The couple has two children, Raquel and Daniel.

Kevin Henning was named the 2011 *Distinguished Young Alumnus*. This award is presented to a young alumnus whose achievements in his or her profession or chosen field and service to the community set a standard of excellence worthy of recognition. Henning received his Bachelor of Business Administration from USW in 2005, with a major in

management information systems and a minor in accounting.

Henning received his Master's of Science in business statistics in 2008 from Texas Tech University and his Ph.D. in business statistics in August 2011. Henning is currently employed as a Clinical Assistant Professor of Business Analysis at Sam Houston State University in Huntsville, Texas. He teaches four classes at the university, including introductory business analysis courses and a senior-level business forecasting class.

Kevin attributes much of his educational success to retired USW professor William Roan and states Roan's statistics class is the main reason he chose to pursue graduate studies in that field. Kevin's parents, Anne and Vern Henning, were present at the award ceremony and accepted the award on his behalf.

Other activities for Homecoming Weekend included a pep rally and bonfire, Lady Mustangs Volleyball game, Mustang Test Drive for potential USW students; and the Fourth Annual Saddle Up 'N Cycle event, a fundraising event for USW student mission trips. With around 50 riders, we had a successful event and raised enough funds for our students to participate in a mission trip to the Los Angeles Dream Center in 2012.



Riders line up for the 4th Annual Saddle Up 'N Cycle.



Capt. Chesley "Sully" Sullenberger Speaks at Fall Lecture

Chesley B. "Sully" Sullenberger, III is the heroic pilot who masterfully landed US Airways Flight 1549 on the Hudson River and saved the lives of 155 people. Captain of what has been dubbed the "Miracle on the Hudson," Sullenberger is an aviation safety expert and accident investigator who also is the founder and chief executive officer of Safety Reliability Methods, a consulting company dedicated to management, safety, performance and reliability consulting. He is also the CBS News Aviation and Safety Expert, providing analysis of aviation safety and contributing to CBS News broadcasts and platforms across the news division.

Sullenberger was welcomed to Hobbs by the 10th grade class at Hobbs High School on Monday, Oct. 24th, where he spoke about staying calm in the face of adversity and preparing for the unexpected. Students asked questions about how to become a pilot and what training he had received to prepare for the Hudson River event. Sully indicated that although you can never prepare for such a disaster, his training and ability to think outside the box helped him to save the people aboard the plane, which was his greatest reward.

That evening, Sullenberger presented his lecture to an audience of 1,600 members of the community, including a large group from the Southeastern New Mexico Aviators Association. Sullenberger met with members of the audience after the lecture to sign the *The New York Times* best-selling book, *Highest Duty: My Search for What Really Matters* (October 2009).

After logging more than 20,000 hours of service in the skies, Sullenberger became an international hero on January 15, 2009, when he and his crew safely guided US Airways Flight 1549 to an emergency water landing on New York City's frigid Hudson River. The Airbus A320's two engines had lost thrust following a bird strike. Sullenberger and his crew have won international acclaim for their actions that day, including the passage of a Congressional resolution recognizing their bravery.

Sullenberger was named one of *TIME* magazine's 100 most influential people in 2009. He has received numerous awards, including the Medal of Valor from the Simon Wiesenthal Center, the American Spirit Award from the Congressional Medal of Honor Committee, the Neil Armstrong and Distinguished Alumnus Awards from Purdue University, the United States Air Force Auxiliary's Pilot of the Year Award and Harvard University's Humanitarian Award, among others.



Capt. Sullenberger poses with students from the USW SIFE team and SGA.

Alumna uses USW swag for "College Corner"



Catherine Bass, '02 (BS, Secondary Education), teaches at the middle and high schools in Loving, New Mexico. As many middle and high schools are doing this year, Bass created a "College Corner" using USW items for her display.

To create your own USW display for your classroom, please contact Laurie Dean at ldean@usw.edu or at 575-492-2108, to receive brochures and other items.

Upcoming Events

NFL Four Time MVP to Speak at Spring Lecture



Since joining the Indianapolis Colts as the first overall pick in the 1998 draft, Peyton has earned his place among the NFL's greatest quarterbacks. He earned NFL MVP honors in 2003, 2004, 2008 and 2009, becoming the only player in NFL history to be named MVP four times. Peyton has made 11 Pro Bowl appearances and been named to the *Associated Press* NFL All-Pro First Team five times, including three consecutive seasons from 2003-05.

Manning will be the keynote speaker for the Spring Jack Maddox Distinguished Lecture Series, which will be held on **Thursday, MARCH 29, 2012, at 7:00 P.M. at Tydings Auditorium in Hobbs**. Tickets for the

event are **FREE**, but required for admittance. You may reserve a ticket now by contacting Laurie Dean at University of the Southwest, 575-492-2108. Tickets will not be available for mail or at area ticket locations until mid-January, 2012. Tickets are limited to 6 per person.

Manning holds NFL records for consecutive seasons with over 4,000 yards passing and the most total seasons with 4,000 or more yards passing in a career. He is also the all-time Colts franchise leader in career wins, career passing yards, pass attempts, pass completions, and passing touchdowns. In 2009, Manning was listed by *The Sporting News* as the No. 1 player in the NFL and in the same year Fox Sports named him 'Player of the Decade'. In 2010, he was named the eighth best player in history during the NFL's *Top 100: NFL's Greatest Players* program, and is the only active player in the top 10 category.

On Feb. 4, 2007, Manning led the Colts to a 29-17 victory over Chicago in Super Bowl XLI, winning MVP honors in the championship contest.

In 1999, Peyton established The PeyBack Foundation to promote the

future success of disadvantaged youth by assisting established programs that provide leadership and growth opportunities for children at risk. The Foundation funds various youth based organizations in Indiana, Louisiana and Tennessee and has distributed more than \$5.5 million through grants and programs since its inception.

In recognition of his tremendous continuous contributions, Peyton was the recipient of the Henry P. Iba Citizen Athlete Award, *USA Weekend's* Most Caring Athlete Award, the Bryon "Whizzer" White Humanitarian Award and was named the 2005 Walter Payton Man of the Year by the NFL. These distinguished honors serve as a reminder of all the good that Peyton and the PeyBack Foundation have done over the years and are an indication of all the good that will continue to be done for many years to come.

In 2009, Peyton and his brother Eli, along with their father Archie, co-authored a children's book entitled *Family Huddle*, which describes in simple text and pictures how the three Manning brothers played football as young boys.



USW announces 2012 Free Enterprise Dinner speaker



Jeffery Zaslow is a columnist for *The Wall Street Journal* and in 2009/2010 was the author or coauthor of three bestselling books. Zaslow will serve as the keynote speaker for the 2012 Free Enterprise Dinner to be held on **APRIL 24, 2012, at 6:00 p.m.** in the Jack & Mabel Maddox Student Life Center on the USW campus.

The Last Lecture, written with Randy Pausch, has been translated into 46 languages, and was #1 on

best-seller lists worldwide. There are 5 million copies in print in English alone, and the book has remained on *The New York Times* best-seller list for more than 100 weeks.

Zaslow's book about female friendship, *The Girls From Ames*, has spent 24 weeks on *The New York Times* list, rising to #3. *People* magazine named it one of the "Ten Best Books of the Year." Lifetime Television is adapting the book for a movie.

Most recently, Zaslow coauthored *Highest Duty*, the memoir of Capt. "Sully" Sullenberger, who famously landed US Airways Flight 1549 on the Hudson River. *Highest Duty* debuted at # 3 on *The New York Times* list.

The National Society of Newspaper Columnists twice named Zaslow as best general-interest columnist at a newspaper with over 100,000 circulations. In 2008, he received the Distinguished Column Writing

Award from the New York Newspaper Publishers Association. In 2000, Zaslow received the Will Rogers Humanitarian Award for using his column to help 47,000 disadvantaged children.

A Philadelphia native, Zaslow is a 1980 graduate of Carnegie Mellon, where he majored in creative writing. His wife, Sherry Margolis, is a TV news anchor with Fox 2 in Detroit. They have three daughters: Jordan, Alex and Eden.

Tickets for this event can be obtained by contacting USW at Idean@usw.edu or at 575-492-2108. Meal tickets are \$50 per plate, or several levels of sponsorships are available.

Two Lady Mustangs named to Coca-Cola Classic All-Tournament Team



Stephanie Brown

The University of the Southwest Volleyball team played in the Coca-Cola Classic Tournament hosted by Wayland Baptist University in Plainview, Texas, Aug. 27.

Stephanie Brown and L'Deana Coffey were named to the Coca-Cola Classic All-Tournament team. Coffey, an Outside/Rightside Hitter from Tatum, NM, saw two matches in the tournament and finished with four kills, two service aces, and four digs. The Lea County stand out also went through the entire tournament with zero hitting errors.

Brown, an Outside Hitter from El Paso, Texas, finished the tournament with a total of 35 kills, two service aces, 36 digs, and two blocks.



L'Deana Coffey

Class Notes

LIFE TOGETHER

- **Kayla Fisher**, '09 (MSE, Curriculum & Instruction) and Theodore Allen Stratton, were married on July 16, 2011 in Lubbock, TX.
- **Patricia Rodriguez**, '04 (BAS Human Relations/Computer Science), and Paul Campos were married on Oct. 1, 2011.
- **Amanda Nichole Allen**, '09 (BS, Elementary/Secondary Education) and Jason Ray Williams were married on Nov. 19, 2011.
- **Brendan Smith**, '01 (BS Secondary Education), and Kimberly McMillan were married on Dec. 22, 2011 in Waco, TX.

NEW LIFE

- Easton Michael Wilks was born to **Kate (Masterson) Wilks**, '02 (BBA, Marketing/Management) and **Travis Wilks**, '05 (BS, Secondary Education/PE), on March 20, 2011.
- Avonlea Brielle Brixner was born July 2, 2011 to **Sharilyn (Tippy) Brixner**, '07 (BS, Elementary Education) and Shane Brixner.
- Norah Rose Mitchell was born on Oct. 8, 2011 to **Melissa (Ferguson) Mitchell**, '10 (MSE, Early Childhood Education) and **Lee Mitchell**, '08 (BS, Elementary/Secondary Education).
- Paul David Evans was born on Oct. 18, 2011 to **Ryanne (Arnold) Evans**, '08 (BBA, General Business) and Michael Evans.
- Evelyn Christine Woodfin was born on Nov. 17, 2011 to Merilyn and **Jordan Woodfin**, '08 (BAS, General Business).
- Tyler Scot Whitehead was born on Nov. 17, 2011 to **Christina (McEachern) Whitehead**, '05 (BS, Secondary Education) and Aaron Whitehead.
- Hayden Joel Campbell was born Nov. 22, 2011 to **Heather (Cummings) Campbell**, '05 (BS, Elementary Education) and Joel Campbell.
- Hannah Elizabeth Gomez was born Dec. 7, 2011 to **Sarah (Johnson) Gomez**, '10 (BS, Biology) and **Fernando Gomez**, '10 (BS, Criminal Justice/Psychology).

FRIENDS PASSED

- **Gerry Ann Alexander**, friend of University of the Southwest, passed away on Aug. 26, 2011.
- **Ernie Naegele**, friend of USW, passed away on Sept. 14, 2011.
- **Jakob Perry Blackburn**, grandson of Kenneth Reed, USW Campus Minister, passed away on Oct. 1, 2011.
- **Kathey Mathews**, '02 (BS Psychology), passed away on Oct. 24, 2011.

Share Your News!!

Have you recently been married or do you have a new little bundle of joy? Do you have a new job you are excited about? University of the Southwest would like to hear from you! Share your news with classmates and the USW community by completing and mailing in the form below. Your news may be printed in the next issue of *The Mustang*. Our newsletter is published twice per year and will include as many alumni updates as space allows. Send completed form to USW, Attn: Laurie Dean, 6610 Lovington Hwy., #501, Hobbs, NM 88240

USW Alumni & Friends Information Update Form

Dr. / Mr. / Mrs. / Miss (circle one)

Name _____ USW Alum? _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ Zip _____

Home Phone () _____

Email Address _____

Employer _____

Job Title _____

Degree Earned at USW _____

Month/year _____

Major/Minor _____

Birthday _____

Wedding Anniversary _____

Maiden name or name used while at USW _____

Spouse _____ USW Alum? _____

Month/year _____

Spouse Major/Minor _____

Children (Names/Ages) _____

Additional Info _____

- **Debbie Baker**, staff of Great Western Dining on the USW campus, passed away on Nov. 5, 2011.
- **Rod Coffman**, former student and Lea County Sheriff, passed away on Dec. 5, 2011.
- **Dale Gandy**, member of the University of the Southwest Foundation, passed away Dec. 30, 2011.





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University Mission Statement

University of the Southwest is a Christ-centered educational community dedicated to developing men and women for a lifetime of servant leadership by emphasizing individual faith, responsibility, and initiative.

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Mission of *The Mustang*

The mission of *The Mustang* is to share with the alumni and friends of USW news and happenings regarding the University and each other.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK — for current events, campus calendars and athletic news!!

