

Top Ranked STEM Program

Andrews among top 30 schools

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In a recent ranking by Best Degree Programs of the best small colleges (under 4,000 students) in the United States for STEM degrees, Andrews University tied for second place. Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Massachusetts also ranked second, preceded only by the Stevens Institute of Technology in Hoboken, New Jersey. The 30 finalists were graded based on three criteria: research opportunities, awards & recognition, and variety of STEM majors—programs falling into the categories of Science, Technology, Engineering and Math.

Kelsey Fox, who created the list, notes in her entry for Andrews that the university has sought since its beginnings to “combine serious scholarship, quality research, and practical Christianity,” noting that Andrews is the only Seventh-day Adventist institution recognized as a national university.

Keith Mattingly, dean of the College of Arts & Sciences, explains that Andrews officially considers the Agriculture, Biology, Chemistry, Engineering & Computer Science, Math and Physics programs to be the components of the university’s STEM program. “Andrews is the only SDA institution in North America,” he notes, “with an Agriculture program,” something which contributed to the high ranking.

Though Andrews does not officially classify it as a STEM degree, Fox also notes Andrews’s position as the only institution on the list to offer a Department of Aviation. “Students interested in planes and flying can choose to study Aviation Flight, Aviation Maintenance, or specialized mission aviation training,” she writes, “or just partake in flight lessons conveniently located at

the campus airport. The Medical Laboratory Sciences program is also a strong program that provides opportunities for student research at both the undergraduate and graduate level.

“We appreciate receiving affirmation for our long-standing and sustained commitment to excellent science education,” says Mattingly.

“We were ecstatic to hear that we were rated so highly,” agrees Andrews STEM Coordinator David Stratton. “We live in an increasingly technology-driven world, and if Andrews does not step up to the plate...then that missional component is missing from the scientific community.”

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