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WORCESTER STATE COLLEGE IN THE PRINCETON REVIEW COLLEGE GUIDE

"THE BEST NORTHEASTERN COLLEGES-2006 EDITION"

(WORCESTER – August 25, 2005) Worcester State College (WSC) was selected by *The Princeton Review* as a "Best Northeastern College" for the new 2006 edition of its book, *The Best Northeastern Colleges* (Random House / Princeton Review, August 2, 2005). In the two-page spread on Worcester State College, *The Princeton Review* describes the school as a place for "open-minded students, most of whom pay their own way and know the value of an education."

"We are extremely pleased to be recognized for our value and academic quality," says WSC President Janelle C. Ashley. "It is especially gratifying that our students also confirm that Worcester State College is a special place and a real educational gem in central Massachusetts."

WSC is one of 224 select colleges and universities in the Northeast to receive this distinction. Of those, 37 are in Massachusetts and five are located in Worcester: Assumption College, Clark University, College of the Holy Cross, Worcester Polytechnic Institute and Worcester State College, the only state college selected from Massachusetts.

Robert Franek, V.P., Publishing, *The Princeton Review*, says "The schools in this book all have excellent academic programs. We chose them from several hundred Northeastern schools we considered based on institutional data we collect about the schools, our surveys of students at them, and our visits to schools over the years.

For this edition, *The Princeton Review* surveyed 53,000 students at the 224 schools in the book. Students were asked to rate their schools on several matters from the teaching ability of their professors to the campus food, and report on their experiences at them. Some of the student comments in the profile on Worcester State College are: "I have the opportunity to develop a student-professor relationship and know the professors see me as a person, not a number. . ." and "there's a good sense of diversity" on campus.

Unlike *The Princeton Review's* annual "Best Colleges" guidebook (the 2006 edition of which is titled *The Best 361*

Colleges), *The Best Northeastern Colleges* does not include school ranking lists. The 2006 edition of *The Best Northeastern Colleges* is the second edition of the book.

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