La Verne Among Most Secure Universities in U.S.

For the first time in its history, The University of La Verne has been selected as one of the “most secure” universities/colleges in the nation by Security Magazine in its annual “Security 500” rankings, announced yesterday in New York City. The “Security 500” ranks outstanding organizations and companies into what it called “17 vertical markets” to enable like organizations to compare programs.

For 2013, the University of La Verne was selected as the 4th most Secure college/university in California and the 22nd overall in the United States.

“I believe the initiatives, programs and policy enhancements—many developed just this year—by our Department and performed in collaboration with our partners have provided great results and strong evidence of our commitment to campus security and safety”, said Stan Skipworth, Director of the University’s Campus Safety Department.

“In 2013, we’ve significantly enhanced our emergency communications system to more swiftly and effectively alert the entire campus community in the event of an emergency. We’ve also recently completed a very large camera system expansion that gives our department the ability to better identify and respond to activities on the campus grounds and facilities and respond with the very best information. While these technologies have given us advantages in many crime prevention efforts, they also help us to find persons in need of medical aid much faster in many cases, and we can manage our traffic, parking and transportation programming more effectively.”

Skipworth added, “Our commitment to provide more information and resources through our upgraded website and our new social media sites have been very-well received. Of course, all of this is possible only because of the tremendous partners we have throughout the University as well as those within our local community.”

Other advancements by Campus Safety include the implementation of several new training programs completed by all Campus Safety Officers; the Emergency Preparedness Coordinator position and program created in February; a new Student Assistant Program to support Safety Escorts, Bicycle Registration and Anti-Theft programs; increased patrols of Student Housing facilities; expanded community outreach programs and more partnerships with our on-campus and off-campus partners, particularly with the La Verne Police and Fire Departments.

For more information about these rankings and the University of La Verne, please visit www.SecurityMagazine.com and http://sites.laverne.edu/campus-safety/.