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CONTACTS: Dixie Kline, director of communications, Sam M. Walton College of Business (501) 575-2539, dkline@walton.uark.edu

Doyle Z. Williams, dean, Sam M. Walton College of Business (501) 575-5949, doylez@walton.uark.edu

UA WALTON COLLEGE RANKS 43rd IN RESEARCH PRODUCTIVITY

FAYETTEVILLE, Ark. – A recent study focused on research productivity has found that the Sam M. Walton College of Business at the University of Arkansas ranks 43rd among the nation's public business schools for the 1994-1998 time period.

Walton College Dean Doyle Z. Williams said, "What is interesting about this study is not so much that the University of Arkansas ranks within the top 50 public business schools for the study period of 1986-98, but that our research performance has improved dramatically. The study examined business schools for the period 1986-1989, in which the University of Arkansas ranked 65th among the public business schools that appeared in the study. In the 1990-1993 time period, we were ranked 58th. So we have moved up 22 places to 43rd in public business schools since the first years of the study."

The study, "Serving Multiple Constituencies in the Business School: MBA Program versus Research Performance," was published in the Academy of Management Journal in December 2000. The study evaluated organizational research productivity. Productivity was measured by the average number of pages published by faculty at the top 100 private and public schools from 1986 through 1998 in 20 "top-tier" business journals.

Williams said, “Business schools strive to meet three goals: outreach, teaching and research. We are pleased that this study brings to light our research productivity, which is a
critical component of our mission. This ranking reflects the hard work and commitment of the Walton College faculty to conduct leading-edge research in the field of business.”

The authors of the research productivity study are James S. Trieschman, Dudley L. Moore Chair of Insurance and associate dean for faculty research, Terry College of Business at the University of Georgia; Alan R. Dennis, John T. Chambers Chair of Internet Systems, Kelly School of Business, Indiana University; Gregory B. Northcraft, Harry J. Gray Professor of Executive Leadership, College of Commerce and Business Administration, University of Illinois; and Albert W. Niemi, Jr. Tolleson, Chair in Business Leadership and Dean, Cox Graduate School of Management, Southern Methodist University.

The Walton College has been recognized as moving up the academic prestige ladder. In the fall of 2000, the U.S. News & World Report College 2000 report ranked the Walton College 36th in public undergraduate business schools across the nation. The U.S. News & World Report rankings were compiled from a survey of business school deans, senior faculty and other sources of information.

While the popular press traditionally has ranked business schools on several primary variables, they have not examined faculty research per se.

Williams added, “This research productivity ranking is another major confirmation of the Walton College’s rapid rise in the nation’s top 50 public business schools.”

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(Editors’ note: The study data can be found at [http://www.kelley.indiana.edu/ardennis/rankings/]())