

School of Public Administration wins Chancellor's Strategic Planning Award for Academic Excellence

The following are the remarks of Dr. Deborah Smith-Howell, Associate Vice-Chancellor for Academic and Student Affairs, and Graduate Dean in presenting the award to the School of Public Administration:

"The department, which has a top-rated graduate program in the United States, is home to researchers and scholars who strive to achieve academic excellence both in the classroom and through research and community outreach. The MPA program was one of the first programs in the nation accredited by the National Association of Schools of Public Administration in 1980 and has been continuously reaccredited since then. *US News & World Report* rates UNO's MPA program 26th in the nation in public management, 29th in city management/urban policy, 21st in public budgeting and finance, and 8th in information technology.

"The Aviation Institute is also a vibrant component of the School of Public Administration, offering a nationally accredited program in air transport administration. This institute has done research on nationally prominent topics such as the Small Aircraft Transportation system and the Airline Quality Rating program, and produces the *Journal of Air Transportation*.

"The individuals in this school are all leaders in their fields of interest internationally, nationally, regionally and locally. They are scholars who present and publish at high levels each year and are committed to their communities. Several professors have received our university's most elite awards for teaching and research in the past several years. Additionally, the School of Public Administration has hosted the journal, *Administrative Theory and Praxis*, for several years. The school's faculty members have held numerous leadership positions in the most important professional associations in the field, regularly play prominent roles at conferences, and are frequently called upon as accreditation site visitors. These same faculty are also active internationally, in places such as China, Denmark, Estonia, the Netherlands, and Brazil."