When the editors of America’s best-known college guides rank your college among the finest, it’s something to be proud of. When you offer some of today’s “hottest” rated careers, that’s pretty cool too. When the work of your faculty members is recognized by their peers, it’s wonderful. But the recognition we are happiest with at ESF comes when our students tell us they are having a great college experience and our alumni share their success stories.

We’re happy to share some of ESF’s latest rankings and ratings with you here; but we really hope that you’ll visit our campus, talk to our faculty, staff and students, and give us your own college rating.

ESF among America’s Best Colleges
http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-college

ESF has, for the twelfth year in a row, earned a place among the top universities in America, as ranked by U.S. News & World Report.

In the “Great Schools, Great Prices” category of the 2013 edition of America’s Best Colleges, ESF is ranked 42nd in the nation for value. The formula used in that category relates a school’s academic quality to the cost of attendance for a student who receives the average level of financial aid. ESF is also listed at 32 among the top 50 public national universities and at 77 in the list of best national universities, which includes both public and private institutions.

In 2007, U.S. News picked ESF as one of four outstanding science-oriented colleges in the Northeast featured in a special video for prospective students. The other schools were MIT, RPI and Clarkson University. View the “Science in the Northeast” video at www.esf.edu/welcome/roadtrip.htm to see why ESF was ranked among these top schools.

Forbes.com Ranks SUNY-ESF #54 Among America’s Best College Buys

Forbes Magazine has published a new set of college rankings on its Forbes.com website, placing ESF at #54 in its listing of “America’s Best College Buys” for 2012.

Forbes asked the Center for College Affordability and Productivity, a Washington-based think tank, to compile rankings based on five factors:

1. Student satisfaction based upon student evaluations from RateMyProfessors.com and freshman-to-sophomore retention rates.
2. Postgraduate success based upon salary of alumni from Payscale.com, listings of alumni in Who’s Who in America and alumni listed in Forbes/CCAP Corporate Officers List.
3. Student debt based upon four-year debt load for a typical student borrower and student loan default rates.
4. Four-year graduation rate and predicted vs. actual rates.
5. Academic success based on students winning national awards and alumni with PhD degrees.

These five criteria have not been commonly used in college rankings, which often depend upon data that are self-reported by college officials. Forbes wanted to develop a ranking system that used other available sources to assess student and faculty achievement, alumni success, student reaction to professors, debt burdens, and the likelihood of graduating on time.

Forbes.com Ranks ESF #3 for Women in STEM Fields

Forbes.com also ranked ESF #3 on its 2010 list of the 20 best colleges for women in science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM). According to Forbes, “these are the schools that are getting it right” by helping significant numbers of women graduate with college degrees in these important and higher-salaried career areas. ESF is one of only two public colleges on this list, which includes Cal Tech, MIT, and several other schools known for excellence in research and teaching.

Washington Monthly: ESF a top school for Service
www.washingtonmonthly.com/college_guide/

The 2012 Washington Monthly College Guide ranked ESF #6 for “community service participation and hours served,” placing it among the nation’s top service-oriented colleges. The Monthly rates schools “...based on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories: Social Mobility (recruiting and graduating low-income students), Research (producing cutting-edge scholarship and PhDs), and Service (encouraging students to give something back to their country).”

College Earns Spot in Guide to Green Colleges
www.princetonreview.com/green-guide.aspx

ESF is listed in the Princeton Review’s Guide to 322 Green Colleges. The Princeton Review partnered with the U.S. Green Building Council to identify the schools with the nation’s most eco-friendly campuses and present information about each school’s sustainability, “green” majors and “green” job placement.

“Going green isn’t a campaign at the State University of New York College of Environmental Science and Forestry — it’s a modus operandi,” the book states. “With sustainability and environmental education at the core of the university’s mission, ESF has been at the forefront of nationally recognized, government-supported research in green issues.”

ESF one of Princeton Review’s Best Value Colleges

ESF is one of the nation’s 150 “Best Value” colleges and universities, according to The Princeton Review. The college guide describes ESF as “nationally renowned” and quotes from ESF students who described the College as “a small personal school” where professors “connect real-life problems to all the course work.”

The selection process analyzed more than 30 data points broadly covering academics, cost and financial aid. Data from students attending the schools included their assessments of professors and their satisfaction with financial aid awards.
ESF Included in Peterson’s Guide for Top Students

ESF was included one of the top 440 colleges in the U.S. in Peterson’s Great Colleges for Top Students guide based on the school's competitiveness in the admissions environment. This was measured over a meaningful period of time by entering class statistics, such as GPA, class rank, and test scores. The colleges selected for inclusion typically attract and admit an above-average share of the nation’s top-achieving students.

ESF Named to President’s Community Service Honor Roll

www.nationalservice.gov

In recognition of its exemplary student community service and service-learning programs, ESF has been named to the President’s Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for 2013. This recognition comes to the College from the federal government for ESF’s commitment to volunteering, service learning and civic engagement. This is the seventh year ESF has been recognized through the Honor Roll. The College is listed among a select group of more than 600 universities honored across the nation. ESF students completed close to 75,000 hours of community service in 2012-2013.

Sierra Club Says ESF is Cool

ESF earned a place on the 2010 Sierra Club list of “Cool Schools,” earning a rating that places the College at 45th in the U.S.

The list was compiled after the Sierra Club surveyed hundreds of colleges and universities to gather information about campus environmental practices, community initiatives, and quality of sustainability-oriented education. The survey looked specifically at energy efficiency and supply sources, food sources, academic programs and research, purchasing, transportation, waste management, and administration.

ESF Named a “Best in the Northeast” College


ESF is one of the best colleges and universities in the Northeast according to The Princeton Review. The education services company selected ESF as one of 220 institutions it recommends in the “Best in the Northeast” section of its PrincetonReview.com feature 2012 Best Colleges Region by Region.

ESF Receives Prestigious Climate Leadership Award

www.secondnature.org/climate-leadership-awards

ESF has been selected to receive a 2013 Climate Leadership Award by Second Nature, a national nonprofit that works to create a healthy, just and sustainable society by transforming higher education.

The awards are presented annually to signatory institutions of the American College & University Presidents’ Climate Commitment (ACUPCC) that demonstrate innovative and advanced leadership in education for sustainability. ESF is a winner in the doctoral-granting institution category. ESF is one of only 10 colleges and universities nationally to receive the award.

College Gets “Best Buy” Designation from Barron’s

www.green-colleges.com/

ESF is listed in the eleventh edition of Barron’s Best Buys in College Education. ESF is one of only 198 colleges and universities listed, and one of only three SUNY institutions.

“For students who not only love the environment but are committed to learning how to preserve it through highly specialized and challenging curricula with plenty of hands-on experience, the answer may be SUNY-ESF,” the book states.

Barron’s surveys current students and asks them about the quality of each college and not just the cost. As a part of the State University system, ESF is affordable, but also strong academically, and that is what provides the real value to students and their families.

Making a Difference Colleges Guide Includes ESF

ESF has been included as one of 71 distinctive colleges chosen for the 10th edition of the Making a Difference Colleges guide. Published as “the definitive guide for today’s caring students,” this publication features colleges that actively support social and environmental responsibility. ESF was selected based upon the College’s strong environmental focus as well as its variety of service learning and field study options, interdisciplinary programs, and other factors.

ESF Named Top Environmental College

Mother Nature Network has ranked the SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry (ESF) second on a list of the Top 10 Best College Environmental Programs in the United States.

The colleges listed offer a range of environmental programs and often incorporate sustainability into all aspects of their curriculum. ESF is the only SUNY institution on the list, which includes Cornell University, Duke University and Yale.

Mother Nature Network (MNN.com) is one of the world’s most visited online networks focused on environmental and social responsibility.

One of Newsweek’s 350 “Most Interesting” Colleges

ESF was named one of the nation’s 350 most interesting colleges in the 2009 edition of “How to Get into College” produced by Kaplan/Newsweek. ESF was also listed as one of four top schools for environmental science majors, along with Yale University, Barnard College and Rutgers University.

ESF Receives STARS Silver Rating for Sustainability Achievements

ESF has received a STARS Silver Rating in recognition of its sustainability achievements from the Association for the Advancement of Sustainability in Higher Education.

ESF’s plan to eliminate its carbon footprint by 2015 uses a combination of energy conservation, alternative energy projects, new construction that focuses on energy-efficient design and innovative heat-and-power systems, waste reduction, and forest carbon sequestration centering on design and management of ESF’s forested properties.