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More March Madness: Universities Secure Berth as Bicycle-Friendly Campuses

New awards heat up the competition among college conferences

Washington, D.C. - March 29, 2012 - The NCAA basketball tournament is down to the Final Four, but the bracket of [Bicycle Friendly Universities](#) (BFU) is expanding. Today, the [League of American Bicyclists](#) advanced nine new universities to the elite ranks of bicycle-friendly campuses. "As universities compete for students and status, becoming more bicycle-friendly is a winning strategy that energizes and invigorates staff and the student body, not just in March, but year-round," said Andy Clarke, President of the League of American Bicyclists. "By making cycling safe and enjoyable, BFUs are both educating and empowering the next generation to adopt smarter, healthier transportation habits that will last a lifetime."

Now in its second year, the program has grown to 35 campuses in 21 states. [Click here](#) to see the full list of Bicycle Friendly Universities.

With this round of BFU awards, the competition between conferences heats up. The **Big Ten** added the University of Michigan to BFU list and continues to lead with seven BFUs. The **PAC 12** is a close second with six schools, including the addition this round of Oregon State University. The **ACC** added four BFU winners, rocketing them to third place with the inclusion of Duke, Georgia Tech, North Carolina State University and the University of Miami.

While they're out of the Big Dance, [Duke](#) is taking the lead in bicycling, turning an Honorable Mention in 2011 to a Bronze designation in 2012. "Over the past six months, we've addressed safety on all our roads, adding bike lanes, wide shoulders or sharrows to every street on campus," said Brian Williams, Duke's Transportation Demand Management Coordinator. "The BFU award highlights the work of the Duke community to make riding a bike easy."

Spring 2012 Awards

Silver:

Boise State University
Georgia Institute of Technology
Northern Arizona University
Oregon State University
Virginia Commonwealth University

Bronze:

Duke University
North Carolina State University
University of Miami
University of Michigan
University of South Carolina- Columbia

Honorable Mention:

New York University
Purdue University
Southern Oregon University
State University of New York
University of Nebraska
University of Virginia

BFUs By Conference

Big Ten: 7

PAC 12: 6

Also boosting the bicycle-friendliness of the ACC, [Georgia Institute of Technology](#) received the highest designation of the round with a Silver award. In addition to regular bicycling classes and rides led by the university president, Georgia Tech took the innovative step of launching the [viaCycle](#) campus bike sharing system. "Biking not only enhances mobility, it also has positive environmental and health benefits for our campus community," said Georgia Tech president, G. P. "Bud" Peterson.

In the West, [Boise State University](#) moved up to a Silver award for a range of impressive programs, including a new [Cycle Learning Center](#). "The CLC provides a central, hands-on learning environment that empowers campus users to bicycle through education programs, instructional clinics and support services," said JC Porter, Assistant Director of Transportation at Boise State.

The BFU provides the roadmap and technical assistance to create great campuses for cycling -- to apply or learn more, visit www.bikeleague.org/university.

About the Bicycle Friendly America Program

The Bicycle Friendly Community, Bicycle Friendly State, Bicycle Friendly Business and Bicycle Friendly University programs are generously supported by program partners Bikes Belong and Trek Bicycle's One World, Two Wheels Campaign. Special thanks to New Belgium Brewing Co. for a grant to develop the BFU program application. [Learn more.](#)

About the League

The League of American Bicyclists promotes bicycling for fun, fitness and transportation, and works through advocacy and education for a bicycle-friendly America. The League represents the interests of America's 57 million bicyclists, including its 300,000 members and affiliates. [Learn more.](#)

ACC: 5
Big West: 4
CAA: 3
BSC: 2

AEC: 1
Ivy League: 1
MWC: 1
PAC: 1
SEC: 1
SoCo: 1
UAA: 1
WAC: 1

[See the full list here](#)