

# *Division of Academic Affairs*

## Initiatives Towards Excellence And Enhanced Learning Environment



Presented to the Board of Trustees

October 14, 2005

Report on Progress on

2005-06 Academic Plan in Assessment; Curriculum and Hours for Graduation; Class sizes and Enhancing the academic environment through classroom renovation

### **OVERVIEW**

The president has focused the Ferris community on the development of a vision for Ferris and its future. This vision is anchored by three principles, or pillars: the creation of a learning centered University; working together, and becoming an engaged campus. The Division of Academic Affairs embraces these overarching principles and relies on these fundamental guides as the Division strives to establish its own strategic focus.

Much work has been done toward that end during 2004-05 and the Academic Affairs 2005-06 Planning outlines six goals that the division will focus on during this academic year:

1. Enhance the academic environment;
2. Insure a relevant and current curriculum;
3. Institutionalize academic management processes that ensure an excellent, cost-effective teaching and learning environment;
4. Review processes that impact faculty development;
5. Review processes that impact student outcomes; and
6. Review processes that impact enrollment growth, retention, and external partnerships.

Decision-making in Academic Affairs is driven by data collection and analysis through a participatory process. While work is currently underway on all six goals, this document will report on four current initiatives on which the Division has already made significant progress: Review of small class size; Review of the hours required for graduation by program; Assessment of Student Learning Outcomes and Program Viability; International Exchange Programs, and Enhancing the academic environment through classroom renovation.

We are happy to present this report of our activities in several areas that impact our students' success and their ability to maximize their potential.