

## Division of Academic Affairs

### International Education Report for 2004-2005 Board of Trustees October 14, 2005

International agreements are part of a broader effort within the Division of Academic Affairs to enhance the academic environment through international education. As part of annual reporting requirements to the Board of Trustees, the following outlines ongoing activities related to international education.

Academic Affairs regards international education as a key element and a priority in our commitment to enhance our academic environment and our student experience. During the past year, Academic Affairs has spent time and effort in assessing and analyzing the many facets of international education at Ferris. As part of that effort, consultants were hired and we conducted numerous meetings open to faculty, staff and administrators. Based on that input, we have initiated a plan to invigorate our approach to international education. We are committed to increasing the impact of international education on campus.

**Reorganization of the Office of International Affairs:** The plan for reorganization of the Office of International Affairs is based on the overriding concept that there are various functions necessary to support international education and those functions will be carried out and sustained by various units within the University. It is our goal to maximize success with International Affairs by asking those with the greatest expertise in designated areas to assume responsibility. Toward that end, a full-time recruiter for International Affairs has been assigned to the Office of Admissions. A search for a full-time International Student Advisor is underway. The advisor will be assigned to University College where other student support services are housed. The Study Abroad program has been reassigned to the University Center for Extended Learning (UCEL) where the expertise for off-campus programming is housed.

This model will allow us the opportunity to enhance our approach to international education which is an important variable of our academic mission. It provides a more mainstreamed approach to international education, allowing and promoting more full integration of international students within the Ferris community. The reorganization of the Office of International Affairs is built on the belief that an effort to enhance and advance international programs at Ferris State will allow our students to better integrate core abilities and specific competencies within the learning experience. It will add to the vital linkage between core abilities such as communicate effectively, think critically, develop self-awareness with a need to cultivate global and cultural awareness and the development of technical, professional and program-specific indicators.

**International Partnership/Articulation Agreements:** Ferris State University has sixteen partnerships established with universities around the world. The objective of these relationships is to provide opportunities for students and faculty to exchange learning experiences. While the majority of these programs are exchange programs, meaning they

exist to simplify the exchange of students between international institutions, there are four articulation agreements allowing visiting students to pay in-state tuition.

### **New Programs – 2004-2005**

Two new agreements were established with universities abroad during 2004-05. The first new agreement is with the School of Continuing Studies of the Chinese University of Hong Kong. This agreement is intended to create a draw for the College of Business in the area of Computer Information Systems. Students who complete an AAS degree from the Chinese University of Hong Kong can complete a bachelor's degree from Ferris. Enrollment in this program is anticipated for Fall 2006.

Most recently an agreement with the An Giang University, Long Xuyen, Vietnam was approved by the Ferris State University Board of Trustees at the July 2005 meeting. Professor Phil Watson was instrumental in attaining this agreement and has worked extensively with An Giang. While it is anticipated to take two to three years for students to come from Vietnam to Ferris due to language barriers, our students can attend An Giang at any time. Dr. Watson has been working with Dr. Xuan at An Giang for several years and has led study abroad classes to Vietnam. An Gaing University is particularly interested in the area of biotechnology. Enrollment is anticipated for Fall 2006.

### **Ongoing Programs – 2004-2005**

#### **Aachen University of Applied Sciences – Germany**

Aachen is a well known and respected university with programming focusing on business and technology. Over the past six years we have sent four students and have received six students studying in the Plastics Engineering Technology, Computer Networks, Television and Digital Media, and Criminal Justice programs. Ferris Professor Ed Muccio regularly teaches courses at Aachen during the summer semester. Ferris Professor Maryanne Heidemann has also been a visiting faculty.

#### **Australasian Institute – Australia**

An agreement with the Australasian Institute was established in 1998. To date no activity has taken place. The agreement was to attract students to business programs. Very recently the Australasian Institute has fallen victim to a difficult financial situation and is expected to cease operations. This agreement is being terminated.

#### **British Columbia Institute of Technology (BCIT) – Canada**

BCIT is located in Burnaby, British Columbia. There are three automotive engineering technology students enrolled at Ferris. The arrangement we have with BCIT is an articulation agreement and not an exchange agreement.

#### **Conestoga College – Canada**

Conestoga College is located in Kitchener, Ontario. We currently have no students utilizing this agreement but are hopeful their technology programs will yield enrollment. This agreement is an articulation agreement which allows for the payment of in-state tuition.

### **Eastern Institute of Technology – New Zealand**

The Eastern Institute of Technology offers a variety of programming very similar to Ferris State University. We have not received any students from this school as a result of currency exchange rates. We have sent eight students to New Zealand in the last three years from a diverse population of Ferris programs within the College of Business and Allied Health. This agreement is an articulation agreement which allows students to pay in-state tuition.

### **ESC Troyes – France**

Since 2002 Ferris State University has received nine students from France and sent three to their campus. Troyes is a university focused solely on the study of business. Ferris students studying in Troyes are all in the international business program. French students are studying business administration and management.

### **Hamk University of Applied Science (Formerly Hame Polytechnic) – Finland**

Hamk Polytechnic has been a very popular study abroad destination for several years. Professor Susan Fogarty from the Ferris State University nursing program has led numerous study abroad experiences for her nursing students to study cultural diversity in health care. Two Hamk nursing faculty have visited the FSU campus to explore expanding our relationship. During the Summer of 2005, Professor Susan Hastings-Bishop served as a guest lecturer in Finland for their recreation leadership program. On October 3, 2005, two faculty from the School of Craft and Recreation visited both the Big Rapids and Kendall campus to discuss further cooperation in the areas of Recreation Leadership, Jewelry Design and Television Media. Hamk's business degree program is taught completely in English, and, as a result, we have received four students from Hamk in the last two years. Dr. Fogarty is currently on sabbatical leave studying at Hamk and other health care facilities abroad.

### **Humber College – Canada**

Humber College is located in Toronto, Canada and is known for their technical programming similar to Ferris State University. Currently there are eight students on campus from Humber; four in heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration and four in facilities management. This agreement is an articulation agreement which allows for students to pay in-state tuition.

### **Japan Center for Michigan Universities**

In 2002 Ferris State University joined the consortium of all 15 Michigan universities to support the articulation with the Japan Center for Michigan Universities. Since the inception of this agreement, there have been eight Ferris State students who have gone to study in Japan and one Japanese student who has come to Ferris State.

### **Liechtenstein University of Applied Science – Liechtenstein**

This agreement was established three years ago with the idea that Liechtenstein could serve us by placing interns at international corporations throughout Europe. While we have not yet experienced the placement of interns through Liechtenstein University, we have received four students in the last two years to study in our College of Business.

### **Public Authority for Applied Education and Training (State of Kuwait)**

An agreement was entered in 2001 but no students have utilized this agreement.

**Red River College – Canada**

This articulation agreement was established to provide teacher education courses to Red River faculty in areas of instruction that are closely aligned to College of Technology programs. All courses are taught at Red River with 20 students enrolled. Sixteen students have received BS degrees from Ferris State University in education. It is hopeful this arrangement to train their technical faculty will lead to increased articulated transfer enrollment in College of Technology programs. A new cohort has begun for 2005-06.

**Saxion, Enschede – Netherlands**

The agreement with this institution is one of the longest standing agreements Ferris has with international schools. We have sent three students to Saxion and received 21 students at both our main campus as well as Kendall.

**Stralsund University of Applied Science – Germany**

Ferris State University has received eight students from Stralsund and sent one student. The one Ferris State student was studying international business and stayed for one entire year rather than the normal semester.

**University of Angers – France**

This agreement has been signed to open the doors of opportunity for Pharmacy students. Each Spring Semester two Ferris State University Pharmacy students study in France and during the Summer Semester two French students come to Ferris. As of this date we have sent and received four students as a result of this agreement.

**University of Bath – United Kingdom**

Similar to the Angers agreement, this allows for two students from the Ferris State University Pharmacy program each year to swap with two students from the University of Bath. There have been five Ferris State University students who have taken advantage of this opportunity and four University of Bath students.