

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Good News Items

November 19, 2008

Academic Affairs

- Twenty students, with cumulative grade point averages exceeding 3.0 and academic standing in the top 20% of their class, were inducted into Eta Sigma Delta, the Hospitality Honors Society, at the Ferris State Hospitality Program annual induction ceremony.
- Jonas Software has donated its full suite of Club Management Software for use by the Club Management Hospitality program; this will give our students a competitive edge in the job market.
- The ROTC program has increased over 40 cadets this year.
- Student teachers in Grand Rapids participated in the FIRE UP Conference at Aquinas College, participating in presentations on career preparation, content area material, and classroom management.
- Ferris' College of Pharmacy has been asked to be on the 7th floor of the MSU medical school facility moving to Grand Rapids.
- So far this year, the College of Pharmacy graduates have received a 100% pass rate on the NAPLEX Pharmacist licensure examination.
- United Solar Ovonic, one of the fastest growing alternative energy companies in the country, was on campus to recruit students.
- The Welding Program recently was very positively reviewed for ABET accreditation, is at enrollment capacity and will be submitting a proposal to offer summer courses to accommodate more students.
- Professor John Schmidt, Construction Technology and Management Department, reports on success and involvement with the Associated Schools of Construction regional student competition. Ferris State students won second place in the Heavy Civil area and third place in the Commercial area. Ferris coaches were Lee Templin (Commercial), Tom Larabel (Heavy Civil), and Suzanne Miller (Design Build).
- The Charter School Office (CSO) together with the Department of Humanities has planned the first Charter Schools Art Invitational, an art competition for Senior High School art students attending FSU Authorized High School Academies. This will bring students to Ferris, highlight their work at the Rankin Gallery and expose them to career opportunities through a recruiter from FSU Kendall.

Administration and Finance

- Housing partnered with the Office of Multicultural Student Services, Dean of Students and Dr. Cairns to implement a speak-out program concerning the November election and issues.
- The V.P. for Administration & Finance search committee has narrowed the candidate list to three finalists that will be on campus in early December.
- Town Hall meetings for Master Plan update and Rock/South campus green spaces were well attended by a cross section of the campus community and valuable input was received.
- Assistant Emergency Management Director, Tricia Walding-Smith, has been hired.

- Two student workers on patrol found an intoxicated student being locked in a trunk by two others, summoned a police officer and EMS responded. The student could have died of exposure in the very cold temperatures had our team not observed and responded.

College of Professional and Technological Studies

- The interview and taping for WOTV's "Where You Live" show was taped in four labs, filming students performing EKGs, the greenhouse, the bio tech lab, and a presentation. This show should air Saturday, November 22 and will be posted to their website at <http://www.marandatv.com/>
- The Principles of Information Security class at FSU - Northern Michigan conducted a mock digital crime scene set where guests examined clues and evidence to solve the crime. The class conducted the exercise to showcase the investigative and forensics tools that they learned during their first semester in the program.
- Delta College has asked Ferris to assist them in beginning to provide internships at Volkswagen of America.

Diversity Office

- Carvin Eison, independent filmmaker and director of the PBS documentary *July '64*, visited the Jim Crow Museum to collect images for his documentary *In the Shadows at the Lynching Tree*. For information - <http://www.pbs.org/independentlens/july64/bios.html>
- The Diversity Office YouTube site is: <http://www.youtube.com/user/FSUdiversity>
Please record diversity events and send them to the Diversity Office.
- The video montage from the 2008 Equity Conference held last spring at Ferris is uploaded on YouTube: <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Fsguk5GGHQE> and on the Diversity Office web site: <http://www.ferris.edu/diversity>
- David Pilgrim, delivered a "Racism, Sexism, and Other Isms in the Presidential Election" lecture at Colby College. It received several write ups, including, <http://morningsentinel.mainetoday.com/news/local/5555639.html> and <http://kennebecjournal.mainetoday.com/news/loca115562344.html>
- The First Lady's Attic project, under the leadership of Patsy Eisler, is moving ahead and soon to be opened to Ferris State University students. Welding students built racks. The project is explained here: <http://www.ferris.edu/htmls/othersrv/flattic/index.htm>

Government Relations and General Counsel

- November 6th was the official signing of the Clerical Technical Association agreement represented by the Union, administration and the negotiation teams. Printed agreements will be available soon.
- Steve Stratton, Director of Labor Relations, conducted three informational meetings regarding the economic highlights and languages changes of the new CTA Agreement.
- FSU hosted Mecosta-Osceola Bar Association members for a hands-on training session conducted by Diane Ebersole, Practice Management Resource Center of the State Bar of Michigan, regarding the use and benefit of Adobe Acrobat Professional for law offices.

Student Affairs

- An online survey indicated that 90% of students were either somewhat satisfied or very satisfied with the overall performance of the Office of Scholarships and Financial Aid

(OSFA) with 441 responses within one week. On the subjects of greeting, friendliness, professionalism, respect, competency, and speed, respondents rated the OSFA between 78%-86% as either good or very good.

- Eagle Village hosted their Family Fun Day at the Rec Center with 300-400 people in attendance.
- Over 100 people attended the 3rd Annual Veterans' Breakfast.
- Faculty, staff and administrators from every division recently completed Threat Assessment Team Training. The training was performed by former FBI Special Agents Steve Romano and Gene Rugala and prepared a diverse group of employees to accurately assess cases that may present a threat to the campus community and deal effectively with incidents of campus violence if they occur.

University Advancement and Marketing

- John Willey of Des Moines, Iowa has accepted the Vice President for UA&M. Willey has more than 30 years of experience in higher education and independent secondary education.
- A scholarship endowment has been established by Karl Huffman for the HVACR program.
- A marketing plan and materials have been developed for the First Lady's Attic, a collaborative initiative between Patsy Eisler, the Diversity Office and Student Affairs. The First Lady's Attic aims to give professional business attire to male and female students enrolled at Ferris who need clothing for a job/internship interview or class presentation.
- The Foundation Benefit attracted 580 attendees and more than \$214,000 in gross revenue. Attendance, number of sponsors and revenue are all new records for this event.
- The first ever Ferris State Humanitarian Award was presented to Dr. Ronald P. Mahoney at The Ferris Foundation for Excellence Benefit.
- Two videos were created in-house for the Ferris Foundation's 10th annual Foundation for Excellence Benefit. One video was a tribute to Dr. Ronald P. Mahoney; the second video featured alumni, current students and donors, and centered on the importance of supporting Ferris State University.
- A new, comprehensive and federally-compliant Web site has been launched for Disabilities Services, where information can be parsed for students with disabilities, their parents, and important guidelines for faculty and staff.
- Ferris has expanded its Google Search capabilities to include "Google Local."
- The Campus Web calendar has been upgraded with a professional layout, fresh design and ease of use.
- The 1968 Undefeated Football Team celebrated their 40th anniversary with 35 of the 60 living players and coaches returning to FSU. Festivities included a dedication ceremony for the new Victory Bell; recognition at half-time of the football game; and the reunion dinner.
- The online campaign feasibility survey sent to alumni has returned more than 400 responses. This feedback will be incorporated by CCS in the final campaign feasibility planning study report.