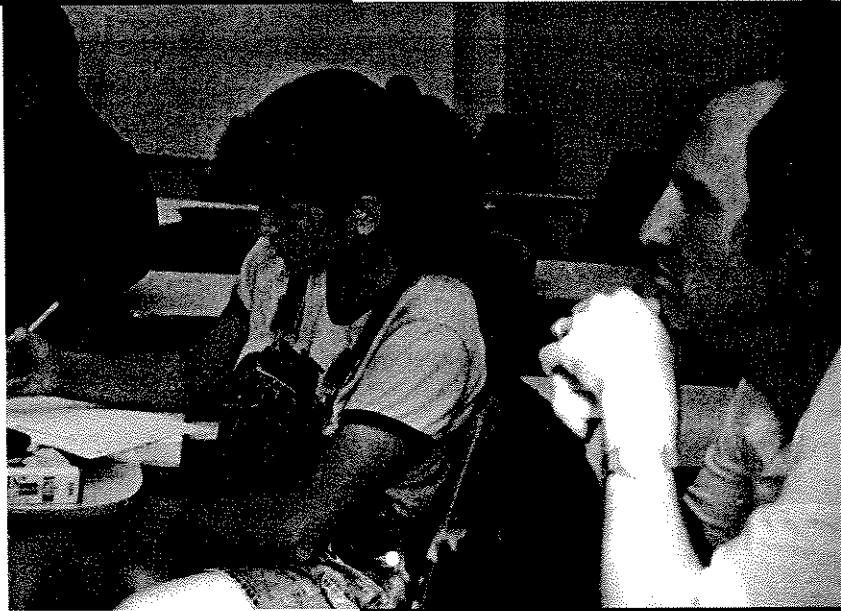


The University Center for

Extended Learning

"We need more self-reliance and self-sacrifice."

-Woodbridge N. Ferris



The University Center for Extended Learning

Emerging new technologies, the rapid proliferation of knowledge, and a global economic environment characterized by continuous change, makes lifetime access to the most current education and training opportunities critical for individuals and industries throughout Michigan. The mission of the University Center for Extended Learning (UCEL) is to facilitate the rapid transfer of knowledge and technology from the University to the workplace and to provide first-class education and training to location-bound and non-traditional students throughout the state. The objective of UCEL is to provide the people of Michigan with marketable and updated skills for a changing society.

UCEL strives to realize its mission and objective by supporting and working with faculty in the development of innovative courses and workshops, utilizing distance learning technologies and other means for delivering the latest information to those who need it, and by forging educational partnerships with business and industry. UCEL programs offer a wide range of opportunities:

- Off-campus credit courses and degree programs are offered at strategic sites throughout the state via a variety of delivery methods and are designed to meet needs of the adult learner. These programs are administered through regional centers in Traverse City, Flint, Dowagiac/Niles, and Muskegon.
- Conferences and professional development programs offer opportunities for continuing education and professional growth to individuals of all ages and backgrounds.
- The Technology Transfer Center provides business and industry with innovative, customized training in new and emerging technologies.
- Non-credit programs provide high quality, innovative, cost-effective, and customer-focused training and consulting solutions to meet the management and professional needs of business, industry, non-profit organizations, and government agencies throughout Michigan.
- The authorization of charter schools around the state helps educate the young students of Michigan.

Academic Credit Programs

For students who want to earn their degree without traveling to the main campus, the University Center for Extended Learning's academic credit programs allow them to work toward a degree close to home. Classes are scheduled to accommodate working adult students with family and job responsibilities.

Opening the door for thousands of students who otherwise would not be able to earn their degrees is important to UCEL. Therefore, degree, degree-completion, and certificate programs are offered from the main campus, via the Internet and administered through four regional locations.

Much of the success of reaching students is made possible through partnerships and involvement in University Center operations. Working collaboratively with two-year colleges across Michigan, UCEL is able to bring courses and programs directly onto campuses that would otherwise be closed to Ferris. To serve the south-western area of the state, UCEL has developed relationships with Southwestern Michigan College in Dowagiac and Niles as well as the Center for Higher Education at Muskegon Community College. To reach students in northwestern and southeastern Michigan, UCEL offers courses and programs through the University Centers at Northwestern Michigan College in Traverse City, Mott Community College in Flint, and Macomb Community College in Clinton Township.

Programs from the Colleges of Allied Health Sciences, Arts and Sciences, Business, Education, and Technology are offered at these locations.

Conferences and Professional Programs

In addition to the traditional academic offerings of the University, UCEL is involved in developing and hosting conferences, training sessions and summer camps. The conferences and training events held throughout the state reach dental hygienists and assistants, nurses, opticians, artists, engineers, and educators. Summer camps bring thousands of young people to the Ferris campus each year to learn and grow through athletic coaching. UCEL continues to serve these groups and reach new audiences as a result of collaborative efforts with many professional organizations.

Continuing Education

Helping health care professionals and others stay current in their fields is accomplished through continuing education programs. These programs are often held over a two-day period in several different locations throughout Michigan. The most popular of these programs are aimed at professionals in nursing, dental care, optometry, artistry, engineering, and education. Several other programs conducted through conferences do offer continuing education credits.

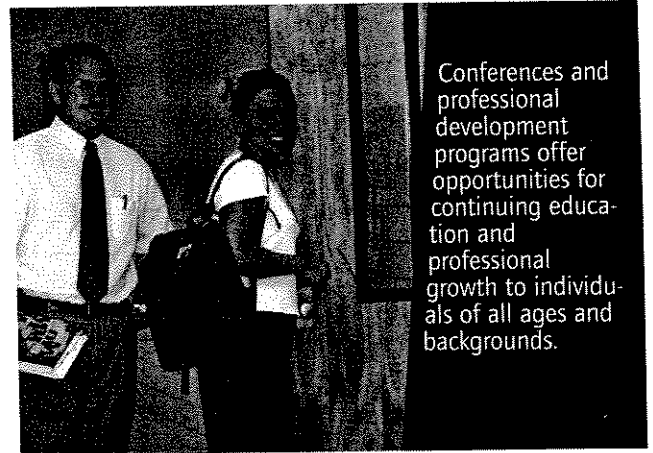
Conferences, Workshops, and Seminars

Many of the colleges and departments at Ferris rely on the assistance and coordination that UCEL provides in the development of conferences, workshops, and seminars. Targeting professionals in many fields, these events range from half-day workshops to multi-day conferences. UCEL provides a multitude of detail and organization assistance, including:

- Conference Design and Development Consultation
Planning, strategy, implementation
- Marketing - Promotion – Publicity
Brochure development, mailings
- Financial Management
Budgets, financial management, contracts, registration
- Facilities and Services Management
Site selection, facility arrangements, on-site services, and evaluations

Summer Youth Programs

Each summer, thousands of students, ages 8 to 18, come to the Ferris campus to participate in a wide variety of athletic programs. Participants in the basketball, volleyball, tennis, golf, and hockey skill camps are taught by the coaching staff of the Ferris collegiate teams. They learn how to improve their skills and ultimately be more successful in their sport. All this is done in an atmosphere that maximizes their performance and increases their enjoyment.



Conferences and professional development programs offer opportunities for continuing education and professional growth to individuals of all ages and backgrounds.

Technology Transfer Center

The Technology Transfer Center (TTC) has been involved in partnerships to help businesses with solutions to training and industrial process needs since 1984. Over 1,000 companies have taken advantage of the skills and facilities offered.

The TTC is known for its ability to partner with business and industry to address issues related to custom training, process consulting, certification, and assessment. Through the establishment of institutes, training and certification needs can be solved at a state and national level. Work is accomplished by contracting with the TTC to create the proper partnership between the company, Ferris State University faculty and staff, outside resources, and students to complete the project goals.

The TTC may provide custom and institute-based training and certification, grant writing services, computer interactive training and multimedia services, and manufacturing consulting and assessments to meet the needs of business and industry.

Custom Assessments and Solutions

TTC offers custom assessment and technical training solutions to company-specific product, process, and equipment for return on investment of training dollars. Training can be delivered at the training facilities located at the main complex in Big Rapids, or at the company's plant site.

Certification

Trends in industry show that the new workforce requires more technical training and employers want to pay for skill, not time-in-task. Therefore, certification tools have become an important part of TTC's offerings.

Grant Writing Services

In the area of grant writing services, TTC has been successful in helping gain support for industrial and business projects. In the past ten years, TTC has managed over \$2.3 million in grants. Through the State Workforce Commission-Economic Development Job Training Grants, companies have obtained grants to provide needed training to upgrade their workforce.

Charter Schools

The Charter Schools Office is charged with the goal of authorizing and overseeing charter schools that providing educational choice for K-12 students throughout Michigan.

Charter schools are public schools that receive operational funding from the state. In 1993 Governor John Engler signed legislation allowing these new schools to be formed and the first authorized charters opened in 1996. As of fall 1999, Ferris is the authorizing agent for 15 schools located throughout the Lower Peninsula.