

# PROVOST POST

## Academic Affairs Division Newsletter

### From the Provost:

Welcome new and returning colleagues and students to the start of the 2019-2020 academic year.

The summer months can be a time of travel and relaxation with family, which I hope you were able to experience. It can also be an extremely productive time for faculty, staff, and students to pursue academic and research projects outside of classes. This issue highlights a few of the achievements and professional development projects that have occurred over the summer.

We are also pleased about the many new faculty members joining us this fall. Please join me in celebrating the academic successes of our colleagues and students and welcome our new employees to campus.

*Paul*

### Ferris Student Takes Bronze Medal



Ryan Meppelink (right) representing FSU and the US in the WorldSkills 2019 competition winner's circle.

Ryan Meppelink, Heavy Equipment Maintenance student from Zeeland, Michigan, was awarded the bronze medal for Heavy Vehicle Technology at the WorldSkills Competition (WSC) in Kazan, Russia, at the August 27th closing ceremony. He also won the Best of Nation award as his score of 728 points was the highest of the United States team. He was coached by Madison Area Technical College instructors, especially Tom Wozniak, as expert coach and mentor.

The WorldSkills Competition, which is held every two years, is the largest international vocation education and skills event in the world. The U.S. sends a team to this olympic-style event and this year's 22-member delegation competed in a variety of trade and technology contest areas with a total of 1,354 competitors from 63 member countries working in 56 occupational areas. The competition lasted four days and 3M Corporation was the lead sponsor of the U.S. team.

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Two Ferris professors also traveled to Russia to assist at WorldSkills Kazan 2019. Graphic Media Management Professor Patrick Klarecki was the chief technical expert for Print Media Technology. He was the competition manager in Russia. CAD Drafting and Tool Design Professor Dan Wanink was the expert supporting Nampa, Idaho native Benjamin Campbell, who competed in the Mechanical Engineering skills area.

Meppelink's mechanical interest started when he and his cousin, Darin, overhauled the engine of a pickup truck. After completing that project, Meppelink began thinking about a future in vehicle maintenance. When his cousin was tragically killed in a car accident, Meppelink thought about how he could make his cousin proud and decided to pursue a career in vehicle technology.

Meppelink earned his position on the WorldSkills USA team as a result of competing and winning at state, regional, and national levels with SkillsUSA since 2016.

For more information on Meppelink, watch his [competitor video](#) and catch the excitement as he [leads the U.S. team](#) into the arena holding the U.S. flag with 40,000 people in attendance.

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## Student Research Fellows Gain Valuable Experience



Joshua Matson, Biology/Pre-Pharmacy, being mentored by Dr. Felix Amissah.

Since 2011, the Student Research Fellowship (SRF) program has paired students with faculty members to provide students with hands-on research experience and allow faculty time for professional development. The following faculty from the College of Arts and Sciences, Michigan College of Optometry and the College of Pharmacy worked with students on collaborative projects which were shared at the SRF Symposium on Thursday, August 22:

Student Research Fellow: **Mark Smendik**, Chemistry  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Daniel Adsmund**, Arts and Sciences, Physical Sciences  
Project: *Using Carboxylic Acids to Induce Sulfameter Polymorphism*

Student Research Fellow: **Tasha Vincent**, Biochemistry  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Daniel Adsmund**, Arts and Sciences, Physical Sciences  
Project: *An Infrared and Crystallographic Study of the Phases in Competition with Ternary Cocrystals*

Student Research Fellow: **Joshua Matson**, Biology/Pre-Pharmacy  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Felix Amissah**, Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences

Project: *Preliminary Investigation of the Pharmacological Effects of Dual EGFR and Aurora Kinase Inhibitors on A549 Cells*

Student Research Fellow: **Jonathan Kendall**, Optometry  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Alison Jenerou**, Optometry  
Project: *Dynamic Visual Acuity Measurements: Stationary vs Running*

Student Research Fellow: **Kaitlin Assaad**, Pharmacy  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Sonali Kurup**, Pharmacy, Biopharmaceutical Sciences  
Project: *Design and Synthesis of Novel 4-Substituted Pyrrolo [2, 3-d] Pyrimidines as Dual EGFR/AURKB Inhibitors*

Student Research Fellow: **Molly Von Seggern**, Pharmacy  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Jennifer Lamberts**, Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Project: *Effect of Naltrexone on Inflammation-Induced Cell Death in Neuronal Cells*

Student Research Fellow: **Katelyn Brown**, Biotechnology  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Eric Nybo**, Pharmacy, Pharmaceutical Sciences  
Project: *Metabolic Engineering of Novel Branched-chain Sugar Pathways for Production of Novel Tetracenomycins*

Student Research Fellow: **Carlye Szarowicz**, Biotechnology  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Schuyler Pike**, Arts and Sciences, Biological Sciences  
Project: *MALDI-TOF MS Method Development for Elucidation of Cannabinoid Receptors*

Student Research Fellow: **Matthew Swanson**, Biotechnology  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Schuyler Pike**, Arts and Sciences, Biological Sciences  
Project: *Quantitative Pharmacokinetic Assay Development for Mithramycin*

Student Research Fellow: **Logan Rosneck**, Biochemistry  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Luis Rivera**, Arts and Sciences, Physical Sciences  
Project: *A Molecular Dynamics Study of the Structural Characteristics of a Small  $\alpha$ -helix Polypeptide after Mechanically/Thermodynamically Being Denatured in an Argon Bath*

Student Research Fellow: **Aidan Reynolds**, Biochemistry  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Luis Rivera**, Arts and Sciences, Physical Sciences  
Project: *Denaturation of a  $\beta$ -pleated Sheet Polypeptide via Pressure and Temperature Increase in an Argon Bath*

Student Research Fellow: **Cole McGowen**, Biology – Environmental  
Faculty Mentor: **Dr. Anne Spain**, Arts and Sciences, Biological Sciences  
Project: *Characterization of the Diversity and Ecology of Members of the Microbial Taxa Chloroflexi and Planctomycetes in Bogs of Central and Northern Michigan*

## Ferris Delegation Visits Sister School in Germany



A delegation from Ferris visited German partner, Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences. From left to right, Philipp Schorn, Tracy Busch, habil Gregor van der Beek, L Hasan Alkas, Lisa vonReichbauer, Leane Blake, and Paul Blake.

Dr. Paul Blake, Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs; Lisa vonReichbauer, Assistant Director, Office of International Education; and Dr. Tracy Busch, Professor of History, attended the 10th anniversary celebration of Ferris' German partner, Rhine-Waal University of Applied Sciences (HSRW) in Kleve, Germany, in May.

Ferris has been collaborating with HSRW on a variety of projects since 2012. Most notably is Ferris' first double-degree program with the German university. Students in Business Administration can study three years at Ferris and one year at HSRW and receive degrees from both institutions.

The relationship between Ferris and HSRW began through an international student at Ferris, who later went on to study at HSRW. He visited Ferris with a faculty member to develop a relationship with the Office of International Education. The relationship has expanded across the institution. HSRW and Ferris have very active student exchanges and have collaborated on several projects in addition to the double-degree program.

Ferris, HSRW, and Saxion University in the Netherlands have cohosted a Lighthouse Symposium for Business Educators for the past three years. The first symposium was held at Ferris with institutions from eight different countries participating. The second symposium was held in Germany at Rhein-Waal, and last year it was held at Saxion in the Netherlands. It will be held again in March at Ferris with institutions from around the world attending to benchmark their academic programs and seek opportunities for professional development and collaboration.

During the May visit, a framework was established to develop a collaborative academic Certificate in Diplomacy, combining history and political science courses with a practical course in diplomacy taught at Ferris and International Relations courses taught at HSRW.

Also discussed were collaborations on a Global Competency Collaborative Certificate program. Ferris students and HSRW students will participate in deliberative dialogues during exchange programs and also online to share perspectives on challenging yet relevant topics to help develop global competency.

## Cyber Competition Center Awarded Grant

Ferris State University's Information Security and Intelligence program was awarded a grant of \$212,000 in June from the Department of Defense (DOD) to expand the Cyber Competition Center's capabilities and develop cybersecurity curriculum. Including the recent award, the DOD has now given Ferris a total of \$502,000, which has helped establish the cyber facility and provide cybersecurity instruction.

As a National Centers of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense designated school, Ferris is eligible for funding through the U.S. Department of Defense Cyber Scholarship Program. Growth in criminal activity involving social media and cryptocurrency necessitates the need for a workforce skilled in cybersecurity, digital forensics, and data analytics.

Greg Gogolin, College of Business Professor and Director of Ferris' Center of Cyber Security and Data Science, said that some of the recent DOD funding will support development of curriculum with a focus on securing cloud infrastructure. "We are in the final stages of developing a Cloud Computing certificate that our dual-enrolled high school students in Kentwood, Forest Hills, Rockford, and Big Rapids can work toward," Gogolin said.

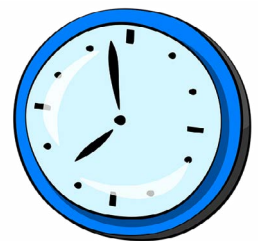
"The National Initiative for Cybersecurity Education indicates there were over 313,000 job openings in cybersecurity across the country as of November 2018," Gogolin said. "The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics said they expect demand in computer and mathematical occupations to see a 13.5 percent annual growth rate through 2026. Ferris has been fortunate to receive consistent grant support from the Department of Defense, and that record sets us in good stead for further awards, so we can continue to enhance our nationally ranked programs."



Students participating in the 2018 Cyber Competition.

### REMINDER!

**Daylight Savings Time** ends at 2 am on Sunday, November 3rd, Eastern Standard Time. Remember to have your clocks **fall back** on Sunday, November 3rd!



## Baja Takes on SAE National Competition



Students competing (L-R) Jackson Mitchell, Brian Favier, Randy O'Donnell, Phil Nasskau (crouched), Jacob Simon, Eric Troyer, Nick Bialek, Ty Pardee, and Davis Kenyon.

Ferris' Baja Team entered this year's Society of Automotive Engineers (SAE) National Baja competition hosted at Tennessee Technical University in Cookeville, Tennessee, from April 11-14, with its newest Baja off-road racer. The competition was a grueling series of driving and presentation events against 96 teams including international representation from Canada, Mexico, and India.

The track for this year's event was particularly brutal and tested many competitors' cars beyond their limits – gearboxes seized, suspension components were destroyed, and even the Ferris car had to make two unscheduled pitstops for repairs.

Due to storm warnings, the race was shortened from its planned four hours to 2.5 and the Ferris car started in 65th place. After completing 18 laps, the #121 Ferris car finished in 30th place. The car was also impressive in the sled pull event, finishing in 8th place. Full results can be found online - <https://www.bajasae.net/res/ResultsLanding.aspx>

Faculty advisor, Dr. Rusty Leonard, Professor in Automotive Service Technology, said that the Ferris team really worked well at this race.

"With the limited budget available to the team, it's always impressive to see this group pull together and outperform teams with bigger budgets," Leonard said.

FSU Baja is affiliated with SAE Collegiate Design Competitions, which gives students the opportunity to gain experience through application of their coursework in the real-world environment of competitive off-road racing. As members of the Ferris SAE Baja team, students gain experience in leadership, time management, project management, communications, organization, planning, delegation, budgeting, and finance.

Professor Leonard and his wife, Jodi, provided student support during the competition.

Follow us on <https://www.facebook.com/FSUBaja/>

## Web Content for Everyone Symposium

Colleagues from the FLITE Web Services Usability Committee, University Advancement and Marketing, the Staff Center for Training and Development, and the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning collaborated on the presentation of a successful full day symposium on May 15, 2019 at the University Center. More than 80 employees from Ferris and KCAD participated and learned about ways to build and maintain websites that are accessible to all users including those with sight, hearing, and learning challenges.

Rebecca Blakiston, user experience strategist at the University of Arizona Libraries and a nationally known speaker on universal design, was the keynote speaker for the symposium. Her presentation focused on writing for the web with clarity, making web content accessible, and overall content strategy to enhance the user experience.

Breakout sessions covered the topics of writing for the web, web accessibility, usability testing, and video captioning, and concluded with a wrap-up panel that fielded questions from participants pertaining to inclusive web content, FSU resources for online and content creation, and universal design.

The symposium was made possible through the support of a mini-grant from the Diversity and Inclusion Office, the Administration and Finance Office, the Office of the Provost, Educational Counseling and Disabilities Services, the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning, FLITE, Retention and Student Success, the Staff Center for Training and Development, and University Advancement and Marketing.



The Symposium concluded with a panel session.

### Provost Post Newsletter Dates

<b><u>Issue</u></b>	<b><u>Submission Date</u></b>	<b><u>Publication Date</u></b>
Oct 2019	Sept. 15	Week of September 9th
Dec. 2019	Nov. 15	Week of December 9th
Feb. 2020	Jan. 15	Week of February 10th
April 2020	Mar. 15	Week of April 6th

## Higher Learning Commission Update

The Higher Learning Commission (HLC) will be conducting a comprehensive accreditation reaffirmation visit at Ferris on October 5 and 6, 2020. Since November 2017, many Ferris faculty and staff across all campuses and locations have been engaged in the reaffirmation process.



As the 2019-2020 academic year begins, the HLC Leadership team will be keeping the campus community informed of progress and actions that faculty and staff can take to further inform the Assurance Argument and prepare for the visit. These updates will continue through October 2020. To date, a number of communication posts on the work involved in Ferris' reaffirmation of HLC accreditation have already been posted.

Information on preparing for the HLC visit can be found in University Wide Notices, in [President Eisler's August 20, 2019 memorandum](#) to the Ferris community, at the [Academic Affairs webpage](#), and at the [HLC Reaffirmation of Accreditation 2020 webpage](#).

HLC updates will provide information on the various criteria to highlight areas of focus and recognize related successes.

Throughout this next year, watch for the following communications to be disseminated:

**Criterion Spotlight:** This will focus on specific Criteria for Accreditation and their subcomponents.

**Celebrating Success:** Successes will be celebrated as they relate to specific criteria.

**HLC General Update:** This will provide information about the process and where the team is at in the timeline of reaffirmation of accreditation.

The HLC Leadership team wants to hear from you so send your [comments or feedback](#) as the reaffirmation of accreditation process continues this year.

Finally, thank you to the many faculty and staff members for their hard work and dedication to prepare the Assurance Argument and plan for the HLC visit. The [HLC Reaffirmation Committees](#) include the HLC leadership team and steering committee members, as well as the criterion sub-committee co-chairs and criterion committee members.

## Kim Hancock Awarded Lambda Kappa Sigma Award of Merit

Dr. Kim Hancock, Professor of Pharmaceutical Sciences, was selected as the 2019 recipient of the Lambda Kappa Sigma (LKS) Award of Merit for her outstanding contributions to Pharmacy and for her dedicated service to the Fraternity. She has been an advisor with the Alpha Iota chapter of Lambda Kappa Sigma, an international pharmacy fraternity that promotes women in pharmacy, for over 20 years.



Kim Hancock.

This annual award is given to an alumni member who has distinguished herself or himself through academic achievement, professional advancement, community service, organizational work, or commercial endeavor.

Helping other women is important to Hancock. "Working with students all over campus is truly the best part of working at Ferris. LKS was instrumental in providing a solid foundation for my career success so advising the LKS collegiate chapter is my way of giving back and assuring current students have the same opportunities that I did."

Hancock was honored at a special awards luncheon on August 2 in conjunction with the LKS Annual Convention in Milwaukee, WI.

### REMINDER!

**HatchEd** is Ferris State University's brand new innovation conference and idea incubator to be held **September 25th – 26th** in the University Center.



**HatchEd** is for innovators and would-be innovators from every college, school, department and office across Ferris. Co-sponsored by the Academic Senate and Academic Affairs, **HatchEd** will help develop powerful new ideas at Ferris.

We can help you present your innovation project at **HatchEd** so remember to indicate that you would like to present when you [register for HatchEd](#).

# HVACR Students Place in International Competition

Six Ferris State University Heating, Ventilating, Air Conditioning, and Refrigeration (HVACR) program students placed 3rd at the 2019 International Design Competition sponsored by the American Society of Heating, Refrigerating, and Air-Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE).

The competition recognizes outstanding student design projects, encourages undergraduate students to become involved in the profession, and gives students an opportunity to apply their knowledge of practical design in a team environment.

The 2019 building project was a four-story acute care hospital located in Budapest, Hungary. The students were required to submit a 30-page report and a 15-minute presentation covering the complete design of an HVAC system for the project. To advance to the international level, all student ASHRAE branches had to have already won at the local and regional level.

The following graduated senior students will receive the HVAC System Selection award at the February 2020 ASHRAE Winter meeting in Orlando, FL: Anirudh Baliga, from Mumbai, India; Michael Cain, of Niles, Michigan; Seth DeGraaf, of Grand Rapids; Irawat Singh, of Norton Shores, Michigan; Annie Vanderstelt, of Big Rapids; and Konner Wolter, of Lawrence, Michigan.

HVACR Associate Professor and ASHRAE RSO Advisor Mike Korcal commented on the difficulty of the competition. "Usually a building will have at most one difficult area, but this building had three: surgical suites, isolation rooms, and a soiled/sterile packaging area," Korcal said. "The students did an amazing job on a very difficult building and should be commended."

In addition to support from Korcal, the team was assisted by Construction Technology and Management Assistant Professor John Posillico who acted as a consultant due to his project management experience working on a large hospital in Kansas City.

ASHRAE, founded in 1894, has more than 57,000 members from over 132 nations. Its mission is to advance the arts and sciences

of heating, ventilation, air conditioning and refrigeration through research, standards writing, publishing, and continuing education to serve the public and promote a sustainable world.



Micheal Korcal



John Posillico

## Promesa Summer Success Campus Visit

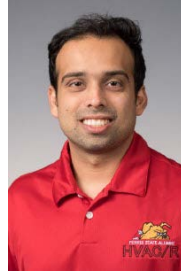


Over 120 students from across West Michigan joined together for a unique day touring Ferris State University's main campus on July 12. Rising junior and senior high school students from Grand Rapids, Holland, and Oceana County, who participated in the *Promesa Summer Success Program* through the Center for Latin@ Studies, and rising sophomore students from Grand Rapids Community College's *Cruising to College Program*, explored what their future at Ferris may look like by engaging in various hands-on campus activities.

Students worked in small and large groups in team-building activities that explored the importance of community as part of college success. In addition, Ferris' Office of Admissions led a campus information session which highlighted goals for students to set for their future Ferris enrollment. Program participants toured campus which allowed time for casual engagement and conversations.

After completing the team-building activity and campus tour, students explored academic programs based on their individual areas of interest. Faculty and staff from the College of Arts and Sciences, the College of Engineering Technology, and the College of Health Professions highlighted available career programs. These included programs such as Welding, Advanced Manufacturing, Nursing, Dental Hygiene, Social Work, and more through hands-on learning experiences. Students were encouraged to ask questions regarding academics and the college experience to gain a broader perspective on classes and possible careers.

The Center for Latin@ Studies thanks all of the campus partners and volunteers who helped create this Bulldog experience. It allowed instructors and participants to build upon cultural differences and similarities to enhance Ferris State University's inclusive environment.



Aniruh Baliga



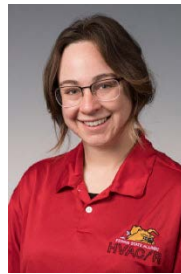
Micheal Cain



Seth DeGraaf



Irawat Singh



Annie Vanderstelt



Konner Wolter

## Strategic Plan Update

# 2019-2024 Strategic Plan

FERRIS FORWARD

Ferris State University's 2014-2019 strategic plan, "Living Our Values" ended this last spring and the 2019-2024 strategic plan, "Ferris Forward" is being shared across campus through multiple forums and online.

There is a new vision statement: "Building on the vision of our founders, Ferris State University will be an agile and transformational university. By integrating theory and practice, we will foster opportunity, discovery, and professional preparation for a dynamic global society."

The strategic plan focuses on five themes, each which has its own strategic goals – Academic Programs and Offerings, Student Success, Institutional Effectiveness, Pride and Community, and Enhancing Resources. Integral to these themes are key metrics that will be used to measure progress in meeting the goals.

The Strategic Plan document, its Implementation Plan and Key Targets Dashboard, as well as an opportunity to share your voice, can be found on the [Strategic Plan webpage](#).

## Personnel Spotlight

The Office of the Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs and the Ferris State University Academic Senate are pleased to announce that Danette Mondrella, Secretary III, has been providing both offices administrative support since June.

Mondrella comes to this position from the Retention and Student Success Dean's office where she provided operational assistance to each of the reporting offices and academic departments.

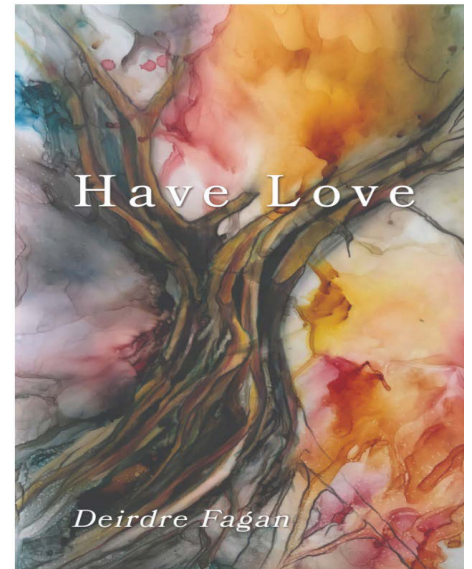
She joined Ferris in 2012 and enjoys using her administrative assistant expertise to support both colleagues and students.



Danette Mondrella

## English Professor Creates Poetry Chapbook

Ferris State University Associate Professor of English Deirdre Fagan's poetry chapbook, *Have Love*, will be published by Finishing Line Press. The book will be available in November and features the artwork of Ferris Art Gallery and Museum Director Carrie Weis on the cover. Chapbooks are shorter collections of poetry usually on one theme.



Erin Murphy, author of *Assisted Living*, provides a review of the book.

"*Have Love* offers unflinching, intimate glimpses into familial and romantic scenes, challenging our assumptions about giving and receiving love. There is pain when relationships and bodies fail, but the speaker opens herself up to 'a new voice singing' and urges us to 'Stir, stir the soup./ Light the candle./ Wash your face.' Contentment comes despite—or perhaps because of—loss. And we readers have the pleasure of riding on the brevities of Fagan's tender, hopeful images."

Fagan teaches and coordinates the Creative Writing program at Ferris. She is also the coordinator for the University's Literature in Person program. She is the author of the book *Critical Companion to Robert Frost* and her poetry, short stories, nonfiction, and critical essays on poetry, memoir, and pedagogy are available in various print and online journals and collections.

"Outside In," a poem by Fagan, was a 2018 Best of the Net finalist. Her creative writing has recently appeared in *Constellate Literary Journal*, *Dime Show Review*, *Eunoia Review*, *Isacoustic*, *New Verse News*, *Nine Muses Poetry*, *Riggwelter*, and *Orange Blossom Review*, among others.

Fagan has a bachelor's degree in English from the University at Buffalo, and a master's degree in English and a doctoral degree in Humanistic Studies (English and Philosophy) from the University at Albany.

For more information on *Have Love*, visit the author's publisher at [Finishing Line Press](#).



Deirdre Fagan

# Ferris to Host MiCEP Conference

Ferris State University will host the annual Michigan Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships (MiCEP) Conference on October 9 at the Big Rapids main campus. The conference will focus on best practices related to concurrent and dual enrollment, the National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnership (NACEP) standards, and research that is relevant to college-in-high-school programs.

“The MiCEP Conference is the best place for secondary and postsecondary educators to learn about concurrent and dual enrollment best practices and research, among other topics,” MiCEP President and Ferris’ Director of the Office of Transfer and Secondary School Partnerships DeeDee Stakley said. “Attendees will have an opportunity to network with other dual and concurrent enrollment professionals from Michigan.”

The three keynote speakers will be Patrick Cannon, President of the NACEP Board of Directors; Brandy Johnson, current Policy Advisor for Governor Gretchen Whitmer’s Postsecondary Education and Workforce Development Office; and Ryan Fewins-Bliss, Interim Executive Director of the Michigan College Access Network.

The conference will feature breakout sessions, and the MiCEP and the Michigan College Access Network will make an exciting announcement regarding future partnership opportunities.

Ferris faculty and staff can attend the conference at the institutional member cost. Registration information, information about speakers, and an agenda are available at <http://www.nacep.org/micep/events/>.

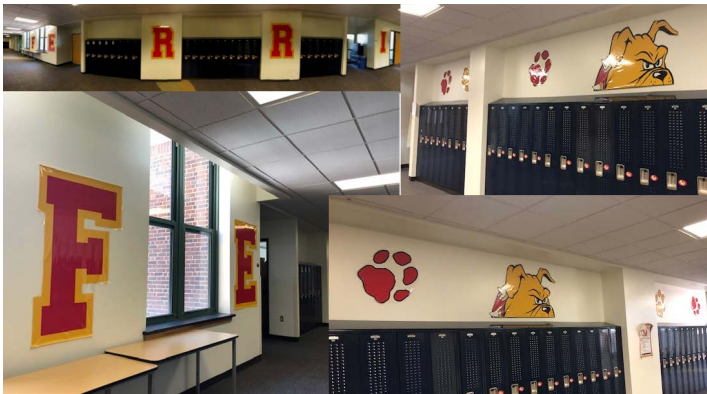
Grand Rapid Public School (GRPS) Challenge Scholars, a Grand Rapids Education Initiative. GRPS and Grand Rapids Community Foundation (GRCF) established a partnership to create a college going culture and a support system for academic success for GRPS students in the Union High School feeder pattern. Students who persist and graduate through the system will receive full scholarship dollars for post-secondary education. Ferris partners with Harrison Park Scholars Program by adopting the 4th grade wing. The hope is that each hallway will be sponsored by a higher education institution.

In the spring, FGR brings the Harrison Park 4th graders to Ferris’ main campus for their annual visit. Students participate in age appropriate interactive college information sessions, experience residential life, learn about various careers and educational pathways, explore the campus, visit the Card Wildlife Center, and participate in a financial literacy game. Other ways that Ferris is involved in the lives of these potential bulldogs is that they provide volunteers and college information to the class and many FGR pre-student teachers are placed within the Harrison Park building.



Harrison Park Elementary School 4th grade 2018

# Building Relationships with Future Bulldogs



The Ferris Grand Rapids (FGR) office once again provided Harrison Park Elementary School’s 4th grade wing with Ferris folders for their Friday take home folders, Ferris sticky notes, and gift bags for the teachers. They also updated hallways with a new Ferris theme.

About six years ago, FGR adopted the 4th grade class as part of the

# Ferris Hosts MASU Officers



The Michigan Association of State Universities (MASU) held its annual Academic Officers retreat on Ferris’ main campus in June.

In cooperation with policymakers, trustees, students, faculty, and campus administrators, the Association plays an active role in developing and proposing state higher education policy to better serve Michigan’s citizens and the public good.

Some of topics discussed at the retreat included academic program review, the FY2020 state budget, legislation, budgeting challenges, strategies and responses to demographic declines, creating and eliminating academic programs, transfer update, the MASU student success inventory, federal policy update, vendors, and open education resources.

The retreat included a tour of the Academic Literacies Center and breakfast with President Eisler.



## Faculty Recognition

There have been a number of new and noteworthy papers published by our Pharmacy faculty in PubMed-indexed journals in the past couple of months.

**Dr. Scott Sexton published a paper in the Journal of the American Pharmacists Association, on the topic of naloxone use in a community pharmacy setting, along with colleagues from the University of North Carolina:**

Sexton SM, Armstrong A, Gattton O, Rhodes LA, Marciniak MW. [A standardized team-based approach for identifying naloxone-eligible patients in a grocery store pharmacy.](#) J Am Pharm Assoc (2003). 2019 Jun 20. pii: S1544-3191(19)30144-X. doi: 10.1016/j.japh.2019.03.015.

**Drs. Tracey Mersfelder and Dane Shiltz published a review article in the journal Annals of Pharmacotherapy on use of beta-blockers in patients with pulmonary disease:**

Mersfelder TL, Shiltz DL. [β-Blockers and the Rate of Chronic Obstructive Pulmonary Disease Exacerbations.](#) Ann Pharmacother. 2019 Jul 4:1060028019862322. doi: 10.1177/1060028019862322.

**Drs. Claire Saadeh, David Bright and Ms. Danielle Rustem (former p4 student), published a review article in the journal Acta Medica Academica on precision medicine in oncology pharmacy:**

Saadeh C, Bright D, Rustem D. [Precision Medicine in Oncology Pharmacy Practice.](#) Acta Med Acad. 2019;48(1):90-104. doi: 10.5644/ama2006-124.246.

**Dr. Minji Sohn, is 1st author on an original research paper published in JAMA, along with colleagues from the University of Kentucky:**

Sohn M, Talbert JC, Huang Z, Lofwall MR, Freeman PR. [Association of Naloxone Coprescription Laws With Naloxone Prescription Dispensing in the United States.](#) JAMA Netw Open. 2019 Jun 5;2(6):e196215. doi: 10.1001/jamanetworkopen.2019.6215. *According to Altmetric, this JAMA paper has been picked up by 7 news outlets (including Reuters Health/Medscape), and has an Attention score of 64 which is in the top 5% of over 13 million research articles tracked!*

**Drs. Lisa Meny, Peg DeVoest and Lisa Salvati published a paper in the journal Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning that describes their research on assessment of student learning in interprofessional simulations:**

Meny LM, de Voest MC, Salvati LA. [Assessment of student pharmacist learning within an interprofessional simulation: A comparison of small group vs. large group debriefing.](#) Curr Pharm Teach Learn. 2019 May;11(5):533-537. doi: 10.1016/j.cptl.2019.02.007.

**Dr. Kyle Schmidt is 1st author on an original research paper published in the Journal of Clinical Neuroscience, along with collaborators from Spectrum Health and Metro Health:**

Schmidt KJ, Sager B, Zachariah J, Raad BF, James EG, Fletcher JJ. [Cohort analysis of desmopressin effect on hematoma expansion in patients with spontaneous intracerebral hemorrhage and documented pre-ictus antiplatelet use.](#) J Clin Neurosci. 2019 May 31. pii: S0967-5868(18)31615-1. doi: 10.1016/j.jocn.2019.05.032.

**Dr. Kali VanLangen co-authored a commentary in Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning, with colleagues from UNC, VCU, Univ of Wisconsin and Highpoint:**

Anksorus HN, Bradley CL, Porter AL, VanLangen KM, Donohoe KL. [Establishing a successful teaching assistant program in pharmacy skills laboratory courses.](#) Curr Pharm Teach Learn. 2019 Aug;11(8):760-766. doi: 10.1016/j.cptl.2019.04.003.

**Dr. Renee Koski published a review article in J Pharm Practice with former P4 student Kirsten Grzegorzcyk:**

Koski RR, Grzegorzcyk KM. [Comparison of Monoclonal Antibodies for Treatment of Uncontrolled Eosinophilic Asthma.](#) J Pharm Pract. 2019 May 2:897190019840597. doi: 10.1177/0897190019840597.

**Dr. Namita Giri co-authored a teaching-based research paper in the Journal of Pharmacy Practice with colleagues from West Coast University:**

Vinluan CM, Verdell A, Ibarra C, Giri N, Thai D. [Interprofessional Perceptions and Attitudes Among Pharmacy and Family Nurse Practitioner Students.](#) J Pharm Pract. 2019 Apr 28:897190019840100. doi: 10.1177/0897190019840100.

**Dr. Sonali Kurup co-authored a paper in the Journal of Medicinal Chemistry, describing innovative drug design methods:**

Namasivayam V, Vanangamudi M, Kramer VG, Kurup S, Zhan P, Liu X, Kongsted J, Byrareddy SN. [The Journey of HIV-1 Non-Nucleoside Reverse Transcriptase Inhibitors \(NNRTIs\) from Lab to Clinic.](#) J Med Chem. 2019 May 23;62(10):4851-4883.

**Dr. Sonali Kurup co-authored a paper in the Journal of Chemical Education on novel drug design:**

Kurup, S.; Sakharkar, P. [Three-Dimensional Visualization of Kinase Inhibitors as Therapeutically Relevant Examples To Reinforce Types of Enzyme Inhibitors.](#) Journal of Chemical Education 2019; 96(2): 296-303.

**Dr. Thomas Dowling co-authored a paper in the Journal of Oncology Pharmacy Practice with collaborators at the University of California Irvine and the Children's Hospital of Orange County (CA):**

Stockton WM, Nguyen T, Zhang L, Dowling TC. [Etoposide and etoposide phosphate hypersensitivity in children: Incidence, risk factors, and prevention strategies.](#) J Oncol Pharm Pract. 2019 Jul 18:1078155219858390. doi: 10.1177/1078155219858390.

# Double-Robots Provide Transactional Communication Presence



Ferris State University Communication Studies instructors Dr. Jennifer Coburn and Dr. Jenny Armentrout team-taught COMM 320: Family Communication during the Spring 2019 semester utilizing both face-to-face and double-robot technology. This mixed-delivery approach is the first of its kind, not only on campus, but statewide.

Student Alyssa Mulder, a Hudsonville senior, was able to attend class live with 27 other students in person, while Armentrout instructed the class remotely. The double-robots, named Bonnie and Clyde, were made available through the office of eLearning and Coordinator of Instructional Technology, Jackie Hughes. A third robot, Jesse, has also been added to the FSU fleet this year.

Mulder explained the advantages of using the robots. "Many students are not on the main campus since Ferris is statewide, so this [technology] offers a way to accommodate those students allowing them to stay on track with their program. During this semester, I was able to give two group

presentations and work alongside other people in the class. You would not be able to get that same experience elsewhere and I thought it was so cool to see the robots in action. What a time we live in to have access to technology like this. It really will change the way we learn, and I think the robots will offer so many opportunities to future students."

This teaching method is significant because it provides a unique opportunity to investigate innovative instructional methods, course design, collaboration, and communication tactics in the classroom. This course design promotes using technology transactionally and up until this point has not been utilized. As communication scholars, Coburn and Armentrout were able to ask nuanced questions regarding the interactive nature of double-robot use in the classroom and look forward to continued research in this area.

Future opportunities for teaching with double-robots at Ferris are anticipated and welcomed.

For more information/inquiries about course design, contact Ferris eLearning or the Humanities Dept:

<https://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/academicaffairs/extendedinternational/elearning/>

<https://www.ferris.edu/arts-sciences/departments/humanities/>

<https://ferrisphotos.smugmug.com/Academic/Arts-and-Sciences/COMM-320/>



For more information on the Office of Academic Affairs, go to <https://ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/academicaffairs/index.htm> or call (231)591-2300

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