

Ferris State University

Good News Items

May 2019

Academic Affairs

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

- Paul Zube advised two Sports Communication juniors, Jared Ozella and Savanna Stout, who presented their follow up study of the impact of unified sports in reducing college students' stigma against people with intellectual disabilities at the 2019 IACS Summit on March 31 in Boise.
- Chad Turner presented a paper titled "Monastic Reading and Monastic Hagiography" at the annual conference of the Michigan Academy of Science Arts and Letters on March 1.
- Sandy Alspach mentored two Sports Communication students, junior Conner Pyrc and freshman Brendan Sanders, who presented their study of the impact of winning a national championship for a D2 school at the 2019 International Association for Communication and Sport (IACS) Summit March 31 in Boise, Idaho.
- Christian Peterson gave the presentation, "Saving the World 'From Below': Joanne Landy and the Campaign for Peace and Democracy—East and West," 28 March 2019, Humanities Department Colloquium Series.
- Christian Peterson and Gary Huey presented, "Can't We All Just Get Along? Group Identity in the Modern World," on campus at the Passion for the Past Discussion Panel, 27 March 2019.
- Christian Peterson appeared on March 25 in a television segment about Special Counsel Robert Mueller's Report for WWUP/WWTV (CBS Affiliate Television Channels 9 and 10 News, Cadillac).
- Dale Skornia attended the Central Michigan State University Saxophone Day and performed in the Michigan Saxophone Ensemble on March 24.
- Scott Cohen served as Music Adjudicator for the Michigan School Band and Orchestra Association District Festivals on March 1 and March 8 in St. Clair Shores.
- Dave Schrock, Professional Advisor in the College of Arts and Sciences, was selected to present at the NACADA Region V Conference in Detroit, Michigan. His presentation, "Moving Forward: Round Table with a Purpose" focused on Leadership, Professional Development, and Reducing Stress and Burnout within the Academic Advising Community.
- BSW students, Abby Barker and Hunter Lumsden, along with Liz Post, Assistant Professor of Social Work, represented Ferris at the National Association of Social Workers Capitol Action Day in Lansing on March 19. They met with state legislators to lobby for student loan repayment programs for social workers.
- On March 8, 2019, MSW Student Krystal Nowak and Dr. Rita Walters gave a presentation titled, "Using a Study Abroad Program to Build Partnerships with Social Service Organizations in Haiti", at the 2019 National Council on Black Studies Conference on March 8, 2019 in New Orleans, LA.
- Professor Michael Berghoef and the Phi Alpha Social Work Honor Society hosted guest speakers Elvis Zavala and Cristina Starr from Radio Victoria and the Community Development Association of El Salvador who spoke at the Center for Latin@ Studies on *Water as a Human Right: Voices from El Salvador* on April 11, 2019.
- On April 5, 2019 Professor Michael Berghoef presented with Cruz Maria Morales from the University of El Salvador on "Contextualizing Latinx Genocide Studies Utilizing the

Shoah Visual History Archive” at the Latinx Social Work Organization conference sponsored by the Latinx Center of Excellence of the UC Berkeley School of Social Welfare in Oakland, CA.

- On April 6, Dr. Van Treese’s and Dr. Richmond’s research team gave three oral presentations at the Michigan Undergraduate Research Conference at Calvin College. One of Dr. Nichols-Whitehead’s student presented a poster. All student presentations were well received. A total of twelve Ferris psychology majors and five faculty attended (Jim Van Treese, Penney Nichols-Whitehead, Chris Richmond, Chris Redker, and Meral Topcu).
- Fifteen Student Psychology Association members attended the Midwestern Psychological Association Conference in Chicago on April 11-13, 2019 (along with 5 Psychology faculty members - Stacey Armstrong, Jordan Horan, Penney Nichols-Whitehead, Chris Redker, and Janice Weaver).
- Mark Thomson was invited to participate in the 2019 American Chemical Society Safety Education Summit in Washington, DC. He was also appointed chair of the Stakeholder Outreach Sub-Committee for the ACS Committee on Technician Affairs during the 257th ACS National Meeting in Orlando, FL.
- Samantha Kodeski, senior English major, presented her creative non-fiction short story, "Don't Start A Fight" at the Sigma Tau Delta International English Society 2019 Convention in St. Louis, Missouri.
- Writing Center consultants Jason Mickevich, Paige Brady, Kristen Kelly, and Samantha Kodeski presented "The Writing Center Handbook and the Discourse of Writing Centers: Four Critical Discourse Analyses" at the East Central Writing Centers Association Annual Conference in Dayton, Ohio.
- Crossroads Writing Project, Ferris State University’s National Writing Program site, hosted “Create Your Break! Spring Break Creative Writing Camp” for local middle schoolers March 18-21, 2019. Faculty facilitators were: Debra K Courtright-Nash, Deirdre Fagan, Garrett Stack, John Cullen, and Bernadette Fox of the English, Literature and World Languages Department.
- Deirdre Fagan’s poem, "Outside In," nominated by Nine Muses Poetry, was a 2018 Best of the Net finalist.
- Deirdre Fagan’s poem, "Notre Amour, Comme une Pomme, Vient de la Terre" received honorable mention in the Muskegon Art Museum's Art Talks Back Poetry Contest
- Deirdre Fagan presented "Rotary Dial: A Short Story of Loss and Telephone Lines" at the Popular Culture/American Culture Association National Conference in Washington, D.C.
- Dan Ding published the article, “A Study of the Websites of the 42 Double First-class Chinese Universities: How Does Confucianism Influence the Content on Chinese University Websites?” in *Technical Communication, Journal of the Society for Technical Communication*.
- Sean Hill published the essay “The Lived Experience of Non-Immersion Paired Teachers in a Chinese Immersion Program” in *Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges, Promoting Performance: 2019 Report of the Central States Conference on the Teaching of Foreign Languages Conference*.
- Sean Hill presented “A survey of Michigan school superintendents' assessment of faculty and staff professional development needs” at the Michigan Academy of Science, Arts & Letters Conference, in Alma, Michigan.
- Sean Hill presented "A One-Way Mandarin Immersion Program in the Rural Midwest: Community Transformation and Civic Engagement" at the 7th International Conference on Immersion and Dual Language Education in Charlotte, North Carolina.

- Diane Jackson from the Social and Behavioral Sciences Department was at the Midwest Sociological Society this week and presided over a panel discussion of research on First Generation College Students entitled "Embodied First Generation Identity Through the Life Course". She has also been tapped as co-chair for the MSS First Generation Task Force for next year.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

- Dr. Hira Herrington, Assistant Professor in Computer Information Systems, was awarded the Ferris Foundation 2019 Exceptional Merit Award for his proposed "Ferris State University Virtual Reality Initiative".
- The Ferris American Marketing Association (AMA) chapter was recognized as one of the top ten international AMA chapters at the AMA International Collegiate Conference. <http://www.ferris.edu/business/amaferris-recognized-internationally/>
- Two teams of students from the College of Business competed in the Association for Corporate Growth (ACG) Cup on February 23, 2019. <http://www.ferris.edu/business/acg-cup-2019/>
- Two teams of Ferris State University Graphic Design (DSGN) alumni were recently presented with 2019 Student Silver ADDY Awards for work they created during their time at the Ferris Design Project Center (DPC). <http://www.ferris.edu/business/dpc-addy-2019/>
- Students in Operations and Lean Management courses recently visited [Gentex Corporation](http://www.ferris.edu/business/gentex-1904/) as a learning opportunity. <http://www.ferris.edu/business/gentex-1904/>
- College of Business students toured Gordon Food Service's (GFS) six-story high, automated distribution center in Wyoming, Michigan on March 20, 2019. <http://www.ferris.edu/business/ferris-gfs-visit-2019mar/>

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES

School of Digital Media (SDM)

- The School of Digital Media (SDM), in collaboration with the Media Communications Association (MCA), a registered student organization, held its 19th annual Media Festival on April 12, 2019. Five guest speakers presented on a range of interesting and engaging topics throughout the day, and the event was very well attended by students and guests. The efforts of faculty advisors, Joshua Pardon and Marty Lier, along with the efforts of MCA's student leadership team, in coordinating this event were greatly appreciated!
- Dr. Mohamed Abusharkh's paper titled "Optimal and Sub-optimal Resource Allocation Techniques in Cloud Computing Data Centers" was accepted for presentation into the International Conference on Communication (ICC). ICC is one of the flagship conferences of IEEE communication society and includes networking experts from highest level of research and industry partners. The paper was a result of a collaboration with a colleague from IBM Analytics.
- Digital Media Software Engineering (DMSE) students, Chris Wilson and Brian Buchan, started working on a research project lead by Professor Michele Harvey from the College of Engineering Technology. The project is a collaboration between Professor Harvey, Professor Xu (College of Business) and Dr. Mohamed Abusharkh (College of Education & Human Services). The project aims to measure the impact of experiential learning on improving STEM education. The DMSE students will build a software simulator to measure the learning metrics and facilitate active learning and more efficient training.

School of Education (SOE)

- SOE graduate, Brianna Wise, is a science teacher at Mason County Central Middle School, Custer, MI. She received the 2019 Maitlan P. Simmons Memorial Award for New Teachers from the National Science Teachers Association.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

- Dominica Van Koten has been selected as the new permanent Washington DC Chief Cadastral Surveyor by the U.S. Department of the Interior, Bureau of Land Management (BLM). Van Koten holds a Bachelor's degree in Surveying Engineering from Ferris. She has spent the last 11 years as the BLM Eastern States Office, Chief Cadastral Surveyor where she has been responsible for the management of the BLM cadastral survey program in the 31 states east of and bordering the Mississippi River. Van Koten also spent 17 years working for BLM at the Alaska State Office in various positions including Field Surveyor and Navigability Section Chief. She is an Alaska licensed land surveyor and will begin her new job April 29, 2019.
- The 9 and 10 News morning show was at Artworks in Big Rapids on April 4, 2019 to discuss the opening of an Industrial Art Exhibit "What's in The Truck, Part 11". This included interviewing the Ferris State University Heating, Ventilation, Refrigeration and Air Conditioning (HVACR) program Associate Professors Joe Compton and Doug Zentz about the program as well as employment opportunities available. In addition to this, HVACR students Brook Oliver, Matt Holsworth, Annie Vanderstelt and Austin Smith talk about their projects on display from classes in Heating, Refrigeration, and HVACR 285 using Revit software to design a building. To catch a glimpse, visit this link: https://www.9and10news.com/2019/04/04/mtm-on-the-road-artworks-in-big-rapids/?fbclid=IwAR0ostQGEX-40Ym5D4h3I_oujWzC-vKRx6iT5IJ3GRmUfBBiSLpWeL_Vbkc:
- Ferris State University student, Brook Oliver, was selected to receive the postsecondary Michigan Department of Education Breaking Traditions award for Excellence. Brook will be recognized for her accomplishments in the nontraditional career path of Heating Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR) during the afternoon of Thursday, May 16 at the awards ceremony will at The Forum in the Library of Michigan, Lansing, MI.
- Students from the Baja Racing Club competed at the SAE National competition at Tennessee Technical University from April 11-14. With 96 teams competing, the Ferris #121 car finished the endurance race 30th, as well as securing 8th place in the sled pull. The BAJA Team members that competed are: Jackson Mitchell, Ty Pardee, Eric Troyer, Jacob Simon, Davis Kenyon, Nick Bialek, Randy O'Donnell, Brian Favier, and Phil Nasskau. The faculty advisor is: Dr. Rusty Leonard. Here is a link to the event for additional information: <https://www.sae.org/attend/student-events/baja-sae-tennessee-tech/>

EIO

- Jeff Bean, Program Advisor & Placement Coordinator for Flint and Lansing campuses, spoke April 6 at the Black Male Retention Conference held at Henry Ford Community College in Dearborn. The title of his session was "The Need for Consciousness of Black American Presence in Elementary and Pre-K Classrooms." On April 9, Jeff led the April session of the *Tendaji Talks*, a lecture series founded by U of M and *Neighbors Without Borders*, that promotes community-based conversations around race, gender and inequality. The topic was "The Consequences of Not Addressing White Privilege and Power."
- FSU Grand Rapids student Daniel Cruzan received GRCC's Arthur Andrews' Award, which goes to the Delta Pi Alpha student with the highest cumulative GPA and the

greatest number of honor points. He has been interning with US Signal this semester. As part of his coursework, Cruzan took four classes through GRCC's partnership with Cisco Networking Academy and then passed a rigorous exam to become a Cisco Certified Network Associate. He will graduate with an AAS degree from GRCC in May and then continue working toward his bachelor's degree at FSU.

FLITE

- FLITE recently received a Faculty Staff Diversity Mini-Grant of \$1,225 from the Office of Diversity and Inclusion for the Web Content for Everyone Symposium taking place on May 15. This day-long event is designed to educate and inform Ferris faculty and staff about accessibility considerations and inclusive practices when creating online textual and video content. Rebecca Blakiston, a nationally known speaker on universal design, will give the keynote followed by breakout workshops presented by Ferris employees with diverse web accessibility expertise. The day will end with a wrap-up panel. FLITE has partnered with R&SS, UA&M, SCTD, FCTL, and ECDS, with additional support from the Provost's Office and the Division of Administration & Finance, to provide this free training.
- Kristy Motz will be a Preconference speaker for the 2019 Association of Christian Librarians national conference in Marion Indiana. Her half-day workshop is titled "Information Literacy for the iGen Student: Designing Instruction Sessions that are Hands-on, Assessed, and Successful."

RETENTION & STUDENT SUCCESS

- Karen Royster-James and Kimberly Smith have facilitated over 30 presentations regarding tutoring services, SLA, and the Academic Literacies Center. They have presented to more than 1100 faculty, staff and students.
- Karen D. Royster-James presented "A Strategy for Student Success: Structured Learning Assistance (SLA)" at the 2019 Chicago Symposium Series on Excellence in Teaching Mathematics and Science: Research and Practice.
- Dave McCall presented "Best Practices for Teaching Career Development Courses" at the FerrisNow Conference on March 18, 2019.
- Dave McCall was the Keynote Speaker at Evart Career Day – "Paving the Road to Success After High School" on March 20, 2019.
- Dave McCall was recognized at the Authors Celebration on March 27, 2019 for "Paving the Way through Career Exploration," an article published through NCDA.
- Marie Yowitz presented an "Explanation of ECDS Services" twice at the College of Education & Human Services and once for the Center for Latin@ Studies to current students. This information was also presented at the FerrisNow Conference to faculty and staff.
- ECDS was awarded a Diversity Mini Grant in the amount of \$5,000.
- Dr. Peter Bradley was elected to President-elect of MEHA for 2019-2020, and will assume the Presidency at the 2020 conference.
- Honors student, Byron Brooks, was elected to the MEHA advisory board, as one of five student representatives.
- Amy Buse and Bob Griffith presented a session titled "Why Did you Do that? Reviewing the data being bridged from Banner and how" at the Degree Works Forum.
- At the Degree Works Forum, Bob Griffith moderated two Birds of a Feather sessions titled "Reporting from Degree Works" (the session was repeated at the request of Ellucian).
- Karen GreenBay presented with Jessica Wimmer, Coordinator of Mecosta/Osceola Great Start Collaborative, a Women's History Month presentation titled "Creating a

Family-Friendly Community: Strategies to Promote College Success for Ferris Student Parents.”

Administration and Finance

Athletics

- Former Ferris State University men's ice hockey standout Zach Redmond (Traverse City) was chosen as the 2019 recipient of the Eddie Shore Award as the American Hockey League's (AHL) top defenseman this year following an impressive professional regular-season campaign. Redmond, who plays for the AHL's Rochester Americans, which is the top affiliate of the National Hockey League's (NHL) Buffalo Sabres, claimed the award for the first time. The prestigious honor is voted on by coaches, players and media members in each of the AHL's 31 cities.
- Former Ferris State University men's basketball standout and 2018 NCAA Division II National Player of the Year Zach Hankins (Charlevoix) will have an opportunity to showcase his skills in front of NBA and professional scouts as he has been selected to participate in the 2019 Portsmouth Invitational Tournament. The annual event brings together the top 64 collegiate senior players in the country to participate in a four-day, 12-game tournament in front of NBA teams and fans. It will take place April 17-20, in Portsmouth, VA. The tournament is the oldest amateur hoops tournament in the United States and the only postseason camp restricted to college basketball seniors.
- A pair of Ferris State University track and field student-athletes, Cody Stilwell (Cadillac) and Katie Etelamaki (Ishpeming), were recently recognized as 2019 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Commissioner's Award recipients for the winter season by the league office. The awards are presented after the Fall, Winter, and Spring athletic seasons to six female and six male student-athletes who excel both in the classroom and on the fields of play. All grade-point averages are based on a 4.0 scale. A total of only three conference member schools, including Ferris State, had multiple recipients during the winter campaign.
- Five senior members of last fall's NCAA Division II National Finalist Ferris State University football squad have earned recognition for their accomplishments on the field and in the classroom by being named to the 2019 National Football Foundation (NFF) Hampshire Honor Society. The Bulldog honorees include senior long snapper and tight end Jacob Allan (Portage, Mich./Central), senior tight end Matt Capasso (Portage, Mich./Central), senior defensive back Danny Collins (Plymouth, Mich./Detroit Catholic Central), senior quarterback Bret Mooney (West Dundee, Ill./Jacobs) and senior offensive guard Nic Sawyer (Ann Arbor, Mich./Saline). The Bulldogs again ranked among the national and league leaders with the five representatives.
- The Ferris State University men's golf team captured its 20th GLIAC championship with a strong finish over the Easter weekend. The Bulldog tournament run included impressive wins over Grand Valley and Ashland. The team now awaits the NCAA selection announcement.
- Both the Ferris State University men's golf and men's tennis squads are currently ranked among the top eight teams in the Midwest Region by the NCAA. The regional rankings help determine participants for the upcoming NCAA Championship action later this spring.

Auxiliary Enterprises

- The Office of Housing and Residence Life hosted the 1st Annual Adirondack/The Housing Director Conference for Michigan users on March 14th. The 2nd Annual is already scheduled for Spring Break 2020 again at Ferris State University.

HR

- Jody Gardei, Manager of the Staff Center for Training and Development, passed the Association for Talent Development APTD exam and is now a certified Associate Professional in Talent Development.

Information Technology

- To help improve efficiencies, the IT Solution Center has been raising the bar for staff to work toward professional certifications. With the right technical knowledge, staff that respond to requests for help should be able to resolve issues faster and fix it right the first time. Some of the certifications being pursued are CompTIA A+, Certified Technology Specialist, HDI Support Center Analyst, HDI Customer Service Representative, and Software Licensing Management. Every employee is required to log 48 hours annually (one hour per week) of professional development. Courses taken at Ferris related to the job, technical meetings, webinars, and time spent pursuing certifications all count toward professional development.

Governmental Relations

- GRGC helped coordinate constituent office hours for Senator Rick Outman (R-33) held on April 8th at the University Center. Office hours were open to the public and students to bring forward any news, concerns or questions from the district to the Senator's attention.

Kendall College of Art & Design

- KCAD Illustration Professor Jon McDonald has been honored with the 2019 Distinguished Educator in the Arts Award from the Society of Illustrators, which recognizes individuals who have attained the highest standard of academic achievement while also furthering the Society's educational programs. Founded in 1901, the New York-based organization is the nation's longest-standing nonprofit organization dedicated to the art of illustration.
- KCAD Drawing Professor Stephen Halko and alumnus Nick Reszetar ('17, MFA) are currently featured in a group exhibition, *Allegories to Anatomies*, at Buckham Gallery in Flint, Mich. The exhibition showcases figurative drawings and paintings that explore different ways to consider the human condition.
- KCAD Art History Assistant Professor Dr. Stefanie Snider published her essay "Staring Back, Deadpan: Ugliness and Abjection in Iliu Susiraja's Self-Portraits" in ASAP Journal.
- KCAD Printmaking Assistant Professor Olivia Timmons was recently featured in a solo exhibition, *Coming to the Surface*, at Olivet College in Olivet, Mich. as well as two prominent juried exhibitions: the 37th Annual Bradley International Print and Drawing Exhibition at Bradley University in Peoria, Ill. and the Atlanta Print Biennial 2019 at Kai Linn Art in Atlanta.
- KCAD Painting Professor Margaret Vega gave a gallery talk at the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) in conjunction with the exhibition *A Decade at the Center: Recent Gifts and Acquisitions*. Vega's oil monotype, "Head of a Boy," is among the works featured in the exhibition, having been added to GRAM's permanent collection in 2017. The piece is part of a larger series, "Voices of the Children" that's inspired by her passion for human rights and her perception of the vulnerability of children from around the globe.
- KCAD Fashion Studies students Jen Caceras and Lily Cho have each been commissioned by Hudsonville, Mich.-based clothing brand Hawthorne Collection to create garments that will be sold in the brand's boutique and on its website. Cho designed a cardigan, while Caceras designed a bomber jacket.

- KCAD Master of Fine Arts students Samantha Conrad and Katie Toepp have been selected to receive KCAD-supported scholarships to attend the Golden Apple Art Residency—owned and operated by KCAD alumna Shelley Stevens ('00, BFA Painting; '04, MFA)—in Maine this summer.
- KCAD Illustration students Sophia Hart and Emma Vanderlinden have received the Gordon Art Fellowship from the Pierce Cedar Creek Institute (PCCI) in Barry County, Mich. In addition to receiving \$4,200 in grant funding, Hart and Vanderlinden will live at the PCCI for 10-12 weeks this summer while they work on their own creative projects and collaborate with other grant recipients in the serene setting of the Institute's 750 acres of preserved grasslands, wetlands, forests, and lakes.
- KCAD Drawing student Cameron Jenkins was recently invited to speak about his work and his creative process at the Detroit Institute of Art. Specifically, Jenkins addressed "Diamonds," a painting he created that explores how the stresses, pressures, and challenges of life can ultimately shape people—especially young people—in positive ways. Following the presentation, Jenkins was approached by an audience member who purchased the painting from him.
- KCAD Art History students Lotus Liu, Liz McMahon, Claire Nussdorfer, Meghan Onak, and Kailey Pagels recently presented at the Eighth Annual Grand Rapids Undergraduate Art History Symposium, held at Frederik Meijer Gardens & Sculpture Park on April 12. Liu presented her paper "Spiritual Landscapes: A Comparison between Eleventh-Century China and Nineteenth-Century Europe;" Onak presented her paper "Calder in Paris: The Sculpting of a Twentieth-Century Artist;" Nussdorfer presented her paper "Animal Iconography as a Translation of Spiritual Power in Irish Art;" McMahon presented her paper "There is Something about Mary: Mary's Varied Representation and Her Role in Holy Images between 1100 and 1500;" and Pagels presented her paper "Fatal Attractions," which explored how late nineteenth- and early twentieth-century depictions of the "femme fatale" helped enforce a gendered society that oppressed women.
- KCAD Illustration students Xiao Lun and Samantha Weldon have been selected for inclusion in *Student Scholarship 2019: The Exhibit*, a forthcoming exhibition organized by the Society of Illustrators and held at The Museum of Illustration in New York City that will showcase work from over 100 of today's top college-level illustration students. The included students/pieces were chosen by a jury of professional illustrators and art directors on the basis of quality of technique, strength of concept, and skills of medium used.
- KCAD Fashion Studies student Demi McNeal has a handful of textile designs she created for Marchesa currently featured on garments for sale at Neiman Marcus. McNeal, who was hired by Marchesa as a full-time textile designer following a summer 2018 internship with the New York-based fashion brand, designed a number of floral motifs inspired by the brand's upcoming season mood board that were then printed or embroidered onto different gowns.
- KCAD Illustration student Caitlyn VanderVeen released her first children's book, "Little Norah's Really Big Hair," through Austin Macauley Publishers. The coming-of-age story follows Little Norah from birth to adulthood as she learns to accept her fast-growing and hard-to-manage locks as a unique part of who she is.
- KCAD alumni Piper Adonya ('18, BFA Digital Media), Hannah Berry ('16, BFA Art Education), Marie Couretas ('09, BFA Art Education), Devin DuMond ('05, BFA Illustration; '10, MFA), Madeline Graumlich ('18, BFA Illustration), Korin Hollinshead ('13, BFA Drawing), Katie Moore ('11, MFA) and Kim Nguyen ('13, BFA Digital Media) and current students Elena Gray (Printmaking), Maddie Jackson (Illustration), Emily

MacDonald (Illustration), Anna VanderLoon (Fashion Studies), and Dayna Walton (Illustration) are among the 27 artists who have been selected to participate in "Rad Women," a new public art initiative that's giving local female-identifying artists the chance to paint portraits of influential women on mechanical boxes located throughout Downtown Grand Rapids. The initiative was organized in collaboration between Downtown Grand Rapids, Inc. and local gallery Lions & Rabbits, owned and operated by Berry.

- KCAD alumna Chelsea Harris ('17, BFA Painting) held a solo exhibition, *Whatever Works*, at Brick Street Art Studios in New Albany, Ind. The exhibition focused on works Harris has created in the months following her graduation from KCAD.
- KCAD alumnus Ryan Kilpatrick ('13, Master of Arts in Design) gave a lecture titled "Affordable Housing: Obstacles and Solutions in Lakeshore Communities" as part of the 2019 South Haven Speaker Series. Kilpatrick is the executive director of the Housing Next Leadership Council, an initiative focused on addressing the need for affordable housing in Ottawa County in Michigan.
- KCAD alumnus Jon Post ('82, AFA Illustration) had two paintings of Jackie Robinson he created purchased by the production company of filmmaker Spike Lee for use in the short "Impact," a collaboration with Budweiser that highlights the extraordinary impact of Jackie Robinson, who became the first African to play in Major League Baseball in 1947. The film was released on March 26 on the official Budweiser YouTube channel.
- KCAD alumnus Joshua Risner ('14, MFA), for his latest assignment in his role as the Michigan State Capitol's Master Decorative Painter, will paint the official portrait of former Michigan Governor Rick Snyder. The portrait will hang in the State Capitol alongside portraits of other past governors in the state's history.
- KCAD alumna Shelley Stevens ('00, BFA Painting; '04, MFA) held a solo exhibition, *An Army of Women*, at the Ferris State University Fine Art Gallery. The exhibition aims to highlight stories and experiences of real women that reflect their strength, intelligence, and courage.
- KCAD alumna Angela Two Stars ('17, BFA Drawing) held a solo exhibition, *Language Arts*, at The Sioux Indian Museum in Rapid City, S.D. The exhibition featured a series of works exploring the Dakotah language of the Sisseton-Wahpeton Oyate tribe of Native Americans, of which Two Stars is an enrolled member.

Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts

- UICA screened the Ai Weiwei-directed documentary film "Human Flow," followed by a discussion panel. The panelists were David Alvarez, Professor of English, Grand Valley State University; Alexandra Gillett, Staff Attorney at Justice for Our Neighbors; Dan Slane, Licensed Master of Social Work; and Shadia Mbabazi, Community Development Director at Treetops Collective. While "Human Flow" examines the staggering scale of the refugee crisis and its profoundly personal human impact in 23 countries, the panel, which was moderated by UICA Exhibitions Curator Juana Williams, connected that impact to both the concurrent exhibition, *Or Does it Explode*, and to our local refugee population.

Student Affairs

- Entertainment Unlimited hosted the annual Music Takes Action Concert where 1361 tickets were sold to see Jesse McCartney and MAX. The event raised funds for *iunderstand*, a non-profit organization that offers compassionate comfort to those affected by suicide and mental illness.

- The fraternity and sorority community raised over \$2,500 during Greek Week which will fund a donation to the winning teams' philanthropies and leadership development conference expenses for fraternity and sorority members.
- Over 50 people participated in Alpha Sigma Tau's Walk for Anti-Violence, and they raised \$430 for WISE.
- Over 100 students were trained in bystander intervention using the new Bringing in the Bystander workshop.
- Approximately 400 people attended the Five Star Event, "Can I Kiss You," a Sexual Assault Awareness event.
- Alpha Xi Delta raised over \$1,200 for Autism Speaks in a period of one week.
- Fraternity and Sorority Life members wrote 157 welcoming notes to incoming/perspective students during their "Ferris Focused" service project during Greek Week.
- The Dawg Days on April 6, 2019 was the largest spring semester dawg day event on record with 410 guests in attendance including 158 prospective students.
- Brenden Kudla, Admissions Recruiter, hosted an event in the Detroit area for High School Counselors on April 10th. There were 20 Counselors that attended the luncheon and 125 prospective students and their families that attended the dinner. It was exciting to have counselors and prospective students and their families together learning about what Ferris has to offer. There were three alums that spoke on behalf of their Ferris experiences, inspiring the next generation of Bulldogs.
- Jeff Stewart, Jessica Davison, Brenden Kudla, and Leah Melichar attended the MCAN Advocacy Day in Lansing on April 17th. At the Advocacy Day, they were able to speak with Representative Michele Hoytenga, Senator Rick Outman and Senator Jon Bumstead about the importance of Higher Ed funding initiatives including TIP and the opportunities outlined by the Governor.
- Ferris State University has been selected to be part of the inaugural 2019 cohort of the First Forward program sponsored by NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. Ferris was selected in this competitive process because we demonstrated that we are engaging in evidence-based practices and scaling efforts to serve first-generation students and our review team was impressed with our application. The application was completed by members of the Student Affairs and Retention & Student Success staff members.
- Dr. Kristen Salomonson, Dean of Enrollment Service, has been selected as an Enrollment Management Program Evaluator by the American Association of College Registrar's & Admissions Officers for a one-year term. The program provides a well-defined, self-paced professional development program and career advancement track for enrollment service professionals resulting in a formal endorsement.

University Advancement and Marketing

- April 10 was a day for celebration at Ferris State University as alumni, friends, staff, faculty and students rallied together for the second annual One Day for DAWGS. A total of 225 volunteers helped spread the word about the event using social media to fundraise for Ferris causes they are passionate about. Through their tremendous efforts, more than 900 gifts were received to benefit 37 different University programs and organizations. Altogether, more than 750 unique donors participated in giving to One Day for DAWGS, providing more than \$87,500 in support for Ferris students and programs.

The outpouring of support across Ferris' constituent base is such a great reminder of what we can accomplish when we all work together. Volunteer participation will continue to influence our new annual giving model. We are excited for the future and so very thankful for all those who were a part of making One Day for DAWGS such a success.

- Since July 1, 2016, the Ferris Futures Scholarship Challenge has received gifts toward 268 new or existing endowments, with more than \$6.84 million of new gift commitments from Ferris State University benefactors. With the match, this creates more than \$13.68 million of endowed funds for the support of Ferris students. The Ferris Futures Scholarship Challenge has matched 1,752 generous donations from 436 alumni, 131 faculty/staff and 1,185 friends.
- Gunder Myran has created the Gunder and Marliss Myran Community College Leadership Scholarship Endowment in memory of his wife Marliss. The scholarship is for full-time graduate students in the Doctorate in Community College Leadership program.

He serves as a member of the National Advisory Board for Ferris' DCCL program and is an adjunct faculty member.

- When 103-year-old Pharmacy alumnus Frank Meech passed in March, he remembered Ferris with a bequest. Through a charitable gift annuity, he established the Frank E. Meech Scholarship Endowment that will benefit students in the College of Pharmacy.
- Dick Shaw established the Richard L. Shaw HVACR Scholarship Endowment. He is an emeritus HVACR faculty member in the College of Engineering Technology, a Ferris alumnus and a member of The Ferris Foundation Board of Directors.
- The Ferris Foundation Gifts and Grants Committee awarded merit grants to the following faculty and staff recipients:
 - Jamie Brady, Michigan College of Optometry
"A Comparative Analysis of Online Progressive Addition Lens Orders"
 - Tracy Nichols Busch, College of Arts and Sciences
"100 Years After the 19th Amendment: How Far Have We Come?"
 - Patrick English, College of Engineering Technology
"An Electric Future"
 - Hira Herrington, College of Business
"Ferris State University Virtual Reality Initiative"
 - Emmanuel Jadhav, College of Health Professions
"An Empirical Typology of First Generation Students Successful Transition to Campus"
 - Andrew Peterson, Extended and International Operations
"ESports Broadcasting"
 - Changqi Zhu, College of Arts and Sciences
"Is Apoptosis the Main Cause of the Reduced Lifespan of the Flies with Ectopic Expression of Atg1 Gene"
- The Alumni Association held a Grand Rapids area alumni afterhours event at Founders Brewing Company on Thursday, April 11. This sold out event was sponsored by corporate partner Gentex Corporation in Holland, Mich. Eighty-five local alumni were in attendance and received a campus update and remarks from Joe Matthews, vice president of Purchasing and Diversity at Gentex.

- Dale Hobart, part-time web developer, and Paula Rushford, director of Advancement Services, served as project leaders for the redesign and improvement of the official Ferris Foundation and Giving website.

Donors to Ferris can now access the Giving portal through a one-click “Give Now” user experience. Giving options span the University’s academic colleges, facilities, fund raising events and other programs of interest. The [new Giving homepage](#) is mobile-ready, streamlined and concise.

A major shift was accomplished by moving away from the University’s cumbersome “TouchNet Marketplace” giving platform to the new user-friendly “MobileCause” option. MobileCause opens the way for donors to easily select gift designations and amounts, a giving timetable, and online payment methods that are Payment Card Industry (PCI) compliant. MobileCause is very easy to use on cell phones and tablets.

The redesigned “Giving” website includes links to the University’s \$115 million “Now & Always” comprehensive campaign, Faculty and Staff Giving, Planned Giving, Annual Giving, the Alumni Association, and University Advancement and Marketing.

Ted Halm, web content manager, contributed to the project with a complete restructuring of The Ferris Foundation website that features its Board of Directors, committees, the Foundation for Excellence Benefit, the endowed Opportunity Scholarship, and the Faculty and Staff Merit Grant program.

- The News Services and Social Media Team produced a press release that highlighted Ferris’ ranking among the “Most Affordable Colleges” according to research conducted by study.com. The story received strong local media attention and prompted the team to collaborate with Admissions to facilitate an interview request for a reporter from TV 9&10 News to visit the campus for a story. Among the 50 ranked schools, Ferris was listed 37th. Factors included in Ferris’ top-40 ranking were its facilities, financial aid, 16:1 student-to-teacher ratio, 200-plus student organizations, scholarship offerings and more than 190 academic majors. View the coverage from the [Big Rapids Pioneer](#) and the [News Services press release](#).
- The News Services and Social Media Team, in conjunction with the Ferris Pride Committee, announced the [winners of the 2019 Ferris Pride Spring Break Photo Contest](#). This year’s winners were Hailey Hollenbeck, College of Business; Janna Goyola, College of Engineering Technology; Justin Evans, College of Education and Human Services; Monica Pittiglio, College of Arts and Sciences; Sierra Oliver, College of Business; and Savannah Alsup, College of Education and Human Services. Entries featured students wearing their Ferris apparel, on spring break, in locations such as California, Florida and Japan. Students showed their Ferris pride in a variety of ways, including while attending a conference, having fun in the sun, traveling overseas and engaging in mission work.
- The [official Ferris State University Instagram account](#), @ferrisstaeu, now has more than 9K followers. The account has been in existence since September 2012 and has enjoyed steady growth over six-plus years. The @ferrisstaeu feed includes photos and short videos showcasing a diverse range of Ferris community members, groups and activities throughout the calendar year.
- [Ferris State University’s primary LinkedIn account](#) currently has more than 71K followers, making it one of Ferris’ largest and most active social media platforms. From

March 18 through April 17 (2019), the page has grown by 389 followers, an increase of 211 percent when measured against the previous period. In addition to serving as a news outlet, the page is a great networking platform as many alumni are affiliated with the page and often connect with fellow Bulldogs.