Academic Affairs

COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES
- Jennifer Lamberts from Pharmacy and Sky Pike from Biological Sciences published a review article this summer with 4 undergraduate students: Molly Von Seggern, Carlye Szarowicz, Matthew Swanson, Samantha Cavotta, Schulyer Pike, and Jennifer Lamberts. 2020 Purine molecules in Parkinson’s disease: analytical techniques and clinical implications. Neurochem Int. 139
- Scott Herron (co-PI) and colleagues received an NSF grant entitled, “Build and Broaden Indigenous Agriculture and Food Sovereignty Symposium.”

FLITE
- Ferris is one of 10 Michigan institutions awarded an Institute of Library and Museum Services Improving Access to Information grant. This will aid the library in merging two online repository systems (one for document and one for photographs) into a single more modernized system. It also assists in funding additional equipment and student hours for the digitization of photographs both from the University archives and local historical organizations. This grant complements additional project funding from the Ferris Foundation Exceptional Merit Grant. The project will be managed by University Archivist Melinda Isler.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY
- Dr. Deeb Eid, Department of Pharmacy Practice, along with PHAR 558 Research Elective students Matt Hendricks, and Nicole Bailey presented their research project poster “Standard of Care: A Three Profession Survey of Healthcare State Agencies” at the national 116th NABP Annual meeting virtually this summer. They also submitted for the ACCP annual conference and were accepted to present an encore poster in October 2020.
- Dr. Deeb Eid, Department of Pharmacy Practice, worked with colleagues from Wayne State and Meijer in August of 2020 to launch the first ever accredited training program for pharmacy technician immunization administration in Michigan. The program was worked on in June and July and on August 20th, 2020, Dr. Eid hosted the first live virtual training for 50+ technicians. Michigan became just the 6th state in the country to have developed and launched this type of initiative.
- Drs. Ben Pontefract and Eric Nybo, along with students Hong Ho and Alexandria Crain, published a paper “Drugs for Gram-Negative Bugs from 2010 - 2019: A decade in review” in Open Forum Infectious Diseases. (July 3; Volume 7, issue 7)
- Drs. Eric Nybo, Michelle Sahr, Mark Young, Katie Axford, Minji Sohn, Margaret Lyons and Mike Klepser published a paper entitled “Design of a large scale escape room for first-year pharmacy student orientation” in Currents in Pharmacy Teaching and Learning (July 9; online).
• Dr. David Bright co-authored a paper entitled “Patient perceptions of pharmacogenomic testing in the community pharmacy setting” in Research in Social and Administrative Pharmacy (July 13; online).

• Drs. Minji Sohn, Dean Vanloo, and Mike Klepser, with co-authors from Western Michigan University, published “Assessment of antibiotic use and concordance with practice guidelines within 3 diverse ambulatory clinic systems” in Journal of the American Pharmacists Association (July 24, online).

• Dr. Kali VanLangen, with co-authors from Mercy Health St. Mary’s, published “Treatment of Asymptomatic Pyuria In Psychiatric Patients Discharged From the Emergency Department Following Antimicrobial Stewardship Implementation” in Journal of the American College of Clinical Pharmacy (July 25, online).

• Dr. Eric Nybo and collaborators from the University of Turku, Finland, and current FSU student Katelyn Brown, published a paper entitled “Pathway engineering of anthracyclines: Blazing trails in natural product glycodiversification” in the Journal of Organic Chemistry (Sept 16, online).

• Dr. Felix Amissah co-authored a paper along with former FSU students Megan Van Baren and Kylee Jones entitled “Diclofenac Enhances Docosahexaenoic Acid-Induced Apoptosis in Vitro in Lung Cancer Cells” in the journal Cancers (Sept 20; Volume 12, issue 9).


• Dr. Eric Nybo received a REU grant award from the National Science Foundation for the project “BIOPOLYMER – BIObricks® POLYketide Metabolic EngineeRing platform” (July 1, 2020)

• Dr. Eric Nybo received an R15 REAP grant award from the National Institution of Health for the project “Combinatorial biosynthesis and metabolism studies of novel tetracenomycins” (Aug. 1, 2020)

• The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) awarded Ferris a $1 million grant beginning September 1, 2020. The 3-year project will focus on education and prevention among community partners to address the opioid crisis in west-central Michigan. Gail Bullard, associate professor and director, Master of Healthcare Administration Program, College of Health Professions, will serve as project director and Scott Sexton, assistant professor, College of Pharmacy, will serve as principle investigator.

RETENTION AND STUDENT SUCCESS

• Dr. Peter Bradley co-facilitated “Leading Honors in the Digital Age” for the NCHC on July 30th, with Steven Edwards of Delgado Community College in New Orleans, LA. It was the largest and most quickly-filled professional development event since COVID. There were close to 100 Honors professionals in attendance.

• The Office of Transfer & Secondary School Partnerships received the USDA STEM Dual Enrollment Grant.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS
- Music and Entertainment Business Association students have been raising funds and awareness for #SaveMIStages, as the live entertainment business has been decimated by COVID19. Visit [https://savemistages.com](https://savemistages.com) and write to your local elected officials.

- Professor Patrick Bishop launched his new book on September 18th, *Wisdom of the Animals: A nature-led journey into the heart of transformational leadership*. It’s endorsed by Richard Rohr, international author, speaker, and founder of the Center for Action and Contemplation. The book was designed by Ferris graphic design professor, Tim Powers. Anyone interested can visit my website: [https://www.67happydog.com/wisdombook](https://www.67happydog.com/wisdombook)

- Professor Cheolwoo Lee published three papers this year: “Sustainability of Analyst Recommendations in Multiple Lead Underwriter IPOs” in the March 2020 issue of journal ‘Sustainability’; "Centrality and Corporate Governance Decisions of Korean Chaebols: Social Network Approach" in the September 2020 issue of 'Pacific Basin Finance Journal'; and "Multiple Credit Rating: Triple Rating under the Requirement of Dual Rating in Korea," which is forthcoming at journal 'Emerging Markets Finance and Trade.'


- Melinda Arnson of Ferris Printing Services is collaborating with the Graphics Program to give students real-world experience in a print shop. “Students are coming to the print shop and working on real work to get experience setting up and running print equipment. They all seem to be enjoying their experience. When we don’t have ‘real’ work to do for customers, we create things to produce that allow them to experience using common equipment. These students will be better able to go out into their careers with some experience running real equipment they are likely to encounter in industry. It is my hope we can find students who can begin work at the print shop as Freshmen and work through their time here at Ferris thereby able to walk out of here and into a job with experience they can put to immediate use in their careers.”

- Lianne Briggs, Professor in Hospitality Management, completed the eCornell Certificate in Hotel Revenue Management and eHoteller Academy RO2Win Certificate.

- Mike Janz, Assistant Director of Professional Tennis Management, was named the USTA Midwest Division’s Under 30 Award. The award recognizes USPTA-certified instructors for their contributions to the industry, professional facilities and other activities that benefit the sport of tennis.

- Mark Wilson, Interim Director of PGA Golf Management, was selected to receive the PGA Michigan Section’s Bill Strausbaugh award. The award recognizes Mark’s mentoring of fellow PGA professionals in improving their employment situations and service to the community.

- Sixty-five golfers and supporters of the University participated in this year’s President’s Invitational Golf Tournament on a beautiful late summer day, September 11, at Katke Golf Course. This annual event raises money for scholarships for students in the PGA Golf Management Program.

- The Television and Digital Media Production program was awarded a grant in the amount of $10,600 by the Higher Education Television Authority in Grand Rapids. This grant supports content that is aired on the College Channel, which is carried on Comcast Cable in Grand Rapids. The grant will be used to replace two aging computers used for video editing, and towards the purchase of three new video tripods.

- Television and Digital Media Production faculty member, Glen Okonoski, has produced several virtual performances in the wake of live performances being cancelled due to
Covid-19. These videos have been created for the Grand Rapids Symphony, Blue Lake Fine Arts Camp, and various community choirs. *Hallelujah for Hope* is a virtual performance video of the Grand Rapids Symphony’s performance of Handel’s Hallelujah Chorus. The video was released across several social media platforms, and has been viewed over 500,000 times.

**Administration and Finance**

**Auxiliary Enterprise**

- **Brutus Bowl** - Ferris State University will be the first college in Michigan to have a salad robot! The University’s salad robot will be serving “Brutus Bowls,” which will offer 22 salad ingredients that are added fresh daily. Dining Services had a virtual grand opening celebration with Brutus on Wednesday, Sept 16, 2020. When you use the machine be sure to share your experience and use the hashtag #BrutusBowls and #StayFresh.

**ITSC**

- ITS has implemented an AppsAnywhere solution this fall which is a software delivery and virtualization solution for Higher Education, enabling Ferris to deliver any app to any device, on and off campus. Ferris is in a trial period with The School of Digital Media and The School of Built Environment as a test group and will measure its success for future deployment at the end of the year.
- Each semester after classes begin, the IT Solution Center reviews the IT support tickets to make sure that classroom readiness checks (which take place before classes begin) are making a difference for our students in technology classrooms. Our Fall Semester readiness quality check came in at an impressive 99.6%.
- Students needing laptops to complete academic work have the option to purchase the older laptops removed from university service for a pre-determined amount. The IT Solution Center works with each student through an IT ticket and prepares and places a special invitation on MarketPlace for students who wish to pursue a purchase.
- The IT Solution Center is ready to assist student, faculty, and staff to help with the challenges of working during these challenging times. IT continues to be available through phone, chat, portal, or walk-up. The walk-up location is in UCB-108 or 116 between 8am-5pm.
- October is Cybersecurity month! The University’s Cybersecurity area will be putting out some awareness flyers and helpful tips and tricks. Ferris Cybersecurity has concluded the Internal/External 3rd party penetration tests and has already addressed the high and critical vulnerability items identified by the engagement.
- Information Technology Services is a key partner in enabling the various learning platforms like In-person, Hyflex and On-line instruction for Fall 2020. This is made possible through the implementation of new classroom technology in the academic classrooms across the University; delivery of lab applications through virtualization; maintenance of current network, and wifi connectivity. Despite COVID and its hurdles, the Fall 2020 startup was successful for ITS.

**Public Safety**

- Public Safety would like to welcome Brittany Tayler as their new Dispatch Specialist. Brittany is a Ferris State alumni with a Bachelor’s degree in Criminal Justice and is excited to join the Ferris team!
For the first installment in KCAD’s Diversity, Equity & Inclusion Brown Bag Discussion Series, the college welcomed Dr. David Pilgrim—founder and curator of the Jim Crow Museum at Ferris State University—to spark a critical dialogue around the ways that racial imagery has been used in product marketing. Dr. Pilgrim also lead a Q&A session following the presentation.

Current KCAD student Hannah Deschepper spent the better part of her summer completing a giant mural she was commissioned to create on a local rock-climbing wall. It’s Deschepper’s largest commissioned work to date, and one of several commission projects she has forthcoming.

KCAD Illustration student Lauren Fisher illustrated the latest release by local children’s book author Shiloh Carozza, “The Misadventures of Melvin the Missing Sock.”

KCAD Professor Gayle DeBruyn, who chairs the Collaborative Design, Furniture Design, and Master of Arts in Design programs, penned an op-ed for University World News on why the world needs creative problem solvers now more than ever. Drawing from her experiences leading several KCAD design programs and helping organize the college’s annual international Wege Prize design competition, DeBruyn makes the case for education that empowers students to reach across the boundaries that divide us and envision a bold new future.

KCAD alumni Ross Berens (’13, BFA Graphic Design), John O’Neill (’01, BFA Graphic Design), Kevin Buist (’18, Master of Arts in Visual and Critical Studies) and Katie Zychowski (’11, BFA Photography) were all drivers of Art Prize Project 1 Catalogue that recently won a prestigious Type Directors Club (TDC) Award. O’Neill leads Conduit Studio, which handled design duties for the publication; Berrens led the design and execution of the pub for Conduit; Buist shepherded things from the ArtPrize side as the organization’s Artistic Director; and Zychowski handled project management during her time as the Communications Coordinator for ArtPrize. This year, 251 winners were selected from over 1800 entries from 55 countries. In addition to being included in the TDC’s 66th Annual, The World’s Best Typography, this beautiful pub will be showcased in a New York City exhibition as well as a traveling exhibition with stops in dozens of cities in the US, Canada, China, England, France, Germany, Japan, Poland, South Korea, Spain, Taiwan, Thailand, and Vietnam.

KCAD alumna Hannah Berry (’16, BFA Art Education) was featured on the blog Brave Women of Grand Rapids for her work as the Owner and Creative Director of multifaceted creative space Lions and Rabbits. Berry is giving local artists a powerful platform to engage with the community at large, all while giving that same community opportunities to explore their own creativity in ways that build shared value and understanding.

KCAD alumna Kathy Buist (’81, BFA Fine Arts) is currently featured in the exhibition Women in Art at Galerie d’Orsay in Boston. Buist, who is among the artists represented by the gallery, also gave a virtual artist talk on October 1.

KCAD alumnus Rob Jackson (’89, BFA Illustration), Principal and Creative Director of local ad agency Extra Credit Projects, has established the Extra Credit Projects Scholarship Endowment, a new scholarship fund for KCAD students majoring in Graphic Design and Illustration. In keeping with the name—and ethos—of Jackson’s firm, applicants must apply by submitting a written essay that examines how they give something extra to their education, their chosen field, and their community.

KCAD alumnus Cameron Jenkins (’19, BFA Drawing) has continued his collaboration with the Bagger Dave’s Burger Tavern restaurant chain, finishing off a collection of large-
scale murals at the Berkley, Mich. location, with murals planned at three separate location for the coming months.

- KCAD alumnus Jake Kapusta ('14, BFA Sculpture and Functional Art) has been promoted to the role of Print Operations Manager for a new best-in-class 3D print production facility at Formlabs HQ in Somerville, Mass. This digital factory was initially established to act as a manufacturing solution to produce nasopharyngeal swabs to test for COVID-19 in the state of Massachusetts. Now that production of said swabs is on hold, this space will be used as a showcase for the power of scaling print farms to a factory-scale facility. In addition to 100 Form 3B printers, this space will expand have a fleet of Form 3L and Fuse 1 printers to display the entire range of technology offerings by Formlabs.

- KCAD alumnus Ian Middleton ('18, BFA Industrial Design) has opened a culminating exhibition reflecting work undertaken during his year-long stint in the Post-Baccalaureate Residency Program at Kalamazoo Institute of Arts. During his residency, Middleton focused on combatting planned obsolescence by creating objects that spark the imagination and kindle pride in ownership.

- KCAD alumnus Taylor Overbey ('12, BFA Digital Media; ’15, Master of Fine Arts Painting) has been promoted to Chair of the Fine Arts department at South Louisiana Community College, where he also serves as Digital Media Coordinator. Overbey is currently working towards his EdD degree in the Higher Education Leadership program at the University of Louisiana.

- KCAD alumnus Aaron Perlman ('91, BFA Furniture Design) has been hired as an adjunct faculty member at College for Creative Studies, where he teaches in the Foundations program. Perlman also designs custom cabinetry for Farmington Hills, Mich.-based company Woodcraft Customs.

- KCAD alumna Laura Siladke ('07, BFA Photography) was profiled by online publication The Ticker as the owner/operator of Leelenau Goods, a women’s apparel and home goods shop she launched in 2018.

### Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts

- Michele Bosak, Director of Curatorial for UICA and KCAD, has created a pop-up gallery/project space called the Standard in her home with the intent of creating space for queer and BIPOC creatives who are untapped in Grand Rapids. Bosak’s first show on September 25 featured a studio sale of her personal work and collection, with all funds going to support future creatives who use the space. the Standard will also serve the purpose of introducing creatives to folks in the community to showcase their skills and professional offerings, create meaningful exchanges, and accessible art-collecting.

- UICA partnered with the Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia at Ferris State University to organize a free virtual and interactive tour of the museum—followed by an insightful tour discussing the history of the Jim Crow period and how anti-black caricatures continue to influence race relations today—for UICA members.

- UICA partnered with the Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) to offer free GRAM gallery admission to all UICA members through October 2020, as UICA remains closed due to COVID-19.

### Student Affairs

- The Anti-Violence Alliance (AVA) received a grant from the Office of Violence Against Women, part of the US Department of Justice, to support our continued efforts to strengthen our response to the crimes of sexual assault, domestic violence, dating violence and stalking and enhance collaboration across campus, Kendall College of Art
& Design, and our statewide locations, local law enforcement, and victim advocacy organizations. This grant, which is housed in the Dean of Student Life Office, provides $300,000 over the course of three years and brings the total grant money received by the AVA to expand our capacity to deliver prevention education to almost $600,000 over the past 18 months.

- Admissions has developed a new high school counselor landing page. This will give counselors more information and the ability to expand on Ferris and higher education when communicating to their students. The landing page can be found at [https://www.ferris.edu/admissions/Counselor.htm](https://www.ferris.edu/admissions/Counselor.htm)

- A team from Enrollment Services received a grant from MCAN (Michigan College Access Network) totalling $8,000. The grant will provide Wireless Access Points that will be installed at, or upgraded, in lots: Lots 1, 35, and 37 and will provide a strong enough signal that anyone parked in the parking lot could utilize the internet services. This would allow Ferris students to have somewhere to go outside of their rooms to complete assignments. Additionally, high school seniors from surrounding communities would have a reliable location to go to complete their FAFSA, college applications, or even a Zoom college visit.

**University Advancement and Marketing**

- Through the tireless work and generosity of our faculty, staff, alumni, friends and other donors, we have exceeded the $100 million mark in the Now & Always Comprehensive Campaign, moving us closer to our goal of $115 million to support our students, campus and programs. This [VIDEO](#) highlights many of the achievements of the campaign to date. This is a tremendous achievement for our University!

- Ferris State has received a lead gift to support Ferris at Plaza Roosevelt. Ferris leadership toured our classrooms located in Southwest Community Campus High School in Grand Rapids. Program planning has begun for current students and neighborhood families.

- The Ferris GR Council hosted its second annual “Dawg Catcher” [fall service project and park clean-up](#) on Saturday, Sept. 26 at Millennium Park in Grand Rapids.

- The Alumni Association awarded $34,500 to 31 recipients of the Ferris Alumni Legacy Scholarship with a virtual celebration that began the week of Sept. 20. The students, their families, deans and members of the Alumni Association Board were sent a special link to view [video presentations](#) to celebrate the students’ successes and their legacy at Ferris. One of the year’s award winners, Emily Molitor (Architectural Technology), her father Drew Molitor (‘91 Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Technology), and sister Estelle Molitor (‘18 Marketing) [discuss the importance](#) of a Ferris State University degree and what it means for family to attend Ferris.

- On Thursday, Sept. 24, the Student Alumni Gold Club held their annual “Cover the Seal” event on the quad. Throughout the day members collected loose change from students, faculty and staff passing through the quad in an effort to raise money for the Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital. SAGC raised more than $361 in support of a former SAGC alumnus who battled childhood cancer and was treated at Helen DeVos Children’s Hospital.

- The Alumni Association collaborated with many campus partners to offer a wide range of virtual events to celebrate HOMEcoming 2020. HOMEcoming week which ran from September 26 through October 3 celebrated Ferris pride not only on campus but with alumni from all across the states and even into Canada! Activities and events ranged from on-line webinars, photo and cooking competitions to the most popular event, a virtual 5k with nearly 400 participants!
• In the spirit of HOMEcoming, the Alumni Association proudly highlighted 1954 Ferris Institute attendee, Rudy Grahek. Rudy is best known as Dynamite the Clown and has participated in the Ferris Homecoming parade for more than 50 years!

• The Web Marketing Team created a series of new landing pages designed to support the University’s advertising across multiple channels. The pages take full advantage of the Ferris Forward platform to communicate the impact of a Ferris education and invite prospective students to request information or launch an application for admission.

The landing pages integrate directly with Salesforce (the University's CRM), delivering marketing qualified leads to our colleagues in Admissions and allowing them to continue the conversation and help prospects take the next step. Additionally, the pages capture data that allows the University to target prospects with more personalized subsequent advertising. (We ask that you kindly do not submit the form for yourself 😃).

• The News Services and Social Media Team collaborated with Auxiliary Enterprises and Dining Services to promote the Brutus Bowls salad vending machine’s unveiling event. This collaboration included a news release distributed to local media and posted to the University News website, a Snapchat paid filter, social media posts on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter, and a wrap-up video added to the University’s main YouTube channel. The Instagram post garnered 6,960 impressions and reached 5,599 people, including 28 percent not following our ferrisstateu account. A Facebook photo gallery, highlighting the event, received more than 13K total impressions, reached 11K people, had 2,934 post clicks and earned more than 220 likes, comments and shares.