

# Ferris State University

## Good News Items

### April 2018

#### Academic Affairs

##### COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

- Dr. George Nagel, of the Department of Humanities, along with colleague Dr. Dan Huston of New Hampshire's Concord College, presented a short course workshop entitled "Mindfulness Communication Practice in the Communication Course," at the Western States Communication Association in Santa Clara, California, on February 16.
- Dr. Rachel Foulk, of the Department of Humanities, co-chaired the session "Dissent and Resistance: Responses to Authoritarianism in Ancient Art" on February 21 at the annual conference of the College Art Association, in Los Angeles.
- Three students of the FSU Band Program participated in the College Band Directors National Association's Intercollegiate Honor Band from February 22-24 at Western Michigan University. They included: Kelley Bearer (bass clarinet, Masters of Social Work), Connor Tetzlaff (trombone, Marketing), and Cameron Wiseman (bass and contrabass clarinets, Criminal Justice). They were sponsored by Dr. Scott Cohen & Dr. Dale Skornia, both of the Department of Humanities.
- The members of the FSU Athletic Pep Band, under the direction of Faculty Director Dr. Dale Skornia, of the Department of Humanities, served the University proudly in the collar weekends around Spring Break by performing at the GLIAC Men's Basketball Tournament on March 3 & 4, and at the NCAA Midwest Regional Men's Basketball Tournament on March 10, 11 & 13.
- Dr. Grant Snider, of the Department of Humanities, gave a presentation in the University Center on March 15 entitled "Therapeutic Philosophy and The Good Life," as part of the monthly Department of Humanities Colloquium Series.
- The Ferris chapter of the Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, advised by Dr. Tracy Busch of the Department of Humanities, hosted the Michigan Regional Conference on March 17 in the University Center. Students from Ferris, Oakland University, Saginaw Valley State University, Hillsdale College, University of Michigan, Central Michigan University, and Grand Valley State University presented a total of 40 papers on a variety of history-related themes that included world history, U.S. history, Michigan history, race and gender, philosophy, religion, and genocide. One of the panels featured student research based on Ferris' recently acquired Shoah Archives. Keynote speaker Henry Greenspan, of the University of Michigan, spoke on "Secrets and Revelations from Forty Years of Listening to Holocaust Survivors."
- Joanie Hazelton and Elizabeth Post presented a workshop entitled "Inter-professional Collaboration on Human Trafficking: Social Work, Hospitality Management and Computer Sciences" at the annual baccalaureate social work educator's conference in Atlanta on March 15

##### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

- The Information Security and Intelligence (ISI) program hosted 70 high school students from 10 school districts to compete in a cyber-competition on the Ferris State University Big Rapids campus on March 5. The competition was funded as part of an NSA grant the ISI program received to establish a Cyber Competition Center in the College of Business.

- Four Hospitality students spent Spring Break participating in a Housekeeping 101 Externship hosted by the Courtyard, JW Marriott, and Amway in Grand Rapids. They learned the various Housekeeping roles and what each does on a daily basis while actually performing on-the-job tasks for a “day in a life”. As part of the externship, students earned the Certified Tourism Ambassador, enjoyed an “Experience Stay,” completed a project, and received an AHC Housekeeping 101 Externship certification. The four students were Joel Poirier, Jennifer Orent, Nicholas Oatley, and Oliver Wissman.

## COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES

### School of Criminal Justice (SCJ)

- The SOJ Law Enforcement Academy hosted an open house for high school students on March 21, 2018. Academy faculty allowed the academy students to run the event and to teach the visitors about the program and what to expect in the future. The open house was very successful with approximately 150 high school students attending from throughout Michigan. Many students drove to Ferris in car pools and with their parents. After interacting at the open house, the students were provided with a campus tour and lunch through the direct assistance of Jason Daday in Admissions.

### School of Education (SOE)

- Dr. Patricia Edwards, Assistant Professor of Reading, attended the 62nd annual Michigan Reading Association conference held in Detroit from March 17-19, 2018 titled “Literacy Drives the Future.” Workshops and general sessions reflected how to integrate reading and writing with the stem/steam fields; assessment and data management; early literacy; special populations; literature, social justice, and cultural relevance; adolescent literacy, college and career strand; and wraparound services which coordinates policy, process, and practices that services the whole child.
- Dr. Patricia Edwards utilized money received from her professional development to purchase children’s literature books. The 24 beautiful picture storybooks contain narrative and informational text, as well as an array of multicultural literature, to use with teaching reading education courses in the School of Education.
- Dr. Vanessa Wyss presented at the National Association of Professional Development Schools (March 15 & 16, 2018) on a research project underway and on field experiences for CAEP Accreditation.
- Ruth Bovard, graduate of the Early Childhood Education Bachelor degree with a Child Life Specialist concentration, recently passed the national certification test and is now a Certified Child Life Specialist. She is the first graduate from this program to reach this level.
- Zack Griffin, a graduate of the School of Education Elementary Education program, was featured in the Cover Story of the MEA Voice. He currently teaches in Cadillac, MI.

## CHARTER SCHOOLS OFFICE

- The FSU Charter Schools Office celebrated 20 years as a public school academy authorizer by releasing a [new video](#) at their 16<sup>th</sup> Annual Spring Briefing in Lansing, on March 7. Staff and stakeholders gathered for a presentation entitled “The Future is Now!” which described the present and predicted the future of charter academies. The day was filled with updates, training and pullout sessions, and included representatives from the Michigan Department of Education.

## EIO

- Ferris Statewide and Online won an award for the “Stop Out Campaign” in the 33<sup>rd</sup> Annual Educational Advertising Awards sponsored by the Higher Education Marketing Report. The “Stop Out Campaign” included emails, personal URLs (PURLs), and direct mail with a 3D bulldog figure to attract students who have left Ferris without a

degree, return, and finish their schooling. As of the award submission in January, 102 students have submitted a form on their PURL, 24 were admitted for a future semester, and three additional applications have been submitted.

- During spring break, the following people completed the Accessible Course Content Workshop and made all digital materials in a Blackboard course shell accessible: Brian Brady, Jessica Gladden, Sean Hill, Nancy Hogan, Anuli Njoku, Cindy Smith, Jacqueline Peacock, Karen Royster-James, Meral Topcu, and Fathima Wakeel. Through their hard work, Ferris is another step closer to ADA and 508 compliance.

#### FLITE

- Mari Kermit-Canfield spoke about the Search&Destroy Information Literacy game as a Lightning Round during the Annual Author's Celebration at Kendall College of Art and Design on March 15. She and Gary Maixner developed Search&Destroy in-house. There have been 58 total sales of the game with 120 copies being used on four continents. Student response to the game here at Ferris has also been exciting.

#### MICHIGAN COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

- MCO's Drs. Dinardo, Hinkley and Raghunandan were featured in the Ferris State University Author Celebration event held in Grand Rapids.
- The Vision Rehabilitation Grand Rounds Workshop was held March 26, 2018. It allows third year optometry students to examine their first patients who have permanently lost sight and perform vision rehabilitation exams while being mentored by optometrists from across Michigan and beyond. The event is funded by support from the Michigan Optometric Association, FSU Academic Service Learning program and Drs. Susan Gormezano and Phillip Raznik.

#### RETENTION & STUDENT SUCCESS

- The Academic Support Center partnered with the Center for Latin@ Studies, and the College of Education and Human Services to deliver workshops entitled "Spring Rap Sessions," which was attended by 30 students.
- Ferris State University has been chosen as one of ten institutions around the world to be a part of the inaugural project, Development Partner Group MyDegree Dashboard project. This a project created to help Ellucian make the user interface for MyDegree more user friendly. Amy Buse, MyDegree Director, and Bob Griffith, MyDegree System Administrator, will represent Ferris in this project.
- Shelly VandePanne attended the Great Lakes Regional Student Success Conference in Detroit.
- Peter Bradley, Cathy Bordeau and Honors Students, Arianna Lozano, Brandon Milby, and Aaron Vanderwoude travelled to Columbus, Ohio to present research at the Mid-East Honors Association 2018 Conference.
- Ferris State University was one of 200 universities accepted to participate with Stanford University's PERTS initiatives – research-based initiatives aiding college student success through cultivation of social-belonging and growth mindset.

## **Administration and Finance**

### Auxiliary Enterprises

- The 2018 Great Lakes Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls (GLACURH) Regional Business Conference was hosted at Eastern Michigan University on the weekend of March 10. The Bulldog Chapter (Ferris State University) was selected as the 2018 NRHH Building Block Chapter of-the-year! This award is designed to honor the NRHH Chapter displaying tremendous effort, development, and improvement within the

past year. The Bulldog Chapter was revived this year and has hit the ground running ever since. They have also achieved 6 regional-winning and 3 international-winning-of-the-month awards, have displayed community engagement by partnering with the Student Emergency Food Pantry on campus, and have volunteered with other community organizations.

- Our campus housing room sign-ups for fall are running about 9% ahead of last year at this same point in time.

#### Athletics

- The Ferris State University men's basketball squad captured the school's first-ever national championship as the Bulldogs beat Northern State (S.D.) 71-69 on March 24 before a sold out crowd inside the Sanford Pentagon in Sioux Falls, S.D. Ferris State capped a historic campaign with an impressive 38-1 overall record.
- The national champion Bulldogs' 38 wins matched the all-time NCAA Division II record for most wins in a season previously set by Winona State. FSU became the first ever Division II Michigan college/university to ever win the Men's National Championship, and also became only the second team ever from the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) to win a national championship in men's basketball.
- Fifth-year Ferris State head coach Andy Bronkema reaped the rewards from an impressive season by being chosen as a consensus National Coach of the Year selection by the National Association of Basketball Coaches, the Basketball Times and Division II Bulletin. He was also the GLIAC and Midwest Region Coach of the Year for the second-straight year.
- Junior center Zach Hankins of the Bulldog men's basketball squad claimed NCAA Division II National Player of the Year honors from both the National Association of Basketball Coaches and the Division II Bulletin. The standout center earned both the GLIAC and Midwest Region Player of the Year awards for the second-straight campaign.
- The senior men's basketball trio of Drew Cushingberry, Peter Firlik and Noah King were all chosen to compete in the Addix West Michigan College Basketball All-Star Game, which takes place March 28 at Cornerstone University in Grand Rapids. Senior guard Leah Humes of the FSU women's team also was chosen to compete in the women's game. The annual all-star game matches the top collegiate seniors from West Michigan institutions.
- The Ferris State University men's ice hockey squad led the Western Collegiate Hockey Association (WCHA) with 20 All-Academic Team honorees from the recent 2017-18 campaign. To receive all-academic team accolades, student-athletes had to earn at least a 3.000 overall grade point average for the previous two semesters. FSU also had 12 individuals chosen as WCHA Scholar-Athletes by compiling at least a 3.50 cumulative GPA with at least a year of residency at the institution.
- The Bulldog women's basketball squad finished the 2017-18 campaign with 15 wins while reaching the GLIAC Tournament Semifinals. The 15 wins are the program's most since the 2011-12 season and this year also marked the Bulldogs' first GLIAC Tournament berth since 2013 and their first league semifinal finish since 2012.

#### Finance

- The new timekeeping and leave time request/reporting system implementation is progressing on schedule for a July 1 go-live. User training will be available in the two to three weeks before the go-live date.

#### Human Resources

- Jody Gardei and the Staff Center for Training & Development have met with multiple groups on campus to seek input into the programming for the next 12-24 months.

- We are pleased to be able to offer “Alex” again this year as the on-line tool to help employees with the annual benefits open enrollment.

#### Information Technology Services

- Through some very effective collaboration with Payroll, Finance and ITS staff, they have detected four different attempts to redirect a few employee direct deposits. Their critical efforts have resulted in zero dollars being directed to the perpetrators account(s).

#### Physical Plant

- The Swan Annex renovation and addition project is on schedule for completion in August 2018.
- The Recreation Center addition and partial renovation is progressing on schedule for an August 2018 completion.

## Kendall College of Art & Design

- KCAD hosted the regional level (West Central Michigan) of the 2018 Scholastic Art & Writing Awards. A total of 1,683 art entries and 401 writing entries were submitted by 1023 students representing 80 schools. Of those entries, 744 were honored with awards during a ceremony in Grand Rapids at Fountain Street Church, with 156 winning a Gold Key award, 238 winning a Silver Key award, and 340 receiving an Honorable Mention award. Among those entries that moved on to the national level of the competition, 48 won awards, with 18 winning a Gold Medal Award and 28 winning a Silver Medal Award.
- KCAD was an industry partner to West Michigan Design Week, a series of programs aimed to inspire designers from all disciplines and demonstrate the strategic and economic advantages of design thinking to the rest of the community. The college hosted a discussion, Disability and Design: New Principles and Applications, in which KCAD Interior Design Program Chair Lee Davis, Interior Design students Samantha Chudy and Courtney Weingate, and representatives from the DisArt organization explored philosophies of disability and design and their application in planning the DisArt Process and Presence International Conference happening in October of 2018. Other events included a personal branding workshop with Target Senior Director of Creative Strategy and Operations Jen Scully and workshops on Adobe Dimension and Adobe InDesign.
- KCAD was a proud sponsor of the 2018 Gilda’s LaughFest festival. The festival’s annual “What Makes You Laugh?” art and writing competitions for students in grades K-12 was juried by Photography Professor Adam DeKraker and Painting senior Elizabeth Page. Graphic Design senior Morgan Adams designed the call for submissions printed materials for the competition. Director of Student Engagement Nicole DeKraker was the KCAD representative for the LaughFest Education Committee.
- KCAD’s All College Open House event on March 17 drew 261 total guests (98 students and 163 student supporters), a 55% increase in attendance from last year’s event. An accepted student event, #Madeit2KCAD, held on the same day drew 28 student attendees.
- The Grand Rapids Art Museum (GRAM) hosted KCAD students for an opportunity to meet with artist Alexis Rockman, whose work is currently featured at GRAM in the solo exhibition *The Great Lakes Cycle*.
- The Grand Rapids Ballet hosted KCAD faculty and staff for a special presentation of the program MOVEMEDIA: Diversity.
- KCAD Communications earned four awards in the international Educational Advertising Awards, one of the largest and most respected educational advertising competitions. KCAD’s Portfolio magazine, the National Portfolio Day poster, and UICA’s Jump Off

exhibition invitation all earned Gold Awards. KCAD's 2017 Commencement invitation earned a silver award.

- Associate Professor Dr. Karen Carter, who teaches in the Art History and Master of Arts in Visual and Critical Studies program, co-chaired a panel at the 2018 College Art Association Conference in Los Angeles titled "Race, Ethnicity, and Cultural Appropriation in the History of Design."
- Professor and Photography Program Chair Adam DeKraker juried the 2018 Saginaw Township State of the Art exhibition.
- Director of Student Engagement Nicole DeKraker served on a leadership panel for the Young Professionals in Higher Education organization that sought to engage attendees in meaningful dialogue with leaders in higher education from the West Michigan area.
- Art Education Professor Donna St. John and alumna Whitney Valentine ('12, BFA Art Education) organized "Moving Through the Unimaginable," an exhibition at Saugatuck Center for the Arts that reached into the community of West Michigan to showcase the power of creative expression to help people from all walks of life come together and overcome emotional adversity. The exhibition was spotlighted in an article in REVUE.
- Language Artists, an arts and literacy program that Professor and Art Education Program Chair Dr. Cindy Todd co-authored with Grand Rapids Public Schools and the Grand Rapids Art Museum, was awarded a \$20,000 Art Works grant from the National Endowment for the Arts.
- Professor and Printmaking Program Chair Mariel Versluis was featured in "Lineage & Legacy: The Imaged Horse," a new exhibition at Ucross Foundation Art Gallery in Clearmont, Wyoming, that includes the work of 10 artists from around the world.
- Master of Arts in Visual and Critical Studies student Kevin Buist presented a paper titled "How an Experimental Michigan Exhibition Became the Most Attended Art Event in the World" at the 2018 College Art Association Conference in Los Angeles.
- Graphic Design student Tylan Davis won the 2018 Grand Rapids Latin American Festival poster design contest.
- The exhibition "Contentious," held at Fountain Street Church and focused on artists work in Grand Rapids' Heartside neighborhood, was curated by alumni Katie Moore ('11, MFA) and Ethan Ross ('14, MFA) and features work from alumni and Heartside proprietors Hugo Claudin ('92, BFA Illustration), owner of Mexicains Sans Frontieres; Steven Vinson ('11, MFA) owner of Spiral Gallery; Madison Nicole May ('16, BFA Printmaking), co-owner of Bend Gallery; and Matthew Provoast ('16, BFA Photography) and Erika Townsley ('16, BFA Photography), co-owners of Light Gallery + Studio.
- Kristen Eakin's ('11, BFA Photography) paper goods company, Dote Note + Gift, was named a Greeting Card Association 2018 Louie Award Finalist in the Friendship/Encouragement category for the "Good Things Take Time" greeting card.
- Rob Jackson ('89, BFA Illustration) and his team at Grand Rapids advertising agency Extra Credit Projects created a billboard campaign for "Three Billboards Outside Ebbing, Missouri," one of 2017's most critically-acclaimed films, that helped the film run the table during Hollywood's annual awards season. The campaign was spotlighted in an article by MLive.
- Alumna Angela Johnson ('87, BFA Furniture Design) has been retained by Style N Living to create new collections for the North American market that will be at High Point Market.
- Taylor Overbey ('15, MFA) released his second children's book, "The SNIT and George Franklin Whit," through Crimson Dragon Press.
- Mark Peterson ('00, BFA Industrial Design) was featured on local Houston, Texas news channel KPRC in a segment on inventing and entrepreneurship.

- Consuelo Poland ('12, BFA Sculpture and Functional Art) was profiled on the websites of Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts and the Indiana Business Journal in articles exploring the ways in which she opens up opportunities for others, whether it's helping Latina women build new creative skills as executive director of The Latinas Welding Guild or empowering makers in Indianapolis as the artistic foreman of RUCKUS Makerspace.
- Matthew Provoast ('16, BFA Photography), Fernando Ramirez ('15, BFA Industrial Design), and Erika Townsley ('16, BFA Photography) started a new podcast called 616 Presents that explores the intersection of art, design, and community in Grand Rapids. The show's first guests included alumni Justin Beitzel ('16, BFA Industrial Design) and Erica Lang ('14, BFA Printmaking).
- Mark Schentzel ('14, BFA Sculpture and Functional Art) and Alex Kallio ('05, BFA Sculpture and Functional Art; BFA Industrial Design), were profiled by the Grand Rapids Business Journal in a piece spotlighting EA-Craftworks, a metal fabrication company the pair recently started together.

### **Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts**

- UICA, an Industry Partner to West Michigan Design Week, is hosting the Look Behind Design: A Process Gallery exhibition from March 16 – May 13, 2018. The design exhibition on view at UICA puts the spotlight on West Michigan design. Participating designers include Calphalon, French Paper Company, Grand Rapids Brewing Company, Has Heart, Knittl, Parker, Proof Positive Brand Design, and Tekna. This exhibit is part of West Michigan Design Week taking place March 17th - 24th, 2018.
- UICA welcomed over 170 guests to the *CAMPUS: 2018 Annual Faculty and Staff Exhibition* opening on March 1, 2018. *CAMPUS* presents the work of distinguished artists and designers who work as part of the expansive Ferris State University, Kendall College of Art and Design, and Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts' campus. Work by faculty and staff members of the University network features a wide range of visual practices, spanning all genres and media. Participating artists are Jason Alger, Molly Alicki Corriveau, Robert Barnum, Michelle Bosak, Mary Bradshaw, Janine Campbell, Candice Chovanec, Rosanne Coty, Elizabeth DeForest, Devin DuMond, Lori Faulkner, Christopher Fox, Eleanor Gatewood, Damian Goidich, Leah Gose, Nancy Hart, Nicholas Hartman, Elizabeth Hubler-Torrey, Bob Marsh, Deborah Mattson, Madison May, Kristen Morrison, Steven Rainey, Deborah Rockman, Matthew Schenk, Brenda Sipe, Donna St. John, Sophia Thomas, Margaret Vega, Steven Vinson, Lynette Vought, Katherine Williams, Danielle Wyckoff, and Diane Zeeuw. *CAMPUS* is on view through May 6, 2018.

### **Student Affairs**

- Ferris was recognized by the Association College Unions International for its commitment to advancing campus community for over 50 years of membership in the association.
- Fit Dawgs and the Economic Discourse Society have been approved as student organizations by the Student Leadership and Activities Advisory Council (SLAAC), and the College Democrats and Student for Life student organizations have been reactivated.
- 24 students successfully completed the 2018 Ferris Innovation and Entrepreneurship program facilitated by CLACS Career Services, College of Business faculty members, and entrepreneurial alumni. This was a 3-day program where students walked through

the process of starting a business in Michigan by creating an innovative product or service, a business plan, and a marketing pitch.

- CLACS Director, Angela Roman, and two students, Daniel Rivera and Samantha Sanchez-Rivera, attended the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education (NASPA) national conference in Philadelphia March 2-March 6.
- University Recreation (UREC) hosted, "Intro to Climbing," where seven students learned knots, climbing techniques, the belay technique, and safety protocols at UREC's indoor climbing wall. Five students completed their belay "certification" in which they are able to belay for friends or others during open climb.
- University Recreation's (UREC) spring eight-week long swim lessons are wrapping up which enrolled just over 90 children from the community. The only other swim lessons currently offered in Big Rapids are through the City of Big Rapids at the community pool during summer months.
- Five *all female* teams (about 40 individuals) participated in women's intramural basketball this semester at the Student Recreation Center.
- Intramural soccer has 26 teams playing this season, is now one of the Student Recreation Center's most popular sports, and one that has a high level of participation from international students.
- Students attended the LGBTQ+ Resource Center Paint Pride Event. The paintings created during this event will hang on display in the center.
- On March 13<sup>th</sup> Admissions hosted the MOISD College Fair in the University Center. Over 650 juniors from schools in the local territory were bussed in and the students had the opportunity to speak with over 40 colleges/universities and military representatives.
- On March 14<sup>th</sup> Admissions attended the Spring Open House in Grand Rapids. There were close to 100 participants who were able to check out Ferris and even a few students were able to be admitted on the spot.
- On March 24<sup>th</sup> Enrollment Services hosted the final Admitted Student Open House for this season. There were 370 total guests in attendance with 141 students. Combined with the February open house, a total of 679 total attendees with 261 students were in attendance. Last year this event saw 80% of these students enroll the following fall semester. Collaboration from academics and departments across campus to make this event possible was much appreciated. Survey feedback is overwhelmingly positive on all fronts and we are looking forward to welcoming these students back during new student orientation.

## **University Advancement and Marketing**

- The Alumni Association was proud to host three pre-game receptions in Sioux Falls, South Dakota, for our men's basketball games during the Division II Elite Eight play-off competition. Over the course of the three receptions, we were able to celebrate the team's success with more than 400 alumni, family and fans, including the pep band and FSU cheerleaders.
- Ferris alumnus and Ferris Foundation Board of Director Luke Wyckoff hosted more than 100 Ferris State alumni and friends at the Pepsi Center in Denver on March 18 as they watched the Detroit Red Wings battle the Colorado Avalanche. Detroit Red Wings Coach and Ferris alumnus Jeff Blashill dropped in to speak with the group and joined them for pictures and to give autographs.
- The Alumni Association was excited to host 30 alumni and friends from the greater Muskegon area on March 2 at the L.C. Walker Arena. Guests enjoyed dinner on the Party Deck and open view seating while they cheered on the Muskegon Lumberjacks in a hockey contest against the Dubuque Fighting Saints.

- On March 3, the Alumni Association hosted a Regional Alumni Event in Green Bay, Wisconsin. The Alumni Relations team welcomed 20 alumni to Anduzzi's Sports Club in Green Bay for a reception before heading to the Resch Center for a Green Bay Gamblers hockey game. Four decades of alumni from five academic colleges were represented.
- On March 17, the Student Alumni Gold Club travelled to Saginaw Valley State University along with many other colleges/universities throughout the state to participate in CASE ASAP's "State Day." Members swapped ideas, created event options and addressed philanthropy needs throughout their universities and in higher education. Held once a year, and offered exclusively to universities in the State of Michigan, the day is a highlight on SAGC's academic calendar.
- On March 12, more than 1,000 graduation-ready students make their way to the University Center to participate in the Spring Grad Fair. With representation from many departments across campus along with external vendors, students were able to check many of their "graduation to-dos" off their graduation checklists as commencement quickly approaches. Activities available to students included: clearing to graduate with their academic colleges, printing commencement tickets, purchasing caps and gowns, decorating graduation caps, participating in the charitable class gift, taking a graduation photo with Brutus and recording a video thanking donors/contributors for their success during their time here!
- Matt (ET '98) and Melissa Bissett established the M&M Surveying Scholarship Endowment for Surveying students.
- Atwell, Inc. established the Atwell, Inc. Surveying Engineering Scholarship Endowment for Surveying students.
- Don VandenBos made a significant gift to his named scholarship endowment for manufacturing.
- Steelcase Inc, MLive Media Group and Rockford Construction are among the many great sponsors joining Ferris to celebrate partnerships with Grand Rapids Public Schools at [Growing Opportunity](#) on May 16.
- Representatives of the Wege Foundation and the Grand Rapids Community Foundation met with the new graduates of the Latino Talent Initiative (LEADeres) and their families at the UICA to celebrate their program completion on March 22 at the UICA.
- Ferris alumni, foundation board members, friends and current students of all ages gathered to witness the Bulldogs Men's Basketball team take the national title at Buffalo Wild Wings in Grand Rapids on Saturday, March 24.
- Web Content Manager Ted Halm collaborated with Karen Weber, senior advancement officer for the College of Engineering Technology, to create an [expanded Welding Engineering Technology Hall of Fame website](#). The website includes information on 2018 Hall of Fame inductees David Eisler, Dave Snider and Harlon Neumann along with extensive biographies of inductees for 2016 and 2017. The Welding Engineering Technology Hall of Fame acknowledges the outstanding leaders who have excelled and achieved significant success in the welding industry and are intrinsically linked to the academic program at Ferris.
- The News Services and Social Media Team, in collaboration with the Pride Committee, hosted the fifth-annual Ferris Pride Spring Break Photo Contest. In 2018, more than 20 entries were submitted. Ferris students enjoyed spring break in a variety of locations, including: California, Colorado, Florida, Georgia and Hawaii as well as internationally in England and South America. While many students showed Ferris pride enjoying the usual spring break fun in the sun, others demonstrated Ferris pride as they participated in mission trips or remained in Michigan on staycation. Ferris Pride Spring Break Photo

Contest posts garnered more than 1,200 reactions and were shared 60-plus times on Ferris' main Facebook page. On the @ferrisstateu Instagram account, contest posts were liked more than 3,000 times. Winners in five separate categories were named based on their submissions.

[Visit Ferris' main Facebook page and scroll down to view entries among the early-March posts.](#)

[Visit the @ferrisstateu Instagram account and scroll to check out the entries.](#)

- News Services and Social Media Team student intern Nachele Marshall collaborated with Digital Media Specialist Hannah Crouch to develop a preview video for the launch of the 2018 Ferris Pride Spring Break Photo Contest. The video has garnered more than 6,700 views since it was released in late February. [The video can be found on the Ferris State Video YouTube channel.](#)