

# President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President  
November 21, 2016

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With the sudden change in the weather we are now experiencing ice and snow. The men and women of the Physical Plant work very hard to keep our campus roads and sidewalks clear. However, there still can be slippery places. Please let the Physical Plant know about these spots and take care when walking on campus.

Although it is still November, fall semester is rapidly coming to a close. Including today just 12 and a half days of class remain. Thanksgiving is a time when many families gather together for both food and fellowship. It is also a time of heightened travel. Whatever your plans may be, if it includes travel, please do so safely and enjoy the extended holiday weekend.

## **#NoType Campaign**

Our Office of Multicultural Student Services launched a campaign today against stereotypes called #NoType to promote the importance of intercultural exchange and connection with members of our campus community. You can participate in this campaign by uploading your photo or video to “@fsuomss” on Instagram, stopping by the OMSS tables in University Center and FLITE to sign the #NoType pledge or by participating in a focus group discussion on Tuesday, Dec. 6, at 11 a.m. in FLITE 159. This campaign gives students, faculty and staff the opportunity to share experiences with being stereotyped and why it is important to challenge stereotypes.

## **Virtual Signing**

Last Wednesday was a unique and special experience when we participated in a virtual signing ceremony with President Heide Naderer and her colleagues from Hochschule Rhein-Waal University in Kleve, Germany. While we have signed numerous international agreements, and although separated by thousands of miles, doing this together technologically brought a greater sense of connection and shared purpose between our universities.

This virtual signing signifies an agreement between the College of Business and Rhein-Waal that provides for study abroad opportunities between our universities and the attainment of dual degrees. Since 2013, the Office of International Education has been forging a relationship with leaders from Rhein-Waal and pursuing this opportunity. Special thanks to Provost Paul Blake, Dean David Nicol and Dr. Piram Prakasam for leading this effort and making this a reality for our students. It also was good to have Professor Caroline Stern participate in this ceremony.

## **Athletics**

With a shortened instructional week much of the news today is about athletics. This past weekend was one of the busiest and most successful weekends in memory for our athletic teams.

Friday night our ice hockey team had its first home victory, defeating Lake Superior State 3-0. This night also featured the kick-off to the Salvation Army's Red Kettle campaign. The hockey team wore special commemorative jerseys that were auctioned off to support the Red Kettle campaign and the programs and services offered to those in need in our community. Saturday evening the ice hockey team swept the weekend series in a high-scoring 7-5 victory. Gerald Mayhew scored his fourth game-winning goal and leads the nation in this statistic.

On a cold and challenging day, our football team opened its third-straight year in the NCAA Division II Playoffs with an impressive 65-34 win over Midwestern State (Texas) on Saturday. We will next host a second-round playoff game this Saturday, Nov. 26, at 12 p.m. on

Top Taggart Field against the Colorado School of Mines. If you are in the area over the weekend, please take this opportunity to attend and support our football team.

This past week the All-GLIAC football team was announced. We have 15 players on the All-GLIAC teams. Offensive tackle Devon Johnson, defensive end Zach Sieler, cornerback Tavierre Thomas, linebacker Anthony Darkangelo and punter Trevor Birmingham were named to the First Team. Tailback Jahaan Brown, center Jake Daugherty, defensive tackle Corey Arnouts and punt returner Jajuan Pollock were named to the Second Team. All-GLIAC honorable mention choices included offensive tackle Bryan Bell, linebacker Nick Huckabay, receiver Shakur Sanders, defensive back David Churchwell, safety Willie Smith and quarterback Reggie Bell. Sophomore Zach Zieler was named defensive lineman of the year. Congratulations to these athletes, all the members of the team and to Head Coach Tony Annese on their success and best wishes as they compete this weekend against the Colorado School of Mines.

Saturday afternoon the men's basketball team moved to 3-0 on their season with an 84-72 victory over Lewis University (Illinois). Before the game the Roger Vander Laan Wall of Honor was unveiled. Located at the entrance to Wink Arena, this recognizes the success of players and teams throughout the program's history. Mr. Vander Laan competed for Ferris from 1954-1958, was voted the team's most valuable player all four years and set the school record at that time for points scored. It was a pleasure to welcome Roger, his family and friends to campus, and to have him actively engaged with our program 60 years after competing at Ferris.

The volleyball team continued their remarkable, memorable season with their 22<sup>nd</sup>, 23<sup>rd</sup> and 24<sup>th</sup> straight victories this week in the GLIAC tournament. This is the team's 19<sup>th</sup> straight year in the conference tournament, dating back to 1998. Wednesday evening the team defeated Grand Valley 3-1 in the quarterfinals. Saturday afternoon they defeated Saginaw Valley also 3-1 in the semifinals. Sunday the women won their third consecutive GLIAC tournament championship with a 3-0 win over Ashland. The team now looks forward to competing in the NCAA Tournament with pairings for the regional tournament announced tonight. Expectations are that Ferris will host the Midwest Region with games scheduled December 1-3.

On Saturday, the GLIAC announced its All-Conference teams and awards. In voting by the league's head coaches, Stephanie Sikorski and Allyson Cappel were named to the All-GLIAC First Team, Ayanna Buckley received Second Team recognition and Lauren Reminga honorable mention. Stephanie Sikorski was named both GLIAC Player of the Year and Setter of the Year. Allyson Cappel was selected as the league's Freshman of the Year. Head Coach Tia Brandel-Wilhelm was selected by her peers as the GLIAC Coach of the Year for the second-straight year. Congratulations to Coach Brandel-Wilhelm and the team which earlier earned the GLIAC regular season championship with a conference record of 16-1. It truly was a great weekend to be a Bulldog. Congratulations to the coaches, student- athletes and Athletic Director Perk Weisenburger on these wonderful accomplishments.

David L. Eisler, president