

President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President
March 13, 2017

March is Women's History Month

The Office of Multicultural Student Services has organized several events to commemorate and celebrate Women's History Month, all of which are free and open to the public. These begin today and continue through the end of March –

- March 13 - film screening of "Barbie Nation." UC Fine Art Gallery, 1 p.m. and 5 p.m.
- March 14-16 - #becauseofher women's appreciation campaign, UC, 9 a.m. to noon. Create thank you cards to give influential women in your lives.
- March 21, "Sexism and Gender-Based Violence in Print Advertising," Kathryn Woods, UC 203, 6 p.m.
- March 22 – Student Tribute, IRC 120, 6-7 p.m.
- March 31 - film screening of "Equal Means Equal" Granger 102, 1:30 p.m.

Throughout the month collection boxes will be located in the OMSS, Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services, and the Student Recreation Center to collect feminine hygiene products to benefit Degage Ministries in Grand Rapids, an organization that helps homeless and disadvantaged individuals. Thank you to the OMSS Women's History Month Planning Committee for organizing the month's events.

Ambassador Ronald E. Neumann

Ambassador Ronald E. Neumann will be on the Big Rapids campus Tuesday. At 1:30 p.m. in BUS 111, he will share a 20-minute version of the film "*America's Diplomats*," which takes viewers inside the Foreign Service and uncovers the role diplomats play in shaping American history. The viewing will be followed by a Q&A session. Mr. Neumann is a former Deputy Assistant Secretary of State and has served as Ambassador to Algeria, Bahrain and Afghanistan. He is the author of "The Other War: Winning and Losing in Afghanistan." He also served in Baghdad with the Coalition Provisional Authority and then as Embassy Baghdad's political/military liaison with the Multinational Command. He was an Army infantry officer in Vietnam and holds a Bronze Star, Army Commendation Medal and Combat Infantry Badge. Thank you to the Office of International Education and the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan for partnering and bringing this opportunity to our students and the Big Rapids community. I strongly encourage you to attend.

Healthcare Lecture Series

A four-part lecture series on healthcare reform begins Wednesday at 7 p.m. in UCB 203. Hosted by Gail Bullard, Wednesday's presenters include Catherine Rybicki and Thomas Knoerl of Spectrum Health, along with Health Care Systems Administration student Christopher Poiner. They will be discussing healthcare delivery in Spanish-speaking communities. The series includes presentations from community experts from Spectrum Health, District Health Department #10, Priority Health, faculty/student research projects and student presentations. This series is sponsored by the Political Engagement Project and the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning.

SPARC

On Tuesday, the Strategic Planning and Resource Council (SPARC) will be meeting from 3 to 5 p.m. in UC 202B. I will provide an update on our efforts to reduce student debt,

along with new institutional and national data on student debt trends. SPARC meetings are always open to the entire Ferris community. If your schedule allows, I hope you will attend.

Good News

This month's Good News items demonstrate the remarkable achievements of our faculty, staff and students. I hope you will take time to read about the many accomplishments and successes of your colleagues. This is just a small sampling; there are many more outstanding efforts included in the full listing which is accessible [here](#).

- Janet Vizina-Roubal and Michael Berghoef presented "Perceptions of Technology Enhanced Practice: Strategies for Social Work Interviewing Classes" at the Association of Baccalaureate Social Work Program Directors conference in New Orleans. Prof. Berghoef also presented "Technology and BSW Education: What's New, What's Inspiring, and What's Coming!" and "Applying a Rights-Based Approach to Short-Term Study Abroad and Service Learning Trips."
- The Torch student newspaper, led by Keith Salowich, editor-in-chief, and Steve Fox, Torch advisor, was named 2016's best weekly college newspaper in the Michigan Press Association's "Better Newspaper Contest" and won 28 individual awards in the contest's 17 categories out of 625 entries from 13 college newspapers across Michigan.
- Grand Rapids Film Festival's competition challenging teams of high school students, college students and aspiring professionals to script, shoot, edit and submit a film in 36 hours featured success by two University teams. Kendall Digital Media students won the Best Director award, while Television and Digital Media Production, Digital Animation and Game Design, and Music Industry Management won "Best Editing" and "Best Sound."
- Ferris HVACR students placed third in the International HVAC System Selection Competition, sponsored by the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers.
- The Fed Galleries @ KCAD opened three new exhibitions: Left Behind | Work by Jennifer Loeber, The Shape of Self | Work by Riva Lehrer, and Sentimental Ornamentation. All three exhibitions are on display through April 8.
- Tara McCrackin was featured in a Q&A on the blog of interior design firm Custer that focused on her role as president-elect of the International Interior Design Association Michigan Chapter.
- Jon McDonald held a solo exhibition titled "People, Places, and Things" at The Reception Gallery inside the Frauenthal Center in Muskegon.
- Phil Renato is one of 90 artists selected for IMAGINE PEACE NOW, a juried exhibition grappling with gun violence in the U.S. that is on display at the Boston Society for Arts and Crafts. Renato and two students were featured in a Jewelry Artist magazine profile of distinguished jewelry design programs in higher education.
- Nathan Heuer ('06, BFA Illustration; '08, MFA) has been named chair of the Art department at Indiana University of Pennsylvania.
- Michele Gort ('00, BFA Interior Design) had her piece "Playful Time" chosen as the poster for the 2017 Tulip Time Festival in Holland, Mich.
- Alyssa (Parsons) Menold ('13, BFA Illustration) was profiled by ImagineFX magazine for her work on the tabletop and PC/console role-playing game Shadowrun.
- UICA's educational programming for *US IS THEM* and *Here + Now* included Family Day in the Studio featuring hands-on activities inspired by the work of Kehinde Wiley and a Teen Night spoken word poetry workshop, both supported by ITC Transco.
- UICA's Open Projector Night, a program of short films, movies and digital media with a Michigan connection, screened in February. Film Coordinator Nick Hartman and six

volunteers screened over 70 submissions to determine the 13 that the audience voted on to win prizes and a spot running in front of UICA's feature films.

- The Latino Entrepreneurship Initiative received a \$20,000 grant from the City of Grand Rapids to launch an entrepreneurship program, in Spanish, in collaboration with Spring GR. The program, facilitated by Carlos Sanchez, also received a \$10,000 sponsorship from Chemical Bank to support two pitch competitions and the work of the Latino Business and Economic Development Center.
- Curtis Smith authored a book chapter entitled "Antimicrobial prophylaxis for surgery" in *Pharmacotherapy Casebook: A Patient-Focused Approach*.
- Sara Bush, Sarah Hinkley and Alison Jenerou presented "Developing your model of vision" to the Michigan Vision Therapy Study Group.
- Amy Dinardo was promoted to Regional Chair for the American Academy of Optometry's Admissions Committee.
- Lillian Kalaczinski received the 2017 Michigan Optometric Association Educator of the Year Award, which was voted on by the Third Year Class of the Michigan College of Optometry.
- Sarah Hinkley had her article, "Incorporating Low Vision Rehabilitation into Primary Care Practice," published in *Optometry Today* as the first in a three-part series.
- Felix Amissah co-authored a research manuscript, "Disruption of actin filaments and suppression of pancreatic cancer cell viability and migration following treatment with polyisoprenylated cysteinyl amides," in the *American Journal of Cancer Research*.
- Renee Koski and Mike Klepser co-authored a review article entitled "A Systematic Review of Rapid Diagnostic Tests for Influenza: Considerations for the Community Pharmacist" in the *Journal of the American Pharmacists Association*.
- Jody Maloney and Brooke Moore presented "Examining the Impact of Peer Educators in an FYE Course" and the poster session "Go Big or Go Home: Marketing an FYE Program" at the First-Year Experience Conference in Georgia.
- The Department of Public Safety provided a Rape Aggression Defense (RAD) class to twelve female FSU students taught by two Ferris police officers who are certified RAD instructors.
- Information Technology Services, working with partners from Student Affairs, Human Resources, Finance and others, implemented a major WebFocus upgrade which allows easy access to data through dashboards as well as complex report writing.
- Basketball's Zach Hankins has established a new GLIAC single-season record with more than 100 blocked shots this season.
- The Office of Multicultural Student Services, in collaboration with Academic Affairs and the Big Rapids branch of the American Association of University Women of Michigan, hosted a screening of "Equal Means Equal" with over 200 in attendance. A post-film discussion took place via conference call with the film's director, Kamala Lopez.
- One hundred and six students from Baldwin, Morley, Big Rapids, Muskegon and Muskegon Heights attended the GEAR UP Reality Remixed conference. Motivational speaker, A'ric Jackson, awarded one GEAR UP student a full scholarship to Count Me In, his leadership institute in Toronto, and awarded five partial scholarships.
- Spring 2017 swim lessons have 85 children in attendance, approximately 25 more students than in the past.
- The Step Up Wall will be returning to the University Center running through the end of the semester. Created by Design students, the wall engages students in pledging to be active bystanders.
- The University Center currently has 1,619 reservations for Spring 2017, inclusive of 789 reservations made by faculty/staff, 762 made by Registered Student Organizations, and 68 by off-campus groups.

- The 2016-17 Fact Book is completed and available [here](#).
- There is a [new link](#) on the IR&T website for the Student Achievement Measure (SAM) reports.
- Candace Henry-Schroder presented information at Ewart's "Show Me the Money" financial literacy event. Approximately 200 community members attended.
- The first Admitted Student Open House was held in February with 389 guests, 147 of which were students. With an 88% attendance rate, this was an all-time high for a Saturday event program.
- The "Ferris Application Week" [website](#) encouraged prospective students to apply to Ferris between February 20 and 24 for a chance to win prizes, including a \$2,000 Ferris scholarship.
- Another new [website](#), geared toward the recruitment of local high school students, informs area students of how they can get a first-rate education close to home.
- The News Services and Social Media Team collaborated with numerous campus offices to promote the importance of signing up for Ferris' Emergency Text Alerts. The story is [here](#) and the video is [here](#).

Athletics

The last two weeks have been very exciting for Ferris athletics. Our spring sports are off to a good start. The women's softball team spent spring recess in Florida winning six out of 10 games there, with the last two games in the tournament to be played this afternoon. Men's and women's tennis are in full swing, with the men at 6-2 and the women at 9-6 overall.

In track and field, junior Jon Cok received All-America honors in the high jump at the 2017 NCAA Division II National Indoor Track & Field Championships during competition last week in Birmingham, Ala. He is the first male student-athlete at FSU to earn All-America accolades in track and field since 2010.

The men's hockey team concluded their season with a 3-5 loss in the first-round of the WCHA playoffs against Bowling Green. Three members of the team received all-conference recognition. Senior forward and Hobey Baker Award candidate Gerald Mayhew was one of six selections on the All-WCHA First Team and was also recognized as the league's Scoring Champion for his performance this year. Sophomore forward Corey Mackin received All-WCHA Second Team recognition with freshman goaltender Justin Kapelmaster named to the All-WCHA Third Team. Congratulations to Head Coach Bob Daniels and these student-athletes for a successful season.

On March 5 our men's basketball team won the GLIAC championship at home against Ashland with a thrilling 80-79 win, which advanced them to the NCAA Division II Midwest Regional Quarterfinal in Louisville, Ky., against Truman State. The men played a strong game on Saturday and celebrated an 86-78 win over Truman. Despite falling behind 39-33 at halftime and trailing by as many as 13 points in the game, they scored 53 points in the second half for the win. Sunday evening they put up a strong effort against Findlay, leading for much of the first half, before falling short 68-63. This ends a historic season for the men's basketball team. Congratulations to Coach Andy Bronkema, his coaching staff and student athletes for an exciting season

David L. Eisler, president