

President's Message to Campus

Office of the President
April 20, 2018

Faculty and Staff Recognition

There is much activity on our campuses with end of the academic year recognitions and events. This is the time of year when we celebrate the achievements of our faculty and staff, and pause to honor retiring colleagues. Much of this occurs at the annual Employee Service Awards on Wednesday, April 25, from 3 to 5 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom.

At the Service Awards, we will recognize faculty who have earned promotion, merit and/or tenure this spring. Please join me in congratulating them:

Tenure

James Brady, David Bright, David Brown, Gail Bullard, Linda Butler, Christopher Cospers, Florence Dood, Mark Dunneback, Emily Fransted, Donna Green, Waileong Ho, Nicholas Kuiper, Kimberly McVicar, Kathryn Niemeyer, Joshua Pardon, Donald Pole, Jacob Pollak, Christopher Redker, Felix Smith, Aaron Waltz, Brent Williams, Toni Windquist, Kathryn Wolfer and Vanessa Wyss

Promotion

Associate Professor – Gail Bullard, Ferrell Clark, Christopher Cospers, Elisa Cotter, Jennifer Dirmeyer, Amy Dorey, Mark Dunneback, Deirdre Fagan, Jimmie Joseph, David Marquard, Kimberly McVicar, Kathryn Niemeyer, Joshua Pardon, Heather Pavletic, Jacob Pollak, Daniel Pratt, Chad Rosen, Kristi Scholten, Dale Skornia, Melissa Smith, Michael Vasicek, Brent Williams and Vanessa Wyss

Professor – Sandra Brigance, Sharon Colley, Amy Dinardo, Lisa Eshbach, Donna Green, Alison Konieczny, Cheolwoo Lee, Russell Leonard, Sarah Raguckas, Mischelle Stone, Jerome Trouba and Changqi Zhu

Merit

Catherine Archer, Brian Brady, Lianne Briggs, Iyabode Fadayomi, Michael Feutz, Scott Herron, John Jameson, David Marion, Jana Pisani, Avesh, Raghunandan, Wendy Samuels and Gregory Wellman

In addition to the Distinguished Staff and Team, Distinguished Teacher, faculty awards, and other significant awards, we will recognize faculty and staff for completing five-year increments of full-time, continuous service to the University. The 235 faculty and staff represented below collectively have 3,285 years of service to Ferris State University. Thank you very much for your many years of dedication to our students and University.

Five Years

Michele Albright, Covita Ankneym Bruce Borkovich, Peter Bradley, Kimberly Brandimore, David Brown, Gail Bullard, Patricia Bunce, John Burdick, Christopher Cospers, Kristy Cutler, David Damari, David Darrow, Jessica Davison, James Dawson, Matthew Decker, Geoffrey Downs, Emily Fransted, Patricia Frebes, Jessica Gladden, Sergio Gonzalez, Robert Griffith, Angela Guy-Lee, Michele Harvey, Anne Hawkins, Lilian Henderson, Sarah Higley, Paul Hobart, Steven

Hundersmarck, Michael Kelly, Konara Kollalpitiya, James Lake, Steven Lampe, Heather Lewis, Andrew McCaslin, Brittnee McNally, Shane Montague, Kathryn Niemeyer, Craig Norman, Angela Ososki, Beth Pacholka, Joshua Pardon, Sara Pasquantonio, Sarah Pelton, Donald Pole, Laura Porritt, Elizabeth Post, Timothy Powers, Jason Proefrock, Stephanie Ramdass, Chad Rosen, Kathleen Ross, Carlos Sanchez, Cindy Seel, Laura Sorg, Mary Sparks, Jennie Stange, Jerard Strunk, Aleane Taylor, Marie Thompson, Rita Walters, Janette Ward, Bruce Warning, Valerie Wells, Brent Williams, Holly Williams, Ralph Williams, Mark Wilson, Toni Windquist, Tami Wolverton, Craig Wotta, Vanessa Wyss, Jennifer Yontz

10 Years

Mary Baxter, Patricia Beduhn, Linda Bomar, Rachel Bonner, Connie Bookshaw, Timothy Brotherton Catherine Browsers, Jennifer Bruce, Jillian Bush, Michael Chamberlain, Ferrell Clark, Jon Coles, Lavonn DiTulio, Amy Dorey, Sheryl Edstrom, Debra Fisher, Jerome Forbes, Eric Fountain, Steven Fox, Gordon Graham, Jeannette Griffith, Ronda Grindel, Jeffery Higley, Sarah Hinkley, Timothy Hollen, Steven Karnes, Linda Kuk, Gene Lawler, Cheolwoo Lee, Andresa Maciejewski, Angela McCane, David Miller, Chelsea Mitchell, Gary Moore II, Linda Morris, Gene Myers, Lisa Ortiz, Steven Plautz, Jacob Pollak, Vandana Ragaram, Shanee Ramsey, Charles Rathbun, Carol Rewers, Christopher Richmond, Gustavo Rodriguez, Patricia Root, Rebecca Sammel, Linda Sherwood, Pamela Smyth, Jamie Thomas, Josephine VanAvery, Kali VanLangen, Timothy Vander Laan, Amy Vedder, Julie Ward, Kirk Weller, Debra Whitman, Kim Wilber, Richelle Williams

15 Years

Allison Bernknopf, Tracey Boncher, Wendy Bradley, Robert Brady, Mark Brandly, Teresa Cook, Jason Daday Michael Dekker, Carol Deurloo, Laura Dix, David Eisler, Samuel Fattore, Scott Foos, David Griffith, Virginia Hines, Cynthia Horn, Brenna Kelley, Lauri Knoop, Elies Kouider, Paul Kwant, Gary Lutz, Margaret Lyons, Bruce Morgan, Terry Pierson, Timothy Pullen, Claire Saadeh, Mandy Seiferlein, Meral Topcu, Michelle Weemaes, Douglas Zentz

20 Years

Daniel Adsmond, Tamara Babcock, Anthony Baker, Peter Balanda, Richelle Boerma, Cambria DeHoag, Margaret Devoest, Daniel Ding, Deborah Ducat, Michael Feutz, Timothy Glover, Valerie Harley, John Herrick, Karen Huisman, Leonard Johnson, Katherine LaPietra, Han Lie, Thomas Lokers, Lionel MacKenzie, Leah Monger, Susan Morris, Nathan Nelson, Karan Noller, Cynthia Ottobre, Brian Pacholka, Susan Pennock, Ruth Ridderman, Mark Rusco, Dennis Ruzicka, William Saunders, Adam Schoen, Kenneth Schussler, Randy Stein, Patricia Terryn, Deborah Tice, Lingfei Xu

25 Years

Sandra Alspach, Danette Boyd, Lynn Chrenka, Richard Goosen, Fonda Kuzee, Neil Patten,

30 Years

Rexford Billings, Paul Blake, Lianne Briggs, Carrie Buss, Kim Colvert, Gregory Conti, Jeffrey Ek, Tamara Finch, Kathy Fisher, Frederick Heck, Michael Hughes, Debra Iafrate, Patricia Maguire, Bryan Marquardt, Barry Mehler, John Monahan, Diane Nagelkirk, Vivian Nazar, Joseph Samson, Kristine Szot Schult

35 Years

Roxanne Cullen, Vicky Deur, Paula Hagstrom, Lori Henderson, Murry Stocking, Daniel Wrubel

40 Years

Frank Hartley, Roberta Hoisington, Debbera Lunsted, Thomas Mehl, Patti Olson

There will be a wonderful array of desserts, the opportunity to connect with colleagues and to congratulate those being honored. No reservation is required. Please take time to recognize and thank your colleagues for their service, and join us on Wednesday at the Employee Service Awards.

Open Educational Resources Poster Session

On Tuesday, April 24, faculty will be presenting their use of Open Educational Resources in their classes. This cost-effective, alternative approach to traditional textbooks can reduce the cost of our students' education and overcome the educational challenge of students who cannot or do not purchase textbooks. This is the second year our faculty have showcased their success in developing and utilizing OER materials in their teaching. Everyone is invited to see this innovative work from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. inside the University Center Room 203.

Thank you to the OER Faculty Learning Community Planning Team of Kristy Motz, Stacy Anderson, Gary Maixner and Andrew Peterson for encouraging and supporting faculty to use OERs in the classroom, saving our students thousands of dollars in textbook costs. Please stop by to view this good work of our faculty.

Pancakes With the President

We look forward to celebrating our graduates during May commencement ceremonies on May 4 and 5. In preparing for commencement, we are reminded that the last week of classes and final exams can be an especially stressful time for our students. It has become a tradition in Big Rapids to serve pancakes to our students during finals week, providing this break during their late night studies. The annual Pancakes with the President will be on Monday, April 30, at The Rock Café from 10 p.m. to midnight. This is an enjoyable and wonderful opportunity to interact with our students. If you would like to help serve, please contact Terri Cook at x2504 or terricook@ferris.edu. I hope you will join us.

Athletics

Last week, our men's tennis team won the regular-season GLIAC championship with a perfect 8-0 record in the conference, 18-2 overall. They join the women's volleyball team and men's basketball team in capturing their fourth-straight conference championship. The team is ranked 21st nationally and are two-time defending post-season tournament champions.

This weekend the team enters the GLIAC Tournament in Midland as the number one seed with a first-round bye. They play the winner of Grand Valley vs. Davenport on Saturday at 3:45 p.m. With continued success the conference tournament finals are Sunday starting at 8:15 a.m. Congratulations to Head Coach Daniel Hangstefer and the tennis student-athletes on this wonderful accomplishment, and best wishes as they enter tournament play this weekend.

Rescheduled to this evening, the spring Crimson & Gold football game and the NCAA Division II national championship celebration for the men's basketball team will be at 5 p.m. and 7 p.m. respectively. The football game will take place at Top Taggart Field with the men's basketball national championship celebration at Jim Wink Arena. Admission to both events are free. Thank you to the campus and Big Rapids community for continuing to show your support for our teams, student-athletes and coaches.

David L. Eisler, president