

President's Message to Campus

Office of the President
April 13, 2018

Giving Challenge

On Wednesday, April 18, the University is hosting its first-ever 24-hour online giving challenge, One Day for Dawgs. Students, faculty, staff, alumni and friends will have a unique opportunity to support their favorite college, program, athletic team or another area that matches their interest. You can visit the [One Day for Dawgs website](#) to view leaderboards, challenge gifts, areas of giving and more.

If you would like to become a One Day for Dawgs volunteer and help spread the word about supporting Ferris and our students, you can register by accessing the official [One Day for Dawgs Facebook page](#), choosing the “Groups” option in the left column and request to join the group as a volunteer.

I want to thank everyone who has already volunteered to help with One Day for Dawgs and especially thank Janel DePew and Jennifer Yontz for their extraordinary efforts in starting this new tradition in such an exciting way. You can contact them at x3812 or x3817 respectively to learn more about this unique giving opportunity.

Yael Aronoff Lecture

Award-winning political scientist and author Yael Aronoff will be on campus Tuesday, April 17. Her presentation, “Shifting Sands in the Middle East: Opportunities and Challenges for Israel,” is from 6:30 to 8 p.m. in IRC Room 120.

Dr. Aronoff is the Michael and Elaine Serling and Friends Chair of Israel Studies, Associate Professor, and Director of the Jewish Studies Program at Michigan State University. She has authored *The Political Psychology of Israeli Prime Ministers: When Hard-Liners Opt for Peace*. Her work focuses on topics including Israeli politics and foreign policy, and Israeli society and culture.

This event is sponsored by the Political Engagement Project, Academic Engagement Network, College of Arts and Sciences, History program, Institute for the Study of Academic Racism, Office of International Education and Jewish Student Organization. Please attend to learn more about Dr. Aronoff’s work.

25th Annual Fulbright Foreign Lecture

Dr. Ivo Soljan delivered the inaugural Robert C. Ferguson Foreign Fulbright Lecture at Ferris. It is a pleasure to welcome him back to campus for the 25th anniversary of this lecture series on Thursday, April 19, to deliver his address “Are We Any Wiser Today: One More Disappointing WORLD DIS-ORDER” at 4:30 p.m. in IRC Room 120.

Dr. Soljan was born in Croatia (formerly Yugoslavia) and has a long history of political experience. He worked toward a peaceful resolution of the Yugoslavia War from 1990-1995 and participated as a U.S. State Department contractor at the Dayton Accords peace negotiations. This resulted in the signing of a peace agreement bringing political and economic stability to the newly formed republics of Slovenia, Croatia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Montenegro,

Macedonia, and Kosovo/Kosova. Dr. Soljan is currently a professor in the Department of English at Grand Valley State University.

This event is sponsored by Ferris Fulbrighters and the Office of Academic Affairs. Ferris faculty have a wonderful tradition of global service and recognition as Fulbright Scholars. I encourage you to hear Dr. Soljan's lecture, learn more about how you may become a Fulbright Scholar and celebrate the Fulbrighters' 25th anniversary.

Walk a Mile in Her Shoes

As part of Sexual Assault Awareness Month, the Title IX office, Sigma Lambda Beta fraternity and Women's Information Services are participating in the worldwide event, "Walk a Mile in Her Shoes." Designed to raise awareness of sexual harassment in the workplace, as well as sexual assault on campus communities, the walk is Saturday, April 21, from 2 to 4 p.m. It begins at the entrance of the Student Recreation Center and concludes at the Quad. Please come and participate or support those walking. In doing so you can help raise awareness in our community about sexual harassment and sexual violence against women.

Good News

This most recent Good News listing includes many accomplishments by faculty, staff and students across the University. Thank you for sharing the work you are doing, the recognition you are receiving and the many experiences and accomplishments of our students. Below is just a sampling of the many good works shared with us. You can view all of the submissions on the [Good News website](#). Please take a few moments to congratulate your colleagues and our students on their noteworthy achievements.

- George Nagel and Dan Huston of New Hampshire's Concord College presented a workshop entitled "Mindfulness Communication Practice in the Communication Course" at the Western States Communication Association in Santa Clara, California.
- Rachel Foulk co-chaired the session "Dissent and Resistance: Responses to Authoritarianism in Ancient Art" at the College Art Association in Los Angeles.
- The Phi Alpha Theta History Honor Society, advised by Tracy Busch, hosted the Michigan Regional Conference. College students from across Michigan presented 40 papers on history-related themes and listened to keynote speaker Henry Greenspan.
- Joanie Hazelton and Elizabeth Post presented a workshop entitled "Inter-professional Collaboration on Human Trafficking: Social Work, Hospitality Management and Computer Sciences" at the social work educator's conference in Atlanta.
- Funded as part of a National Security Agency grant to establish a Cyber Competition Center, the Information Security and Intelligence program hosted 70 high school students to compete in a cyber competition on campus.
- The Law Enforcement Academy hosted an open house for 150 high school students from throughout Michigan. Academy students ran the event and taught visitors about the program and what to expect for the future. The open house was very successful with approximately 150 high school students attending.
- Vanessa Wyss presented at the National Association of Professional Development Schools on current research and field experiences for the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation.
- Ruth Bovard is the first graduate from the Early Childhood Education program with a Child Life Specialist concentration to pass the national certification test and is now a Certified Child Life Specialist.

- The Charter Schools Office celebrated 20 years as a public school academy authorizer by releasing a [new video](#) at their 16th Annual Spring Briefing.
- Ferris Statewide and Online won an award for the “Stop Out Campaign” in the 33rd Annual Educational Advertising Awards sponsored by the Higher Education Marketing Report. The campaign was designed to encourage students who have left Ferris without a degree to return and finish.
- Brian Brady, Jessica Gladden, Sean Hill, Nancy Hogan, Anuli Njoku, Cindy Smith, Jacqueline Peacock, Karen Royster-James, Meral Topcu and Fathima Wakeel completed the Accessible Course Content Workshop and made all digital materials in their Blackboard course shell accessible.
- Amy Buse and Bob Griffith will represent Ferris in the Development Partner Group MyDegree Dashboard project to make the interface for MyDegree more user-friendly. Ten institutions were chosen for this inaugural project.
- Peter Bradley, Cathy Bordeau and Honors students Arianna Lozano, Brandon Milby and Aaron Vanderwoude traveled to Ohio to present research at the Mid-East Honors Association Conference.
- Ferris State University was one of 200 universities accepted to participate in Stanford University’s Project for Education Research that Scales – research-based initiatives aiding college student success.
- Ferris State Hockey recently took part in a nationwide initiative as the Bulldogs joined the WCHA and the Headway Foundation in the "New Tough" movement for concussion culture change.
- At the Great Lakes Affiliate of College and University Residence Halls Regional Business Conference, the Bulldog Chapter (Ferris State University) was selected as the National Residence Hall Honorary Building Block Chapter of the Year.
- The new timekeeping and leave time request/reporting system implementation is progressing on schedule for a July 1 go-live, with user training two to three weeks prior to the go-live date.
- “Alex” will again be available this year as the online tool to help employees with the annual benefits open enrollment.
- 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 1,023 students representing 80 schools
- 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.
- KCAD Communications earned four awards in the international Educational Advertising Awards. Portfolio magazine, the National Portfolio Day poster, and UICA’s Jump Off exhibition invitation all earned Gold Awards and the 2017 Commencement invitation earned a silver award.
- Karen Carter 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.”
- Adam DeKraker juried the 2018 Saginaw Township State of the Art exhibition.
- Language Artists, an arts and literacy program that 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.
- 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.

- Graphic Design student Tylan Davis won the 2018 Grand Rapids Latin American Festival poster design contest.
- The UICA welcomed over 170 guests to the *CAMPUS: 2018 Annual Faculty and Staff Exhibition* featuring distinguished artists and designers who work at Ferris State University, Kendall College of Art and Design, and the UICA.
- 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, and the College Democrats and Students for Life student organizations have been reactivated.
- Twenty-four students successfully completed the Ferris Innovation and Entrepreneurship program facilitated by CLACS Career Services, College of Business faculty members and entrepreneurial alumni.
- Enrollment Services hosted the final Admitted Student Open House in March. Combined with the February open house, there were 679 total attendees with 261 students in attendance. Last year this event saw 80% of these students enroll.
- Steelcase Inc, the MLive Media Group and Rockford Construction are among the many sponsors joining Ferris to celebrate partnerships with Grand Rapids Public Schools at the [Growing Opportunity](#) event on May 16.
- Representatives of the Wege Foundation and the Grand Rapids Community Foundation met with new graduates of the Latino Talent Initiative (LEADeres) and their families at the UICA to celebrate their program completion at the UICA.
- Ted Halm collaborated with Karen Weber to create an expanded [Welding Engineering Technology Hall of Fame website](#).
- The News Services and Social Media Team, in collaboration with the Pride Committee, hosted the fifth-annual Ferris Pride Spring Break Photo Contest garnering more than 1,200 reactions and sharing 60-plus times on Ferris' main [Facebook page](#).

David L. Eisler, president