

# President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President  
April 11, 2011

---

## Higher Learning Commission

For the past three years the entire University community has been preparing for the ten-year accreditation visit by the Higher Learning Commission. The visiting team will be on campus next Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday. Three Higher Learning Commission Open Forums are scheduled in Big Rapids next week. These are opportunities for you to share information with the HLC visiting team regarding our very important re-accreditation as an institution. The three sessions are designed to highlight the experiences and insights of Ferris students, faculty and staff. These targeted sessions are:

- For students, Monday, April 18, 3-3:45 p.m. in IRC 109
- For staff and administrators, Tuesday, April 19, 8-8:45 a.m. in RAN 238
- For faculty, Tuesday, April 19, 11-11:45 a.m. in SCI 120

Thank you in advance for taking the time to engage in this process.

## Share Your Success

Our Share Your Success sessions with colleges and divisions continue. It is always a great pleasure to learn about the remarkable things that are taking place at Ferris, and to share those achievements with the entire University. Below are some of the highlights from the sessions with Academic Affairs, the College of Business, the College of Engineering Technology, the Executive Division, FLITE and the College of Pharmacy.

### Academic Affairs

- Todd Stanislav discussed Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning projects, including the New Faculty Transition Program and the “Faculty in Residence” initiative.
- Meegan Lillis reported on the Center’s upcoming Spring Learning Institute planned for April 29.
- Bea Cooper-Griffith talked about the Quality Course Framework initiative for online and blended course offerings.
- Rebecca Shankland discussed implementation of assessment/achievement processes at the Charter Schools Office, which assists academies to better achieve their goals.
- Carol Quigley discussed community college and Ferris articulation processes and noted that she has been successful in keeping continuity and lines of communication open between community colleges and the University.
- Gretchen Spedowske reported on the processing of articulation agreements between Ferris and more than 144 high schools and career centers across Michigan.
- Kim Wilber discussed the new Academic Affairs budget model that has been implemented this fiscal year. She and Provost Erickson have given a budget presentation to every college to show them how the Ferris budget process works.

### College of Business

- Susan Jones noted the ECOM 375 class received \$1,000 for their Google Free Ad words participation. The AIMC program worked with the COB Diversity Committee to bring speaker Michelle Phenix to campus. She is an Advertising graduate who is now an executive for Mullen Advertising.
- Maureen Heaphy said MBA students participated in a case study competition sponsored by the Association for Corporate Growth.
- Lori Armstrong and Daniel Cronk reported that Music Industry Management continues to have strong enrollment with more than 200 students and 95 admits for Fall 2011 already. 56 internships have been scheduled so far for Summer 2011.
- David Steenstra noted that the Management Department program has grown to 757 students.
- Jim Woolen noted the Information Security Intelligence Program has been certified by the NSA as meeting all six criteria, only the sixth in the nation to map all six.
- Matthew Pinter is pleased that Professional Golf Management enrollment remains good and the program had 100 percent placement of its December graduates.
- Julie Doyle said the 20th Anniversary of the Hospitality Gala was a great success with record attendance of 357 guests, 48 alumni and a net profit of more than \$30,000 raised to create a scholarship endowment for future hospitality students.
- Derek Ameel noted that Professional Tennis Management continues to have 100 percent placement of graduates.
- Patrick Bishop reported that the Public Relations Program became certified by the Public Relations Student Society of America this year, the only program in Michigan to be certified and one of just 27 in the nation.
- Jeff Ek discussed several collaborative projects Graphic Designs students are working on, and noted that Ferris student John Vestavich won the prestigious Charles Schultz award as best college cartoonist in the nation.
- Elies Kouider noted that the Applied Statistics Team has coordinated monthly colloquiums to provide development opportunities for faculty.

### College of Engineering Technology

- Brian Craig noted that more than \$56,500 in scholarships has been awarded from endowments for programs in the School of Built Environment.
- Larry Schult reported on a very successful Career Fair - of the 121 companies in attendance, 97 were seeking CET graduates.
- Arn McIntyre discussed the Building America Research Program, noting that Ferris is developing a stronger presence in Washington, D.C. through this project, the scope of which is to retrofit homes for energy efficiency.
- Jeff Carney and Ken Kuk noted the record number of students (195) in the Welding Engineering Technology program.
- Tom Hollen pointed to the continued success of such student projects as the Rube Goldberg machine, Formula 1 Car, and Human Powered Vehicle competitions.
- Dane Johnson shared that applicants are being reviewed for the new Architecture and Sustainability degree.

- Mike Ropele reported that the number of admissions to the college is up by more than 200 from Fall 2010.

#### Executive Division

- Beth Logan is pleased that the financial management report was successfully implemented and that budget allocations are on the Web site.
- Angie Hollister mentioned that the Dashboard has been successfully rolled out to the University community, and suggestions are being made to improve the format.
- David Pilgrim shared that many of the successes for the Diversity and Inclusion Office, including *Diversity at Ferris 2010*, the annual report; the Diverse Workforce Taskforce report, the *Expect Diversity* newsletter; success of The First Lady's Attic; and the reception hosted by DTE with the Jim Crow exhibit.

#### Ferris Library for Information, Technology and Education

- Alison Konieczny's "Experiences as an Embedded Librarian in Online Courses" was published last year in the *Medical Services Reference Quarterly* and received a starred review in *The Journal of Academic Librarianship*. She is also President-Elect of the West Michigan Health Sciences Library Association.
- Yuri Konovalov published a full-length monograph "XIX vek: sobytiia I liudi" ("19<sup>th</sup> century: people and events").
- Kristy Motz is serving on the Michigan Library Association Committee to create an American College and Research Library chapter within the MLA.
- Melinda Isler is an executive board member of the MLA.
- David Scott is the MLA's poster sessions organizer.
- Mari Kermit-Canfield is the chair of the FLITE Diversity Committee. She developed and was awarded a mini grant to assist with the offering of David Pilgrim's "Ouch" program.
- The FerrisNet online catalog has been improved to include icons that identify the format of the information resource (i.e., book, CD, DVD, recording, etc.).
- A "Smart-phone" interface was installed which allows patrons to access the online catalog from their personal electronic devices.
- The Library has partnered with the Admissions Office to offer a "FLITE Training School" for visiting high school students.
- FLITE marketing and promotion activities included a Michigan Notable Authors presentation by Mardi Link, author of *Isador's Secret* and other activities.
- Thirteen institutions (including one from Sweden) are interested in the library tutorial, *Pilot*, written by Rick Bearden and Emily Mitchell, that was presented at the Computers in Libraries 2011 Conference. Also, Rick has implemented a mobile website for the library.
- Stacy Anderson and Mari Kermit-Canfield accompanied Communications faculty Donna Smith and George Nagel to the Southern States Communications Association Conference in Little Rock where they offered four presentations on critical thinking and a librarian's perspective on class assignments.

## College of Pharmacy

- The purchase of 25 Michigan Ave. in Grand Rapids is a milestone for the College, combining both the Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo sites for rotations.
- Dr. Curtis Smith received Pharmacist of the Year from the Michigan Pharmacists Association.
- Jeffrey Bates noted that Nursing students are teaching Pharmacy students about foot care, lipid screening, diabetes screening, diet considerations, etc., while Optometry students teach Pharmacy and Nursing students about micro-vascular eye diseases caused by uncontrolled diabetes, etc. The same level of inter-professional collaboration is seen between Pharmacy and Optometry faculty.
- Sara Raguckas worked on the core team at Spectrum Health Medical Group Family Medicine to develop systems and policies in order to receive Level 3 Recognition from the National Committee for Quality Assurance as a Patient Centered Medical Home.
- Heather VandenBussche and Michael Klepser co-authored “Consensus Summary of Aerosolized Antimicrobial Agents: Application of Guideline Criteria,” that was one of the top 25 for 2010 published articles in Pharmacotherapy in terms of being accessed and downloaded.
- Rose Baran received the Fellow of Michigan Pharmacist’s Association Award.
- Jill Coveyou established a service for students at the Helen M. Nickless Volunteer Clinic.
- Claire Saadeh was inducted into the Michigan Pharmacist’s Association Hall of Honor for her volunteer leadership service.
- Mandy Seiferlein discussed codification and documentation student/faculty volunteer activities, explaining the creation of a policy to provide necessary liability coverage for events involving patient care.
- Tracey Boncher gave a report on the CVS Ferris State High School Program, in which high school students conduct research with her.
- Lucy Ngoh has spearheaded the initiation of the Health Mentor Program for P2 students. This provides students with longitudinal patient contact through assignment to local residents with chronic illness.
- Kim Hancock has successfully implemented the second year of the new curriculum including the integration of pharmacology and medicinal chemistry into the Drug Action Course. Elsie Lovsted, Tracey Boncher, Robert Krueger, Gregg Potter and Richard Hult all played a role in the integration of these two courses.
- Robert Krueger assumed the presidency of the Wildflower Association of Michigan in April 2010. He was also reappointed Treasurer of the American Society of Pharmacognosy Foundation for 2010-2011.
- Lori Dettloff led the University’s effort in the Gift of Life Organ Challenge, resulting in 872 donors, which was second only to Michigan State in the total number of donors among Michigan’s public universities.
- Tara Lee played an important role in the implementation of the PharmCAS admission system used for the first time in the 2010-2011 admission cycle.

These are but a few of the many examples of success shared in these sessions. Complete lists from each session are accessible here - <http://www.ferris.edu/htmls/administration/president/sharesuccess2011.htm> . The latest version of Good News is accessible here - <http://www.ferris.edu/htmls/administration/president/GoodNews.htm> . I encourage you take a few moments to learn more about the work of your colleagues.

This week there is a Share Your Success session scheduled for Kendall faculty and staff on Thursday April 14, from 10 a.m. until noon in room 209 of the Kendall Building. I look forward to hearing more of your accomplishments and sharing them with the broader University community.

### **Power Restoration**

Early last Monday morning a transformer blew on the Big Rapids campus, cutting power to Bishop Hall, which houses our Criminal Justice and Education programs, as well as Tot's Place, our child care facility. Crews from our Physical Plant worked tirelessly to restore power, minimizing the impact to our students, faculty, staff and clients. Please join me in thanking them for their good work. All of our jobs are important, but situations such as this highlight the challenges our Physical Plant employees face when an unforeseeable task takes precedence over other important jobs. Thank you also to faculty, staff and students for their patience while power was being restored.

Sincerely,

David L. Eisler, President