

President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President
April 22, 2013

Boston Marathon Bombing

The terrible events in Boston this past week included some of the best and worst actions of people toward each other. The violence was something difficult to imagine and to understand – from the initial bombing itself, to the shooting of MIT police officer Sean Collier, and ending with the two separate confrontations, one fatal, that resulted in apprehension of the bombing suspects. In the midst of tragedy we also witnessed unselfish acts of bravery and kindness that helped save the lives of people wounded and maimed in the explosions. We saw a spontaneous appreciation for the police officers who risked their lives to capture the suspects and prevent more loss of life. Although far from Michigan, for many of us this was a personal and deeply troubling assault on our public consciousness. Please join me in sending thoughts and prayers to those who are struggling with their injuries or whose lives have been irreparably changed. The events in Boston remind us how uncertain life can be and deepen our appreciation for the efforts of our own law enforcement men and women both here on campus and in the community.

Service Awards

As we begin the final three weeks of the academic year, this is the time when we recognize faculty and staff for their outstanding service and commitment to the University. Please join me on Wednesday, April 24, when we hold the annual Employee Service Awards Dessert Celebration from 2-4 p.m. in the Rankin Center Dome Room. There will be a slide show of award recipients and our traditional strawberry pie. It is not necessary to make a reservation. If you have special dietary needs, please contact Elaine Kamptner at ext. 2504.

Among the awards presented Wednesday are the Academic Scholar, Adjunct Teaching Excellence, Distinguished Service, Distinguished Staff, Distinguished Teacher, Distinguished Team, Diversity Enhancement, Outstanding Academic Advisor and Outstanding First-Year Advocate. We will honor employees who have completed five-year increments of full-time continuous service to Ferris. We will recognize the following faculty and staff members for their dedication and commitment:

Five Years

Leeland Adams, Catherine Archer, Patricia Beduhn, Linda Bomar, Rachel Bonner, Connie Bookshaw, Timothy Brotherton, Jenifer Bruce, Michael Chamberlain, Lynn Chrenka, Ferrell Clark, Jon Coles, Steven Costello, Pamela Daniels, Amy Dorey, Sheryl Edstrom, William England, Debra Fisher, Jerome Forbes, Eric Fountain, Steven Fox, Gordon Graham, Jeanette Griffith, Ronda Grindel, Jane Hardybala, Kelly Hicks, Sarah Hinkley, Timothy Hollen, Steven Karnes, Gene Lawler, Cheolwoo Lee, Dean Luplow, Andresa Maciejewski, Angela McCane, Michael Mignano, Gary Moore II, Linda Morris, Gene Myers, Lisa Ortiz, Velislav Pavlov, Steven Plautz, Vandana Rajaram, Shanee Ramsey, Charles Rathbun, Carol Rewers, Claire Rewold, Christopher Richmond, Gustavo Rodriguez, Patricia Root, Rebecca Sammel, Randall Schroeder,

Ruth Simmons, Gary Unger, Renee Vander Myde, Kalai VanLangen, Amy Vedder, Julie Ward, Kirk Weller, Debra Whitman, Kim Wilber, Paul Willard, Richelle Williams.

Ten Years

Allison Bernknopf, Tracey Boncher, Wendy Bradley, Mark Brandly, Teresa Cook, Jason Daday, Michael Dekker, Laura Dix, David Eisler, Judith Elsey, Samuel Fattore, Virginia Hines, Ernest Hollenbeck, Cynthia Horn, Emily Jorgensen, Brenna Kelley, Lauri Knoop, Elies Kouider, Paul Kwant, Nancy Lashaway-Bokina, Gary Lutz, Margaret Lyons, Lee Ann Martin, Bruce Morgan, Thomas Overholser, Terry Pierson, Timothy Pullen, Claire Saadeh, Many Seiferlein, Meral Topcu, Michelle Weemaes, Douglas Zentz.

Fifteen Years

Daniel Adsmond, Karen Baar, Tamara Babcock, Anthony Baker, Peter Balanda, Richelle Boerma, John Bush, Richard Christner, Margaret Devoest, Daniel Ding, Deborah Ducat, Michael Feutz, Timothy Glover, Valerie Harley, Karen Huisman, Keith Jewett, Leonard Johnson, Katherine LaPietra, Thomas Lokers, Lionel MacKenzie, Joyce Marek, Leah Monger, Susan Morris, Karan Noller, Cynthia Ottobre, Brian Pacholka, Joy Paquette, Susan Pennock, Kriston Rasmussen, Ruth Ridderman, Mark Rusco, Dennis Ruzicka, William Saunders, Donna Schmidt, Adam Schoen, Kenneth Schussler, Randy Stein, Patricia Terryn, Deborah Tice, Krista Wilcox, Lingfei Xu.

Twenty Years

Sandra Alspach, Scott Atwell, Danette Boyd, Carla Erlewine, Richard Goosen, James Hoerter, Fonda Kuzee, Karen Nash, Neil Patten, Walter Smith.

Twenty-Five Years

Alierza Abbasabadi, Rexford Billings, Debra Bloom, Lianne Briggs, Carrie Buss, Kim Colvert, Gregory Conti, Debra Cox, Jeffrey Ek, Tamara Finch, Kathy Fisher, Frederick Heck, Christine Higley, Michael Hughes, Gregory Key, Patricia Maguire, Barry Mehler, Julie Modene, John Monahan, Diane Nagelkirk, Vivian Nazar, Angela Page, Michael Ropele, Sally Russell, Joseph Samson, Jeannette Seither, Kristine Szot-Green, Thomas Weaver, Fred Wyman.

Thirty Years

Mary Cline, Roxanne Cullen, Vicky Deur, Julie Doyle, Bruce Gregory, Paula Hagstrom, Sharon Hamel, Lori Henderson, Murry Stocking, Jackie Warner, Daniel Wrubel.

Thirty-Five Years

Timothy Bowman, Frank Hartley, Roberta Hoisington, Debbera Lusted, Thomas Mehl, Jeffrey Nagelbush, Patti Olson, Charles Wolgamott.

Forty Years

Terry Nerbonne.

Promotion and Merit Increases

Please also join me in congratulating our faculty who have earned promotion, merit recognition or tenure this year. In saluting their excellence I want to thank them for the commitment to our students.

Promotion to Professor

Timothy Brotherton, Business
Bradley Isler, Arts and Sciences
Paul Klatt, Arts and Sciences
Thomas Liszewski, Admissions/Personal Counselors
David Marion, Business
Elaine McCullough, Arts and Sciences
Diane Nagelkirk, Engineering Technology
Matthew Nikkari, Arts and Sciences
Jana Pisani, Arts and Sciences
Piram Prakasam, Arts and Sciences
Avesh Raghunandan, Optometry
Gordon Reynolds, Arts and Sciences
James Scott, Arts and Sciences

Promotion to Associate Professor

Shari Chamberlain, Admissions/Personal Counselors
Barbara Ciaramitaro, Business
Sharon Colley, Health Professions
Lisa Eshbach, Business
Cheolwoo Lee, Business
Rebecca Sammel, Arts and Sciences
Jerome Trouba, Arts and Sciences

Promotion to Assistant Professor

Sonya Knoll, Health Professions

Merit

Catherine Archer, Health Professions
Jeffrey Carney, Engineering Technology
John Caserta, Arts and Sciences
Kim Colvert, Arts and Sciences
Roxanne Cullen, Arts and Sciences
Terrence Doyle, Retention and Student Success
Olukemi Fadayomi, Arts and Sciences
Abdollah Ferdowsi, Business
Michael Feutz, Engineering Technology
Richard Griffin, Arts and Sciences
Paula Hagstrom, Health Professions

Leonard Johnson, Education and Human Services
Susan Morris, Arts and Sciences
Neil Patten, Arts and Sciences
John Schmidt, Engineering Technology
Kent Sun, Arts and Sciences

Tenure

Catherine Archer, Health Professions
Lynn Chrenka, Arts and Sciences
Ferrell Clark, Engineering Technology
Amy Dorey, Business
William England, Engineering Technology
Steven Fox, Arts and Sciences
Sarah Hinkley, Optometry
Steven Karnes, Health Professions
Cheolwoo Lee, Business
Dean Luplow, Optometry
Gary Moore, Health Professions
Vandana Rajaram, Optometry
Carol Rewers, Business
Gustavo Rodriguez-Moran, Arts and Sciences
Rebecca Sammel, Arts and Sciences
Lisa Singleterry, Health Professions
Kali VanLangen, Pharmacy
Julie Ward, Health Professions.

Many individuals commit significant hours of time and considerable energy in the evaluation of faculty for these awards. I also want to express my thanks to them for their efforts in this review, which is an excellent example of shared governance at work.

The Big Event

Our extraordinarily un-spring-like weather has posed a real challenge for many people, not the least of which were the many Ferris students who took part in The Big Event 2013 this past Saturday. This community improvement project had to be postponed from April 13, and even then took place in weather that felt more like early March than late April.

As Student Government President Byron Terrell Williams said, "I am so grateful for everyone who took the time to freeze for a good purpose. I'm blown away at the success of The Big Event 2013, and how students still showed up, even against all challenges, and gave back to the community. It made all the hard work, meetings, countless phone calls and emails worth it. Thanks Ferris State University for the opportunity to serve as director of The Big Event."

Please join me in thanking our Student Government for hosting this annual event that has made such a difference in the Big Rapids community. This is an amazing example of the excellent "Town and Gown" relationship Ferris State University enjoys with the city of Big Rapids.

Upcoming and Ongoing Events

The university continues to sponsor a wide variety of events as the semester begins to draw to a close. We are very proud to host the eastern region of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers' Human Powered Vehicle Challenge Friday, April 26 through Sunday, April 28. Almost 300 students on more than 30 teams from the United States and Canada are set to compete. The competition, which includes a speed race and innovation showcase begins Friday at Trinity Fellowship Church. The vehicles will be on display for the public to view from noon to 4 p.m. On Saturday, at Roben-Hood Airport, the teams will compete in both men's and women's drag races from 8 a.m. to noon. The challenge concludes Sunday with a 2.5-hour campus endurance race beginning at 8:30 a.m. at Top Taggart Field.

After having been rescheduled because of the power outage earlier in the semester, Ferris' 10th anniversary performance of "The Vagina Monologues" takes place 7:30 p.m. Thursday, April 25 in Williams Auditorium. All proceeds will go to Women's Information Services, Inc. of Big Rapids, a shelter that provides support to domestic violence victims.

The university's Osprey Web Cam is again allowing a glimpse into the life-cycle of these remarkable birds. A link to the webcam is available on the Ferris home page. On the webcam site is a link to a Facebook page that is documenting the steps in this mating pair's nesting. Many thanks go to Biological Science faculty member Paul Klatt for creating this opportunity to observe these magnificent birds.

Other events this week include the ongoing "Art of Architecture" exhibit at the Rankin Art Gallery; a screening of the documentary film "Home," sponsored by Ferris Students for Sustainability, this evening at 7 p.m. in IRC 121; the Shakespeare Birthday Celebration on the Campus Quad Thursday, April 23, 11 a.m. to Noon, sponsored by the Department of Languages and Literature and organized by students in the English degree programs; and the Ferris Jazz Band Spring Concert this Friday, April 26, 8-9 p.m. in Williams Auditorium.

More information about all of these events is available on the Campus Calendar accessible on the Ferris home page.

Sincerely,

David L. Eisler, president