

President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President
November 29, 2010

Welcome back. I hope the Thanksgiving holiday was a good time for you to gather with family and friends, or simply a chance to relax after what has been a very busy semester. During the two weeks of classes that remain in the fall semester, there are many concerts, athletic contests and other events scheduled. Our students are leading a campus-wide food drive that is ongoing through Dec. 9. Helping others truly is the spirit of the season. Information about the various events as well as how to give to the holiday food-drive is available by going to the Ferris home page and clicking on the Campus Calendar.

Strategic Planning and Resource Council

As noted in previous campus messages, SPARC has been very busy in helping to envision the ways in which the future Ferris will take shape. The next meeting of SPARC will be held on Tuesday, Dec. 14, from 3-5 p.m., in the West Campus Community Center. The council will be continuing its discussion of student engagement. SPARC meetings are always open to all members of the Ferris community. Any discussion of student engagement will benefit from as many different viewpoints as possible. Please feel free to add to the breadth of this consideration by attending and sharing your experiences and insights.

Commencement Stories

December commencement is Saturday, Dec. 18th. During the ceremonies I always enjoy sharing stories of our graduating seniors that highlight the obstacles these students have overcome and the successes they have realized. If you know of a graduating senior who you believe deserves special recognition through excelling in academics, volunteer work or other pursuits, please call our office at ext. 2500, or e-mail me at eislerd@ferris.edu. Based upon the suggestions I receive, each year I visit with students to hear their stories in more depth. Despite knowing the deep reserve of perseverance that Ferris students have, I am always nonetheless amazed at their achievements and the ways in which they have overcome personal difficulties to earn their degrees. I very much look forward to receiving your suggestions and meeting these students.

Holiday Reception

We will hold our annual Ferris Employee Holiday Reception in the Rankin Center Dome Room on Thursday, Dec. 9, from 3-5 p.m. Please make time in your busy end-of-the-semester schedule to celebrate the holidays with your co-workers. This reception is not only a time for the University community to celebrate the holidays, but also to reflect upon an eventful and productive year. I look forward to seeing you there.

Pancakes with the President

To give our students the opportunity to socialize with each other and meet informally with members of the Ferris community, we annually provide a free breakfast for students late in the evening of the first day of examinations. This year we will hold "Pancakes with the President" on Monday, Dec. 13, starting at 11 p.m. in the Westview Dining facility. This is an enjoyable occasion, co-sponsored by Student Government, which brings students and Ferris community members together in a truly unique way. You are invited to join us in serving students that evening. Please contact Elaine Kamptner or Paige Clark at ext. 2500 if you would like to help out in this evening focused on our students as they prepare to close out the semester - and in some cases prepare to begin the next stage of their lives.

Holiday Break

Many of us are in the process of making plans for the semester break. This year the University will close for the holiday break at the end of the workday on Wednesday, Dec. 22, 2010. We will return to our regular work schedule on Monday, Jan. 3, 2011.

Sincerely,

David L. Eisler, President