

# President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President  
September 24, 2012

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## Good News

Each month during the academic year we collect Good News items from the colleges and divisions throughout the university. Taking time to read through these many accomplishments and points of pride emphasizes extraordinary work that everyone in the Ferris community does. This month's Good News items are an especially impressive list. There are many, many faculty, staff and students doing remarkable things in a huge range of endeavors.

For example, among our faculty distinguished professor Clifton Franklund has agreed to serve as Ferris' assessment coordinator. In Criminal Justice, Mischelle Stone has proposed "The Patriot Express," to help veterans graduate more quickly. Connie Morcom (Television and Digital Media Production) and Bonnie Wright (Sociology) are collaborating on a Ferris Foundation grant to help students become "sociological actors." In Optometry, Sarah Hinkley is writing items for the National Board of Examiners, Amy Dinardo and Phil Walling presented at the American Optometric Association conference. In Engineering Technology, Dan Wanick accompanied students to the National Skills Association competition.

Among our staff, Tracy Dard of the University Eye Center teaches a review for the American Board of Opticianry, which has led to Michigan students having the highest pass rate in the nation. Also, the Eye Center helped install and adopt an electronic health record system this summer. The University and Advancement Web team worked with Angie Hollister of the Budget Office to launch the "Budget and Performance Transparency" website. Staff collaborated to launch the Concur travel and expenses system, with particular thanks to the Finance Office team who trained more than 300 users and coordinated implementation. The Birkham Health center held an open house for students and parents. Financial Aid advisors are presenting money management sessions at more than 20 FSU 100 classes. IConnect helped 1,376 students get connected to the Ferris Network.

A student from the Law Enforcement Academy collected more than \$1,300 for the Special Olympics. Digital Animation and Games Design majors created an interactive simulation called "Northern Bend" for ArtPrize. ROTC cadet Jewel Colon went to Cambodia for three weeks and integrated with Cambodian armed forces, and cadet Ethan Watkins spent three weeks in China as a part of the Cultural Understanding and Language Proficiency program. Former Ferris student-athlete Tina Muir was among the top 30 finalists for the prestigious NCAA Woman of the Year Award. Kendall student Evan Fay has received a Celia Moh scholarship which covers all college costs. Ron Olkowski and Kieron Kohlmann will represent Team USA in the WorldSkills International competition. Students from the Rubber Program and Polymer minor will present at the Rubber Division National Technical meeting.

There are many wonderful collaborative efforts to share. Optometry faculty, staff and interns performed vision screenings and examinations on 150 migrant children in the Traverse City area. More than 300 Pharmacy students and their preceptors from across the state participated in the annual Pharmacy Day in Lansing. More than 100 Ferris Pharmacy students and a dozen Pharmacy faculty helped to safely dispose of 579 pounds of unneeded or unwanted medications. *Bulldogs In Action* had approximately 80 student volunteers assist students and their families move into residence halls.

Among our programs, the Dietary and Food Service Management AAS will become the first approved program in Michigan preparing students to take the Certified Dietary Manager exam. The College of Engineering Technology sponsored the first annual National Summer Transportation Institute in August. Kendall partnered with the Grand Rapids Art Museum for its educational program, Language Artists: Creature Connections, which received a \$10,000 Arts Education in American Communities grant from the National Endowment for the Arts. The Cornea and Contact lens residency and the Primary Eye Care residency have been accredited. More than 500 employees and spouses have enrolled in the university's Wellness Program. Ferris State athletics launched FerrisStateBulldogs.com .

The items excerpted here are just a small listing. I encourage you to read the entire list available online at <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/president/goodnews/GN2012Sept.pdf> . Please take a few moments to see what your colleagues at the university are accomplishing.

As you look through the list, there will almost certainly be someone included there who you know. The next time you see them, please take a few moments to add your congratulations on their success. If there is something you have accomplished that should be shared, please give this information to your chair, director, head, dean or vice president so we can include your efforts next month. Congratulations to all for these wonderful accomplishments.

### **Campus Calendar**

As we begin the fifth week of the semester there are many activities on campus this week. The entire listing is available from our University homepage, but here are a few that may be of interest -

- On Tuesday there is a Money Management 101 seminar with Sally Robison and Michael Bryson from Huntington Bank at 11 a.m. in SCI 102. Please encourage your students to attend.
- On Wednesday evening, as a part of National Hazing Prevention Week, Michael Ayalon, executive director of Sigma Pi Fraternity International will present "40 Ways to Detect Hazing" at 7 p.m. in Williams Auditorium.
- "Beyond the Silk Road" is a series of events sponsored by the Center for Global Studies and Engagement. Thursday's event is "Traveling the Silk Road," a presentation by Professor J. Randall Groves, 11-11:50 a.m. in IRC Building, Room 120. There is much more information about the Silk Road Project at <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/academicaffairs/international/beyond/events/index.htm>
- The Angel Ride is an all-day cycle trip starting at Northend Riverside Park on Saturday, Sept. 29, to fight childhood hunger. The mission of Angels of Action is to change lives by providing nutritious food to K-4 children within Mecosta County. Information on this is available at <http://www.angelsaction.org/angelride/> .
- TubaBach is in full swing in Big Rapids and tuba virtuoso Ed Mallett will welcome the Grand Rapids Symphony Orchestra to perform with him and other tuba soloists in concert on Sunday, 4-6 p.m. at Big Rapids High School Auditorium. More information is available at [http://www.tubabach.org/concert\\_3.html](http://www.tubabach.org/concert_3.html) .

## **Athletics**

It was a good weekend for Bulldog athletics. On Friday women's soccer defeated Northwood 2-1 in 2 overtimes. Sunday they also went to 2 overtimes, battling Saginaw Valley to a 1-1 tie. Our women's volleyball defeated both Walsh and Malone by identical 3-0 scores. Last week this women's team was ranked 24<sup>th</sup> in the nation and it is wonderful to see this recognition for the program. Saturday, on a cool and rainy evening, our men's football team notched their first home victory of the season, defeating Walsh 20-14 in a hard fought game to improve to 3-1 on the season. As always, I urge you to come out and support our student-athletes when they are playing a home contest.

Sincerely,

David L. Eisler, president