

President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President
February 24, 2014

Festival of the Arts

This is the final week of the Festival of the Arts, which is doing a remarkable job of providing events and activities to counter what has been a very challenging February. One of the unique areas of focus this year has been on creating art through interactive FestLabs. They continue with youth events on Monday and those for adults on Tuesdays. The festival's final FestLabs are in Language Arts, Introduction to Electric Guitar, Art History and Architecture, Nature and Wildlife - Claws and Paws: Drawing with Carrie Weis, and Digital Technology and Social Media - Photographic Documenting of the Changing Landscape with Scott Herron

In addition to the FestLabs, the Festival of the Arts concludes with a typically diverse set of offerings:

- Justin Locke, "The Possibilities of Art," keynote presentation Holiday Inn, Monday, 7 p.m.
- "The Feminine Creative Process," Blue Cow, presenters include faculty member Betty Stolarek, RoseAnne Shansky, Ginny Kerwin and Kym Nickolas, Wednesday, 7 p.m.
- Big Rapids High School Pre-Festival Band Concert, BRHS Auditorium, Wednesday, 7 p.m.
- Jon Walker in concert, the Gate, sponsored by Ferris' Music Industry Management Association, Thursday, 7 p.m.
- Ferris faculty emeriti Michael Shansky and friends in performance, First United Methodist Church, Thursday, 7 p.m.
- Closing ceremonies, remarks by Tiyi Schippers and performance by the Accidentals, Crossroads Charter Academy, Friday, 6:30 p.m.

The Festival of the Arts Board has tirelessly worked to put together this year's stellar line-up of events. In leading this effort, Ferris' Gallery Director Carrie Weis did a remarkable job of creating an eclectic mixture of events. Also putting in many hours to make the festival a success were university and community members Anne Hogenson, Jerena Keys, Nickolas Kuiper, Ed Mallett, Barbara Ross, and Steve Sobers.

Women's History Month

Next week begins celebration of Women's History Month at Ferris. This year's events, themed "Global Women: A Focus on Diverse Roles of Women in Society," are cosponsored by the Office of Multicultural Student Services, Ferris Women's Collection Steering Committee, Office of International Education, Delta Sigma Theta, Student Government and WISE.

Events includes case displays in FLITE, "Women Workers in Society," and in Williams Auditorium, "Gender Norming." The IRC Connector will display banners on "U.S. Women's Rights," and "A Day in the Life," profiles of current international Ferris students. Programs continue through the month of March, including

- Your Stories of Women, video screenings, March 4 and 18, 11 a.m. IRC Connector.
- Women's Suffrage March, a re-enactment of the Women's Suffrage March of 1913, March 5, 5p.m. IRC Connector.

- The Women in Leadership and Learning Conference (W.I.L.L.), March 5, 6 p.m. Holiday Inn. Keynote presentation by Tamara Gooch.
- SowHope, faculty speaker Betsy Verwys, March 18 11 a.m. SCI 102.
- 17th Annual WISE Dinner Theater, March 21 5:30 p.m. Holiday Inn. Tickets are \$50.
- Tribute to Women Expo, March 25, 6 p.m. IRC 120 and IRC Connector.

For more information - <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/studentlife/Minority/WHM2014.pdf>.

Please join me in thanking the Women's History Month Planning Committee for their efforts. Members are

Michael Wade, Chair, OMSS Assistant Director

Amber Kneibel, Co-Chair, Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services

Matthew Chaney, Ex-Officio, OMSS Director

Tracy Busch, History

Chelsey Carpenter, OMSS

Toni Dye, International Admissions

Sandy Gholston, News Services

Harmin Gill, Student Government

Jazmine Goode, You Beautiful Black Woman

Carole McKenna, Sociology

Susan Morris, Humanities

Tamira Owens, Black Greek Council

Teri Underhill, Birkam Health Center

Trinity Williams, Humanities

Bonnie Wright, Social Sciences

Yer Xiong, Student Government

National and International Stories

The opening of the new film “Monument Men” has drawn attention to local, real-life “monument man” Dale Ford. A graduate of Kendall College, Mr. Ford returned to Kendall to serve as its president from 1946-1952. A front page story in Sunday’s *Grand Rapids Press* featured his efforts to retrieve, catalogue, and return lost and stolen artistic treasures at the end of World War II. The feature article is accessible online at http://www.mlive.com/entertainment/grand-rapids/index.ssf/2014/02/grand_rapids_own_monuments_man.html.

Former Ferris hockey standout Chris Kunitz starred for Team Canada in their gold medal in the Winter Olympics in Sochi. Chris scored a goal for the Canadians in their 3-0 victory over Sweden. Team Canada was undefeated in the Olympic Games <http://www.ferrisstatebulldogs.com/sports/mice/2013-14/releases/201402236yk10o>.

Athletics

Hockey won two hard-fought games this weekend against Alaska Anchorage, 4-2 Friday and 5-3 Saturday before a sold-out crowd at Ewingleben Ice Arena. This gives our Bulldogs, tied for 3rd nationally on the Pairwise system used for NCAA tournament placement, a four-point lead in the WCHA regular-season championship. The team is now 18-4-2 in conference play and 22-7-3 overall. The team plays at Alaska-Fairbanks next weekend, then returns home to end the regular season March 7 and 8 against Lake Superior.

We will host a first-round WCHA championship series on March 14 and 15, and 16 if needed. The winner of that round will move on to the first-ever WCHA championship held in Grand Rapids' Van Andel Arena on March 21 and 22. Please make plans to support our team on both these weekends.

It is interesting, the top four teams in the national Pairwise rankings are Boston College, Minnesota, Union, and Ferris - the same four schools that competed in the "Frozen Four" two years ago in Tampa.

This was a great weekend for our Bulldog basketball teams. Both men's and women's teams defeated Wayne State on Thursday (85-77 women, 75-72 men), and Saginaw Valley State on Saturday (83-75 women, 90-68 men). In Saturday's women's game senior guard Sarah DeShone tied a Ferris record by sinking seven 3-point baskets.

Our basketball teams host Grand Valley at home this Thursday - women at 6 p.m., men at 8 p.m. They then play Saginaw Valley on Saturday, with the women starting at 1 p.m. and the men at 3 p.m.

Thank you,

David L. Eisler, president