

President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President
November 10, 2014

Good News

It is again a pleasure to share some of the remarkable things taking place at our university. So much of the news coverage we hear every day exposes us to the negative aspects of what people can do. What I find heartening are the many, many outstanding things our students, faculty, staff and alumni are achieving. Below are just some of the ways in which members of the Ferris community are making the world better – as our founder challenged us to do.

In this month's list of Good News items there is a strong theme of faculty and students collaborating to create significant works of research, as well as working together to provide community services that can also be important learning opportunities.

This is only a small sample of the positive things taking place at Ferris State University. The full list of Good News items for this and previous months is available at <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/president/goodnews/homepage.htm> . I hope you will take a few moments to become familiar with all of the ways in which the Ferris community is making a positive difference in a wide range of areas.

- Professor Jim Van Treese presented a student research project, done in collaboration with the Optometry program, at the Michigan Undergraduate Research Conference. Professor Chris Redker also presented research conducted by students at the MURC, and Professor Connie Meinholdt presented three research papers with students at the National Psychology Undergrad Research conference.
- Information Security and Intelligence Faculty members Hwee-Joo Kam, Greg Gogolin and Gerald Emerick coauthored a paper entitled “Authentic Learning in Cybersecurity: Learning Opportunities and Pedagogical Challenges.” In October Dr. Kam presented this paper at the 44th IEEE Frontier of Education held in Madrid, Spain.
- Recent Law Enforcement Academy graduate Ryan Bruggink, now with the Grand Rapids Police Department, was featured on Grand Rapids News Wood TV8 for his rescue of a deer from a fenced area.
- More than fifty Mecosta Osceola Intermediate School District students visited the Law Enforcement Academy to explore future college and career opportunities.
- The September 2014 issue of the *Journal of Criminal Justice Education* article titled, “Publication Productivity of Criminologists” cited Professor Nancy Hogan as one of the most published criminologists.
- The Digital Animation and Game Design program recently had two successful alumni, Randy Nolta from Kixeye and Brad Phillips from I.E. Effects, visit campus classrooms to present and spend time meeting with students.
- Amy Kavanaugh, School of Education faculty member, and Jake Pollak, Digital Animation and Game Design faculty member, presented “Student Collaboration and Game Based Learning” at the recent Lilly Conference in Traverse City. The game designers used education students’ unit plan objectives to develop 4th grade learning games.

- In October the Plastics and Rubber Programs hosted their bi-annual High School Career Day. Approximately 90 students and their teachers from seven Michigan schools toured the processing labs, conducted experiments, and learned about the programs.
- Faculty from the Colleges of Health Professions, Optometry and Pharmacy attended the Northern Michigan Regional Conference on Inter-professional Education and Practice of Health Care Professionals in Gaylord. The conference focused on working together as a team in providing quality care.
- Jeremy Heinrich, a Nuclear Medicine student currently interning at St. Joseph Mercy Hospital in Ann Arbor, spearheaded the committee which, along with the Student Alumni Gold Club, organized the 'Rake N Run' on Oct. 26. This was the sixth year for this event. 225 participants from numerous campus organizations raked 133 Big Rapids yards.
- Katie Axford, PharmD, Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Practice, was recently selected by residents in the Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners Family Medicine Residency Program to receive one of two Teaching Awards for 2014 by first-year medical residents.
- The MiniMBA Executive Development Program won the University Professional and Continuing Education Association Engagement Award. This was a partnership between Ferris' College of Business, Ferris Northern Region and the Traverse City Area Chamber of Commerce.
- The Pharmacy Leadership Certificate won the University Professional and Continuing Education Association Innovative Award – (Non-Credit). This was a partnership with College of Pharmacy, College of Business and Extended and International Operations meeting the needs of Meijer Pharmacy residents.
- The EIO marketing team received four 2014 UPCEA marketing awards: a gold for their television commercial, a silver for the School of Digital Media brochure, and bronze awards for their admission packet and print ad campaign. Ferris is the only university in Michigan to have received a 2014 award.
- Scott Garrison, Leah Monger and David Scott, with Miriam Andrus of the Big Rapids Community Library, collaborated in a presentation titled "The Temporary Dual Purpose Library: A Case Study Examination of a Successful Project Using the Four-Frame Model of Bolman and Deal" at the Michigan Library Association's annual conference in Grand Rapids.
- Drs. Lotoczky and Ramdass from the Michigan College of Optometry presented a continuing education lecture entitled "Modern Advances for Correcting the Irregular Cornea" for the Grand Traverse Ophthalmology Clinic fall CE event.
- Associate Professor Amy Dinardo, OD, has been named regional vice chair for the American Academy of Optometry's Admittance Committee. Dr. Dinardo was also featured in the most recent *Women of Optometry Journal*.
- In October 46 students from Big Rapids' Riverview Elementary School received comprehensive eye exams from 38 third and fourth year Optometry students. Along with Dr. Sarah Hinkley, who heads up the Students In Need of Eyecare Program, 10 faculty members also participated.
- Helen Woodman, Christine Conley-Sowels, and Monica Frees presented "Flipping the Classroom: Past, Present, and Future – Lessons Learned" at the Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching and Learning, Traverse City in October.

- Karen Royster-James presented “Creating an Academic Coaching Program” at the Michigan Tutorial Association Conference in Bay City on Oct. 24.
- Peter Bradley published “The Ambivalence Toward the Purpose of Teaching Philosophy” in *Philosophy Through Teaching*.
- The Annual Giving Telephone Outreach program is off to a very good start this academic year. Many student callers from last year have returned and have already secured 1,047 pledges.
- Career Week brought more than 550 employer representatives to campus. 238 employers attended the Career Fair. Student attendance was over 1,000.
- Nicholas Campau, Associate Dean of Student Life, was featured by WCMU News in the on-air and online story “House Bill Aims To Help Foster Children Afford College.” <http://wcmu.org/news/?p=10050>
- Ferris has been selected as a top school in the 2015 Military Advanced Education Guide to Colleges & Universities research study.
- The Financial Aid Office reports that students borrowed \$397,120 less in alternative loans in school year 2013-14 compared to 2012-13.
- Thanks to the support of alumni and donors, the football team has a newly remodeled locker room. New wood lockers were installed in late October, replacing the metal lockers dating back to the 1980s.
- A new energy conservation project has been launched to monitor and manage personal computer energy consumption on the Big Rapids campus. This is a collaborative effort between Information Technology Services and Energy Conservation departments. This effort is currently being piloted in Granger and General Services buildings.
- The Michigan Art Education Association named KCAD Art Education Program Chair Dr. Cindy Todd as its Educator of the Year and Higher Education Art Educator of the Year for 2014.
- Isaac Smith, a senior in the Drawing program, will be featured in the upcoming exhibition, “Face First,” at the prestigious Manifest Gallery in Cincinnati. The jury chose only 37 works out of a total of 613 submitted.
- Sculpture and Functional Art Professor Israel Davis was one of 97 artists selected as a finalist in the inaugural Zanesville Prize for Contemporary Ceramics.
- Four new members were inducted into the Michigan Construction Hall of Fame on Nov. 7, including Ken Lawless, the first Ferris alumnus to be inducted. The Construction Hall of Fame is housed in the Granger Center on our Big Rapids’ campus. A news story about the induction ceremony is available at <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2014/november/construction.htm> .
- The College of Engineering Technology collaborated with Academic Affairs, Admissions and various K-12 partners to host a Mother/Daughter Technology Engineering Aptitude event to encourage girls to pursue science and technology-oriented careers. The Office of Diversity and Inclusion provided support through its Mini-Grant program. More information is at <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2014/november/tea.htm> .

College of Health Professions Highlighted

Last week, Matt Roush, director of communications and public relations for the Engineering Society of Detroit, stopped at Ferris as part of the ESD's "Fall Tech Tour," which highlights developments in technology. The focus at Ferris was on how various programs in our College of Health Professions are using technology in ways that are transforming the health professions. Matt's story and podcast are posted at

<http://technologycentury.com/2014/11/04/ferris-state-growth-in-health-and-other-tech/> .

There is also a wonderful podcast with Associate Professor Sheila MacEachron about Ferris' Nuclear Medicine Technology program. That podcast is available at

<http://technologycentury.com/2014/11/04/esd-podcast-sheila-maceachron-of-ferris-state/> .

Additionally, there is a video put together by Ferris News Services, which is posted at <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=8nUrqyKt32A> .

Taken together, these present a powerful portrait of our College of Health Professions and how it is embracing innovation to provide educational opportunities for our students, who in turn will provide healing opportunities for those they serve.

Athletics

Our Bulldog football team continues to have a historic season, remaining undefeated by prevailing over Northern Michigan University 35-17 this past Saturday. The team played a strong fourth quarter to win what had been up to that point a very close contest. With the win, the team secured a share of the regular season championship of the GLIAC. With a victory in this Saturday's regular season concluding against Walsh University in Canton, Ohio, the team will be the outright champions of the GLIAC. Saturday was their 14th straight victory, an all-time record.

Our volleyball team won 3-0 over Wayne State University Friday evening, and defeated Saginaw Valley State University 3-0 on Saturday, to clinch a share of the GLIAC regular-season championship. Senior Cortney Rehm was named the GLIAC Player of the Week for the second week. Saturday she was honored for reaching 1,000 career kills. This occurred during the Grand Valley match. She is the 18th Ferris player to reach that milestone. The team will begin the GLIAC conference tournament at home this coming Wednesday evening at 7 p.m. in a quarterfinal home match against Hillsdale. Semifinals are on Saturday, Nov. 15, and the championship game will take place on Sunday, Nov. 16. Volleyball is now playing to standing room only crowds. I hope you will continue to come out and support our student-athletes as they seek to extend their remarkable season.

Our hockey team won 1-0 against previously undefeated Northern Michigan University in an away match, 50 seconds into overtime on Friday, but lost Saturday 2-0. The team faces the University of Alaska-Anchorage in home contests this Thursday and Friday, Nov. 13 and 14, with face-off for both games at 7:07 p.m. Thursday evening is Veterans Appreciation Night and Friday evening is Ladies Night.

On Saturday the men's basketball team overwhelmed Calvin College Saturday afternoon, defeating them 92-58.

A full list of the Bulldog athletic schedule is available at <http://www.ferrisstatebulldogs.com/composite> . Thank you for supporting our student-athletes!

David L. Eisler, president