

President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President

April 20, 2015

Service Awards

We are now in the final two weeks of classes and less than three weeks away from commencement. As is our tradition, at the end of the spring semester we recognize faculty and staff for their outstanding service and commitment to our University. I hope you will make plans to join us on Thursday, April 30, for our annual Employee Service Awards Dessert Celebration from 3-5 p.m. in the University Center Ballroom 202. The University Center is a wonderful addition to our Big Rapids campus, and it seems fitting our celebration of excellence take place in a building that itself is the result of much excellent planning and work. There will be a slide show of award recipients and mini dessert buffets. It is not necessary to make a reservation. If you have special dietary needs, please contact Elaine Kamptner in our office at ext. 2504.

The following employees will be honored for having completed five-year increments of full-time, continuous service at our university:

Five Years

Timothy Blashill, Steven Bohren, Raymond Borstler, Andy Bronkema, Michael Brown, Jillian Bush, Nicholas Campau, Natalia Carvalho-Pinto, Sandra Cook, Susan Cook, Brian Craig, Constance Cusimano, Deborah Dawson, Clay Dedeaux, Brandon Eberts, Margaret Edwards, Gerald Emerick, Adam Forbes, Dawn Fox, Angela Garrey, Jody Greco, Elizabeth Haneline, Anthony Geib, Amanda Goetz, April Gustafson, Dominic Hennig, Cynthia Kaan, Leah Melichar, Lisa Meny, Elizabeth Miller, Kara Pellerito, Christian Peterson, Linda Plank, Daniel Pratt, Christopher Redker, Monika Repke, Chrystal Roach, Kenneth Rodenhouse, Janet Vizina Roubal, Corey Spedowske, Frantz Sturm, Chester Trybus, Kari Vavra, Robert Walles, Aaron Waltz, John Weisenburger, Brenda White, Michael Wiggins, Andrea Wirgau, Kathryn Wolfer, Kimisue Worrall, Nicole Wright, Lindsay Young and Emily Zyla.

10 years

Christine Bailey, David Baker, David Borck, Francis Burns, Sandra Carey, Suzanne Cook, Christine Conley-Sowels, Debra Courtright-Nash, Erin Diehm, Patrick English, Frederick Ennis, Tracy Franck, Lisa French, Jeffery Gabalis, Bruce Gilchrist, Bradley Isler, Tamara Jackson, Claudia Johnson, Paul Klatt, Robert Kleeves, Sonya Knoll, Cheryl Kondziolka, Paula Koning, Michael Korcal, Linda Lamontagne, Ramona Larson, Susan Lewis, Joseph Lipar, Lisa McCarthy, Suzanne Miller, Hikaru Murata, Joseph Pacella, Alison Popp Meier, Kelly Normand, Debora Parrish, Piram Prakasam, Theresa Raglin, Sarah Raguckas, Frances Rosen, Paula Rushford, Laura Seay, Tina Smith, Helen Sobers, Melissa Sprague, Matthew Stanke, Paul Thill, Mark VanLent, Rebecca Vokes, Christine Vonder Haar, Dean VanOstenberg and Bonnie Wright.

15 Years

Melody Armstrong, Mark Arnold, Catherine Arroe, Nancy Baar, Robert Bentley, Brian Bowling, Deborah Buck, Lilia Caserta, James Cook, Blane Danley, Beverly DeMarr, Gayle Driggers, Patricia Hackett, Raymond Hall, Katherine Harris, Timothy Jacobs, Kirsten Johnston, Joseph Karafa William Koepf, Pamela Laprise, Thomas Liszewski, Theodore Mackellar, Jason Mason, Carla Miller, Marlene Mohnke, Amber Morgan, Leeann O'Neal, Miles Postema, Carol Quigley, Connie Randle-Morcom, Deborah Roberts, John Robison, Karen Rohdy, Andrea Ruggles, Melissa Saunders, James Scott, Dan Sims, Carrie Stermer, Kent Sun, Jean Tollenaar, Michael Troupe, Benjamin Upham, Dean Vanloo, Susan Wancour, Gregory Wellman, Nancy Wencil, Helen Woodman, Shannon Yost and Daryl Young.

20 Years

Amy Buse, Shari Chamberlain, Bruce Hammond, Barbara Hampel, Kim Hancock, Angela Hollister, Maureen Milzarski, Anna Rizzo, Carl Shangraw, Curtis Smith and Jean Walling.

25 Years

Gerald Behler, Charlotte Bongard, Kimn Carlton-Smith, Susan Cherry, Scott Claerhout, John Conati, James Cook, Ana Davila-Howard, Susan Davis, Charles Drake, Brian Estes, Gary Gerber, Richard Griffin, Kathy Hotz, Susan Jones, Randall Los, Bo Lou, Diane Maguire, Ronald McKean, Richard Modene, David Pilgrim, Ramon Robinson, James Rumpf, Donna Smith, Kriss Tessin, Karen Thompson, Christina Ward, Susan Weaver, Thomas Worth and Faye Young.

30 Years

Thomas Adams, Joan Birkam, Joseph Compton, David Frank, Lon Green, Diana Hepler, Kenneth Kuk, Barbara Landreth, James Maat, Katherine Manley, Loura Monahan, Colleen Olson, Patricia Patterson, Jane Pedelty, Kenneth Starner, Jeffrey Stirn, John Vermeer, Christina Weber, Daryl Young and Charles Zimmerman.

35 Years

Gloria Barnett, David Burns, Cheryl Cluchey, Mark Fribley, Theodore Halm, Annette Keyt, Beth Logan, Bradley McCormick, Mary Murnik, David Russell, Christina Vodry and Shari Wessels.

40 Years

Sally DePew, Mary Gallagher-Eustice and Paula Olson.

The above list represents 3,575 years of service, a remarkable achievement representing the commitment of Ferris employees. Thank you for the difference you have and are making for our students.

We will also be honoring this year's Academic Affairs award winners, who were celebrated at a dinner hosted by Provost Paul Blake and Academic Senate President Khagendra Thapa on April 14. The 2015 winners are:

- Academic Scholar Award, Michael Klepser, College of Pharmacy
- Adjunct Teaching Excellence Award, Mary Bacon, College of Arts and Sciences

- Distinguished Service Award, Matt Wagenheim, College of Education and Human Services
- Diversity Enhancement Award, Piram Prakasam, Office of International Education
- Excellence in Course Assessment Award
 - Team, Mari Kermit-Canfield, Stacy Anderson and Kristy Motz, FLITE
 - Individual, Sarah Hinkley, Michigan College of Optometry
- International Educator of the Year Award, Greg Gogolin, College of Business
- Outstanding Academic Advisor Award, Joseph Wist, College of Engineering Technology
- Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award, Charles Malone, Honors Program

After a thorough nominating and selection process with an outstanding slate of nominated candidates, the Distinguished Staff and Team Committee has announced the winners of this year's awards. The following staff and team members will be recognized at our 2015 Service Awards celebration:

Distinguished Staff

- Janelle Hemingway, executive director – Flint/Midland Region, Extended and International Operations
- Fernando Labra, assistant director, University Recreation
- Angela Morris, marketing coordinator, Extended and International Operations
- Velislav Pavlov, IT security analyst, IT Services
- Cinthia Vander Sloot, assistant director, University Recreation

Distinguished Team

- Center for Leadership, Activities, and Career Services, Angela Roman, chair

Congratulations to all of our award recipients for their outstanding service to the university during this past year! Please be sure to join them at the awards celebration on the 30th.

Strategic Planning

Throughout this year the vice presidents of Academic Affairs, Administration and Finance, Student Affairs and University Advancement and Marketing have been working with their respective divisions to build strategic plans based on our University-wide strategic plan, “Living Our Values.” The current drafts are accessible at <http://www.ferris.edu/strategic-planning/div-plans.htm> . I encourage you to review the strategic plan in your division and in other areas that may be of interest. Also accessible from this page is a core values map, which demonstrates how these plans address the twenty-four areas of focus in our strategic plan.

This material is part of a new website which provides information on our strategic plan and progress. At <http://www.ferris.edu/strategic-planning> you can click on links for the plans, for an update on where we are in the process, the text of the “Living Our Values” Strategic Planning document and a Strategic Planning process video. These are the specific ways in which we are looking to embody our core values as we move into the future.

Thank you to everyone who is engaged and working very hard on this process. I believe that we are now seeing in detail how our core values will serve as guides to the decisions we will make to best serve our students in the years ahead.

Get Real

The Money Smart Week program “Get Real!” which took place last Wednesday was a remarkable event. This gave Ferris students a “real life” financial experience to help them experience the need to budget and think long-term about the choices they make with money. “Get Real!” was very well organized and attended. Last year, participants talked about how “eye-opening” the experience was, and I am sure that this year our students who took part in “Get Real!” have similar responses. Congratulations to Financial Aid Advisor Melanie Mulder, along with other Ferris staff and volunteers for envisioning such a relevant evening for our students and making that vision a reality.

Money Smart Week events continue this week. Events are not limited to students, so please consider taking part. More information is available at <http://ferris.libguides.com/MoneySmartWeek> .

Athletics

This weekend the men’s tennis team beat Walsh University 9-0 on Saturday and Ohio Dominican by a score of 6-3 on Sunday to win the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference for the first time since 1994. The team was undefeated in GLIAC contests, with nine straight victories. They next play in the GLIAC tournament, April 24-26 at Midland. Congratulations to Coach Berryhill and our student-athletes on this remarkable championship season.

Also, our disc golf team captured the national championship, defeating the University of Nevada-Reno in dramatic fashion on the fourth hole of a sudden death playoff. Last year the team was the national runner-up, so this year’s championship was especially satisfying. Ferris also won the men’s first and second flights. Additionally, in the championship flight, Bryan Murphy came in second individually, one stroke beyond medalist James Proctor of Nevada. Congratulations to our competitors and to faculty advisor Leonard Johnson.

David L. Eisler, president