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**For immediate release**

**Jill M. Trinklein, HVACR Program**  
**(231) 591-2695, [trin12@ferris.edu](mailto:trin12@ferris.edu)**

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**Heating Ventilation Air Conditioning and Refrigeration (HVACR)  
Ferris and MOISD Career Center Represented at SkillsUSA National Competition**

BIG RAPIDS - The last week in June, Ferris State University and Mecosta Osceola Career Center will be well represented at the SkillsUSA National Leadership and Skills Conference in Kansas City, Mo. Most students during the summer either work or relax with friends and family, not so for four HVACR students.

During the recent SkillsUSA State competitions held in Lansing April 18, 2010, Ferris received Medals in the Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration contest at a secondary and post secondary level.

The post secondary level students representing the Ferris State University HVACR program had three winners in the HVACR category, Gold – Ryan Gallagher (Lansing, Mi.), Silver – Derek Roggenbuck (Saint Clair, Mi) and Bronze – Matthew Salvati (Big Rapids, Mi).

One secondary level student representing the Mecosta Osceola Career Center HVACR program received Gold in the HVACR category- Jacob Stratz (Big Rapids, Mi).

SkillsUSA is a national nonprofit organization partnering teachers, students and industry in skilled trade areas. The National Leadership and Skills Conference is made up of skills competitions among all of the Gold medal winners from each U.S. state. Gold Medalists at the National Conference also have the opportunity to compete for a chance at WorldSkills, which is every other year.

“These contest results continue to prove that Ferris State University is one of the best schools

in the nation for training our future workforce;” comments, HVACR coordinator Doug Zentz, adding, “Special thanks goes to Joe Compton, assistant professor of Ferris HVACR; and Bob Persons, HVACR instructor at Ferris and the MOISD Career Center. I am extremely proud of the students and of the Ferris faculty and staff that assist these students in gaining a real world education that leads to a lifetime career.”