Ferris to honor four alumni at Spring Reunion

BIG RAPIDS – Four alumni of Ferris State University will be honored during special ceremonies at the annual Spring Reunion on May 5 in the Holiday Inn Hotel and Conference Center.

Chosen to receive Ferris Distinguished Alumnus Awards are Richard “Dick” Dolack of Muskegon, retired pharmacist and National Football League official, and Randy Seaman of Lowell, president and CEO of Seaman’s Air Conditioning & Refrigeration, Inc., in Grand Rapids. Selected for Pacesetter Awards (graduates of 12 or less years) are Mark Guindon of Linden, district sales manager for Eli Lilly & Company, and Michael Pung of Mt. Pleasant, director of the Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Center.

The Distinguished Alumnus and Pacesetter Awards are bestowed by the Ferris Alumni Association to recognize exceptional career success, outstanding public service contributions and noteworthy fidelity and devotion to the University. Recipients are picked by the Alumni Association’s Distinguished Alumni Awards Committee.

In addition, the University will induct members of the Class of 1955 into the Golden Eagle Society and recognize those in attendance from the Class of 1965. Cost for the event, which begins at 6 p.m., is $25 per person. Reservations must be made by April 28 by calling the Alumni Office at 231-591-2345.

Dolack, a Chicago native who spent his youth in the Upper Peninsula town of Carney, earned a baccalaureate degree in pharmacy in 1955. He served many years as a retail and medical care pharmacist while developing his skills in sports officiating, an interest started from working intramural games at Ferris. He officiated in various college leagues, the Continental Football League and National Basketball Association before joining the NFL in 1966 where he was a field judge for 25 years.

He has served as a member of the Norton Shores City Council since 1978 and was formerly a member of the Executive Council of the Boy Scouts of America, Muskegon County Airport Board and Muskegon County Goodwill Industries. For nearly 30 years, he operated D&B Sports Center.

Dolack was inducted into Ferris’ Bulldog Athletics Hall of Fame in 2003, the UP Sports Hall of Fame in 2000, the Muskegon Area Sports Hall of Fame in 1994 and was the first official to join the American Football Association’s Minor Pro Football League Hall of Fame in 1987. He has been an active member of the Alumni Association and established an Excellence in Officiating Scholarship Endowment through the Ferris Foundation. Dolack was honored in 2002 as Grand Marshal for the Ferris Homecoming Parade.

Seaman, who received an associate’s degree in Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration in 1973, has built his father’s company into an exemplary corporation in the HVACR industry. His firm was named one of West Michigan’s 101 Best & Brightest Companies to Work For in both 2003 and 2004, and Seaman was chosen as Commercial Contractor of the Year by the Michigan Air Conditioning Contractors of America (MIACCA) in 2002 and 2004. He earned the National Air Conditioning Contractors of America’s (ACCA) Commercial Contractor of the Year
Award in 2001, the group’s Commercial Excellence Award in 2002, and received the Contracting Business magazine Design/Build Award for 2002.

Active professionally and civically, Seaman is past president of the MIACCA and the Grand Rapids Heating and Air Conditioning Association. He is a former member of National ACCA’s Board of Directors, past chair of Grand Rapids Community College’s Steering Committee and past member of Kent Skill Center’s Steering Committee.

For more than a decade, Seaman has worked with ACCA Member Information Exchange groups that span several states. He is a strong advocate of education and professional partnerships, hiring many graduates of the Ferris HVACR program and organizing an HVACR Trade Show at East Kentwood High School. He also was a significant contributor to the University’s Granger Center for Construction and HVACR.

Pacesetter Award recipient Guindon, who received a baccalaureate degree in pharmacy in 1993, began his career as a staff pharmacist at Meijer, Inc. He joined Eli Lilly in 1995 where his sales figures for his region moved from the bottom third nationally to the top 35 percent in his first six months.

After earning a President’s Council Award in 1999 for sales in the top one percent, he moved to Indianapolis as a regional sales trainer and then to the Detroit Metro district as a sales supervisor. As district sales manager for Detroit North Alpha district, he earned a master performer award for 2003 and was voted coaching champion of his division for 2001 and 2002.

Guindon serves as an adjunct faculty member for the Ferris College of Pharmacy and is a member of the Board of Directors of the Pharmacy Alumni Association. He is also a board member and treasurer for the Spring Meadows Country Club and has been a career day speaker at several local high schools.

Pung received his baccalaureate degree in career technical education in 1995 and his master’s in 2000. He previously worked as a machinist and personnel manager before joining Mt. Pleasant Area Technical Center as an instructor in 1990.

His professional involvement includes membership on the Educational Advisory Group to the Workforce Investment Board, the Tech Prep Advisory Committee and the Career Education Placement District Council. Pung has been Mt. Pleasant Public Schools’ chief negotiator for the administrative group since 1995 and bargaining team member for the central office since 1999.

He serves as a board member of the Isabella Community Credit Union and the Middle Michigan Development Corporation. Pung has also served on the board of Isabella County Junior Achievement and was a member of the Mt. Pleasant Chamber of Commerce’s Workforce Training Task Force. An active alumnus, he is president of the College of Education and Human Services’ Alumni Board and an Advisory Board member for Vocational Teacher Education.