

PROVOSTPOST

Academic Affairs Division Newsletter

From the Provost:

While space does not allow mention in this newsletter of all of the significant work faculty and staff accomplish each day, please note the activities with Interprofessional Experiential Education and its implementation on campus. Other important collaborations include the Literacy Project and the Center for Latin@ Studies' work with middle schoolers.



Also, hearty congratulations to Associate Provost Leonard Johnson and the Ferris Disc Golf Team on their third national championship! You do us proud!

As the semester ends, thank you for your commitment and service to Ferris. May you have an enjoyable summer.

Paul

FSU Battles Blizzard Baja



Getting air is just part of the race. Photo credit: Doug Troyer.

Ferris State University's SAE Baja Team entered this year's Blizzard Baja hosted at Michigan Technical University in Houghton, Michigan on February 17, with three Baja off-road racers for a gruelling four-hour endurance race.

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Calendar

Spring Commencement

Friday, May 10, 2019
3:30 pm (CHP & MCO)
7:00 pm (CAS, COP, & DCCL)

Saturday, May 11, 2019
9:00 am (COB)
12:30 pm (CEHS)
4:00 pm (CET)

College of Engineering Technology Swan Annex Renovation & Expansion Dedication

Program is at 1:15 pm followed by the dedication ribbon cutting. Guests are welcome to refreshments and to tour the new Center for Advanced Manufacturing and the Center for Welding Excellence.

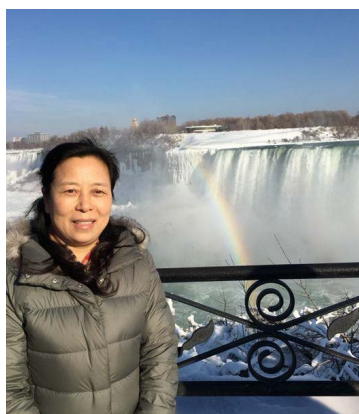
The race proved particularly hard for all teams due to the rapid-changing nature of the track, which saw many competitors pitting regularly for repairs. Unfortunately, the Ferris team was not exempt, with car #64 eventually retiring due to an engine problem. “Car #105 raced hard, but unfortunately couldn’t manage better than 11th, with car #22 tailing along in 13th place,” Team Vice-President Ty Pardee said.

With three cars entered, the team’s hopes were high, especially following last year’s win with the #105 car. “We were hoping to build on last year’s win, but sadly the track proved to be rather treacherous,” added Pardee.

The team will now switch its focus to building its next challenger which will make its race debut in mid-April at the Baja SAE Tennessee Tech event in Cookeville, Tennessee where not only is the car raced, but also scored on engineering, design, costs and a sales presentation. “We’re already making progress on the new car and can’t wait to get it ready to race,” explained Pardee.

As members of the FSU SAE Baja team, students gain experience in leadership, time management, project management, communications, organization, planning, delegation, budgeting, and finance. Professor Rusty Leonard, in Automotive Service Technology, is the team’s faculty advisor. He and his wife, Jodi, as well as team members’ relatives, provided student support during the competition. Go [here](#) for the Facebook page.

Guo to Give Annual Fulbright Foreign Lecture



Yinling (Belle) Guo, dean of the school of Foreign Languages at Zhengzhou University of Aeronautics, Zhengzhou, China, will give the 26th annual Robert C. Ferguson Fulbright Foreign Lecture on Thursday, April 11, from 4:30-5:30 pm in the College of Business, Room 111. The event is open to everyone.

Guo’s lecture, “The English Boom: Language Teaching and Learning in China,” will demonstrate her enthusiasm for English language learning and teaching, and share how English language emerged since the founding of the People’s Republic of China—from the study of Russian language as the main foreign language in schools, to the gradual growth of English language study, to what is now, as Dean Guo

notes, the “English boom” that is evident everywhere in China. A short Q & A will follow.

The Ferris Fulbrighters, along with the Office of the Provost, are sponsoring the lecture. Ferris boasts 30 Fulbright Scholar alumni who have taught, studied, and researched in 22 countries. Ferris Fulbrighters are scholar alumni who, since 1993, have served the campus community by promoting an international presence on campus, recruiting and supporting faculty/students applying for Fulbright scholarships, and hosting the annual Fulbright Foreign Lecture.

For more information, contact Christine Vonder Haar, Ferris Fulbrighters, at ChristineVonderHaar@ferris.edu.

Academic Affairs Awards Announced for 2019

Academic Scholar Award: David R. Bright, Associate Professor of Pharmacy, College of Pharmacy

Adjunct Teaching Excellence Award: Blair Entenmann, Adjunct Instructor 3, College of Business

Distinguished Service Award: Sarah Hinkley, Professor of Optometry, Michigan College of Optometry

Distinguished Teacher Award: Tracy N. Busch, Associate Professor of Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences

Diversity Enhancement Award: Lisa vonReichbauer, Assistant Director, Office of International Education

International Educator Award: Tracy N. Busch, Associate Professor of Humanities, College of Arts and Sciences

Outstanding Academic Advisor Award: Austin Freshour, Academic Advisor, College of Health Professions

Outstanding First-Year Advocate Award: Sarah Rescoe, Adjunct Instructor 1, College of Arts and Sciences

University-Wide Award Sponsored by Academic Affairs and Ferris Women’s Network:

Helen Gillespie Ferris Distinguished Woman Leader Award: Kim Hancock, Professor of Pharmacy, College of Pharmacy

Academic Affairs
AWARDS 2019

Interprofessional Experiential Education Faculty Honored



Lisa Meny, associate professor of Pharmacy Practice, along with five faculty from pharmacy schools outside of Michigan, will be recognized with the 2019 Award of Excellence in Experiential Education at the annual meeting in July of the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy (AACP).

Tasked by the AACP Experiential Education Section in 2015, the group worked over

a period of two years to develop a definition of intentional interprofessional experiential education (IIEE), conduct a literature review, complete a national survey, develop a list of resources/toolkits, and produce several recommendations for how to implement IIEE in pharmacy curricula.

This work was disseminated to the academy in a 14-page report and reported live at the Experiential Education Section business meeting during the AACP Annual Meeting in 2017. It has since been published as a commentary in the American Journal of Pharmaceutical Education and can be found [here](#).

This work is influencing experiential education within the academy and interprofessional clinical education more broadly according to Meny. “As the field of interprofessional education is just now turning its attention to the ‘Clinical Learning Environment’ as a focus for the future, this work was highly innovative and timely,” Meny said.

Turning Discoveries into Patents

Whether it is basic or applied research and discovery, faculty at universities produce results in many forms such as inventions, scholarly publications, databases, new plant varieties, computer programs, and software. Many of these are protectable as intellectual property (IP), even in the early stages that often require further R&D before they can be patented, licensed, or commercialized. The goal is to transform these innovations into marketable processes and products that benefit the public, and at the same time strengthen collaborative ties between Ferris and external partners.

The College of Pharmacy is currently supporting the development of five discoveries. Professor of Pharmacy Tracey Ward is a co-inventor, in collaboration with Auburn University, on a novel drug synthesis method that has received a full US Patent. This invention is currently licensed with a commercial partner as part of a NIH SBIR application submitted in January 2019.



Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Eric Nybo has invented a bioengineering platform that is part of a non-provisional patent currently under review by the US Patent and Trade Office. His invention has further benefited from shared state resources and funding through the Michigan Economic Development Corp (MEDC), including collaboration with MSU Technologies, an Early

Stage Proof of Concept grant award, and guidance from 2 Technology Mentors-in-Residence at the University of Michigan.

Other technologies in early development stages include a computerized registry of antibiotic use, a genomics algorithm to predict opioid use disorder, synthesis of dual inhibitor anti-cancer agents, and a process for creating shear thickening fluids for flexible body armor.

To learn more about IP and technology transfer at Ferris, contact the Office of Research and Sponsored Programs or visit its [Website](#).

Ferris to Host Provosts



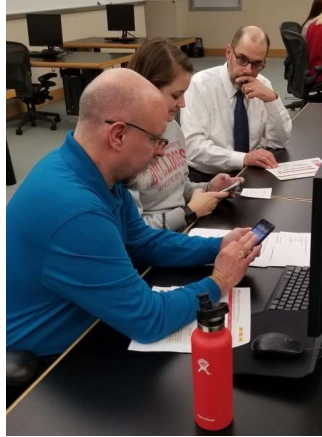
Ferris State University will host the annual Michigan Association of State Universities (MASU) Academic Officers retreat June 6th and 7th. During this retreat, provosts from the 15 universities in Michigan will gather to

discuss academic program changes across the state, academic program review procedures, and pending legislation in Lansing and its impact on Higher Education in Michigan.

MASU serves as the coordinating board for Michigan's 15 public universities, providing advocacy and fostering policy to maximize the collective value these institutions provide in serving the public interest and the state of Michigan.

TestFest at FLITE Improves Website

Twelve students used their phones to search for resources, chat with librarians, reserve a room, and find a book during FLITE's 2nd TestFest on January 22. In doing so, they provided FLITE with information on ways to improve the new website. On a mobile device, students found the website more user-friendly in some areas than others. A glitch that was identified as a problem with iPhone Safari browsing during the test has already been fixed.



About twenty faculty and staff from nearly every college on campus gathered with FLITE librarians to talk about their use of the FLITE website and offer suggestions to improve the new look during two focus groups on January 21 and 24. Several links were moved, clarified, or made more available based on their insight. FLITE personnel thank everyone for their input.

Alumnus Awarded Prestigious Fellowship



James C. Glasheen, a 2018 graduate of Ferris State University's Master of Healthcare Administration program and 2016 graduate of the Ferris Bachelor of Allied Health Sciences program, was awarded the Stuart A. Wesbury, Jr. Postgraduate Fellowship with the American College of Healthcare Executives (ACHE). ACHE is the premier society for healthcare executives.

Glasheen, a radiographer and certified MRI Safety Officer, is interested in healthcare quality and safety and has completed research and inter-professional work to improve patient-centered care at the bedside.

The prestigious Westbury fellowship, a one-year experience, will provide exposure to a broad range of management situations, offer one-on-one interaction with senior-level

executives, and allow Glasheen to assume responsibility for administrative tasks within the organization. Selected from candidates across the nation, Glasheen's preceptor will be ACHE President and Chief Executive Officer Deborah J. Bowen.

DAGD Ranked in Top 20



The Princeton Review has once again ranked Ferris' Bachelor of Science program in Digital Animation and Game Design (DAGD) in the top 20 for undergraduate game design instruction. This is the fifth year the DAGD program has ranked in the top 20. Placing 17th among 50 schools with undergraduate game design instruction, the DAGD program is known for its state-of-the-art technology, professional grade software, and innovative teaching approaches.

Professor and School of Digital Media Coordinator Glen Okonoski commented on the DAGD ranking. "This is a wonderful reflection on the talented faculty, hard-working students, and innovative curriculum that the School of Digital Media and Ferris State offer through this degree program," Okonoski said. "On behalf of the School, I would like to congratulate and thank the program faculty!"

International Festival of Cultures

The International Festival of Cultures will take place on Sunday, April 14 from 1:00 - 5:00 pm in the University Center, Room 202. Please come celebrate the many cultures on campus with food, displays, entertainment, games, and children's activities.



Poverty Explored in Simulation



The grant team pictured left to right are Professor of Social Work Wendy Samuels, Assistant Professor of Social Work Carrie Thompson, Professor of Optometry Sarah Hinkley, Associate Professor of Nursing Susan Owens, and Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Lisa Salvati (not pictured).

Students from health care colleges and programs throughout Ferris were recently given a glimpse of the realities of poverty through a simulation provided by a Ferris Foundation Exceptional Merit Grant. The FSU Interprofessional (IP) Taskforce identified a training need for students and collaboratively wrote the grant to purchase two simulation kits. About 340 students total participated in two simulations held on October 26, 2018 and two on February 8, 2019.

Professor of Optometry Sarah Hinkley said that the simulation is an example of the success of the IP Taskforce in creating interprofessional experiential learning experiences for our students and is one of multiple student learning events held to increase collaboration among colleges. "It helps students in healthcare professions understand their unique role and how best to partner with other professions within the healthcare system," Hinkley said.

"The simulation's primary goal is to build empathy among healthcare providers in order to best care for patients. Students begin to understand why some patients may neglect filling prescriptions or seeking medical care in favor of feeding their families." The IP Taskforce is composed of the faculty who wrote the grant in addition to Assistant Professor of Pharmacy Mark Young, Associate Professor of Social Work Jane Vizina-Roubal, and Associate Professor of Nuclear Medicine technology, Tracy Glentz.

At least two simulations per year are planned with the possibility of opening up simulations to other programs at FSU.



Nursing Student Sabrina Austin from Macomb, Michigan.

Middle Schoolers Get Hands-On STEM Opportunity

Students from Burton Middle School, Grand Rapids, and Shelby Middle School, Shelby, recently explored Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM) careers through the Promesa Avancemos program. Offered by Ferris' Center for Latin@ Studies, the intent of Promesa Avancemos is to introduce students to STEM in an interactive environment that encompasses diversity, collaboration, and a supported learning environment to enhance self-confidence, cultural identity, and post-secondary success.

Students at Burton Middle School are introduced to STEM through monthly field trips to the Grand Rapids Public Museum. Lessons provided by the museum staff align with the museum's current exhibits. Last month, the museum had a Toys! exhibit giving students the opportunity to explore, brainstorm and create their own new toy, and engage with an interactive "little bits" activity.

At Shelby Middle School, 100 seventh graders experience exciting STEM activities through Technology Engineering Aptitude curriculum supported by the Academic Affairs Office. These activities include creating catapults, hovercrafts, prosthetic hands, and hydraulic cranes in group or partner settings. Integrated into these lessons are college and career exploration activities highlighting opportunities at Ferris.

Center for Latin@ Studies intern Mary Stratz spoke about the importance of the program. "Promesa Avancemos provides students with the opportunity to expand their knowledge of what careers and college programs are available to them. Just as important, students are supported and encouraged through community partners and school staff that is crucial to them meeting their goals," said Stratz. "Watching the students embrace this opportunity and come out of their comfort zones to have fun, express their creativity, and connect the hands-on activities to classroom ideas has been a gratifying and humbling experience."



Middle School students work with STEM projects.

2019 FerrisNow Conference Encourages Collaboration

Ferris State University hosted its annual FerrisNow Conference at the University Center on March 18 to promote strong partnerships between high schools, career and technical education centers, intermediate school districts, and the University. There were 91 total attendees including 63 representatives from Ferris' secondary school partners and 28 Ferris faculty and staff.

The FerrisNow Conference helps ensure the rigor of Ferris courses being offered in a high school or career and technical center setting and supports student learning. FerrisNow instructors attend meetings with their Ferris faculty liaisons about course curriculum, outcomes, assessment, learning objectives, and pedagogy.

"As someone who has just started, it was nice to meet and collaborate with other FerrisNow instructors," said Matt Whitman, a FerrisNow Criminal Justice instructor. "It was great meeting with the department head and learning about expectations. FerrisNow has opened our Van Buren Tech Center program up to so many resources that the School of Criminal Justice provides. It will make getting started easy."

Dave McCall, a Ferris faculty member, noted the importance of these meetings. "The conference is a great opportunity to meet the newer FerrisNow instructors and collaborate with the returning instructors. I am able to get their feedback about the courses they are teaching. We also share best practices for Blackboard, activities, and assignments. I listen to their ideas about the Career and Education Planning courses and make changes based on their input."

Conference breakout sessions included information about teaching Generation Z, encouraging a college student identity among high school students, creating an inclusive class environment, using Esports in education, utilizing University library instruction, and strategies for integrating social and emotional learning in the classroom.



Dean Jason Bentley at FerrisNow

Literacy Project Gains Momentum



'Collaborative solutions are needed to address the current childhood and adult literacy crisis' was the primary finding of a community/university forum hosted by the Office of Community Engagement this past November. Several initiatives were generated by relationships formed during that gathering. The most exciting collaboration includes an arts/literacy initiative modeled and shaped by the Grand Rapids Art Museum Language Artists program in Grand Rapids. Carrie Weis, director of the Ferris State University Art Gallery, will lead a partnership with Big Rapids institutions: Artworks and the Big Rapids Community Library.

All 3rd graders in Big Rapids schools, beginning this fall, will trek through the Ferris Art Gallery, the community library and Artworks to create visual and written stories of new creatures that will come from the imaginations of these young storytellers. They will explore the commonalities that writers and artists share as they create a scene. More importantly, they will learn that these three area institutions are places that they can explore learning.

The Office of Community Engagement is supporting the organization and funding of the planning process, along with its community partners: Mecosta Reads, Crossroads Charter Academy and Big Rapids Public Schools. The collaboration includes multiple departments and individuals, especially the School of Education and the English, Literatruer, and-World Languages Department.

"My goal with this initiative is that every child in Big Rapids believes that Ferris is a part of their education. I also want to create new intertwined relationships that generate exciting collaborations that make everyone involved enjoy being teachers and learners together," said Tony Baker, Director, Office of Community Engagement.

For more information on the Office of Academic Affairs, go to <https://ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/academicaffairs/index.htm> or call (231)591-2300