

A Seat at the Table

April 2018

- ✓ The Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning organized the 2nd Annual Equity by Design forum. Held on March 1, the forum provided an opportunity to learn various ways of creating more inclusive learning environments. Tasha Souza, the associate director for the Center for Teaching and Learning and professor of Communication at Boise State University, was the keynote speaker.
- ✓ The Ferris Youth Initiative (FYI) held an informational luncheon for both FYI students and mentors on March 27. Student members facilitated a panel discussion, “Student Transition Assessment,” which was developed by student members. The panel discussed how the assessment will serve as a tool to assist students as they transition out of foster care and prepare for graduation and their future careers.
- ✓ The International Festival of Cultures was held on April 8. Hundreds of students, employees and community members celebrated the many cultures on campus with food, displays, entertainment, games and children's activities. Thanks to the Office of International Education for putting on this event—for more than a quarter of a century!
- ✓ On April 10-11, the Ferris State University Coalition Against Slavery hosted an inter-professional conference, “Human Trafficking Awareness.” The keynote speakers included Becky McDonald, founder of Women at Risk, and Kelly Carter, assistant attorney general State of Michigan. Thank you to Karyn Kiiio, College of Business, and Hospitality Management student Savannah Christiansen for leading this initiative.
- ✓ A big shout out to the Center for Latin@ Studies. They celebrated their fifth anniversary on April 11 in the IRC Connector. The event featured Los Perros Cubanos and the music of Cuba's Golden Age of the 1940s and 1950s.
- ✓ The Center for Latin@ Studies took six students graduating this year with their associate and bachelor's degrees to the Hispanic/Latino Statewide College graduation. On April 21, the Center will take 20 students to the Wayne State La Academia del Pueblo Undergraduate Research Conference. Thirteen of the students will present their semester-long research conducted alongside faculty mentors. Thank you Monica Rodriguez, Michael Berghoef,

Kristin Conley, Lucero Flores- Páez, Fathima Wakeel, Chris Cospers, Anuli Njoku and Stephanie Thompson for your mentorship over the last semester!

- ✓ Approximately 50 female middle school students and a parent support person attended the fourth annual Parent-Daughter TEA (Technology Engineering Aptitude) event at the West Campus Community Center. Students designed prosthetic hands and catapults, heard from a panel of female students from the College of Engineering Technology, and learned about the diverse career opportunities available within engineering and related fields.
- ✓ Given Ferris's recent selection to serve as the national hub for TEA events and Science, Technology, Engineering, Art and Math (STEAM) outreach, Debbie Dawson-Gunther and Leigha Compson co-facilitated a Train-the-Trainer workshop for Ferris faculty/staff. The training was organized by the Ferris Career Exploration Collaborative, and attendees are now certified to host their own workshops to encourage K-12 students to explore STEAM career opportunities through hands-on activities.
- ✓ On April 19, Barry Hall will be facilitating a "Men in Health Professions" alumni panel. Students will hear about opportunities for males in health careers with an emphasis on fields where males are underrepresented.
- ✓ On April 19, the third annual Women in the College of Engineering Technology Recognition Banquet will be held to honor outstanding students pursuing programs considered nontraditional for their genders. An awards ceremony will be held to celebrate students, faculty and staff, and those who have gone above and beyond to support female students.
- ✓ If you will be in Lansing on April 26, you may want to attend the 2018 Ewigleben Symposium "Affirmative Action 40 Years after Bakke: Addressing Equity through Policy and Practice," which will be held from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the University Club (3435 Forest Road, Lansing). You must register before April 22 at https://msu.co1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_diLYR6ZzThhVhwV.
- ✓ On May 2, the LGBTQ+ Resource Center will honor LGBTQ+ students graduating in spring or fall of 2018. If you know of students who may want to participate in the event please encourage them to contact Kendree Berg, LGBTQ+ Resource Center coordinator, at KendreeBerg@ferris.edu. The deadline to RSVP is April 25.
- ✓ On May 12, the Ferris Career Exploration Collaborative is partnering with the Michigan Women's Foundation to host a STEAM workshop for middle school females in Grand Rapids.
- ✓ Anuli Njoku, assistant professor of Public Health, conducted a smoking awareness workshop for the Endless Opportunities youth mentoring program

at the Baxter Community Center in Grand Rapids on April 11. Endless Opportunities was founded to provide life-changing experiences to people of all races, genders and backgrounds, with a goal to enhance the community by giving back and providing opportunities to those in need. This is one of the many instances of Ferris employees partnering with individuals and organizations surrounding the University.

- ✓ The Jim Crow Museum was recently featured on HBO's *Vice News*. Here is a link to the video, which has had more than 5 million views across the web and social media: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jP92cqTxG7I>.
- ✓ You can now take a virtual tour of the Jim Crow Museum at <https://my.matterport.com/show/?m=8miUGt2wCtB>. The virtual tour was created by Real Space, a Grand Rapids company.
- ✓ Finally, a big thanks to Ron Snead, chairman emeritus of the Ferris State University Board of Trustees, for narrating a video (and sharing a personal story) about the bombing of the 16th Street Church in 1963, see <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xbokJEL7CTo>.

Make the World Better

YouTube captions have gotten much better in recent years. However, they are still not 100% accurate. Did you know that you can go into the video settings and update the captions to make them accurate? It is not difficult to do, nor very time consuming depending on the length of the video. A 25-minute video took less than an hour to edit all captions. A 5-minute video took about 15 minutes to edit. Oh, we should mention that it is free!