Ferris State University
Good News Items
October 2021

Academic Affairs

COLLEGE OF ARTS, SCIENCES & EDUCATION

- Jen Coburn (Humanities/Communication) successfully completed the Prosecuting Attorney's Association of Michigan's intensive training program and is now a Certified Forensic Interviewer.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

- For recognition of their efforts on capstone projects, Welding Engineering Technology Students in Assistant Professor Mark Prosser’s WELD 221 “Welding Fabrication 2” course were recently awarded 2 Gold, 2 Silver and 3 Bronze medals for their submissions to the James F. Lincoln Foundation National Welding & Fabrication competition. The James F. Lincoln Foundation was founded to promote welding as a better method of joining metals and to promote welding as a career choice. It is the only organization in the United States solely dedicated to educating the public about the art and science of arc welding. Over 46 schools competed in the national competition.

- Ferris HVACR alumni Evan Eldridge, Cole Quinlan, Nicholas Schramski, Brian Van Schepen, Cole Weber, and Jordanny Williams took first place in the HVAC System Selection category in the 2021 Student Design Competition of the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration, and Air Conditioning Engineers (ASHRAE) International HVAC System Selection Competition. The announcement was made August 8, 2021. The winners, along with their faculty advisor, Joseph Pacella, will receive their award at ASHRAE’s 2022 Winter Meeting in Las Vegas.

- Four Ferris State University Architecture and Sustainability students collaborated on a first-place finish in the 2021 Solar Decathlon competition, an event sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy. The winning entry in the Suburban Single-Family Housing design category was the work of Architecture and Sustainability juniors – Tanner Fein of Cheboygan, Jacob Hudson of Alanson, Brooke Mehney of DeWitt and Ian Wardowski of Sterling Heights. The entry was part of the junior-level Environmental Building Systems sequence taught by College of Engineering Technology Associate Professor Christopher Cosper.

EXTENDED & INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

- Kasey Ninke will be the new Associate Director of Admissions Processes for Extended & International Operations. Kasey will be responsible for the oversight of the admissions application processing for statewide and online, and an even larger role in graduate & professional programs for the Office of Graduate Studies. She began this new position on Tuesday, September 7th.

- Dawn Shavey with EIO reports that on Thursday, September 16 the Industrial Technology & Management (ITM) program had a collaborative and engaging Advisory Board meeting with over 15 attendees including community college partners, industry partners, Alumni and Ferris faculty and staff.

- The eLearning team represented Ferris at the National GenCon Convention in Indianapolis. Two conference sessions on Esports and Rapid Game Prototyping were well received by attendees. The Exhibit booth recorded over 800 unique visitors.
OFFICE OF RESEARCH AND SPONSORED PROGRAMS

- The 2021 Student Research Fellowship (SRF) held during Kickoff Week was a success! There were 7 student presenters from the Colleges of Pharmacy, Health Professions, and Arts, Sciences and Education along with two Bulldog Alumni Keynote speakers.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

- The Information Security & Intelligence and Artificial Intelligence programs have received a $150,000 grant to develop and expand Cybersecurity & Artificial Intelligence curriculum and partnerships. This includes collaborating with the FSU Spanish department in integrating Spanish language and Hispanic culture into programmatic offerings.
- The Information Security & Intelligence program has achieved re-designation as a National Security Agency Center of Academic Excellence in Cyber Defense Education. Maintaining this nationally recognized designation that validates curriculum and faculty expertise is required to be eligible for grant funding opportunities. To date the ISI program has received over $1 million through this program.
- Dr. Leslie Sukup, Associate Professor in the Management Department, recently had her article “Examining the Effects of Resilience on Stress and Academic Performance in Business Undergraduate College Students” published by College Student Journal.

COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

New Publications:


New Presentations:

- Tracey Mersfelder presented "Student Pharmacists' Impression of Three Pandemics," at the 11th Annual Western Michigan Medical Humanities Conference, Western Michigan University (September 24, 2021).

New Patents Issued:

- Eric Nybo had a patent issued by the US Patent Trade Office, entitled “Genetically modified host organism for expressing an anthracyclinone analogue, method associated therewith, and synthetic nucleic acids” (U.S. Patent No: 10,980,817)

Administration and Finance

Athletics

- The Ferris State University football squad, which is ranked second in the country, has surpassed a school record and now won 31 consecutive regular-season games entering this week's homecoming matchup. The Bulldogs have not dropped a regular-season game since 2017 and are now 69-3 in their last 72 regular-season contests overall dating back to 2013.
- The Ferris State football, women's soccer and volleyball teams have all been ranked among the nation's top 25 squads at one point early this fall. Presently, the Bulldog football team is second and the women's soccer program has climbed to 16th nationally in their respective national polls.
- The Ferris State University women's tennis doubles tandem of Morgan Waller and Sam Stephenson reached the doubles final at the 2021 Intercollegiate Tennis Association (ITA) Midwest Regional Championships held in Indianapolis. Despite falling in the finale,
Waller and Stephenson are strong candidates to potentially receive an at-large berth into the ITA Cup National Championships based on their strong performance at the regional event. The at-large selections for the 16-team doubles field at the national championships will be announced in the near future.

- Ferris State University and Bulldog Athletics announced the creation of "The Bob Leach Victory Bell Campaign" during the recent Football Alumni Game against Saginaw Valley State. In honor of his contributions to Ferris State Football and the university, the creation of "The Bob Leach Victory Bell Campaign" was announced. Coach Leach was extremely fond of his Bulldogs and of the Victory Bell, one of the longstanding traditions of Ferris State Football. The goal of the campaign is to raise the necessary funds to rename the victory bell next season at Top Taggart Field as the Bob Leach Victory Bell in his honor.

- The award-winning Ferris Sports Update show, a popular Ferris State University television program, will begin its 11th season with major visibility as the show is slated to air again each week during the 2021-22 season with broadcast coverage throughout most of Michigan. A half-hour interview show profiling Ferris State Athletics, the Ferris Sports Update program will air across most of Northern Michigan on Local Fox 32 each Wednesday night at 10:30 p.m. (ET) throughout the year starting this week (Sept. 8). The show is produced by Ferris State University's Television and Digital Media Production (TDMP) students in partnership with the Bulldog Athletics Department. The first of 28 weekly episodes airs this week as yet another season unfolds. This fall marks the 11th-straight season of the show and thus far a total of 270 episodes and more than 800 total interview segments have been produced since the series' debut back in 2011. This past spring, the program earned second place overall for best talk/scripted show in the Michigan Association of Broadcasters (MAB) annual awards program. Funding for the show is made possible thru a joint effort between FSU Athletics, the Ferris State Admissions Department, University Advancement and Marketing along with the College of Business.

- Senior right-side hitter Katie O'Connell (Evergreen Park, Ill.) of the Ferris State University women's volleyball squad became the newest member of the school's 1,000 career kills club during FSU's recent trip to Michigan's Upper Peninsula. By reaching the milestone, she also joined an exclusive list of former Bulldogs who have totaled both 1,000 career kills and digs in a career. A two-time All-American, O'Connell also was chosen as a 2021 College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA) Academic All-America First Team honoree.

**Human Resources**

- Human Resources would like to welcome back Mandi Sterly to their team as a Senior HR Generalist - Benefits. Mandi re-joined HR on September 8.

- From June 1 – September 17, 2021, the Human Resource department has processed 93 new hires!

**Facilities Management**

- *Our Name Has Changed!*

  We are pleased to announce that we are changing our group name within the Administration and Finance Division from the Ferris Physical Plant, to Facilities Management! Why the change? Over the years, the Physical Plant has grown; and
the services that we provide are related to much more than maintenance and utilities. Facilities Management better describes the diverse work that we perform and services we provide. It more directly identifies the work of the team and encompasses the entirety of the essential services that we provide to Ferris and surrounding community.

Diversity, Inclusion and Strategic Initiatives

- The Jim Crow Museum reopened on September 14, 2021. It is open to the public Tuesday – Friday 12 – 5 pm.

Kendall College of Art & Design

- KCAD opened the exhibition *Time Of Change: Documenting The Civil Rights Movement Through The Lens Of Bruce Davidson* in the Alluvium Gallery. The exhibition showcases a selection of 30 of renowned photographer Bruce Davidson’s images of the Civil Rights Movement that were curated from a larger collection of 372 photographs that were anonymously donated to Ferris State University’s Jim Crow Museum of Racist Memorabilia. The powerful images on display document the struggles for justice, equality, and desegregation during a time of Freedom Rides, protests, marches, and police violence.
- KCAD is hosting several pieces from The My Dearest Friends Project, an international crowd-sourced public art collaboration between artist and activist Oaklee Thiele and DisArt that made its physical debut this ArtPrize season. The project collects stories from the disability community confronted with the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. As the project continues, Thiele, DisArt, and community collaborators are working to further the mission of amplifying disabled voices and sharing disabled stories beyond the scope of the pandemic. This includes shedding light on the intersectional nature of oppression and injustice, bringing into focus the experience of disability for BIPOC individuals. In conjunction with the project’s debut, Thiele gave a talk to the KCAD community in which she shared insights into The My Dearest Friends Project, her art practice as a whole, and navigating the art world as a disabled artist.
- The following KCAD community members were featured in the 2021 Festival of the Arts Regional Arts Exhibition: Molly Alicki Corriveau (Professor, Illustration), Katie Bork (current student, Art History and Illustration), Benjamin Boss (Content Management & Scholarly Communication Librarian), Kathryn Cárdenas (’20, Master of Arts in Visual and Critical Studies; Master of Fine Arts Painting), Bill Chardon (’81, Advertising Design), Jay Constantine (Faculty Emeritus), Patricia Constantine (Professor, Illustration/Life Science and Pre-Medical Illustration; alumna—’87, BFA), Rosanne Coty (’90, AFA Graphic Design), Gretka Domer (’02, BFA Illustration), Damian Gojdich (adjunct instructor and alumnus—’05, BFA Illustration; ’13, Master of Fine Arts Drawing), Tatsuki Hakoyama (adjunct instructor and alumnus—’14, MFA Painting), Nancy Hart (Assistant Professor, Illustration/ Life Science and Pre-Medical Illustration; alumna—’05. Master of Fine Arts Painting), Sandra Hansen (’13, BFA Painting; ’16, Master of Fine Arts Painting), John Katerberg (’15, BFA Painting), Victoria Marnich-Reynolds (’91, BFA), Taylor Mazer (adjunct faculty and alumnus—’12, BFA Illustration), George Peebles (’86, BFA Fine Art), Darlene Podpolucki (’70, Interior Design), Corrine Roberts (’05, BFA Illustration), Dustin Rogers (’15, MFA Painting), Jacqueline Sarach (’11, BFA Illustration), and Corey Van Duinen (’99, BFA Fine Art).
- The following KCAD community members won awards in the 2021 Festival of the Arts Regional Arts Exhibition: Bill Chardon (’81, Advertising Design) won the WD8KPR
Memorial Award; Corrine Roberts (‘05, BFA Illustration) won the Illustration Juror Award for Cartooning/Comics; and Corey Van Duinen (‘99, BFA Fine Art) won the Van Maarseveen/Timermanis Award and the Martha Despres Memorial Award.

- The following KCAD community members were featured in ArtPrize 2021: Amber Bledsoe (‘08, Master of Fine Arts Printmaking), Andrew J. Woodstock (‘78, BFA Illustration), Benjamin Boss (Content Management & Scholarly Communication Librarian), Boyd Quinn (Professor Emeritus), Brian Whitfield (‘85, BFA Illustration), Bryce Culverhouse (‘72, Advertising Design), Dayna Walton (‘19, BFA Printmaking), Emily Luyk (‘17, BFA Illustration), Enrique Andrade (‘17, BFA Industrial Design; ‘20, Master of Architecture), Forrest Miller (‘13, BFA Illustration), Hannah Berry (‘16, BFA Art Education), Hwa-Jeen Na (‘17, BFA Photography), Jackson Wrede (‘21, Master of Fine Arts Painting), Jan Naimo Jones (‘77, Illustration), John Katerberg (‘15, BFA Painting), Jolyn Clark (‘92, BFA Visual Communication), Justin La Doux (‘05, BFA Illustration), Kathleen Ford (‘90, BFA Illustration), Kathleen Zeck (‘15, BFA Painting; ‘19, Master of Fine Arts Painting), Kathy Kwiatkowski (‘04, BFA Illustration), Shane VanOosterhout (adjunct faculty), Madison May (‘16, BFA Printmaking), Maggie Flynn (‘91, BFA), Maria Orr (‘89, AFA Illustration),
- Matthew Farrell (‘18, Master of Fine Arts Printmaking), Nick Nortier (‘13, BFA Illustration), Pat Cooper (‘70, Interior Design), Richard Francisco (‘07, BFA Illustration), and Stephanie Sebright (‘05, Painting).

- KCAD Professor and Art Education Program Chair Dr. Cindy Todd co-authored an article in collaboration with her higher education colleagues across the state of Michigan titled “Zooming Support: Stories of How a Pandemic and SAMR Improved Preservice Art Education” that will be published in a forthcoming issue of Art Education Magazine, the national peer-reviewed journal for the publication.

- KCAD Professor Patricia Constantine served as juror for the 2021 Consumers Energy SmartArt Competition, which gives Grand Rapids Public Schools students the chance to create original art around the theme of “renewal” and compete for a $1,000 scholarship. C.A. Frost 11th grader Nevaeh Martin emerged as the winner with her piece "Left Untreated.”

- KCAD alumna Rachel Crouch (‘17, BS Art History) has been hired by the Philadelphia Museum of Art as a Resource Coordinator. In her new role, Rachel will organize, maintain, distribute, and file conservation records—such as object folders; examination, treatment, and loan reports; hygrothermograph charts; and incident reports—as well as upload, organize, name, and tag digital image files to the museum’s Conservation Image Server.

- KCAD alumnus Taylor Mazer (adjunct faculty and alumnus—’12, BFA Illustration) has won a number of awards in recent juried exhibitions with his pen and ink work, including Best in 2D Honors at the Fourth Street Festival of the Arts and Crafts, the Mayor's Runner Up Award at the Penrod Arts Fair, the Blick Art Award in Birmingham Bloomfield Art Center's 40th annual Michigan Fine Arts Competition, and Honorable Mentions in the Decatur Fine Arts Exhibition, the Arts Council of White Lake - Nuveen Center Juried Exhibition, and the 35th Annual LowellArts! Regional Exhibition.

- KCAD alumna Ingrid Miller (‘06, BS Art History) has been named to the Grand Rapids Business Journal's annual 40 Under 40 List for 2021. Miller is being recognized for her work as Executive Director of Uptown Grand Rapids, Inc, an organization that works to bring people, partnerships and possibilities together to sustain a strong and vibrant urban district in Grand Rapids' uptown area.
• KCAD alumna Tiffany Neuman (03, Visual Communications) was featured in a Forbes article in which she shares her expertise on building compelling brands built over five years of running her own successful branding agency, Tiffany Neuman Creative.
• KCAD alumna Amanda Pirlot ('08, Interior Design) was recognized by IIDA Wisconsin for her work on HGA Architects and Engineers' design of St. Elizabeth Healthcare’s new Edgewood Cancer Care Center. The design won a regional-level Commercial Interior Design Award in the category of healthcare design over 15,000 square feet.
• KCAD alumna Elayna Schalk ('12, BFA Photography) was profiled by The Hillsdale Collegian for her business Mud Lake Metals, through which she creates copper jewelry using a process called electroforming, where an electrically-charged solution removes copper from old objects.

**UICA**

• UICA officially welcomed the community to its new home on the KCAD campus with a Grand Reopening celebration that treated guests to up-close-and-personal views of the exhibitions *The Way Forward*, *Whereabouts: the Influence of Place and Space*, *Other World*, and *The Art of Living Together*, free letterpress prints from Amos Kennedy Jr.; live music from electric violinist Ritsu Katsumata; and sweet treats from Love’s Ice Cream and The Cakabakery.
• In collaboration with KCAD, UICA launched the KCAD Design Academy, an initiative that provides Grand Rapids Public Schools (GRPS) students with vital opportunities to explore the world of design and the design process firsthand through hands-on learning experiences guided by KCAD faculty members. All Design Academy classes are free to GRPS Students thanks to the generosity of Steelcase and the Grand Rapids Public School Foundation.

**Student Affairs**

• The FSU MI Gear Up program kicked off the 2021-2022 school year by visiting 8th grade students at Baldwin Junior High School and Morley Stanwood Middle School. On October 3, FSU MI Gear Up will host a campus visit for Southfield Kappa League Mentoring Program where 40 African American 9th-12th grade high school students will be in attendance.
• 8 FSU student employees traveled to local middle and high schools to offer in-school and after-school tutoring as part of the FSU MI Gear Up program.
• The Student Employment Job Fairs had a total of 205 student attendees and 37 hiring departments. 71.4% of student attendees obtained on-campus employment from this event.
• The Student Recreation Center is averaging over 500 students each day in the facility, which is an increase from last year.
• A total of 86 teams are signed up to participate in intramural sports.
• The Student Recreation Center hosted a blood drive in partnership with Versiti where they were able to get enough blood supply to potentially save 231 lives.
• Ducks Unlimited was approved to be a RSO by the Student Leadership & Advisory Council.
• Bulldog Bonanza had approximately 1300 attendees.
• “Tune in with Teresa” is averaging 100 views per episode.
• The “Doughnuts with the Deans” program had 200 attendees.
• The Michigan Veteran Affairs Agency has awarded Ferris the Gold Level status. Ferris has maintained Gold level status for 6 years and is recognized as a Veteran friendly school.
• Deb Savides applied and was selected for Indiana Cultural Opportunity Network (ICON) leadership program.
• The Crimson and Gold program, which allows prospective students to shadow a current Ferris student for a day, is returning to in-person programing on Monday, October 18th.
• During August and September, the Financial Aid Office welcomed 424 visitors into their lobby. 309 guests met with staff at our front desk, while 115 participated in an in-person appointment with an Advisor. In addition, Financial Aid Advisors have hosted 43 virtual zoom appointments since the beginning of classes with more scheduled into the future. The office has also answered 796 calls throughout the month of September.

University Advancement and Marketing
• The Ferris Foundation Benefit will be an in-person event this year on Oct. 29 at DeVos Place in Grand Rapids. It will begin at 5:30 p.m. with a cocktail reception followed by dinner at 7 p.m. in the Steelcase Ballrooms. Highlights include celebrating the successes of the Now and Always Comprehensive Campaign and paying tribute to President David L. Eisler for all his work on behalf of Ferris State University. Follow this link for more event information, and to purchase tickets: https://www.ferris.edu/giving/ferris-foundation/foundatio/index.htm
• The Alumni Association hosted current and returning Bulldogs at their Homecoming Tailgate welcome tent, Saturday, Sept. 25. Guests were invited to participate in a Ferris prize basket raffle, while enjoying a slider bar, free-to-play arcade games, an appearance by Brutus, and decorations from the popular 1985 film, Back to the Future. Congratulations to raffle prize winner, Brett Strohkirch, a 2015 alumnus.
• More than 80 Bulldogs from around the country participated in this year’s Homecoming week Virtual 5k. Runners were sent a package containing a Ferris State drink pouch, sweat bands, an alumni sticker, and an official running bib for the event.
• A classic Homecoming tradition, Fall Reunion, returned this year in a newly split-up format as President David L. Eisler and the Alumni Association awarded 35 alumni their Golden Eagle medallion in celebration of the 50-year classes of 1970 and 1971 Thursday, Sept. 23. Among the honorees were Ferris State University Board of Trustees member, Ronald Snead, and Ferris Foundation Board of Director, Dick Shaw.
• The second half of the traditional Homecoming Fall Reunion event, the annual Alumni Awards, were held Friday, Sept. 24 and included honorees from both 2020 and 2021. Seven young alumni accepted the 2020-21 Pacesetter Award, and 10 alumni received the highest honor offered by the Alumni Association, the Distinguished Alumni Award.
• Alumni Social Hour virtual events are back in full swing for the 2021-22 academic year. On Friday, Aug. 26, Alumni Association Board member, Luke Edington, hosted Ferris State President David L. Eisler to kick-off the virtual event series with Ferris Forward: An Interview with President David L. Eisler. Thursday, Sept. 16, the broadcast voices of the Bulldogs, Rob Bentley and Sandy Gholston, shared their thoughts and entertained questions on the 2021 Ferris State Football team and the road ahead in Bulldog Football: A Homecoming Tradition. If you’re interested in viewing past events, or checking out any virtual webinar content, including our upcoming Howling for Halloween: Pumpkin Carving with Brutus, visit our resource library at https://alumlc.org/ferris/library/t/ferris-webinars.
• Karen and Richard SaintDenis started a scholarship in honor and memory of their son, Erik Williams. This scholarship is for students in the Criminal Justice Program. They plan to add an additional $25,000 sometime next year. These funds are eligible for Ferris Futures Scholarship Challenge matching.
David and Brenda Knapp started a scholarship for students in the Automotive Technology Program with $12,500, which will receive the Ferris Futures match. They are considering a second scholarship for College of Business students.

Ferris has received $100,000 from the estate of Holly King to begin a scholarship in memory of her mother, Carol Gitre King, who graduated from Ferris Institute in 1949. She played clarinet in the band, and Holly’s wish was that the Carol Gitre King Endowed Scholarship for Music goes to an FSU band member, with a preference for a student who plays the clarinet.

Ferris’ main Instagram account, @ferrisstateu, has experienced greater-than-usual growth during the first month of the 2021-22 academic year. The social media account has reached more than 41K other Instagram accounts, with nearly 20K content interactions. Thanks to a solid first month of the academic year, the @ferrisstateu account has now passed more than 13K followers. The Instagram account is run by the News Services and Social Media Team. To view the account, visit: https://www.instagram.com/ferrisstateu/

During the first month of the academic year, Ferris’ main Facebook page has reached more than 146K people with messages. Post engagement stands at more than 65K, while video views (8.5K) and page views (5.9K) are running strong. The highest engaged posts so far this semester can be attributed to terrific gridiron performances from the nationally-ranked Bulldog football team. The Bulldogs’ road win over Ashland (Sept. 11) reached more than 44K persons, while the team’s dramatic win over Saginaw Valley State reached 32K. To view the account, visit: https://www.facebook.com/FerrisState

News Services and Social Media Team summer and fall efforts to promote the future Center for Virtual Learning on the Big Rapids campus have been well-received by local and regional media partners, including 9&10 News, Big Rapids Pioneer, MiBiz, MLive, Up North Live and the Grand Rapids Business Journal, among others. The team has highlighted several academic programs and areas that will benefit from the CVL to illustrate expected outcomes for this project. These programs have included Artificial Intelligence, esports and the School of Digital Media.