

# FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

## Good News Items

February 11, 2009

### Academic Affairs

- David Aiken is teaching not-for-credit, introductory classes in Ancient Greek language (from Homer through the New Testament) at no cost.
- Twenty Music Industry Management (MIM) students attended the NAMM (the trade association of the international music products industry) show. As part of the experience, they worked with exhibitors in their booths, gaining real-world perspective, lines on internships, and, in some cases, job offers, generating rave reviews regarding the professionalism and industry knowledge of our students. At the opening session, a MIM-produced dvd, featuring the Taiwan internship of one of our students, was shown to the 400 students and faculty. Program Coordinator Dan Cronk has been selected to host the Work Force Development orientation session for next year's show.
- Derek Ameel began as the new PTM Director and is already working to enhance industry ties and internship opportunities for PTM students.
- Professor Marilyn Keigley brought alumnus Kristian Schroder (B.S. in International Marketing, & Spanish), who is Director of Business Development for Morningstar (Chicago) to campus to talk with Marketing/Business students.
- Resort Management major Kelly Poirier has been awarded the National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation scholarship.
- Kodak donated to the PGM program two digital cameras and two printers to support 'slow motion' golf swing analysis.
- PGM alum John Lyberger, who is Director of Golf at Congressional Country Club in Washington, D.C., has been selected by the PGA as the Outstanding Private Club retailer in the U.S.
- Kitty Manley, education faculty member, received a third-year renewal for her career education grant at over \$400,000.
- Martin Etienne, a Television Digital Media Production alumnus from Port Au Prince, Haiti, returned for a visit to Ferris. He has produced and directed television shows, for Jean-Bertrand Aristide, former President of Haiti. After the Aristide era, he became a minister and has two churches. His churches include community and youth development programs as well as television production. He has organized soccer teams and tournaments, has a preschool which serves disabled families, feeds families, and started the "Agape Family Center".
- Criminal Justice faculty member Greg VanderKooi's homeland security training initiative was just approved. The School of Criminal Justice soon will be engaged in a national training program for people who manage security in buses, trains, airplanes, subway cars, etc.
- Mark Alley, CJ grad and Chief of Police in Lansing, Michigan, is the energy behind the Hope Scholarship for 500 of the poorest children in Lansing.
- The Women in Technology (WIT) student organization hosted over 50 fourth, fifth and sixth grade Junior Girl Scouts. The scouts experienced various areas in the engineering technology field, including Architectural and Facility Management, Automotive, Construction Management, Printing and Imaging Technology and Welding. They earned the Ms. Fix-it Badge for making a concrete candle holder, printing a t-shirt, changing a tire, soldering a pipe, reading a blue print and building a wood kit.

- This year will be the sixth time the Ferris team has competed in the Rube Goldberg Machine Competition; having taken 2<sup>nd</sup> place twice and 1<sup>st</sup> place once. This year's task is to "Replace an incandescent light bulb with a more energy efficient light emitting design" in 20 or more steps.
- Ray Baker, founder of Baker Engineered Racing Engines and Automotive Degree alumnus, was inducted into the Berlin Raceway Hall of Fame in Michigan. He was inducted into the Michigan Racing Hall of Fame in 2001.
- FLITE has a new "Mac Design Center" located on the 2nd floor, which includes a cluster of eight Mac computers loaded with the Adobe CS4 Design Premium suite of software. The Center was created with support from the Printing and Imaging Technology Management program and the Graphic Design program to promote collaboration and joint learning among students.
- FLITE has three new faculty librarians: Stacy Anderson is the new Instruction and Distance Education Librarian, Mari Kennit-Canfield is the new Reference and Instruction Librarian, Emily Mitchell will be joining as Reference and Educational Technologies Librarian.
- Mark Swan, MCO faculty member, has been appointed to the Community Health Advisory Committee for Kent County Health Department.
- Jamie Brady, optician for MCO, has been selected by the New Jersey Office of the Attorney General- Division of Consumer Affairs - State Board of Examiners of Ophthalmic Dispensers and Ophthalmic Technicians to develop and write examination questions for four separate exams.
- Roger Kamen, MCO faculty member, completed a two week professional development grant of study and research at Heidelberg University, Germany. He studied the structure and financing of German health care, delivery of eye care services and scope of optometric practice and educational training of German optometrists and delivered a "live" interactive lecture to his class at MCO. He also presented a three hour post graduate continuing education course on Medicare coding and billing to optometrists and staff of Henry Ford OptimEyes in Detroit.
- The Academic Support Center implemented Math Walk-in tutoring workshops during fall semester. The workshops were staffed by veteran tutors. During the fall semester, 114 students made 372 visits during the 98 scheduled sessions. The workshops provided timely assistance for students who needed help with only one or two problems.
- At this time, 336 students have applied for acceptance to the Honors Program for fall 2009. Two thirds of the applicants are female and 8% are students of color. Less than half (46%) of the 5 applicants are pre-pharmacy.
- The Charter Schools Office and the Department of Humanities are collaborating to offer a Charter Schools Art Invitational, "Self and Society," an arts competition for students in grades 9-12.
- Seven of Ferris' 18 authorized academies are celebrating their ten-year milestone: Benton Harbor Charter School (Benton Harbor); Conner Creek Academy-East (Roseville & Warren); Hope of Detroit Academy (Detroit); Huron Academy (Sterling Heights); Joy Preparatory Academy (Detroit); New City Academy (Lansing); Northridge Academy (Flint).
- The CSO 2007-08 Annual Report is completed: [www.ferris.edu/charterschools](http://www.ferris.edu/charterschools)
- Susan Hastings-Bishop (College of Education and Human Services) and Bill Knapp (Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning) will participate in the 2009 SPRE Teaching Institute. Their presentation is "Wiki's and Collaborative Learning."
- The Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning's 2009 Spring Learning Institute is entitled, "A Celebration of Faculty Creativity and Excellence in Teaching and Learning."
- Tara Benzing, Study Abroad Coordinator, National Student Exchange Coordinator, is Chair Elect for Michigan Association of International Educators (MAIE).
- Enid Carlson received her Accelerated Learning Level 1 Certification for instructional design and facilitation through the International Alliance for Learning.

- The Higher Learning Commission self-study continues to gather information from varied constituencies who have been valuable insights to their perspectives about Ferris.  
<http://www.ferris.edu/htmls/administration/academicaffairs/HLC/progress.htm>

### **Kendall College of Art and Design**

- As part of our international recruiting efforts, a group of Chinese students will be attending Kendall for a 3 week summer seminar.
- The 2009 West Central Michigan Regional Scholastic Art Awards Competition will be held at Kendall. The Alliance for Young Artists & Writers is a national program that nurtures artistic talent among students in grades 7-12.
- Krystal Wilson, a dual enrollment student from Coopersville High School, won the poster design contest for the Walk for Warmth 2009 event.
- Grand Rapids Business Journal featured an article titled "*Management: Meet DeSign, Innovation*" about the Advanced Studies Certificate in Design and Innovation Management, part of the MBA program.
- An agreement has been signed between Kendall and the W. E. Upjohn Institute for Employment Research to fund a research effort to estimate the importance of design to businesses in West Mich.
- In collaboration with the World Affairs Council of Western Michigan, Kendall is arranging and co-sponsoring a lecture by Rob Gifford, Bureau Chief/London, and National Public Radio. Rob will speak about his book *China Road: Journey into the Future of a Rising Power*.
- Kendall partnered with ANEW, a non-profit organization focused on social sustainability, to launch an internship program. That program will be featured during the NeoCon show this coming June.

### **Administration and Finance**

- The 11 Hall Directors, 3 Assistant Directors and the Director of Housing completed the Campus Community Emergency Response Team (C-CERT) training held by the Michigan State Police and FSU DPS.
- Barb Spedowski, Housing office, has reduced annual mailing costs by 84.5% for housing contracts.
- The Ice Arena hosted a youth hockey tournament; teams were from Cadillac, Grand Rapids, Brighton, Lakeland, Midland and Mt. Clemens.
- The Finance area reviewed Banner Self Serve to provide end user/management reports that are more transparent in how we report financial information.
- The Student email transition to Googlemail was a success with over 18,000 student ID's converted from iMail to Gmail.
- 38% of the classes offered Spring 2009 are in FerrisConnect. Over 10,000 students will have some course experience with FerrisConnect this semester.
- There were 204 classrooms checked for readiness - with 99.53% readiness.
- Assistant Director of Emergency Management Tricia Walding-Smith has made contact with every faculty department and will bring the active shooter program to them.
- The 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> of three tabletop, progressive emergency exercises have been held. The focus of these three-hour long events is for the members of the FSU Emergency Response Team to address business continuity management after a critical incident.

### **Diversity Office**

- The document called *Diversity at Ferris 2008* is completed.  
<http://www.ferris.edu/diversity/PDF/Diversity%20Ferris%202008.pdf>
- Carol Thatcher, the journalist daughter of former Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher, referred to a Black tennis player as a golliwog. She was fired from the British Broadcasting Corporation's *The One Show*. Her position on the show became untenable after she declined to issue an unconditional

apology. Several years ago David Pilgrim wrote an essay about the golliwog - <http://www.ferris.edu/JIMCROW/golliwog> .

Because of that article several European newspapers interviewed him regarding the golliwog - [http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life\\_and\\_style/women/the\\_way\\_we\\_live/article5683448.ece](http://women.timesonline.co.uk/tol/life_and_style/women/the_way_we_live/article5683448.ece) <http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/uk/article5671902.ece>

<http://www.buzzle.com/articles/249527.html> and,

<http://www.cnn.com/2009/WORLD/europe/02/04/carol.thatcher.bbc.sacked/>

- The Grand Opening of the First Lady's Attic was held February 12<sup>th</sup> in the Rankin Student Lounge.
- Martin Luther King Jr. Week activities were a big success with five days of activities that were well-attended. The Diversity Office was one of the major sponsors of the MLK Week and served on the planning committee.

#### **Governmental Relations and General Counsel**

- GRGC hosted a NACUA Webinar entitled "New FERPA Regulations: Compliance for Colleges and Universities"; attendees represented Student Affairs, Public Safety, Charter Schools, Housing, Student Life, Counseling Center, Alumni Relations, and IS&T.
- The University and the POLC union settled two grievances that had been scheduled for arbitration, which resolves the grievances and saves the administration and the union considerable expense.
- The University and the AFSCME union settled three grievances that had been appealed to arbitration. The settlements save the administration and the union the time and expense.

#### **Student Affairs**

- The New Student Reception hosted at the Dearborn Marriott greatly exceeded the projected attendance of prospecting students and respective family members.
- Late Registration and Drop/Add periods were successful with no glitches.
- In addition to seeing many patients, there have been no widespread communicable diseases or bad health outbreaks on our campus during this academic year to date.
- The Counseling Center is holding a series of special meetings this year with the Big Rapids Area Clergy to keep up our relationship, communicate events at Ferris State and to have on-going discussion about campus emergencies and their role in helping students with spiritual needs in times of crisis.
- The Counseling Center is creating and developing clinical procedures and protocols for specific clinical behavioral threat assessment in line with best practices nationally.
- With the expansion of the Chicago Scholarship to a 300 mile radius of Ferris, the Scholarship, now known as the Great Lakes Scholarship, has doubled the number of offer. The applicant pool in this area has grown by 15% over last year.
- The Office of Multicultural Student Services is proud to announce that all of our Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr., activities were well received by the campus and community. Each year we continue to raise the bar in terms of the quality of events and turn out for each program. Keynote speaker Kirk Nugent filled the Rankin Center Dome Room to beyond capacity for his lecture.
- The Student Recreation Center has had several days this semester (Spring) with more than 1,500 patrons utilizing the facility per day.

#### **University Advancement and Marketing**

- Marketing outreach includes billboard placements in Detroit, Grand Rapids and Lansing in addition to Flint, Traverse City and Dowagiac/Niles for April, May and June; sponsorship ads on Michigan Public Radio and CMU Public Radio; news/weather sponsorships on WOOD-AM 1300 in Grand Rapids; monthly higher education interviews on the Big Show in Lansing; and banner ads on Crain's Detroit Business Daily News Alerts.

- The UA&M Marketing staff has teamed up with Festival of the Arts organizers, the *Pioneer* and other media representatives to promote the second annual festival.
- The latest issue of *Points of Pride* has been distributed through campus mail. This contains notable coverage of the activities and events celebrating the life and work of Martin Luther King Jr. <http://www.ferris.edu/htmls/news/pride/spring09.pdf>.
- Web services is working with the College of Engineering Technology to upgrade and revamp their site.
- Web services has created a "Bulldog Avatar" - a speaking rendition on the Bulldog mascot who promotes events on campus. We have also launched a live blog for campus events and have successfully implemented it at basketball and hockey games.
- The Web site now includes a printable version of the catalog, officially titled "Complete 2008-2009 Printable Bulletin."
- Both the Jim Crow Museum and the Institute for the Study of Academic Racism have recently generated international publicity through their respective Web sites. David Pilgrim was quoted in several publications in the United Kingdom, CNN/Europe and the U.S. for a controversy surrounding the racist term "Golliwog" and how its use led to the firing of the daughter of former British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher. Meanwhile, Barry Mehler, through contacts with his ISAR Web site, will be interviewed soon on Canadian Broadcasting Corporation's national morning radio program on the subject "*Personality and Individual Differences*."
- The Karl E. Huffman Family Scholarship Endowment and the Gentex Corporation Engineering Annual Scholarship were established in the College of Engineering Technology. The Gary and Jean Horn Annual Scholarship, the Charles and Mary Bacon Annual Scholarship and the Theodore U. Moss Jr. Math Annual Scholarship were established in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Fall 2008 Annual Fund Phonathon donation fulfillment reached 112% or nearly \$60,000 following our two month pledge payment reminder cycle (only \$53,000+ in pledges were recorded) with nearly 95% (approx. 850 of 930+) of all phonathon pledges completed/paid through January 2009.