

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Good News Items

March 3, 2010

Academic Affairs

- Bea Griffith-Cooper, Meegan Lillis, and Bill Knapp, Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning staff members, successfully completed the Quality Matters Peer Reviewer Certification program, a nationally recognized, faculty-centered, peer review process designed to certify the quality of online courses and online components.
- Meegan Lillis was one of ten recipients of the 2010 Jane N. Ryland Fellowship, based on past achievements, personal and institutional commitment, potential benefit to the recipient as well as their institution, and financial need.
- Last spring, at "the Big Tent meeting," attendees prioritized the need for assuring that our online offerings are of high quality; they recommended that we needed additional instructional design capacity. A "Quality Course Design Framework - Pilot" is designed to develop several Ferris faculty and staff to use a Quality Matters framework for designing online instruction. Participants will build their own courses according to the Quality Framework and will make their work visible to others who are wanting to improve the design of their online courses. In addition, this group will serve as coaches. Facilitators are Bea Griffith-Cooper, Bill Knapp, and Meegan Lillis with consultant Dr. Lauren Keinath. Participating in the pilot are: Amy Buse, Susan Hastings-Bishop, Jody Ollenquist, Barbara Ciaramitaro, Kim Carlton-Smith, Marcy Parry, Robbie Teahen, and Enid Carlson.

College of Arts and Sciences

Biology Department

- Scott Herron just published a book chapter and paper: Herron, S.M.; 2010 Human History (chapter 2); *Northern Michigan: The Changing Environment of Northern Michigan*; University of Michigan Press; editors: Knute Naddelhoff, Alan Hoag & Brian Hazlett. Robinson, P., S. Herron, R. Power, D. Zak. 2009. *A Regional Multicultural Approach to Sustaining Wild Rice*. Journal of Extension 47(6): 5 pages. Scott also accepted the position of North American Editor for the journal, *Ethnobotanical Leaflets*. <http://www.ethnoleaflets.com>
- Jim Hoerter's recent activity:
 - Submitted an NIH grant to fund his research. His application is still under review, but if his grant isn't approved, he plans to submit a revised edition on Feb 25th.
 - Established a zebrafish habitat inside the animal care facility for research projects. (financial assistance from Merit Grant).
 - Completed a research project with support of a faculty research grant. His research provided preliminary results to support his NIH grant request.
 - Biotech student, Navjit Kaur, is working with Jim this semester on her biotech internship.
 - Three students are also working with Jim on his zebrafish project (Ryan Freye, Navjit Kaur, and Kreisten Eischens).
 - A preliminary proposal was approved by the National Science Foundation (NSF) to proceed on a grant to establish a national zebrafish training and resource center for undergraduates.
 - Finally, Jim will be serving on an NSF grant review panel for the NSF's Course, Curriculum, and Laboratory Improvement (CCLI) program, Type 3 and Central Resource Project (CRP) competition, March 18-19th.
- Cindy Fitzwilliams Heck began a new campus initiative, the Storm Water Protection Project, to mediate storm-water runoff. The initiative showcases FSU as a model for innovative, environmental projects that reduce storm water runoff by using rain gardens and cisterns. The project also unites the campus with the Muskegon River Watershed Assembly, (MRWA) a local non-profit environmental

organization, to meet these goals. The initiative is a FSU Academic Service Learning project, and grants were submitted through the Great Lakes Basin Program for Soil Erosion and Sediment Control. Cindy will also be applying for the Ferris Foundation Grant.

Languages and Literature Department

- Dr. Andy Kantar's book "*Deadly Voyage: The S.S. Daniel Morrell Tragedy*" will be the featured text for Mecosta County in Spring 2010 as part of the One Book, One County initiative. Dr. Kantar will be giving several lectures and book signings co-sponsored by the Michigan Humanities Council, several local libraries, and Art Works of Big Rapids. More information is available through ArtWorks at 231-796-2420.
- Steve Fox will serve on the Michigan Collegiate Press Association's board of directors as an adviser representing Division II student newspapers.
- Philip Sterling recently published "*Another Fish Story*" in Opium Magazine. <http://www.opiummagazine.com/Index.aspx?storyid=2759>
- Joe Grimm, who has a daily blog for Poynter Online titled Ask the Recruiter, interviewed Kelsey Schnell and Brandon Martinez recently about their web site CollegeNewsroom.org. Kelsey and Brandon are leaders on the Torch staff, working to improve the print and online editions. Read the blog at: <http://www.poynter.org/column.asp?id=77&aid=176909>
- Our Ferris chapter of Sigma Tau Delta English honor society has new leadership, headed by Molly Wynn (English Education) and Elizabeth Evers (English B.A.), and energetic new members. Four students have volunteered to read to children at St. Peter's Lutheran School for "Reading Month." Volunteers will also be reading to students at Crossroads Charter Academy. Sigma Tau Delta will also be decorating the English B.A bulletin board, promoting "March is Reading Month" with pictures of book covers intended to encourage students to crack open a book during spring break. In April, the English Honor Society will be staffing a table for Education Exploration Day, promoting the department's programs with brochures and talking with local high school students.

Mathematics Department

- The new elementary education mathematics minor was approved by the Michigan Department of Education. Plans for delivering the new elementary education mathematics minor through the University Center at Lansing Community College are being finalized. Discussions are underway for offering the new elementary education minor at FSU's Grand Rapids campus.
- Bahodir Siddikov had a refereed journal article accepted for publication.

Social Sciences Department

- Christine Bailey has been contacted by John Kelly of the Washington Post to do a story on the Walter Reed Project her PLSC 121 students completed last semester. Dana Priest, the reporter who first broke the story on conditions at Walter Reed, corresponded with Christine while in Washington recently.

Humanities Department

- The History BA program has experienced growth and our students are distinguishing themselves. Our success stories for the past year include Colleen Hanna, who was named the outstanding graduate assistant at Central Michigan University for 2008-09. Kelly Wilson is currently working on her PhD at Mt. Pleasant. James Scarborough is now studying for his Masters at CMU. Jennifer Herron has been admitted to Wayne State University's Library Science Masters program. Western Michigan University recently awarded Samantha Steele an assistantship for next year. Alumnus Brad Morris gained admittance fall 2010 to the Center for Nonproliferation Studies at the Monterey Institute for International Studies. Caitlin Hutchison has passed the first stage for a Fulbright Scholarship to Ireland and will likely make the final cut as the professor she will work with at Trinity University has agreed to support her acceptance into their Art History Masters program. In the History Education program, Jake Visser was named the Outstanding Scholar-Athlete in the United States. Sarah Cook just gained entrance into the Masters of Art History program at the University of Illinois at Chicago. Paul Avery recently graduated with a Masters in history from Central.

- Dr. Dale Skornia, Faculty Director of the FSU Athletic Pep Band, was a featured conductor on the "Chosen Gems" Concert at the North Central Regional Conference of the College Band Directors National Association; he conducted Dana Wilson's "Colorado Peaks."
- Dr. Skornia was featured as the Alto Saxophone soloist with the West Central Concert Band at the Winter Band and Orchestra Concert in an arrangement of Claude Debussy's "The Girl with the Flaxen Hair."
- Communication Professors Stephanie Thomson and Sandy Alspach, along with Political Science Professor Rick Griffin, will present "Spotlight on Promoting Civic and Political Engagement: Institutions Share Multi-disciplinary Strategies" at the Central States Communication.
- Humanities Professors Grant Snider and John Scott Gray will be making a web-based presentation at the International Conference on Sport and Society on the degree to which fishing and golf, as sports, enable or hinder the development of the self or an environmental consciousness.
- Philosophy Professor John Scott Gray's "The Stories We Tell: Facebook and the Re-definition of Intimacy" has been accepted for publication in the European Journal of Pragmatism and American Philosophy.
- The Ferris State University Debate Team competition resulted in students Sam Callen/Cari Scholtens receiving the 3rd place team award, Ali Nienaber/Andrea Wood received the 5th place award. Ferris was recognized as the 2nd place squad. At a 2nd competition, Sam Callen/Cari Scholtens won the 3rd place team award and Sam Callen won the 3rd place tournament speaker award.
- Dr. Neil Patten and Professor Brooke Moore presented "Examining the Effect of the "G" Force: The Impact of Gen Y and Gender on Education and Learning" for the Michigan Pharmacists Association Annual Convention and Exposition. Professor Moore helped preceptors identify how generational factors can impact their relationship with students and provided tips for enhanced communication. Dr. Patten examined the preceptor/intern dynamic through the "gender lens" by exploring topics such as sexual harassment and differences that can result from male and female language use.
- Dr. Donna Smith and Professors David Schrock, Brooke Moore and Jill Jepsen have been "on tour" through area schools with a program called "Communication Counts!" The assembly addresses the types of conflict students deal with on a daily basis, including controversy stemming from interaction on internet sites like Facebook and MySpace, as well as bullying caused by misunderstanding differences.
- Kaytlyn Sheldon (B.S. Applied Speech Communication Spring 2010) will present at the Central State Communication Association Conference on the rhetoric of Dolores Huerta. Sheldon's analysis examines Huerta's rhetoric and explores its connection to a feminine rhetorical style, invitational rhetoric.

College of Education and Human Services (COEHS)

- COEHS is partnering with several intermediate school districts, Northern Michigan University, and Lake Superior State University to analyze student achievement data which will eventually be aligned to the work of the statewide P-20 Council and the legislation related to Race to the Top.
- Michelle Johnston has a chapter in the recently published *School Leadership – International Perspectives*.

Criminal Justice

- Russell Lewis finished a chapter for a book on rural crime dealing with special legal problems related to rural jails. It may be published as an article in a journal.
- Members of the CJ department attended a meeting requested by Muskegon Community College (MCC) to determine the viability of offering the CJ program at MCC. Muskegon is the site of numerous correctional institutions, and corrections is an unfilled niche.

Recreation, Leisure Services and Wellness

- Recreation, Leadership and Management held a Annual Alumni Social as part of the Michigan Recreation and Parks Association's (MRPA) annual Trade Show and Conference. Alumni who attended the gathering included: Past President of MRPA, Kendall Klingelsmith, Deputy Director of Kentwood Recreation and Parks; Fred Bunn, Director, and Susan Perry, Assistant Director of East Grand Rapids Recreation and Parks; Brian Puffer, Director of Saline Community School Recreation Department; Kevin Smith, Marketing Director of Battle Creek Recreation and Parks Department; Jim Dunleavy of Oakland County Parks and Recreation; and Dan Sullivan, Program Supervisor from Oxford Recreation and Parks Department, along with current student interns and colleagues of the RLM alumni.

- Twenty-five students from the RMLS 430 Finance and Management and RMLS 499 Senior Assessment courses worked as volunteers for the MRPA conference and attended educational sessions. Also, the RLSW Department sponsored a booth at the conference providing faculty an opportunity to talk with practitioners and alumni about the Ferris RLM program, activities, and developments.

ROTC

- Thirty couples from the Ferris ROTC program attended the Central Michigan University (CMU) Military Ball, which is designed to introduce students to time-honored military traditions and requires formal military uniforms.
- The ROTC program has been preparing students to attend the German Proficiency Badge Competition, which is similar to a biathlon, and challenges students' physical ability as they compete in track and field qualifying events. Two finalists, Cadets Dakota Donnelly and Casey Luke, both CJ students will represent Ferris at Indiana University and Camp Atterbury, Indiana.

School of Education

- The American Association of University Women (AAUW) awarded a scholarship to Holli Werner, Elementary Education major.
- Paul Blake, Associate Dean, will be meeting with representatives of the University of Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland, UK to discuss a collaborative study abroad arrangement. The Ferris teacher preparation students will enroll in Ferris education courses, which will be taught at the University of Strathclyde and include field placements for observation in Glasgow, expected to begin in 2011.
- Rick Van Sant presented at the Fourth International Conference on Design Principles and Practices on Designing for the Human Brain: Implications of Brain Research on Design Considerations.
- Ginny Hines and Christine Conley-Sowels presented at the annual Eastern Educational Research Association (EERA), a regional division of the American Educational Research Association. They presented a paper entitled FB2FB: Using social networking sites as a forum for learning among pre-service teachers. The qualitative study examined the use of Face Book Groups as a means to develop a learning community that continued the learning process outside of the classroom. Hines also presented a paper Reflecting upon Reflections: Assessing the reflective growth among in-service teachers via analysis of BLOG entries. Using a taxonomy of reflections that Hines developed, the study examined teacher reflections referencing curricular evaluation and design. Both professors also served as facilitators for sessions while in attendance. Hines serves as a reviewer for the association as well.

Television and Digital Media Production

- The West Michigan Film Video Alliance (WMFVA) forum titled Distribution in the 21st Century features Clayton Rye, a Professor of TDMP and a documentary film/video producer. He will discuss his successes and challenges in distributing his production through PBS. Glen Okonoski, TDMP faculty, organized the forum and is on the Board of the WMFVA.
- Andrew Tingley, TDMP '04, adjunct faculty member and co-founder of Creo Productions, created a video entitled 100,000 Airplanes and Melodies over Monroe for the 2009 Art Prize in Grand Rapids.

College of Engineering Technology

- The American Welding Society chapter along with Welding Program Coordinator and associate professor Jeff Carney presented a check to Vice President of Student Affairs, Daniel Burcham, for the Haiti Relief Fund from the student organization and the welding faculty and staff.
- State Representative Darwin Booher stopped in to check on the progress of this year's Human Powered Vehicle team. Ferris has the only Human Powered Vehicle team of the state colleges and universities.
- For the second straight year, the BAJA team won the Big Air competition during the Winter Baja. They also finished in 9th and 11th places in the endurance race. This year was the first time that both of Ferris' Baja cars completed the 63 lap competition. Professors Gary Gage and Ben Upham lead their team with pride and confidence. The next event for the team is the summer competition in New York.

Michigan College of Optometry

- Baldwin Family Health Care, Baldwin Community Schools, and the Michigan College of Optometry are proud to announce the opening of a School-based Participatory Eye Clinic (SPEC) within Baldwin Community Schools. Dr. Paula Smith (MCO Pediatric & Binocular Vision Resident) saw her first patients at the new collaborative school-based eye clinic in February.
- The Baldwin Teen Health Center is a school-based clinic whose services include behavioral and mental health care, dental care, educational programming, health education, laboratory services, medical services, pharmacy services, transportation, x-ray, and other associated services. There are no other school-based eye clinics that offer comprehensive care (beyond vision screenings) for students within the State of Michigan. The MCO is honored to have the opportunity to collaborate with Teen Health and Baldwin Community Schools to provide comprehensive eye care services for their students.
- This program seeks to accurately detect potential vision problems and increase overall access to eye care for underserved children and adolescents within Baldwin Community Schools. We hope to extend our mobile eye and vision services to Newaygo County, in collaboration with Teen Health, this coming fall. We are deeply appreciative to the Freemont Area Community Foundation and The Gerber Foundation for their generous funding which has provided equipment for this collaborative clinic.

Administration and Finance

Auxiliary Enterprises:

Athletics

- The FSU Student Athlete Advisory Council (SAAC) is on their way to raising \$1,000 for the National Make-a-wish campaign.
- Tina Muir, FSU award winning distance runner, has become an automatic qualifier for the NCAA Indoor Track Championship to be held in March at Albuquerque, New Mexico.

Racquet Facility

- Derek Ameal was one of the speakers for the Michigan high school tennis coaches association at the Troy Marriott on February 5 -6, 2010. 240 tennis coaches from all over Michigan participated in the event and they had fifteen students from a professional tennis management program that attended this two day workshop.

Public Safety:

- We'd like to point out our 15 new pedestrian crossing signs with arrows that greatly enhance the walkways to approaching drivers on State Street. This is one of several changes underway to improve our community members' safety as the FSU Pedestrian Safety Task Force enters its final stages of review and recommendations.

Diversity and Inclusion

- David Pilgrim delivered two public lectures at the Missouri Historical Museum in Saint Louis, two lectures at the Grand Rapids Public Library, and the keynote address at the Race and Ethnicity Conference hosted by Grand Rapids Community College.
- First Lady's Attic had a very successful fall semester. Registered 200 students; provided clothing for 123 males and 51 females.
- Successful TIP Bash, celebrating 725 TIP students for Fall 2009.

Governmental Relations and General Counsel

- Steve Stratton conducted supervisor training regarding Bullard/Plawecki Right to Know Act and PERA for a group of 12.

Kendall College of Art & Design

- Kendall College of Art and Design increased its contributions to the United Way Campaign this year by 50% over last year.

- The work of Kenneth Cadwallader (BFA 1996 - Illustration) is being featured in the American Artist Magazine. He is honored to have his painting “Turquoise Eyes” chosen to be on the cover. You can read about Cadwallader’s painting method in the article “How to Paint with Spontaneity Insight” written by Colin Fry. For more information see www.KennethCadwallader.com
- The work of Susan Mulder (MFA 2009 - Painting) is being exhibited at the Zhou B. Art Center in Chicago in the National Wet Paint Exhibition. This exhibition consists of 52 paintings by artists selected from a national call. Wet paint refers to the idea that this is a fresh group of artists.
- Kristopher Jones (Kendall MFA 2007 - Drawing) and our own Admissions Officer is showing his work at The University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA) Art Gallery titled “Intense Concentration” and is featuring seven artists from across the country.
- Randall Higdon's entry, "Reaching for Light" has been selected for the 2010 Tulip Time Festival (Holland, MI) poster. Higdon graduated in 1972 with a Fine Art and Illustration degree. He is a signature member of the American Watercolor Society and the American Society of Marine Artists.
- Angie Dow, Program Chair and Associate Professor – Graphic Design, provided an editorial on Graphic Design, in the Metropolitan Detroit High School Graduate publication. This publication is an annual education and career guide for high school students in Macomb, Oakland and Wayne Counties. For more information, please visit www.theHighSchoolGraduate.com.
- The Kendall Colors Club (a student organization) developed and led a workshop as part of the West Michigan Presidents Compact Committee’s Diversity and Leadership Symposium: Success is in Your DNA (Destined Naturally to Achieve), held at Ottawa Hills High School.

Student Affairs

Enrollment Services

- Financial Aid held their last informational Webinar of the season where students and parents could log in and have their Financial Aid questions answered.
- Faculty from Arts & Sciences came to the Communication Center on the night of February 23 and called their accepted students for next fall.
- There have been over 500 students that have registered for the New Student Receptions.
- Brenda White became the newest Student Service Rep in Financial Aid on February 22 and Elise Gramza will begin her new position of Registrar Office Manager on March 1.
- Veteran's Serve Resource Room is now open in Rankin Center; it accommodates Veteran's by providing a common meeting point and study group setting.
- Seventeen TIP/FAFSA workshops have been held for assisting TIP eligible students.

Student Conduct

- Presented a program on Academic Misconduct issues to the Languages and Literature department.
- Presented a hazing workshop to all Interfraternity Council new members, presidents, and new member educators.
- Attended the Association of Student Conduct Administrators annual conference.

Student Leadership and Activities

- Entertainment Unlimited event, Hypnotist Sailesh, had over 1,090 people in attendance. This is the second largest event that EU had this year.
- Volunteer Center helped promote the Big Brother Big Sister Bowl for Kids Sake. There were 45 student organization teams in the event to help raise money for Big Brothers Big Sisters.

University Advancement and Marketing

- Southwestern Michigan College has agreed to a collaborative fundraising project with CPTS in order to support Allied Health Programs at the Dowagiac campus.
- The new MCO building: An anonymous gift has been made to fund the George M Marston, O.D. exam room in the new MCO building; The atrium will be named after the Michigan Optometric Association; and the Fortenbacher Vision Therapy Center will be named after Dr. Dan Fortenbacher.

- Mr. and Mrs. Eric Weeks have made an endowed planned gift to the Gary and Jean Horn Debate Scholarship in the College of Arts and Sciences.
- Mr. Gary Homan has made a contribution to the Norman G. Peterson ICT Scholarship in the College of Arts and Sciences. Hemlock Semiconductor Group will match the contribution.
- CET is working on Spring Ferris Forward segmented letters of CET programs.
- Graphic Communications Alliance of West Michigan made a contribution to the Thomas Bingman Endowment in the College of Engineering Technology.
- Skot Welch, principal owner of Global Bridgebuilders, has agreed to serve on the COB Leadership Advisory Board.
- Ferris State University is currently the beneficiary of three estates, including the Richard Veazey Estate, which will provide valuable scholarship support. Ferris has also been named the beneficiary of a life insurance policy funded by Herb and Dr. Judy Wybenga.
- Matt Roush, of *WWJ Newsradio 950* of Detroit, will be attending this year's Michigan Energy Conference. Roush is editor of the *Great Lakes IT Report (GLITR)*, which features technology news throughout Michigan. He included Ferris in his Fall 2008 and Fall 2009 Tech Tours, in which he toured the Big Rapids and Grand Rapids campuses talking to faculty, staff and industry partners about Ferris' unique technology-based programs such as Plastics Engineering, Information Security and Intelligence, and Digital Media Software Engineering, among others. Check out GLITR at <http://www.wwj.com/pages/714615.php>
- The Fall 2009 Ferris Forward Annual Giving campaign has demonstrated very good growth. Total giving from our alumni via direct mail, phonathon, and via the web solicitations showed \$172,345.91 from 1,717 donors, or a 43% increase in donations and a 25% increase in the number of alumni donating. Each method of solicitation showed growth. We solicited a pool of approximately 77,000 alumni more than 102,000 times (77,000 letters, 18,000 emails, 7,173 completed phone calls). As expenditures for this effort totaled approximately \$65,000, we realized an overall ROI of 165%. We attribute this growth to a strategy that has launched a new annual fund brand, increased segmentation and personalization within the solicitation messaging, and focused giving requests to benefit college/program and the new Opportunity @125 initiative. We will be incorporating this same strategy, with adjustments to accommodate for response trends, with the Spring 2010 Ferris Forward Annual Giving solicitations, which begin with our direct mail solicitation the week of March 22.