



Good News

April 23, 2008

Academic Affairs

- During the Fall 2007 Semester four Traverse City extension students and alumni - Christopher Blouch, Kyle Pete, Koji Iwamoto, and Daniel Warren - achieved very impressive results in the management of their BUSN 499 Capstone Firm. In a field of 2,700 student firms from very well known universities, these students placed first in single-year profits, ninth in cumulative profits, and first in return-on-sales.
- A new initiative involving Ferris State University's Michigan College of Optometry and College of Education and Human Services is helping students and parents in West Michigan. Many elementary age students receiving eye exams also had reading problems. Starting this fall, students from Ferris' Elementary Education program will act as tutors. In addition to helping young readers, education students will gain a broader understanding of some of the barriers to reading.
- Dave Murray, Associate Professor of Welding, was awarded Educator of the Year by the American Welding Society District 11 (Michigan, Northern Indiana and Ohio). He also achieved the title of AWS Radiographic Interpreter, as one of only 100 Radiographic Interpreters in the U.S.
- Carl Shangraw, Professor of Surveying Engineering, was elected for a fourth consecutive one-year term as chair of the State of Michigan Professional Surveyors Licensing Board.
- Several College of Technology faculty and students participated in the first Michigan Construction Career Days. Over 2,000 prospective FSU students from the Mason, MI middle and high schools visited the booth. This was made possible through the involvement in the industry by Professor John Schmidt, who is the Region Director of the Associated Schools of Construction.

College of Professional and Technological Studies

- The Marketing Team in Grand Rapids submitted their summer iPod recruiting campaign to the Admissions Marketing Report national competition and won gold and silver awards. The awards were in the "schools with 10,000+ students" category.
- The promotion for the Criminal Justice Program at Port Huron just started and already has seven applications in process.
- CPTS Summer Enrollment, with 30 days before the start of the semester, is running just 6.7% behind the fourth day figure for 2007.
- New applications in process (including admitted and submitted) for Summer 2008 and beyond, total 1,272 and break down as follows:

Summer 2008	582 (448 not yet registered)
Fall 2008	654
Spring 2009	27
Fall 2009	4

Kendall College of Art and Design

- Kendall hosted an evening reception and presentation honoring renowned architect and interior designer Eva Maddox, who will receive an honorary doctorate at the May 10, 2008, commencement. Because of her close connection with Haworth, the evening also provided an opportunity to acknowledge the \$100,000 gift from the estate of G. W. Haworth, which the College has used to endow the NeoCon Class.
- Kendall's relationship with Design West Michigan, convened and envisioned by John Berry, seeks to develop meaningful educational experiences that encourage the understanding and use of the design disciplines to meet business needs resulting in economic growth. Kendall will be the site of the first of these experiences in July.
- Syd Lenger, a KCAD furniture design alum, left a foundation gift upon his death. His daughter and son-in-law, both KCAD furniture design alums, have made gifts to the College and will make another gift this summer that it will go to the furniture endowment.
- A collaborative class project under the direction of Professor Gayle DeBruyen presented its project this past Monday and impressed the audience enough that Reach Out and Read has been awarded a grant from an agency in Ottawa County. This year's competition involved the redoing of Brookside Elementary with Diane Nagelkirk and students from Ferris, as well as Gayle DeBruyen and students from Kendall. The top prizes went to the Ferris Team (3rd prize), the FSU/KCAD team (2nd prize), and the KCAD entrant (1st place). The first-place winner receives a trip to conference in Boston.
- From the Alliance for Young Artists & Writers, Inc. - SCHOLASTICS regional competition hosted at Kendall hosted, the following entries competed at the National level:
 - 5 American Vision awards - 82 Gold Key awardsOur regional entries placed at the following national levels:
 - 1 additional American Vision Award
 - 2 additional Gold Awards
 - 7 additional Silver AwardsOf these national winners, 5 students are in grade 12 and will be offered the Kendall Scholarship of Merit funding.
- Summer 2008 Enrollment looks to be very strong - 391 students at 2,183 credits (a 290 credit hour increase over Summer 2007)
- Fall 2008 Enrollment also shows significant growth - 879 students at 10,380 credits (an increase of 73 students and 749 credit hours over Fall 2007)
- There are 112 students on the 5 Lyon jousting complex wait-list for Fall 2008; 41 new students have paid their deposit and 30 renewals have already committed for Fall 2008.

Administration and Finance

- Nearly a quarter of the Residence Life student staff (RAs) completed the rigors of the "Champions of Diversity" program this year. This program challenges student staff members to complete a curriculum which demonstrates a working knowledge of diversity as well as an ability to teach others. Completing the challenge demonstrates a firm commitment to promoting Ferris State as a welcoming community.
- Over 200 young guests were on campus last weekend as part of the Residence Hall Association (RHA) & Housing's Sibs and Kids weekend. A true campus partnership, the program features siblings of Ferris students who are encouraged to spend the weekend with their older brother or sister and are treated to a weekend of activities, events and games in residence halls, dining halls, UREC and elsewhere.

- The University entered the financial markets and issued General Revenue Refinancing Bonds Series 2008. The University generated present value saving of \$1.7 million dollars and effectively reduced the level of debt service each year by over \$108,000/yr. Total savings over the life of the bonds will be \$2.5 million.

Diversity Office

- Advancement & Marketing finished a draft of their diversity plan.
- Arts & Sciences has assembled a diversity action team.
- FLITE has assembled a diversity action team.

Governmental Relations and General Counsel

- POLC I and POLC II Collective Bargaining Agreements were signed at a ceremony on April 8, 2008. The contracts have been printed and are being distributed.
- Lansing Legislative Luncheon is scheduled for May 15, 2008, from 11 :00 am to 2:00 pm at the Anderson House Office Building, Mackinac Room, 124 N. Capitol, Lansing.

Student Affairs

- We have offered over 130 more WNF and Res. Life Scholarships than last year at this time, and have 48 applications for the new Chicago Initiative Scholarship.
- Rob Wagner developed an on-line acceptance Summer Award Notice option.
- This was a record setting year for Five-Star RSO applications with 33 groups submitting their accomplishments for review. These RSO's have put in a combined total of 10,263 hours of community service this past academic year.
- There are more applications this year than in the history of the university.
- The Special Olympics (area 5) is using the rec center (pool and basketball courts) to train.
- The campus visitation program is strong, and we expect record numbers.
- Admissions and the Office of Multicultural Student Services is coordinating on the spring bus tour, which will visit high schools on the west side of the state and Chicago.

University Advancement and Marketing

- Ferris will be featured on an outfield billboard and in 30-second scoreboard matrix messages at the Grand Rapids' Whitecaps baseball games this season. More than 375,000 people attend the Whitecaps' 70 home games annually.
- Ferris will soon be a part of Crain's Daily Business Alerts with 5 different rotating ads.
- *Crain's Detroit Business* April 14-20 issue features a Ferris State University ad showcasing 1990 business alum Sandy Westbrook, senior supplier quality assurance, General Motors Powertrain. Ms. Westbrook's testimonial in the ad notes the myriad of opportunities she had at Ferris that went well beyond an education.
- Chris McCarus from Michigan Now Radio reported on the Michigan Energy Conference. His broadcast was picked up by several other radio stations, including WCMU, WUCX in Bay City, WGVU in Grand Rapids and WEMU in Ypsilanti. The broadcast also was expected to run on WDET, WMUK and WICA.
- The first "Making the Connection" reception, honoring and connecting the endowed scholarship donors with their recipients, will be held May 2.
- The Ferris Foundation Gifts and Grants Committee will be recommending five grants, totaling approximately \$28,000, to the Ferris Foundation Board on April 25.
- An updated and expanded homepage along with several major secondary pages was launched.