

# FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

## Good News Items

April 29, 2009

### **Academic Affairs**

- The proposed educational doctorate is well under way. The faculty developers from the Colleges of Business, Arts and Sciences, and Education and Human Services are each paired with a community college practitioner from throughout Michigan to develop an engaging, practice-based, flexible, and dynamic educational doctorate to meet the needs of emerging community and technical college leaders. The project leaders are Dr. Robert Ewigleben, Lynne Hernandez, with Robbie Teahen, Rick Van Sant, and Bea Griffith-Cooper. The goal is a site visit of the Higher Learning Commission by early fall 2009 for a possible August 2010 start.

### **College of Allied Health Sciences**

- Two Nuclear Medicine Program students received a scholarship from the Society for Nuclear Medicine. They represent 2 of the 32 scholarships awarded nationally.
- Kimberly Beistle, Dental Hygiene, received the Outstanding Alumni Award from the Indiana University, South Bend Dental Hygiene Program
- Ziggy Kozicki serves as the executive producer of the Great Lakes Environmental Film Festival.
- Sheila MacEachron, Nuclear Medicine, has been appointed to the continuing education committee for the 9-state Central Chapter of the Society for Nuclear Medicine.
- The College of Allied Health Sciences held its first annual Best Practices in Allied Health Education seminar. The keynote address "Course Level Assessment: More than Exams" was by Julie Coon; breakout sessions by Denise Hoisington; Susan Fogarty; Marilyn Skrocki; and Grace Eisen, Megan Dixon and Gary Jeromin.

### **College of Business**

- The American Marketing Association received the Outstanding Membership Activities and the Outstanding Community Service awards for their chapter. They also took third place in the SABRE Business Simulation Competition.

### **College of Education & Human Services**

- Television & Digital Media Production (TDMP) sponsored another successful High School Video Festival, is planning meetings with 50 GEAR -UP students and 20 Boyne Falls students, and will attend the High School Career Fair in Muskegon LC Walker Arena. TDMP freshmen applicants are increasing at a nearly 20% rate since last year.
- Glen Okonoski will be presenting a session on HD workflow at the Broadcast Education Association Conference.
- TDMP students will judge the Healthy Living submissions for the Meijer Great Choices PSA competition.
- Tim Nagae, a talented TDMP graduate produced "Austin's Movie" which is an award winning documentary about a young autistic photographer. "Austin's Movie" will be broadcast on WGTV as a part of the Health program, "Family Health Matters."
- The School of Education (SOE) recently received the rank of exemplary by the Michigan Department of Education. The Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) scheduled

its accreditation visit for October 2010 and has recognized the faculty for their extraordinary implementation of electronic portfolios and data analysis using Live Text.

- The Tenure Committee of the SOE granted tenure to Dr. Fritz Erickson.
- The School of Criminal Justice (CJ) law enforcement faculty reported that 100% of its students passed the Michigan Commission of Law Enforcement Standards test for the last four years.
- Starting July 1, 2009, Dr. Steven Reifert will be the Director of CJ.
- Dr. Gregory VanderKooi received official notice that CJ, in partnership with the Michigan State Police, received a grant *First Responder: Tactical Interdiction for Mass Transit Terrorist Threats*.
- Recreation, Leisure Services, and Wellness students visited with Paul Doyle, an alumnus (79) of the program, who shared his story and how he has come to work with community development and supports for social issues.
- Dean Michelle Johnston took four students to a statewide leadership conference, *Young Women, Strong Leaders*, for emerging leaders. Because of her work with rural schools and communities, Dean Johnston participated in developing national policy for rural schools with the working policy group of the Rural Schools and Community Trust.

### **College of Engineering Technology**

- Tom Crandell, director of the Corporate & Professional Development Center, will be presenting at the 2009 Earth Day U.S. Senate Eco Roadshow sponsored by The Architect of the Capital. Working with faculty member Mike Korcal, associate professor of Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration, and Mike Lafferty, HV ACR emeriti, they developed presentations on Energy Auditing, Geothermal Systems and Weatherization programming to help educate the senators, their staff and the public on ways to reduce energy consumption and reduce the carbon footprint and highlight Ferris' expertise in energy efficiency and our many programs.
- Plastics engineering technology students and General Motors Manufacturing Center engineers are working together to improve the quality of plastic parts by looking at ways to remove *flash* on automobile fascias - or bumper covers. Ferris plastics engineering technology students are also participating in summer internships at the GM Technical Center in Warren, Mich., to support the optimization of plastic material and process optimization for future Chevrolet EFlex Volt battery programs.
- Mike Lafferty, Joe Pacella, and Tom Crandell, presented at the National HV AC Educators Conference on "Geothermal Heating and Cooling Systems" and the "Seven Major Troubleshooting issues in Air Conditioning Systems." Ferris was also recognized by Trane Corporation as a leader in HV AC Education.
- The Women in Technology student organization will be hosting another area Girl Scout event and will have 60 high school girls getting a hands-on experience in our technology programs.
- Twenty-two FSU faculty and staff attended the 19th Annual *Equity in the Classroom Conference*.
- In University College, *Crafters Anonymous* made Valentine cards, scarves, hats and mittens and sold the items to donate for Walk for Warmth. The *PrePharmD Club* raised over \$300 for Relay for Life, participated in Walk for Warmth, The Alzheimer's Walk, and made Valentine cards for seniors in the Altercare Nursing Home. The *Up Till Dawn* RSO raised over \$17,000 and donated the money to St. Jude Children's Research Hospital.
- Ferris had 500 students in the Tuition Incentive Program enrolled during fall semester. A recent study shows that enrollments by college for the new Phase I (full tuition) and returning

Phase II (\$500 stipend per semester) students are fairly well distributed and are a fair representation of their class in general as indicated by the proportions who qualify for the Dean's List, are retained to the next semester, and who wind up on probation.

### **CPTS**

- College of Professional and Technological Studies was honored for its website (cpts.ferris.edu) by the Central Michigan Chapter of the Public Relations Society of America.
- Several episodes of Mark Kistler's Imagination Station were taped at the Applied Technology Center in conjunction with the Digital Animation Program.
- Peggy Schoenborn, CPTS-GR graduate in the Education program, is currently teaching four business classes at Rockford High School where a group of her business students recently opened a coffee shop in the Media Center. They created the cafe from the ground up.
- Ferris State University-GR participated in the Chalk Flood 2009 at Rosa Parks Circle in downtown Grand Rapids. The artists and supporting cast were: Dawn Schavey, September Howat, Mary Dilley, Tracy Powers, Kristin Schneider, Deb Warwick, Donna Ewigleben.
- Ashley DeGross, a Grand Rapids Information Security and Intelligence Student, was awarded a \$15,000 scholarship by the Michigan Council of Women in Technology Education.

### **Administration and Finance**

- In sports, our fall cumulative (all sports) GPA was over a 3.0. Women's Golf has been invited to regionals. The nationally sixth-ranked softball team has earned a berth in the 2009 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Softball Championship Tournament.
- Jake Visser, 2008 alum, was invited by the Houston Texans to their training camp.
- Theresa Beeckman, assistant volleyball coach, published a "blocking" article in a national recognized volleyball magazine.
- Dining Services Community Education Engagement Team won the Distinguished Team Award. Lori Helmer received the Administrator of the Year award for ASG. Dining Services is receiving the Community engagement award for program with MOISD Career center.
- The Housing annual resident satisfaction survey had a 98% return rate of all on campus residents. Overall satisfaction with on campus living rose 3% from 2007 to 89%.
- The Racquet Facility developed a partnership with TennisConnect and the Tennis Industry Association where they are donating the access to their sites.
- Assistant Director of Emergency Management, Tricia Walding-Smith, completed "Ham in a Day" training and is now certified as an Amateur Radio Operator.

### **Diversity Office**

- The Ferris Student Government and the Diversity Office have teamed up to offer Bulldogs Unmuzzled, a program facilitated by students to promote University-wide discussions.
- About two dozen Ferris faculty, staff, and students attended the Caesar Chavez Social Justice March and Community Service Awards Dinner in Grand Rapids.
- The Alliance of Ferris Employees seeks to help build a University that is inclusive and respectful of all regardless of an individual's sexual orientation or gender identity/expression has been created. The Alliance is a professional organization that acts as a resource for LGBTQA staff and faculty and serves as an advocacy group for LGBTQA issues.

- The Fall 2009 Writing on the Wall project is a collaborative effort with the Diversity Office, Residential Life, Advancement & Marketing, and Physical Plant.
- David Pilgrim was interviewed on Voices on Anti-Semitism: A Podcast Series; found at <http://www.ushmm.org/museum/exhibit/focus/antisemitism/voices/transcript/?content=20090423>
- The Diversity Office acknowledged 10 students as Diversity Champions because of their involvement in specified diversity events, and gave an award to Bond Hall for the Jim Crow Thanksgiving Challenge.

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

- A successful Legislative Luncheon was held in Lansing with 175 guests, including 38 legislators, 81 staffers and guests, and 56 Ferris personnel.
- The initial Ferris Advocacy Network meeting was held in Lansing. Future meetings have been scheduled in June for the Grand Rapids, Traverse City and Detroit areas.
- Miles Postema was appointed to a second three-year term on the Board of Directors of the National Association of College and University Attorneys (NACUA).

### **Student Affairs**

- FSU has officially become a Call to Serve Partner - to educate our students about federal employment opportunities. The Office of Career Services will be coordinating the partnership and providing workshops and services to students.
- The Graduation Fair was a success with over 500 students participating.
- Northern Michigan College Financial Aid Office spent half a day reviewing our Banner processes and procedures to gather best practices to take back to their own office.
- Received \$135,000 more Federal Work Study funds for 2009-10 than we received in 2008-09.
- There are 1,205 students signed up for Fall Orientation.
- Student Activities Leadership Awards: 17 students nominated for Rising Star, 29 students nominated for Torchbearer and 9 faculty/staff are nominated for Advisor of the Year.
- University Recreation student/staff member Emilie Eiden is a participant in the Dr. Phil Ultimate Weight Loss Challenge and the "reveal show".

### **University Advancement & Marketing**

- Haag-Streit USA along with many faculty and staff has committed funds to the Michigan College of Optometry building.
- The College of Professional & Technological Studies established a new endowed scholarship for off-campus students.
- Leah Nixon and Scott Redding have collaborated with Pace and Partners to feature the Michigan Energy Conference in Matt Roush's *Great Lakes IT Report* on WWJ Newsradio 950.
- The Campus Osprey Web Cam is proving to be a big success as the birds have returned and are visible through the Ferris Web site. The Osprey Cam is one of only a few in the world and was a collaborative effort among several divisions.
- *Opportunity@125* kicked off with media coverage by *The Grand Rapids Press*, *Big Rapids Pioneer*, Big Rapids Radio Network and CMU Public Radio.