



Good News

May 14, 2008

Academic Affairs

- Matthew Wagenheim's class finished the first phase of their assessment of the Reed City wellness initiative. The Mayor and several community officials attended and were very impressed. The second phase of the assessment will be completed in Fall Semester 2008.
- Three teams of students from Kendall College of Art and Design and Ferris State University won awards at this year's Emerging Green Builder's Competition.
- Students from the College of Technology did an outstanding job showing their skills and knowledge to the rest of Michigan as they participated in varying contests at the Skills USA state competition. Ferris "swept the competition" and took top ranking for all places, Gold, Silver and Bronze in each competition. Students will continue to the national competition in Kansas City the week of June 23-23, 2008.
- Bruce Gregory brought a group of Ferris students and faculty to aid in judging region 14 and 15 MITES Competition. They showed a video of the Rube Goldberg project and the Formula SAE and MiniBAJA cars were placed on display.
- On behalf of our chapter, Omicron II, of Sigma Lambda Chi, the international honor society for construction management, Ed Brayton and John Schmidt accepted the "High Achievement Award" at the International Convention held at Auburn University. This award goes to chapters who maintain a high standard of quality activity overall in their efforts to assist their chapter, programs, universities, and communities. This is the second consecutive year they have received this honor and follows two prior award-winning years in which they received the "International Outstanding Chapter Award" and the "Excellence in service Projects to Major Field of Study Award."
- The College of Arts and Sciences had fifty-five faculty participate in the spring commencement ceremony due to the College Regalia Purchase Policy through which the College purchases regalia for faculty who have been full-time, tenure line faculty for at least three years and have participated in at least three commencement ceremonies in the previous three years.

College of Professional and Technological Studies

- Mr. Nathan Murley, a Ferris-Grand Rapids student, received congratulations and sponsorship from the Leadership Committee of the Grand Rapids Section of the American Society for Quality (ASQ) regarding the Student Technical Paper Contest at the World Conference on Quality and Improvement.
- The Digital Animation Game Design students created some Rockumentaries for WGRD radio station (97.9). They may be found at: <http://wgrd.com/Home/tabid/525/Default.aspx> as well as a link to Ferris' DAGD program.
- The on-line Bachelor's Degree in Dental Hygiene is already receiving inquiries for application. While the first cohorts will be Michigan based, plans are to take the program national and then international over the next two years.

Administration and Finance

- Senior Becky Hoffman and junior Alison Meyer of the nationally-ranked Ferris women's golf team highlight the list of the 2008 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Women's Golf Postseason Award recipients as the pair both attained first-team honors. Becky has also been named the 2007-08 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference's (GLIAC) Women's Golf Athlete of the Year as announced by the conference office on April 29.
- The softball team reaped the rewards of its 2008 NCAA Division II Great Lakes Regional Tournament title as junior pitcher Holly Bruntjens and junior outfielder-pitcher Sarah Mueller were named to the regional's all-tournament team. Bruntjens also was chosen as the tournament's

Most Outstanding Player. Ferris will be making its third national tournament appearance in the school's history this week as the Bulldogs are one of eight teams who will be competing in the 2008 NCAA-II Spring Championships Festival at Houston, Texas.

- Overall customer satisfaction rating for Dining Services increased from 79.0% in Spring FY07 to 80.2% in Spring FY08.
- The Residence Hall Staff along with the students of the Freshman Year Experience (FYE) and Sophomore Leadership Experience Development (SLED) in Clark Hall organized the annual "Cheer on Children" dodge ball tournament. The tourney raised over \$1,100 which was donated to the DeVos Children's Hospital Foundation. Over 100 students participated.
- The storage area network (SAN) has been installed to replace the old unit which had reached its capacity and end of life cycle. Network technicians have migrated the storage for over 20 servers connected to this with no loss of data or major service interruptions. The SAN has approximately 25,000 Giga Bytes of space and all of our Tier 1 services like MyFSU, Banner, Ferris Connect, etc use the SAN for data storage.
- Wireless deployment on Big Rapids campus is now complete. The outdoor wireless covered the appropriate green spaces on campus and consisted of 40 access points attached to campus buildings. The indoor wireless consists of 500 access points in 16 residence hall commons, 6 dining units, and 41 academic/administrative buildings.
- Banner hardware upgrades have been completed. Other applications on the database servers like Kronos (time keeping), T2 (parking management), MyFSU, WebFocus, etc have all benefited.
- Ferris Connect has been successful with great collaboration between IT and academics on the planning, supporting and implementing the new course management software. Significant numbers of faculty have been trained and over 4,500 students used it Fall and Spring semesters.

Diversity Office

- Lynn Anderson, from Great Lakes Book & Supply Inc., said that the University may use her Ferris memorabilia during its 125th celebration.
- The Office of Multicultural Student Services bus tour is going well and received several admits.
- Student Organizations raised \$1,000 for the Jim Crow Museum.

Governmental Relations and General Counsel

- Two AFSCME grievances scheduled for arbitration have settled, saving arbitrator fees and resources for University personnel and union representatives to prepare for the arbitration.
- The administration and the CTA union have formed bargaining teams and negotiation sessions are scheduled from late May to mid-June. The current CBA expires June 30, 2008.

University Advancement and Marketing

- A successful "Making the Connection" reception was held where donors and the scholarship recipients attended.
- Three consulting firms have been selected to present their case for the capital campaign feasibility study.
- UA&M is using vehicle wrap advertising as a new medium for increasing the awareness of Ferris State University. This will serve as a traveling billboard throughout Michigan as our admissions recruiters hit the roads in the fall to make high school visits; the impactful graphics on the vehicle command attention and produce buzz and excitement about Ferris and that the vehicle becomes the most requested in our fleet. The vehicle will make its debut in the July 12th Traverse City Cherry Festival Parade.
- Marketing is helping to educate the campus community about the new mission, vision, and values by creating special communications to explain and draw attention to them.
- The new Ferris State University Alumni Online Community has been launched including the ability to stream web content to their profile page, such as YouTube videos, blogs, photo albums, Google content and more.
- The Commencement video debuted at all five ceremonies and provides a wonderful lasting impression of the University for graduates and their family members.
- The Student Alumni Gold Club was recognized for 5-Star Status for the 5th year in a row and were also recognized as the overall top RSO on campus during the Torchbearer Awards.