

# FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

## Good News Items

August 6, 2008

### Academic Affairs

- In addition to the golf and tennis summer camps supported by our PTM and PGM, the College of Business experienced increasing success with their Computer Technology Academy summer camp. There was also an increase of 16.5% students participating in this summer's Orientation/Registration sessions. Growth areas were Graphic Design, Accounting, and Music Industry Management.
- College of Technology's Printing and Imaging Technology Management Department was one of eight to be selected by Heidelberger DruckerMachinen of Heidelberg, Germany to participate in a summit on the future of print media and print media education. According to Heidelberg Corporation, "It is key to our industry that students begin to work as an international team to further develop the printing industry. This will happen when faculty begin to collaborate with one another around the world."
- College of Education and Human Services' Television and Digital Media Production program will upgrade its equipment inventory for the transition to digital now under way in the television industry. Three graduates from our teacher education program were hired in Michigan. That is important news because the negative hiring trend might be changing. Dean Johnston wrote an intent to apply letter to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC) describing a possible writing project in Baldwin. The SPLC invited her to submit a grant application to fund the writing project.
- The comprehensive Eye Care for Indigent Adults with Diabetes application was awarded as a grant of \$407,320 over a three year period as a community collaboration among Saint Mary's Diabetes Support Team and Center for Diabetes and Endocrinology, Advantage Health, Advantage Health Physicians, Michigan College of Optometry at FSU, Community Collaborative of seven retinal specialists, and University of California at Berkeley, School of Optometry. The purpose of the three-year project is to improve diabetic eye care management and clinical outcomes for low-income patients with diabetes. To insure access to needed services, the grant will cover screening, image interpretation, assessment and treatment costs for uninsured patients.

### Administration and Finance

- The Athletics Department has completed another very successful summer camp season. Over the last two months, FSU has hosted over 2,500 student athletes from several states, and as far away as Spain. The athletes and their coaches enjoyed advanced instruction and strong competition in basketball, volleyball, soccer, football, golf and tennis.
- The Physical Plant and Athletics have completed the new football Mondo Ecofill artificial playing surface project. The new Associate Athletic Director, Jon Coles, starts August 7. The Katke Golf Course renovations (tee boxes, tree removal, retaining walls) are completed and on budget. Transformation of the Ice Arena continues. Skating may begin as early as September 8.
- The Starbucks Coffee House project in the IRC connector is progressing with an anticipated opening date of September 2.
- MyFSU was upgraded; this provided the opportunity to "reface" the portal. Improvements were made in visual "cleanness" by using fewer tabs, granular targeted messages, immediate display of personalized information (such as course schedule and advisor), and one-click access to services in Self-Serve Banner and positions us to add additional functionality over the next few years.
- Ferris hosted 125 attendees at the BugMi (Banner Users Group) conference on June 6.

- The majority of our police officers and sergeants have now attended a special event on detection, collection and processing of physical evidence as a special arrangement with the Kent County Crime Laboratory to raise the skills of our officers.

#### **College of Professional and Technological Studies**

- In June and July Ferris' Grand Rapids site offered scholarships to animation and software camps for a number of participants from the Grand Rapids Hispanic Center and the Society of Black Engineers.
- In late June ten students from the Grand Rapids Pre-College Engineering Program (GRAPCEP) received scholarships and attended the Biotech Camp offered in Big Rapids.
- Mark Kistler taped 26 episodes of Imagination Station at the Applied Technology Center with production help from a number of Ferris students and faculty. FSU is a partner in the production and will receive billing in the credits.
- An online application is being developed that will serve all locations across the University. This application will provide drop-down menus to help students choose their site and will only allow students to select majors that are available at the site they have chosen.
- This week, WOTV was at the Grand Rapids campus taping a segment providing advice to parents and high school students on how to prepare for college.

#### **Diversity Office**

- Professor Amanda Karel from the Department of Humanities will be joining the Diversity Office Fall 2008 as a Research Assistant.
- The TIP administrative position has been posted.
- The Faculty/Staff and Student Mini Grants draft has been completed.
- The Student Diversity Survey analysis is near completion; results may be viewed on the Diversity Office website.

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

- Of the 163 beds at the 5 Lyon apartments, 123 are leased.
- Fall enrollment is currently at 1,294 with 14,173 credit hours, the first time Kendall has gone over 14,000 credit hours in a semester.
- Construction/renovation projects on both the 6th and 7th Floors are progressing well.
- Faculty member, Deborah Rockman, Professor of Foundation, Fine Arts, Drawing & Painting, has won the first-place award in the regional art exhibition with the Muskegon Museum of Art.
- Student Dustin Farnsworth won the first-place prize (\$5,000) in the first Regional Biennial Juried Sculpture Exhibition sponsored by the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum.
- Student Hillary Presecan of Battle Creek just finished her bachelor's degree in Art History at Kendall College of Art and Design. She will be leaving in September for Morocco to work with the Peace Corp. She plans to teach English, health and community issues. She hopes to be able to use her training and experience in the visual arts, as well, starting an Art Club for children while in Morocco.
- Natsuki Kato [August 2008 graduate and native of Japan] took the first-place award (Film Category) at the Grand Rapids Arts Festival 2008. Her project *Thumbelina* won her an Avid DV Express Pro digital editing software package worth \$1,600.

#### **Student Affairs**

- The "Wish a Mile" bike tour was on campus with 800 participants, who received Ferris t-shirts.
- Matt Eickhoff is working with FSU-GR in starting student organizations there and is pleased with the model they are developing for this campus.

- Leroy Wright is finishing interviews for the Director of Student Conduct position and interviews are being conducted for the Director of University Recreation. He has been contacted by Yoplait to partner with them on a diversity initiative.
- Dan Burcham has met with University Advancement and Marketing to talk about the possibility of UA&M using the Communication Center after hours for an advancement phone call solicitation in the Fall.
- Admissions will be retooling the parents' webpage.
- The Student Community Standards will be distributed to new students on a CD including general Ferris facts and history.

### **University Advancement and Marketing**

- The major gift team received training from national renowned author, Sondra Shaw-Hardy, on *Women in Philanthropy* on August 28 in Traverse City.
- Advancement is hosting a "Fundraising for Student Affairs" webinar on July 23.
- Five \$2,000 need-based upper-class scholarships and three merit scholarships have been awarded by The Ferris Foundation through the proceeds from the Foundation for Excellence Benefit.
- The Ferris Foundation Board has recommended three new members of their board of directors: Scott Schropp, Joe Mikols, Toby VanEss.
- The Alumni Association is awarding 21 legacy scholarships (19 - \$1,000 scholarships and 2 - \$2,000 scholarships). These students will be recognized at a luncheon on September 13.
- FY08 cash contributions increased by 3% (\$4,322,184) and the number of donors increased by 4% (6,265) compared to last year's figures at this time.
- A revamped News Services site has been launched - <http://www.ferris.edu/htmls/news/news/homepage.cfm>
- Ferris State University's marketing campaign for 2008-09 includes media placements in the primary markets of Detroit, Grand Rapids and Lansing to focus on Ferris' image and brand; the secondary markets of Flint/Midland, Traverse City and Dowagiac/Niles to generate awareness of and recruitment into College of Professional and Technological Studies programs across the state; and in the Chicago land area to support the Chicago initiative to recruit students from that area to Ferris.
- Ferris State University was well represented in the annual Traverse City Cherry Festival Parade Saturday, July 12. Participants included 15 FSU cheerleaders, the Bulldog mascot and Student Alumni Gold Club member Paul McKean. Ferris' first advertising wrapped vehicle also made its debut in the parade and will be among the Motor Pool vehicles available for assignment to University departments.
- The University's work with campaign feasibility and planning study consultants Community Counselling Services of Southfield is progressing smoothly and on schedule.