

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Good News Items

August 27, 2008

Academic Affairs

- Fred Heck, Professor of Geology has accepted the appointment as General Education Coordinator.
- An improvement in the base adjunct compensation for adjunct faculty members has been approved. The last change in the adjunct base compensation was 1996.
- From the College of Arts & Sciences:
 - David Russell has been selected to serve as one of the editors of *The Lion and the Unicorn*, one of the nation's most prestigious journals.
 - Caroline Stern has been invited by UNESCO to conduct a training seminar on information literacy for librarians and other instructional faculty at the Library at Alexandria, Egypt. She has just returned from a similar trip to Turkey.
 - Andrew Kantar's latest book *Black November* inspired a documentary - *November Requiem*, will air on Michigan PBS stations this fall.
- Faculty Center: Bea Griffith-Cooper, Bill Knapp, Vicky Deur, Sue Cherry, and Meegan Lillis have developed a joint presentation - The Technology Road Show - and are sharing at college or department meetings.
- During the study abroad trip to London, Connie Morcom of College of Education and Human Services, Kathryn LaPietra of College of Arts and Sciences, Television and Digital Media Production and theatre students studied with faculty and students from the London College of Communications and visited various digital media, animation, and high technology companies as well as theatre productions.
- The Michigan College of Optometry will be working on the Telemedicine Project which is a \$400,000 grant for three years with St. Mary's Hospital in Grand Rapids.
- The College of Technology and MODAC is developing an articulation agreement that would grant credit for apprenticeship experience in construction programs.
 - Ed Muccio, Professor of Plastics Engineering Technology, has been working in Europe over the past twelve summers lecturing and developing many personal and professional contacts. He has visited and guest-lectured at the FH Darmstadt Germany and is reviewing the possibilities of developing a collaboration/partnership that could result in student study-abroad experiences, student exchanges, faculty collaborations, and possible master's degree plans in the Plastics field of study.

Administration and Finance

- Fourteen study lounges were created in our residence halls this summer.
- State of Michigan audit results from Carl Perkins Career and Technical Education Improvement grant showed no errors or audit concerns in our financial policies and testing of transactions.
- Dan Sovinski, Physical Plant Engineer was appointed by Governor Granholm to the Board of Boiler Rules for a term of August 14, 2008 through June 30, 2009.

College of Professional and Technological Studies

- Marty Lier, faculty member in Digital Animation and Game Design, will be participating in a college preparation program with Black River Public Schools.
- CPTS' new website is up and running at <http://cpts.ferris.edu>
- The Allegan Schools, Lake Michigan College, Ferris State University partnership was recently featured in the Kalamazoo Gazette and Grand Rapids Press:

<http://www.mlive.com/news/kzgazette/index.ssf?/base/news-30/12194166392420BO.xml&coll=7>

<http://www.mlive.com/grandrapids/stories/index.ssf?/base/news-43/121947214950650.xml&coll=6>

Diversity Office

- Enrollment for Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) students is expected to exceed 650 for Fall 2008. This population has doubled since 2006.
- The Core Values banners are hanging on State Street. The images are very diverse. The table tents (core values and mission) will be distributed throughout the University.
- The "First Ladies Attic" is taking shape.

Governmental Relations and General Counsel

- The Leadership Mecosta Year of the Dawg project sponsored the "unleashing" of the dawgs - 35 unique and creatively-decorated dawgs will be placed in their "homes" throughout the area.
- The Founders' Day Ice Cream Social was a success with celebrity servers such as State Representative Darwin Booher, Mayor Mark Warba, City Manager Steve Sobers, Micki McClelland, Kevin Courtney, Tom Hogenson, Carleen Rose, Sueann Walz, Judge Scott Hill-Kennedy, Judge Ron Nichols, Student Government President Amber Balmer and Ferris representatives.
- The Secretary of State mobile branch office will be behind the IRC building on September 16, from 9:00 am to 3:00 pm to offer the full functions of a regular branch office such as voter registration, automobile registration, driver's license services, etc.

Kendall College of Art and Design

- At 5 Lyon 139 of the 169 beds have been leased in the Lofts.
- Renovation projects on both the 6th, 7th, and 1st floors continue to progress well. The 6th floor was ready for the beginning of school.
- Faculty member Rob Jackson, who also works for Extra Credit Projects, a local design firm, received national recognition at the American Advertising Federation's National Conference this past July. The design firm earned one National Gold and one National Silver Addy award.
- "Out of the Dungeons" exhibit opened in the Kendall College of Art and Design main gallery. This exhibit recognizes Keith Parkinson, Larry Elmore and Jeff Easley. The "Whodunit" exhibit at the Grand Rapids Public Museum opens August 30, 2008; Nick Nawrocki, a Kendall student, created the scenes for this murder mystery exhibit. Mitch Mulder, a former Kendall student, is marketing his new SoulArc skateboard design at the Action Sports Retail trade show in San Diego in September. This is a collaboration project between Mulder and Salvatore Vilardi. The skateboard is a result of a class project while Mulder attended Kendall.

Student Affairs

- Birkam Health Center is doing TB tests for the colleges and has waived the \$47 health center fee.
- Financial Aid processing is going well with a maximum of 48 hours turn-around time.
- The Student Handbook, designed by Web Services in UA&M, has been printed, is available on-line and on disk. The disk will also contain the University mission statement, core values, Ferris Fight Song, why school spirit is important, as well as list University resources and links.

University Advancement and Marketing

- Homecoming announcements: Students have selected the theme of "Boot, Scootin' Bulldogs." Bill Beckwith will be Grand Marshal.
- The UA&M VP search committee has narrowed the candidate pool to 7 semi-finalists. RP A, Inc. will coordinate and conduct semi-finalists interviews and background checks.
- FY '09 year-to-date contributions show an increase of 8% with the number of donors increasing by 3% compared to last year's figures at this time.
- News Services collaborated with the *Big Rapids Pioneer* for the 2008 Bulldog Survival Guide, a student's guide to living in Big Rapids. The annual back-to-school issue is dedicated to providing freshmen and transfer students a glimpse of what Ferris and the Big Rapids community have to offer and was distributed to each student moving into campus residence halls.