

# FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

## Good News Items

September 2, 2009

### Academic Affairs

#### College of Education and Human Services

- COEHS will focus its 125th Anniversary activities on the qualities of Helen Ferris with panel discussions about her.
- COEHS will host a reception for freshmen students at the Art Gallery to make freshmen feel welcome.

#### *School of Education*

- The State Board of Education, Superintendent of Public Instruction, and Michigan Department of Education recognized the Teacher Preparation Program at Ferris State University as "Exemplary." In the *Annual Yearly Progress*, out of a possible 70 points, the Ferris State University Teacher Preparation Program scored 68 - ranked as exemplary and had the most improved score.
- The Michigan Department of Education (MDE) approved the request to offer certification for teachers of Emotionally Impaired students.

#### *School of Criminal Justice*

- The School of Criminal Justice (CJ) is welcoming two new faculty members: Kristin Walters and Mischelle Stone. Dr. Walters also is pursuing her doctorate at Western Michigan University, and Dr. Stone, who comes to Ferris State University from the University of Alabama, is an expert in integrating technology into instruction and assessment. CJ also has a new off-campus advisor: Maria Putt. Putt, a Ferris alumna, was a police officer in Farmington Hills.
- At the dedication of the Robert Parsons Training Center (rifle range), as a longtime faculty member and founder of CJ at Ferris, Parsons was recognized for his contributions to Ferris, law enforcement, and professional learning for law enforcement officers.

#### *ROTC*

- Three cadets were commissioned in August and will be entering the Michigan Army National Guard. Six cadets have completed the leadership development assessment course at Ft. Lewis in Washington and received satisfactory ratings; one cadet completed the leadership training course at Ft. Knox in Kentucky, two completed Basic Training, and two finished Air Assault (Rappelling) training this summer.
- The ROTC continues to grow and has awarded scholarships to eight cadets.
- The U.S. Army supports the Ferris State University through its training and scholarship resources that amounts to approximately \$630,800 which includes \$76,800 in scholarships, \$204,000 for personnel, and \$350,000 in National Guard/Army Reserve student funds.
- ROTC supported the beginning FSU 125th Anniversary events in placing and guarding the wreath at both the statue and moratorium.

#### *Recreation, Leisure Services, and Wellness*

- Recreation, Leisure Services, and Wellness in collaboration with University Advancement and Marketing is starting a new marketing campaign by refreshing its website, producing new brochures, and working with its alumni.

#### *Television and Digital Media Production*

- Television and Digital Media Production (TDMP) is in the initial stages of partnering and/or collaborating with the Film School that is associated with the Sixth Traverse City Film Festival. By partnering and/or collaborating with the Film School, TDMP increases its exposure and applicant pool.

## College of Engineering Technology

- The College of Engineering Technology expanded its energy initiatives by adding Energy Coordinator Arnold (Arn) McIntyre. He has been involved in “green” construction for many years and received the 2007 Advocate of the Year award from the Home Building Association of Greater Grand Rapids for his continued education in the industry of green building. He also works with government agencies to define and set energy, green and sustainable standards for construction. In his new role, he looks to continue to grow Ferris’ recognition as a “go to authority” in energy.

## Administration and Finance

### Auxiliary Enterprises:

- Tom Kirinovic has been elected to the Division II Athletic Director Association Board of Directors.
- The Athletic department launched a new website on August 3rd. The website has a video feature and many other unique elements that make it a great addition.
- There were 32 Ferris student-athletes honored for their academic success by the DII Athletic Directors Association for 2008-09; almost 10% of Ferris’ total roster receive this recognition.

### Physical Plant:

- Rock, South campus green space and Phase 1 utilities are complete; MCO Lot 5 construction began.
- Physical Plant purchased six outdoor tables and is placing them in and around the quad.

### Public Safety:

- Big Rapids DPS and Ferris DPS met regarding lifesaving citations for the incredible response to the four men struck by lightning. All four survive today because of the care by emergency personnel.

## CPTS

- The first ever, off-campus endowed scholarships are being awarded for fall semester - two scholarships of \$1,000 each.
- The off-campus financial aid consortium form is now on-line and will improve the service to off-campus students wishing to receive financial aid while attending a community college and FSU at the same time.
- Grand Rapids is taking on its third HOY (Honoring Our Youth) intern, in conjunction with the GR Hispanic Center. These internships are helping FSU to gain a stronger relationship in the Grand Rapids Latino community.
- The first ever “refreshment tent” was set up at Lansing Community College where CPTS staff spoke to over 500 people and distributed t-shirts and cookies.

## Diversity and Inclusion

- The Diversity Planning Committee will create more forums - Diversity Dialogue - for conversations around diversity, issues of gender, etc. Consequently, women from the committee will create some synergy around an upcoming event, Tres Vidas at the Comstock House with live music theatre work, which profiles the lives of three Latina women. Ana Davila-Howard, Stephanie Thomson, and Ron Haldyna will be discussion leaders. This is a relatively "intimate" event to build community, learn, cross over varied functions of the university, and promote engagement in conversations around diversity.
- The OMSS *Transition to Success* event was a big success with more than 100 students, many from underrepresented groups, getting advice from students, faculty, and staff on successfully negotiating the college experience.

## Governmental Relations and General Counsel

- The University was pleased to host Congressman Dave Camp when he toured the Granger Center and visited with faculty, staff, and students from the College of Engineering Technology. He also held a

press conference in support of student accessibility, education of displaced workers, and alternative/green energy initiatives.

- Steve Stratton conducted Sensitivity Training of 70 residence life student staff (RAs).

## **Kendall College of Art & Design**

- The Second Floor renovation project was complete and ready for the first day of school. The comments from the students have been overwhelmingly positive.
- Recently, a public relations firm from Omaha, Nebraska contacted Kendall and commissioned KCAD graduate, Nathan Allan Heuer, to create an art work for the hospital's collection. Nathan recently won the Best of Show in the 81<sup>st</sup> Regional Art Show, held in Muskegon and has also accepted a tenure-track position as an Assistant Professor of Drawing at a college in Texas.
- Kendall partnered with Fulton Innovation, the creator and exclusive licensor of eCoupled intelligent wireless power and received excellent news coverage.
- The *Grand Rapids Magazine's* article on outstanding alumni from area colleges gave good coverage for a number of KCAD alumni.
- Diane Heath (Dual Enrollment teacher) has won the "Michigan High School Art Teacher of the Year" award for 2009. KCAD was one of her nominators. This is the highest award an art teacher can achieve, and Diane will officially receive this award at the yearly MAEA convention in Kalamazoo in November.
- The Lofts @ 5 Lyon 2009: there are a total of 146 beds leased out of a total of 169.

## **Student Affairs**

### **Admissions and Records**

- In a collaborative effort between the College of Engineering Technology (CET), and the Office of Admissions & Records, 21 recruitment videos were recently developed. Created by student employees of the Graphic Design, and Television Digital Media Program, these progressive videos highlight academic laboratories, CET student involvement, and faculty interaction.

### **Student Conduct**

- Will be presenting to the Allied Health faculty regarding Conduct in the Classroom.
- The 2009-10 Code of Student Community Standards Handbooks have been distributed.

### **University Recreation**

- The FSU Ropes Challenge Course held an open house, faculty members were quite positive and many stated that they would like to utilize the course for their classes.
- The SRC roof repairs are underway with an expected completion in early September.
- University Recreation has hired 57 new student staff members.

## **University Advancement and Marketing**

- Forty-one individuals attended the Bulldog at the Races NASCAR Spring Cup event.
- More than 30 local businesses and their staff will be wearing the Ferris 125<sup>th</sup> tee shirts on Founder's Day, September 3. There were more than 550 tee shirts distributed to the businesses.
- Allied Health Sciences received two c-arm machines for their Radiography program.
- *Planned Giving* - Ferris Emeriti member created a charitable gift annuity.
- UA&M is partnering with Television and Digital Media Production this academic year to produce "Ferris Today," a new public affairs broadcast on Fox 32 and streamed on the Ferris Web site, produced by Sandy Gholston.
- UA&M and Admissions are launching their first-ever billboard campaign in the Chicago market to increase awareness and visibility of the Great Lakes Scholarship Initiative.
- The official Ferris State University Blog now has video capabilities.
- The Ferris homepage now features an opening banner for the 125th Year Celebration.