

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Good News Items

October 7, 2009

Academic Affairs

College of Arts and Sciences

- For the third year running and the fourth out of six, our SAACS chapter received a Green Chemistry Chapter recognition from ACS.

College of Business

- The PGM program netted over \$8,000 from the President's invitational golf tournament.
- A new partnership with Michigan Meetings & Events Network provided 17 Hospitality Special Event and Meeting Planning students the opportunity to work at the *2009 Solutions and Trends Expo*.
- Julie A. Doyle, Coordinator Hospitality Programs, serves on the Michigan Restaurant Associations Board of Directors.
- Leanne Davidson, senior in Resort Management, has been named *Hyatt Student Ambassador*. Kaitlin Russel and Leanne Davidson, seniors in the Hospitality Program, received the *American Hotel & Lodging Educational Foundation 2009 Scholarship Award*. Abayomi Egbeleye was selected as the 2009-10 MidWest Regional Chairman of the National Society of Minorities in Hospitality.
- The new Computer Information Technology (CIT) program was approved by the Board of Trustees.
- David Steenstra, Management Department Head, presented a workshop called "Greening Your Business."

College of Education and Human Services

- The College of Education and Human Services enrollments increased this semester with the School of Criminal Justice having grown by over 100 new students.
- Recreation alumni and students helped make the Big Rapids River Days successful. Organizers included alumni Jill Buse and students Leah Tandy and Amelia Johnson, who worked the race registration table for the Big Bad Wolf Adventure Race and the 5K Run and Walk Race.
- In addition to awarding exemplary ranking to the School of Education, the Michigan Department of Education approved offering a Spanish teaching minor for the undergraduate teacher preparation program and an endorsement for teaching emotionally impaired children on the graduate level.
- The Student Showcase will feature a showing of the film projects from the Digital Cinematography class and Television and Digital Media Production students will show their work.
- Connie Morcom, Assistant Professor in the Television and Digital Media Production Program was selected to attend the Annual Academy of Television Arts and Sciences Foundation Faculty Seminar.
- Law Enforcement Academy students represented the Ferris State University School of Criminal Justice at the Kalamazoo Foot Chase Run, benefiting families of fallen police officers. They participated in the annual Special Olympics Torch Run in Big Rapids.
- The ROTC Cadets left Ferris in two Blackhawk helicopters for a weekend of training operations.
- Two ROTC cadets, Matthew Essenmacher and Aaron Momber, demonstrated excellent leadership skills and high levels of competencies in recent Army assessments on which they ranked among the top 20% of the 4,702 cadets, who were graduating from ROTC programs nation-wide. Because they performed so extraordinarily well, they received recognition as the Distinguished Military Graduates. They are the first such awardees from Ferris State University.

College of Engineering Technology

- The American Welding Society awarded \$36,000 in scholarships to Ferris Welding.

University College

- Interim SLA Coordinator Arlene Krellwitz consulted about the Structured Learning Assistance (SLA) program at Mid-South Community College in West Memphis, Arkansas.

- University College faculty were well-represented at the 9th Annual Lilly-Traverse City Conference on College and University Teaching. Gloria Lukusa-Barnett won First Place for her poster session "How to Use a WebCam, Photos, JPEG Powerpoint Slides as a Stepping Stone for Making DVDs." Judith Hooper shared a poster entitled "Connecting Students with the Political Process: The 2008 U.S. Presidential Election Campaign." Terry Doyle made a professional presentation "Helping Students Learn in Harmony with Their Brains." Dr. Helen Woodman, along with colleagues Dr. Christine Conley Sowels from the School of Education and Dr. Clifton Franklund from Biological Sciences presented "Rubrics Rock! Rubistar and Beyond: Rubrics to Use Monday Morning."
- The Academic Support Center sponsored the annual Academic Support Services Fair for more than 400 first-year students.
- The Political Engagement Project sponsored several events during Constitution Week with more than 400 students, faculty and staff participating. The week concluded with a campus-wide speech by Ottawa County Circuit Judge Jon van Allsburg entitled "Constitutional Principles in Everyday Life." Also, 24 faculty are offering Political Engagement Project courses and 12 faculty are offering Academic Service Learning courses during fall semester.

Administration and Finance

Auxiliary Enterprises:

- Bri Borgman in Women's Soccer, Eric Lilleboe in Men's Golf and Tina Muir in Women's Cross Country were all GLIAC Athletes of the Week.
- The softball team held the inaugural golf outing fundraiser with a net profit in excess of \$7,000.
- The Ice Arena will be bringing in nine out-of-town high school hockey teams to play in showcase games utilizing 31 hours of ice time.

ITS:

- The I-Connect program connected 1,015 computers during move in week.
- Over 200 media equipment classrooms and all academic computer labs were checked and ready for the first day. Over 170 VoIP phones were installed in classrooms this summer.
- TAC has received nearly 35% fewer calls than last year and have resolved 67% on first contact.

Physical Plant:

- Received final approval from the State to bid the Michigan College of Optometry project.
- Significant progress is being made on the East Campus Apartment Project.
- Building O in South Campus Apartments has been demolished.

Public Safety:

- FSU Police Officers Jim Cook and Mike Chamberlain took first place in the College & University division of the Michigan Police Shoot, a state wide pistol match.
- The Parking Resources Team celebrated with a breakfast and employee award event at the new Rock Café, recognizing June Swanson, Julie Courtney, Carla Hatfield, Deb Obert, Donna Kaledas, Carrie Latham, Ashley Badder and Megan Bolter for their contribution to the best academic school year parking preparation of students, faculty and staff. They received the FSU DPS Exemplary Service Award for their efforts.

Diversity and Inclusion

- The Diversity and Inclusion Office's first issue of the "Expect Diversity" newsletter has been posted on the website <http://www.ferris.edu/diversity/memos/newsletters/Fall09Issue1.pdf>
- Tres Vidas event was successful and was a great way to end Hispanic Heritage Month.
- The Globalization Initiative has begun.
- The Diversity and Inclusion Office has received five Faculty/Staff Diversity Mini Grant applications.
- Business at the First Lady's Attic has picked up considerably since the beginning of Fall semester. The Attic has provided clothing for 65 students in the last month.

Governmental Relations and General Counsel

- An estimated 2,500 community members, alumni, students, faculty, and staff enjoyed tasty Jones Homemade Ice Cream and special 125th Anniversary cupcakes at the 3rd Annual Founders' Day Community Ice Cream Social. Over 150 gallons of ice cream and 2,000 cupcakes were served by 34 celebrity servers.

KENDALL COLLEGE OF ART AND DESIGN OF FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

- Kendall's Interior Design program has been granted continued accreditation for the next six years, the maximum time allowed by the specialized accrediting agency for interior design (The Council for Interior Design Accreditation - CIDA).
- A recent graduate of Kendall's Art History program has been accepted to graduate school at Harvard University.
- Kendall hosted 117 high art teachers, students and parents for the 1st Annual High School Dual Enrollment Event. Most are dual enrollment students for Fall 2009 with some prospective dual enrollment students.
- Alumnus Dru Nget was nominated for a 2008-2009 Primetime Emmy Award (Academy of Television Arts & Sciences) for his work on HBO's "Taking Change" - Outstanding Main Title Design.
- A new line of wine cabinets designed by Kendall alumna Jaclyn Drenth, invented and manufactured in West Michigan has caught the eye of a big-time British billionaire, Sir Richard Branson (founder of Virgin Companies). Branson recently ordered a 1,622-bottle custom wine rack from the Grand Rapids-based Revel Custom Wine Cellars for The Carriage House Culinary Center at Natirar, a resort property and spa he is developing in New Jersey.
- Rafael Vinoly, globally known architect, is coming to Kendall College of Art and Design of Ferris State University. This event (round table discussion, reception and evening lecture) is sponsored by Kendall, G.R. Mayor George Heartwell, and The VanAndel Institute.
- Elizabeth Wertenberger, Andrea Sherburn and Elizabeth Weller are Kendall Interior Design students who were featured in the Home|Garden section of the Grand Rapids Press titled *It's All in the Design - Make the Most of College Digs with a Bit of Planning*. They outlined plans for functional and appealing dorm and apartment living spaces.
- The American Furniture Hall of Fame Foundation, Inc. has redesigned the *Affie Award* presented to those inducted into the Hall of Fame, one of the industry's highest honors. Alumnus Mark Tucker III designed of the new Affie Award.

Student Affairs

Career Services

- 68 companies attended the Fall Job Fair; 18 employers stayed on campus to interview students.
- The Career Services Open House was held in Rankin Student Center Room 135.

Scholarships and Financial Aid

- For 2008-2009, 45 federal work study students participated in employment positions that were qualified as community service, including 18 who were reading tutors in local schools and were awarded/earned over 28% more for community service work study last year.
- Using personal phone calls, e-mail and voice messages to communicate information to students, there was a nearly 50% decrease in walk-in traffic during the first week of fall classes.
- Education of and a short video to students and parents on the advantages of the Federal PLUS loan program over other loans resulted in a doubling of PLUS loan volume, while private loan volume has decreased dramatically.
- 358 students whose families have been severely impacted by the negative economy, either through job loss or other hardship, have been awarded over \$800,000 in Ferris grant monies for the 2009-2010

year. It is believed that many, if not most, of these students would not have been able to attend without this new financial aid.

University Recreation

- Working on Wellness Program (WOW) has offered a pilot program including students; along with the 46 Ferris faculty and staff, we have 12 students who joined this semester.

University Advancement and Marketing

- The kickoff of the 125th Celebration activities was very successful, with over 5,000 students, faculty, staff, alumni and area community members attending Founders' Day! Many of the activities resulted in significant positive press in local and state newspapers.
- WordStream, Inc., a provider of keyword research and organization solutions has announced the Top Search Engine Optimization College Websites, with Ferris ranking fourth in the nation; topping the list are Drexel University, University of Phoenix, Capella University and Ferris State University.
- We have created a special Web page to coordinate with our recruiting billboard campaign in Chicago. The page welcomes prospects by offering access to all information on one page, www.ferris.edu/payinstatetuition.
- Michigan College of Optometry new building gifts:
 - The Marco Family Foundation - to name the Marco Family Computer Laboratory.
 - The Michigan Optometric Association - to name a room.
 - James Paramore - to name the Dean's Conference Room.
 - Rick and Denise Billings - to name the pre-clinic test room Eye Learning Module.
 - Essilor of America - to name the Essilor Eyewear Center and Examination Room named in honor of Mike Daley.
 - Bob and Kim Buckingham - to name the Buckingham Exam Room.
- Andrew Jeffrey established the Andrew V. Jeffrey Annual Criminal Justice Scholarship.
- Received two anonymous gifts for the Strengthening and Conditioning Program for hockey.
- More than 75 scholarship recipients and their donors attended the Making the Connection to Opportunity Reception.
- Dr. Gary Rodabaugh (biology faculty) has been working with Lakeside Motor Sports and has received an in-kind-gift of two (2) pontoons for his class.
- The Michigan Garden Club, Big Rapids Garden Club and the Canadian Lakes Garden Club have made gifts to fund the Ornamental Horticulture Technology program.
- Dr. Lakshmi Mukundan, a new faculty member, has established an annual scholarship in her husband's memory for the Math department.
- Dr. Sandy Alspach, Communication professor, continues to donate her royalties from the sale of her book toward students in the Campus-Wide Public Speaking Contest.
- News Services collaborated with WWJ Newsradio 950 of Detroit to be a featured university during the 2009 Fall Tech Tour. Featured programs included Digital Animation and Game Design, Digital Media Software Engineering, and Information Security and Intelligence, along with up-and-coming programs such as architecture and sustainability, and molecular diagnostics. Read the story at <http://www.wwj.com/pages/5328881.php>.
- News Services featured two stories in the *Chicago Tribune*, including the Dr. Robert L. Parsons Firing Range Dedication and the donation of bicycles to area disadvantaged children.
- "Ferris State Live" airs on Fox 32 and is a new campus television program highlighting news and events from around the university. The show is co-hosted by Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services; Scott Roman, a local radio personality; and Sandy Gholston, marketing specialist. It is produced by students in the Television and Digital Media Production program under the direction of assistant professor Glen Okonoski.