

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Good News Items

November 4, 2009

Academic Affairs

- There are 20 faculty in Grant Writing Learning Community representing the Colleges of Arts & Sciences, Allied Health, Engineering Technology, Business, Education & Human Services, and University College with diverse projects. The goal is to vet the projects to various agencies and foundations to identify and garner appropriate funding.

College of Arts and Sciences

- The debate/forensics squad participated in the Age of Aquarius tournament and took home several top awards: in 4th place, Sam Callen and Andrea Wood advanced into quarterfinals of parliamentary debate; Sam was recognized as the 5th place speaker; and the Ferris squad was awarded 4th place in school sweepstakes in debate.
- *The Torch* student newspaper received 12 awards from the Michigan Collegiate Press Association in its annual contest for all private and public college newspapers across the state. Five awards were for editorial work, seven for advertising, a First and Third in Feature Photography, and a nice Third Place for "Overall Newspaper Design." This is our first design award won since 1998. The awards:
 - Sports News Writing: 2nd place, Ben Kramer (graduated)
 - Feature Photo: 1st place, Kate Dupon; 3rd place, Kristyn Sonnenberg (both on staff this year)
 - Overall Newspaper Design: 3rd Place, staff award
 - Sports Page Design: 2nd Place, staff award
 - Black & White Ad: 3rd Place, Biz Arroyo; Hon. Mention, Biz Arroyo
 - Full Color Ad: 3rd Place, Biz Arroyo; Hon. Mention, Biz Arroyo
 - In-House Promotional Ad: 2nd Place, Biz Arroyo
 - Special Ad Section: 1st Place, Biz Arroyo; 2nd Place, Biz Arroyo

College of Business

- "Chesaning builds a tennis tradition," aired on MSN fox sports tells of students from Chesaning who attended the Ferris Tennis Camps, and then chose to enroll in the PTM program; next fall will make seven players from Chesaning high school. The story is at <http://msn.foxsports.com/tennis/story/10188374/Chesaning-builds-a-tennis-tradition->

College of Education and Human Services

- Two intermediate school districts are partnering with the COEHS on grants for data analysis and professional development. The Eastern UP Intermediate School District is analyzing the achievement data in 57 local school districts and Alpena-Montmorency-Alcona Educational Service District submitted two teacher quality partnership grants to the Michigan Department of Education.
- To celebrate the 125th Anniversary, COEHS has adopted University co-founder Helen Ferris as its patron and has scheduled a series of panels and activities to celebrate her legacy to the University and its continuing impact on the personal and professional lives of our students.

Criminal Justice

- The *Chicago Tribune* recognized the dedication of the Dr. Robert Parsons Law Enforcement Training Center and mentioned in an article the naming of the range and honoring the man who founded its criminal justice program 37 years ago. Parsons has been a major fundraiser for the justice programs, bringing in more than \$8 million for weapons certification and training efforts.
- The two Criminal Justice RSO's, Lambda Alpha Epsilon and Alpha Phi Sigma, along with students from the law enforcement academy will participate in the Eagle Village Fun Day on campus to show the benefits of education and being at a university.

Recreation, Leisure Services & Wellness

- The Council of Accreditation for Recreation, Parks and Leisure Services sponsored by the National Recreation and Parks Associations (NRPA) reaccredited the Recreation, Leadership, and Management (RLM) Program through 2014. The program received commendations for the elements of recognition of 10-year commitment to the accreditation process; leadership role in student portfolio development; student-centered faculty; and excellent administrative staff support.
- During the next two years, the RLM Program will be transitioning to the new NRPA standards for the next reaccreditation cycle, while aligning outcomes to the new standards, implementing student outcome measures, and reporting assessment results.

School of Education

- *Online Cl@ssroom: Ideas for online instruction*, a periodical for faculty who teach online, included an interview of Dr. Rick Van Sant in an article entitled "A Learner-Centered, Emotionally Engaging Approach to Online Learning."
- Amy Kavanaugh participated on the planning committee and as a presenter for the "Fired Up" Conference, an annual event for the Grand Rapids Area student teachers sponsored by the teacher preparation institutions.
- Virginia Hines presented on electronic portfolios at an accreditation conference sponsored by Wayne State University.
- Dr. Cheryl Thomas received a stipend award from the Wallace Foundation and Western Michigan University for her work in educational leadership. She recently redesigned the Master of Educational Leadership curriculum.
- The School of Education was awarded a one-year extension on a three year grant of a Michigan Department of Education, Office of Career & Technical Education, to operate the Michigan Center for Career & Technical Education. The work on the grant involves assisting the Office of Career and Technical Education staff and consultants to comply with the new Perkins IV legislation. Dr. Katherine (Kitty) Manley serves as project director and Tina Koepf and Kim Ducat (both MSCTE graduates) serve as project assistants on the grant. The project has developed and implemented a *highly innovative* online database which will be used for all CTE teachers and administrators in the state to manage their curriculum and allows participants in the CTE community real-time access to the curriculum data necessary for educational decision-making, management and achievement.

Television & Digital Media Production

- TDMP programs include *Ferris State Live* along with many other Ferris produced programs featuring campus decision makers such as Dr. David Pilgrim, Dean Michelle Johnston, Dr. Tom Langdon (BRPS), Leroy Wright, and Terry Doyle and *Ferris Sports Update* hosted by Jon Coles and Rob Bentley. The shows air locally on cable channel 22, and are later available for on-demand streaming at <http://www.ferrisstate.tv>.
- *Ferris Sports Update*, which is in its fourth season and a partnership between the TDMP and Bulldog Athletics Department, has a new format allowing more in-depth interviews and expanded features.
- Fred Wyman, Chair of the TDMP program in cooperation with David Baker of the Digital Animation and Game Design program of the CPTS hosted a meeting of the Media Communications Association - International mid-Michigan chapter in Grand Rapids where West Michigan media producers showed their recent works and responded to comments and critiques.
- Fred Wyman hosted a presentation sponsored by the West Michigan Film and Video Alliance at GRCC called "Making a West Michigan TV Series." The team navigated the processes of raising money, assembling the talent, bringing in guest stars, working with Michigan film incentives; all while maintaining a creative edge and local control.

Flite

- Several FLITE librarians are presenting at the Michigan Library Association during its annual conference. Kristen Motz, Randall Schroeder and Mari Kermit-Canfield are presenting a program on "Assessing Information Literacy from the Ground Up." David Scott is coordinating poster sessions for the conference. Kristen Motz is presenting a poster titled "Taking FLITE: Hosting an Indoor Disc Golf

Tournament to Connect with Students at the Ferris Library for Information, Technology, and Education." Emily Mitchell, Stacy Anderson, and Mari Kermit-Canfield are presenting a poster titled "Student Outreach Via Library Promotions."

Administration and Finance

- Marty Bledsoe, John Duman, Loura Monahan, Deb Savides, Chris Weber and Rex Wiseman were recognized by Student Affairs for providing a high level of service to students and internal customers.
- The Biodiesel project at Ferris took another step – two 30-gallon plastic drums with used cooking oil were dropped off at two dining facilities. One is at the Rock Café and the other is at Westview. Dean VanOstenberg and Russell Leonard Jr. recycled the two drums from the Physical Plant. Those in dining that helped with this project are Gary Schneider, Tom Pizzo and Mike Langon.

Auxiliary Enterprises:

- Jake Visser was selected as the National Male Student-Athlete of the Year by the Conference Commissioners Association. This one-of-a-kind national award means that 2 of the last 3 male honorees came from Ferris State University. Two years ago Mike Klobucher received the same honor. With 300 NCAA Division II schools, this is a tremendous honor for Jake and Ferris.
- The Tennis Industry Association has created a new web site called Careers in Tennis, creating a link to our PTM program, a video created by the Tennis Channel and a link to the Great Lakes Scholarship <http://www.careersintennis.com/Degrees/>
- The Professional Tennis Management program now has a required course in tournament/activity administration that focuses on the TennisConnect business tool. The 16-week course, which is taught by PTM Director Derek Ameel, is designed to give students a well-rounded view of event programming and of TennisConnect's capabilities in running a tennis business. The course was created by Ameel with help from Charlie Ruddy, the developer of TennisConnect.

Public Safety:

- NOAA's National Weather Service will recognize Ferris for completing a set of rigorous warning criteria necessary to earn the distinction of being StormReadyR. Students Megan Bolter, Matt Smith, Tyler Frederick and Monica Dean applied for this recognition as part of a class project for Dr. Tom Behler's Sociology of Emergencies and Disasters class. Assistance was provided by Dr. Behler-Professor of Social Sciences, Tricia Walding-Smith-Assistant Director for Emergency Management, Mike McKay-Safety Coordinator and Jennifer Johnson-Associate Professor of Social Sciences.

CPTS

- CPTS held a training workshop in Big Rapids for all 13 CPTS front line staff across the state, including presentations by Business Office, Library Services, and Financial Aid, and networking time with Big Rapids peers.
- The BS in Information Security and Intelligence has been given the Category I, Creative Program (Credit) award for the Mid-America Region of the University Continuing Education Association (UCEA). The award was accepted by Dr. Nancy Reddy, Executive Director of the Northern Region.
- The collaborative efforts of the Great Lakes Maritime Academy, Northwestern Michigan College and Ferris State University will be honored at the Michigan MACRAO Conference. Upon the nomination of Carol Quigley, this program will be awarded the Michigan MACRAO Transfer Program of the Year.

Diversity and Inclusion

- The Writings on the Wall Project was a student-led initiative to engage our University community in a shared experience that inspires all to get involved, collaborate, and take action against oppression, hate, and discrimination. The project led to many productive discussions about stereotyping, prejudice, and discrimination, including a large planned gathering after the Wall was destroyed.
- There are 710 Ferris Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) students (up from 597 last fall). This is the result of aggressive recruitment of new students and significant mentoring of existing students.

- The Diversity Mini-Grants which provide financial assistance for projects, workshops, and activities that strengthen excellence in diversity, have successfully sparked several university-wide initiatives, including the Globalization Initiative <http://www.ferris.edu/diversity/OnCampus/grantawardees.htm>
- The number of diversity and inclusion related programming at the University continues to increase. To see a sampling of these events visit: <http://www.ferris.edu/diversity/calendar/DiversityEvents.htm>
- The Rockford High School Diversity Club visited the Jim Crow Museum.

Governmental Relations and General Counsel

- Steve Stratton facilitated training of 22 supervisors/managers regarding the Bullard/Plawecki Act and Michigan Public Employment Relations Act.
- The University was successful in the dismissal of a lawsuit filed by Change to Win, which claimed the University improperly redacted records under the trade secrets exemption of the Freedom of Information Act in response to request by Change to Win.

Kendall College of Art & Design

- The new Kendall website went live on September 29. One month later there were 34,135 visitors to the site – representing 110 countries/territories – averaging 1,101 visits per day. Within 24 hours of launch, it had already been recognized for excellence among those of other art and design schools on the blog called [thedesigncubicle](http://www.thedesigncubicle.com) – <http://www.thedesigncubicle.com/2009/09/27-creative-website-designs-of-art-and-design-schools>
- In addition to the many students, faculty, staff and alumni that participated in ArtPrize, Kendall was also a host site for 3 artists exhibiting their work and the host site for ArtPrize’s Lunch Box Series, where special guests had conversations with Kendall students, faculty and the general public about the intersection of art and life and community. It is estimated that 10,000 visitors came to campus during the 2-week ArtPrize event.
- Kendall was asked to participate in the Governor’s Office-sponsored event to exhibit at the Governor’s Residence and the Downtown First Gentlemen’s Office. Forty-eight pieces of student (15) and faculty (2) work was exhibited.
- Ethan Dean, a current Kendall student, was selected as a finalist in the Nike “Future Sole” contest. This opportunity is offered to the nation’s most talented students who are aspiring to become footwear and product designers. Of 4,500 registered users, 274 submissions and only 4 finalists, Ethan was one of the four finalists and the only finalist representing Michigan.

Student Affairs

Financial Aid

- Letters have been sent to students who were offered scholarships for fall semester but did not attend, offering them the scholarship for spring semester. This has received positive feedback.
- Ferris experienced an 18% increase in TIP students, which has meant an increase of over \$404,000. Special recognition goes to Felice Kelley-Nelson and Sheri Edstrom for their help in counseling these students.

Student Conduct

- There was an excellent response for University Committee on Discipline volunteers. Forty-five people attended the training session. Special thanks to Mike Cairns, Leroy Wright, Nick Campau and Tim Jacobs from Public Safety for the support.
- There was a hazing presentation to over 100 IFC members.

Student Leadership & Activities

- The Third Eye Blind Concert sponsored by MIMA with funds from the Student Activity Fee had a paid attendance of 1442. The tour manager commented that this was the best student support they have had for their shows.

University Recreation

- The United Way campaign is underway at University Recreation with events ranging from a swim-a-thon, fundraiser breakfast, 50-50 raffles and more.
- Intramural Flag Football has over 85 teams this semester.

University Advancement and Marketing

- Marketing and Communications developed a presence on Facebook for the College of Pharmacy and Ferris Sports Camps to increase recognition and promote both to targeted age groups.
- The Marketing and Web staffs have upgraded the online version of the new *Ferris* magazine into an interactive Web booklet. The pages turn and flip similar to an actual book:
<http://wwwdev.ferris.edu/htmls/ferrismagazine/>
- All print recruitment materials have been posted online using the new interactive format at
www.ferris.edu/htmls/administration/advance/communications/index.htm
- For the first time, Admissions and UA&M are mailing a series of postcards to out-of-state students inviting them to take advantage of the new tuition offer by visiting and applying.
- A new, creative TV commercial that reinforces the uniqueness of a Ferris State University education is running on WOOD-TV (GR), WZZM (GR) and Comcast/Charter Cable.
- This fall's branding billboards with a fresh look are up throughout the state. Look for them on 131 north and south of Grand Rapids, downtown Grand Rapids, near Lansing and many other locations.
- The Ferris Chicago-area billboard campaign is completed.
- The 7th Michigan Construction Hall of Fame Distinguished Constructors Award Banquet was held with inductees Ken Bensen from Michigan Habitat for Humanity, the late Chris Anton from Newkirk Electric, Larry Erhardt, Erhardt Construction, and the late C. Edwin Haltenhoff, Elzinga & Volkers. The Construction & ICET Programs were welcomed as Platinum Sponsors (\$25K) in the Michigan Construction Hall of Fame Endowment.
- Todd Jacobs, with Dean Ian Mathison, held the first ever College of Pharmacy All Class Reunion in Sarasota, Florida. They also visited Pharmacy alumni/friends elsewhere in Florida.
- William and Eleanor Maher have established a deferred charitable gift annuity that will benefit the Dental Hygiene Program.
- The COB Leadership Advisory board has a subcommittee working to enhance the annual giving of alumni by department.
- Randy Phelps has made a multi-year commitment of a major gift along with two anonymous gifts to support the hockey team strengthening and conditioning program.
- The Canadian Lakes Garden Club made a gift to fund the Ornamental Horticulture Technology program, after talking with students on campus and seeing firsthand the need for scholarships.
- The 10th Athletic Hall of Fame was a success and honored seven inductees: Deb Bolinger, Monty Brown, Dean Davenport, Tim Herman, Andy Roach, Bill Scheible and Karen (Kramer) Trierweiler.
- The FSU Alumni Association, Student Homecoming Committee together with Student Leadership and Activities, planned and organized homecoming. Creative entries in the parade reflecting our 125th anniversary and Grand Marshals Bob and Marilyn Andrews made it one of the best ever.
- The 125th Committee presented the "125 Years of Stories, What's Yours?" event with the Club History RSO and the Digital Media and Television Production program at the FSU Archives. Alumni and friends not only shared great stories, but wonderful artifacts as well. Former sports information director, Tim Pendell returned to host the taped portion of the show. Local antiques dealer and Ferris alumnae Darlene Novak examined the various articles of Ferris memorabilia that alumni and friends brought to the event.