

FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

Good News Items

February 2016

Academic Affairs

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COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

- Dr. Dan Adsmund, professor of chemistry, along with colleagues Abhijeet Sinha, U. B. Rao Khandavilli, Anita Maguire and Simon E Lawrence recently published an article in the journal *Crystal Growth & Design*. The article (which was published on December 10, 2015) is titled "Design and Synthesis of Ternary Cocrystals Using Carboxyphenols and Two Complementary Acceptor Compounds." In the article, a strategy combining a diatomic hydrogen-bond donor with two different hydrogen-bond acceptor molecules is proposed for the assembly of simple trimeric building blocks used in the construction of ternary cocrystals.
- Fred Heck, Geology, and Jennifer Johnson, Geography, hosted a presentation on Climate Science by Dr. Susan Hoban from the NASA-University of Maryland Baltimore County Joint Center for Earth Systems Technology. This event took place on Thursday, January 14 and was well received by a full house of students, faculty, and members of the Big Rapids Community.
- Andy Kantar, English, has just been informed that two of his books, *Black November* and *Deadly Voyage*, are now available as audiobooks. University Press Audiobooks, a subsidiary of Redwood Audiobooks (Mendocino, CA), selected the works and commissioned a voice actor to read the unabridged narration.
- Nathan Nelson, English, has been promoted by Educational Testing Service to leadership to select anchor papers for each score point 1-9 for the 1000+ English teachers and professors to refer to during the reading in Louisville, KY. Dr. Nelson has worked for ETS since 2004 scoring the annual AP English Literature essays.
- Denise Cosper, English, is part of the team at Artworks in Big Rapids that received the 2015 Community Involvement Award from the Big Rapids Downtown Business Association. Denise also presented a professional development seminar titled "How to help your students become better writers" to staff at Big Rapids Middle School in November.
- Derek Drake, German, a co-authored article coming out (as first author) entitled "Northwestern Dane County German: A "Speech Mixture Problem"?" in Volume 49 of the Yearbook of German-American Studies.
- The Social Work Department was awarded one of two Engaged Department grants from FCTL. We received a \$5,000 grant to develop Academic Service Learning across the curriculum.
- Three Arts and Sciences departments and Housing have collaborated to create a living-learning community for incoming psychology majors for the 2016 - 2017 academic year. Participating students will reside on the same wing of a residence hall (most likely Brophy Hall) and share two courses each semester. Specifically, they will enroll in Introduction to Ethics (PHIL 216) and Introduction to Psychology (PSYC 150) in the fall and English 2 (ENGL 250) and Life Span of Human Development (PSYC 226) in the spring.

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

- Thirty-five Music Industry Management students attended the NAMM (National Association of Music Merchants) Trade Show in Anaheim, CA for professional development and networking possibilities. NAMM extended 59 competitive scholarships to students across the United States and Canada, 13 of which were awarded to Ferris State University students.

COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES

School of Criminal Justice (SCJ)

- The students in the School of Criminal Justice Law Enforcement Academy have successfully completed nearly 600 hours of community service during the Fall 2015 semester. The same students have goals to double that number of hours during the Spring 2016 semester.
- Criminal Justice (CJ) interns will have an opportunity to work with Southwest Michigan College's Public Safety and local law enforcement to assist in a new program. Ferris CJ students will be working with the local police and Prosecutor's Office on cold cases. Students will assist with review of previous work and help monitor new initiatives on resurrected cold cases.

School of Digital Media (SDM)

- The Media Communications Association student organization, with direction and support from faculty advisors Joshua Pardon and Nick Kuiper, again received strong financial support from Student Government to host the 16th annual Ferris Media Festival, scheduled for Friday, April 15, 2016. An exciting slate of speakers is being finalized for the day-long conference. All Ferris students, faculty and staff are invited to attend.
- Glen Okonoski was selected as a Faculty Fellow by the Education Foundation of the National Association of Television Programming Executives (NATPE). The Fellowship and Conference were hosted in Miami on January 17-21, 2016. There were many sessions hosted by executives from the major television Networks, Cable channels and online streaming companies. Twenty-five faculty fellows attended from across the country and television executives attended from around the world. A highlight was hearing from Quincy Jones and Norman Lear who were both being recognized by NATPE.

School of Education (SOE)

- Tara Nunamaker, an elementary education major, recently received the local AAUW scholarship. Tara is also a trained reading tutor through the Specializing in Literacy Development (SLD) Center (based in Grand Rapids and Kalamazoo) who volunteers at Crossroad Charter Academy. She participated in extensive training through the Mecosta-Osceola Intermediate School District.
- Makenzie Hall, an elementary education student, has passed the first screening of the Japan Exchange & Teaching (JET) program application process. Hall is just one of 102 finalists who now has to pass a very competitive final interview with the Consulate General of Japan in Detroit in February 2016.

COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

- Christopher L. Cospers, assistant professor in the Architecture and Facility Management program, delivered a keynote address to the Louisiana State University College of Art + Design faculty retreat held on January 8, 2016. Titled "Scholarship Reconsidered? Ernest L. Boyer and a Broader Concept of Scholarship," Cospers's presentation focused on Boyer's legacy and the unique scholarly contributions of art and design faculty.
- Airgas is donating over \$40,000 worth of personal protective equipment for FSU Welding Engineering Technology students. The equipment includes PPE for students across all four years of the program. However, the majority of equipment will go to incoming freshmen as they put together their initial tools for the program's welding courses.

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Dr. Rhonda Bishop, Assistant Professor in the School of Nursing, received her Doctorate of Nursing Education (EdD) from Western Connecticut State University on December 18, 2015 with a dissertation entitled "Moral Sensitivity: A Comparative Analysis of Undergraduate and Graduate Nursing Students."
- Dr. Anuli Njoku, Dr. Fathima Wakeel and Dr. Margaret Wan were awarded the Ferris Engaged Department Initiative of \$5,000 to strengthen academic service-learning activities in the Public Health Programs.
- Dr. Fathima Wakeel (Public Health) was second author on a manuscript entitled "Does Preconception Health Differ by Nativity?: Findings from the Los Angeles Mommy and Baby (LAMB) Study" . This was published in the Maternal and Child Health Journal in January 2016.

- Dr. Fathima Wakeel and Dr. Anuli Njoku presented on “Academic-Community Partnerships to Promote Public Health in Rural Communities: Preliminary Findings from a New Public Health program in a Midwestern University” at the Hawaii International Conference on Education in Honolulu, HI in January 3-6, 2016.

FLITE

- Carrie Donovan, Assistant Dean of Research & Instruction Services, FLITE presented at the Charleston Conference as an invited Pre-Conference Co-Presenter in November 2015 on the topic of *Assessment and Academic Library Value*. She facilitated a discussion on methods of assessing student learning demonstrating library value. Participants learned techniques for creating assessment programs as well as practical advice on setting up and monitoring such a program.
- Librarians Stacy Anderson, Gary Maixner, and Kristy Motz will present about FLITE’s involvement in the FSU Seminar experience - “Innovate, Engage, and Assess with Hands-On Learning” - for the First Year Experience Conference in Orlando, FL on Feb 22, 2016.

MICHIGAN COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

- MCO is proud to announce the list of students who have completed the Student Fellowship process for the American Academy of Optometry: Margaret Baumgartner, Jacquelyn Cosgrove, Amber Cumings, Kimberly Kindt, Lindsay Kleinschmit, Danielle Lefevre, Tiffany Rowland, Felicia Slate, Gabrielle Smiley, Tara Stacey, and Ellery Vassallo.
- The Global Specialty Lens Symposium celebrated its 10th year and took place on January 21-January 24, 2016 in Las Vegas, Nevada. Various members of the Michigan College of Optometry’s contact lens team contributed either through the following poster or lecture presentations:
 - Amy Dinardo, OD, and Hayden Larson presented a poster on “Analyzing the Neutralization of Brown Bottle Hydrogen Peroxide in Hydrogen Peroxide Contact Lens Care Systems”
 - Nicholas Gidosh, OD, and Josh Lotoczky, OD, presented a poster on “Effect of Scleral Lenses Suction Forces on Ocular Physiology”
 - Angela Kargenian, Kimberly Kindt and Chad Rosen, OD presented a poster on “Power Profiles, A Multifocal Scleral Lens Analysis”
 - Bruce Morgan, OD, Nicholas Gidosh, OD Chad Rosen OD and Craig Norman, FCLSA, presented a poster on “I’ll Have a Corneal Reshaping Lens Please...With a Twist”. This poster was awarded second place in the *Clinical Poster* category
 - Craig Norman, Ben Coldrick, Nicholas Gidosh, OD, Stephanie Ramdass, OD, Colin Richards, and Chad Rosen, OD presented a poster on “Analyzing the Sagittal Depth of Soft and Scleral Contact Lenses using a Newly Developed Contact Lens Inspection System”
 - Stephanie Ramdass, Chad Rosen, and Craig Norman presented a “A Clinical Report of Residual Astigmatism in a Cohort of Regular Cornea Scleral Lens Wearers”
 - Austin Schipper and Josh Lotoczky presented a poster on “Scleral Contact Lenses: Does Changing Vault Size Affect a Normal Cornea?”
 - Chad Rosen, Stephanie Ramdass, and Craig Norman presenter a poster on “Visible Iris Diameter Evaluation with the Volk Eye Check Device”
 - Stephanie Ramdass lectured on “Quick Tips For Improving Your Contact Lens Fits”
 - Chad Rosen lectured on “Cases with the sMap3D, a New Era in Scleral Lens Fitting”
 - Stephanie Ramdass lectured on “The Optics of Scleral Lenses for Refractive Error Correction”
 - Chad Rosen lectured “The Role of HVID in Determining Proper SCL Fitting Relationships”
 - Stephanie Ramdass lectured on “Cosmetic Tinted Contact Lenses for Normal, Damaged and Disfigured Eyes”
 - Josh Lotoczky, OD, lectured on “Employing Proper Scleral Lens Troubleshooting Techniques to Improve Patient Outcomes”
 - Stephanie Ramdass lectured on “Research Results in Specialty Contact Lenses: Comfort, Tear Exchange & Torics”
 - Chad Rosen lectured on “Non-invasive Tear Film Breakup Measurement with Topography Based Systems”

RETENTION & STUDENT SUCCESS

- The Michigan Department of Education Office of Career and Technical Education has recognized the Traverse Bay Area Intermediate School District (TBAISD) Career-Tech Center and Manufacturing Technology Academy (MTA), with the 2016 Career and Technical Education Program Excellence in Practice Award. The Award recognizes successful, exemplary state-approved Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs that demonstrate outstanding outcomes, produce measurable results, and lead to documented success in employment or postsecondary education/training. Ferris's Office of Transfer and Secondary School Partnerships along with Ferris Statewide at Traverse City have been instrumental in helping TBAISD and MTA create a career and technical education program to prepare high school students for post-secondary training and/or careers and professions related to engineering and manufacturing. TBAISD will receive the award at the 2016 Michigan Career Education Conference in Grand Rapids on February 1st.

Administration and Finance

IT

- Information Technology Services (ITS) is sponsoring a pilot of a new synchronous learning tool called "Collaborate". ITS is partnering with the Faculty Center for Teaching and Learning (FCTL) to pilot the software through spring semester 2016. Blackboard Collaborate is a web conferencing tool that is a simple, convenient, and reliable online collaborative learning solution. It delivers a level of engagement that makes learners feel like they're together in the same room via collaboration and conference tools. Please contact the FCTL if you are interested in participating in this pilot to sign up for training.

Housing and Residence Life

- Early housing contracting opened on December 2, 2015, and 200 additional contracts for on-campus housing were signed compared to 2014.
- West Campus Apartment construction continues to stay on schedule. Completion date for the two new buildings is July 2016.
- Cramer Suites room renovation continues with 100 new entrance doors installed over the holiday break 2015.

Finance

- We sent out over 5,800 W-2s.
- Additional cross training has occurred over the past several months in Disbursements and Investments to provide better service to customers and for employee cross training.
- In December, an improvement in Concur was rolled out to simplify the reimbursement and budgeting process for individuals utilizing Faculty Center for Training and Development funding.
- Student Financial Services worked with our software provider to make the application of payments process more efficient for the student refund process.
- In December training was completed for the first round of Personnel Action Forms (PAFs) converted to Electronic Personnel Action Forms (EPAFs). Effective January 3rd, the first group of EPAFs are now available for use in Banner.

Athletics

- A pair of Ferris State University men's ice hockey standouts are listed among the nominees for the 2016 Hobey Baker Award. Junior forward Gerald Mayhew, who is the squad's leading scorer this season to date, and junior captain Kyle Schempp both are included among this year's nominees as the fan vote portion of the competition gets underway. Awarded annually to college hockey's top player, a total of 66 nominees are under consideration for the award in college hockey with the announcement of this year's winner in April.
- A total of 78 FSU student-athletes from the fall campaign have claimed GLIAC All-Academic or GLIAC All-Academic Excellence Team honors. The 2015 all-academic squads were announced by the

league office and to be eligible student-athletes must have posted a cumulative GPA of at least 3.0 thru the fall semester.

- Ferris State University senior men's basketball center Jared Stolicker, who has helped lead the Bulldogs to a 14-3 overall start this year, has been chosen to the 2016 Bevo Francis Award Watch List as one of the top players in the country. Named for the famed Rio Grande College legend who became one of the most popular players in the world, the inaugural Clarence "Bevo" Francis Award will be presented to the player who has had the finest overall season within small college basketball. Considerations include season statistics and individual achievements, awards, personal character and team success.
- Ferris State freshman goaltender Darren Smith became the third different Bulldog Hockey freshman to receive WCHA Rookie of the Week accolades following FSU's recent home series against Alabama-Huntsville. Smith, along with freshmen teammates Corey Mackin and Jacob Hetz, claimed the league honor after the Bulldogs picked up three points in the weekend homestand.
- The Bulldog women's soccer team was recently the lone Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) program to be named to the 2015 National Soccer Coaches Association of American (NSCAA) Team Ethics and Sportsmanship Award recipients list.
- Both the Ferris State University football and volleyball teams completed the fall season ranked among the nation's top 10 teams in their respective national coaches' polls announced by the American Football Coaches Association and the American Volleyball Coaches Association.
- Ferris State University standout senior quarterback Jason Vander Laan was presented as the 30th annual recipient of the prestigious Harlon Hill Trophy as the nation's top NCAA Division II football player on Jan. 8 during a luncheon in Florence, Ala. Vander Laan was previously named as the 30th winner of the prestigious award as the top player in the country for the second-straight year by the Harlon Hill Award committee via a live online webcast on Dec. 18, but was formally recognized and introduced as this year's recipient while receiving the coveted trophy during a luncheon held on the University of North Alabama campus. He's only the fourth player ever to receive the prestigious honor more than once.

Governmental Relations and General Counsel

- On January 15th, Governmental Relations and General Counsel hosted 65 students and parents from the Grand Rapids Griffins Youth Foundation to campus for a tour, admissions presentation, dinner and a hockey game. The Grand Rapids Griffins Youth Foundation "promotes academic excellence, community involvement and healthy lifestyles among the youth of West Michigan, enhancing their lives through hockey and ice-related sports." Thank you to all of the Ferris community that welcomed our guests to campus!

Kendall College of Art & Design

- Associate Professor and General Education Program Chair Adam Schuitema recently had his debut novel *Haymaker* named to the Library of Michigan's 2016 list of Michigan Notable Books. This is Schuitema's second inclusion on the Michigan Notable Books list, his first having been in 2011 with his short story collection *Freshwater Boys*.
- Painting Professor Jay Constantine is currently featured in the LowellArts! invitational exhibition "ArtPrize: A Second Glance," which will be on display in the LowellArts! King Gallery through February 20, 2016. Constantine's painting "Scientists and Heretics: A Memorial" was chosen to be displayed alongside pieces from twenty other area artists who participated in ArtPrize 2015. A committee chose the included pieces from a selection of over 300 pieces by artists living and working in West Michigan.
- Fashion Studies Assistant Professor and Program Chair Lori Faulkner won first place in the adult category at the state level of the Make It With Wool competition. Faulkner's winning design was a custom wool boucle suit lined in silk charmeuse and sewn using Coco Chanel's couture construction method.

- Several KCAD-affiliated artists have been or will be featured in solo exhibitions at Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts (UICA) as a part of the “Coming Home” exhibition series: Illustration Assistant Professor Matthew Schenk, alumna Aj Cooke ('15, MFA Painting), alumnus Eric German ('12, MFA Drawing), alumnus Jacob Wiseheart ('15, Painting), alumna Lydia Boda ('15, Sculpture and Functional Art), and alumnus Xiaolong “Paul” Fang ('15, MFA Printmaking).
- Sculpture and Functional Art Assistant Professor Natalie Wetzel will be travelling to a number of institutions in the coming year to give her lecture “Performing Transdisciplinary Culture,” including Central Michigan University on February 18, 2016; Ferris State University on April 22, 2016; the Manchester Academy of Art in the United Kingdom in July of 2016; and The Niels Bohr Institute in Copenhagen, Denmark in August of 2016.
- MFA Drawing student Brianna Baurichter will be performing at the College Art Association (CAA) Annual Conference in Washington D.C. in February of 2016. Baurichter will be recreating part of her performance piece “Against Self-Sabotage,” which was originally staged as part of a weeklong event at KCAD in the sixth floor drawing installation room. Baurichter and fellow MFA Drawing student Casey Weldon also recently organized a pop-up exhibition in Weldon’s home titled “Commonplace Intimacy” that featured their own work as well as the work of Drawing Assistant Professor Danielle Wyckoff; alumni Amanda Opolski ('15, Sculpture and Functional Art) and Lydia Boda ('15, Sculpture and Functional Art); and students Amber Bledsoe (MFA Printmaking), Emily Cobb (MFA Printmaking), Huaming Wang (MFA Drawing), Maddie May (Printmaking), Molly Duff (Printmaking), Ricardo Gonzalez (MFA Painting), Sarah Lewis (Art History), and Seth Marosok (MFA Drawing).
- MFA Painting student Chakila Hoskins and alumni Aj Cooke ('15, MFA Painting), Dustin Rogers ('15, MFA Painting), and Shannon Czaja ('14, MFA Painting) are all currently featured in the National Wet Paint MFA Biennial Exhibition at Zhou B Art Center in Chicago. The highly competitive juried exhibition showcases some of the most talented emerging artists in America, and runs through February 13, 2015.
- Aneka Ingold ('14, MFA Drawing) was recently selected to participate in the 8th annual juried “Surreal Salon” exhibition, sponsored by *Juxtapoz*. The exhibition is being held at the Baton Rouge Gallery in Baton Rouge, LA and runs through January 28, 2016. Ingold also recently won the \$500 Grand Prize in the Vying 2015 competition held during Art Basel Miami.
- Jeff Thomas ('08, Furniture Design) and his custom furniture business, Thomas Furniture Studio, were recently profiled [in an article by the Colorado Springs Gazette](#). Thomas opened Thomas Furniture Studio in Colorado Springs this past April. He focuses on designing custom one-of-a-kind pieces that meet his clients’ unique needs.
- John VanHouten ('14, Illustration) won second place in the 2015 Tulip Time Art in Bloom Viewer’s Choice poster competition.
- Liz Korson ('12, Drawing/Printmaking) was recently named Program Supervisor at the Spindleworks Art Center in Brunswick, Maine. Spindleworks is a non-profit art center that was created to help adults with disabilities live full and inclusive lives through the use of arts and crafts.
- Lori McElrath-Eslick ('00, Illustration) will be featured in two upcoming exhibitions at the Old West Museum in Cheyenne, Wyoming: the Western Spirit Art Show, running from March 5, 2016 through April 17, 2016, and the Western Art Show and Sale, running from July 22, 2016 through July 31, 2016.
- Mark Rumsey ('08, MFA Printmaking) has been named Operations Officer at DMC Design, an interior design firm in Ada, Michigan. Rumsey also recently joined Dinderbeck, a Grand Rapids-based print shop established by a group of KCAD alumni, as a Keyholder Resident Artist. Through his own artistic practice, Rumsey is currently showing his installation “mammatocumulus” in a solo exhibition at Colorado State University that will run through the month of February. This spring he will be participating in a group exhibition titled “Some Abstraction Required” at the Spartanburg Art Museum in South Carolina.

- Nicolas Sanchez ('09, Painting) recently wrapped up a busy year in which his work was featured in magazines like *American Art Collector*, *Juxtapoz*, *Harper's Bazaar*, and *New York Magazine*, as well as in a new book, *The Art of Ballpoint*, which was listed as one of Amazon's best books of the month in December. Sanchez also completed commissioned pieces for celebrities such as Padma Lakshmi, Seth Myers, and Brooke Shields and was featured in a short film, produced for the web and titled "RESOLVE," that profiled his artistic practice in New York City.
- Rob Jackson ('89, Illustration) recently moved his advertising agency Extra Credit Projects into the Monroe north neighborhood of Grand Rapids after having outgrown the company's original location on the West Side of Grand Rapids.
- Rosemary Mifsud ('11, Metals and Jewelry Design) was recently featured on the blog of Grand Rapids photographer Adam Bird, who visited Mifsud's studio for a creative photo shoot that provides an intimate look her creative process.
- Taylor Overbey ('15, MFA Painting) is currently featured in a solo exhibition titled "Religion and Politics" at the Arts Council of White Lake's gallery in Whitehall, Michigan. The exhibition will be on display through February 27, 2016.
- Wes Keely ('15, Industrial Design) recently had a product he invented while a student at KCAD called KBrakes - attachments for a drum kit that help keep the kick drum from sliding forward while playing - featured in a review in *DrumHead* magazine.
- Xiaolong "Paul" Fang ('15, MFA Printmaking) returned home to China after graduating from KCAD in December of 2015, and will be representing China at the China/Macau International Exhibition. His work has also been chosen for exhibition at the Museum of Contemporary Art Shanghai, and he is currently curating several exhibitions in China, one of which is in collaboration with the Shanghai Symphony.

Student Affairs

- Jeanine Ward-Roof co-authored a NASPA book entitled *AVP: Leading from the Unique Role of Associate/Assistant Vice President for Student Affairs*. In today's higher education environment, the associate/assistant vice president for student affairs (AVP) position is garnering heightened attention as student affairs is called upon to respond to a growing number of complex challenges. This book provides a wealth of leadership and management strategies for new and veteran AVPs, as well as midlevel managers considering a transition to an AVP position.

Office of the Dean of Student Life

- Kevin Carmody, Title IX Coordinator and Associate Dean of Student Life was awarded a \$10,000 grant from the State of Michigan's Campus Sexual Assault Grant Program (CSAGP). This funding is being used to hire a student for our #BulldogPrevent program. This student will create an ongoing platform within social media to generate new avenues of prevention, as well as to amplify and synergize with existing prevention initiatives. This individual would specifically create a new Consent program using a unique hashtag and utilizing peers to engage with one another through social media platforms where they frequently interact i.e. Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, YouTube, etc. in regards to the subject of consent and prevention of sexual assault.

University Center

- The University Center scheduled 3,988 reservations for the first year of operation. The period covered January 2015 to January 2016. The breakdown by category is: Faculty/Staff 2,311, Student Organizations 1,508 and off campus 169.

Admissions

- When looking at the offers of admissions for the 15 public universities, our FTIAC numbers are up 28.8% compared to the total average of 9.9% up and our transfer numbers are up 25.5% compared to the total average increase of 0%.

Financial Aid

- The Financial Aid Office FAST Mentor Mary Kate McKeown was awarded 3rd place in the MI State

Financial Aid Administrators (MSFAA) scholarship competition! Mary Kate was told “your application stood out among the pool of candidates and you should be very proud of what you have learned and accomplished while working in the Financial Aid Office at Ferris State University. The MSFAA Scholarship Committee is certainly proud of you!” Mary Kate was awarded a \$500 scholarship for spring term.

- The Financial Aid Office has 305 (2,590 compared to 2,285) more students this year than last year who are applying for private scholarships on campus. Students have until the end of February to apply for scholarships for the 2016-2017 school year.
- Krissy Workman was recently awarded the Martin Luther King Social Justice Award to express deep appreciation for her selfless and passionate commitment in working with a diverse population of students with unique needs.

Registrar’s Office

- Rachael Jones began her employment on January 4, 2016 as the Coordinator of Registrar Processes. Her main duties include maintaining the course equivalency catalog in Banner and serving as the certifying official for NCAA eligibility.

Commencement

- 484 Students participated in the two December 2015 Commencement ceremonies. This is an increase of 43 students over December 2014.
- Two new “Congratulations Graduates” banners were installed in the Wink Arena to enhance the commencement experience for all participants and attendees. The black banners emblazoned with the Ferris box flame fit over the scoreboards at both sides of the facility.

Institutional Research & Testing

- The Office of Institutional Research has completed two major data projects. Internally, the Ferris State Program Costing Report has been published for the 2013/2014 academic year. In addition, the Office published our SAM (Student Achievement Measure). It is an improved way for colleges and universities to report undergraduate student progress and completion by including a greater proportion of students as well as tracking students who enroll in multiple higher education institutions.

Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services (CLACS)

- Sigma Alpha Epsilon chapter collaborated with the Big Rapids Rotary Club by picking up and packaging meals for those in need.
- Professional Fraternity Council collected and donated 1,000 cans of food to the Manna food pantry.
- Panhellenic, Interfraternity Council, and the Black Greek Council held an afternoon of service and made 18 tie-blankets for the homeless shelter and also on that day wrote holiday and thank you cards to veterans and active duty soldiers.

Activities Center

- 410 Events were registered through CLACS Fall semester 2015. All events were required to support one of four Bulldog Values.
 - Social - Promoting interaction and building relationships between individuals within in Ferris State University Community – 269 (69.76%)
 - Academic - Helping to support education and assist students in their scholastic endeavors – 63 – 15.87%
 - Healthy - Increasing awareness of individual wellness and good lifestyle choices – 36 – 9.07%
 - Respectful - Assisting to create an understanding of differences and respect between members of the community – 42 – 10.58%
- Entertainment Unlimited collected over 500 responses to their annual survey to determine what music genres will be represented at their annual Spring Concert.
- This year’s concert has been named “Music Takes Action.” It will be an event to raise funds, support, and increase awareness of the “Musicians on Call” non-profit organization.

- The University Center – Year Anniversary Celebration was held Friday, January 22nd. Hundreds of students attended the event to perform karaoke, make their own street signs, play laser tag, ride the mechanical bulldog, sample some great food, learn about recycling and LEED certification, and much more! Thanks to all sponsors including the University Center, Dining Services, Quad Café, Starbucks, University Bookstore, Entertainment Unlimited, Student Government, American Marketing Association, Panhellenic Council, Social Work Association, Veterans Association, and everyone else that helped, prompted, or attended.

Organization Center

- The RSO Collaboration Expo was held on December 1st. Twelve RSO's participated in a discussion which provided an opportunity to create collaboration between their groups. All groups walked away with some new ideas and opportunities to collaborate.
- The SLAAC committee heard numerous presentations the second half of last semester and approved the following new RSO's: RC Dawgs, Blue Line Fitness Club, French Club, English Society, Spikeball, Video Game Club, Students for Sensible Drug Policy, and the Players Guild.

University Advancement and Marketing

- The Annual Giving program has done well again this year, with a strong finish to our fall appeals. December appeals were mailed to our most loyal alumni asking them to contribute toward scholarships before the end of the year. The appeals generated more than \$31,000 toward colleges and scholarship support.
- The Ferris Family, faculty and staff fall appeal, was mailed to faculty and staff members who had not contributed to the university yet this year. The first annual Ferris Family photo was taken on Nov. 17, with a number of faculty, staff and students participating in the photo taken at the University Center. Brutus was able to join us as well. This photo was used as part of the November mailing. The appeal had a response rate of 5% as of Dec. 31, 2015. As we continue to encourage support from our faculty, staff and students, we anticipate this response will continue to grow in the coming years.
- The Telephone Outreach Program continues to be the greatest source of donor acquisition for The Ferris Foundation. As our staff of 25 student fundraisers continue reaching out to our constituents, we have conducted more than 6,000 conversations with Ferris alumni. These conversations have resulted in 1,423 pledges for a total of \$97,650 to support programs and scholarships. To help motivate our team, we have received visits from President Eisler, college deans and head athletic coaches.
- An anonymous donor has made a significant gift to fund an annual scholarship for students in the Accountancy program.
- The News Services and Social Media Team collaborated with the Office of Multicultural Student Services and the Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Planning Committee to promote and cover the 2016 MLK festivities. Videographer Hannah Crouch has developed multiple videos in support of the celebration, including a preview video as well as a video documenting the annual Freedom March event. Communications Specialist John Smith wrote two stories to preview Ferris' 30th annual MLK Celebration, including a general preview and a preview highlighting the celebration's featured speaker, social justice activist Tamika Mallory. The News Services and Social Media produced items are:

General preview:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2016/january/mlk.htm>

Featured speaker preview:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2016/january/mallory.htm>

MLK Celebration preview video:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/YouTube/2016/mlk-celebration.htm>

Freedom March video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=BXMvIGm9LQ8>

- The Web Content Team has built a new OmniUpdate content management system training website. Web editors across the Ferris campus will find expanded training resources to assist in their efforts to update their particular sections of the Ferris State University (ferris.edu) website. New responsive templates have been successfully deployed by the Web Content Team in University Advancement and Marketing that create modern webpages that are both mobile and tablet friendly and accessible to users with disabilities. Web editors who are using the OmniUpdate content management system in partnership with the UA&M Web Team are being contacted to begin updating the pages under their responsibility. The training website is located at: ferris.edu/omni/2015-training.
- The Marketing Team produced the Fall 2015 Commencement Book in partnership with the Commencement Team. The magazine-style publication becomes an important memento to graduates and their families. It contains the commencement event programs, acknowledges each graduate, and provides information and compelling imagery related to the university. For a link to the electronic version of the book, please see our blog post at: <http://ferrisadvance.org/fall-2015-commencement-book-published/>.
- The Marketing Team has created publication templates in Adobe InDesign formats for university publishers, with some simplified templates available in Microsoft Word. These templates feature the required content for university publications of their format, including the appropriate Non-Discrimination Statement. Templates are provided on Marketing's Graphic Standards website, and a link is available in our blog post at: <http://ferrisadvance.org/design-templates-for-university-publishers/>.