

# Ferris State University

## Good News Items

### March 2016

#### Academic Affairs

##### COLLEGE OF ARTS & SCIENCES

- Lisa R. Singleterry and Beth Kalkman from the School of Nursing of CAH in collaboration with Lynn Chrenka and Debra K. Courtright-Nash from the Languages and Literature Department of CAS had a peer-reviewed article accepted for publication. "Nursing Faculty Development: Building a Common Grading Rubric to Evaluate Writing" will appear in the Sept/Oct 2016 issue of Nurse Educator.
- Deidre Fagan, Chris VonderHaar, and Heather Pavletic from the Languages and Literature Department of CAS traveled with five English Education students to attend the Michigan Council of Teachers of English "Think Spring" Conference in Shepherd, Michigan on February 19.
- Dan Noren, Professor of French from the Languages and Literature Department of CAS oversaw, facilitated, and coordinated the Winter Workshop sponsored by the Michigan World Languages Association (MWLA) on February 1, 2016. Dr. Noren is serving as the regional representative and president of the AATF and the vice president of the MWLA.
- The Torch, the student newspaper, under the leadership of former Editor in Chief Harrison James, current Editor in Chief Keith Salowich, and advisor Steve Fox from the Languages and Literature Department of CAS, won 15 statewide awards in the Michigan Collegiate Press Association annual contest on January 29th in Grand Rapids. The Torch is Division 2 of three divisions, competing against other newspapers published weekly in the state. There were 671 entries total from 14 colleges. For more details, see <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2016/february/torch.htm>
- Lilia Caserta from Languages and Literature of CAS presented "Painter Johannes Vermeer in the novella 'Girl with a Pearl Earring'" by Tracy Chevalier at the XIII All Russian Scientific Practical Seminar: Literary Studies and Aesthetics in the 21st Century at Kazan Federal University in Kazan, Russia on January 26, 2015.
- FSU's Alpha Psi Omega RSO students appeared in the roles of classic book characters such as Dorothy, Waldo, Elizabeth Bennett, King Arthur and Scarlet O'Hara for Festival of the Arts 2016 Authorpalooza event this last Saturday, February 20 held at The Gate. Students wandered the crowd answering character questions, assisting guests, and taking photos with people who came to see local authors talk about their newest books and their writing process. This event was in support of the "Big Rapids Friends of the Library."
- On February 13, almost 40 students in the Sports Communication program and Sports Careers RSO raised over \$600 to donate to Spectrum Health Big Rapids Cardiac Rehabilitation Unit in recognition of Heart Health Awareness Month. The theme was "Red Out the Wink and Rink." Students wore special red t-shirts as they collected donations at "awareness tables" in the concourse at the Sports Arena, ran games during media time outs at both the Women's and Men's Basketball games, and raffled off items donated by the Big Rapids community. Cierra Buckner, secretary of Sports Careers RSO, chaired the project. Sandy Alspach is the faculty advisor.
- Chelsey Trumble and Tyler Ryan, senior Psychology majors, presented a poster entitled, "Childhood Ocular Convergence Insufficiency and Pseudo-ADHD Symptoms" at the

National Association of School Psychologists during the week of February 8th. Material for the poster came from research the students did in collaboration with Dr. Van Treese from Psychology, Dr. Richmond from Birkham Center and Dr. McDowell from Optometry. About 5000 psychologists attended and Ferris students were the only undergraduates presenting.

#### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

- Music Industry Management had two distinguished guests visit the program to speak with students and develop relationships: Laura Dion from Smithsonian Folkways and Jim Donio from the Music Business Association.
- The first show of the Independent Showcase hosted by Music Industry Management was a full house of roughly 230 attendees with a flawless performance by “The Accidentals”.
- Three years ago, former board chair Mr. Granger encouraged Ferris to field a team in the West Michigan Project Management Institute “The Project” competition. This year is the third time College of Business students are participating. Out of thirteen teams, FSU is currently #1 after Round 1 with a total of 102.33 points. The average of all teams was 87.98 points. The current second place score is 97 points with the average of the other state universities (GVSU, Tech, and Western) at 88.13 points. The average of the other GLIAC schools (Davenport\*, GVSU, Hillsdale, Tech) is 84.38 points.

#### COLLEGE OF EDUCATION & HUMAN SERVICES

- Two School of Criminal Justice alumni were recently recognized by the Michigan State Police for their outstanding patrol efforts. Troopers Benjamin Stadler and Daniel Richter were honored with the Corporal Samuel A. Mapes Criminal Patrol and Investigation Award. The award, new for 2016, is not given for any single investigation, but instead awarded to the top five percent of troopers in each district for their outstanding performance of duty and personal commitment to excellence in proactive criminal patrol and criminal investigations.

#### COLLEGE OF ENGINEERING TECHNOLOGY

- One hundred seventeen middle schoolers from nine local schools enjoyed a fun day with math as well as a campus visit at the annual W.N. Ferris MathCounts event. Over 30 volunteers, including FSU staff, faculty, and College of Engineering Technology students, participated in the event sponsored by the College of Engineering Technology, Admissions Office, and Cargill Salt. Ten “mathletes” will advance to the state competition next month in Grand Rapids.
- The Ferris SAE Baja team entered two vehicles in the Michigan Tech Blizzard Baja and took 2<sup>nd</sup> and 17<sup>th</sup> place out of a 41-car field.
- Over 30 students attended the most recent “Opportunities for Women in the College of Engineering Technology” networking event. The event is held each semester and builds connections among students to support persistence and retention. Also, CET female alums return to share their experiences and answer questions from attendees.
- The Ferris Maker Space now has a fifth 3-D printer as well as a small desktop CNC mill to assist with the tremendous response received from faculty and students. In addition, they have collaborated with 3DXTECH, a supplier of filament that offers high end engineering compounds as well as the regular PLA and ABS, to obtain filament at a substantial cost savings.

#### COLLEGE OF PHARMACY

- Twelve College of Pharmacy student members of the National Community of Pharmacists Association (NCPA) volunteered at Habitat for Humanity in Grand Rapids on January 23, 2016. They finished baseboards for three homes and one future homeowner assisted them. First year (P1) pharmacy student Sally Smeelink stated “I felt

it was very unique to not only help with construction of the house, but to do it alongside the future owner of the house.”

- Dr. Michael Bouthillier, Director of Operations, is part of a group of students and professionals including clinical site managers, dietitians, medical assistants, nurses, patient registration coordinators, pharmacists and physicians who are working with health care providers at Cherry Street Health Center, a non-profit Federally Qualified Health Center (FQHC) to improve diabetes health outcomes. The initiative identifies how GVSU, FSU, MSU and Grand Rapids Medical Education Partners, as well as other regional partners, can develop collaborative, innovative and interprofessional initiatives across disciplines, learning institutions and health care systems.

#### EIO

- Ferris state university was ranked by US News in the top 50 in the nation for best online bachelor degree programs and best online bachelor's programs for veterans.

#### FLITE

- Fran Rosen, one of FLITE's Faculty Librarians, was honored at the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Student-Athlete Advisory Committee (SAAC) Faculty Appreciation on February 18, 2016 on Faculty Appreciation Night held in conjunction with the home basketball game. She was chosen by one of our Ferris varsity teams as a special faculty member who had a positive impact on their academic career.
- Dejah Rubel, FLITE's Metadata & Electronic Resources Management Librarian, performed stand-up comedy in the Festival of the Arts: The Art of Comedy at Cranker's restaurant on February 27, 2016.

#### MICHIGAN COLLEGE OF OPTOMETRY

- Third-year student Clay Connelly has won the Dr. Seymour Galina Scholarship from Optometry Cares. This scholarship is for one student in the nation who excels in practice management concepts, as evidenced by an essay.
- Dr. Bruce Morgan has had his application for sabbatical approved by the Ferris State University Board of Trustees. Dr. Morgan will be studying service learning opportunities in the health professions, including the Phelophepa "Train of Hope" in South Africa and at various optometry programs in North America.
- The Michigan Optometric Association held their Winter Seminar in East Lansing on Feb. 3 & 4. Awards were given to Dr. Phil Walling for being the MOA Educator of the Year, Dr. David Damari received the MOA Keyperson Award for Promoting optometry in the state of Michigan, and student, Michael DeWit, was recognized as the MOA Student of the year!
- Dr. Sarah Hinkley was appointed to the FSU Academic Service Learning Steering Committee.
- The FSU Michigan College of Optometry's local chapter of the Fellowship of Christian Optometrists co-sponsored a return Eye Care Mission trip with Village Evangelical Free church in Dyer, IN, the Casa de Esperanza (House of Hope), and La Montaña (the Mountain), a local church in Guaymas, Mexico. A team of 21 people traveled from December 28, 2015 to January 6, 2016 and hosted a seven-day vision clinic. Dr. Dave Storer (MCO 1999) led the mission and was assisted by Dr. Luke Haney (Houston College of Optometry, 2007). Brittany Hoolsema (MCO Third Year student), Emily Krueger (MCO Second Year student), and Katie Cargill (MCO First Year student) assisted the team in providing spiritual and eye care for over 700 patients in Guaymas.

#### RETENTION & STUDENT SUCCESS

- Karen Royster-James presented at the 2016 18th Annual Chicago Symposium on Excellence in Teaching Mathematics and Science: Research and Practice on the topic of Structured Learning Assistance – SLA Works!

- Retention & Student Success co-sponsored 14 employees to attend and present at the Michigan Student Success Conference at Oakland University, February 11-12, 2016. Karen Royster-James presented a session titled "Structured Learning Assistance – SLA Works!". Holly Price and William Potter presented "Drilling Down! Assessing Developmental Mathematics Course Outcomes". Deedee Stakley and Christine Conley-Sowels were co-presenters for "Collaborating to Provide Equal Access to U3 Students" and were presenters with David McCall at a session titled "Providing Greater Access to Career and Education Planning".

## **Administration and Finance**

### **Athletics**

- Ferris State Hockey posted back-to-back sellout crowds inside the Ewigleben Ice Arena for its recent WCHA home contests against the Northern Michigan Wildcats on Feb. 12-13. In addition, the "Dawg Pound" student section has currently been sold out for 79 consecutive regular-season matchups.
- Two members of the Ferris State University women's volleyball program earned an opportunity to represent the United States as Bulldog middle hitter Ayanna Buckley (Detroit, Mich./Clarenceville) and setter Stephanie Sikorski (Rochester Hills, Mich./Rochester) were chosen to attend the 2016 USA Volleyball Women's National Team Tryouts at the U.S. Olympic Training Center in Colorado Springs.
- Standout defensive lineman Justin Zimmer (Greenville), who capped off his Ferris State football career as both an All-American and an Academic All-American this past fall, garnered attention recently with an impressive performance at the NFL Regional Combine held in Houston. Zimmer was labeled as Michigan's "hidden secret" by an NFL.com staff writer who covered the event in Houston. Author John Harris noted the 6-3, 303-pound defensive lineman was a notch or three above all other d-line candidates at the Houston combine.
- Ferris State men's basketball senior center Jared Stolicker (Middleville/Thornapple-Kellogg) has been chosen as one of the top 50 small college basketball players in the country as he advanced on the watch list for the 2016 Bevo Francis Award as announced by Small College Basketball. 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.
- The first NCAA Division II men's basketball Midwest Regional Rankings were announced this week and FSU is presently sixth in the region. The top eight teams at the end of the year earn NCAA Tourney bids with three automatic berths awarded to winners of the GLIAC, GLVC and GMAC Tournaments. FSU has a region-best tying 19 in-region wins to date this campaign.
- Ferris State University Athletics had a league-high total of four student-athletes chosen as 2015 GLIAC Commissioner's Award recipients for the fall campaign from the back-to-back GLIAC Champion Bulldog football and volleyball squads. Senior football quarterback Jason Vander Laan (Frankfort, Ill./Chicago Christian) and senior defensive lineman Justin Zimmer (Greenville) were among the honorees for the prestigious conference award along with two seniors from the Bulldog volleyball squad in hitter Alexis Huntley (Stanwood/Morley-Stanwood) and libero Danielle Dowd (Manhattan, Ill./Lincoln-Way Central). All four earned the distinction for the second-straight fall season. Together, the four FSU selections represented one-third of all the league honorees and doubled the total number of student-athletes chosen from any other institution.

- The back-to-back Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) Champions hauled in an ALL-MICHIGAN recruiting class as Ferris State University football head coach Tony Annese unveiled this year's class of recruits on National Signing Day. The Bulldogs' 26-member class features a heavy dose of players with championship experience and nearly all of this year's signees also received all-state accolades on an individual basis. They will join a FSU program that has posted the GLIAC's best league record over the past four seasons (34-6) and a squad that owns the top overall four-year record of all 21 collegiate programs in Michigan (37-9).
- The Ferris State women's soccer program, which is coming off a record-breaking campaign this past fall, landed one of its largest National Signing Day classes ever as FSU announced the Bulldogs' 2016 recruiting class. The official addition of 10 incoming recruits was announced by head coach Andy McCaslin, who claimed GLIAC Coach of the Year honors this past season.
- For the seventh consecutive year, a member of the Ferris State men's ice hockey team is among the leading candidates for the Senior CLASS Award, which is presented annually to a single deserving student-athlete who excels both on and off the ice. Bulldog senior defenseman Simon Denis (Burnaby, British Columbia) is one of 20 national candidates for the 2016 Senior CLASS Award in collegiate hockey. To be eligible for the award, a student-athlete must be classified as an NCAA Division I senior and have notable achievements in four areas of excellence – community, classroom, character and competition.

#### IT

- Extended and International Operations conducted recent surveys to faculty and students with online courses. The questions relating to IT support were notably improved from the previous surveys.
  - Faculty felt they had sufficient technology, after-hours support, and support from the eLearning team to meet their online teaching needs.
  - Students felt informed about planned maintenance outages and indicated they had the proper technology infrastructure for their online classes, and appropriate technical assistance at times needed.
 Congratulations to all the IT Services staff who support Ferris' online learning efforts. Keep up the good work!
- The classroom readiness efforts by the Technology Assistance Center resulted in 99% readiness for the start for the semester. Out of the 266 rooms that were checked, 263 rooms were problem free for the first session of each class using these facilities. Here is the post report for spring semester 2016.

#### Physical Plant

- In spite of an aggressive schedule and the winter weather, the construction of the new student buildings at West Campus Apartments are on schedule for an August 2016 opening.

#### Auxiliary Enterprises

- Our housing and dining staff has worked diligently with our students for fall 2016 room sign-ups and we are very pleased that as of late February we are running 100 ahead of sign-ups compared to a year ago at this time.

### Diversity and Inclusion

- Thank you to all the people who worked on the University's new Diversity and Inclusion Plan. The document, "There Is a Home for You at Ferris State University," has been posted at

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/president/DiversityOffice/pdf/DiversityPlan2016.pdf>.

- The Ferris community is invited to attend a celebration to thank the Diversity and Inclusion Plan Working Group for their outstanding work on the Diversity and Inclusion Plan. The celebration will be held Monday, February 29, 2016, 3:30 – 5:00 p.m., in UCB 202C. Please join us.
- One of the initiatives in the new diversity and inclusion plan is to assess and address the needs of Ferris students who are experiencing "food insecurity" and homelessness. We have put together a small work team to do this: Tony Baker, Nick Campau, Franklin Hughes, Damonta Madden, David Pilgrim, Patty Terryn, and Krissy Workman.
- Last month the University held its annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Week Celebration. The MLK Faculty/Staff In-Service event was held on January 18. The theme was Compassion: Making the World Better. At the conclusion of the event, Kristine Workman, a Financial Aid Specialist, received the Martin Luther King, Jr. Social Justice Award in recognition of her outstanding work with students. Later that day, more than 300 people braved brutally cold weather to participate in the Freedom March. Thank you to the Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS) and the MLK Planning Committee for their work scheduling and implementing the MLK events.
- On January 30, 2016, the Ferris Youth Initiative (FYI) program held a "meet and greet" bowling event at The Gate. In attendance were area youth who are in foster care and working with the Department of Health and Human Services. This provided an excellent opportunity for the Ferris students and our faculty/staff mentors to serve as positive role models and share information about the FYI program and higher education opportunities. No bowling scores were kept—and even if they had been kept they would have been too low to report without embarrassment.
- There was a Saudi Cultural Day event on February 10. The conversations were good and the food was great. Pictures may be found on Facebook, <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.997960080257664.1073741844.119012878152393&type=3>.
- The West Michigan Jewels of Africa performed at the OMSS Black Culture Expo. There was dancing, singing, and, yes, food. Images on Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.995220433864962.1073741843.119012878152393&type=3>.
- Members of the Strategic Planning for Diverse Enrollment (SPDE) team attended the Red Hawk Showcase basketball event at Union High School in Grand Rapids. The team provided information about Ferris programs and degrees, and gave away prizes to attendees.
- The 16<sup>th</sup> annual Ferris Media Festival will have an international flair this year, with a faculty/staff diversity mini-grant helping to bring Ferris graduate Juan Carlos Isaza Montejo, Director of Alianza Informativa Latinoamericano at Caracol Television in Bogota, Colombia, to give the keynote presentation.
- *PowerTalks: Making Connections through Cross-Gender Communication*, the first of a series of three workshops designed to initiate dialogue on gender-themed topics, will be held on Thursday, Feb. 25, from 11-12 in FLITE 405. This series is partially funded by a faculty/staff diversity mini-grant.
- The Jim Crow Museum's two traveling exhibits are on loan. *Them: Images of Separation* is on display at the University of Iowa's Old Capitol Museum, Iowa City, Iowa until May 15, 2016. *Hateful Things* is on display at the Castle Museum of Saginaw County History, Saginaw, Michigan, until April 24, 2016.

- Speaking of the museum, David Pilgrim's book, *Understanding Jim Crow*, was listed 10<sup>th</sup> on the January 2016 Michigan Best Sellers list. Actually it was tied for tenth so that should keep him humble for a bit. Dr. Pilgrim was also featured on two radio shows, "Q" on CBC <http://www.cbc.ca/radio/q/schedule-for-monday-february-5-2016-1.3436346/what-good-can-come-of-racist-memorabilia-1.3436375> and the Mark Steiner show <http://www.steinershow.org/podcasts/racism/david-pilgrim-on-understanding-jim-crow-using-racist-memorabilia-to-teach-tolerance/>.
- The Ferris Museum of Sexist Objects (MoSO) will have a table featuring objects from the collection at the Vagina Monologues on February 19. There will also be an interactive button-making activity called "What Does Consent Look Like to You?" It will be staffed by Ferris students.
- For more than two decades Grand Rapids Community College has hosted a Diversity Lecture Series. On February 17, Benjamin Todd Jealous, former NAACP president, will deliver a lecture entitled, "Mass Incarceration and Justice in America," at 7:00 p.m., Fountain Street Church, 24 Fountain Street NE.

## Kendall College of Art & Design

- MFA Drawing student Brianna Baurichter had her work featured in a solo exhibition titled "Hybrid Explorations" at the (106) Gallery and Studio on Division Avenue in Grand Rapids.
- Winners in the 2016 SK8 Deck Design Competition, which challenged entrants to design original graphics for skateboard decks that tied into the theme of the "Indie Incubator: All About the Vinyl" exhibition at the Ferris State University Fine Art Gallery, included Graphic Design students Koko Watanabe (1<sup>st</sup> place), Sakino Tomiura (2<sup>nd</sup> place), Breanne Buckbee (3<sup>rd</sup> place), and Andrew Hornack (People's Choice). Finalists included Graphic Design students Madison Bracken, Hannah Dowell, Michaela Elderkin, Samantha Kniat, Danielle Obenauf, Ethan Pulver, Veronica Peterson, Rebecca Rapin, and Lindsey Tillma while honorable mentions included Graphic Design students Elyse Boardman, Katie Kalkma, Brad Kautz, and Jillian Mohr.
- The Kendall Clay Collective student organization conducted a clay workshop at KCAD in collaboration with STAND Creative, a West Michigan-based organization of art educators, artists, and designers who provide local youth with outlets for creativity.
- Students in the Fashion Studies program are currently collaborating with Opera Grand Rapids to create costumes for the upcoming production of "The Student Prince," a lighthearted operetta coming this June.
- Assistant Professor and Fashion Studies Program Chair Lori Faulkner recently forged a collaboration with West Michigan Opera Project that's giving students in the Fashion Illustration II class, taught by adjunct instructor, alumna, and KCAD Alumni Board member Kelly Muschiana ('05, Illustration), the opportunity to work with the organization to create fashion illustrations for an upcoming production of the classic Mozart opera "The Marriage of Figaro."
- A number of KCAD community members participated in the third annual Break it Down, Make It Better event held at Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts (UICA). Collaboratively run by UICA, Avenue for the Arts, and ArtPrize, Break it Down, Make it Better is a daylong series of panel discussion and workshops that serves as a framework for connecting the arts community in Grand Rapids and facilitating engaging conversations about issues pertaining to the arts community. Katie Moore ('13, MFA Painting) moderated a panel discussion on public art and placemaking; Huge Claudin ('11, Illustration) was part of a discussion panel titled "From Artist to Creative Entrepreneur;" Tom Clinton ('02, Printmaking) moderated a workshop titled "Creating

Works to Scale;" Amanda Carmer Rainey ('14, MFA Photography); moderated a discussion panel on applying for shows and grants which included Mark Rumsey ('08, MFA Printmaking); and Drawing Professor Deborah Rockman was part of a discussion panel titled "Art and Social Action."

- Amanda Sikarskie, an Assistant Professor in the Art History program, will be publishing a new book titled *Textile Collections: Preservation, Access, Curation and Interpretation in a Digital Age* in April of 2016. Sikarskie's book explores the effects of the digital age on museums' treatment of textile and costume collections as well as the benefits of using new technology within a museum setting.
- Professor and Chair of both the Painting and Masters in Visual and Critical Studies (MA:VCS) programs Diane Zeeuw recently published an article in *Thought and Action*, a prominent and highly selective peer-reviewed journal distributed by the National Education Association (NEA). Titled "Schizophrenia: A Journey Through Higher Education," Zeeuw's article addresses the challenges educational systems face when trying to accommodate students with a variety of neurological conditions.
- Art Education Associate Professor and alumna Donna St. John ('15, MFA Painting) and current MFA Painting student Chakila Hoskins were both included in the 43<sup>rd</sup> Annual Celebration of the Arts juried exhibition at First United Methodist Church in Grand Rapids.
- Sculpture and Functional Art Assistant Professor Israel Davis recently travelled to the University of Alabama and Gonzaga University to lecture on his work and conduct individual critiques for students. From March 17-18, Davis will travel to Kansas City, MO to attend the annual National Council on Education in the Ceramics Arts (NCECA) Conference, where he will be a presenter for Speedball Art Products.
- Aneka Ingold ('14, MFA Drawing) recently took first place at the Valdosta National 2016 Juried Exhibition with her piece "Aberration." The exhibition, which is now in its 28<sup>th</sup> year, takes place each year at Valdosta State University in Georgia and is open to artists across the nation. Ingold was one of 42 artists selected for this year's exhibition out of a pool of 115 applicants.
- James Suhr ('99, Illustration), who works as a storyboard revisionist on the Disney Television Animation series *Wander Over Yonder*, and his fellow team members recently took home an Annie Award for Best Animated Television/Broadcast Production for Children. The Annie Awards are the highest honor given for excellence and achievement in the field of animation.
- Julia Perry ('14, Graphic Design) was recently hired as a graphic designer for the Craig Daily Press in Craig, Colorado.
- Kayla Thompson ('11, Sculpture and Functional Art) has been accepted into the MFA Ceramics program at Illinois State University.
- Rob Jackson ('89, Illustration), Principal and Creative Director of Grand Rapids-based advertising firm Extra Credit Projects, received the prestigious Silver Medal Award from the American Advertising Federation of West Michigan. To be awarded the Silver Medal, a nominee must demonstrate success and original thinking in their field, work to raise standards in the world of advertising, and be actively involved in civic activities that contribute to human or social welfare.
- Zhengyi "Lily" Hou ('15, Furniture Design) recently designed her first full collection of furniture for Steve Silver Company, a large occasional furniture company based in Texas. Hou interned with Steve Silver Co. on two separate occasions during her time as a student at KCAD and was hired by the company before she graduated.

## **Student Affairs**

### **Multicultural Student Services**

- On February 11, the Office of Multicultural Student Services (OMSS) GEAR UP Program hosted an event entitled Reality Remixed, a teen empowerment summit. Sixty seven students from five Michigan high schools (Morley Stanwood, Muskegon, Muskegon Heights, Baldwin and Big Rapids) gathered at Ferris State University for Reality Remixed. This conference style workshop was designed to motivate students to achieve educational goals and address post-secondary life. The Reality Remixed conference started off with motivational speaker and former Harlem Globetrotter, Melvin Adams. Through real life scenarios, humor, and interaction with the students, Melvin Adams empowered the students to reach their educational goals. The day was packed full of educational fun as the students learned about the reality of life after high school and the importance of going to college.

### **Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services**

- The Student Leadership & Activities Advisory Council (SLAAC) committee heard numerous presentation so far this semester and approved the following new RSO's: The Society for Collegiate Leadership and Achievement, Design and Development Association, and Photo Focus.

### **University Center**

- The University Center was featured in the Association of College Unions International Bulletin Magazine, Renovation and Construction Showcase for the January/February Issue.
- For Fall Semester 2015, the University Center received 1,623 reservations. The breakdown was 815 Faculty/Staff, 762 Registered Student Organizations and 46 off-campus groups.

### **Enrollment Services**

- Ferris was featured in the monthly Opportunity Knocks Newsletter. Opportunity Knocks features programs and opportunities for first-generation college students on our College Partner campuses.
- This weekends Admitted Student Open House saw 173 admitted students and 286 of their family/friends, totaling 459 guests. This is exceptional news given on average 75% of these students traditionally enroll in the fall. We hope to see an increase in this based on modifications to the format of the event.
- Admissions collaborated with the Card Wildlife Center and Fine Art Gallery to host 120 sixth graders from Big Rapids Middle School to visit the fossil exhibit at the Card, the "All about the Vinyl" exhibit at the Gallery and lunch at The Quad Café.
- Jessica Simon, Admissions Recruiter, was recognized nationally as being a volunteer who worked with the CIVSA (Collegiate Information and Visor Services Association).

## **University Advancement and Marketing**

- Scott Ward (B '94) made a major gift pledge to create a football scholarship endowment to honor a fallen teammate in the Sept. 11, 2001 attack on the World Trade Center in New York.
- John Ramar (B '80) made a major gift pledge for the Center for Athletics Performance.
- Brad and Carole Spence established the Brad and Carole Spence Scholarship Endowment through a planned gift for the College of Engineering Technology.
- Davich Optical Chain established the Davich Optical Chain Annual Scholarship for the Michigan College of Optometry.

- Doug Dommert (P '66) has established The Douglas H. Dommert Scholarship Endowment to support students in the College of Pharmacy.
- Robert Friar has established The Friar Family Scholarship Endowment for students in the biology program.
- Dennis (P '66) and Randi Nickels have established The Edward W. and Barbara J. Nickels Memorial Annual Scholarship in the College of Pharmacy.
- The Alumni Association took to the road in January with stops in Florida and Arizona. On Jan. 23, more than 80 alumni, emeriti and friends came together in Sarasota at the TPC Prestancia for a luncheon and to hear campus updates by President Eisler. More than 100 alumni were in attendance on Jan. 28, at the Rosen Plaza Hotel for a reception held in conjunction with the PGA Golf Merchandise Show in Orlando. Rounding out the trip for the Alumni Association was a stop in Tucson, Arizona where our local hosts, Barb and Newell Johnson, greeted and dined with 32 emeriti and alumni at the Golden Corral.
- On Feb. 11, the Student Alumni Gold Club (SAGC) worked in collaboration with The Ferris Foundation and the News Services and Social Media Team to host "Thanks for Thanks." SAGC joined other student advancement organizations around the world in participation with the Council for Advancement and Support of Education's fourth annual Student Engagement and Philanthropy Month. Informational tables were located in the University Center and the Interdisciplinary Resource Center throughout the day. Students on campus could participate by writing a notecard with their "Thanks" to FSU donors and receive a free "Tank" top. Thank you note cards will be mailed out throughout the year to our alumni and friends providing financial support to the university.
- On Feb. 12, at the Joe Louis Arena in Detroit, 58 alumni and friends were able to network and meet fellow Detroit Bulldogs at an exclusive dinner where FSU alumnus and Red Wings Head Coach, Jeff Blashill (B '98), met and addressed the crowd. After dinner, alumni continued the comradery in the stands as they cheered on Blashill and the Red Wings.
- Student Alumni Gold Club was host to the "State Days" conference for CASE ASAP District V on Feb. 13 themed "Tradition Never Graduates." Students and advisors from universities throughout the state of Michigan attended and presented sessions on best practices, award winning events and internal organizational structures. Keynote speaker and alumnus, Jason Daday (B '88), shared his life experience and the importance of networking in a session entitled "Make Promotion Your Tradition." Additional FSU alumni contributing to panelist discussions throughout the day were Jeremy Mishler (E&HS '98), Luke Edington (CET '14), and Ryan Roberts (E&HS '05).
- The News Services and Social Media Team collaborated with Associate Dean of Student Life and Title IX Coordinator Kevin Carmody to develop a video to promote participation in a university climate survey. The video was shot and edited by News Services and Social Media Videographer Hannah Crouch. In addition to featuring Carmody, staff and student on-camera interviewees included: Wayne Bersano, president of Student Government; Casmira Bogucki, a freshman majoring in Sociology; Tarik Ceric, a junior Surveying Engineering major; Matt Jones, Greek Life coordinator; and Chauntel Wooten, a senior majoring in Accounting and Finance.  
To view the video, click this link:  
<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2016/february/climate.htm>
- A new and streamlined University News website has been published through the collaborative efforts of the Ferris web team and Sandy Gholston, News Services and Social Media Manager. The mobile-friendly site includes multiple feature stories, current

campus events, video features, and live Facebook and Twitter feeds that stream on the [ferris.edu](http://ferris.edu) homepage. Students, faculty, staff and alumni are featured in stories and videos focusing on the themes of “Ferris First,” “Meet the Interns,” and “Faces of Ferris.” A full complement of 11 years of news story archives deepen the site’s offerings.

- The Marketing and Communications team recently completed content creation, editing, design or other support for the following campus and community projects:
  - Festival of the Arts collateral
  - Ferris Fact Sheet
  - Ferris Foundation Merit Grant
  - Financial report cover
  - Cobranded wordmarks for multiple university units
  - International Association for Communication and Sport (IACS) conference program ad
  - FerrisAdvance blog
  - Publication template training for Staff Center for Training and Development