



# DIGITAL DOWNLOAD



Spring 2023



Ferris.edu/TDMP

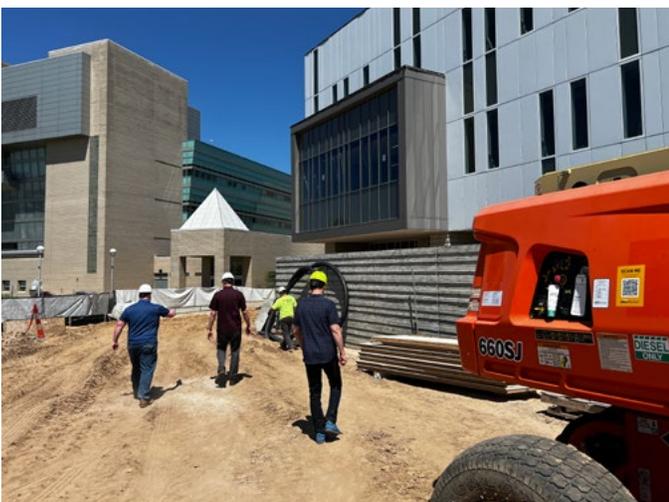
# TDMP SPRING '23 UPDATE



**PROFESSOR GLEN OKONOSKI**  
TDMP Chair & Coordinator for the School of Digital Media

If things continue according to plan, this will be the last newsletter that we produce for you from Bishop Hall! The new Center for Virtual Learning building is progressing well, and we anticipate beginning our move into the new space starting in late June. The learning spaces on the third floor of the new building are dedicated to the School of Digital Media, with the Media Production check-out space being conveniently housed on the first floor. In relation to Television and Digital Media Production students, as faculty we are particularly eager to provide instruction in new and lovely learning spaces:

- Five individual and dedicated video edit suites
- Two new and specifically designed sound booths
- Two beautiful computer labs, each with 16 computers, plus a teacher station
- Green screen studio, complete with three-wall cyclorama. This space can also serve as a sound stage as it is adjacent and connected to one of the sound booths
- Shared AR / VR / XR lab
- Large and beautiful screening / lecture room, complete with surround sound and quality projection



TDMP FACULTY TOUR MAY, 2023

Most exciting for me as part of this move, is that SDM faculty and staff will once again be situated right across the hall from our teaching spaces! This will allow a level of connectedness between students and faculty that we haven't enjoyed since the IRC renovation almost 20 years ago! Furniture selection was recently finalized for labs, classrooms, and offices, and new computers and monitors will be ordered soon – we have quotes in hand. The goal is to be in this new space, up and running, for the start of the Fall semester. Of course, there is much to do, and many moving parts, between now and then!

This is truly an amazing building, and we are excited for all to see it! Look for announcements coming this Fall about opportunities to tour the space. We do anticipate hosting something around Homecoming – stay tuned! Meanwhile, there remain naming opportunities within the building, as fundraising efforts continue. Reach out to me if you'd like information on naming an edit suite, lab, or any space in the new building!



ONE OF OUR INCREDIBLE TEACHING SPACES

**“ If you wanted evidence that the TDMP program at Ferris is as strong as ever, there is no better example than the great work that students do!**

## CONTINUED FROM TDMP SPRING '23 UPDATE

3

Last August, I was fortunate to be nominated and elected to serve on the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Foundation Board. I have very much enjoyed this opportunity to engage more with the MAB and their mission, on behalf of the TDMP program at Ferris. Students and I attended the MAB career fair at Ford Field in December, the conference and awards ceremony in Lansing in March, and even a Red Wings game, to celebrate student award winners. At each of these events, we were able to network and to spread the news about the continuing opportunity that the TDMP program offers to students interested in all aspects of media and content creation.

Another development that has resulted from the engagement with MAB, as well as with our advisory board, is the creation of a Broadcast Engineering Minor. This option officially goes into effect this Fall and is a first step towards trying to address the significant need that exists for engineers across radio, television, and all aspects of content delivery. While employers are clamoring for graduates with these skill sets, we have a significant opportunity to educate students about the opportunities that exist.

If you wanted evidence that the TDMP program at Ferris is as strong as ever, there is no better example than the great work that students do! In this newsletter you will learn about award winning work that our students produced in the last year. The instructional design class for Spring '23 also produced another episode of Mystic Michigan, following up on the award-winning work from Fall '22.

Effective Fall '23, there will be an updated check sheet and curriculum for the TDMP program. These changes were approved by the Academic Senate this past year, and represent feedback and input we received from graduates, employers, and our advisory board. This means that, for Fall, we will have a new building, updated curriculum, new computers and equipment, and an almost 50-year track record of success! In short, we have a GREAT STORY to tell! As always, I invite you to help us in spreading the word! Nothing goes as far as a testimonial from a current student or graduate!

  
GLEN OKONOSKI

## PICTURES FROM THE CVL



THE NEW MEDIA SUPPLY



GREEN SCREEN STUDIO



AMAZING VIEWS



THEATER/LECTURE SPACE



SDM OFFICE SPACE ENTRY



CVL NEXT TO FLITE LIBRARY

## AWARDS

COORDINATED BY PROFESSOR **JOSHUA PARDON**

# 4

The very impressive Fall 2022 TDMP 464 – Instructional Design production of “Mystic Michigan” swept all three of our major awards competitions!

- 1st Place in the Documentary category at the Michigan Association of Broadcasters Student Broadcast Awards
- Winner of Non-Fiction – Long Form award at the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Michigan Chapter College/University Student Production Awards
- 1st Place in the Short-Form Documentary Category of the Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts

Jacob Rieman’s TDMP 343 - Cinematic Story Production film “[On Thin Ice: A Hockey Story](#)” won the Sports Story or Segment award at the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Michigan Chapter College/University Student Production Awards. Derek Franciosi’s TDMP 343 - Cinematic Story Production film “[-29](#)” won an Award of Excellence in the Micro-Documentary of the Broadcast Education Association Festival of Media Arts.

Jermaine Roemer’s excellent “[Umlauto Demo Reel](#)” won the Editor award and Davis Fosgitt and Nathan Hebel won the Commercial award for their “[TDMP at Ferris State University](#)” commercial at the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) Michigan Chapter College/University Student Production Awards.

I invite you to view all of our award-winning student work at our “[TDMP Award Winners](#)” YouTube channel.

## INTERNSHIP PLACEMENTS

BY PROFESSOR **JOSHUA PARDON**  
TDMP Internship Coordinator

The six-month TDMP Internship has been the capstone experience of our program for more than four decades. As our TDMP Internship Coordinator, I take great care in connecting our Seniors with internships that match well with their interests and abilities. We are currently in the process of placing our outgoing Seniors into internships that start in May-June 2023. The following students are currently placed, and the list is growing!:



- Emma VanDongen – Michigan Works! West Central, Big Rapids MI
- Davis Fosgitt – Yellow Dog Creative, Marquette MI
- Ethan Krieger – Grand Rapids Community College, Grand Rapids MI
- Nathan Hebel – Yellow Dog Creative, Marquette MI
- Bethany Berger – ON TV, Lake Orion MI
- Bryan Lahue – Actor’s Theater Workshop (Remote), New York NY
- Hayden Passig – WKTV, Wyoming MI
- Will McElfresh – Ferris Athletics, Big Rapids MI
- Marnne’ Miles – City of Detroit GSD, Detroit MI
- Amadi Frost – Ferris UA&M News Services and Social Media
- AJ Arechiga – Comprehensive Therapy Center, Grand Rapids MI

Most internships are paid, and many TDMP interns choose internships in locations where they can live with family to save on housing and transportation expenses. If you are a TDMP Alumni and would like to provide an internship opportunity to a TDMP student, please reach out to me at [pardonj@ferris.edu](mailto:pardonj@ferris.edu).



# GOOD NEWS FROM STUDENTS

BY STUDENT **MARIAH VONGPHACHANH**

5

Since “graduating” from TDMP, life has been quite the whirlwind. I have been on internship for a few months at this point, and it has been very eye opening as to how the world can be. I am at Ideology Productions in Grand Rapids doing all post production work. I love it, and I love feeling like a real adult, while at the same time being in a safe place to learn. It is a weird experience being an intern, especially at the end of your collegiate career. On one hand, you are the baby at work, most everyone is super open to helping you, and some people don’t always take you seriously. On the other hand, you are working 40 hours a week, feeling like an adult, with coworkers that may start to feel like your peers.



I have already learned so much at my internship. I was not someone who ever touched After Effects before. I knew the very basics, but never really dove deeper until internship. I now feel pretty comfortable doing something in the program, and if I don’t know how to do something, I can usually figure out ways to learn

(whether it’s YouTube or a coworker). I can do simple motion graphics now!

I also have been able to work on real projects, with real deadlines. I edit things for brands that, a lot of times, I know of already. It’s a really weird, cool experience to receive a project from your boss and think, wait, like THAT brand? Not to say that work for small businesses isn’t cool too, I’ve done both, but it’s a little surreal. And these projects come with a due date too. It’s not like a “due at midnight” for your professor kind of due date either. It’s a “your producer needs to send a version to the client by end of day on Wednesday, we need to get that done.”

I also won the Student Excellence Award this semester. It was an awesome feeling. I worked really hard while at school, especially during Senior Sequence. I spent countless hours working on projects, devoting my time and energy, and it got me some great products that I could really be proud of. To be recognized for all of that feels really great.



## MYSTIC MICHIGAN TAKE TWO

BY PROFESSOR **NICK KUIPER**

When our students in fall 2022 embarked on a journey across Michigan to film geographical landmarks for a series called Mystic Michigan, they probably knew it would be an adventure that would require many hours outside of the “classroom.” However, when it was finally finished, I think many of us were surprised and honored with the overwhelmingly positive reception to the episode (called The Rocks Cry Out). The success also brought recognition to students with a screening at the Capital City Film Festival in Lansing.



CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE >

CONTINUED FROM **MYSTIC MICHIGAN** TAKE TWO



The episode presented many challenges for our students, and the spring section of TDMP 466 – Instructional Design decided to take on that challenge once again for their production Mystic Michigan’s season 2 premiere called “Light Within the Darkness.” This time students broke away from author Mark Jager’s book series, and instead found stories that were much darker in tone---something that might pique the interests of a younger audience. Over 16 weeks, 11

students traveled across the lower peninsula to uncover details of three interesting stories: the truth behind the mysterious murder of Sister Mary Janina in Cedar. They also tapped into the history of the Purple Gang in Clare which is rooted in corruption and prohibition. And students exposed the horror stories that dwell at the center of the Traverse City State Hospital. You can check out all the episode of Mystic Michigan on Amazon Prime Video.



to learn more visit [MysticMichigan.us](http://MysticMichigan.us)

## TDMP/WKTV COLLABORATION

BY ASSISTANT PROFESSOR **ANDREW TINGLEY** WITH INTERVIEW FROM TELEVISION ENGINEER **BILL JUNG**

This spring the remote video production class (TDMP 314) participated in a collaboration with WKTV (Wyoming-Kentwood Television). They helped to cover the FIRST Robotics competition at East Kentwood High School. The students got hands-on experience with different cameras and the WKTV remote video production trailer, which is set up a bit differently than the TDMP trailer. Engineer Bill Jung leads the production from the WKTV angle. “It’s wonderful to work with an effort such as First Robotics, which is such a wonderful program.”



This is the second year that the remote class as a whole worked on the three day event. “It exposes our students to the entire process of live production - from set up to tear down that is not just a 2-hour event. This is a multi-day extravaganza. 1 day of set up and two full days of live-to-

tape event coverage,” Jung said. In the past Jung has enlisted Ferris students to help as well.

“Collaboration is nice when we can partner with the community, whether it be in Big Rapids or state-wide,” Jung said. It’s always great to have students step into the real world and work with different equipment on a different production and with different people.



This year the production also ran a small team of student videographers and an editor to produce roll-in segments for the show. “It is good to push students past the normal boundaries of what they are used to, but at the same time we’ve learned what these students can do and what they are capable of. It’s great to see Ferris’ students pull it off.”

