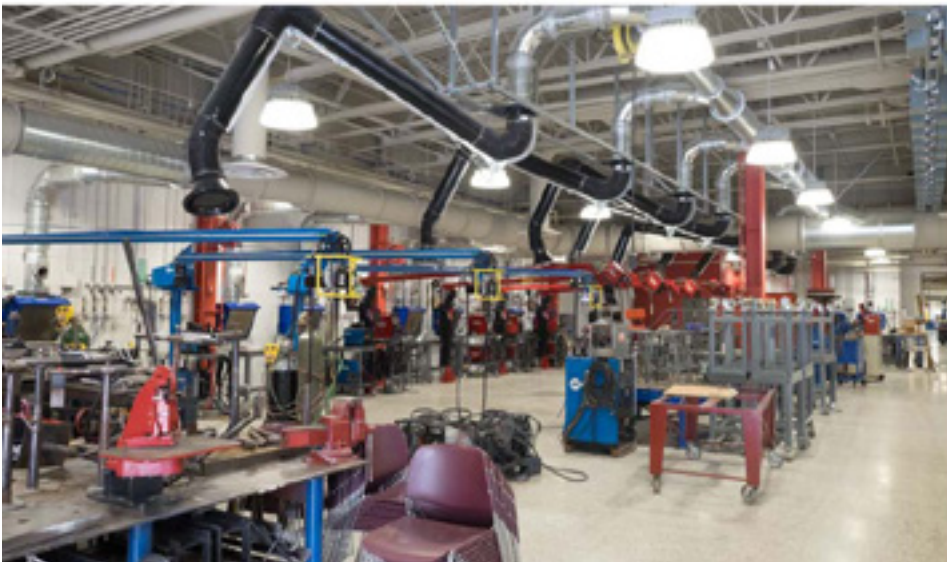


AUGUST 2018

## **FAMILY & FRIENDS NEWSLETTER**



**Numerous improvements and renovations have taken place over the summer months on the Ferris State University campus. A few of these include renovating and expanding the Student Rec Center, improving facilities, and updating residence halls.**

Welcome to the August issue of our Ferris State University Family & Friends Newsletter.

### **First Day of Fall Classes - Monday, August 27**

Where has the summer gone?

Before you know it you will be helping your bulldog move their possessions into their new home for the next few months!

You can expect a range of emotions for both you and your student. It's an incredibly exciting time, but can also be bittersweet - especially if this is your first child that is leaving for college. You may not want to let go, but it's time to shoo them from the nest and watch them fly.

Although this may be the first time you have experienced the emotions of letting go, Ferris State University has welcomed tens of thousands of

students into our fold. We appreciate that you are entrusting your most precious gifts to us, and we want you to know that we have a lot of resources available to help your student through this process.

If your student is moving into the residence halls on campus, please note that the residence hall staff are experts at helping your student get involved and connected. This is crucial - particularly for students that tend to be introverted or shy.

If you hear signs of loneliness or homesickness, encourage your student to seek out his or her RA (Resident Assistant). There are RAs on every floor of every residence hall, and they are specially trained to get your student connected with other students and activities on campus. The most successful students are connected students!

## Campus Bookstore News

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The Ferris State Bookstore on campus has announced that they are now matching Amazon book prices. Students can take advantage of the convenience of the campus bookstore features like charging their books directly to their campus billing account, while still enjoying competitive pricing.

Students may log into MyFSU, Student tab, My Registration icon, Course Textbook link for campus bookstore information. Book charges are permitted from August 20 – August 31, whether a student has financial aid or not.

## Class Schedule Drop

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Failure to make suitable financial arrangements by August 24th may result in a student's class schedule being dropped.

Students that have their class schedules dropped for non-payment will be charged a \$100 late registration fee and must either demonstrate that they have enough financial aid in place to cover all of their charges; or they must select a payment plan and make the required payment due; or they must contact Student Financial Services to make alternative arrangements before they will be allowed to re-register.

## What Is An "Alternative Loan?"

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Alternative loans are education loans designed to help students and/or parents cover out of pocket educational expenses. Alternative loans are not guaranteed by the federal government and require "credit worthiness".

While alternative loans vary greatly from lender to lender, most alternative loans go into repayment six months after the student graduates or drops below half-time attendance. There is never a pre-payment penalty on education loans by federal law.

For more information about alternative loans, please visit our [Alternative Loan webpage](#).

## Scam Alert

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Some Ferris students have reported that they received phone calls from individuals posing as university staff, demanding that students make immediate payment over the phone to prevent class drops.

While the Student Financial Services office does make courtesy calls to students to let them know that their class schedules may be in danger of drop if they do not make payment, it is important to note

that Ferris State University does not accept any form of payment over the telephone. Payments may be made in person (via cash or check), via the US mail (via check or money order); or online in the e-bill system using an electronic check or credit card.

## Bulldog Beginnings

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With the beginning of a new semester nearly upon us, there are tons of activities on campus designed to get your student involved. For a full lineup of events on campus, please check out [Ferris.edu/bulldogbeginnings/](http://Ferris.edu/bulldogbeginnings/)



## Bulldog Family & Friends Weekend

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We are busy planning our third annual Bulldog Family & Friends Weekend for October 19 - 21, 2018.

October is the perfect time for you to visit your bulldog in his or her new habitat! Options for the Bulldog Family & Friends Weekend include:

- A new release family-friendly movie
- A tailgate party prior to a Bulldog hockey game
- A visit to historic downtown Big Rapids
- An opportunity to tour on-campus attractions
- Free admittance to the [Kristef Brothers](#).

If you haven't done so already, [register now!](#)

## Campus Safety Tips

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Bruce Borkovich, Ferris State University Director of Public Safety, encourages parents to discuss the importance of developing good safety habits with your student. Here are some tips:

- Make a Pact! Make an agreement with friends or roommates to look out for each other. Let your roommate know where you are going and when you plan to be back.
- Make sure that the external entrances to your residence halls remain locked at all times. Do not allow someone to prop the doors open.
- Keep valuables in your room locked in a small safe or out of sight of visitors.

## CONNECT WITH US!

In addition to the Family & Friends Newsletter, there are a number of ways for parents to stay connected with Ferris and be updated on what's happening on campus.



@FerrisState  
@FerrisStateFinancialAid



@FerrisState



parents@ferris.edu