The Scoop
on Projects and Services in Administration and Finance

On March 4 we issued the first monthly communication called *The Goings On with Projects and Services* in Administration and Finance. Thank you for your feedback over the last few weeks regarding that issue and thank you for the approximately 30 suggested names for this monthly communication. You can see from the subject and heading that the winning entry was *The Scoop*. The name *The Scoop* was offered by Brenda Walton of Dining Services and therefore she is the winner of the $25 Starbucks gift card. Thank you Brenda!

- After years of conceptual planning and a year and a half of intense detailed planning, the University Center Project will launch immediately after commencement in May. The early visible pieces of this project will include the installation of the construction fence, the closing of Campus Drive between Rankin and Carlisle, and the creation of a new Campus Drive extension from the Rankin loading dock area east to Ives, to connect it at Magnolia, and the demolition of Carlisle, portions of Rankin and then Masselink. You can learn more about the University Center Renovation Project at: http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/adminandfinance/physical/renovation/index.htm

- Given the massive scope of the University Center Renovation Project all building occupants will be relocated during the renovation, with the exception of the Telecommunications wing on the south end of the facility. The Bookstore will move to the strip mall on the south end of town where Save-A-Lot is located Westview Dining will move to the former Center Ice location and will be called the Westside Café, and the other occupants will move to Helen Ferris Hall. The one exception is The Torch will move to the Student Recreation Center.

- The Health Care Committee that was launched in December 2012 includes representatives from several staff groups and the administration and significant progress has been made in reviewing plan designs and developing employee education sessions for this spring. Kudos to the members of this group for their diligence on a very difficult topic.

- After careful consideration of the many issues the University is working on right now a decision was made recently to delay the Dependent Audit into 2014 with a tentative timing of spring of 2014.

- While minor compared to many other issues in The Scoop, one of the things our Physical Plant staff has been doing over the last month is replacing the faded and in some cases broken Bulldog markings on our outdoor trash receptacles and replacing them with the more modern Ferris branding markings. Thank you to our grounds staff for refreshing these as one small way to help improve the appearance of the campus.

- The University has made many pedestrian safety improvements over the last decade including a major push two or three years ago with significant input from Student Government. This summer we will be doing another pedestrian safety project including improving the lighting along the south side of the Sports Complex from State Street to the Heavy Equipment building. In addition the sidewalk and street lighting will be extended from the north side of the Sports Complex parking and continuing northwest all the way to Family Drive at the West
Campus Community Center. Currently this area does not have any sidewalk or lighting of any kind.

- **Good News for coffee lovers!** Historically we had a Seattle’s Best coffee venue in the Rankin Center. Due to the renovation and a request to provide coffee service in FLITE, Seattle’s Best will be located in the FLITE first floor 24 hour area near the OMISS offices. Seattle’s Best will be available for the fall semester and beyond. The intention is to leave this coffee service in FLITE indefinitely with the hours subject to the demand for coffee in this location. In addition, a second Starbucks will be added to the University Center Renovation Project.

- **Rick Christner** has decided that it is time to retire and has announced that his last day of full time service to the University will be May 31. Thank you Rick for all that you have done and will continue to do in the coming weeks for Ferris State University. We have launched a search committee to help find our next Associate Vice President for Finance. Thank you to Mike Cooper, Sandy Davison, Sally DePew, Sara Dew, Linda Golden, Tamie Grunow, and Kristy Heeter for serving on this search committee. If any member of the campus community knows of someone you believe would do an outstanding job for the University in this position and would like to nominate her/him or share the posting with that individual the information can be found on our Human Resources employment website at: https://employment.ferris.edu/applicants/Central?quickFind=51743.

- A big **Thank You** to the many individuals in IT, Physical Plant, Dining Services and beyond that did yeoman’s work during **the power outage of March 1**. In some cases like our electricians, they also had a significant amount of work to do once the power was restored. Our Dining Services team did a great job too by improvising to be able to continue to provide food service to our students during this power outage. Thanks again to these many dedicated employees that worked in different ways and had a much longer day as a result of this power outage.

- I noted in the last issue that we were evaluating ways to accelerate the installation of new computers as part of the **PC Replacement program** for this year. I am pleased to report that John Urbanick and his staff have been able to identify ways to commit additional resources to this initiative in the coming weeks. As a result the current round of computer replacements should be complete by May. You can follow all of the IT Services initiatives and projects [here](#).

- Do you have a question about a project or service we are working on or provide in Administration and Finance? Please feel free to send Jackie Warner an email note regarding suggested topics for future issues of *The Scoop*.

As you know, our people make the difference. I want to express my deepest appreciation for the many dedicated employees in Administration and Finance who work hard each day to provide quality services to the campus!

Jerry L. Scoby  
Vice President for Administration and Finance