Greetings Colleagues,

This semester is moving along very rapidly. Although our enrollment was down, particularly in the first-year student category, we had more students continue in our college and received more transfer students. Both trends are positive. In fact, our School of Criminal Justice has more transfer programs than any program at Ferris State University. Our programs in the School of Education generate more student credit hours on- and off-campus than the other programs. So, we have two winning programs in our college!

With an eye on enrollment, I have been paying attention to retention rates among our students. Overall, our rates are above Ferris State University. However, in secondary education, computing the retention rate gets confusing, because there are so many teaching majors with low enrollments. I would rather compute the retention rates using all of secondary education as one group rather than each major.

We are celebrating our newest recipients of doctoral degrees: Dr. Greg Vander Kooi and Dr. Steve Riefert. They both worked very hard and were extremely successful. Congratulations!! Throughout the semester, I have been discussing course and program outcomes as well as the alignment of outcomes to assessments with the department directors and chairs. Additionally, I have distributed some information with them and started a resource notebook. Because you are working so diligently on outcomes, I would like to have an opportunity to share the work that you have done with others to help us learn from one another and celebrate your accomplishments in the Spring Semester.

I have to thank many people for helping with Dawg Days during the Fall Semester. We had wonderful participation all fall. For the Spring Semester, we are looking forward to eight more Dawg Days:

- January 13 and 27
- February 17 and 24
- March 17 and 24
- April 21
- May 19

Again, our first semester is going very smoothly, but . However, like everyone else, I am looking forward to the holidays and a break.

I hope that you have a wonderful holiday season. In the meantime, teach well! Take care,

Michelle Johnston

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Important
- Last day of classes Dec. 8
- Commencement Dec. 16
- Fall Grades Due Dec. 18
- 1st Day of Spring classes Jan. 8
- College Wide Meeting Jan. 18
School of Criminal Justice

First Annual Criminal Justice Camp was held for high school students age 16-19 interested in a criminal justice career. Camper’s began with team- and trust-building exercises on the ropes course. In addition to working a mock crime scene and improving their marksmanship, the students also practiced defensive tactics, watched a session of district court at the Newaygo County courthouse and performed driving maneuvers with a skid car on campus. They also took academic-style courses on constitutional law and ethics.

Annual Criminal Justice Night was held October 10, 2006. The School of Criminal Justice hosted its third annual Criminal Justice Night at Pharmacy Auditorium 101. The program was free and open to the public. Nearly 400 turned out for this major event.

Highlighting the evening was a presentation on “Families and Crime” by Dr. Joseph H. Rankin, Wayne State University criminal justice director. A national expert on families and crime, some of Dr. Rankin’s publications include “Social Control, Family Structure, and Delinquency,” “Use Diffusion: An Extension and Critique,” and “The Effect of Parental Attachments and Direct Controls.”

“It was a real pleasure to have Joe come to our campus and address our students in such a way that research, academics and practical experience all came together,” said Dr. Frank Crowe, director of the Criminal Justice program. “I believe those who attended really got some very useful things out of his presentation.”

Dan Campbell, criminal justice senior and president of the criminal justice fraternity from Baraga, was the narrator for the evening. Other members of the fraternity helped promote the program and worked the event in different capacities.


The presentation drew on Bourdieu’s ideas of “habitus” and “field” focusing on the formation of gang identity. The development of this identity can be explained through the use of language and communication as seen within Bourdieu’s work. The use of language and communication by gang members was also shown as an example of power that has been created through the development of their identity.

Dr. Greg VanderKooi gave a motivational presentation at the 2006-2007 breakfast of Champions program sponsored by the Fremont Area Chamber of Commerce on October 18, 2007. Dr. VanderKooi’s presentation was designed to give one personal insight into a successful community member’s motivation. The event was open to the public.

Patrick Spresser, senior generalist in the Criminal Justice Program, was the first recipient of the $1000 Martin J. Wozniak Memorial Scholarship Award on September 18, 2006. Mr. Wozniak is a 1980 graduate of our program who started his career as a police officer in Montana and later became the owner and creator of Dynamic Entry Enterprises.

Ferris ROTC cadets continued to develop their leadership skills this summer. Three of the cadets attended the Leadership Development and Assessment Course (LDAC) and three attended the Army's Airborne School.

Cadets Mandy Sullivan, Manistee senior; Amie Willoughby, Clare junior; and Ashley Brewer, Dowagiac senior, spent 32 days being tested on all the skills they've learned in their first three years of ROTC classes. Their training day typically began with a 4:30 am wakeup and ended with lights out at 10:30 pm.

The cadets were tested on their physical strength, orienteering, marksmanship, grenade employment, survival swimming, and a variety of other skills. Their leadership ability was also continuously assessed during each phase of training. The course culminated in a mentally and physically demanding 10-day Field Training Exercise (FTX).

Each of the three cadets received very strong leadership assessments from the active duty training officers. Mandy Sullivan received an excellent evaluation from the cadre. Less than a third of the 4500 cadets who participated achieved this rating.

Additionally, three cadets completed the Army's Airborne School at Fort Benning, Georgia. Ashley Brewer went straight from LDAC to this course. The other two graduates who earned their Airborne wings were Michael Tikkanen, Comstock Park junior, and Robert James, Big Rapids junior.
The three were selected for the course on the basis of their leadership, and academic and physical excellence. The 21-day course teaches soldiers how to parachute safely from prop-driven and jet aircraft while carrying a combat load. The three completed five jumps with and without equipment and during both daylight and nighttime conditions.

**Eight Criminal Justice students** from Ferris traveled to South Bend, Indiana last month for the annual Region 6 Conference of the American Criminal Justice Association/Lambda Alpha Epsilon. This year’s conference was themed “Practical Homicide Investigation” and was attended by several chapters from the region. The conference featured a seminar centering on the theme as well as academic, physical agility, firearms, and crime scene competitions.

The trip was a great success as Ferris students won numerous awards for their performances in the conference competitions. A total of eleven trophies were awarded to Ferris students from nearly all areas of competition in both the upper (Junior/Senior status) and lower (Freshman/Sophomore status) divisions.

- Dan Campbell (Upper Division), Senior from L’Anse, MI
  - 1st - Corrections
  - 1st - Police Management
  - 1st - Juvenile Delinquency
  - 3rd - Criminal Law

- Katy Cleymen (Lower Division), Sophomore from Hartland, MI
  - 1st - Corrections
  - 1st - Juvenile Delinquency
  - 2nd - ACJA/LAE Knowledge

- Kevin Dendel (Upper Division), Junior from Lake Orion, MI
  - 2nd - Police Management

- Luke Mitchell (Lower Division), Sophomore from Grosse Point, MI
  - 3rd - Police Management

- Michelle Siegfried (Lower Division), Sophomore from Grand Rapids, MI
  - 1st - ACJA/LAE Knowledge

- Crime Scene Competition (Lower)
  - 1st Place

Investigators: Kevin Dendel, Julie Buczynski, Sophomore from Granger, IN, and Michelle Siegfried.

In addition to the chapter’s success in the competitions, chapter President Dan Campbell presented a bid during the conference business meeting and secured Ferris State as the host school for the 2007 Region 6 ACJA/LAE conference.

The chapter members would like to express how grateful they are that they were able to attend this year’s conference and have the ability to demonstrate the high quality of education that they have received here at Ferris to all of the other ACJA/LAE members from Region 6. This year’s conference success would not have been possible if it was not for all of the support that was given by the School of Criminal Justice faculty and staff and the College of Education and Human Services. The chapter would also like to send special thanks to Dr. Frank Crowe for pledging his financial support to make this trip possible.

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**School of Criminal Justice cont.**

Amy Kavanaugh and Lisa Mencer of Muskegon Public Schools, presented “Application of Integrated, Thematic Web Quest Projects Across the Curriculum.”

Cindy Todd and Billie Jo Duddles completed the 05-06 Ferris Employee Leadership Development program. Interested applicants submitted letters of interest which were then reviewed by a steering committee. Participants were chosen based upon the goal to create a diverse class of participants with a sincere desire to develop personally and professionally, and possess a genuine interest in increasing their role in the University’s future.

The School’s faculty retreat was very successful. The faculty looked at MDE Entry Level Standards, TEAC requirements and course objectives. Small groups were formed and are continuing to work on course objectives, outcomes and identifying evidence that the students are producing to show how the outcomes are being met.

We are currently working on two faculty searches as well as the Director search. Application pools for the two faculty positions were a good size and the committees are working hard.
Honors Partnership

The School of Education has recently entered into an agreement with the Honors Program that will jointly enroll students who have access to the financial, academic, intellectual, and social benefits of being a member of, and housed in, the Honors Program while enjoying immediate enrollment in the School of Education. On Friday, December 1, both the Honors Program and the School of Education

TEAC

Center for Career and Technical Education

Arts and Sciences
Connie Morcom is planning a second successful study abroad experience to London with a side trip to Paris. The students, who will be traveling with Connie, will collaborate on creative visual projects with British students.

Pat Tobin will be attending the HD World Conference and Exposition, on November 29-30, at the Javits Convention Center in New York. The conference is billed as the premiere conference and exposition for HDTV, high definition video, audio and broadcast applications. The conference will consist of two days of educational sessions developed by the HD World Council, and should provide a wealth of ideas toward managing the transition process from SDTV to HDTV, which our program will be undertaking in the next several years.

An additional screening location, a new director and lots of young filmmakers including some from the area will highlight the fifth annual Brighton International Film Festival. The event runs Friday, Nov. 17 and Saturday, Nov. 18.

The first night of the event will be at the Brighton Center for the Performing Arts, where visitors can view the Brighton Biennial Film Contest, a series of short films that relate to the Brighton Biennial sculpture exhibit.

The feature film Friday night will be "Haley and Madonna," which will be shown at 8 p.m. It's the story of a 13-year-old girl diagnosed with cerebral palsy who has been involved in local Miss America pageants since she was 5 years old. She has performed on stage as a singer, and has become friends with a Miss Michigan contestant, Madonna Edmond, who became Miss Michigan in 2003. Edmond, who faced a life-changing accident which disabled her when she was 13, now performs with Haley.

Filmmaker Tim Nagae produced the documentary and will be available for questions and answers following the screening. Tim Nagae, a graduate of the Television Production program at Ferris State University.

http://www.battlecreekenquirer.com/apps/pbcs.dll/article?AID=/20061017/NEWS01/610170309

Jeffery Smith, a Television and digital Media Production student, has won "best video" in the student category of the Philo T. Farnsworth Video Competition sponsored by the Central States Region of the Community Media Alliance for 2006. His video was a series created for programming here in Big Rapids titles "The RedneX-Files".

He and two classmates, Kevin Strieter and Kevin Dornbush, also made it the finalist level for an instructional video completed for Connie Morcom's Instructional Design class titled "Roll-Up J-Pole Antenna" in the "instructional-student" category. Winners will be announced in November in Lansing.

Clayton Rye has re-licensed time-lapse film footage to the Arts & Entertainment Television Network for use in the documentary program “End of The World.” The previous seven-year agreement recently expired.

In addition, the video "Jim Crow’s Museum", that Clayton directed, shot, and edited, is still in national distribution and has been seen as a FSU production by many thousands, if not a million, audience members. The video is even showing up in the syllabi of teachers at other institutions. Here is a link to an example:

http://jumpstart.metrostate.edu/page.phtml?page_id=105

Jeffery Smith, TDMP student Interning announcing a new TV show his students are producing entitled "Random Access" - an hour-long sketch comedy show. See the Battle Creek Enquirer for the full story.
Susan Hastings-Bishop presented “Community Based and Service-Learning Assessment.”

Denise Mitten presented “Understanding Student Learning Styles.”

Denise Mitten recently presented at the Symposium on Experiential Education (SEER) held at the Association for Experiential Education Conference in St Paul, MN. Denise shared findings from her research “An Analysis of Outdoor Leaders’ Ethics Guiding Their Decisions.” At that same conference, Denise was part of a panel at a workshop titled The Feminine Value.

Closing Thoughts

The College of Education and Human Services has more scholarships for our students than ever before. In April, the Alumni Board will be awarding four $500 scholarships. When the applications are available in BIS 603 after the first of the year, please encourage your students to apply for the scholarship. Remember there are other scholarships for our students, depending on the program and major. Please check with your department offices about the available scholarships. For example, the Storm, Gabriel, Wozniak, Dean Whitehead, and McCorrston scholarships which are given annually.

Because some scholarships are endowed, the University Advancement informs the College about the availability of scholarship funds for certain scholarships.

The College has a terrific scholarship for students who are from the eastern Upper Peninsula, specifically Luce, Chippewa, and Mackinac Counties, and have 3.0 grade point averages. The scholarship is supposed to pay half the tuition for a semester. However, the fund is growing, because there are not many eligible students from that area.

Ferris Professional Women (FPW) offers a $1000 scholarship which it awards annually to eligible Ferris students with a priority for Mecosta County residents.