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Subject: Walz, LaPine Newest Members of Ferris Board
Date: 03/14/2007 10:39 AM

Included below is a press release regarding Gov. Jennifer Granholm's appointments of Sueann Walz of Big Rapids and Patrick LaPine of Farmington to the Ferris State University Board of Trustees. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

For Immediate Release
March 14, 2007

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Governor appoints LaPine, Walz to Ferris Board of Trustees

BIG RAPIDS – Gov. Jennifer Granholm has announced the appointments of Patrick LaPine of Farmington and Sueann Walz of Big Rapids to the Ferris State University Board of Trustees. Walz succeeds Olga G. Dazzo and LaPine replaces Gregory L. Patera, whose terms expired. Both Walz and LaPine will serve terms expiring Dec. 31, 2014.

“The Ferris State University Board of Trustees is pleased to welcome Ms. Walz and Mr. LaPine to its ranks,” said board Chair Arthur L. Tebo. “As a collective unit, we will work together to serve the best interests of the University.”

Added Ferris President David L. Eisler, “The University community would like to thank Ms. Dazzo and Dr. Patera for all of the hard work and dedication they gave Ferris’ Board of Trustees, and we look forward to welcoming Ms. Walz and Mr. LaPine to become a part of all the wonderful things going on at Ferris State University.”

LaPine is vice president of governmental affairs for the Michigan Credit Union League, where he has been employed since 1999. In this position, he oversees the legislative, regulatory, grassroots advocacy, political action and compliance support activities of the League. Prior to joining the League, La Pine was legislative assistant to State Rep. Agnes Dobronski (D-Dearborn) and community liaison for United States Sen. Donald Riegler Jr. (D).

He holds a bachelor's degree in political science from Michigan State University and a master's degree in public administration from the University of Michigan. La Pine currently resides in the city of Farmington with his wife, Kathy, and daughter, Madison.

Walz currently serves as assistant vice president and branch manager of Independent Bank West, where she has been employed for 30 years. She is a member of the Ferris Foundation Board of Directors and the University's Founder's Club, has served as co-chair of Ferris' Bulldog Hockey Locker Room fund raiser and has received recognition from the hockey Blueline Club and the Pete Peterson Award from the Athletic department.

For 10 years, she was co-chair of the Mecosta County Chamber of Commerce Holiday Gala and in 1996 served as chamber president. She has served as president and vice president of Friends of Ferris, the University's political action group, and has served on its executive board for 17 years.

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