



**PRESS RELEASES: Ferris State University Trustees Approve General Fund ,
and Housing and Dining Operating Budgets for 2013-14**

Sandy C Gholston to: Archive

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Included below is a press release highlighting the Ferris State University Board of Trustees meeting held on Tuesday, July 9. The trustees met via a conference call that was initiated from the Big Rapids campus. This release includes approval from the trustees for the general fund operating budget as well as the housing and dining budget for the 2013-14 year. The release also highlights the trustees approved the purchase of a new and modern video scoreboard for Top Taggart Field, the University's football stadium. Any questions about this release can be directed to Sandy Gholston, News Services and Social Media Manager.

To read the online version of this story, visit:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2013/july/trustees.htm>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

July 9, 2013

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Trustees Approve General Fund, and Housing and Dining Operating Budgets for 2013-14

BIG RAPIDS – General fund, and dining and housing and dining operating budgets for the 2013-14 fiscal year were approved by Ferris State University's Board of Trustees at its regular meeting on Tuesday, July 9. The meeting was held via conference call.

Trustees approved a general fund operating budget of \$199 million, up 3.6 percent from the previous fiscal year. The new operating budget includes a projected \$45.6 million in appropriations from the state of Michigan. That would represent an increase of 3 percent.

The \$34.4 million housing and dining budget also was approved by the trustees. The combined general fund, and housing and dining budgets will be \$233 million for the new fiscal year. The housing and dining budget includes the operations of 17 residence halls, three East Campus Suites buildings, six buildings from the South and East Campus apartments, and 32 West Campus Apartments buildings. The inventory also includes two residential dining facilities and three retail locations to serve students and other members of the campus community.

In other action, trustees approved:

- preliminary planning for renovations to the Automotive Center and the first floor of the Swan Annex. The approved renovations could create space for the growing Welding Engineering program.
- a diversity audit of the university. The Diversity and Inclusion Office plans to seek professional services to assess the university's current strengths, weaknesses and opportunities related to diversity. The process will involve a combination of focus groups, on-line surveys, the review of promotional materials and an evaluation of internal policies, procedures and practices. This audit will serve as the foundation for creating a new diversity plan;
- professional services to assist in the search for a new vice president for Student Affairs. The position is being filled on an interim basis by Donald Flickinger. Flickinger stepped in for Daniel Burcham, who retired in March 2013;
- the purchase of a modern scoreboard and sound system for Top Taggart Field, the university's football stadium. The proposed Daktronics system would include typical scoreboard features, a video board, a new sound system and advertisement panels that are expected to generate revenue to help pay for the new scoreboard; and
- professional services to assist in the search for a new associate vice president for Advancement. The position was created as part of an approved reorganization plan for the University Advancement and Marketing division.

The next meeting of the Ferris Board of Trustees is scheduled for Friday, Oct. 4 in Grand Rapids. The full board meeting begins at 11 a.m. following committee meetings at 10 a.m.

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