



PRESS RELEASE: Ferris Students Set to Return for Fall Semester ; Changes in Store on Campus

Betsy L Musolf to: Archive

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Good morning!

Here is a press release about Ferris State University's plans to welcome students to campus for the fall semester, which includes an update on the University Center Renovation Project. Questions can be addressed to Sandy Gholston, News Services and Social Media Manager, (231) 591-2021 or sandygholston@ferris.edu.

View the release online here:

<http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2013/august/semester.htm>



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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Aug. 12, 2013

Ferris Students Set to Return for Fall Semester; Changes in Store on Campus

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University is set to welcome new and returning Bulldogs to campus for the fall semester that begins Monday, Aug. 26.

A total of 3,721 students will live on campus, said Lisa Ortiz, assistant director of Residential Programs and Services. Of those, 1,814 are new students in residence halls, 282 in East Campus Suites and 385 in University Apartments.

Residence halls will open at 8 a.m. Thursday, Aug. 22 for first-year Honors Program students and their peer mentors as well as residents of South Campus and West Campus University Apartments. New and returning students and residents of East Campus Suites can begin moving in at 8 a.m. Friday, Aug. 23.

Students who move in on Friday will be greeted by Bulldogs in Action, a team of students and student-athletes who will be available to help. Welcome Wagons offering free water to parents will be available on Friday, the day most students move in, Ortiz said.

New and returning students will be welcomed to campus by a host of programs and activities offered by several Ferris organizations and departments, including Bulldog Beginnings. The week-long welcome event includes Residence Hall Association Movie Night in the South Quad, Backyard Bash, Meijer Madness, Rec Fest, SocialFest Instagram Challenge, Founders' Day, Residence Hall Association activities, entertainment and disc golf in FLITE.

“We want them to automatically feel like they’re a part of Ferris State University,” Ortiz said.

For a complete list of upcoming events, visit <http://calendar.ferris.edu/> or <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/studentlife/u-rec/bulldog-beginnings/homepage.htm>.

For additional move-in information, visit: <http://www.ferris.edu/htmls/studentlife/reslife/> or call (231) 591-3745.

University Center Renovation Project

Returning students will find some changes on campus. Work is well under way on the new University Center, a \$33.9 million project slated for completion in December 2014. Carlisle and Masselink residence halls were demolished and renovation of the Rankin Student Center began earlier this summer.

The Ferris Bookstore and academic and support services previously housed in the Rankin Center have been temporarily relocated:

- The Ferris Bookstore has moved to 14265 Northland Drive in a strip mall south of campus, across the street from the university's Racquet and Fitness Center.

Hours for the first two weeks of the semester are 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday, Aug. 19 through Thursday, Aug. 22, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. Friday, Aug. 23, 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Saturday, Aug. 24, 11 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sunday, Aug. 25, 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Monday, Aug. 26 and Tuesday, Aug. 27; 9 a.m. to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Aug. 28 and Thursday, Aug. 29, and 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday, Aug. 30.

The bookstore will reopen following the Labor Day weekend on Tuesday, Sept. 3 with its regular fall semester hours: 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Monday through Thursday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Friday and noon to 4 p.m. Saturday.

- Westside Café will open in the former Center Ice dining facility to fill the void left by the closure of Westview Dining Center.
- Shuttle service will be provided from the circle drive in front of FLITE to Westside Café to the University Bookstore and back again from 11 a.m. to 8 p.m. weekdays, beginning Monday, Aug. 26. Two buses will run from 11 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. to accommodate more students. The shuttle, which has an approximate round-trip time of 12 to 15 minutes, will not run on weekends.
- The Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services, and offices for Student Government and Entertainment Unlimited are temporarily located on the terrace level of Helen Ferris Hall. Housing and Residence Life, Transfer Services Center, Veterans Program, First Lady's Attic and Bulldog Radio are on the hall's first floor.
- The offices of Student Leadership and Activities, and Career Services were reorganized into the Center for Leadership, Activities and Career Services to give students even better opportunities to develop the leadership characteristics future employers are seeking.

Services have been divided into smaller centers within the larger office, which is open 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. weekdays:

- The Career Center assists students with career planning, resume writing and interviewing, plans Career Week activities and brings employers to campus to

recruit.

-- The Leadership Center manages RSOs and provides mentorship for event planning and member development, provides leadership workshops, plans Leadership Week, coordinates Greek life activities and approves new student organizations.

-- The Volunteer Center posts volunteer opportunities, records student volunteer hours and plans philanthropic events.

- The Torch student newspaper has moved to the Student Recreation Center.
- A partnership between the Rankin Art Gallery and Big Rapids' Artworks will allow the gallery to continue to exhibit works until it reopens in January 2015 in the University Center (See <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2013/june/art.htm>).

For additional information on the project, visit <http://www.ferris.edu/UCRenovation/>.

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