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### **Ferris Department hosts Statewide Committee**

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University’s Surveying Engineering Department recently hosted the annual conference of the Michigan Engineering Colleges and Community Colleges’ Liaison Committee (MEC/CCLC) at the Ferris Library for Information, Technology and Education.

It marked the first time Ferris hosted the conference, held alternatively at four-year engineering colleges and community colleges. Khagendra Thapa, professor of surveying engineering, made a bid to host MEC/CCLC in 1998 when he attended the conference as department chair. Chuck Matrosic, interim dean of the College of Technology, and Sayed Hashimi, professor of surveying engineering, welcomed the group.

Thirty-two representatives attended the day-long event. Attendees discussed issues related to the Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) Accreditation, especially Engineering Criterion 2000, how community college courses need changed to satisfy the requirements of new ABET criterion, and MEC/CCLC articulation issues. Attendees also discussed the declining interest in engineering education among high school graduates. In addition, the visiting schools made presentations about new developments in their own colleges.