



NEWS RELEASE

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Ferris hits summer enrollment high for second straight year

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University has achieved a record summer enrollment for the second consecutive year with 4,917 students attending summer semester classes.

“We are pleased with the continued strong growth of summer semesters at Ferris State University,” said President David Eisler. “Our students tell us how much they enjoy summer study and we are delighted with their support of increased summer offerings both on campus and online.”

The summer enrollment marks an increase of 310 students over last year’s total of 4,607, which was 566 more than Summer 2003. Ferris had 3,717 students enrolled on campus and 1,200 off campus for the start of the first of four summer sessions on May 17. Student credit hours also rose 1,146 to 30,365.

“We are thrilled with our summer enrollment numbers,” said Dan Burcham, vice president for student affairs. “This is the second straight year we set a record. Of our total summer enrollment, it’s important to note that 4,207 are continuing students.”

According to Burcham, the Residential Life and Dining Services divisions’ special offer of a free private room for the summer session and the flexibility from the Academic Affairs division to schedule four-, six-, eight-, or 12-week sessions were key factors in the enrollment hike. “And with the economy today,” said Burcham, “if persons don’t immediately find employment, taking summer classes is the smart way to go.”

To qualify for the free room, students had to be enrolled in classes on the Big Rapids campus, take six credits or more at regular tuition rates and purchase a meal plan with a minimum of 10 meals per week. All Ferris summer session classes end Aug. 10.

The summer enrollment includes 370 students at Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids, or 81 more than last summer. Of the total increase of 310 students this summer, 189 more were enrolled off campus and 121 more were enrolled on campus. Many of the students listed as off campus were actually on campus students taking online courses which are recorded through the University Center for Extended Learning.

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