

**From:** [Leah D Nixon](#)  
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Included below is a press release regarding the time capsule project at Ferris State University, a project for which volunteers are currently being sought. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

For Immediate Release  
Sept. 18, 2009

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### **Time Capsule Project Preserves Present for the Future**

**BIG RAPIDS** – In the year 2034, Ferris State University faculty, staff and students will learn a little bit about what life was like on campus in 2009.

Who knows what life will be like at Ferris 25 years from now, but the time capsule project can serve as a window to help the future gain insight into the past, said University Archivist and Special Collections Librarian Melinda McMartin Isler, who is spearheading the project.

For people passionate about history, the excitement generated by time capsule projects sparks imaginations to run wild remembering the past and imagining the future, she said, noting the time capsule project is open to volunteers who want to be a part of giving a gift from the present to Ferris' future.

“Our plan is to open this time capsule in 25 years. Time capsules are a way for the campus community to come together and present the essence of what Ferris is to a future community who may not even be born yet,” Isler said. “We opened a time capsule for the Starr Building as part of the renovation of the Arts and Sciences Complex in the 1990s.

“Photos, yearbooks and programs help to place the building in its proper historical context, rather than just being a name and a date of construction. It really brings the time period to life,” she added.

Isler urges anyone interested in this project to know there is a committee being formed that will work to identify items for insertion into the capsule.

“The committee selecting items for inclusion into the time capsule is just being formed now,” Isler said. “I encourage any campus faculty, staff or students who wish to be involved with the project to contact the University Archives as soon as possible.”

The time capsule project is an ongoing one that is just beginning and will continue throughout the 2009-10 academic school year. Items to be considered for the time capsule must be received by April 20, 2010 and can be dropped off at the University Archives in Alumni Building 101 after Sept. 1, 2009. People leaving an item should include their name and address, and a title for the item. Items that are not selected for the capsule will be

returned after May 1, 2010.

The time capsule, which will be built by faculty member Dave Murray of the Welding Engineering Technology program, will be sealed after the end of the academic year.

Anyone interested in the project or who has questions about restrictions on items for inclusion should contact Isler at [islerm@ferris.edu](mailto:islerm@ferris.edu).

- 30 -

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