

**For Immediate Release**  
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**Ferris shows Winter Semester enrollment, student credit hour growth**

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University’s Winter Semester 2005 enrollment has increased in total students and student credit hours compared to Winter Semester 2004, according to Dan Burcham, vice president for student affairs.

Ferris had 11,087 students or 115 more enrolled when winter semester classes started on Jan. 10 with 9,507 of them taking classes on the main campus in Big Rapids.

Several Ferris programs showed an increase in student enrollments this semester. These programs included Forensic Biology, Education, Health Care Systems Administration and Digital Animation and Game Design.

“We are very pleased with the enrollment growth for Winter Semester 2005,” said President David L. Eisler. “This growth reflects the continued strong interest in our high quality educational programs at Ferris and our success with retaining current students.”

“The majority of our on-campus students are enrolled full-time and are taking more credit hours,” said Michael Harris, vice president for academic affairs. “We have also experienced a growth in popularity of our Internet course offerings,” added Dr. Harris.

Ferris State University-Grand Rapids reported a 14.8 percent increase in student credit hours for winter semester, while Ferris’ University Center for Extended Learning experienced a 7.2 percent increase in student credit hours for winter semester at its satellite campuses around Michigan. Growth at Ferris’ off-campus locations is attributed to new options for students in programming and delivery such as the online courses.