

**For Immediate Release**  
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**Ferris ‘Week of Action’ promotes civic engagement**

BIG RAPIDS – Faculty, staff and students at Ferris State University will have the opportunity to become civically engaged with the campus and local communities during the “Week of Action” programming scheduled for Feb. 21-25.

Sponsored by the Student Leadership and Activities Office, the events are aimed at promoting civic engagement through community service, political involvement and aroused discussion. The involvement will help participants learn the meaning and importance of civic engagement and how it can be accomplished.

During the initial event on Feb. 21, Bridget Clark, program coordinator of Kids’ Food Basket, will speak in the Rankin Center Dome Room at 5 p.m. Clark started her organization when she attended Aquinas College. The group provides a bagged supper for 300 Grand Rapids elementary school children who would not otherwise receive an evening meal at home.

“Day at the State Capitol” on Feb. 22 provides students the opportunity to attend House and Senate sessions in Lansing where they can discuss higher education issues with legislators, learn the lobbying and legislative process, and participate in a House Civics Commission hearing. The event is sponsored by Michigan Campus Compact and requires a \$20 fee. Students interested in applying for one of 20 free trips to join the Ferris group in Lansing should call Cindy or Leslie at 591-2606.

The University is hosting “Get a Job. Get a Life. Or Both” on Feb. 23, a national teleconference sponsored by Michigan Campus Compact. The program’s focus includes a discussion on the civic mission of higher education. The teleconference starts at 5 p.m. in Auditorium 004 of the Instructional Resource Center.

The Student Chapter of the American Red Cross will conduct a campus-wide Blood Drive on Feb. 23-24 at the Student Recreation Center from noon to 6 p.m. on both days. Appointments are appreciated, but walk-ins are welcome. Those interested may sign up by visiting [www.givelife.org](http://www.givelife.org).

“Week of Action” programming concludes on Feb. 25 with the “Heat it Up” Basketball Tournament. The three-on-three fundraiser starts at 3 p.m. in the Student Recreation Center. Faculty, staff and students are encouraged to form entries with prizes being awarded to the top three teams. The fee of \$5 per team member will benefit the Mid-Michigan Community Action Agency. Teams may register by calling 591-2606.