

For Immediate Release
February 17, 2005

Contact Bill Taylor, Asst. Director, News Services
taylorb@ferris.edu, (231) 591-2065 or 591-5604

Ferris Board to consider Kendall enhanced baccalaureate degrees

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University’s Board of Trustees will take action on three enhanced baccalaureate degree offerings at the University’s Kendall College of Art and Design in Grand Rapids during its regular meeting on Saturday, Feb. 26, in the Holiday Inn Conference Center Auditorium. The meeting begins at 9:30 a.m. and is open to the public.

At present, Kendall provides a “general” fine arts program that offers students concentrations, rather than majors, in drawing, painting, printmaking, photography, sculpture, or woodworking and functional art. Their diplomas read “Bachelor of Fine Arts: Fine Arts Painting,” or the appropriate distinction for each of the concentrations.

Kendall is proposing to continue its BFA in Fine Arts and additionally offer students the opportunity to major in painting, photography and sculpture and functional art. Thus, they would earn a BFA in Painting, a BFA in Photography or a BFA in Sculpture and Functional Art. The significant difference is the level of development the degree in each major offers the students, especially a student seeking to prepare an extensive and professional portfolio either for graduate school, a gallery, or both.

The Board will also review acceptance of the campus master plans for the Big Rapids and Grand Rapids campuses as developed by Neumann Smith and Associates, Inc., five honorary doctorate recipients, a \$298,230 Federal Earmark Grant for Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning and Refrigeration Enhancement and Outreach Expansion, and a Michigan Universities Coalition on Health, Inc., Self-Insured Health Plan for Ferris Flex program participants.

In addition, Trustees will enter into executive session for strategy sessions connected with the negotiation of a successor collective bargaining agreement with the Clerical Technical Association, to consider with University General Counsel the legal advice presented in a written opinion dated Feb. 14, and to consider the purchase or lease of property.