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Included below is a press release regarding Ferris State University President David Eisler's testimony to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

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Ferris president to appear before House appropriations subcommittee

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University President David Eisler will present testimony to the House Appropriations Subcommittee on Higher Education in support of increased funding for Michigan's 15 public universities at 10 a.m. Monday, April 28, in Ferris' Interdisciplinary Resource Center, Room 109.

Key points in Eisler's presentation will include:

- Over the last seven years, Ferris has been the fastest growing public university in Michigan. For the Fall 2007 Semester, the university enrolled 13,087 students – the most in its history.
- Since 2001, student growth at Ferris represents 22 percent of the overall growth in Michigan public four-year college enrollment.
- Since 2001, state funding of higher education at Ferris State University has decreased 29 percent. Ferris received \$6,094 per Full-Year Equated Student in 2001, which has decreased to \$4,324 per FYES today.
- The university returned \$1.1 million in contingency fees to students.

“Ferris has had the largest enrollment increase, has seen a decrease in per pupil funding, and yet has restrained cost increases,” Eisler notes. “Now is the time for Michigan to invest in higher education and reward universities with growing student populations through increased support.”

Also appearing before the House subcommittee will be Central Michigan University President Michael Rao at 10:25 a.m., Grand Valley State University President Thomas J. Haas at 10:50 a.m., Northern Michigan University President Leslie E. Wong at 11:15 a.m. and Western Michigan University President John Dunn at 11:35 a.m.

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