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**Subject:** Award Recognizes Faculty Excellence at Ferris  
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Included below is a press release regarding the Sytsma Faculty Excellence Award at Ferris State University. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

For Immediate Release  
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### **Sytsma Award recognizes faculty excellence**

BIG RAPIDS – The College of Business at Ferris State University recently recognized Dr. Laura Dix as the first recipient of the Sytsma Award for Faculty Excellence.

The purpose of the Sytsma Faculty Excellence Award is to promote, encourage, recognize and reward faculty performance excellence and improvement. The recipient receives a \$500 cash grant.

College of Business department heads and chairs each nominate one member of the faculty. Nominations are reviewed by the dean's Administrative Council and a final selection is made. The award is presented at the last College of Business meeting of the academic year.

Dix, associate professor of marketing, was described as demonstrating "exemplary teaching and advising practices including innovative course design, delivery, and evaluation strategies and methods. Her nominator went on to say "she steps up to expected roles and responsibilities and also handles unanticipated critical needs."

Dix joined the College of Business faculty in 2003.

In addition to this year's recipient, other nominees included Dr. Teresa Cook, Dr. David Marion and Dr. Nate Tymes.

The Sytsma Award is made possible by a gift from professor emeritus Sid Sytsma to recognize faculty members who have "contributed by their work and example, often at personal sacrifice, to improving and furthering the educational mission of the college."

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