

From: [Sandy C. Gholston](#)
To: [Archive](#); [Shelly L Armstrong](#)
Subject: Ferris Board Approves New Degree
Date: 12/18/2009 04:26 PM

Included below is a press release regarding the Ferris State University Board of Trustees, who approved today a new Doctor of Education degree. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon, assistant director of News Services.

For Immediate Release
Dec. 18, 2009

Leah Nixon
Ferris State University
Assistant Director of News Services
leahnixon@ferris.edu, (231) 591-5604

Ferris Board of Trustees Approve New Doctor of Education Degree

BIG RAPIDS – A new Doctor of Education degree approved Friday (Dec. 18) by Ferris State University’s Board of Trustees will help prepare the next generation of community college leaders tackle an increasingly complex set of educational challenges.

The Educational Doctorate in Community College Leadership combines courses from the colleges of Business, Education, Arts and Sciences, and Professional and Technological Studies. With a business core and interdisciplinary approach, this innovative degree will help assure that the future leaders of Michigan’s 28 community colleges are as well-prepared for those challenges as possible.

“The unique emphasis of this program fits nicely with Ferris State University’s mission of preparing the state’s citizens for successful careers that will shape the future of Michigan,” Ferris Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs Fritz Erickson said. “Ferris is well-suited to offer this degree based upon its career-oriented, broad-based approach to education.”

The university expects to enroll its first class of students in the program beginning in summer 2010.

“Unlike other higher education degrees in the state, the Ferris Doctor of Education degree focuses clearly on the community college. With our distinctive mix of degrees, from associates on up, Ferris understands well what community colleges face,” Ferris President David Eisler said. “As our university celebrates its 125th anniversary this year, our founding principles of opportunity and industry continue to guide the creation of such needed programs of study.”

In other business, the board also approved for the university’s administration to enter into a letter of agreement with the Ferris Faculty Association, MEA-NEA. The letter of agreement outlines the extension of health benefits to other eligible adults for members of the FFA. The board action also includes approval for the university’s administration to enter into similar agreements with other collective bargaining units that may request such benefits in the future.

The board of trustees also approved the following:

- Hiring Clark Construction for construction management and pre-construction services for the university's Arts and Sciences Complex mechanical system replacement project, and hiring a third-party contractor to perform testing and balancing services on the current system to determine a solid baseline set of information prior to beginning the chilled water replacement of this project;
- Contracting with Coca-Cola Enterprises for professional services;
- Amending the 2009-10 contract amount with Scantron for its Performance Series and Achievement Series.

- 30 -



Sandy Gholston
Marketing Specialist
University Advancement & Marketing
Ferris State University
420 Oak Street, Prudden 101
Big Rapids, MI 49307
(231) 591-2021