

**From:** [Jan Eckert](#)  
**To:** [Shelly L Armstrong](#); [Archive](#)  
**Subject:** Ferris Unveils Teaching Sculpture  
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Included below is a press release regarding the unveiling of the Structural Steel Teaching Sculpture at Ferris State University April 28. Further information is available by contacting Leah Nixon.

For Immediate Release  
April 26, 2006

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### **Students participate in building steel sculpture to be unveiled Friday**

BIG RAPIDS – The Ferris State University College of Technology and the department of Construction Technology and Management are hosting an unveiling ceremony for the Structural Steel Teaching Sculpture at 1 p.m. April 28 in the quad located directly east of the Granger Center for Construction and HVACR on the University's Big Rapids campus.

While the sculpture typically is donated to a university by a steel fabricator, Ferris' Structural Steel Teaching Sculpture is the first in the nation to be built entirely by students with faculty and staff assistance. The project has been managed by students of the Construction department's honor society, Sigma Lambda Chi, built by students from Welding Technology, and completed with help from students, faculty and staff from across campus.

The sculpture was designed by Dr. Duane Ellifritt while he was a professor of Structural Design at the University of Florida to address the difficulty students had visualizing a three-dimensional detail connection from two-dimensional figures in books. The American Institute of Steel Construction began promoting the sculpture as a visual aid for students in 1986. The sculpture now may be seen at more than 130 colleges and universities across the United States.

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