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Included below is a press release regarding Ferris State University administration and faculty's involvement in the Political Engagement Project.

For Immediate Release
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Ferris administrators, faculty participate in Political Engagement Project

BIG RAPIDS – Ferris State University Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Harris led a delegation of 11 Ferris faculty and academic administrators to the national conference about the Political Engagement Project in Snowbird, Utah, June 15 through 17.

Harris noted that the meetings in Snowbird were scheduled to provide participating universities with a clear introduction to the Political Engagement Project, consider what each campus is planning in the context of common themes for 2006-07, reach agreement on the next steps for the group to stay connected, determine how the Carnegie Foundation, *The New York Times*, and the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) could be helpful; and achieve a clear understanding of what each participating institution is expected to contribute to the program.

Ferris is one of eight universities in the United States selected to participate in the second phase of the Political Engagement Project. The program's goal is to encourage participating universities to develop pedagogy and research focused on increasing student political awareness and involvement in courses

taught throughout the curriculum. To date, Ferris has scheduled 29 courses for fall semester representing 16 subject areas in seven of the eight colleges at the University. Professional development programming for participating faculty will begin on Aug. 24.

CAPTION – The Ferris team included PEP Campus co-coordinators Rick Griffin, professor of Political Science, and Tony Baker, associate professor of Sociology. Other faculty participants included professor of Recreation Leisure Studies and Wellness Susan Hastings-Bishop, associate professor of Psychology Connie Meinholdt, associate professor of Pharmacy Lucy Ngoh, associate professor of Health Care Systems Marcy Parry, and associate professor of Social Work Wendy Samuels. In addition to Vice President for Academic Affairs Michael Harris, academic administrators in attendance were Michelle Johnston, dean of the College of Education and Human Services, Tom Oldfield, dean of the College of Technology, and Bill Potter, dean of University College.



PEP Snowbird Group.jpg

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