

# President's Memorandum to Faculty and Staff

Office of the President  
April 9, 2012

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## Hockey

This past weekend was a truly amazing time for our men's hockey team. Even before they reached the ice, the team had the opportunity to experience being in the national spotlight, which included a red carpet reception at the Tampa airport and the Tampa Bay Times Forum, and many, many interviews with national media. Coverage of the championship appeared on ESPN, in the *New York Times*, *Wall Street Journal*, *USA Today*, *Washington Post* and many others. If you saw the broadcast of the championship games, you saw several of our players featured in short interviews.

There was a large contingent of Ferris fans in Tampa, with three busloads travelling twenty-six hours to the game and nearly 500 tickets sold in Big Rapids. The Ferris Pep Band, directed by Dale Skornia, was in evidence throughout the Frozen Four, supporting our team and encouraging our fans. Ferris alumni from across the nation gathered to cheer for their alma mater.

Our team reached the NCAA Division-I National Championship game by defeating Union College 3-1 in the tournament's semi-final game Thursday afternoon. In the finals on Saturday they faced number one ranked Boston College. The final 4-1 score does not reflect what a close and hard-fought game it was. The score was 2-1 until late in the third period. Our team showed that they very much deserved to play for the national title, and came very close to bringing home the championship.

Everyone I have talked with has expressed the great pride they have in our team's accomplishments this season and how well they reflect our university's mission. There were many honors for our team in Tampa. For the second year in a row we have two All-Americans, goalie Taylor Nelson and defenseman Chad Billins. Coach Bob Daniels was chosen as the national coach of the year. Bob also earned this honor in 2003.

In Tampa we learned that a Bulldog had been named the 89 winner of the Frozen Four. "89" represents the 89 championships the NCAA sponsors. At each one they recognize the player with the highest grade point average. For this championship that scholar-athlete was Ferris' Tommy Hill. Tommy is representative of the entire team. In his press conference on campus before the championship, Coach Daniels noted that the team's cumulative grade point average last semester was over 3.4.

This has been amazing experience and one which makes us immensely proud. Ferris has made an impression on the hockey world and attracted attention from across the country. There is great pride in the accomplishments of these young men, in their coaches, in our university, and in our community.

Please join in me in congratulating the team and Coach Daniels on a truly memorable and historic season.

## Promotion and Merit Increases, Tenured Granted

At its March meeting, the Board of Trustees took action on important personnel items. These include granting tenure and approving promotion and merit awards to members of our faculty. Congratulations to the following individuals who received promotion, merit recognition or tenure:

### *Promotion*

|                       |                          |                     |
|-----------------------|--------------------------|---------------------|
| Catherine Arroe       | Arts and Sciences        | Associate Professor |
| Jeffrey Bates         | Pharmacy                 | Associate Professor |
| Brian Brady           | Engineering Technology   | Associate Professor |
| Sandra Brigance       | Arts and Sciences        | Associate Professor |
| Ferrell Clark         | Engineering Technology   | Assistant Professor |
| Richard Scott Cohen   | Arts and Sciences        | Professor           |
| Jill Coveyou          | Pharmacy                 | Associate Professor |
| Daisy Daubert         | Arts and Sciences        | Associate Professor |
| Michael Dekker        | Arts and Sciences        | Professor           |
| Gary Gage             | Engineering Technology   | Professor           |
| Anne Marie Gillespie  | University College       | Associate Professor |
| Scott Herron          | Arts and Sciences        | Professor           |
| Brian Holton          | Engineering Technology   | Assistant Professor |
| Xiao (Mike) Hu        | Business                 | Associate Professor |
| Melinda Isler         | FLITE                    | Professor           |
| Yuri Konovalov        | FLITE                    | Professor           |
| Gloria Lukusa-Barnett | University College       | Professor           |
| Dean Luplow           | Optometry                | Associate Professor |
| Krishnakali Majumdar  | Arts and Sciences        | Professor           |
| Tracey Mersfelder     | Pharmacy                 | Professor           |
| Alison Popp           | Business                 | Associate Professor |
| Robert Quist          | Arts and Sciences        | Associate Professor |
| Vandana Rajaram       | Optometry                | Associate Professor |
| Carol Rewers          | Business                 | Associate Professor |
| Lindsey Root-Luna     | Arts and Sciences        | Associate Professor |
| Mischelle Stone       | Education/Human Services | Associate Professor |
| Paul Thill            | Pharmacy                 | Professor           |
| Meral Topcu           | Arts and Sciences        | Professor           |
| Spencer Tower         | Business                 | Associate Professor |
| Gregory Vander Kooi   | Education/Human Services | Professor           |
| Kali VanLangen        | Pharmacy                 | Associate Professor |
| Gregory Wellman       | Pharmacy                 | Professor           |
| Changqi Zhu           | Arts and Sciences        | Associate Professor |

### *Merit*

|                       |                        |
|-----------------------|------------------------|
| Marietta Bell-Scriber | Allied Health Sciences |
| Michael Berghoef      | Arts and Sciences      |

|                |                                |
|----------------|--------------------------------|
| Tyrone Collins | Admissions/Personal Counselors |
| Beverly DeMarr | Business                       |
| Daniel Ding    | Arts and Sciences              |
| Charles Drake  | Engineering Technology         |
| Warren Klope   | Engineering Technology         |
| Roger Mitchell | Arts and Sciences              |
| George Nagel   | Arts and Sciences              |

*Tenure*

|                        |                                |
|------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Timothy Brotherton     | Business                       |
| Sharon Colley          | Allied Health Sciences         |
| Theresa Cook           | Business                       |
| Renee Douglas          | Admissions/Personal Counselors |
| Anne Gillespie         | University College             |
| Brian Holton           | Engineering Technology         |
| Xiao Hu                | Business                       |
| Thomas Larabel         | Engineering Technology         |
| James Nystrom          | Arts and Sciences              |
| Alison Popp            | Business                       |
| Christopher Richmond   | Admissions/Personal Counselors |
| Daniel Sleeper         | Allied Health Sciences         |
| Michelle Teschendorf   | Allied Health Sciences         |
| Mark Thomson           | Arts and Sciences              |
| Christopher Westerkamp | Arts and Sciences              |
| Bonnie Wright          | Arts and Sciences              |
| Mary Zimmer            | Arts and Sciences              |

**Honorary Degrees**

At our Spring Commencement ceremonies this year we will confer honorary degrees upon three eminent recipients. The Ferris Board of Trustees has voted to grant honorary doctorates to Dr. JoLaine Draugalis, Rick DeVos and Dr. Brent Knight.

A Ferris alumna, Dr. Draugalis has served as Dean of the College of Pharmacy, The University of Oklahoma Health Sciences Center, since 2007 and also holds the David Ross Boyd Professorship. Her research focuses on pharmaceutical education program design, administration and evaluation. Her many honors include the American Pharmaceutical Association's Gloria Niemeyer Francke Leadership Mentor Award; the American Association of Colleges of Pharmacy's Distinguished Pharmacy Educator Award; the University of Arizona's Henry and Phyllis Koffler Prize for Teaching; and the American Pharmacists Association's Research Achievement Award in the Pharmaceutical Sciences.

Rick DeVos is best known for launching ArtPrize, the innovative art competition in Grand Rapids. Last year the city-wide event attracted 1582 entries, drew more than 200,000 visitors, generated over \$10.3 million in revenue for the Grand Rapids area, and attracted global interest in West Michigan, while awarding more than \$470,000 in prize money to artists. 2012 will see the fourth annual run of this hugely popular competition. Rick's work nurturing entrepreneurship

includes his establishment of Momentum, a business accelerator for companies focused on web-based technologies. DeVos is a native of the Grand Rapids area and is one of West Michigan's most indefatigable promoters. In addition to his many ventures, he is also a board member of the Urban Institute for Contemporary Arts in Grand Rapids.

Dr. Brent Knight, a Ferris alumnus, has been president of Lansing Community College since July 1, 2008. President Knight has brought a unique blend of expertise to LCC. He previously served as president of Morton College in Cicero, Illinois; Pierce College in Tacoma, Washington; and Triton College in River Grove, Illinois. Since joining Lansing Community College, President Knight has focused his efforts on student success, offering programs relevant to the 21<sup>st</sup> century workforce, ensuring access to education and being a good steward of public resources. Among his many public service efforts, Dr. Knight has served the community as Chairman of the Fredrick Meijer Gardens and Sculpture Park in Grand Rapids.

I look forward to honoring these outstanding individuals and hearing their remarks for our students during Spring Commencement May 4<sup>th</sup> and 5<sup>th</sup>.

### Good News

The April compilation of campus Good News items is now available online at <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/administration/president/goodnews/GN2012April.pdf>. The Good News list is not only an excellent snapshot of the many positive things taking place at our university, it is a resource for those looking to collaborate across departments and colleges. Recent examples of excellence include -

- Professor Bill Smith has been awarded a Fulbright scholarship to teach and do research in Sierra Leone in 2013.
- Ferris State University has been nominated for the 2012 Engaged Campus Award.
- Kendall College of Art and Design Assistant Professor and Furniture Program Chair Gayle DeBruyn, has been named one of West Michigan's 50 Most Influential Women by *Grand Rapids Business Journal*.
- The United States Professional Tennis Association Midwest Division selected PTM Director and Manager of the Racquet and Fitness Center, Derek Ameel, as the Facility Manager of the Year for 2011.

I hope you will take a few moments to take a look at the full list of Good News items.

Sincerely,

David L. Eisler, president