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Included below is a press release regarding the recognition of Ralph E. Shields by Ferris State University College of Technology officials for his dedication to the construction industry and undergraduate teaching at the university.

For Immediate Release  
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### **Ferris' College of Technology honors Ralph E. Shields**

BIG RAPIDS – The Ferris State University College of Technology unveiled a plaque in the Klett Family Materials Laboratory recognizing Ralph Shields for his lifetime commitment to the construction industry and undergraduate teaching at Ferris. The unveiling took place recently during the Ralph E. Shields Recognition Ceremony.

The Klett Family Materials Laboratory is housed within the Granger Center for Construction and HVACR.

Professor Ed Brayton, chair of the Construction Technology and Management programs, said “Ralph was instrumental in developing the Bachelor of Science in Construction Management, and during its infancy, he taught many of the courses in the curriculum.”

During the ceremony, Jim Klett of Klett Construction, an asphalt paving contractor, also thanked Shields for “involving him and his company in the ICET Aggregate and Bituminous certification programs.” The Institute for Construction Education and Training was developed and supervised by Shields, and continues to provide continuing education and certification testing for engineers and technicians working in highway construction.

The Construction department selected Shields as its Outstanding Teacher of the Year three consecutive years, 1975 through 1977. The College of Technology also selected him as the 1977 Outstanding Teacher of the Year.

Before coming to Ferris, Shields worked for the Missouri State Highway Department as the district materials engineer and resident engineer. He was responsible for the quality control of the materials used in highway construction. After coming to Ferris as an instructor, he was able to maintain his contacts in the asphalt paving industry for more than seven years by serving during the summer as an area engineer and estimator.

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