Dr. David Eisler has served as president of Ferris State University since July 2003. He embraces the University’s commitment to student economic development and innovative career-based education. On campus, Dr. Eisler has worked with faculty, staff and students to develop and articulate a vision that focuses Ferris State University as a Learning-Centered University. Under his leadership the university has embarked on an ambitious program of technology integration, classroom renovation, wireless networking and cooperative programs with community colleges. Within Michigan, Dr. Eisler works actively on issues of higher education and economic development. He has worked with the Cherry Commission on Higher Education and Economic Growth. Governor Jennifer Granholm has appointed him to the Council of Labor and Economic Growth along with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact and he currently serves on the executive committee of both organizations. An advocate for the arts, he also serves on the Board of ArtServe.

President Eisler has spoken widely and published papers on the integration of technology in higher education. As an academic leader, President Eisler believes strongly in the value of excellence in undergraduate education. He is committed to ensuring the integrity of the college experience based upon an education that develops mature communication and quantitative skills, including a knowledge core that has both breadth and depths, which creates a pattern of intellectual rigor and provides the foundation for lifelong learning.

Throughout his career, Dr. Eisler has been heavily involved in community service and he believes strongly that service is an important component of the educational experience. With the American Association of State College and Universities and the New York Times, he helped create a National Civic Engagement Project.

President Eisler earned both bachelor and doctoral degrees in Clarinet Performance at the University of Michigan and his master’s degree from Yale University. He and his wife, Paityn, native of South Haven, Mich., have two daughters including Heather, a fourth year Ph.D. student in Biology at the University of Notre Dame and Lindsay, a third year medical student at George Washington University. Before joining Ferris State University, he served as Provost and Vice President of Academic Affairs at Weber State University in Utah. He began his academic career as a music instructor at Troy State University in Alabama, in the mid-1970s, rising to the position of Assistant Dean of the School of Fine Arts. Dr. Eisler was Dean of the College of Fine Arts at Eastern New Mexico University in Portales, N.M., from 1990 to 1996.

Dr. and Mrs. Eisler are strong supporters of FSU student-athletes. They are proud of the many academic achievement awards Ferris athletes have garnered over the last several years, which include being one of the top 10 NCAA Division II schools nationally in terms of graduation rate and of Ferris’ strong showing in the GLIAC President’s Cup All-Sports Award.

Tom Kirinovic, who has gained recognition for his skills in areas of athletics management, public relations, marketing, and fundraising, was named Ferris State’s Athletics Director in November 1999. An unanimous choice of the search committee, Kirinovic is responsible for overseeing the Bulldogs’ 15-sport intercollegiate athletics program. Kirinovic, who served as associate athletics director since August 1994, had been appointed interim athletics director in mid-July 1999.

A member of Ferris’ athletics staff for 26 years, Kirinovic was originally appointed interim athletics director on April 8, 1993, following the retirement of then athletics director Dean Davenport.

Kirinovic served a two-year (1992-93) stint as assistant athletics director at FSU after holding the dual position of assistant athletics director and ice arena manager from 1987-91. In 1991, he was appointed as fund raising manager in the Bulldog athletics department. Kirinovic initially began his FSU career in August 1982, returning to his alma mater as athletic business manager.

Kirinovic coached the 1989 Ferris State softball team to a 17-15 overall record and its first winning season in six years. He also logged five years of coaching experience at Ovid-Elsie High School in Elsie, Mich., as a varsity assistant for both football and basketball while also serving as head coach of the school’s freshmen and junior varsity basketball programs.

Kirinovic, 53, received a bachelor’s degree in business education from Ferris in 1977 and a master’s in education administration from Central Michigan University in 1982. A member of the National Association of Collegiate Directors of Athletics (NACDA), Kirinovic also holds membership in the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administration (NACMA). A member of the Big Rapids (Mich.) Lions Club, Kirinovic is a past chair of the Mecosta-Osceola United Way Drive and a past president of the Big Rapids Public Schools’ Board of Education.

Kirinovic has also served as a member of the NCAA Student-Athlete Reinstatement Committee and on the NCAA Great Lakes Regional Basketball Ranking Committee. He was the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference (GLIAC) President in 2005-06. Kirinovic and his wife, Marge, are the parents of two sons, Blake (27) and Matt (23). Marge is a teacher at Riverview Elementary in Big Rapids.