Ferris State University is in its second century as one of the nation’s premier technical and professional universities. Ferris State provides the practical education necessary to make its graduates immediately employable in a diverse array of programs.

The institution was founded in 1884 by Woodbridge N. Ferris, a former Governor of Michigan and a U.S. Senator. His intent was to provide a practical education for any person with the motivation and potential to benefit.

Today, Ferris State continues to teach technical skills and applications focused on solving real problems, and produces a workforce that is prepared to meet the challenges of the 21st century. The University’s academic programs are designed to respond to the changing needs of manufacturing, business, health care, and other industries and professions which are critical to Michigan’s economy.

The scenic Big Rapids Campus is located along the banks of the Muskegon River in the gentle rolling hills of west central Michigan. Initially, Ferris was known as the Ferris Industrial School, but in 1899 the title was changed to Ferris Institute. It was privately owned and operated until 1931 when it became a non-profit, non-stock education corporation. In 1949, Ferris became a state college, and the school was officially re-named Ferris State College in 1963 and Ferris State University on November 1, 1987.

**UNIVERSITY’S VISION STATEMENT**

Ferris State University will be a national leader in providing opportunities for innovative teaching and learning in career-oriented, technological and professional education. With an emphasis on solving real problems, it prepares students to design and implement solutions that make a positive impact on society.

Ferris State University continues to construct and renovate a number of campus buildings, including numerous athletic facilities in its ongoing effort to attract top quality student-athletes. The results of the proactive approach is to feature high-quality facilities which benefit athletes, students and the local community.

Encompassed among the many campus projects in recent years was the renovation of the Health and Physical Education (HPE) Building, resulting in the creation of the state-of-the-art Student Recreation Center. Construction, which began in March 1998 and was completed in January 1999, resulted in five multi-use courts, a four-lane elevated track, two aerobic studios, a six-lane, 25-yard pool, a 13-person whirlpool, 40-foot climbing wall, fitness center, free weight room, locker rooms, and administration offices.

The closure of Jim Wink Arena with the HPE Building meant a move for the varsity men’s and women’s basketball programs. The result was the 2,400-seat Sports and Convocation Complex, which shares an expanded lobby with the Ewigleben Ice Arena. In addition to the new lobby, concessions, pro shop and rest rooms, the Ewigleben Ice Arena features a 4,580 square-foot addition which serves as the home for Bulldog hockey. Recent improvements include a wood-surface playing volleyball court at the Ewigleben Sports Arena installed in the spring of 2001, a new golf clubhouse which opened in the summer of 2000 along with the construction of a pressbox and permanent bleacher seating at the FSU Softball Field in spring 2002.

Ferris State University is an equal opportunity/affirmative action institution.

**FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY**

**Imagine More**

Ferris State University provides the foundation for lifelong learning. With an emphasis on solving real problems, it prepares students to design and implement solutions that make a positive impact on society.

**ADMINISTRATIVE PERSONNEL**

**Dr. David L. Eisler**

President

Dr. David Eisler has served as president of Ferris State University since July 2003. He embraces the University’s commitment to students, 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 Council of Labor and Economic Growth and 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 depth, 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. He looks forward to supporting and expanding the possibilities for student-community engagement through volunteer opportunities.

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 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 from 1990 to 1996. Dr. and Mrs. Eisler are strong supporters of Ferris State University athletes and athletic programs. 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 State University’s strong showing in the GLIAC President’s Cup All Sports Award.

**Tom Kirinovic**

Athletics Director

Tom Kirinovic, who has gained recognition for his skills in the areas of athletic management, public relations, marketing, and fundraising, was named Ferris State University’s Athletics Director in November 1999.

Kirinovic is responsible for overseeing the Bulldogs’ 15-sport intercollegiate athletics program. He served as associate athletics director since August 1994 prior to being appointed interim athletics director in mid-July 1999.

Kirinovic served from 1992-93 as assistant athletics director at FSU after holding that position and ice arena manager from 1987-91. In ‘91, he was appointed as fund raising manager in the Bulldog athletics department. Kirinovic initially began his Ferris career in August 1982 as athletic business manager.

Kirinovic 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) and the National Association of Collegiate Marketing Administration (NACMA), Kirinovic presently serves on both the NCAA-II Great Lakes Region Football and Women’s Basketball Ranking Committees. He also was the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference’s (GLIAC) President for the 2005-06 athletics season.

Kirinovic and his wife, Marge, are the parents of two sons, Blake (25) and Matt (21).

**FERRIS STATE ATHLETICS UNDER KIRINOVIC’S LEADERSHIP**

- Over 400 student-athletes have received academic all-conference honors.
- Over 250 student-athletes were all-conference performers.
- Over 60 student-athletes attained all-america recognition.
- The Bulldogs have won 12 conference championships.
- Completed new athletic facilities for basketball, football, softball, volleyball, ice hockey, tennis and golf.
- Development of Ferris State Bulldog Athletics Hall of Fame.