



PRESS RELEASE: Trustees Approve Operating Budget , Room and Board Rates for 2014-15

Sandy C Gholston to: Archive

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Contained in this email is a press release from the Ferris State University Board of Trustees meeting held on Friday, Oct. 4 at the Woodbridge N. Ferris Building in Grand Rapids. The trustees approved a number of items, many of which are outlined in the release below. Anyone with questions about this release can contact Sandy Gholston, News Services and Social Media Manager at Ferris State University.

To read the online version of this story, visit: <http://www.ferris.edu/HTMLS/news/archive/2013/october/trustees.htm>

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Oct. 4, 2013

Sandy Gholston
Ferris State University
News Services and Social Media Manager
sandygholston@ferris.edu, (231) 591-2021

Trustees Approve Operating Budget , Room and Board Rates for 2014-15

GRANDRAPIDS - The Ferris State University Board of Trustees approved a fiscal year 2013-14 general fund operating budget as well as room and board rates for the 2014-15 academic year at its regular meeting on Friday, Oct. 4 at the Woodbridge N. Ferris Building in Grand Rapids.

At its July meeting, trustees approved a preliminary general fund operating budget for 2013-14. This final budget takes into account a small increase in state appropriations and tuition income for the fall semester of 2013. The board voted unanimously to approve a balanced budget of \$197.6 million for the university.

The final 2013-14 housing and dining budget is \$33.5 million for a combined final budget total of \$231 million.

Trustees approved a 2.9 percent increase in the room and board rates for the upcoming academic year, 2014-15. The most popular room and board plan for students is the silver/bronze plan that has a rate of \$9,168 from the 2013-14 amount of \$8,910.

In accordance with the state of Michigan's invitation to submit capital project requests for consideration in the fiscal year 2015 budget cycle, trustees approved the submission of two capital outlay requests along with a five-year capital planning document. These two priorities are based on the University campus facility master plan. Priority one is the expansion of Welding Engineering Technology, Advanced Manufacturing and Automotive Technology Renovation at a projected cost of \$35 million. Priority two is a Virtual Learning Center supporting Digital Forensics, Charter Schools, Teacher Education, Community College Leadership and University-wide Virtual Learning at a projected cost of \$40 million for new construction.

In other action, the trustees approved:

- entering into professional services contracts related to updating the university's Facilities Master

Plan;

- entering into contracts for professional services to perform an IT security review;
- proceeding with the retention of all necessary final design, pre-construction and construction management services for the Katke Professional Golf Management Learning Center;
- the nomination of alumnus Kristian Schroder to a three-year term to serve on The Ferris Foundation Board of Directors;
- appointments to the boards of directors of FSU-authorized charter school academies;
- a contract amendment for Northridge Academy for the addition of pre-kindergarten;
- professional services contracts with the National Charter Schools Institute for academic assessment services;
- ratification of executive committee action on Aug. 29 - a collective bargaining agreement, Clerical Technical Association;
- a recommendation to name the National Elastomer Center Room 121E as "The W.K. Kellogg Foundation Staging Room."; and
- a recommendation that the fifth floor patio at 2 Fulton West in Grand Rapids continue its name as the "Bissell Patio."

The trustees are chair Gary L. Granger, of Byron Center; vice chair Sueann L. Walz, of Big Rapids; secretary Dr. D. William Lakin, of Clinton Twp.; Alisha M. Baker, of Mount Clemens; Paul E. Boyer, of Ada; Erin R. Brown, of East Lansing; Lori A. Gwizdala, of Bay City; and Arthur L. Tebo, of Walloon Lake.

The next regular meeting of the trustees is Friday, Dec. 13 in Big Rapids.

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