

# The Ferris State Torch



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Week of Oct. 19–Oct. 25, 2022

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## A day in the life of President Pink

Learn what is on a university president's daily schedule

**Jonathon Hart**  
News Reporter

Do you start your day by waking up, having a nice workout and eating a banana and boiled eggs on the way to work? If you do, chances are you might be Ferris' new president, Dr. Bill Pink.

Pink offered the Torch a look into his daily life one week following his inaugural ceremony.

Pink normally doesn't like to schedule events until after 9:30 a.m. This gives him time to complete work in his office. On this day, however, technology students and faculty awaited Pink in the Granger Atrium for breakfast and a greeting to start the president's day. Pink went to speak with students about the importance of our technology program and how they can use it to further their goals once they graduate.

Once he got back from the greeting, he filmed a "hype" video for the Ferris vs Grand Valley football game that happened on Saturday, Oct. 15. He spoke about the significance of Saturday's game, as Ferris and Grand Valley were battling for the number one spot.

After filming, Pink had his

"breathing time." Then, he is finally able to open his emails, respond to them and talk to his secretaries. Pink explained that something as small as a text message is a big way to maintain different relationships.

Terri Cook, one of Pink's secretaries, enjoys the relationship she has built with Pink.

"It's been great," Cook said. "He's very easy to work with. I'm glad he's here... It's nice because he rolls with the punches. It's a breath of fresh air, and he's approachable and easy to talk to. [Pink] is someone who won't ever turn away a conversation, and it helps having a boss like that."

As Pink emailed the athletic department to buy a block of football tickets for staff, he expressed that emailing can be one of the toughest parts of his everyday work.

"I get so many different emails from a lot of people everyday," Pink said. "I try to respond as soon as I get them... Sometimes I'll respond to an email late at night, but I'm fine with it because I want them to get their answers."

Then, Pink reviewed the list of people who would be joining him in the President's Suite for Satur-

day's game. These are often donors and friends of the university. This particular list included each person's name and how they are related to Ferris, which Pink uses as conversation starters.

Pink gives his staff freedom when it comes to scheduling. They are currently looking for a way to make a calendar for the full staff to have for the campus, as well as Big Rapids.

At the end of the day, Pink was interviewed for a podcast. This podcast was aimed towards personal growth and development in higher education. Pink talked about how he graduated from the University of Oklahoma, became a head coach for basketball and how he ended up as Ferris' president. Pink also spoke about his time on the Board for Core Health.

President Pink's answers all revolved around the central theme of taking risks fearlessly.

"If you aren't willing to take risks for your future career, or anything for that matter, you don't want it bad enough," Pink said.

Looking ahead, Pink will conclude the "Link with Pink" tour in Holland, Michigan on Oct. 26.



Photo by: Dylan Rider | Opinions Editor

Dr. Pink takes the time to interact with children while on campus.

## Dr. Jinx Broussard dares to dream

### Louisiana journalist shares her story with students

**Kylah Robinson**  
Culture Reporter

Dr. Jinx Broussard visited Ferris on Oct. 12 to share her life story and inspire students.

Broussard is a Bart R. Swanson Endowed Memorial professor, and she currently teaches public relations, com-

munication and mass media theory at Louisiana State University. She has earned several prestigious awards in the past three years, including the Plank Center for Leadership in Public Relations' Bruce K. Berger Award, which recognizes individuals who are, or have been, full-time educators that have touched the lives and careers of students through mentoring.

Broussard began her speech with a unique question.

"Can you rise to the occasion? I dare you to dream. I dare you to accept the challenge so that you can be resilient," Broussard said.

Broussard's life story contains many examples of her resiliency.

Broussard grew up on a plantation in Louisiana with her parents and six siblings. Her dad worked six days out of the week for six dollars an hour in the sugarcane fields. Although Broussard could have followed her father's path, her parents dared her and her siblings to be different from the other children on the plantation.

"My parents instilled in us a desire to rise above the occasion, to be resilient, to be curious about the world around us," Broussard said. "They gave us a vision of the world."

From the age of eight or nine, Broussard always watched the nightly news which had a female reporter named Holly on NBC who covered the United Nations. When she saw Holly on the TV, she knew she wanted to be a journalist.

When graduating high school, she faced obstacles and challenges, but she was not deterred from her dream of being a journalist. When kids at school questioned her school of choice, she held her head high, chose Louisiana State and majored in journalism.

During Broussard's college years, she learned that some people on campus did not want Black students to attend Louisiana State. Among other things, Black students were called derogatory names, professors pretended they weren't in their classes and students moved away from where a Black student sat.

"Two hundred Black students enrolled in [Louisiana State] out of more than 2,000. Eight years later, only 10 of us graduated," Broussard said. "It was especially onerous for Black males. They would go to their dormitories, open the door and pockets of feces and urine would rain down on their heads."

Broussard remained resilient and continued working towards her degree, regardless of what other people thought. Four

**DARE TO DREAM** | See next page



Photo by: Marissa Russel | Multimedia Editor

Journalist, author and professor Jinx Broussard tells her story to the Ferris community..

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# News

Jessica Oakes | News Editor | oakesj3@ferris.edu

## Scare for a care

Ferris students help an alumnus-owned farm for Halloween



Graphic by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Manager

**Meghan Hartley**  
News Reporter

Ferris alumnus-owned Four Green Fields Farm in Rodney, Michigan hosts an annual haunted corn maze with the help of student athletes and volunteers.

The haunted maze has been open for 15 years. Owner Kevin M. Courtney, a 1979 Ferris grad, says his family bought the land in 2003 and officially moved onto the property in 2005 to use it as a farm.

After Courtney retired in 2006, his wife suggested they open up their farm to the public and start a corn maze.

"I said, 'Okay, what's a corn maze?'" Courtney said. "I [had] never even heard of them before. So we started out small [with] just a little corn maze, and we gradually added things like horse-drawn wagon rides [and] a pumpkin patch, and then we started the [haunted] maze, and that's been a lot of fun."

What makes the haunted corn maze fun is that organizations are selected to

come and scare the guests. The organizations range from 4H clubs to volunteer fire departments.

Ferris sports teams have also been selected on multiple occasions to help. These groups include the men's and women's cross country teams, the hockey team and the rugby team. When these teams participate in the haunted corn maze, they earn fifty percent of the profits.

Courtney has a special place in his heart for the Ferris sports teams.

"The athletes are just fun to be around, [and] I was a college athlete myself," Courtney said. "It's [also] fun to talk to [the other, regular student organizations and] hear what they're doing... It also gives me an opportunity to give back to the university because my success and career are directly tied to the education I got from Ferris and the opportunities Ferris provided for me."

A fifth-year forensic biology student and mentor for the women's rugby team Alyson Grayshaw has participated in scaring at

the corn maze. The rugby team used their percentage of the profits for trips, gas and other program necessities. While the money is a nice benefit to working at the haunted corn maze, Grayshaw says the real benefit is the experience and bonding the team gets to do.

"We do use it for fundraising, and it's a really nice experience," Grayshaw said. "It is a fun fundraiser for the whole team to get together, and I think that makes it more appealing to us. It's a bonding thing for our teams, and that's even better."

Grayshaw said the rugby teams have participated in the haunted corn maze as scacers for the past four years.

Similar to the rugby team, other teams, like the men's and women's tennis teams, have been coming back year after year because of how much fun they have. Head tennis coach Mark Doren said that his teams have also participated the previous four years, and it's a ton of fun.

This year, Doren says his players won't be the main people working the maze.

Because of his players' prior commitments, they decided to hand this event off to the students in the Professional Tennis Management program and the Club Tennis Team.

The haunted corn maze is something Courtney looks forward to, as it not only is an opportunity for Ferris teams and student organizations to earn some money, but it is also an opportunity for the community to be brought together.

"Just seeing everybody, I love people," Courtney said. "I've got customers that have come every year I've been open. I see moms, dads, grandmas, grandpas and kids. You see a lot of college kids, and it makes you feel young again."

For those interested, the haunted corn maze is open every Friday night throughout the month of October until Halloween. It costs \$4 to be scared. For more information, individuals can head to the Four Green Fields Farm website.

### DARE TO DREAM

Continued from previous page

years later, she was the first Black student to graduate with a degree in journalism in Louisiana State history.

After college, Broussard worked at the Time Picayune Newspaper in New Orleans for a year. During that time, she faced discrimination in the workplace. She had the last desk in the back of the room and, unlike her co-workers, she didn't have a typewriter.

In the office, Broussard was not in charge of writing stories or reporting.

Instead, she was put in the mail room. This changed when one of her co-workers, who was her only Black, male co-worker, went to the editor and asked if he could give Broussard one of his stories to cover. Because she did not have a typewriter, she wrote her notes by hand and a considerate co-worker offered his typewriter to her whenever he wasn't using it.

After Broussard's work was published in the newspaper, she was eventually noticed by Dillard University. They offered her a position as the director of news publications.

After accepting her position at Dillard, she was able to create a mass communica-

cation program, which she taught, and a public relations sequence for students.

"I did it because I wanted to be a role model, [and] so [I could show] these young grad students... that you can be a journalist," Broussard said. "I did that for 14 years."

Working at Dillard brought more opportunities to Broussard, like being the Louisiana media director for the Clinton-Gore presidential campaign, giving press conferences in front of Air Force One with George Bush in the background and coordinating a visit for Pope John Paul II.

Broussard left the audience with some

advice.

"So I say to you tonight, young people especially, dare to dream.... dare to be curious, be resilient [and] accept that dare no matter what it is," Broussard said. "Be resilient and you will succeed."

Not only does Broussard continue to inspire future Black, female journalists with her story, but her current work at Louisiana State is still inspiring her students and anyone else who has a dream and wants to make a difference in the world.

# MICHIGAN

## NEWS UPDATE

**Jessica Oakes**  
News Editor

**First gubernatorial debate:** Democratic gubernatorial candidate Gov. Gretchen Whitmer and Republican gubernatorial candidate Tudor Dixon debated for the first time last Thursday.

The two candidates both portrayed their opponents as radical and accused the other of misrepresenting their positions.

Gun control, abortion, COVID-19 and Michigan's roads were among the hot button topics Whitmer and Dixon passionately debated on.

In what the Detroit Free Press called a "pivotal moment," Dixon stated that she would always "respect the will of the voters" in reference to Proposal 3. This proposal would give Michiganders the state constitutional right to abortion, sharply contrasting Dixon's favored no-abortion ban.

Whitmer countered this, calling the statement ironic when Dixon has not accepted the outcome of the 2020 presidential election.

Dixon believes that Whitmer's administration has been "disappointing

at best," citing the state's economy, community safety and road conditions. Whitmer believes that her opponent is "long on rhetoric and short on facts."

Whitmer's strong 16 point lead against Dixon shrunk to 11 points after the debate, according to Freep. Michigan will choose their governor in three weeks for the Nov. 8 midterm election.

**Swiping salmon:** A group of fishermen from Colorado were caught in Manistee County after poaching 463 pounds of Northern Michigan salmon.

Conservation officers from the State Department of Natural Resources heard from an angler that a man down the Manistee River was fishing with "illegal methods and equipment."

The fishermen admitted to Officers Josiah Killingbeck and Scott MacNeill that they had taken more than the initial 17 salmon they were found with. All together, the fishermen took up to 67 salmon, some already filleted, with illegal tackle and no valid fishing licenses.

After being acquired by DNR officers, the salmon was later donated to local families in need.

# GLOBAL

## NEWS UPDATE

**Jessica Oakes**  
News Editor

**Alabama prison strike:** Over 200 people rallied in front of the Alabama state Capitol on Oct. 14 after three weeks of an inmate labor strike.

Friends and relatives of Alabama state prisoners gathered in Montgomery for the "Break Every Chain" rally last week. They protested inhumane conditions and a parole process that the Associated Press reports "sees few inmates released."

In response to the prisoners' strike, all inmate visitations were canceled by the Department of Corrections for the weekend of Sept. 29. Alabama news station WVTM13 spoke with wives of incarcerated men currently on strike.

"[The prisoners] are fighting for their freedom, and they're fighting for their rights... They're fighting to be treated like human beings," one woman said.

The Break Every Chain organizers demanded that the Department of Corrections Officials repeal the habitual offender law and drive by shooting statute, as well as initiate new criteria guaranteeing parole for every eligible

inmate and ending life without parole sentences.

Alabama Gov. Kay Ivey said that these demands "suggest that criminals like murderers and serial child sex offenders can walk the streets." Ivey assured the public that such a thing will "never happen in the state of Alabama."

Beginning the week of Sept. 24, inmates in all 13 Alabama Department of Corrections prisons stopped participating in their unpaid jobs, which include food service, laundry and maintenance. In addition to canceling weekend visits, The Alabama Department of Corrections also reduced the number of daily meals from three to two. The department claims that this was a logistical decision not made in retaliation to striking prisoners.



# ON THE RECORD

A roundup of this week's crime at Ferris State University

**Jessica Oakes**  
News Editor

### Two years of harassment

2020-present, multiple times - A non-student reported ongoing harassment by a student. The harassment occurred both on and off campus for two years. The case is closed, and both parties were advised by an officer not to contact each other.

### Brophy blazing

Oct. 10, 10:15 p.m. - An underaged student in Brophy Hall was caught with possession of marijuana. The case went to judicial

review, directing the minor to the Office of Student Conduct rather than a legal charge.

### Travis threats

Oct. 11, 9:15 p.m. - A complaint about threats was made by a student in Travis Hall. The complainant alleged that two other students threatened them over the phone. The case went to judicial review, and all parties were advised not to contact each other.

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# Eating, drinking and being merry

## Making art with the human tradition of going out to eat and drink

**Dylan Rider**  
Opinions Editor

Spectators gathered to view, listen and give their input on Dr. Rachel Foulk's "Talk with an Art Historian."

Foulk is a professor in the humanities department and a doctor of art history at Ferris. Her presentation, titled "Eat, Drink and Be Merry: Bars and Parties in Art," was inspired by Jason Swearingen's "Last Call: Schuberg's Bar and Grill" exhibit. The purpose of the talk was to help accentuate humanity's longstanding tradition of wanting to eat, drink and be merry.

Foulk spoke about how the high rate of COVID-19 transmissions within restaurants affected how people ate out during the pandemic.

"I think a lot of us felt lost, not being able to go to our favorite bar, or pub or restaurant to gather," Foulk said. "I think we're still contemplating and thinking about... the impact of that and how important our friends and our family are to us and how important it is to gather with them, whether that be physically or virtually."

The event, held in the David L. Eisler Center's Fine Arts Gallery, attracted a small but talkative crowd. Throughout the talk, many people asked questions and shared their thoughts about the current piece of art that Foulk was discussing.

Among those in the talkative audience was Swearingen. At one point, Swearingen

mentioned the sociological concept of a "third place," which is a place where people spend time between home and work.

The discussion of the "third place" led to Swearingen's biggest takeaway of Foulk's talk.

"The 'third place' and the ritual of eating and drinking together is a fundamental function," Swearingen said. "Humans have what we need in our society. We need to get together, we need to share drinks, we need to share food, we need to laugh and we need to sing songs together... This is a fundamental part of who we are as human beings."

Swearingen also mentioned that these "needs" aren't assigned to one culture because it's "just a human thing."

Foulk's presentation featured many different pieces of art. Some of the pieces featured in the presentation were Édouard Manet's "A Bar at the Folies-Bergère" from 1882, a third century mosaic of a skeleton with a message of "Be Cheerful, Enjoy your Life" and Gerret Willemsz's "Still Life with Fruit Pie and Various Objects" from 1634.

In the theme of the talk, Foulk was able to make connections between old still life paintings of food and contemporary Instagram food pictures.

Foulk believes that image-making, along with being with our friends, is still so very important to people. No matter the medium, be it mosaic or taking photos for social media, being able to commemorate

our time with friends is what makes us human.

This longstanding theme of how much humans crave being out with our friends is so easily applicable to Big Rapids.

The existence of bars like StarShooters, Paz, Sawmill Saloon and the Gypsy Nickel stand as a testament to eating, drinking and being merry.

"I think the place has changed and the

type of food has changed," Foulk said.

"But there is that basic humanity that we all share where we like to have a drink. We'd like to have a meal. We just like to have a conversation with our friends. For a lot of people that's a coffee shop, rather than a bar, but it's being with your friends and having that time to sort of sit down and let the rest of the world slip away."



Photo by: Maddie Epps | Torch Photographer

Professor and art historian Rachel Foulk presents "Eat, Drink and be Merry."

**21**  
FRIDAY

**9 A.M. – 3 P.M.**  
City Hall Parking Lot - Farmers Market  
**2 P.M. – 10 P.M.**  
Robinson Quad - Student Veterans of America  
Pumpkin Carving Contest and Smash

**22**  
SATURDAY

**11 A.M. – 2 P.M.**  
Top Taggart Field - Ferris Tailgate Party  
**1 P.M. – 4 P.M.**  
Top Taggart Field - Ferris Football Hosts Michigan Tech  
**7 P.M. – 9 P.M.**  
DEC Ballrooms - Peter Boie: Magician  
for Non-Believers

**25**  
TUESDAY

**10:30 A.M. – 4 P.M.**  
Robinson Quad - Lambda Chi Alpha Pumpkin  
Smash (Tue. & Wed).  
**7 P.M.**  
DEC 217 - Spooky Stakes Quiz Game.  
**7:30 PM.**  
IRC Connector - DNA-Biotechnology Club  
Pumpkin Carving.

**27**  
THURSDAY

**6 P.M. – 8 P.M.**  
DEC Ballrooms - Chris Fleming: Ghost Hunter  
and Medium.

**28**  
FRIDAY

**9 A.M. – 3 P.M.**  
City Hall Parking Lot - Farmers Market  
**11 A.M. – 2 P.M.**  
Robinson Quad - Robinson Orchard: Critter  
Farm, Donuts and More.  
**6 P.M. – 10 P.M.**  
408 S Michigan Ave - Phi Sigma Kappa  
Haunted House (Fri. & Sat.)

**FALL EVENT  
CALENDAR**

# Culture

Giuliana Denicolo | Culture Editor | denicog@ferris.edu

## Wellness Wednesdays

The AVA tables for domestic violence awareness



Photo by: Mariana Searl | Torch Photographer

The Love Language table provided slips of paper with your certain love language, stickers, and candy.

Jasmine Baar  
Culture Reporter

The Domestic Abuse Shelter, a non-profit organization, states that 4,000 women die each year due to domestic violence, and one out of every three women will be abused by their partner at some point in their life.

Throughout the month of October, Ferris' Anti-Violence Alliance aims to raise domestic violence awareness. To further this goal, the RSO hosted a tabled event in the David L. Eisler Center on Wednesday, Oct. 12, for Wellness Wednesday.

They gave out free pin buttons, stickers, coloring books, bracelets and infographics about domestic violence. The goal was to share information that is oftentimes overlooked within the community.

"Wellness Wednesday is our way of saying we want people to have access and knowledge to health," psychology senior and AVA member Sydney Mingori said. "We try to get resources out there to show people what unhealthy relationships look like and red flags to look out for."

The AVA works towards educating the community on domestic violence signs and services. They strive to provide a safe, comfortable and accessible environment for domestic violence survivors.

The table was targeted toward love languages. Learning about love languages can help a person

form healthier relationships with friends, family and significant others.

"Specifically for this Wellness Wednesday, we wanted to show people there are different ways to receive love, and there are different ways you can show love," Mingori said. "We want people to know these things so they can better support their partners and friends."

There are five main love languages, and the table had information on each. Love languages can measure the ways our "love cup" gets filled or, in other words, how all our specific personal needs are met.

Illustration sophomore Kalen Johnson believes that people should be upfront with their wants and needs.

"I think miscommunication and not knowing how to appreciate the person you care for in the ways they need is unhealthy," Johnson said.

After hearing a bit about the AVA and picking out a "love shouldn't hurt" pin, English education freshman Samantha Knuver thought that the table did a good job spreading awareness in a "not-so-dark way."

The AVA will continue to hold tabled events like this throughout the month of October in order to further raise awareness and provide education and training to prevent sexual assault, domestic violence and stalking.

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# October festivities

How students end the month



*Photo by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Manager*

This is a photo caption.

**Jonathon Hart**  
News Reporter

As we approach the end of the month, some of us are gearing up to celebrate Halloween. However, not everyone celebrates the end of October in the same way.

## Samhain

Ferris architectural technology sophomore Bryan Wickenhiser celebrates a holiday called Samhain, which replaces Halloween in his culture.

"I celebrate more of like, a traditional, little pagan holiday that got overlooked by the Catholic Church," Wickenhiser said. "It's rooted in paganism and witchcraft, which is all about the turning of the seasons and the veil between the spirit world and whatnot."

Samhain isn't necessarily a holiday people make a big deal out of. Wickenhiser explains that it's a more "eastern version" of the Day of the Dead.

"It's more of like, your own, little thing," Wickenhiser said. "It's kind of what you

make it, and so, traditionally, I would buy the candy and all that fun, kitschy, Halloween, Americanized stuff, but it's more of honoring ancestors that have passed... I'd put up pictures of dead relatives and [just honor them]."

Some symbols people use to celebrate Samhain are objects like smog candles and gourds. These are believed to be used for protection.

The reason behind dressing up is one of the biggest differences between Samhain and Halloween. Dressing up for Samhain is for "scaring evil entities away," rather than just for fun.

## Doesn't celebrate any holiday

Ferris information security and intelligence freshman Seth Brott has never celebrated Halloween or any other holiday in October.

When Brott was young, he would stare out his window on Halloween, wondering why he wasn't able to be out there like the other kids. Later on, he asked his parents why they don't celebrate.

"My dad grew up in a religious household... He could not celebrate Halloween due to the fact that it is perceived as devil worship in the Christian community," Brott said.

They also explained other Halloween related dangers, such as getting candy from strangers while trick-or-treating and being alone out at night on a busy and scary holiday.

"My mom explained how she grew up with kids who were sexually assaulted while trick-or-treating," Brott said.

## Halloween

Criminal justice freshman Alexis Moreland loves to celebrate Halloween.

Moreland remembers her first time dressing up. She's known since then that she loves this holiday. To her, it's the one day she can be anything she wants and "no one can judge her."

"I have been celebrating since I could walk," Moreland said. "My first time dressing up, that I can remember, is being a raccoon. Since then, I knew I loved cel-

brating Halloween, and I couldn't wait to do it every year."

She celebrates in a way that most people do by dressing up and trick-or-treating with friends.

"It's fun because at this point it feels like a tradition and is one of the funniest days of the year," Moreland said.

For first-timers, Halloween can be intense and frightening, according to Moreland. She believes that it's important to be cautious while having fun.

"If you are celebrating for the first time this year or going by yourself, the main thing is to be cautious [and] have fun," Moreland said. "We have seen bad things happen on Halloween. Make sure someone has your location so you can be tracked if needed."

For more information, check the event calendar in this edition's News section for some festive Halloween activities.

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# The disability accommodation process

## What students and faculty should know

**Harmony Goodman**  
Culture Reporter

Ferris' office of Educational Counseling and Disability Services provides accommodations that help students and employees with disabilities succeed at Ferris.

In order to educate students and staff on the subject, ECDS gave a presentation on Tuesday, Oct. 11, at the David L. Eisler Center. The purpose of this presentation was to talk about the history behind disability civil rights, the process of gaining accommodations and what happens when accommodations are denied.

The Rehabilitation Act of 1973 is a federal law that prohibits discrimination against people with disabilities by federal agencies, federal contractors or any program receiving federal funds. Ferris is just one of many institutions that are affected by the Rehabilitation Act.

"We want to make Ferris a welcoming, inclusive and accessible space for all," director of Ferris' office of Accessibility and Disability Services Julie Alexander said.

However, accommodations may not be the first step in some cases.

"There are changes people can make so that accommodations aren't as necessary," Alexander said.

If a change can't be made, it is time to take the next step, starting the accommodations process.

Students that are struggling and in need of accommodations, such as attendance accommodations and longer test-taking times, are highly encouraged to reach out to ECDS.

From there, a meeting can be set up. During this meeting, all relevant information regarding the student's disability will be discussed. This discussion will be followed by an assessment of the student's environment. Once all information has been received, the conversation regarding accommodations can begin.

The process is altered slightly for employees. Employees are encouraged to reach out to Human Resources to set up a meeting with Fredericka Hayes, the associate vice president at Human Resources.

This meeting will cover information about the disability to understand the barriers for the employee. From there, information will be gathered about the environment to move forward with discussing accommodations that will help the employee overcome barriers while still allowing them to perform essential tasks.

Once accommodations have been determined, a course accessibility letter will be sent out. This letter will list the accommodations without disclosing the reasons behind them. There will be a contact for the "counselor of record" in case any questions arise. Students and employees are not required to talk to their professors or employer about their accommodations, but they are highly encouraged to have that conversation.

"Come in and talk to us, even if you don't feel like it's valid," Alexander said.

There are plenty of students and employees that hesitate to seek the accommodations they need because they feel their struggle is on them. ECDS figures out accommodations for students, as there is

nothing to be ashamed of.

"Not all accommodations are granted," director of Equal Opportunity Kylie Piette said during the presentation.

When requests are denied, appeal considerations can be made. All appeals under the student process go to Piette. Most appeals revisit the communications phase. If some sort of middle ground can't be reached, those who want to follow through with their accommodations have to seek legal help outside of Ferris.

The presentation created by Alexander and Piette is just one of the events ECDS is hosting this month.

The service center will be putting together a Disability Awareness Month panel where students will have the opportunity to share what they want the Ferris community to know.

## MEDIA MINUTE: *'It Came From the Closet'*

**Charlie Buckel**  
Freelance Reporter

When I first heard about "It Came From the Closet" before its Oct. 4 release, I was excited. As a queer person who loves the horror genre, how could I not be? It seemed like this book was made for me to read this Halloween season.

I was not expecting this exceptional anthology of essays, edited by Joe Vallese, to absolutely blow me away.

None of the 25 essays included in the anthology constitute a weak point in the book. Page after page, queer authors reveal just how the horror movies they grew up watching helped them realize their queerness and how many queer people connect not only to the heroes of the films, but also, perhaps surprisingly, to the villains and monsters that terrify them.

One of the first standouts in "It Came From the Closet" is "Both Ways" by Carmen Maria Machado. In it, Machado rebuffs the numerous criticisms that the film "Jennifer's Body" suffered, mainly from heterosexual men who couldn't understand the bisexual themes present, as well as those accusing the film of queerbaiting.

"It's impossible to miss its queerness, however, for a certain kind of worldview, it's very easy

to dismiss," Machado writes. "Jennifer and Needy express so many kinds of intimacy, it's amazing we've retconned it into a kiss and a catchphrase."

Many of the connections made to movies throughout the book would be hard to see unless you were watching the movie specifically with a queer lens, like Laura Maw does in "Loving Annie Hayworth," which analyzes Alfred Hitchcock's "The Birds." Other connections are more obvious when they're made.

While reading "It Came From the Closet," I found that I connected the most to Richard Scott Larson's "Long Nights in the Dark," which is about the classic film "Halloween" and hiding behind a mask. Larson begins his essay with the first kill in the horror classic, when Michael Myers kills his older sister and goes outside to greet his parents as they get home.

"The imperative in this scene isn't immediately to disarm the costumed Michael Myers of a murder weapon; rather it's to reveal him, to show his face," Larson writes. "The opening of Halloween is a coming-out story."

Larson continues to allude to the masks that LGBTQ+ people will often don in order to fit in before they come out. A mask that I too once put on. Masks that those who wear fear ever being

taken off, afraid of what that revelation might do. This unmasking is how Laurie Strode finally beat Michael Myers.

The essays in "It Came From the Closet" are not all serious analyses, though. "Notes on Sleepaway Camp" by Viet Dinh discusses the campy 1983 slasher "Sleepaway Camp" to Susan Sontag's 1964 essay "Notes on Camp." It is a humorous comparison that somehow fits both

materials perfectly.

Dinh expertly uses Sontag to dissect "Sleepaway Camp" in a manner of camp itself. Quoting Sontag's description of camp as "the spirit of extravagance," Dinh certainly describes the many extravagant ways that the campers in the film meet their end, often in ways that we today would now find ridiculous.

When you put all of the essays in "It Came From the Closet"

together like Vallese does, it becomes a superb read that gives you a new appreciation for horror through a new lens.

Never again will you watch your favorite horror movies the same way. "It Came From the Closet" is the perfect read for the season, curling up in your dorm, wondering about things that go bump in the night and things that go on in your own mind.

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Dylan Rider | Opinions Editor | riderd1@ferris.edu

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## EDITOR'S COLUMN: *We're watching*

**Noah Kurkjian**  
*Editor in Chief*

For the first time in Michigan history, two women have the gubernatorial nomination from the two major political parties. They took the stage on Thursday, Oct. 13, for the first of two debates before the Nov. 8 election.

I, like many other Michigan voters, tuned in to learn more about the candidate's positions. However, I was met with a 60-minute, mud slinging match. This debate was theatrical at best.

It started as early as their opening statements, each spending what felt like 30 of their 90-second statements criticizing the other. This went on through all of the questions, which focused on everything from ballot proposal three, education, school safety, COVID-19 policy, policing and just about everything else. There were maybe two total rebuttals that didn't include insults about the other candidate.

I felt like I was being transported back to October 2020 for the presidential debates. While these candidates weren't screaming over each other, they were taking every opportunity to get their digs in.

As a voter, I get quite concerned when I see candidates

engage in this type of behavior. Debates are not about one-upmanship. They're about communicating a candidate's positions on major issues that affect the voters. What played out on our screens before us was a disservice.

No one candidate was more guilty than the other. Both candidates engaged in antics that we shouldn't expect from our politicians. With only 60 seconds to provide a clear answer on complex policy decisions and office responsibilities, it was rather distressing to see so much of that time wasted on nonsensical and unrelated arguments.

The other big issue was in the rebuttals, not that they should be called that in this debate. I found myself asking multiple times why certain points were just totally dropped in rebuttal and not discussed when they were claims made by the opposing candidate that should have been rebutted. Instead, they'd meander off to somewhat related topics to either fluff their accomplishments or commitments or to attack their opponent.

In such a contentious election — Tudor Dixon trailing behind Gov. Gretchen Whitmer in the polls by just under 10% at the time of reporting — we should be hearing the best from each

candidate. But instead, between the swarm of advertising, phone banking, social media campaigns and straight through to this debate, it's been a game of who can dig up and spread the worst about the other.

We deserve more from our public servants. We deserve people that are willing to put their best foot forward, accept valid criticism and answer up to their past and their current positions. What we don't deserve is a skewed picture based on assertions that are not being live fact-checked and do not paint a whole picture of the situation. While I see debates as a

very valuable tool in the democratic process, in their current state, I'd characterize them as a waste of time.

Tune in for the second debate on Oct. 25 at 7 p.m. for the entertainment value, sure, but please, do your own research on the candidates you're voting for. Look for an unbiased reporting of facts and studies that are backed by credible institutions or, if you can, facts directly from the source.

If you haven't already, make a plan to vote, as the election is Nov. 8. Also, be sure to check back next week for the Torch's special edition covering all things mid-term general election.



Edit by: Sienna Parmelee | Production Manager

Gretchen Whitmer courtesy of The White House, Tudor Dixon courtesy of Spirit of Virginia

## Dawgs need dogs

### The need for full-time therapy dogs at Ferris

**Joseph Nagy**  
*Sports Reporter*

With midterm exams approaching, the growing academic workload calls for solutions for students who are struggling to keep up.

Throughout the country, colleges have found that petting therapy is a premier way to help students de-stress when assignments and responsibilities seem to build into a never ending list. Ferris has experimented with bringing therapy dogs to students and the community before. The last time therapy dogs visited the community was May of 2022.

Here's the problem, though. The animals only come and visit the community every once in a while. With mental health being a growing topic of discussion, especially in the lives of college students, this gap poses an issue. Despite many universi-

ties utilizing therapy dogs and animals for students when heavy testing seasons come around, there are many other occasions that warrant the use of therapy dogs.

A study done by Illinois State University concluded that animal assisted activities are not directed towards specific therapy goals. Instead, they're pointed towards the goal of improved functions in humans, such as their physical, emotional, cognitive and social abilities, which can be affected by the growing responsibilities of being a college student. Animal assisted activities include a wide range of interactions between people and animals, including petting a cat, feeding a pet goldfish, playing with puppies, riding a horse and taking your dog out for a walk.

The same study concluded that an individual's exposure to animal assisted activities,

or pet therapy, lowered their physiological stress. Additionally, one's heart rate and blood pressure were found to decrease after prolonged exposure to the animals. The major benefits that have been found after the implementation of animal assisted activities leads us to ask why this practice hasn't been implemented in schools permanently.

What is holding the university back from bringing animals in more often? Bringing in animals from local shelters for

students to interact with when the mounting stress gets to be too much seems like an easy thing to do. Big Rapids has two animal shelters near city limits, Mecosta County Animal Control and the Animal Rescue Coalition. Partnering with these two shelters wouldn't just allow students a chance to find much needed happiness and stress relief, it would also give the animals who

need an owner a chance to find their forever home.

It's a win-win situation, really. Often overlooked, the animals in these shelters are desperate to find that special connection between a pet and their owner. The commercials on TV that highlight the pets in their cages looking downtrodden and depressed make anybody who watch it sad. Why not give a chance for these animals to find their forever home too?

Bringing these animals into FLITE multiple days a week would improve lives in more ways than one. Students will be able to experience research backed pet therapy, and the animals in these shelters would get a chance to spread their love to so many people. The shelters can find new owners for their pets, and the mental health in the Ferris student body would improve.

# The highs and lows of fall

# The battle between enjoying fall and Seasonal Affective Disorder



This is a photo caption.

**Marissa Russell**  
*Multimedia Editor*

The leaves beginning to change colors and skeletons hitting the store aisles are signs that the best part of the year has arrived.

Every part of me wants to be so excited about these changes because, for me, Halloween is everything. Everyone who knows me knows that Halloween is basically my entire aesthetic. However, as I get older I find it harder to enjoy pumpkin patches when Seasonal Affective Disorder is not far behind.

I want to enjoy the change in weather, but all I can think about is how the flowers are dying and the days are getting shorter. I want to stay in the fall season as long as I can and not have to experience winter, but, unfortunately, that is impossible.

Going on Reddit threads and reading what other people go through helps. I don't feel as alone because, while I hear a lot of people around campus complain about winter weather, I don't hear a lot about SAD.

Accepting that I was experiencing the effects of SAD was hard. How could I be so sad when it was my favorite time of year? I could feel my motivation and productivity draining from my body as the temperature continued to drop. I started to think that I was beginning to not love fall and Halloween anymore. In reality, I have something that a lot of people go through.

About 5% of adults in the United States experience SAD. That's nearly 17 million people. However, SAD affects more women than men. Symptoms of SAD include feelings of sadness, lack of energy, loss of interest in usual activ-

Researcher aren't entirely sure why we experience SAD. Some theories suggest we are adjusting to the lack of sunlight or experiencing a biological clock change or vitamin D deficiency.

According to the MayoClinic, “light box therapy” is a possible solution to SAD. All this therapy tends to be is a light box that simulates regular outdoor lighting.

One Reddit user spoke on the usage of light box therapy in a thread.

"It's near my monitor, in a position where I can look at it just barely without moving my head," they said. "[I] turned it on in the morning and got better in about two weeks. Since then, I've taken a bit more care in the autumn. I wake up earlier (it's freaky how you can live almost completely without sunlight if you wake up at

12 and waste [three to four] hours before ever going out), [make] sure my windows don't get as foggy and occasionally turn on this lamp in the mornings."

While I personally haven't tried a light box, I have been researching it, and I am considering it because trying to do homework and having energy is tough.

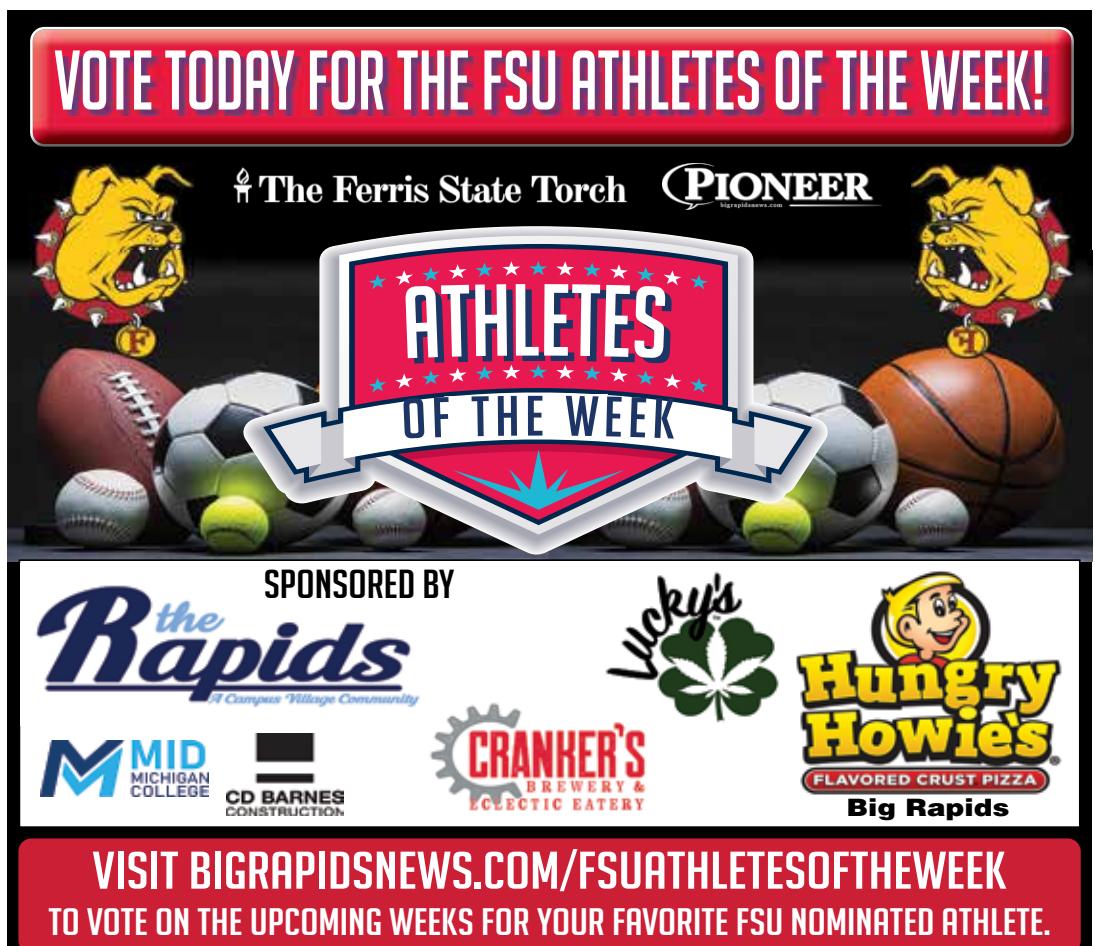
The best thing I can do when I want to do nothing for months is take it one step at a time and go outside to eat as many pumpkin spice doughnuts as I can.

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# Sports

Brody Keiser | Sports Editor | keiserb1@ferris.edu

## AnchorBone heartbreak



*Photo courtesy of Ferris Athletics.*

Marcus Taylor recorded two touchdowns for the Bulldogs and 138 total yards during Ferris' 22-21 loss to Grand Valley.

## Ferris sets stadium attendance record in loss

**Brandon Wirth**  
Sports Reporter

It took 44 tries, but an opposing football team finally beat the Bulldogs in the regular season.

After 43 straight regular season victories, Ferris suffered their first regular season loss on Saturday to #2 ranked Grand Valley.

Quarterback Mylik Mitchell transferred to Ferris in 2019, and this was the first loss he suffered as a Bulldog.

"Before I came here, I was kind of used to losing," Mitchell said. "I came here and I haven't lost yet until today. I haven't lost an intramural basketball game or a ping pong game or anything until today. This is going to hurt."

**"I haven't lost yet until today. I haven't lost an intramural basketball game or a ping pong game or anything until today. This is going to hurt."**

Mylik Mitchell

The Bulldogs played in front of a record 12,661 fans and led the contest 21-10 entering the fourth, but gave up 12 unanswered points to the Lakers in consecutive drives and committed two straight turnovers to end the game.

"I want to get a job where there isn't a broken heart, but I don't know what that is," head coach Tony Annese said. "We beat them six times in a row up to this point, so they had their heart broken six times. It's a fifty-fifty deal. That's the way sports work."

Grand Valley started out the game with a dominant first drive, scoring off a three-minute, 60-yard drive with a wide-open touchdown catch by Jack Provencher. After an initial punt on their first possession, Ferris answered at 5:54 in the first quarter with a 31-yard touchdown connection between Marcus Taylor and Mitchell. This was Mitchell's first game back since he sustained an injury in the home opener on Sep. 1.

"As long as I can get out there and get the play started, I am going to play," Mitchell said. "I played the game and did my job to the best of my ability."

Taylor continued his strong play throughout the first half. Following a long drive and field goal for Grand Valley, the Bulldogs moved the ball down to the 31-yard line after a Laker personal foul penalty and pair of big passes. Taylor capped off the scoring drive on the ensuing run play up the middle.

Grand Valley threatened to score on their next drive, converting on a crucial third and fourth down in field goal territory to reach the eight-yard line. The Bulldogs had three straight defensive stops to force a fourth down decision from Grand Valley head coach Matt Mitchell, in which he decided to go for it and was stopped to end the half.

Each team's defense continued to lock down opposing offenses at the start of the second half. Pressures began to mount up from both teams' defensive linemen, caus-

ing multiple sacks and tackles for loss on both sides. Ferris began to get the offense on the second drive with short passing concepts, reaching field goal range. Eddie Jewett came on for a field goal try but missed wide to the right.

The Bulldogs defense responded with the first takeaway of the night, where Sidney McCloud intercepted Cade Peterson's pass to give Ferris a second chance to score. Carson Gulker punched in the third Bulldog touchdown just under two minutes later from seven yards out.

"[Sidney McCloud] played great," Annese said. "He covered a very good receiver and did a nice job."

After the turn of the fourth quarter, Grand Valley began to find offensive success. The Lakers increased their yards per play to 8.1, as opposed to their game average of 5.7. They scored after a 10-play drive with a one-yard rush, cutting the Bulldog lead to five after a failed two-point conversion.

Following a second punt from Ferris, Grand Valley scored again, thanks to multiple big runs, and took a 22-21 lead with 3:31 to go.

"We let them get us at a crucial moment," McCloud said. "It was an uncharacteristic two drives for us."

With the offensive line struggling, Ferris needed a spark to get back on track. On the second play of the drive, C.J. Jefferson looked to be breaking away for a big play until he coughed up a fumble on the 41-yard line. Ferris gained a second opportunity, virtue of a Laker fumble. They faced a fourth down and five and it appeared the Lakers jumped into the neutral zone. Ferris did not snap the ball and was then called for a false start. Mitchell threw an incompletion on fourth down.

"We got them in our neutral zone for offsides, and everybody in America was just trying to get someone to snap the ball," Annese said regarding the play. "There's a lot of pressure in every play down the stretch."

The Lakers ran out the clock and took the rivalry trophy back to Allendale. Grand Valley had 425 yards of offense, 74 plays and 34:33 in time of possession compared to 316 yards, 53 plays and 25:27 of possession time for Ferris. Ferris committed six penalties, while Grand Valley committed four, each for 35 yards. The Bulldogs forced two Laker turnovers and only committed one.

Mitchell paced Ferris' passing attack with 235 yards on 19 completions and one touchdown. Taylor led the Bulldogs on the ground with 56 yards on five carries, while also adding 82 yards receiving on five catches. Jefferson had 83 yards on six grabs, and Tyrese Hunt-Thompson added 45 yards on five receptions. Jewett finished three for three on extra points while missing his only field goal attempt.

Defensively, Caleb Murphy registered nine tackles, followed by Jacarvis Alexandre with eight and Jamil Thomas with seven. Konnor Near obtained the lone fumble recovery, while McCloud recorded the interception. Thomas and McCloud each recorded three pass break ups, while Murphy, Jovan Bayless, Jason Williams and Jordan Jones each had 0.5 sacks on the day.

"It was a hard-fought game between two really good opponents," Annese said. "Tomorrow, it's come back [to work] and get after it."

Ferris moves to 5-1 on the season and will be back in action at home against Michigan Tech on Sep. 22 at 1 p.m.

# Hockey splits again



Photo by: Dylan Rider | Opinions Editor

Brad Marek had three assists across Ferris' two games against Canisius. He currently leads the team with six points on the season.

## Bulldogs follow Friday loss with a dominant Saturday win

**Dylan Rider**  
Opinions Editor

Ferris men's hockey (2-3-1) split the weekend matchup with the Canisius Golden Griffins (1-3-0) this past weekend.

The Bulldogs gave Canisius their first win of the season on Saturday with a 5-3 loss before rebounding and dominating the second game of the series to get a 4-1 win.

Head coach Bob Daniels discussed scoring opportunities in Friday's loss.

"We did have some more chances [to score]," Daniels said. "I think right after we scored to make it 4-3, we hit the crossbar on the shot. Pipe-and-in would have been nice. We're getting the looks, [and] we got some chances. You can't tell a guy exactly how to score. You put them in the position to get the puck, and they kind of have that natural goal scorer thing."

Friday's contest started rough for the Bulldogs after letting in two Canisius goals before junior forward Stepan Pokorny was able to net a goal for the Bulldogs.

From there, the Bulldogs played catch-up. Canisius went up 3-1 early in the second, which elicited a Bulldog goal from junior defenseman Luke Farthing.

The catchup trend continued into the third after another Canisius goal was followed by a goal from senior forward Jason Brancheau. After Brancheau's goal, Canisius netted an empty net goal to bring the final score to 5-3, Canisius.

Daniels, who was worried about scoring earlier in the season, said that three or four goals in a game should be enough to get a win.

Saturday's game was much different for the Bulldogs, as a recipe of stellar goaltending and

an offensive explosion propelled the Bulldogs to their second win on home ice.

The game began with a five minute major alongside an ejection for Farthing. The Bulldogs played strong defensively and killed the penalty right out of the gate.

"I thought the penalty kill was outstanding," Daniels said. "There's an old hockey adage: 'your best penalty killer is your goaltender,' and I thought Noah [Giesbrecht] was really strong during that five minute sequence. If they got the lead, maybe it's a whole different game. By getting through that five minutes and then us getting on the board first, I think that really helped a lot."

The Bulldogs capitalized in the waning moments of the first period when junior forward Mitch Deelstra scored to put the Bulldogs ahead 1-0.

After Deelstra's goal, the Bulldogs brought an onslaught of offense in the second. Senior forward Dallas Tulik slammed a five-hole shot for their second goal, senior defenseman Matt Slick got a breakaway and scored his first Bulldog goal and Pokorny deked his way past the goaltender to slide home the Bulldogs' final goal of the game.

In the third period, only one goal went past Giesbrecht to ruin his shutout bid. However, Ferris kept it together and came away with the win.

Giesbrecht saved 29 of 30 shots in order to pick up his first win of the season. With the first win out of the way, Giesbrecht said he looked to build on it.

Pokorny spoke on the win following his two goal weekend.

"It feels very nice," Pokorny said. "I know it's a big win for us. You know, [Friday] night really hurt. I thought [about it] going through the third period. We

were kind of a better team than third period. I thought it would be carried into today's game, and I am glad to get a good start and

finish it off."

The Bulldogs will take a week off and prepare to open Central Collegiate Hockey Association

play when St. Thomas comes to town on Oct. 28 and Oct. 29.

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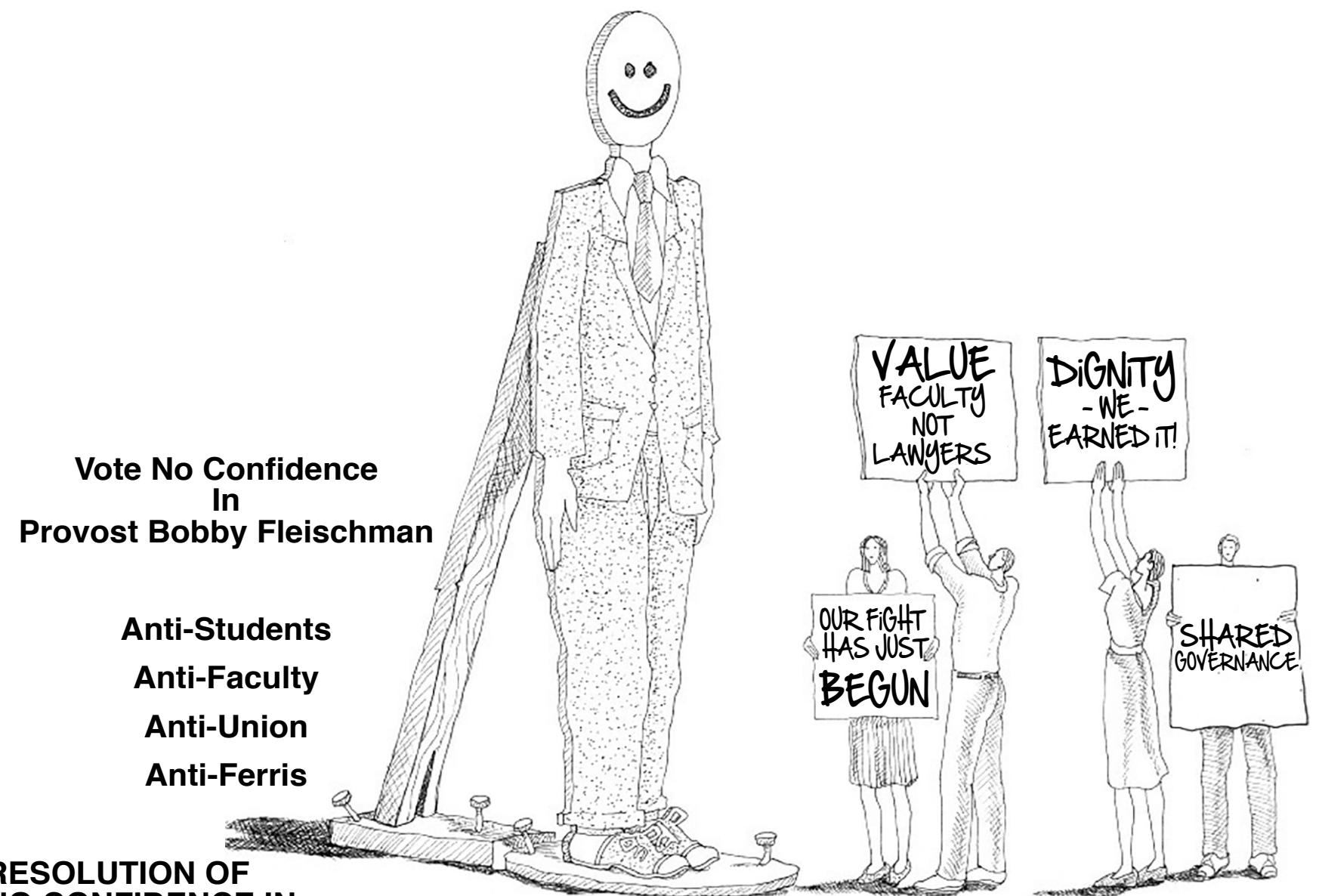


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**The Ferris Faculty Association of Ferris State University declares and affirms a vote of no confidence in Provost Bobby Fleishman's academic leadership and competence.**

- Whereas, Provost Fleishman has flagrantly violated the faculty rights of shared governance resulting in a lack of faculty involvement in decision making.
- Whereas, Provost Fleishman's autocratic governance has undermined the quality of teaching and the academic integrity in our classrooms by arbitrarily increasing class sizes.
- Whereas, Provost Fleishman has blatantly violated the working conditions and the curricular rights of the faculty set out in the Collective Bargaining Agreement and resulting in the filing of more than 60 grievances.
- Whereas, Provost Fleishman's autocratic policies have resulted in the low morale of the faculty.
- Whereas, Provost Fleishman's lack of academic leadership and incompetence has resulted in a failure to prioritize the university's academic mission resulting in harm to students and faculty.
- Whereas, Provost Fleishman autocratic actions have created an atmosphere of hostility and distrustfulness between faculty and administration.
- Whereas, Provost Fleishman's lack of integrity and transparency in dealing with faculty and faculty academic issues has created months of turmoil in the university.
- Whereas, Provost Fleishman has imposed autocratic administrative decisions that undermine the teaching integrity in courses and severely compromise student academic success.

**VOTE NO CONFIDENCE IN  
PROVOST BOBBY FLEISHMAN**

**Vote to take place October 24, 25, 26.**

[www.ferris-faculty-association.org/events/vote-of-no-confidence/](http://www.ferris-faculty-association.org/events/vote-of-no-confidence/)

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