



FERRIS STATE UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT

2017-2018 Fiscal Perspective

Higher Education Support

- Support Governor Snyder's higher education operating budget
- Strongly support recommended increase to Michigan Competitive Scholarship Program, first significant increase since a 64% reduction to student financial support in 2009
- Ongoing support for performance funding model
- Model works best and can be best evaluated when metrics remain constant
- Approach allows Ferris to constrain tuition (average 2.51% increase since 2012) and with increases to financial aid and scholarship reduce net price by 12.3%
- As a result graduating student debt today is less than in 2011
- Eliminating the state income tax without a replacement for higher education general fund support will severely damage support for both our present and future students.

Tuition Incentive Program (TIP) Funding

- Ferris Opportunity mission results in many first generation college students
- Today we have 1530 TIP students (1184 Level I and 346 Level II) enrolled at Ferris
- Ferris TIP students graduate in work-ready degrees (over 83% in high demand careers)
- Limiting University TIP students to twice the in-district community college rate will make it impossible for many to attend
- Students may be identified for TIP support as early as age 9. By the time some attend college their financial circumstances have improved.
- If TIP funding were limited to students who are Pell eligible, it would save more funds and preserve this opportunity for more students

Michigan Public School Employees Retirement System (MPSERS)

- Appreciate recognition of unfair burden of MPSERS on 7 public universities
- Last year Ferris returned 19.4% of State support back for MPSERS
- This is \$810 for each full-time student at the university
- Office of Retirement Systems proposes artificially inflating payroll floor
- This negates intent of legislation and will cost the university \$62 million more

Economic Impact

- Higher Education is critical to sustained economic growth for Michigan
- Ferris focuses on degree program programs that fuel and support this growth
- Ferris is in top 20% of institutions nationally in critical skills areas, over 1700 annually
- Ferris is a leader in STEM degrees with 100% job placement in many programs

David L. Eisler, president

1201 S. State Street, CSS 301
Big Rapids, MI 49307-2747

Phone: (231) 591-2500
Web: www.ferris.edu