

Two Ridge-related Awards Announced

First a Design Award, Then a Writing Award

Over the span of a few days in November, Adrian College learned that the newly-renovated Ridge Student Center had resulted in a design award and a writing award.

The Collaborative, the architectural and design firm based in Toledo that redesigned Ridge, received one of three Honor Awards from the Toledo Chapter of the American Institute of Architects (AIA) for their work on the project.

A press release from AIA Toledo states that the Ridge design "sensitively respects the historic legacy of the building and the unique large spaces."

The contest was judged by a group of architects and designers in Chicago.

In other Ridge news, **Darcy Gifford '91** earned national distinction for "Renaissance," a story she wrote about the Ridge project in the Winter 2002 issue of *Contact*. In the 2002 Fred S. Stabley Junior Writing Contest, sponsored by the College Sports Information Directors of America (CoSIDA), Gifford's story was first in the "Historical Fiction" category, and second in the "Story of the Year" category.

Gifford's story won a regional award from CoSIDA in 2002, but the results of the national contest were not announced until recently.

When the story was published, Gifford was the editor of *Contact* and the sports information director at Adrian. She is currently the marketing director for Maumee Valley Country Day School in Maumee, Ohio, and is a freelance writer.



Read Darcy Gifford's award-winning story online at www.contact.edu

The Search for a President

Process Nears Completion

The Adrian College Board of Trustees is well into the process to appoint a new president after Dr. Stanley Caine retires at the end of June 2005.

A presidential search committee began meeting regularly in August. Members include trustees, two administrators, two faculty members, and two students. The faculty members and students are associate trustees.

The committee is working closely with the Academic Search Consultation Service of Washington, D.C., an organization that has assisted over 600 colleges and universities with their searches for presidents and senior academic leaders, and the same organization that helped the College when it hired Dr. Caine.

Academic Search visited campus in September to meet with a wide range of campus constituencies, including faculty, staff and students, to help develop a printed presidential search piece to supply information about the opening to potential candidates. It resulted in a profile of Adrian's needs and priorities, and described the characteristics and talents desired in a candidate.

In the subsequent months, the committee and the consultants have reviewed

applications, narrowed the candidate pool, and performed reference checks. Confidential preliminary interviews were conducted with the committee in January, followed in February by on-campus interviews with finalists that included the wider campus community.

The committee reports that it is very

pleased with the quality of candidates. A final decision is expected in March, and the new president will begin after Dr. Caine steps down this summer.

Dr. Caine announced his retirement at the board of trustees meeting in February 2004, to provide sufficient time to appoint his successor.

Borland To Retire

Academic Dean to serve through 2005-2006

James Borland, vice president and dean of academic affairs, has announced that he will retire at the end of the 2005-2006 academic year.

At that time, he will have served for 15 years in his current position. He spent 20 years prior to that teaching English at AC, and has continued to teach a class or two every year.

Aside from nearing a normal retirement age, a major reason Borland cites for his retirement is his commute. His wife teaches at Northwestern University in Illinois, and retirement will allow him to rejoin his family full time.

The timing also fits well with Dr. Caine's retirement, which will take place this June. By staying another school year beyond that, Borland will provide continuity, but will then provide the new president with the opportunity to appoint his or her own leadership.

After Adrian, Borland plans to pursue such interests as languages, travel and computers.

