

# The Lumberjack

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Alpena Community College

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## Dr. Davis Retires After 17 Years

JESSICA THIEM  
Managing Editor

After 17 years at ACC, Dr. Curt Davis, Vice President for Instructional, Student, and Community Services, has initiated many projects at ACC. Unfortunately, this semester will be his last at ACC. Dr. Davis decided to retire at the end of this school year to do something different with his time.

Dr. Davis began working at ACC in 1986. Before he moved to Alpena, he was the Dean at Owens Technical College in Toledo, Ohio. After Owens, he went to the University of Toledo to get his Doctorate.

After finishing the doctoral program at his wife, Shari, and he decided they wanted to live in a smaller community. Dr. Davis and ACC proved a good match.

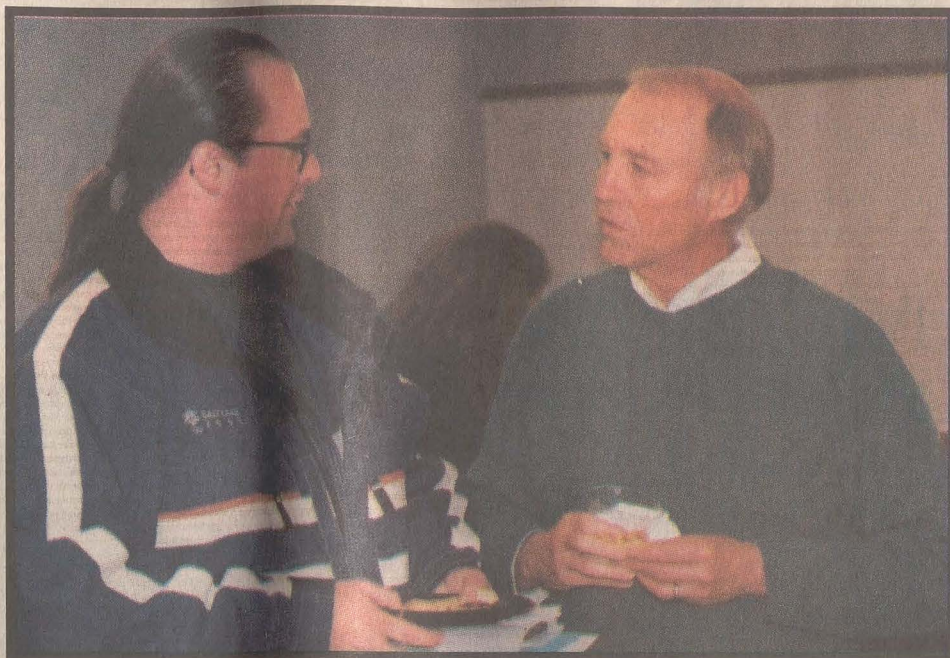
Dr. Davis said one of the best things about being at ACC is that it gave him the opportunity to work with students. He said that if he were at a major university, in

his job, he would very seldom come in contact with students.

"What I like about this college and being at a college this size is that you get to do a variety of things, and you get to interact with all kinds of people all in one day," stated Dr. Davis.

One of the biggest accomplishments that Dr. Davis has been part of at ACC is the bringing in of new staff members. Over the past 17 years, he has replaced nearly 75% of the teachers on staff due to retirement. Davis believes that ACC has always had a good faculty, and the challenge over the years has been to hire in staff that was just as strong in the classroom as the previous staff was. He feels he has done a good job in accomplishing that.

Another accomplishment he has helped along is the reintroduction of fine arts and performing arts to ACC. Dr. Davis said that when he came to ACC in 1986 none of those programs existed.



Dr. Curt Davis talks with Michael Dean Bergman after the 2002 Academic and Athletic Awards ceremony.

Photo courtesy Jay Walterreit

ACC now has dance, Jazz Ensemble, performing arts and fine arts classes.

The third largest accomplishment he feels he has helped in is the occupational areas at ACC. Davis has helped make sure they have the most current equipment and up-to-date labs. Dr. Davis believes ACC has to keep its technology

current so that students have the type of equipment to learn on that they will find in the industry they are going into.

Dr. Davis also had an impact on the ACC staff. Mary Skiba, Dr. Davis' assistant, said one of the things she will miss about him is his ability to pull everyone together at the college or in the community.

"The thing I enjoyed the most about working at ACC is that there is a wonderful group of people that work here at the college," stated Dr. Davis.

He and his family chose Alpena because it had a combination of two things they liked; the climate and the lake. Dr. Davis had grown up near Lake Erie in Ohio

and thought it would be nice to live near a lake again. Alpena also had a climate similar to that of West Germany where he and his wife had lived.

They moved to West Germany because he was in the Army and that is where the job sent him. He and his wife stayed there for a year and a half. They then decided to stay longer because Dr. Davis had started a Community College, which provided programs for Army and Air Force personnel in that area.

He decided to retire this year because there are more things he would like to do and it's hard to fit everything into a fixed schedule. Dr. Davis said he's been in this line of work for 35 years and feels it's time for him to do something different.

He and his wife plan on traveling the United States. They have friends all over the country that they would like to get reacquainted with. Dr. Davis also said that he plans on getting in a little more time for golfing and fishing after he retires.

## State Cuts Budget; Tuition Hike Likely

KARA EUBANK  
Features Editor

Dr. Newport, President of ACC, laid out an overview of the up and coming budget changes at a meeting held on March 13th in

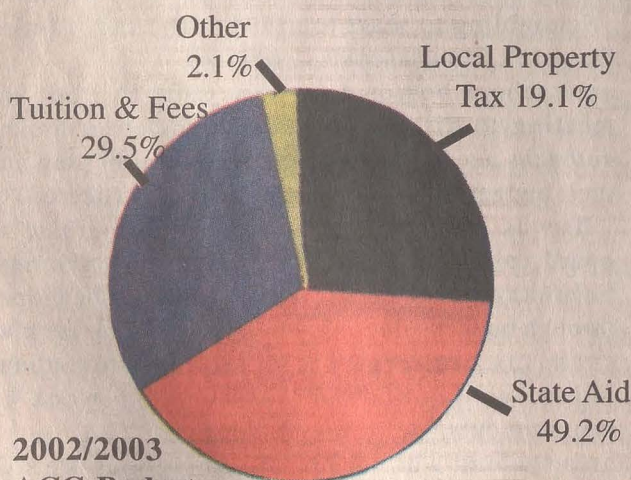
the Granum Theatre.

Dr. Newport simplified Governor Granholm's proposal and what it means to the college and the community as a whole. With the economy in a slump, cuts in the

budget have to be made in order to stay on top. Dr. Newport stated that this would be a multi-year budget procedure. "The problems we are facing will not disappear in just one year," said Dr. Newport.

Nearly 50 percent of ACC's budget comes from the Michigan State Appropriations. Thirty percent of the budget is from tuition and fees and the last 20 percent mostly comes from property taxes. A lot of the budget (77%) is used towards salaries and fringe benefits. With the substantial cut in state funding, ACC seeks solutions.

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ACC Budget

## America Goes to War

JESSICA THIEM  
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Managing Editors

On March 20<sup>th</sup>, the United States entered into war against the Iraqi Regime. After many months of inspections, warnings, and probing, thousands of troops were sent into and around Iraq after the United States officially declared war.

Saddam Hussein, President of Iraq, and his leadership were initially the target of the attack. Many air raids occurred that night in Baghdad, and at times it was believed that Hussein and his advisors were killed.

However, Hussein appeared on Iraqi television the next day, and though it was originally thought to be

one of his doubles, experts now believe Hussein is alive.

The day after, Baghdad and other Iraqi cities went under aerial attack in what U.S. officials said was a major escalation. The only U.S. casualties at that time were a result of a helicopter accident.

In the following days, the coalition pushed on. The U.S. led forces seized key areas of southern Iraq as they pushed on to Baghdad, which went under heavy bombardment.

On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, five captured U.S. soldiers were shown on Iraqi television as coalition forces met determined resistance, causing an uproar on the humanitarianism of Iraqi Journalism.

Heavy bombing was reported outside of Baghdad on March 24<sup>th</sup>. The U.S. commanders said that progress was "dramatic" despite stiff resistance.

The next day, sandstorms moved into the region and slowed down the military advances. Regardless, heavy bombing of the Republican Guard occurred.

On Thursday, March 27<sup>th</sup>, President Bush said the U.S. led forces would press on for "however long it takes" to topple the Iraqi leader.

As of Saturday, March 29<sup>th</sup>, U.S. casualties had reached a number of 57.

Experts say that the U.S. underestimated the Iraqi regime and the war will last longer than expected.



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