

2024 Professional Development Award Candidate Bio Form

Please submit this form no later than **Friday, September 29, 2023 at 4pm.**

Email *

hatchj1@ferris.edu

Name of Nominee: *

Joe Hatch

Facility Employed at: *

Ferris State University

Year Elected to Membership: *

2010

Are you a Master Professional, Certified Professional, serve as an Association Subject Matter Expert or adjunct PGA faculty member? *

I am an associate professor at Ferris State University and the Director of the PGA Golf Management program.

Please describe your contribution to the PGA educational programs in the Michigan Section or nationally in 250 words or less: *

Ben Davis Scholars is a first-of-its-kind workforce development program preparing Detroit public high school students for leadership at Detroit's municipal golf properties and rewarding golf industry careers with an education and apprenticeship pipeline to Michigan's two leading golf education programs at Ferris State University and Michigan State University. The initiative will raise student achievement, support career and economic growth for Detroit youth, boost minority access and leadership at local and national golf facilities, and promote diversity, equity and inclusion in America's golf industry.

Our goal each year, beginning in fall 2024, is to inspire, recruit and prepare male and female students in a Detroit public high school. We'll begin in 9th grade to perk interest about careers in golf, and use grades 10 to 12 to prepare students for the rigorous learning and fitness common to both university programs. Ferris State University is offering Detroit youth a path to prepare for every career in golf. Ferris State University PGA Professional Golf Management Program (FSU), ranked first among 18 national golf programs in total graduates and active PGA members, is providing a new youth exposure and learning module, with seminars and workshops, summer golf camp, caddie training and employment at local golf facilities, and field trips to the university. Next, iconic Detroit Golf Club will employ Ben Davis Scholars each year in a safe, non-traditional environment so they earn income for college and gain valuable hands-on preparatory experiences.

Please describe your contribution toward development of articles or materials related to and benefiting education in 250 words or less: *

I have presented two proposals to the Director of Accreditation & University Programming. One proposal was designed to offer an online degree for PGA Golf Management through Ferris State University.

This inspiration of this idea came from a meeting I had Ferris State University's Director of Online Development, Matt Smith. We have programs at Ferris State University such as HVAC that offer online degrees. I didn't think online education was applicable for programs like HVAC and it opened my eyes to a potential opportunity for our PGA Golf Management program. Matt explained a number of different models of courses that engage the students online as well as opportunities to bring in students for a 1-2 week periods for face-to-face instruction. This was designed to "meet people where they are" and provide a different environment/experience for potential students. I think the phrase "meet people where they are" means diagnosing student values, their style, their needs, their emotions, and connecting with them in a way that is effective for them.

The secondary proposal was to offer a PGA Golf Management Degree associate degree. The 3.1 PGA educational curriculum allows students to transfer for the first time between the PGA university and associate program. The associate degree would allow students to gain support and knowledge from our university program that they could then take to the associate program, finish their PGA education, and ultimately become a PGA member. This degree would be aimed at prospective students who don't have the need or see the value in a bachelor's degree.

Please describe your contribution to build the image of PGA Professionals and/or to inspire PGA Professionals or Associates in 250 words or less: *

Being a PGA member is rooted in the communal culture of helping one another. Our members support one another and respect the hard work and dedication it takes to run a successful golf operation. I have mirrored the culture of our PGA Golf Management program to reflect this. We have a communal focus, value continued education, promote continuous improvement and support each other. Our students are taught to value integrity, accountability, respect, kindness and community.

I am transparent that I have high expectations for each student. I warn them that I will be hard to please during their time in our program because I want to push them to embody excellence. Excellence isn't handed out, it is earned. I hold our students accountable to the high standards within our program and make sure to be available to give them a hand up or support them when needed. Mistakes are expected. Alexander Pope once said, "To error is human; to forgive, divine." The measure of our students is what they learn from their mistakes and how they conduct themselves through the process. I try and develop a relationship with each student so I can help serve their individual needs.

My open communication style leads to discussion and conversations which break down barriers, creates trust and allows me to make a positive impact on each student. Throughout our program we prepare students for successful careers in the golf industry and the real world. The student's education doesn't stop at the fundamentals of the golf industry. We help students become excellent golf professionals and human beings.

List any other PGA Section or National Awards you've received and the year(s) you received them (50 word limit): *

NA

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