

Interior

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September 24, 2002



Roberta "Bobbe" Allen and friends gather in front of a view of the fourth floor of the Zahnnow Library, which will be home to the Roberta R. Allen Reading Room.

SVSU honors Midland's Bobbe Allen

SVSU announced Friday, Sept. 6, the naming of the Roberta R. Allen Reading Room in honor of Allen's contributions to the University.

Allen is chairman of the board of the Allen Foundation of Midland. SVSU, in 1973, bestowed an Honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree to Allen.

Allen was instrumental in the contribution of \$1 million to SVSU to create the "Allen Foundation Research Fund." The resources provide a base of financial support and serve to help recruit the best academic and research talent to the University in order to address unmet research needs. Initial distributions from the endowment will be used to support ongoing research in genetics and nutrition. David H. Swenson, H.H. Dow Professor of Chemistry, and his colleagues already have made significant strides with their research on the impact of nutritional intervention on the genetics of human disease. They now are positioned to undertake long-term research programs.

Among the major efforts currently under way at SVSU, also funded by the Allen Foundation, is evaluation of the role of specific gene mutations involved in nutrient metabolism that may impact

the onset of sporadic Alzheimer's Disease. A smaller, but related project, evaluates the impact of genetic mutations in nutrient metabolism genes in Down Syndrome.

The Roberta R. Allen Reading Room is part of the Melvin J. Zahnnow Library, under expansion to add a fourth floor – which will house the Allen Reading Room. The Library is scheduled for completion in 2003.

Allen and her late husband, William, have been long-time supporters of SVSU. Established in 1975, the Allen Foundation supports programs with emphases on health and nutrition.

Craig Baldwin: King of Found Footage

SVSU will feature a San Francisco collage artist and filmmaker in early October as part of the Dow Visiting Scholars and Artists Series. Craig Baldwin will reveal his "collaged obsession" as he presents "Film Essays Scavenged, Collaged & Obsessive," Tuesday, Oct. 1 at 7:30 p.m.; and "Baldwin Curates Media Inventions/Critical Interventions," Wednesday, Oct. 2 at 7:30 p.m. Both lectures will take place in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall.

(Please see "Baldwin," Page 2)

Baldwin (Continued from Page 1)

Baldwin, an Oakland, Calif., native, attended the University of California at Santa Barbara and University of California at Davis. He completed a master's degree from San Francisco State University, which is where he became interested in collage art film form. His interest in the recontextualization of "found" imagery led him to the theories of the Situationist International and to various practices of mail art, altered billboards, and other creative initiatives beyond the fringe of traditional fine-arts curriculum. Baldwin is a hunter/gatherer of images, sounds, and ideas.

His collage/essay films convey the sheer joy involved in their construction.

His recently-completed *Specters of the Spectrum* is a sci-fi spoof that utilizes early educational kinescopes to criticize the militarization of electronic technologies. As a champion of film and video activism, Baldwin has helped transform San Francisco's Mission District into a dynamic cultural hub for the genre. He teaches avant-garde film at San Francisco State University and has received the Alpert Award in the Arts for his body of work.

The Dow Visiting Scholars and Artists program is funded by an endowment from the Herbert H. and Grace A. Dow Foundation of Midland. Since its inception in 1996, more than 25 distinguished Dow Fellows have conducted master classes, taught advanced seminars, given readings from fiction and poetry, and presented lectures.

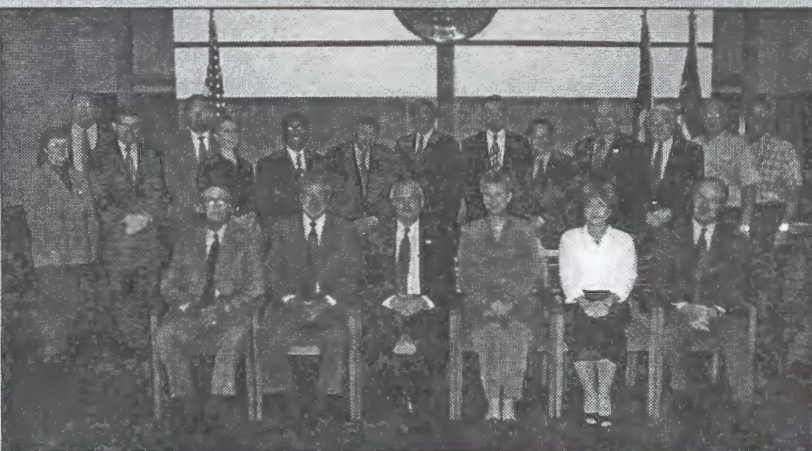
SVSU Foundation Board elects new officers

The Saginaw Valley State University Foundation Board elected new officers and named new members to its board during its September meeting.

Chairman of the Board through 2004 is Judge Thomas Ludington. SVSU President Eric R. Gilbertson will service as first vice chair. Burnett Kelly was elected second vice chair, Lucy Horak was elected treasurer, and James G. Muladore, vice president for Administration and Business Affairs, was elected treasurer.

Representing the SVSU Board of Control on the Foundation Board are Ruth Braun and Sally Stegman DiCarlo. Braun and DiCarlo's appointments are through in 2006.

Reappointed to the Board were Thomas Marx, Grant Schaefer and Morrison Stevens. Their terms are through 2006. Elected to the Board were Susan Piesko and John Decker, whose terms end in 2006. Alan Ott and James Wolohan were named Honorary Directors at the meeting. Outgoing member Harold (Tim) Blanchet was recognized for his contributions to the Foundation.



Members of the Saginaw Valley State University Foundation Board:
Front row from left: BJ Humphreys, Hon. Thomas Ludington (Chair); Grant Schaefer, Lucille Beuthin, Executive Director; Lucy Horak, Secretary; and President Eric Gilbertson, First Vice Chair. Back Row from left: Donna Roberts; Richard P. Thompson; James Wolohan; James Muladore, Treasurer; Sally DiCarlo; Burnett Kelly, Second Vice Chair; Jerome Yantz; Robert Vitito; Thomas Marx; Robert Yien; Ernie Paulick; Alan Ott; Morrie Stevens; and Charles Curtiss. Missing: Tim Blanchet; Richard Krafft; Sue Piesko; Malcolm Field; Tina Van Dam; and John Decker. Honorary Board Members: Dorothy Arbury; William Groening; John Kendall; and Thomas Mutton.

Washington Regional Task Force Against Campus Prejudice

presents
**Diversity
Strategies**
For Today's
Complex
Environment

**Wednesday,
Sept. 25, 2002**
Broadcast time:
1 to 3 p.m.
(EST)

Live, via satellite!

Diversity was cited as an area of concern by the NCA Evaluation Team following the 1994 visit and SVSU was encouraged at that time to "carefully review strategies to integrate multiculturalism into the campus environment and seek additional opportunities to enhance efforts to institutionalize values of diversity and multiculturalism." Our participation in this video conference, sponsored by the Office of Diversity Programs under the direction of Mamie Thorns, is an opportunity to engage in a campus-wide discussion of this important topic and to consider effective diversity strategies for this institution in keeping with its mission. The video conference will take place in Marble Lecture Hall, 115 Wickes Hall. A discussion will follow. To register, contact Tammy Hafner at ext. 4068.

Rathburn named MFSM director

Charlene Rathburn, a curator and art consultant from Abilene, Texas, recently was selected to serve as the director of the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum. Rathburn most recently was curator of exhibitions and collections for the Grace Museum in Abilene, Texas.

In addition to her experience with the Grace Museum, Rathburn was art consultant for Art Advisory Services in San Antonio, Texas and director of the Martin-Rathburn Gallery Inc. in San Antonio, Texas.

In addition to her museum and gallery experience, Rathburn has been an art instructor, an art director and graphic artist, and an arts writer and critic. Her works have been exhibited extensively throughout Texas.

Homecoming

the schedule 2002



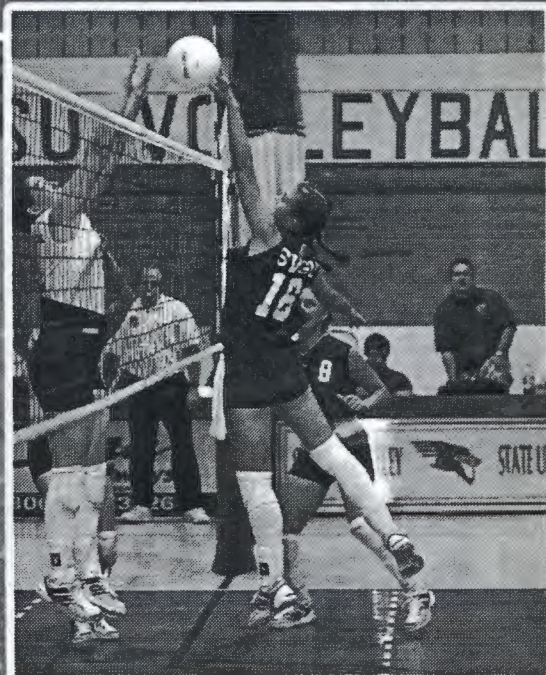
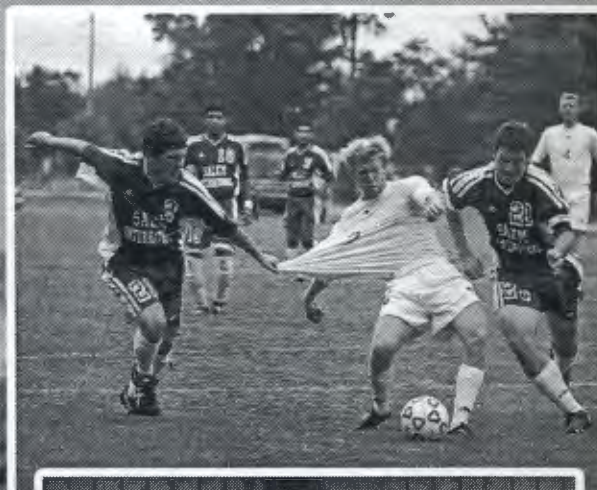
Worldwide Red Pride!

For more information contact Campus Life, 964-4170

- **Powderpuff Football and Male Cheer Competition**
3 p.m., Sunday, Sept. 29, IM fields
- **Rally 'Round the Valley**
5 p.m., Monday, Sept. 30, Gazelle Fountain, with special guest Johnnie Tuitel
- **Funny Fotos - Lunchbreak Concert**
11 a.m. to 5 p.m., Tuesday, Oct. 1, Doan Center
- **SVSU Football Team - Lunchbreak Concert**
Noon, Wednesday, Oct. 2, Doan Center
- **Office Decorating Contest**
To enter, call Campus Life at ext. 4170; judging takes place Wednesday, Oct. 2
- **Fireside Chat with Mike and Coral from MTV's "Real World"**
7 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 3, Alumni Lounge
- **Homecoming Variety Showcase with Mike and Coral**
8 p.m., Thursday, Oct. 3, Rhea Miller Recital Hall
- **Worldwide Mystery Games**
3 p.m., Friday, Oct. 4, Gazelle Fountain
- **Homecoming Parade**
11 a.m., Saturday, Oct. 5
- **Football: Cardinals vs. University of Indianapolis**
Kick off at noon, Saturday, Oct. 5 in Wickes Memorial Stadium
- **Homecoming Coronation Ceremony**
Halftime of the game, Saturday, Oct. 5 in Wickes Memorial Stadium
- **Alumni Afterglow**
3 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 5, Ryder Center
RSVPs required, call ext. 4071



Ron Farrell, vice president, Academic, and Altaf-Ur Rahman, professor and chair of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department at SVSU, participate in an Articulation Ceremony, Sept. 20 in Alumni Lounge. The agreement between SVSU and the RCC College of Technology, in Toronto, covers the following programs: Electronics Engineering Technologist (Canadian Technology Accreditation Board/CTAB accredited Diploma) at RCC College of Technology to B.S.E.E. — Electrical Engineering (Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology/ABET accredited 4-year Bachelor's Degree) at SVSU. Students from Canada will be able to transfer 62 credits to SVSU as a result of the agreement, which was formalized in August. A delegation from RCC College of Technology toured SVSU's campus and met faculty in the College of Science, Engineering and Technology.



Fall sports are in full swing at SVSU! Cardinal fans who were in attendance may have watched as (left) wide receiver Ruvell Martin II hauls in a touchdown catch against Mercyhurst College; (top right) Mike Thomson scores despite the efforts of a Salem International player on Sept. 15; and (bottom right) Ashley Dutton skies for a winning point vs Hillsdale on Sept. 21. Other teams in action include men's and women's cross country, women's soccer, women's tennis and men's golf.

Campus Happenings

• **College of Science, Engineering & Technology Seminar Series**, Tuesday, Sept. 24 at 4:30 p.m. in 108 Science West. Brooks Byam, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, will present "Building a World-Class Formula SAE Race Team." Refreshments will be served.

• **Study Abroad Fair**, Wednesday, Sept. 25 from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Alumni Lounge. For more information, call ext. 4473.

• **Lunchbreak Concert Series**, Gratitude Steel Drum band, 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, Sept. 25; Funny Fotos, 11 a.m., Tuesday, Oct. 1; and SVSU football team and coaches introduction, noon, Wednesday, Oct. 2. All events, which are sponsored by Campus Life, are free of charge.

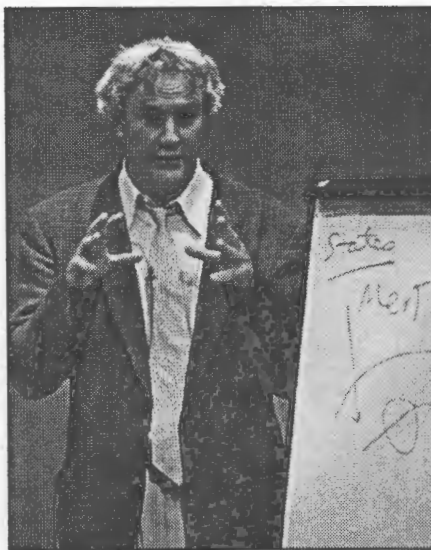
• **"Flûte: Baroque and Blues"** concert, Wednesday, Sept. 25 at 7:30 p.m. in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall. Admission is \$5; \$3 for students and seniors. For more information or for tickets, contact the SVSU box office at ext. 4261.

• **University Art Gallery Exhibit**, "Figurative Sculptures by Kirk Roda," through Wednesday, Sept. 25. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday from noon to 5 p.m., and by special appointment. For additional information, contact the Gallery at ext. 4391.

• **Student Association Fall Picnic**, Thursday, Sept. 26, 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Leaping Gazelle Fountain area; featuring the "BBoys" break dancers from MSU.

• **Saginaw Bay Writing Project 10th Anniversary**, with guest speaker Tom Romano, faculty in the Department of Teacher Education at Miami University in Ohio, Saturday, Sept. 28.

Registration begins at 8 a.m.; a Young Authors Reading is set for 8:30 to 9 a.m. Romano's



Charles Taliaferro, professor of philosophy at St. Olaf College, Minn., presented "The Soul and the Body," to a standing-room audience in Founders Hall, Sept. 18. Taliaferro considered one of the longstanding questions in the history of philosophy and theology: "What is it to be a human being?" Are humans merely high-functioning biological machines, or is there an immaterial part of our nature as well? Taliaferro's appearance was sponsored by the Edwards Lectureship in Philosophy program.

speech will begin at 9 a.m., followed by individual breakout sessions. The day will conclude with a luncheon at 12:30 p.m. For more information, see www.svsu.edu/writingprogram/sbwp10th.html. Cost is \$40 for educators and \$25 for undergraduate students.

• **Table for 5**, a vocal quintet, will be in concert as part of the Rhea Miller Concert Series, Saturday, Sept. 28 at 7:30 p.m. in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall. There is no admission charge.

• **University Art Gallery Exhibit**, "Works by Karin Coron, Michelle Hegyi, Jean Lau, and Norma Penschansky-Glasser," Oct. 2 through 30. Gallery hours are Monday through Thursday from noon to 5 p.m., and by special appointment. For additional information, contact the Gallery at ext. 4391.

• **College of Science, Engineering & Technology Seminar Series**, Tuesday, Oct. 8 at 4:30 p.m. in 108 Science West. Jody Pollok, executive director of the Corn Marketing Program of Michigan, will present "Future Prospects for Corn-Based Ethanol Production."

Refreshments will be served.

• **Fall Theatre Production**, *The Diary of Anne Frank*, Friday and Saturday, Oct. 11 and 12 at 8 p.m.; Sunday, Oct. 13 at 2 p.m.; Friday and Saturday, Oct. 18 and 19 at 8 p.m.; and Sunday, Oct. 20 at 2 p.m. All performances will take place in the Performing Arts Theatre on the SVSU campus. Tickets are \$7 for general admission and \$5 for students and seniors. For more information or tickets, contact the SVSU box office at ext 4261.

The Office of Campus Life welcomed a high turnout of students for its annual Cards Party, Sept. 19 in O'Neill Arena. Campus organizations were joined by community agencies to provide information on services and give away door prizes. Included was a booth for Sigma Lambda Beta fraternity, manned by Mauricio Suarez, a psychology/marketing major from White Plains, NY, and Zack Diaz, a criminal justice major from Saginaw.



Transitions

New Faculty

- **Richard LaPeer**, Assistant Professor, Teacher Education, Elementary, Early Childhood and Secondary Ed., ext. 4668, E168, rdlapeer@svsu.edu

Promoted/Transfer/New Title

- **Joseph Burns**, Maintenance I, Campus Facilities, ext. 4274
- **James Chasnis**, Maintenance I, Campus Facilities, ext. 4274
- **Scott Jarvis**, Custodian, Campus Facilities, ext. 4279
- **Jacquie Osborn**, Interim Director, English Language Program, ext. 4265, W141, jlosborn@svsu.edu

New Staff

- **Craig Almar**, Assistant Director of Admissions, Undergraduate Admissions, ext. 4265, W178, ctaimar@svsu.edu
- **Danyelle Freeman**, Coordinator, Student Technology Center, Melvin J. Zahnow Library, ext. 2068, SW261
- **Jeannine Lorenger**, Specialist, English Language Program, ext. 4929, Z132A
- **Jacqueline Matuszak**, Assistant Athletic Trainer, Athletics, ext. 7328, jmmatus@svsu.edu
- **Charlene Rathburn**, Director, Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum, ext. 7154, crathbu@svsu.edu
- **Sharon Reff**, Circulation/ Media Services Assistant, Melvin J. Zahnow Library, ext. 4240, Z127, sreff@svsu.edu
- **Stephanie Szarapski**, Financial Aid Advisor, Scholarships and Financial Aid, ext. 7087, W161
- **Suzette Zimmerman**, Administrative Secretary, Foundation, ext. 4384, W307, szimmer@svsu.edu

Left/Leaving

- **Charles Bailey**, Robert Cole, Deanna Wegner

The Interior is published bi-weekly when classes are in session fall and winter semesters and periodically through the summer. Items should be submitted to the Office of University Communications, 389 Wickes Hall, 790-4039, or E-mail: ucomm@svsu.edu.

University departments sponsoring activities or events listed in *The Interior* will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities when contacted at least three days in advance.

Cecilia A. Jerome
Director
University Communications

Tim M. Inman
Layout/Photography
Tammy J. Elliott
Copy Assistant

Professional Profile

- **Eric Gardner**, associate professor of English, has three poems, "Whisper," "A Letter," and "The Feel," published in the current issue of *The Pikeville Review* (2002: 60-62).

- **Jane Girdham**, associate professor of music, published an article, titled "The Flageolet Player: The Ultimate Amateur Musician," in *Early Music* (Aug. 2002).

- **Enayat Mahajerin**, professor of mechanical engineering, published an article, titled "A Laplace Transform-based Fundamental Collocation Method for Two-dimensional Transient Heat Flow," in the *International Journal of Applied Thermal Engineering*.

- **Michael R. Mosher**, assistant professor of art/communication and multimedia, has an interactive artwork included in "Conceptually Bound 2: An Exhibition of Artists' Books" at the Coyote Gallery, Butte College, Oroville, Calif. His hypertext, "DevilsFood Daniel" www.ylem.org/artists/mm Mosher/danl.html, consists of three interlinked illustrated narratives, exhibited on a computer with a painted facade that depicts the head of Daniel Webster.

- **Elizabeth Rich**, assistant professor of English, has an

article, "The Function of Metaphor and Metonymy in Elizabeth Bishop's *The Complete Poems*," forthcoming in the October 2002 issue of *Q/W/E/R/T/Y* (subtitled *Arts, Literatures & Civilisations des Pays Anglophones*), a French journal of English and American studies published by the University of Pau.

Condolences

The campus community extends condolences to:

- **Dori Becker**, custodial specialist, on the death of her mother, Theresa Dennis, who died Sept. 8.
- The family of **Ralph Moore**, an SVSU student who died Sept. 16.
- The family of **Joseph Pagano**, a retired member of the Physical Plant Department, who died Sept. 12.

Have You Heard?

- **Air Force Recruiting Technical Staff** will be on campus from 4 to 5:30 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 26, in 158 Pioneer Hall.
- **The American Heart Walk** will take place at 10 a.m., Saturday, Sept. 28, at Delta College. For more information, or to sign up or make donations, contact Ava Lewis, W236, ext. 7146.
- **The Saginaw Spirit Hockey Team** is sponsoring an Employee/Family Night Saturday, Oct. 12. Tickets are available in the Employment & Compensation Services office, and at the Benefits Fair that will be held in the Alumni Lounge Wednesday and Thursday, Oct. 2 and 3. Tickets are discounted at a rate of \$7.50/person. For more information, contact ECS at ext. 4108 or ecs@svsu.edu.
- The Office of Sponsored and Academic Programs Support and Evaluation is hosting a **National Science Foundation Fastlane video conference** from 9 a.m. to noon, Thursday, Sept. 26 in 140 Curtiss Hall. Register online at www.svsu.edu/workshops, or contact Barb Beck at ext. 4295. The video conference will be taped, and will be available for viewing at an alternate time.
- The Office of Sponsored and Academic Programs Support and Evaluation is facilitating a brown bag lunch forum titled "**Successful Grant Projects**" from 11:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Friday, Sept. 27 in 130 Curtiss Hall. Register online at www.svsu.edu/workshops, or contact Barb Beck at ext. 4295.

Across Campus

- Congratulations go out to **Jodi Hutchinson**, coordinator of employment, and her husband, Drew, who welcomed a baby girl, Parker Nicole (7 lbs., 8 oz., 20.5 in.), Sept. 9.

High Five

- **Men's Soccer** — named Dean Pappas coach. Pappas formerly was an assistant with the program before assuming the job as head coach. He had directed the boys and girls soccer teams at Flushing High School before coming to SVSU. The Cardinals are off to a 4-2 start under Pappas.
- **Women's Tennis** — defeated Ashland University, 8-1, Saturday.
- **Volleyball** — lost a 3-1 match Saturday against Hillsdale College, dropping the Cards to 4-11 on the season.
- **Football** — pounded Mercyhurst College, 51-7, Saturday to improve to 3-0 this season.

Staff Member

OF THE MONTH

John LaPrad

**Manager of
Network
Services**

**Information
Technology
Services**

October 2002

Sailing across Lake Huron on a 25-foot sailboat named "Windswept" is where you'll find John LaPrad during his free time. Learning to sail at the Sailing Club in Boston, LaPrad has been sailing for 15 years.

"I'll take anyone who will go – myself, with my family or anyone I can get out there," said LaPrad. He has a wife, Sandy, and a 2-year-old daughter, Bethany, who often accompany him on the water.

When LaPrad isn't sailing around Lake Huron, he sails through cyberspace looking for bugs and the newest technology. As Manager of Network Services, LaPrad heads a team of four who maintain the E-mail servers and

configure routers to keep the campus network "talking." Recently, LaPrad took on a project to connect SVSU with the Saginaw Public School System for video conferencing and new classroom technology. Six months of planning, ordering and researching allowed LaPrad to install a two-gigabit bandwidth fiber connecting the two school systems.

"We are the first in the area to produce such an achievement," said LaPrad.

In addition to connecting with Saginaw Public

School System, LaPrad busied himself by setting up a new Internet service provider with Sprint PCS.

"The connection to Sprint is functional," LaPrad proudly said.

"I don't do a lot of direct user support, usually I am the last person to be called," he said. Many may find that hard believe, since a typical day for him involves troubleshooting an E-mail server, configuring routers for a new wireless modem, creating a low level remote access for servers, and fixing remote servers.

As technology grows, so does the computer networks and LaPrad's responsibilities. He began working for SVSU in 1995 while still a student. At that time, there were only 100 nodes. Nodes are essentially each computer station on campus, and, according to LaPrad, "computer end stations." Now there are more than 4,000 nodes on campus.

"We added 200 to 300 switches that connect these nodes together," said LaPrad. When he started, just one person oversaw the network; now there are five.

In order to keep abreast of the latest technology, LaPrad is constantly reading trade journals and surfing the web for networking technology sites. Instead of sitting behind his desk with three computers facing him, LaPrad created a low level remote access into the network servers that enables him to power down or fix a server from his home.

Having always been interested in computers, LaPrad challenged himself with an upgrade project this past summer. He added a new file server for more storage on the network. After research, specification and implementation plans, the network now has a terabyte – that is, 1,000 gigabytes!

"I like the routing stuff, connecting networks together so they can all talk; that way we have data from Pioneer to Curtiss." LaPrad adds that it's "fun configuring networks so we all can communicate."



InnerView

Featuring Faculty of Saginaw Valley State University

Providing A Transformative Experience for Teachers

September marks the 10th anniversary of the Saginaw Bay Writing Project, a program initiated at SVSU by Kay Harley, professor of English.

"The model for the National Writing Project had been extremely successful," said Harley, recalling her early experiences with NWP. "We felt bringing a program to the Saginaw Valley area was a way that SVSU could create connections with local schools and share in the effort to improve writing instruction."

After studying literature on the NWP, and attending workshops to explore the organization's model for developing writing instruction for teachers, Harley applied for a \$15,000 grant through NWP.

NWP is a federally-funded program with more than 200 sites across the country, including several in Michigan. The mission of

the NWP is to improve the teaching of writing and improve learning in the nation's schools. Through its extensive network of teachers, the National Writing Project seeks to promote exemplary instruction of writing in every classroom in America.

"The other thing that distinguishes this writing project is it centers on teachers developing and sharing their own writing, including exploring different genres," Harley said. "That direct involvement with writing creates all sorts of opportunities for sharing classroom techniques, and troubleshooting the gaps between what you'd like to have happen and what does happen."

"But it mainly puts teachers back in the student role – trying to find meaningful topics, exploring where those might go, how they might work into various publications and creating very strong community among the participants."

The SBWP includes a month-long summer institute, normally attended by groups of 20 to 24 K-through-college educators from different disciplines, Harley said. She noted that former NWP fellows at SVSU include Diane Boehm, Jim Geistman and Ruth Sawyers.

"During the summer institutes, participants share their best practices through demonstrations and by spending time writing," Harley said. In addition, national experts in language arts are invited to give presentations on writing initiatives and practices.

Harley will be honored for establishing the SBWP at a 10th anniversary celebration, Saturday, Sept. 28 in Curtiss Hall. Tom Romano, a faculty member in the Teacher Education Department at Miami University in Oxford, Ohio, will present the keynote address. More information on the program is available by calling Diane Boehm at ext. 7228, or e-mail dboehm@svsu.edu.

"I've really been inspired by the work that K-12 teachers are doing, especially in some of the conditions they're doing it," Harley said. "It's been a joy – also a challenge – but really a pivotal set of experiences for my 30-plus years of teaching at SVSU."





Taking Our Next Steps

NCA Higher Learning Commission

SELF-STUDY

Update

September 24, 2002 • Vol. 2 • No. 2

Operational Committee Allocates Responsibilities

By Clifford Dorne

Chair, Self-Study Operational Committee
on Mission, Planning, and Governance
Assistant Dean of the College of Arts and
Behavioral Sciences

The Self-Study Operational Committee on Mission, Planning and Governance is divided into three sub-committees, reflecting its substantive components. While these three areas overlap with one another, the emphasis of each sub-committee will be distinct.

Thomas Zantow, reference and document librarian, chairs the sub-committee on "Mission and Vision." This group will focus on the processes that have been developed to review and revise the university mission and vision statements. They plan to chronicle and evaluate the activities of past mission committees as they worked to create these formal statements. Moreover, they will address current and future planning endeavors in this area. As per the sub-committee's charge, they will also offer critical assessments determining what is needed to maintain the mission's long-term institutional viability. They have begun to locate and compile information on the history of the mission's development.

Jack Wood, library archivist and a member of the sub-committee, is in the process of gathering articles from past university publications and appropriate minutes from the Board of Control meetings, among other documents.

Chris Looney, registrar, chairs the sub-committee on "Planning." Their task will involve examining the University's decisional processes as they have corresponded to both internal and external challenges. Linkages between all campus stakeholders to the institutional self-assessment process will be addressed in the context of planning (feedback loops). Decisional processes

involving resource allocations, the design of the *Next Steps 2000-2005* document, and long range planning beyond the published plan will be delineated, analyzed, and evaluated.

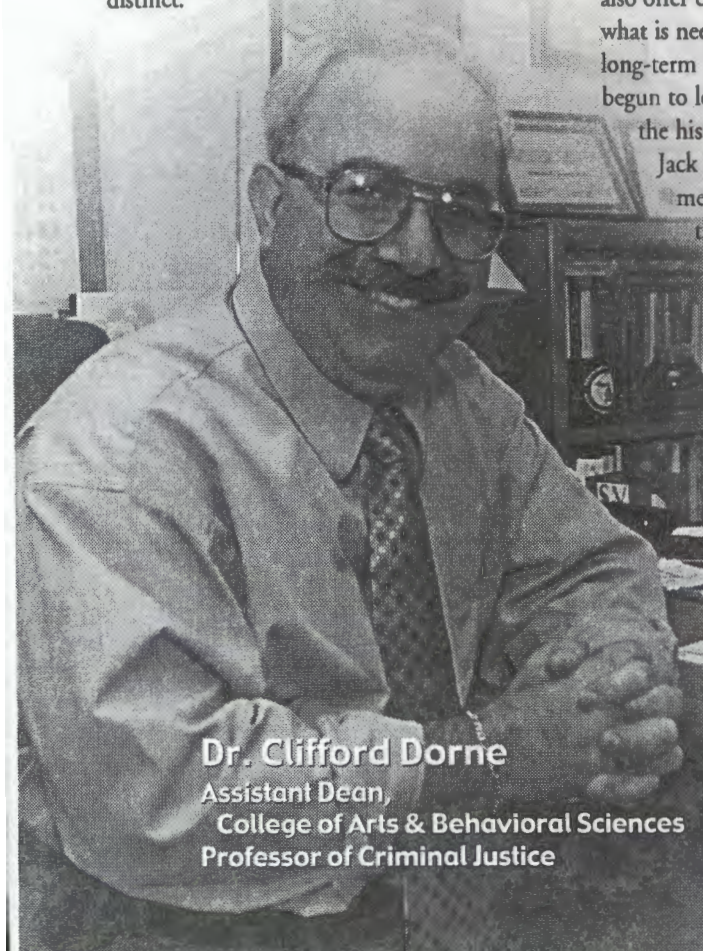
Judith Kerman, professor of English, chairs the sub-committee on "Governance" and will elaborate on the functioning and interrelations between the University's governing components and/or bargaining units including the Administration, the Faculty Association, the Student Association, and the secretarial and Physical Plant staff unions. Moreover, they will examine important roles of the many standing and ad hoc campus committees as they relate to university governance. The governance structure will be studied as an "open system," referring to the fact that the institution's internal functions regularly interact with individuals and organizations in external venues, such as the University's service region and beyond as well as the various levels of government (local, state, and federal).

These sub-committees are comprised of both faculty and staff members. We plan to add adjunct faculty, alumni, and student representatives to these groups. As chair of the committee, my job will involve the coordination of the three respective report drafts and I will be clarifying any substantive overlap. I will also be continually working with Mary Hedberg, the Self-Study coordinator, and the chairs of the other three Self-Study operational committees to constructively deal with the intersections

(See Mission, Planning, Governance, Page 4)

Dr. Clifford Dorne

Assistant Dean,
College of Arts & Behavioral Sciences
Professor of Criminal Justice



Not Just When the Acceditors Come to Call

"Assessment is an ongoing process aimed at understanding and improving student learning. It involves making our expectations explicit and public; setting appropriate criteria and high standards for learning quality; systematically gathering, analyzing, and interpreting evidence to determine how well performance matches those expectations and standards; and using the resulting information to document, explain, and improve performance. When it is embedded effectively within larger institutional systems, assessment can help us focus our collective attention, examine our assumptions, and create a shared academic culture dedicated to assuring and improving the quality of higher education."

— Thomas A. Angelo, *AAHE Bulletin*, Nov. 1995, p. 7



By Kimberly Good
Director of
Sponsored and
Academic Programs
Support and
Evaluation

In 1995, Saginaw Valley State University submitted an academic program assessment plan to HLC/NCA. This report can be found on the Self-Study website, www.svsu.edu/selfstudy. Included in that plan was a 10-year time line intended to place academic assessment in the hands of individual departments. As assessment director, I have been working with the Office of Academic Affairs to prepare a report on the status of academic program assessment at SVSU, gauging how far we have come in implementing the 1995 plan as well as making recommendations for moving the assessment initiative forward to meet the rigorous expectations of The Higher Learning Commission.

A Preliminary Report

Throughout April 2002, Mary Hedberg and I conducted interviews with each academic department chair and other faculty members who had assumed assessment responsibilities within their departments. Our goal was to determine the current status of program level assessment within each of the departments and gain faculty perspective on what is needed to establish a viable academic assessment program at SVSU. This analysis of interviews with department chairs is part of a larger effort to assess the current status of academic program assessment at SVSU, review the 1995 Academic Assessment Program plan and make recommendations based on NCA/HLC's expectations for assessment, while addressing

what was promised in the 1995 plan. The aim, of course, is to facilitate program planning and development that will improve student learning.

The interviews indicate that departments are engaged in varying amounts of data collection, using both direct and indirect measures of learning. However, many of those interviewed had difficulty articulating departmental program goals and objectives, or linking the data collected with goals and objectives.

Some faculty commented there wasn't time to analyze the data or complete the feedback loop.

Currently faculty have not seen assessment-prompted analyses of their programs linked to recommended changes, making assessment an activity experienced in a vacuum. Department level academic program assessment should not be undertaken as an extra duty, for which departments must find additional time, resources and commitment. To make the work meaningful, assessment must link back to a strategic plan in which departments' recommendations – derived from assessment data – are used to make decisions in resource allocation and to assist in future planning.

Program Assessment and the Self-Study/Levels of Implementation

You may be asking yourself, "So what? Kim and Mary are in the process of completing a report on the current state of departmental academic assessment but what are departments supposed to do with this information? How does this report fit into the Self Study?"

I would suggest as a next step that academic department chairs, in consultation with their department members, review and discuss the status report that was distributed to the chairs at the September Deans and

Chairs meeting. Additionally, it would be beneficial for faculty to read the 1995 academic program assessment report referenced earlier in this article.

Another resource worthy of attention is HLC/NCA's Level of Implementation matrix (see www.ncahigherlearningcommission.org/resources/assessment/index.html). These two background documents will provide a better understanding of what SVSU has promised HLC/NCA with respect to

academic program assessment as well as what the Commission is expecting from us. Department level discussion will probably

generate a much better idea of the type of support and assistance you would like from the Office of Sponsored and Academic Programs Support and Evaluation (e.g., the university academic program assessment office).

Academic Programs Support and Evaluation

In many ways, the Office of Sponsored and Academic Programs Support and Evaluation is evolving in its role as the university academic program assessment office. This office was renamed and expanded last year to include academic assessment. Previously it was known as the Office of Faculty Support and Sponsored Programs and was responsible for the submission of proposals for external funding. It now has two divisions: (1) Faculty Support and Sponsored Programs and (2) Academic Assessment and Evaluation.

The role of the Division of Academic Assessment and Evaluation is to facilitate and coordinate the development and implementation of an academic assessment plan. More specifically, I am available to provide consultation to departments in areas

(See *Institutional Culture*, Page 3)

Integrating Program Assessment Into Institutional Culture

Institutional Culture

(Continued from Page 2)

of assessment such as the development of academic program goals and objectives, selection and development of the appropriate assessment techniques, collection and analysis of data and utilization of the results for improvement (essentially the components of assessment, see Angelo definition).

Another vital role of this office is to document assessment processes and serve as a clearinghouse for assessment resources. As someone who is versed in assessment methodology, I can locate resources and models that may be beneficial as your department begins the venture of developing an assessment plan or is looking for techniques to measure its established goals and objectives. In fact, one of the next Self-Study Update articles, will highlight internal and external sources and models on assessment.

Eventually, as our academic program assessment venture matures, the office will also be the repository for SVSU's academic program assessment plans and reports. Ideally, deans would use the recommendations, included in the departmental assessment plans, to inform their planning at the college level.

What you have read here is a shortened version of the preliminary report on program assessment distributed to Deans and Chairs. A more comprehensive report, being developed, will evaluate the current status of assessment against the aforementioned HLC/NCA's Level of Implementation matrix. In many respects, the university-wide academic program assessment initiative at SVSU is in its infancy or what HLC/NCA would classify as a "level one" using their Levels of Implementation matrix. Although a few departments are further along than others; collectively we have much to do to meet the external demands of HLC/NCA before March 2004. It will be important to demonstrate to HLC/NCA that we are making progress and are sincere in our efforts to integrate assessment into our programs and engage in continuous improvement, as part of our institutional culture, not just when the accreditors come to call.

SVSU Self-Study Core Values

Self-study is an ongoing process to measure how effectively we are accomplishing our University mission and vision.

Effective self-study is based on patterns of evidence that inform University planning and practice.

Every person associated with Saginaw Valley State University is a stakeholder in the self-study process. All stakeholders are invited to participate.

NCA/HLC Criteria for Accreditation

Criterion 1

The institution has clear and publicly-stated purposes consistent with its mission and appropriate to an institution of higher education.

Criterion 2

The institution has effectively organized the human, financial and physical resources necessary to accomplish its purposes.

Criterion 3

The institution is accomplishing its educational and other purposes.

Criterion 4

The institution can continue to accomplish its purposes and strengthen its educational effectiveness.

Criterion 5

The institution demonstrates integrity in its practices and relationships.

Washington Regional Task Force Against Campus Prejudice

presents

Diversity Strategies

For Today's
Complex
Environment

Wednesday,
Sept. 25, 2002

Broadcast time:

1 to 3 p.m.

(EST)

Live, via satellite!

Barbara Jean Jones, College of Education faculty, is chairing the self-study subcommittee on Diversity. Each of the other committees and subcommittees is charged with addressing the issue from its particular vantage point. Diversity was cited as an area of concern by the NCA Evaluation Team following the 1994 visit and we were encouraged at that time to "carefully review our strategies to integrate multiculturalism into the campus environment and seek additional opportunities to enhance our efforts to institutionalize values of diversity and multiculturalism (p. 21-22). Our participation in this video conference, sponsored by the Office of Diversity Programs under the direction of Mamie Thorns, is an opportunity to engage in a campus-wide discussion of this important topic and to consider effective diversity strategies for this institution in keeping with its mission.

The video conference will take place in Marble Lecture Hall, 115 Wickes Hall. A discussion will follow. To register, contact Tammy Hafner at ext. 4068.

Mission, Planning, Governance *(Continued from Page 1)*

between the different reports. In addition, I will be working with both the Editorial Board and the Steering Committee as we revise our report to correspond to HLC/NCA requirements.

The sub-committees were charged with preparing a report that adheres to the HLC/NCA General Institutional Requirements (GIRs), especially the ones dealing with Mission, Authorization, and Governance. The Authorization section requires that we explain the University as a not-for-profit institution, having legal status to grant degrees. With respect to Governance, our Governance sub-Committee will expressly and systematically link SVSU's Board of Control's functions and processes to the four stipulations in the GIR. Also included in this section is the leadership role of the President.

HLC/NCA has five major criteria for accreditation. Committees will need to present a pattern of empirical evidence showing that these criteria are being met on an ongoing basis by the University. The Operational Committee on Mission, Planning, and Governance intends to be continually cognizant of these criteria as the various components of the report are constructed. These standards require the committee to analyze and evaluate the University's progressive evolution, along with all of the major program development activities and/or efforts in planned change and innovation, in an honest, accurate fashion.

Our committee will explicate major processes such as the governance of curriculum, faculty evaluation, General Education, and standing committees (e.g., PPC and CAPC). We expect to find that many HLC/NCA goals and criteria have been satisfied to varying degrees based on the empirical evidence. However, we anticipate encountering issues and challenges. That is, governance issues should be constructively critiqued so that they may be expressed in the context of strategic planning. What does the University plan to do to address the issue in the near future? What has the University previously

accomplished in the particular matter? Issues must be analyzed and evaluated in the self-study process. Accreditation notwithstanding, this data-based quality-improvement approach should be increasingly integrated into the University governance structure to the point of thorough institutionalization.

The work of the Self-Study Operational Committee on Mission, Planning and Governance is well underway and we look forward to collaborating with a wide array of individuals and committees in the University community towards the completion of the final self-study report for HLC/NCA.

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