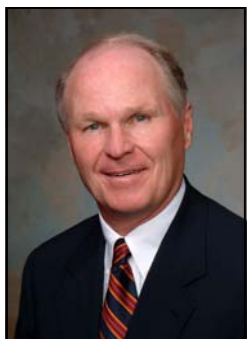




Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute

A Message From the President



One of my favorite quotes about leadership is from Napoleon, who was an extremely effective (but not necessarily well-intentioned) leader of the French nation a few hundred years ago. He was effective in that he certainly got people to follow; his leadership was mis-spent, however, on power and conquest rather than human

betterment. In any event, he once said this: "A leader is a merchant in hope."

What he understood was that hope is the great motivator in human affairs. People can be motivated in the short term by threat, or by greed, or by a number of other human fears or desires. But what makes leadership effective, really effective over the longer haul, is the creation of hope - hope that people can make things better, that people can matter. That is what will move people to give up leisure and wealth and comfort and do important things - the hope that they can matter.

It's kind of like trying to push a horse from the rear, if you get the idea. You can push hard

and yell loudly but make very little progress. But if you find the right motivator - a more thoughtful approach - enormous power can be released.

As you think about a community service project - or about any of the good and worthy things you can do in your schools and communities - think about how to instill in people a hope that they truly can accomplish something good. I'm pretty sure you'll be astonished at the results. We're proud of all of you for being part of this Institute. You and your fellow students certainly give us hope. Thanks for that.

Eric R. Gilbertson
President, SVSU

A Message from the Bridge Center for Racial Harmony

The Bridge Center for Racial Harmony has as one of its key strategies to "Expand program for youth..." for a very important reason. Our youth (you) will be the social conscience and set the civic tone for our future world. It starts with you - one person and your attitudes and values.

When I think about how one person, or a small group of people, can make a huge difference, I think of Martin Luther King, Jr. I have been thinking about him a lot in the last few years. It started when I took a group of middle school students to the MLK, Jr. Youth Sympo-

sium a few years ago. The students were so inspired that they wanted to share this with the rest of their school. They developed a plan, presented it to the local school board, put on an assembly for their school and planted a tree in the schoolyard in honor of MLK, Jr. As we worked on this project together, one thing became increasingly clear to us, how one -ONE - person could make such an impact in the world.

This year BCRH is sponsoring the 7th Annual Martin Luther King, Jr. Youth Symposium and Memorial Luncheon on

Friday, January 13, 2006, at the Dow Event Center in Saginaw from 10:30 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

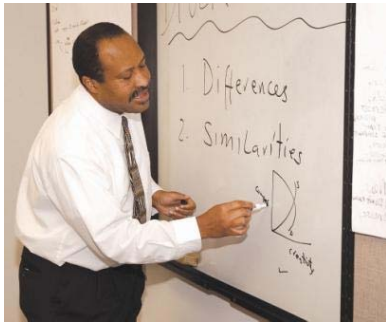
Talk to your principals, counselors and/or teachers about having a group of students represent your school at the symposium. Information about the event has already been sent to schools. For further information, they can contact me at 989-792-4844 or at sueszott@charter.net.

Sue Szott
Bridge Center
for Racial Harmony

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Decision Making



As aspiring leaders it is pertinent to always keep in mind the importance of good decision making. Indeed, the decision making process is critical for success as a leadership. With this in mind, here are four "Major Dangers" associated with decision making that aspiring leaders may face.

- Paralysis by Analysis (Thinking without acting)
- Analysis by Paralysis (In-Box Thinking)
- Action without Analysis (Acting without thinking)
- Sole Analyst syndrome (Acting without input)

To mitigate and minimize these dangers listed above, aspiring leaders, when faced with major and important decisions should use the **formal decision-making process**. The key

steps in the formal decision making process are:

- Clearly identify the major issue on which a decision has to be made.
- Assemble a small group of carefully selected individuals from diverse technical and socio-cultural backgrounds. Select them for their ability to be creative, and not afraid to present their honest and frank assessments of issues and ideas
- Use your assembled group to help pose this major issue and the decision to be made as "The Questions" that have to be answered. Remember to frame "The Question" carefully. Questions framed as "Challenges/Opportunities" will be viewed more proactively and positively than questions framed as "Problems/Threats."
- Identify the criteria for choosing best solutions once alternative solutions are generated
- Identify weights associated with each criteria you choose. If you do not apply weights, then that means that each criteria is equally important.
- Generate several possible alternative solutions to deal with the issue. Make sure to think creatively and think "out of the box" when generat-

ing these alternative solutions

- Have members of the group individually evaluate different alternatives using criteria
- Compile the different evaluations and come up with an assessment of a few of "the best" solutions.
- As a group, discuss the few "best alternatives" and decide which one solution will be carried out.

Dr. Joseph Ofori-Dankwa
Professor of Management
Saginaw Valley State University



What's Your True Color?



Our November 18th follow-up session of True Colors allowed us to "brighten" our colors in

order to get a better idea of what the colors might look like in the real world. We saw a video of actors portraying each of the four colors and then we worked in our color groups to compile a list of things we do well and a second list of things that are stressors for our color. Probably most important of all is that we looked at how all of this information on True Colors can benefit us as school leaders.

In sharing of our strengths and stressors, we realized that as leaders, we need to value our

differences and create unity in the groups we lead. We saw that all of the colors had strengths that can be assets to groups. Building and maintaining relationships is a key to the success of many leaders and True Colors provided us another way of working and understanding others.

Dr. Marna Beard
Associate Professor
Saginaw Valley State University

Blackboard Recognition



The members of the Youth Leadership Institute team are pleased to see so many high

school and SVSU students communicating with one another through the Blackboard Discussion Boards. It is a great way for everyone to stay in touch between on-campus events.

Two of our high school students were recognized on November 18 for their active participation in these discussions. **Adam Larson of Arthur Hill High School** had submitted 21 entries by November 18. **Nicole Wandzel** of

Carrollton High School had submitted 17. SVSU mentor **Suzanne Edmonds** had also made 17 entries. Each of these students received a gift in recognition of their efforts. Keep the conversation going! We are pleased that so many students are making the effort to stay connected with one another and we hope that many more will join in.

Dr. Nancy Lewis
Consultant, SCYLI

Mentor Profile



The Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute allows for a very diverse group of students to work together in developing important

leadership skills. With these skills, we are taking the initiative to make improvements within our community and becoming active citizens. This is why I was so excited to sign on as a mentor for this program. My name is Kelly Stewart and I am a sophomore here at SVSU. I am majoring in Professional and Technical Writing with a minor in Political Science. I am the Academic and Leadership Development chair for the Student association and the vice president of Catholics on Campus. I am also a member of Alpha

Phi Omega, a co-ed service fraternity, and the Lacrosse Club. However, working with the Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute has allowed me to be involved beyond the campus boundaries and to take a vested interest in the surrounding community. I look forward to continue working with such an outstanding group of people.

Kelly Stewart
Mentor, SCYLI

Mentee Profile



Name: Adam Thomas Larson
Nickname: aroo
Age: 17, Born May 22nd 1988
Grade: 12 (Class of '06')
School: Arthur Hill High School
Major: Biochemistry
Hobbies: Web Building, Reading (Mysteries or True Crime), Television, Computers, School (it IS fun), Friends, Movies (especially mysteries or sad ones)
Extra Curricular Activities: AHHS River Testing Club, AHHS GLSA (Gay, Lesbian, Straight Alliance), Volunteer at Veterans Hospital (on a monthly basis).

Future Plans: Graduate High School in June and then attend Loyola University-Chicago and major in Biochemistry. After that a job in pharmaceuticals.

Quote: "If there is only one thing that I wish I could do, it would be to fail. We learn so much more from our failures than we do from our successes." - Adam Larson

Others: Fall Musical-"I'm Sorry The Bridge Is Out, You'll Have To Spend The Night" (AHHS's first musical in 17 years. I also played a big part in getting the musical going.)

In My Own Words: I am someone that I can respect, and that is a big thing for me. I take great pride in everything that I do, and love everything I'm involved in. I am also a very sincere and caring person.

How has SCYLI changed your outlook? SCYLI has changed my outlook by giving me the opportunity to share my thoughts in a positive, productive environment. It has put me in touch with some really great people from Saginaw Valley State University and from the entire county. This program is also allowing me to do something that I feel everyone should do at least once in their lives:

volunteer and help others who need it. **What do you see as the benefits of this program?** I think that one of the benefits is that it puts some of the best people in the county together to share, collaborate, and work together to achieve, learn, and grow. It allows us to strengthen the skills that we already have and to work on the ones that are just beginning to develop. It strengthens who we are as people, and is helping to shape who we will be and how we will live our lives. I believe that if the skills that we work on during this program help us touch just one person in our lives, the program has been a huge success; that all the time and effort put into this program has had the best outcome that could be possible. That the SCYLI will have played a part in shaping us into caring, respecting individuals.

Adam Larson
Arthur Hill High School

January 27, 2006 Events

Agenda Curtiss Hall

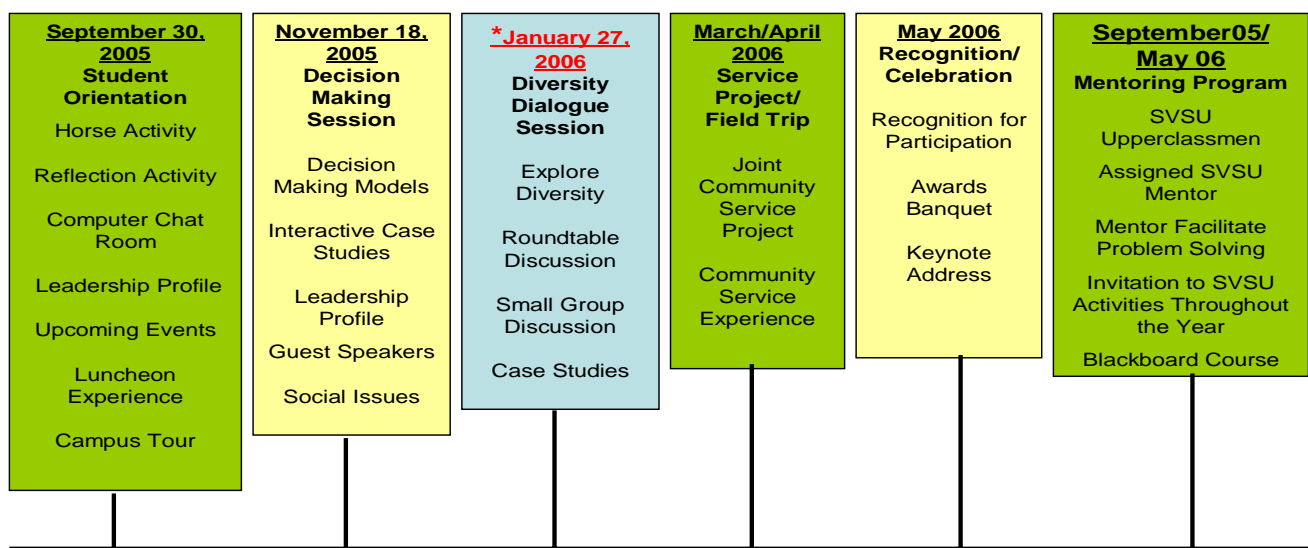
Topic: Diversity Dialogue

Purpose: The purpose of this session is to raise awareness of biases and prejudice in diverse school and community settings and to improve students' ability to lead through racial tolerance and understanding. Students will learn to:

- Respect and appreciate different cultures
- Recognize stereotypical behaviors and their effects
- Dismantle racism
- See themselves as others see them

8:30-9:00	<i>Welcome</i>	Eric Gilbertson, President Dr. Mamie Thorns, Special Assistant to the President for Diversity Programs
9:00-9:30	<i>Service Project</i>	Ryan Fewins, Assistant Director Student Life Center
9:30-10:30	<i>Diversity Circles</i>	Sahar M. AL-Masri, Consultant Esther Letven, Consultant
10:30-10:45	<i>Break</i>	
10:45-11:45	<i>Diversity Circles</i>	Sahar AL-Masri, Consultant Esther Letven, Consultant
11:45-12:30	<i>Lunch (by assigned group)</i>	
12:30-1:30	<i>Diversity Circles Closing</i>	Sahar AL-Masri, Consultant Esther Letven, Consultant

Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute Time Line Saginaw Valley State University In collaboration with The Bridge Center for Racial Harmony



***Note: This is a date change**

SCYLI School Representatives

Arthur Hill High School

Krystal Buckler
Astrid Imperial
Adam Larson

Birch Run High School

Devin Pettyplace
Tara Vaughn
Katelyn White

Bridgeport High School

Angelica Herrera
Zach Podojak
Amber Uribe

Buena Vista High School

Javon Bland
Trinae Fairris
Latoya Ifeobu

Carrollton High School

Shawnyse Harris
John Seno
Nicole Wandzel

Chesaning High School

Shane Aguilar
Elizabeth Dewey
Fred Gewirtz

Frankenmuth High School

Lauren Weiss
Jacob Zoller

Freeland High School

Dominique Debenham
Chelsea Satkowiak
Ashley Stephen

Hemlock High School

Jennifer Fuller
Dana Preuss
Hannah Thom

Heritage High School

Rebecca Alger
Aneisha McDole
Prakash Nalani

Merrill High School

Joel Gagne
Bryan Morrison
Dominique Porter

Nouvel Catholic Central High School

Nicole Anegon
Margaret Curtiss
Patrick Graham
Kellie LeRoy

Saginaw Art and Science Academy

Breannah Alexander
Cameron Tindall
Allan Trevino

Saginaw High School

Curtis Coleman
Britney Morris
Ashley Staffney

St. Charles High School

Joe Flattery
Cecelia Munoz
Kadie Urbain

Swan Valley High School

Theo Keith
Tara Leddy
Cohen Sangster

Valley Lutheran High School

Chelena Eli
Matt Holden
Kija Stephens



Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute Mission

The Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute will exist to provide an opportunity for high school leaders from diverse racial, cultural, and socioeconomic communities in Saginaw County to gain valuable leadership training and acquire new skills that will help them lead in any community improvement projects.

Objectives

- Provide opportunities for students to network with other student leaders and professionals.
- Partner with the SVSU Student Association and leaders from other student organizations.
- Provide learning experiences for students, to reflect on their own leadership style
- Promote the importance of diversity, citizenship and stewardship
- Discuss areas for personal leadership

What Participants are Saying



I was chosen to attend the Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute. Some of the most beneficial things I took from the SCYLI are the many friendships I have made and the significant leadership skills I have acquired. I feel that the two times I have attended the conferences at S.V.S.U., the most beneficial aspects were the guest speakers. I felt the horse activity that Dr. Tracy Weber had set up for us was beneficial for showing us that not all people (or horses in this instance) react in the same way to what you are attempting to get them to do. I

was a captain on the Merrill varsity football team this past season. The horse activity helped show me that not all players will do what you want by using brute force. Sometimes you might just need to politely ask them and the horse activity helped show me this. I feel honored to have been asked by the committee of the SCYLI to add my feelings on the program they are putting on.

Joel Gagne
Senior, Merrill High School



As a mentor in the Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute, I've not only learned a considerable amount about my leadership capabilities, but I discovered a lot about myself. Collaborating and befriending the high school students has been a wonderful experience in itself. Not only do the mentees have a lot to learn from the mentors, the mentors have an immense amount to learn from the mentees. Each activity pertaining to the Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute is a learning experience for all who are participating. For example, I didn't know my "True Color" was blue until I entered this program. I had never non-verbally assisted horses through a make-shift obstacle course. I had never been involved in the makings of a service project. I never would have had any of these experiences without the Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute. I'm truly thankful that I am a part of this wonderful program.

Tami Snyder
Mentor, SCYLI

S.C.Y.L.I Committee Members

Dr. Eric Gilbertson , President	Saginaw Valley State University
Dr. Marna Beard , Associate Professor Educational Leadership & Services	Saginaw Valley State University
Mrs. Merry Jo Brandimore , Assistant Vice President Student Services & Enrollment Management	Saginaw Valley State University
Mr. Ryan Fewins , Assistant Director Student Life Center	Saginaw Valley State University
Ms. Emily Hammerbacher , President Student Association	Saginaw Valley State University
Dr. Nancy Lewis , Consultant Saginaw County Youth Leadership Institute	Saginaw Valley State University
Dr. Joseph Ofori-Dankwa , Professor Management & Marketing	Saginaw Valley State University
Mr. Robert O'Hara , Executive Director Boys and Girls Club	Bridge Center for Racial Harmony
Mr. Michael Simon , Assistant Vice President Student Services & Enrollment Management	Saginaw Valley State University
Ms. Tami Snyder Office of Diversity Programs	Saginaw Valley State University
Dr. Mamie T. Thorns , Special Assistant to the President Diversity Programs	Saginaw Valley State University
Dr. Tracy Weber , Facilitator Equine Assisted Learning	Kaleidoscope Learning Circle

Office of Diversity Programs

**7400 Bay Road
University Center, MI
48710**

Phone: 989-964-4068

**Created and Edited By:
Ms. Tami Snyder
Dr. Nancy Lewis
Dr. Mamie T. Thorns**

Reminder: If you will not be able to attend any of our scheduled events, please call Dr. Thorns, Special Assistant to the President for Diversity Programs at 964-4068