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FOR 1993-94  
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MINUTES
BOARD OF CONTROL
Regular Meeting
1:30 p.m.
Board of Control Room - Wickes Hall
November 15, 1993

Present: Braun
          Curtiss
          Gilbertson
          Kelly
          Roberts
          Rush
          Walpole
          Ward

Absent: Escobedo

Others Present: R. Becker
R. Braddock
J. Bridges
D. Brimmer
G. Corser
J. Fallon
S. Hocquard
T. Ishihara
G. Kantak
J. Kerman
C. Lange
J. Lyddon
J. Moomingh
J. Muladore
K. Nowaczyk
J. Olvera
C. Pelzer
F. Porterfield
T. Provoast
W. Rathkamp
R. Ruffin
B. Rusch
J. Stanley
R. Thompson
R. Trdan
Press (2)
Students (10)
I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairperson Rush called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m. He noted that a quorum was present.

II. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

A. Approval of Agenda and Additions and Deletions to Agenda

There were no additions or deletions to the agenda.

B. Approval of Minutes of October 11, 1993 Regular Meeting

It was moved and supported that the minutes of the October 11, 1993 regular monthly meeting be approved.

The minutes were unanimously APPROVED as written.

C. Recognition of the Official Representative of the Faculty Association

Chairperson Rush recognized Professor George Corser, President of the Faculty Association, and congratulated him on having received the Outstanding Engineer in Education Award from the Michigan Society of Professional Engineers.

Professor Corser read the attached statement. (See Appendix One: Corser)

Chairperson Rush thanked Professor Corser for his comments.

D. Communications and Requests to Appear Before the Board

President Gilbertson stated that a request to appear before the Board had been received from Dr. Gail Kantak, Professor of Biology; Dr. Richard Trdan, Professor of Biology; and Dr. Jennifer Bridges, Associate Professor of Physical and Health Education.

Chairperson Rush asked that the speakers limit themselves to five minutes each, as stipulated in the Board of Control Bylaws.
Professor Kantak thanked the Board for providing the opportunity to bring the issue of the proposed walking path through the University’s ecological area out in the open for discussion. She stated:

In a nutshell, we are opposed to trail construction through the interior of this area because this location was set aside to fill in and grow back to a natural state. Right now there is very little forest -- or actually there's very, very little woods there. Much of it is open area. It was intended to grow back to a natural state through the process of ecological succession. Trail construction would alter that process of ecological succession by creating too much edge. This has a special connotation in ecology. Edges are simply transition zones....between a forest and an open area. Edges are located at transitions between communities, and they can also be created within communities by openings such as trail construction....It is well established that environmental conditions differ between edges of forests and interiors of forests. For example, edges differ from interiors in amount of sunlight, in wind exposure, in soil moisture, in evaporation, in nutrient levels -- this is all very well documented. Consequently certain plant and animal species are better adapted to the edges of communities where they have the particular characteristics allowing them to flourish under those conditions. Other types of species are better suited to the interior of forests, where they're better adapted to the interior environmental conditions. Plant ecologists can actually classify species....according to whether they are interior species or edge species. This is very easily done. So the problem with trail construction through the interior of this area is that it creates a large amount of edge per area enclosed. We would have edge from the trail, edge along the road and by the (Pine Grove) apartments. We would have a lot of edge and very little interior....This is because this is such a small area where this so-called edge effect extends inward toward the interior....If you have a small area, the edge effect extends essentially throughout, and you have no interior habitat. In time instead of having a mature, diverse type of forest with both interior species in the interior and edge species along the edges -- and have a variety of things -- we will essentially have just edge habitat and just edge species. We will not have interior species and, unfortunately, the more interesting rare species are usually interior species. I have some references (that indicate that) the more interesting species -- rare things -- tend to be interior type species. But we won't have any habitat for the interesting, rare species.

Other nature areas or nature centers like Tobico Marsh and Bay City State Park or the Chippewa Nature Center can have trails, because they are so much vastly larger than this area (at SVSU). For example, Tobico Marsh has
five miles of trail. And that five mile trail would encompass an interior far larger than our entire ecological area. So you can still have an interior plus... additional forest to the outside. (SVSU's ecological research area) is approximately two tenths of a square mile, and that is simply not large enough to accommodate a trail through the interior. If a trail is constructed through the interior, you will have a biological community developing, no doubt, but that biological community will likely remain as poor in species as it is today.

Professor Kantak stated that the students from her ecology class collect data from a woodlot in the ecological research area for their term papers as an example of a poor woods. They compare this to the far richer woods in Tobico Marsh and Price Nature Center, where they go on field trips. The SVSU area is very species poor.

Professor Kantak concluded: "This entire area is in its infancy in terms of ecological development. I would love it if my class were able to go and sample more of this area instead of backtracking back and forth.....retracing our steps, sampling the same locations over and over again. But we have to. The size and development of this area is so limited. And the other species aren't here yet. And they never will be, unless we allow the normal ecological processes to unfold."

Chairperson Rush informed Dr. Kantak that she was several minutes over her allotted time. He asked whether she would like to take that time from the other presenters. She replied that she was finished.

Dr. Richard Trdan stated:

My name is Richard Trdan, and I'm a Professor of Biology here at Saginaw Valley. Before I address the Board directly on the ecological research area, I think you should know something about us. The Biology Department has a Landee Award Winner, given for excellence in teaching; this Department has a Warrick Award winner, given for excellence in research; this Department has two Professorial Merit winners -- two out of 20, I should mention -- given for scholarly activity and excellence in teaching and
University service. In addition, this Department has generated hundreds of thousands of dollars in external funds. We have generated money from the Michigan Department of Education, the Michigan Department of Agriculture and the Michigan Department of Natural Resources, the Environmental Protection Agency, the National Science Foundation and many other private organizations. We are a Department that takes our job very seriously, and we are committed to giving our students the best possible education that they can receive. And we are always willing to cooperate -- to cooperate with other faculty members, with staff, with students, and even with administrators to make sure that our students get that quality education. However, when we see a threat to that education, we're willing to fight. And we will fight even if that means taking on the President of this University.

In a memo from Richard Payne, Secretary to the Board, to me, dated October 15th, 1993 he stated that the President and subcommittee on Facilities and Finance had discussed the matter of the trail through the ecological research area and came to the conclusion "The members of that committee as well as the administration believe that this action (that is building of the trail) was fully consistent with the Board's 1985 resolution." Thanks to Dr. Kantak's presentation and the additional material that was sent to you previous to this meeting, there is absolutely no question that the subcommittee and the President were wrong. This trail will destroy this area. It's apparent that the President came to this same conclusion prior to this meeting and prior to our sending you the materials on November 5th. You read the quote in the paper, I assume, and to paraphrase what it said, it simply says, if our argument is good enough that the trail will destroy the area then let's change the rules. Let's just revoke your resolution of 1985. My wife teaches kindergarten and she has these conflicts between kids all the time -- five-year-olds. She tells them, play within the rules, do the best you can to convince one another that your point is right, but stay within the rules and then be a gracious winner or loser. This is not the message that's coming out of this University right now. The message coming out is "If you can't win by the rules, change the rules." I don't think we want to be left with that impression.

Now, as a Biologist, I understand that things change. That's what we talk about. We talk about evolution, how things change over time. Nothing stays the same. And maybe someday, for some reason, this Board will have to think about revoking that 1985 resolution. But be assured this is not the time and this is not for the right reasons. The area in question has been used, is presently being used, and will continue to be used, to educate our Biology students. And that's what we're here for -- to educate students. We use that area as a research area and as an outdoor classroom. We have been doing it for at least the last 20 years. I've been here 17 and I've used it each and
every year that I’ve been here. As Dr. Kantak has already mentioned, she
uses it extensively in her ecology class. Virtually every fall semester her
students are out there collecting data. I teach a Natural History of Fresh
Water Invertebrates course. It’s a 400 level course. It’s offered during the
Spring/Summer. It’s offered every two or three years. Our first three or four
laboratories involve going out into that area collecting specimens from
different types of habitats -- permanent pond, temporary pond, low areas,
cattail swamps -- identifying, collecting, classifying that information, and then
going back and looking at the actual habitat from which that organism came.
Then we do comparisons -- what kind of organisms determine what type of
habitat? In my Developmental Biology class, which I offer every winter
semester, we have individual projects. Students go out there -- I’m not going
to say all the time -- but very frequently, to pick up materials for their
individual projects. And they use that area extensively. We also use the area
to collect laboratory material for our General Biology class, our General
Botany class, our General Zoology class, and our Natural Science classes.

So we are using the area. Don’t let anybody tell you any different. We are
using the area. Now what is the President proposing instead? A trail. A
trail, by the way, that leads nowhere -- or maybe it leads somewhere. And
that you’ll have to determine for yourself. This is Dr. Kantak’s map but it’s
just a little bit more expanded. This is Wickes Hall, this is Glen Eagle Drive.
We know who lives here (President Gilbertson), and we know who works here
(President Gilbertson). I’ve never seen anything more obvious in my life.
That’s the reason for the trail. The rest of it is a smoke screen. Now I ask
you -- this Board has a dilemma. That dilemma is to revoke the 1985
resolution or to reaffirm it. I will thank you, the Biology Department will
thank you, and students and teachers will thank you if you vote to defeat the
President’s proposal to build this trail. Thank you.

Dr. Jennifer Bridges stated:

I’m very proud to be a member of that Department (Physical and Health
Education) and also (to be) working with the Biology Department. Our
interdisciplinary work and ideas have a long-standing history. And really it’s
because of the work we started in 1985 on deciding where we wanted to put
a trail on campus. We began a project in 1985 to install a trail and were
discussing with them where we should put this trail. About that time,...a
resolution was passed to keep that as a research area for ecology. We were
very supportive,...of that decision -- and we decided not to continue our plans
for putting our trail in that area during that time. This is a rough of the trail
that we have planned, and have been planning since 1985. (See
Appendix Two: Alternative 1.) It has not been installed on campus. This
was at the time when the Cardinal Gym was where the Ryder Center is now, and these are the Ryder Center Woods. This is a half-mile trail that goes through this area. There were lots of reasons why we selected this particular area, again, with input from Biology. This area was equivalent or superior ecologically, to the research area. It has all four habitats that the research area has. However, they are more developed. And so nature viewing is at a much more pleasing level, especially to the novice, and those who want to do some class work or individual work can use this area as well, because all four habitats are throughout the entire trail. The other parts of the decision involved safety. There was a lot of discussion about safety. We have the Ryder Center, we have first aid available, we have personnel available, we have facilities available, we have Public Safety that patrols the area regularly. On three sides we have lighting that exists and access to several things. So safety was an issue that was considered in this area quite heavily, and part of the development of it and the shape that it ended in. Another factor that was developing at that time and that is even farther along now is the Heating and Cooling Plant. You can see were the X is -- that this trail was designed not to impinge upon that or any other structures in the area, but again to offer a multi-purpose use on campus to serve all students. Classes can come here, Biology classes, Anthropology classes, Physical Education classes, people who just want to have some leisure time can use it. It's very closely located to where the new West Complex will be built, so that people who are visiting campus for all sorts of activities can make use of this trail and have facilities available. So it's a very good public relations tool in terms of our future development and where we're going, as well as considering the safety and convenience of those factors. This trail has had a lot of thought put into it. We already have it designed. This is our first alternative route.

This is another alternative that has been created recently. (See Appendix Two: Alternative 2) The Employee Wellness Committee, which has been in existence for several years on campus has become involved in trying to make this trail a reality. This was another suggestion. It would be on the outside edge -- not creating new edge effect, but outside of the ecological research area -- but again still providing probably three of the four different habitats for viewing...So both of them (alternative trails) have the loop feature, which is very different than an out and back (trail), which increases longevity of the use of a particular trail....

Another fact I wanted to bring out....is that the trail that was suggested going through the ecological research center was estimated at about $8,000. That kind of construction is essentially plough down and go....In working with a contractor, that's my understanding. In 1987 or 1988, we had a bid....(from a contractor) to put in a half-mile trail....for between $30,000 and $37,000. The
reason for that extensive cost, which is why we do not have the trail on campus today, is because we very much wanted to preserve the ecological conditions in this area that we wanted to be able to take advantage of. It takes time, it takes equipment in order to put in a very simple trail without destroying ecology.

Dr. Bridges stated that she was concerned about the implications of the proposed trail costing only $8,000, when in 1987 a bid had been received for $37,000. She questioned whether it would be possible to put in a trail at that cost and still maintain ecology.

Trustee Ward asked: "Why can we build (a trail) consistent with ecology in one place but not the other?"

Dr. Kantak replied: "...we're looking toward the future development and process of ecological succession in creating edge. We're not concerned about any future development in the Ryder Center Woods -- it's fine the way it is. However, in the ecological research area it's not fine the way it is. It's terrible the way it is, and we'd like it to develop without edge."

Dr Bridges added that Alternative Two is completely outside of the ecological research area, but that it would still be in the campus vicinity, which is what the Wellness Committee proposed.

Chairperson Rush thanked Dr. Kantak, Dr. Trdan and Dr. Bridges on behalf of the Board for their presentations.

III. ACTION ITEMS

1) Resolution to Approve Auxiliary Services-Bonded Facilities Operating Budget for 1993-94.

RES-1075 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:
WHEREAS, Revenues and expenditures have been forecasted including adequate provisions for debt service and contributions to reserves.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the attached Operating Budget be adopted for the 1993-94 fiscal year, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the administration is authorized to make capital expenditures as considered appropriate from the Repair and Replacement Reserve with the understanding that a minimum of $200,000 is to be retained in the reserve account as of June 30, 1994. (See Appendix Three: Auxiliary Services)

President Gilbertson stated: "This is the budget -- separate and apart from the General Fund Budget -- that deals with those series of activities that we think of as subsidiary operations of the institution....The three principal components of this budget are the dormitory and apartment systems, the food services, and the bookstore. Each year the Board acts on this separate from the General Fund Budget, which is really the heart of the operation. The key decisions that will be involved in this approximately $2.1 million budget involve rates for the residence halls and apartments. This budget incorporates previously approved increases to students of 3.25% for the residence halls and food service and, depending upon the nature of the apartment, either a 2.78% or a 2.33% increase. (Note: The Board approved these increases in a separate resolution last March.) There are a couple of issues here that you have been concerned about and are watching. I know that debt service ratio has been discussed in committee and I'd be happy to answer any questions about that."

Chairperson Rush asked: "What is the accepted target of the debt service ratio?"

Trustee Curtiss answered: "We're required by indenture, I think, to maintain 1.25%. Our target has consistently been 2%; which is substantially above the requirement."

James Muladore, Assistant Vice President for Administration and Business Affairs
& Controller, added: "Our previous trust indenture required 1.25%. Now the General Revenue Bond issue does not have a specific requirement as to a minimum debt service ratio. However, we consider it good management practice to maintain a ratio of 2% or higher."

Chairperson Rush asked for further questions or comments. There were none.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

2) Resolution to Modify General Fund Operating Budget for FY1993-94

RES-1076 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, The Board of Control adopted on June 14, 1993 the General Fund Operating Budget for fiscal year 1993-94, and

WHEREAS, Subsequent to that date the University administration has revised its original revenue and expenditure estimates to reflect changes to various revenue categories and expenditure allocations required for compensation, services, supplies, and equipment;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the attached schedule indicating a recommended revised base budget be adopted for fiscal year 1993-94. (See Appendix Four: General Fund)

President Gilbertson stated: "The Board touches the budget at various times in the cycle of the academic year. It starts out about March when the Board adopts goals for the coming year's budget. Then we prepare a budget that comes to you for action and/or approval or modification, usually during the June meeting. About that time we have some sense of where the Legislature is going with appropriations, and we have some sense of what enrollments are likely to be. So we put before you a package for the next fiscal year, which is from July 1st to June 30th. The General Fund Budget....is virtually everything we do except the auxiliary services and a few other kinds of minor public service and other grant funded activities. It involves all salaries, all utilities and operating budgets. Our principal
sources of revenue are state appropriations, which comprise about half of our revenues, and student tuition and fees, which comprise about 44-45%. The Board adopts that budget in June. It is brought back to the Board on two occasions during the fiscal year for modifications. In June, we obviously are projecting what our enrollment experience is going to be. Sometimes we’re projecting other things as well. This year, for example, we happened to be in negotiations over compensation, which is about 75% of the General Fund Budget. So it is very difficult to project with accuracy. The budget will probably be brought back to the Board in November, once we know what the fall semester enrollment experience has been. We have also successfully completed negotiations, so we have a better sense on the expenditure side of what compensation is likely to be. The budget will be brought to the Board again, probably about April, once we know what the winter semester enrollment is. Again, the key variable there is tuition income. Then we bring it to you once again, probably about September. Usually we close it after the fiscal year has ended. So what we’re asking you to do today is to take a look at your June adopted budget in terms of what we now know to be the fall semester enrollment experience as well as the collective bargaining agreement that was negotiated, and to basically update that budget in light of these new projections.

President Gilbertson then reviewed the attached General Fund Budget Summary. He noted that state appropriations had held steady and that there had been a slightly smaller enrollment increase than had been expected, causing a downward revision in tuition revenue projections of $60,000. There was an increase of almost $100,000 in miscellaneous income, which would include indirect cost recovery on grants, graduation and transcript fees,
rental income, applications, and commissions from vending machines. The Collective Bargaining agreement with the Faculty Association calls for a $36,000 increase in the compensation package originally estimated last spring. The modification to the budget is approximately one tenth of one percent of the budget adopted in June.

Chairperson Rush asked for questions or comments. Hearing none, he called for the vote.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

3) Resolution to Approve Development of Intercollegiate Athletic Program in Soccer for Men and Women

RES-1077 It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:

WHEREAS, The sport of soccer has the potential to provide participation and opportunities for students at SVSU; and
WHEREAS, Youth soccer programs for males and females have increased in popularity at the high school level;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the University develop a women’s club sport in soccer in 1994, to complement the existing men’s club soccer program;
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That both the men and women’s club soccer programs become varsity intercollegiate sports in 1995.

President Gilbertson told the Board: "For about ten years now, Bob Braddock, Professor in the History Department, on a purely volunteer basis and for the love of amateur sport, has coached and mentored and looked after a men’s soccer club. It's a group of students who come together to participate in exuberant exercise against similar clubs of other institutions....Athletic programs were begun several years ago at SVSU for a number of reasons, one of which was a conviction that athletic programs serve student needs, that there are valuable lessons to be learned through sports....You adopted a Mission Statement for the Athletic Program about a year ago....We're trying to look ahead with our athletic
programs in order to be able to serve not just the students who are here now, but those who...will be coming to us in the future. And what I think all of us have seen is a tremendous growth of interest in soccer. We've seen it in Saginaw Township certainly. There has been a very significant investment in this program. There has been a long-standing youth program in Midland. We've also seen more and more high schools adopting interscholastic varsity programs in soccer. We're trying to get ahead of the curve here, again in keeping with the mission of the Athletic Department. What we propose to you today is that we begin a soccer program both for men and women to -- in the first year -- create a club sport for the women who might participate in the soccer program, and then move both the men's and the women's programs to varsity status one year hence, which would be for the fall of 1995. It would require some field development, and we would need to work with the Admissions staff and the Athletic Department staff on developing coaching support and other related matters. We see this as an opportunity for (our current) students and for those yet to enroll, who have come up through the youth soccer programs of the various high schools, to continue that kind of activity once they come to the University. We propose to begin this and sustain it on a non-grant basis. While it will be a varsity sport, we intend to treat it as though it were an NCAA Division III sport....In other words, to take a small college approach to it without grant support for student athletes....We do this not only to save costs, but because we think that over time we need to be looking at sustaining these athletic programs without a lot of grant support for students. This may be a step in that direction. We acknowledge that. Your Board bylaws have reserved to you the authority to begin and end new intercollegiate athletic programs, and it is with great enthusiasm that we
recommend adding these programs to the array that we now have."

Bob Becker, Director of Athletics stated: "We're excited about this. It's really our first attempt at bringing in a sport without any athletic assistance grants, and I think it's very clear that that's what's ahead of us, maybe in the not too distant future."

Trustee Curtiss asked what the program would cost.

President Gilbertson answered: "We anticipate about $25,000 a year in direct budget support for a varsity sport in this category. The money will largely come through reallocation of funds from an assistant football coach position that was in the Athletic Department, became vacant, and was not filled."

Trustee Curtiss noted: "There's no reference in the resolution to Level III or non-grant programs. If at some point in the future that becomes an issue, does this resolution control, or does the Board have anything to say about whether it moves into a grant program?"

President Gilbertson replied: "Technically, we are within the NCAA Division II. We aren't yet certain whether we can have a program that is technically Division III when the rest of our programs are Division II. The reason we're in Division II is because that's where our peer institutions are competing. Basically our sister institutions, Northern, Wayne, Oakland, Ferris and the like are all Division II. And while we're in Division II we have a lot of flexibility there. So we aren't certain yet whether we can be formally classified as Division III."

Mr. Becker stated: "We cannot. I think the correct verbiage would be a Division III philosophy, and that is no grants."
President Gilbertson asked that the minutes reflect that was the intent of the resolution as evidenced by the Board's discussion.

Trustee Curtiss asked: "Should there be a transition into a Level II grant in aid program, I think the Board might like a chance to review the decision at that time. So the minutes (should) reflect that....this is intended to be a program without grants in aid unless otherwise modified by the Board."

Chairperson Rush called for a vote on the resolution, with the proviso that it was the intent of the Board that this soccer program would be operated under an NCAA Division III philosophy.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously, with the additional proviso.

4) Motion to suspend implementing Board Resolution 1057 regarding invocation and benediction at Commencement

BM-845 It was moved and supported that implementation of Resolution 1057 regarding invocation and benediction at Commencement be suspended until further discussion with the student body and faculty is held.

Chairperson Rush stated:

Some members of the Board have not had an opportunity to become fully informed on what's happening here. Unfortunately, the member who had intended to make the motion was unexpectedly not able to attend today's meeting....so we'll have to fill in a little bit of information here. First of all, I'm sure that everybody is aware that back in June we passed a resolution with regard to graduation ceremonies. The resolution adopted by the Board at that time says: "Resolved, pursuant to the Free Speech, Free Exercise clauses of the First Amendment, it is the policy of the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University to include an invocation and a benediction on the program of commencement. We would request that the invocation and the benediction be non-sectarian and non-proselytizing in nature." That was passed in June. At that time considerable discussion was had by the Board members, and that resolution passed on a 5-3 vote.
Subsequent to that we received requests from both faculty and the student body, through Mr. Olvera, Student Government President, to have further discussion on this issue. I think it's safe to say that their main thrust was that they did not feel they were adequately consulted, at least not on a timely basis. One of the main reasons for this was the fact that this all occurred...in May and June, during which time the student body was not in session, for the most part. Also, Mr. Olvera was just newly-elected as student body president and had not had an opportunity to become familiar with the issue. So with that confluence of events, it was felt that student representation was not adequately given. As a consequence, they requested a hearing from us. Our Academic/Student Affairs Committee, consisting of Mr. Ward, Mrs. Roberts, Mr. Escobedo and myself, met. We listened to their presentations. Rather than characterize what they said, I'll ask the members of the committee who were there that day to give their perspective on what happened. But the upshot of that meeting was that Mr. Escobedo thought it would be appropriate -- and the committee for the most part concurred -- that it might be appropriate to bring this matter up for discussion at this point in time, because of the time issue. The students felt that it would require two or three months to organize their information to serve the student population adequately and to make sure that there was a good solid hearing and discourse on this. The faculty, through Professor Corser, gave a very well thought out and strongly worded position statement expressing where they stood on this issue. As a consequence, it was felt by the committee that perhaps we should revisit this issue and make sure that we're all at least given adequate opportunity to express ourselves and come up with some resolution. Rather than considering revoking the resolution or rescinding it....it was suggested by Mr. Escobedo that perhaps a simple suspension of the effective implementation date would be appropriate to get us by the December graduation ceremony, so that over the next two or three months -- perhaps late in the winter or early in the spring of 1994 -- the issue could be revisited and the resolution could either be reconfirmed or rescinded....depending on the wishes of the Board....I'd like now to ask the members who were there....to give their thoughts on this matter.

Trustee Ward stated:

I agree with your summary. I have no problem with revisiting it, I just don't think that means we can't implement it occurring at the current Commencement. This is a policy we followed through 28 of our 30 commencements. It's the policy the University of Michigan follows. I know at May Commencement, 1993 -- when the First Lady of the United States was there -- they had an Episcopalian minister as an invited guest offer an invocation of the very kind we're talking about. The Supreme Court of the
United States begins every session of the Court with an invocation. So I'm saying that I have no objection to reconsidering this matter. And I quite frankly would be delighted to, because I think that maybe there were some issues that weren't aired as much as they might have been. And I don't understand how the faculty can say they weren't consulted, since we did lay that on the table in May, and it was published in the Interior, and every faculty member who seemed to want to wrote us. But I do think that the new President of the student body might have a better case to make, and so I have no objection to reconsidering the position I took at the meeting. The position I take now is that I don't see any point in suspending it. We've done it 28 years already. Let's do it, and let's follow our policy. I don't think we have to keep jumping through hoops, changing our position when we're right. So my recommendation is let's not suspend it, but let’s follow the policy that's been on the books since June of this year -- let’s follow it and then come the next year....if somebody wants to move reconsideration, I'd be more than happy to participate.

Trustee Roberts told the Board that she agreed with Chairperson Rush's summary of the Committee meeting. She added: "I was very deeply impressed with our student representatives in appealing to this Board through the (Academic/Student Affairs) Committee to request....that we not have prayer, but rather a moment of silence. But we have a policy that was passed by the majority of the Board, and they asked that we reconsider that....and allow them to have some input, which they felt they did not have at the time of our decision. I was very impressed with the sincerity of their comments and the depth of their feelings, and I believe that it is worthwhile to postpone this to get additional input and revisit the policy decision again, whichever way it goes -- but to be sure that we have all of the pieces in place before we do so."

Chairperson Rush asked Mr. Olvera to give a brief overview of the students' feelings.

Mr. Olvera stated that the students felt they would prefer the moment of silence to prayer. He added: "I believe that the action that the Board of Control is taking is
appropriate, since the Board had made a resolution without consulting the students in a proper...and timely manner. And so that's why I feel that suspending this until we have further investigation of the students' feelings would be most appropriate."

Trustee Walpole stated: "We gave this matter serious consideration, with the possible exception of not having enough input from the student body. We have been informed they would like us to take further view of that, and I think we should. I personally believe that the policy in effect should stay in effect. If we want to reconsider it or rescind it, then we have that opportunity as we evaluate the process. But I don't think it's necessary to suspend it at this point. We had adequate information from the faculty, we had a lot of outside input, we knew what the decision was at that point. I think we should give the students an opportunity to give us more input, and if we want to rescind it at a later time, that's fine, but at this point I'm positive about going forward with the policy that's in place."

Trustee Braun stated: "I agree that we should reconsider at a later date, but I think we ought to follow the policy as it now stands."

Trustee Curtiss stated: "The court cases I have read on this subject, most of which apply at the high school level, make it very clear that the students should have a large voice in deciding what the contents of the graduation must be. I think, in light of my naive reading of those cases, that we should follow the wishes of those who are graduating."

Chairperson Rush asked for further discussion on the motion.

Trustee Ward noted: "The effect of this motion is to suspend the resolution for the December Commencement."

Chairperson Rush replied: "Yes, but leave it in place as a policy."
Chairperson Rush asked for a roll call vote.

Braun no
Curtiss yes
Kelly yes
Roberts yes
Rush yes
Walpole no
Ward no

Chairperson Rush stated: "I think we've made it very clear that this is a tough issue. We have a group of very thoughtful and deliberate people who have an honest difference of opinion. I hope that we can resolve this at some point in the future to the satisfaction of everybody concerned. It will be taken up for consideration and study in the coming months. And Joel, we'll be counting on you to gather your information and give it to us, without fail, and we'll carry forward in the coming two or three months."

Chairperson Rush noted that the motion to suspend had failed, since at least five affirmative votes are needed to pass a motion. He noted: "However, we still have agreed to revisit the issue."

The motion FAILED, as it did not receive five affirmative votes.

IV. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

5) Report on Campus Events and Activities

Diane Brimmer, Director of Student Life, stated:

Extracurricular involvement is shown to have a dramatic effect upon student retention, personal development, satisfaction with the institution and activities after graduation, including careers and alumni involvement....And it's pretty well shown that students who are involved while they are in college tend to be better donors once they graduate....Students retain 30% of what they learn in the classroom and 60% of what they learned outside of the classroom....I think this has to do with the fact that out of class learning tends to be interactive,
it tends to be experiential, it tends to be fun, it tends to be what the student likes rather than what they're required to do....Woodrow Wilson....said that the mind doesn't live by instruction alone, that the real intellectual life happens outside of the classroom....What that means for people who plan events is that we really have to look hard at places where people will interact. The best illustration I have ever seen of that is to...make an analogy between a city and a campus. Everyone knows it's not easy to create a good city. You need entertainment, you need arts, galleries, sports and recreation, parks, restaurants, shops, places for exchange of ideas. And the same is true if you're looking at a campus....Again, if you're looking at this as multiple association or places to interact, then you're not worrying about whether arts are more important than athletics, or lounges are more important than cafeterias -- all of this is important -- we need it all to have a good campus community.

A number of challenges were put forth to those of us who are involved in event planning by the Report "Promises to Keep," which came out in January of 1991. The people on the Planning Task Force asked us to have a richer, deeper campus life, better integrated into SVSU's academic life. They asked for better coordination and promotion of campus events, they asked for improving the extracurricular experience of non-traditional students for movement toward better cultural events keyed to academic and personal development and attractiveness to the larger community, and then they asked us to seek outside funds for concerts, lectures, and other special events that enrich the lives of students.

The Campus Life Team is a group that was initiated in 1991 by Dr. Gilbertson, and is made up of event planners from all over the University -- students, staff and faculty. We initiated the Valley Festival of Fine Arts....as a means of featuring the University in terms of the arts. We put together an event held in the spring of the year, which contains the Fine Arts Festival, a theatrical performance, a Fun Arts Factory, and student, staff and faculty performances. Last year the Performing Arts Series was held. My office has since added a companion series, which is a children's concert series for non-traditional students. We have encouraged and supported improvements to Family Festival Day, Homecoming, and the Family Holiday at the Ryder Center. We have initiated an annual award for outstanding cocurricular involvement....and a mini grant program for cocurricular activities designed and coordinated by faculty members. We have also initiated discussion of improved coordination of event scheduling and promotion....

To respond to "Promises to Keep," my office has produced a greater number of events and activities that are in support of the academic mission of the
University. We’ve developed a number of programs designed for commuter and non-traditional students, including the Fun Arts Factory component of the Valley Festival of Fine Arts and Commuter Day. We have the Children’s Concert Series, and we also are looking for initiation of a project next fall -- the Commuter Mentoring program. We hope to match any freshman commuter who is interested with an upper-class commuter so that person can show them the ropes of the institution and help get them involved in activities and events on campus. We have improved internal communications. And we’ve also worked hard at the accessibility of things. We’ve improved our direct mail newsletter to students, which goes out two times a year. We have worked on ceiling signs. Once a week my office goes into the classroom and pulls notices of the different events and keeps those updated. We have also tried to enlarge the number of spaces where students can advertise events....We have improved external communications. My office speaks regularly with the Arts and Entertainment editors of the three local papers. We have started to look at market research. We know from other institutions that have started performing arts series that....about half of your audience is going to come from the community. So we need to know who those people are, how they find out about us and how we can get the information to them. We have employed and supported joint programming efforts....with other departments on campus.

We’ve obtained financial support of several corporations and grant funding agencies....and we hope to get more than that.

We still need to work on improving involvement and interaction....and on increasing integration of programs with academic goals. We also need new program formats for today’s students. We know that students typically commute anywhere from five to ten hours a week. If they have another commute to their job, that probably adds on another five hours. And then they may have a family to take care of on top of that. So that doesn’t leave too much time for involvement....Currently we’re thinking about half-hour programs, or putting leadership things on tape so they can be listening to cassettes while they’re driving....We’ve also talked....about the possibility of giving credit. Some universities are giving one credit for attendance at lectures and performances.

Another challenge is overcoming increased demand for a limited number of facilities. This semester alone we have over 100 activities that are planned on campus. That doesn’t include what the student organizations are planning. We presently have 50 student groups on campus. This probably doubles what we were doing three or four years ago when we were working with the same amount of space. So we’re really pressured for getting the right venue at the
right time....

Most faculty and staff members were educated at residential campuses. And if so, they have this romantic notion that that's the only kind of a campus there should be. The truth of the matter is that 82% of today's students are commuters. The residential campus in a lot of ways is probably somewhat of a dinosaur....Recent research is showing that commuters do want to be involved on campus. And they're very disappointed with their collegiate experiences because they're finding that institutions aren't reaching out to them and offering opportunities for their involvement. We need to educate the campus on the importance of student/faculty/staff involvement.....the greatest indicator of student satisfaction with their college experience seems to be the amount of interaction between faculty and students both inside of the classroom and outside of the classroom.

I'd like to close with a letter I received last Friday....This letter could have been written to any faculty or staff member on this campus. What is says is "Dear Diane: I would like to thank you for allowing me to use you as a reference on my resume. I've just accepted a position at the Township Times as a general news reporter production assistant. My experiences at SVSU were challenging educationally. I definitely learned a lot, not only in the classroom, but also by participating in many extracurricular activities. Thank you very much for providing students with the opportunity to get involved and for becoming a real friend of the SVSU community. Without extracurricular participation I would not be where I am today." I think the letter says it all. This is the importance of campus involvement.

Chairperson Rush thanked Ms. Brimmer for her presentation.

V. REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT

President Gilbertson introduced Dr. Robert Braddock and thanked him for his involvement with soccer at SVSU over the past fifteen years.

VI. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION

There were no other items for consideration.

VII. ADJOURNMENT

6) BM-846  It was moved and supported that the meeting be adjourned.
The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:57 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

Thomas E. Rush
Chairperson

Robert H. Walpole
Secretary

Jo A. Stanley
Recording Secretary
Appendix One: Corser

Apprenticeship for Life

Arnold T. Toynbee has written

"A society enters on the process of civilization as soon as it can afford to maintain a minority, however small, whose time and energy is not wholly taken up on producing food and the other primary necessities of life. This leisured minority is the social milieu in which an unorganized and unself-conscious apprenticeship in the older generation's way of life comes to be supplemented, more and more, by the organized and self-conscious kind of instruction which is what we commonly mean today in our society when we use the word "education." This development, which is one of the accompaniments of civilization, is what makes possible the enrichment of the cultural heritage that the word "civilization" implies."

i.e., apprenticeship for life as he sees it.

If students are apprentices, the faculty are skilled professionals from whom learning is acquired by doing. In this context, faculty includes teachers as well as other university staff and even the members of the Board of Control. Students learn much by how we act, especially how we treat one another, as we arrive at decisions affecting the intellectual and social and physical climate in which we function. That is to say, how managers and leaders conduct the affairs of the university.

According to Fortune Magazine:

The manager administers, the leader innovates.
The manager maintains, the leader develops.
The manager relies on systems, the leader relies on people.
The manager counts on controls, the leader counts on trust.
The manager does things right, the leader does the right thing.

Incidentally, there is never a wrong time to do the right thing.

Our actions send messages received by apprentices and their families and friends.

What message was received by the reports of the gala activities of the 30th Anniversary celebration? Faculty, several who have been here since the day the school was founded, were conspicuous by their absence.

What message was received by the report of the difference of opinion between the President and the faculty of the Biology Department on the location of a footpath through the small woods? Faculty advice and concern were demeaned by written presidential comments suggesting that they mind their own business and threat of recommending revocation of a previous Board of Control Action.

What message was received when neither students nor faculty were given adequate opportunity to consider invocation and benediction at graduation ceremonies?

People in addition to the money givers are important to this university, namely faculty and students. If faculty and students are not considered as part of the university governance, one wonders how our stated mission can be achieved.
As a teacher then, I want to pose some test questions with yes or no answers (because these kinds of questions are easiest to grade – but very difficult to decide) to guide our decisions and subsequent actions.

1. Does it contribute to students' learning?
2. Does it support scholarship?
3. Does it support teaching?
4. Does it support service?
5. Does it fit the Mission of the University?
6. Is it honorable and legal?
7. Will value received be worth all the types of costs expended?
8. Can all sides contribute to "winning"?

Building a university together is a much higher and more challenging calling than beating one another on "turf" issues.

What we do and build is inherently symbolic and is sustained by that center of energy of a university, the search for truths and the passing forward of those truths.

We emanate from this center into the forests of problems and challenges and return to this center for re-creation and sustenance.

Could a loop path through our tiny woods, starting and ending at the campus center, righteously serve as a symbol of strength? What would an apprentice learn for life from such a symbol?

George A. Corser
11/15/93
### Residence Halls

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>BUDGET 92–93</th>
<th>ACTUAL 92–93</th>
<th>BUDGET 93–94</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Design Capacity</td>
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<td>496</td>
<td>496</td>
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<tr>
<td>Adjusted Design Capacity</td>
<td>486 ¹</td>
<td>486 ¹</td>
<td>486 ¹</td>
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<tr>
<td>Occupancy</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
<td>460</td>
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<tr>
<td>Rate – 21 Meal Plan</td>
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<td>3,535</td>
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<tr>
<td>Increase Amount</td>
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<td>135</td>
<td>115</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of Increase</td>
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<td>3.97%</td>
<td>3.25%</td>
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### Apartments

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<tr>
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<th>ACTUAL 92–93</th>
<th>BUDGET 93–94</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Design Capacity</td>
<td>115/7 ²</td>
<td>113/10 ²</td>
<td>115/7 ²</td>
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<td>Occupancy</td>
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<td>185/440 ³</td>
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<td>Rate – 21 Meal Plan</td>
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<td>5/10</td>
<td>5/10</td>
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<tr>
<td>Percent of Increase</td>
<td>2.85%/2.38%</td>
<td>2.85%/2.38%</td>
<td>2.78%/2.33%</td>
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### Revenue:

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<td>Operating Income</td>
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<tr>
<td>H &amp; FS, Apt.</td>
<td>$331,400</td>
<td>$305,318</td>
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<td>Bookstore</td>
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<td>Investment Income</td>
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<td>Investment Income – Sinking Fund</td>
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<td>Debt Service Grant</td>
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<td>Amount Available</td>
<td>596,402</td>
<td>531,733</td>
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<td>Less: Debt Service Required Payment</td>
<td>(286,665)</td>
<td>(286,617)</td>
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<tr>
<td>Contribution to Reserves</td>
<td>$309,537</td>
<td>$245,116</td>
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<td>Debt Service Ratio</td>
<td>2.08%</td>
<td>1.86%</td>
<td>2.13%</td>
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</table>

¹ 8 spaces utilized for staff/2 spaces arranged for handicap.
² Single/family utilization.
³ Individual/family rates per month.

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Office of the Controller & Budget
28-Sep-93
JMH
A:1354 9/3/94 WK3
### SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
**AUXILIARY SERVICES – BONDED FACILITIES BUDGET**
**SUMMARY OF REVENUES AND EXPENDITURES**
**FY 1993 – 94**

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<tr>
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<th>HOUSING</th>
<th>FOOD SERVICE</th>
<th>APARTMENTS</th>
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<td>BUDGET 92-93</td>
<td>ACTUAL 92-93</td>
<td>BUDGET 93-94</td>
<td>ACTUAL 93-94</td>
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<td>Other</td>
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<td>10,185</td>
<td>10,000</td>
<td>185,000</td>
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<td>Laundry</td>
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<td>217,658</td>
<td>210,000</td>
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<td>$698,413</td>
<td>$703,760</td>
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<th><strong>EXPENDITURES</strong></th>
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<td>Operating</td>
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<td>Salaries</td>
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<td>265,903</td>
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<td>Equipment</td>
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<td>Operating &amp; Misc.</td>
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<td><strong>ARA</strong></td>
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<td>84,500</td>
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<td>Cable T.V.</td>
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<td>1,146,793</td>
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Office of the Controller & Budget
28 – Sep - 93
JMH
A:\ASB_9394 WK3
## ATTACHMENT B

**SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY**  
**AUXILIARY SERVICES—BONDED FACILITIES**  
**SUMMARY OF RESERVES**  

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<th>RESERVE DESCRIPTION</th>
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<th>ADDITIONS</th>
<th>DEDUCTIONS</th>
<th>BALANCE 6/30/93</th>
<th>ADDITIONS</th>
<th>DEDUCTIONS</th>
<th>BALANCE 6/30/94</th>
<th>ADDITIONS</th>
<th>DEDUCTIONS</th>
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<td></td>
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<td>$553,849</td>
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<td>SINKING FUND</td>
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<td>$290,725</td>
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<td>0</td>
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<td>REPAIR &amp; REPLACEMENT</td>
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<td>75,000</td>
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<td>$276,031</td>
<td>$600,000</td>
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<td>$1,999,210</td>
<td>$243,116</td>
<td>$446,981</td>
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<td>$1,461,376</td>
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1 Committed to Doan Center Addition & Renovation Project.

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Office of the Controller & Budget  
23–Sept–93  
JMH  
A RESERVES WK3
### General Fund Budget Summary

**Fiscal Year 1993-94**

#### Revenues:
- State Appropriation: $17,004,533 (6/14/93) vs. $17,004,533 (10/93)
- Tuition and Fees: $14,540,000 (6/14/93) vs. $14,480,000 (10/93)
- Miscellaneous: $1,412,000 (6/14/93) vs. $1,513,229 (10/93)

**Total Revenues:**
- Board Approved: $32,956,533 (6/14/93)
- Revised: $32,997,762 (10/93)

#### Expenditure Allocations:
- Compensation: $24,179,000 (6/14/93) vs. $24,227,365 (10/93)
- Supplies, Materials & Services: $8,153,653 (6/14/93) vs. $8,103,517 (10/93)
- Capital Expenditures: $623,880 (6/14/93) vs. $666,880 (10/93)

**Total Expenditures:**
- Board Approved: $32,956,533 (6/14/93)
- Revised: $32,997,762 (10/93)

**Revenues Over/(Under) Expenditures:**
- Board Approved: $0
- Revised: $0

#### Fund Balance
- Balance at Beginning of Year, 7/1/93: $340,196
- Resources Over/Under expenditures, FY 1993-94: $0
- Anticipated Fund Balance at 6/30/94: $340,196
### SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY
#### FISCAL YEAR 1993–94
#### REVENUE ESTIMATES

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>State Appropriation</th>
<th>Tuition &amp; Fees</th>
<th>Indirect Cost Recovery</th>
<th>Investment Income</th>
<th>Departmental Other</th>
<th>SVSU Foundation</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Base Revenue, FY 1993–94</td>
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<td>$14,540,000</td>
<td>$365,000</td>
<td>$120,000</td>
<td>$727,000</td>
<td>$200,000</td>
<td>$32,956,533</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Base Adjustment</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incremental/(Decremental):</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Base adjustment</td>
<td>(60,000)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>93,000</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>8,229</td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>41,229</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Incremental Amount</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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</table>

| Revised Base Revenue, FY 1993–94 | $17,004,533 | $14,480,000 | $365,000 | $120,000 | $820,000 | $208,229 | $32,997,762 |

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>(1) Departmental</th>
<th>$264,000</th>
<th>$18,000</th>
<th>$282,000</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CIESIN</td>
<td>463,000</td>
<td>75,000</td>
<td>538,000</td>
</tr>
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<td></td>
<td>$727,000</td>
<td>$263,000</td>
<td>$820,000</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
## GENERAL FUND BUDGET

**SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY**

**FISCAL YEAR 1993-94**

**EXPENDITURE ALLOCATIONS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Base Budget, Fiscal Year 1993-94</th>
<th>Compensation</th>
<th>S.M &amp; S</th>
<th>Equipment</th>
<th>Library</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>(1) Faculty (7/1/93)</td>
<td>$24,574,000</td>
<td>$8,153,653</td>
<td>$262,500</td>
<td>$361,380</td>
<td>$33,351,533</td>
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<tr>
<td>(2) Admin./Prof. (1/1/94)</td>
<td>36,176</td>
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<td>36,176</td>
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<tr>
<td>(3) Misc. Comp. Adjustments</td>
<td>31,172</td>
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<tr>
<td>(4) Economic Adjustments</td>
<td>5,955</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

**ECONOMIC ADJUSTMENTS:**

| (5) Physical Plant - Employee contract | 31,900 | (74,900) | 43,000 | 0 |
| (6) Divisional Adjustments           | (618)  |         | (618)  |   |
| (7) Financial Aid - Scholarships     | (56,838) | 56,838 | 0      |   |
| (8) CIESIN - Debt Service            | 63,368 |         |       | 63,368 |
| (9) Unallocated contingency          | (100,211) | (100,211) | | |

**Subtotal**

| Total | 48,365 | (50,136) | 43,000 | 0 | 41,229 |

**POSITION SAVINGS**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Revised Operating Budget, Fiscal Year 1993-94</th>
<th>$24,227,365</th>
<th>$8,103,517</th>
<th>$305,500</th>
<th>$361,380</th>
<th>$32,997,762</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(395,000)</td>
<td>(395,000)</td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Office of the Controller & Budget
10/1/93
JGM/RAF
A:PY93-66/PAGE 3, WK 1