



## Anderson Award Winner

The 2013-14 Anderson Award Winner for Excellence in Teaching is Lester Altevogt. Lester is a faculty member in the Math Department. In any given semester you will find him teaching Math 082. He is a faculty member who is passionate about helping his students master mathematics.

Since starting at SVSU, he has engaged in a number of faculty development opportunities. He completed the LEAD program and is currently in the Adjunct Faculty Learning Community for faculty who teach first year students. Please join us in congratulating Lester for a job well done!



## Fall 2014 All University Orientation

Planning for the Fall 2014 Orientation has begun. The Orientation will be held on Tuesday, August 12<sup>th</sup> from 5:00 to 9:00 P.M. As in years past, the evening will begin with a dinner. Deans and Department Chairs will be in attendance. After dinner, faculty will be able to attend three different breakout sessions of their choice. The new adjunct faculty will be automatically enrolled in the Adjunct Faculty Basics 101 session, which will acquaint them with the University's support services and basic information for negotiating SVSU. It is important that every adjunct faculty member attend this important event. You can register for the Orientation by calling us at 989-964-4050 or going to [www.svsu.edu/workshops](http://www.svsu.edu/workshops) and registering. Adjunct faculty are compensated \$50 for attending this valuable event.

### YEAR END BUSINESS

If you used a lockable drawer this year in SE 235 or SE 201, please return your key to our main office in SE 201 before you leave for the spring/summer. We will inventory and clean the drawers over the summer and have them in tip top shape for you to check out another key when we are back in the Fall. Starting May 4<sup>th</sup>, our hours will be M-F 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Thank you.

### Adjunct Faculty Academic Calendar

**April:**  
28 – May 3 Final Exams

**May:**  
7 Grades Due to Registrar by Noon

9 at 7:30 p.m.  
Commencement for:  
Business and Management  
Health and Human Services

10 at 11:00 a.m.  
Commencement for:  
Arts and Behavioral Sciences  
Education  
Science, Engineering and  
Technology

### Workshops

(Register at: [svsu.edu/workshops](http://svsu.edu/workshops))

**July 26, 2014**  
Summer Technology  
Institute

**Morning Session**  
10:00 am – 12:00 pm in  
SE- 206

**Afternoon Sessions**  
1:00 – 2:00 pm in SE-204  
Lunch will be provided

**August 12, 2014**  
Fall Orientation  
5:00 pm  
Banquet Hall

## First 4 Weeks

This fall the Office of Adjunct Faculty Support Programs will be offering a new program called First 4 Weeks. This program asks you, as a faculty member, to consider intentionally employing 4 of 26 different strategies in your classroom(s) during the first 4 weeks of the semester.

These strategies outline what faculty can do to create greater student success in the classroom. A number of faculty at St. Louis Community College have had considerable success in employing these strategies. Those faculty at SLCC who have used these strategies report that their “W” rates have declined and their students’ GPAs have increased.

You will be able to register and become a participant in this program at the Fall Orientation or in our office in Science East 201 after August 12<sup>th</sup>. More to come!

This is important. One of our roles here is to help our students succeed... so we should do everything we can to make that happen!

## Syllabus Construction: Part One Student Learning Outcomes (SLO)

*“I believe that teaching is one of the most delightful and exciting of all human activities when it is done well and that it is one of the most humiliating and tedious when it is done poorly.”* Paul Ramsden

This quote by Ramsden lends to the idea that when preparing to teach a course it is important to plan. The construction of your syllabus is one way to put your course plan to work. The first step in creating a course syllabus is to construct the student learning outcomes (SLO) for your course. SLOs essentially consist of that information that your students need to know when they leave your class after the final exam. These outcomes should include the knowledge, skills, and abilities your students should expect to attain in your course.

SLOs should be written in language that clearly implies a measurable behavior or quality of student work. This means that the outcome should employ [action verbs](#) which allow for measurement. The following is an example of an SLO which is not measurable followed by one that is measurable:

Not measurable:

*Explore the differences and similarities between urban and rural social life.*

Measurable:

*Write a paper which outlines the similarities and differences between urban life and rural life.*

You might ask why measurable? SLOs are intended to define the purpose of your course. They are also intended to guide you in developing appropriate learning experiences for your students and also play a major role in assessment. In an outcomes-focused course, assessments measure the outcomes students have achieved. These assessments may be formative or summative but the results show that you are teaching according to the SLOs and that you students are learning what you want them to learn.

### COMMENCEMENT CHANGES

Because our graduating classes have become so large, the University has decided to split Commencement into two ceremonies:

- Friday, May 9 at 7:30 p.m.
  - Business and Management
  - Health and Human Services
- Saturday, May 10 at 11 a.m.
  - Arts and Behavioral Sciences
  - Education
  - Science, Engineering and Technology

## ! Attention: All Faculty Who Teach Writing Courses !

This semester, the university's First Year Writing Committee decided to re-adopt the handbook *Keys for Writers* as a required text across all sections of first year writing. Included, with the purchase of the book, will be access to the text's online component, MindTap.

The committee will be providing the faculty with several training opportunities concerning the *Keys* and MindTap throughout the school year, beginning with a session on August 12 from 3:00-4:30. Adjunct faculty members are invited to attend and will be compensated.

The training will discuss the text and possible uses for it in a Writing or Communication Intensive classroom. The session will also introduce the online component and the ways it might be included in instruction.

More details will be forthcoming. Contact Jason Kahler ([jjkahler@svsu.edu](mailto:jjkahler@svsu.edu)) with any questions.

## Text a Reference Librarian @ 989.292.3902!

Do you have a question about a library resource or service and don't have time to stop in to visit a reference librarian at the library's Research Center? No worries! Just text the reference librarians and they will respond quickly. The text service is operated by the Reference Services librarians and is integrated with the Chat Service. Mobile library support continues to gain popularity with library users as it has already doubled in use from last year. Text the reference librarians at 989.292.3902 and of course know that normal text rates will apply to each text sent and received. Questions sent via text outside of the normal Research Center support hours (see <http://tinyurl.com/97krnsr>) will receive a response the next business day (usually shortly after 8:00 a.m.).

### July 26: Summer Technology Institute

*Lunch will be served and you can earn \$50 compensation for attending both sessions*

(To register: <https://apps.svsu.edu/workshops>)

#### **Morning Session**

10:00 am – 12:00 pm

VSpace Training for Novices & Experts, Science East 206

#### **Afternoon Sessions**

1:00 – 2:00 pm

Podium Training, Science East 204

-or-

Classroom Technology Magic, Science East, 203

(For more information: 964-4050)