Robert Skloot, a Fulbright professor from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, will visit SVSU during winter semester to discuss the use of dramatic literature as the foundation for exploring the Holocaust experience.

Skloot’s visit is part of SVSU’s Barstow Humanities Seminar series. He will develop workshops and meet with students and regional educators as part of the seminar.

Comprehending, analyzing and interpreting the past as the means to promoting diversity and understanding in the present is a primary directive of the Michigan Department of Education’s Social Studies Standards for K-12 students, according to Marc Gordon, SVSU assistant professor of theatre and moderator of the seminar.

“Incorporating dramatic literature is the foundation to exploring the past opens a window that is entertaining as well as instructive,” Gordon said. “Involving students (high school and college) as well as local educators in a series of workshops designed to transform the written play text into a powerful learning tool widens, clarifies and develops the image, ultimately providing perspective through the window.

“In essence, through theatrical artistry and dramatic literature, the past comes alive.”

Skloot will examine the systematic slaughter of Jews, Poles, Gypsies, the handicapped, homosexuals and others – all victims of the Holocaust – through the theatrical vehicle of dramatic literature.

Skloot’s appearance at SVSU is made possible through the generosity of the Ruth B. Dixon of Midland, the Barstow Foundation of Midland and the William R. Dixon Fund of the Midland Foundation.

The Barstow Excellence in Teaching Humanities Seminar is designed to provide excellence in teaching and recognition of scholarship within the humanities. It includes the naming of an SVSU faculty member as the Barstow Moderator, selected by virtue of excellence in teaching and scholarship in the humanities.

For more information on Skloot’s presentation or the Barstow Excellence in Teaching Humanities Seminar at SVSU, contact Gordon at 249-1959.
Works by BFA candidates on display

SVSU’s semi-annual Bachelor of Fine Arts exhibition will run Monday, Nov. 19 through Dec. 10 in the University Art Gallery. An opening reception for the artists will take place from 3 to 5 p.m., Wednesday, Nov. 28 in the Gallery.

This group show of the works of SVSU senior art majors serves as a completion of their undergraduate program. Painting, drawing, printmaking, photography, sculpture, ceramics, computer illustration and graphic design are included.

Students displaying work include Jody Range, Michelle Hughy, Stephen Skalnican, Zhong Shen and Crista Rowe. Range and Skalnican concentrated their studies in graphic design. Hughy’s interests are in drawing and painting. Photography and graphic design are Shen’s specialty. Rowe’s areas of study are in painting, drawing and graphic design.

The Art Gallery is open Mondays and Wednesdays from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m., Tuesdays and Thursdays from 11 a.m. to 5 p.m. and Fridays from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. For more information, call 790-4391.

August Commencement added

SVSU has established a third commencement ceremony to take place in August (the evening of the last day of summer classes). August 2002 commencement is scheduled for Aug. 16 at 7:30 p.m. This decision allows the University to better accommodate increasingly larger graduating classes and their guests. Students completing all remaining course work in winter semester are eligible only for the May ceremony.

Students completing all remaining course work in the spring/summer semester are eligible only for the August ceremony.

Polish Students Club hosts annual Wigilia

The SVSU Polish Students Club will present Wigilia, a traditional Polish Christmas Eve, at 7 p.m. Friday, Dec. 14 in the Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms. The event focuses on the universal human brotherhood and is open to people of all races and faiths.

Wigilia, comes from the Latin vigilare and is the wait for the birth of Christ. This 1,000-year-old Polish tradition focuses on oplatek, or wafers, which are placed on each table. Oplatek symbolizes universal human brotherhood and are shared in order to emphasize mutual forgiveness and love of all people, regardless of race, gender or status. According to tradition, empty places at the table signify a willingness to welcome any guest; on that night any visitor, invited or not, is considered dear and special.

Before the dinner begins, the head of the household, with the Oplatek in hand, shares the wafer with those gathered while exchanging greetings and best wishes. All others do the same.

Following dinner will be a dance performance by the renowned Detroit-based group Wavel, named after the royal castle in Krakow.

Reservations for Wigilia are due Dec. 1. Tickets are $20 for adults, $10 for children ages 4 to 8; children under 3 years will be admitted free. Tickets are available only through the SVSU Polish Students Club; they will not be available at the door. To obtain tickets, call Karen Dekoski at (989) 892-0868 or Dina Wehner at (989) 793-7903.

FOR INFORMATION, CALL 791-7300

Tickets:
$7 General Admission
$5 Students (K-12 & College)

KICK OFF AT NOON
SATURDAY, NOV. 17
WICKES MEMORIAL STADIUM

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