

INTERIOR

Physics lecturer recognized for technology use in classroom

Laurie Reed, physics lecturer, has been presented the Faculty Award for Innovative Use of Technology in Teaching. The \$1,000 award was presented during a ceremony Thursday, Jan. 29.

Reed was recognized by the TLTR (Teaching and Learning with Technology Roundtable) subcommittee for Faculty/Staff Development and Incentives for creatively implementing a variety of computer and online learning tools in her physics and astronomy courses. The subcommittee was co-chaired by Mark McCartney, associate professor of accounting, and Kevin Wyzkiewicz, ITS support specialist.

Reed, who noted that her recent course load has leaned more toward astronomy, presented five examples of how she uses technology in the classroom. Among them are interactive physics tutorials, computers “on wheels” for transporting to different physics lab courses, Blackboard, a “Starry Night” software program, and lessons on how to evaluate references to astronomy in art and music.

For the physics tutorials, Reed received funding in 1998 from the Michigan Space Grant Consortium and collaborated with Erin Rudnick, who at the time was a physics education student and now is a secondary teacher. The pair developed a series of tutorials that cover a handful of topics to explore physics theories, such as reflection and refraction.

Reed also spearheaded an effort to obtain eight Mac computers on carts so that the stations could be wheeled into different classrooms. Students use the systems for recording and analyzing observational lab data on Excel spreadsheets.

A lab exercise that experimented with students’ EKGs may have saved a life, Reed says.

“Even though I tell the students that the EKG information isn’t designed to be totally accurate, one man noted that his EKG looked significantly different than other students’,” Reed said. “He decided to see his doctor, who found a heart



Laurie Reed demonstrates the “Starry Night” software.

condition that the student hadn’t been aware of.”

Reed utilizes BlackBoard to list links to a number of online sources for research. She also makes use of BlackBoard’s online forums capability to engage students in discussion groups on topics not covered in class.

Imagine looking at a night sky exactly how Galileo would have seen it hundreds of years ago. That’s the advantage of “Starry Night,” a software program that functions as a computerized planetarium.

“To my best estimate, Starry Night can plot the sky for 7,500 years into the past and 7,500 years into the future,” Reed said. “It’s an extremely powerful program, and every semester students who use it think it’s pretty cool.”

Reed makes use of an Apple I-Pod to record 30-second music sound clips that include astronomical references. Among the choices are Frank Sinatra’s “Fly Me to the Moon,” “Crescent Moon” by the Cowboy Junkies, and “Aquarius” by the Fifth Dimension, among others.

“My intent is to provide a mixture of music and art that students can use to evaluate the astronomical meaning,” Reed said. “Ultimately, this is a writing exercise that disperses the students among a range of different topics.”

February 3, 2004

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UP CLOSE AND Personal

Professional Profile

• Faculty members **Drew Hinderer**, **Bill Wollner**, and **Linda Hargett** were featured soloists in Frank Martin's *Concerto for Seven Winds and Percussion*, performed by the Midland Symphony Chamber Orchestra Jan. 29 at First Presbyterian Church. Other works on this program included the *Elgar Introduction and Allegro for Strings*, the *Handel Harp Concerto*, and the *Haydn Symphony 92, the "Oxford."* The concert also was performed Jan. 24 at Trinity Lutheran Church in Midland, and Jan. 27 at Central Michigan University.

• **Tai-Chi Lee**, professor of computer science, attended and chaired the Data Compression Session at the 2004 International Conference on Computer Science, where he presented a paper titled "Co-design for a Fractal Image Compression Decoder." The conference took place Jan. 15 through 18 in Honolulu, Hawaii.

• **Danilo Sirias**, assistant professor of management and marketing, presented a paper titled "Teaching Management Information Systems Using Conflict Resolution Techniques" at the International Conference on Informatics Education Research, which took place in Seattle in December 2003. The paper won the "best paper of the conference" award.

Condolences

The campus community extends condolences to:

• **Arthur Frock**, professor of educational leadership, on the loss of his father-in-law, William Heinrich, who passed away Jan. 7.

• **Mary Graiver**, associate professor of nursing, on the death of her father, Phillip A. Mullin Sr., who passed away Jan. 2.

• The **English Language Program Office** has relocated to 214 Brown Hall. The ELP offers intensive academic English training for international students and nonnative speakers of English from the local community. This marks a new stage in ELP development that allows for English as a Second Language specialists to be in close proximity to their classrooms and language laboratory, as well as increased contact with the program director, Heidi Vellenga. This semester, the ELP employs five full- and part-time ESL specialists to teach nearly 30 ESL students from countries that include China, Japan, South Korea, Mexico, Nicaragua, Niger, Thailand, Saudi Arabia, Slovakia, and Venezuela. New phone extensions for the staff are: Lynda Allen, ext. 4928; Elizabeth Niergarth, ext. 4928; and Jacquie Osborn, ext. 4651.

• Donna L. Roe, a teacher certification student from Port Huron, is the winner of this year's **Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Writing Contest**. Roe's essay was titled "The Summer of 1967." In their writings, students were asked to discuss the remarkable efforts being made today to carry on King's dedication to peace. Roe received \$200 for winning the contest. Her selection was announced at the University's annual Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration, Jan. 15.

• The entry deadline for the winter 2004 edition of **Cardinal Sins** is Friday, Feb. 6. *Cardinal Sins* is produced by the students of Saginaw Valley State University and published on campus. Works by students, faculty, staff and alumni are eligible for submission. Submit entries to Evening Services in 201 Science East. All entries will be considered for the contest unless otherwise requested. Do not put contact information on the entries themselves. Hard copies of these submission guidelines, necessary cover sheets, and additional information on the genre of flash fiction are also available in Evening Services. Please email questions to the editor, Lindsay Bryce, at cardinalsins@charter.net.

• The SVSU Program Board presents "**A Trip To The Palace.**" Watch the Detroit Pistons square off with the Sacramento Kings at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11. Buses will depart from the west side of Curtiss Hall at 5:30 p.m. (Participants must ride the bus – no exceptions.) Game tickets are \$15 each, or two for \$25 (limit two), with transportation included. The seats are in sections 209 and 210. Tickets are available to students, faculty and staff for the same price on a first-come, first-served basis.



Purchase tickets at the SVSU box office, located in Groening Commons. For more information, contact the Student Life Center at ext. 4170.

• The SVSU Department of Music will present "**Music from the Valley,**" the third annual music students recital, at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 18, in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall. The recital will feature more than 20 performances by student vocalists, instrumentalists, and small ensembles. Students are selected to participate in the recital through audition. Selections include music from classical, jazz and popular styles. Clarinet, saxophone and string ensembles will also be performing. The concert is free of charge, and no tickets are required. For further information, contact the SVSU Department of Music at ext. 4159, or music@svsu.edu.

The *Interior* is published biweekly when classes are in session fall and winter semesters and periodically through the summer. University departments sponsoring activities or events listed in the *Interior* will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities when contacted at least three days in advance.

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Interior Publication Schedule

Feb. 17 • Feb. 24 • March 2 • March 16 • March 30 • April 13 • April 27 • May 11

Items should be submitted by noon on the Friday before the publication date to the Office of University Communications, 389 Wickes Hall, (989) 964-4086, or E-mail: tmi@svsu.edu.



Renowned performers stage concerts at SVSU

A pair of concerts offered music enthusiasts an opportunity to experience quality performances by acclaimed musicians at SVSU. Musical traditions of the African-American and Jewish cultures featured Daniel Gale, cantor, Temple Israel, Bay City, and Oral Moses, professor of voice and music literature at Kennesaw State University (Ga.), who combined their talents in “Songs of Struggle/Songs of Faith.” Pianist Catherine McMichael accompanied the duo Jan. 29.



In addition, concert saxophonist Ashu Kejariwal and pianist Winston Choi performed as part of the Rhea Miller Concert Series. The Jan. 31 concert featured a repertoire ranging from original soprano and alto saxophone works by composers including Ibert, Villa-Lobos, and Stockhausen to Kejariwal’s own arrangements.

The Department of Music will present “Music From the Valley,” the third annual music students’ recital. The concert will take place at 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 18 in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall. Admission is free of charge.



The Self-Study Steering Committee is happy to report that with the help of many, many people we have completed the Self-Study Report. An Executive Summary, which summarizes the findings presented in the full document, will get the widest distribution – although the full report is available in electronic format at selfstudy.svsu.edu. Celebrating the arrival of the printed reports are, from left, Robert Yien, Deb Huntley, Diane Boehm, Don Bachand, Mary Hedberg, Sarah Sweeny, Cheri Stokes, Kristen Gregory and Maureen Kozumplik. Another edition of the *Update* newsletter will be distributed in the near future to campus mailboxes.

Fourth Friday Club

4:30 to 6 p.m.

Friday, Feb. 27

President’s Reception Area

Third Floor Wickes Hall

Refreshments served



- **Tutoring positions** are currently available for students. Tutors are needed in a variety of different areas, including history, communications, sciences, and many other courses at the 100 and 200 level. Tutors will receive \$5.90 per hour and gain valuable experience for their résumé. To tutor a class, students must have received a grade of “B” or higher in that class and their overall GPA must be 2.75 or higher. Applications are available in the Academic Advising Office, 117 Wickes Hall. For more information, contact Peter Knutson, tutoring coordinator, at ext. 4070.

- Employees who need assistance, due to physical disability, in **evacuating a building** during a drill activity or an actual crisis should contact Public Safety at ext. 4133.

- The Landee Award Committee is accepting **nominations** for the Franc A. Landee Award for Teaching Excellence. Full-time faculty who have taught at SVSU for two years are eligible. To submit a nomination electronically, go to www.svsu.edu/landee. Nomination forms are available in the Academic Affairs Office and other campus locations. Nominations are due by Friday, Feb. 6.

- Each year, SVSU presents the **Women’s History Month award**, which is given “in recognition of achievement and concern for the welfare of women at SVSU,” and presented at a luncheon given in the recipient’s honor. Previous recipients are: Rose Collamer Bauman (1993); Crystal Lange (1994); Rosalie Riegle (1995); Harriet Tillock (1996); Gloria Hansen (1998); Bethany Rusch (1999); Merlyn Mondol (2000); Merry Jo Brandimore (2001); Jesse Donahue

(2002); and Deborah Huntley (2003). March is the designated time for Women’s History Month activities. Please submit nominations by Friday, Feb. 6 to Norma Zivich, ngzivich@svsu.edu. Include the nominee’s name, your name, and describe the nominee’s achievements and contributions as they relate to the welfare of women at SVSU.

- **Photographs by Carol Jacobsen** will be featured Feb. 9 through 28 in the University Art Gallery. Co-sponsored by Amnesty International, the works in this exhibition document and address conditions in Michigan women’s prisons. The University Art Gallery is located in the Arbury Fine Arts Center. For hours and information, contact David Littell at ext. 4159 or email dlittel@svsu.edu.

- SVSU’s Institute for Learning in Retirement (ILR) is hosting a **book fair** at Barnes and Noble in Saginaw from noon to 5 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 11. A percentage of sales during that time period will be donated to the SVSU-ILR. Help support the ILR by buying a few books that day. You must have a voucher to participate. Call ext. 4475 to request a voucher.

- The Student Life Center and the Black History Month Committee invite all undergraduate and graduate students to participate in the **2004 African-American History Research Poster Competition**. Awards will go to the top three posters (first place: \$350; second place: \$100; third place: \$50). All posters must be received by 4:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 16 in the Student Life Center. No late entries will be accepted.

- A **Study Abroad Fair** will take place from 10 a.m. to 3 p.m., Wednesday, Feb.

18 in Alumni Lounge. Students are welcome to drop by for information on SVSU’s spring, summer and fall study abroad programs. For more information, call ext. 4473.

President Eric Gilbertson will host an Open Forum from 6 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Feb. 19 in the Regional Education Center.

- The General Education Committee will convene a **General Education Forum** Thursday, Feb. 19 in 115 Wickes Hall from 4 to 5:30 p.m. The Faculty Association has reserved this time period for the GEC to conduct this meeting. Students, faculty, and administrators are invited to attend.

- The **Valley Film Society** will screen *Italian for Beginners* Friday, Feb. 6 and *Insomnia* Friday, Feb. 20 at 7:30 p.m., in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall. Admission is by season pass, available at the door.

- **Noted playwright James Still** will be on campus Feb. 25 through 27 as the Barstow Seminar Guest Scholar. Still’s award-winning plays have been produced throughout the United States, Canada, Europe and Australia. He is a two-time recipient of the TCG-Pew Charitable Trusts National Theatre Artist Residency Grant (with the Indiana Repertory Theatre where he is in his fifth season as the IRT’s first-ever playwright in residence). Still will be available to speak to classes during his visit. Contact Janet Rubin at ext. 4019 or e-mail rubin@svsu.edu for more details.

- Faculty are reminded to urge promising students to apply for a **2004-05 Roberts Fellowship**. Applications, which should be sent to the President’s Office, are due Friday, Feb. 27. For additional information, click on the Roberts Fellows link under “Current Students” on the SVSU website, or contact Drew Hinderer at hinderer@svsu.edu or ext. 4497.

State of the University Address with President Eric Gilbertson

Thursday, Feb. 5 • 4 p.m. • Performing Arts Theatre • Reception to follow