More than 400 students complete graduation requirements in December

Some 351 individuals who expect to complete degree requirements have indicated that they intend to don regalia and march in Commencement ceremonies Friday, Dec. 17 at 7:30 p.m. in O’Neill Arena.

In all, 437 students are expected to graduate, including 343 who will receive bachelor’s degrees, 91 who will receive master’s degrees, and three who will receive education specialist degrees.

As is tradition, SVSU President Eric R. Gilbertson will congratulate each graduate as he or she crosses the stage.

Delta College President Peter D. Boyse will deliver the keynote address during the ceremony.

Boyse was named the third president of Delta College in 1993. Prior to that, he was the college’s executive vice president and chief operations officer from 1988 through 1992.

Boyse served in several administrative appointments during a 12-year stay at Linn-Benton Community College in Albany, Ore. He also was director of educational participation in communities and student development officer at California State University in Northridge from 1973 to 1976. For two years, Boyse also worked as a nuclear scientist at Bettis Atomic Power Laboratory in Pittsburgh, Penn.

Boyse serves on a number of national and statewide boards and committees that focus on community colleges. Among them are the American Association of Community Colleges Presidents Academy Executive Board, the American Association of Community Colleges Board of Directors, and the Michigan Community College Association Executive Committee – for which he served as chair from 2000 to 2001. In addition, Boyse is a member of the executive committee for the Michigan Virtual University Board of Directors, and the League for Innovation in the Community College Board of Directors.

Boyse also makes numerous speeches and presentations locally and at national conferences on topics related to higher education leadership and management, distance education, and Delta College specifically.

Boyse is active in a long list of community organizations, including Saginaw Future Inc., Torch Club, Tri-County Economics Club, Rotary International–Midland Morning Club, and the Chambers of Commerce in Bay, Midland and Saginaw counties.

Boyse holds a Ph.D. in postsecondary education with emphasis on community college administration and adult education from Oregon State University. His academic preparation for a career in higher education also includes Master of Science degrees from Oregon State and The University of Michigan. Boyse completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in physics at Albion College.

There is no charge to attend the Commencement program. SVSU will provide accommodations for those with special mobility needs or hearing impairments.

For those unable to attend, there will be live, streaming video of the event available at www.svsu.edu/stream/grad.htm.

Faculty and staff are reminded to place regalia orders now at the Bookstore for Commencement. Faculty and staff also may bestow the alumni scroll to graduating members of their immediate family during the ceremony. Call Norma Zivich at ext. 4075 to make arrangements.
SVSU partners with Saginaw company to create computer security center

SVSU and IP3 are creating the Center for High Performance Computing and Informatics, to be located on the SVSU campus.

This will be a joint venture between SVSU and IP3, a market research and development firm in Saginaw that focuses on information assurance and information security.

IP3 has pledged to provide $1 million in equipment to begin the Center, which will be used to support research in areas of computer security, such as identity theft and data privacy, as well as the emerging field of health informatics, using computers and distributed databases to assist doctors in making informed diagnoses of diseases.

IP3 has committed to provide up to $250,000 in direct financial support for research by SVSU students and faculty.

“This facility will provide our faculty and students with the opportunity to be leaders in the study of issues at the forefront of computing applications in security and medicine,” said Ronald R. Williams, dean of the College of Science, Engineering and Technology.

“These are two of the most important emerging new areas for the future of computer science,” he added.

“This center is one of the few labs of its kind in the nation and certainly will be the only facility of this character in mid-Michigan,” said Ken Kousky, president and CEO of IP3.

“We see this partnership as a critical means to meet the needs of industry through equipping students—whether in nursing, education, business or engineering—with a solid foundation in information assurance, data privacy and computer security,” Kousky said.

The Center for High Performance Computing and Informatics is expected to begin operations in January 2005.

It will be located in the Herbert Dow Doan Science Building on the SVSU campus.

For more information on IP3, visit www.ip3security.com.

SVSU athletes Robert Awrey and Mark Radlinski, above, and football coaches Randy Awrey and John Wesolek with Nicole Charbonneau and Tabitha Greenwood, below, contributed time and effort to the East Side Soup Kitchen in Saginaw to prepare a Thanksgiving feast for more than 300 patrons. After preparations, the Cardinal athletes and coaches distributed Saginaw Valley knit hats that were funded through the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference grant program for community service events. Since 2001, SVSU’s Student-Athlete Advisory Committee has sponsored a number of community-service activities that offer assistance to local organizations.
Professional Profile

• **Eric Gardner**, associate professor of English, gave a paper titled “Classroom Communities: Technology-Assisted Rubric and Portfolio Development” and facilitated an extended discussion of the paper at the 24th Annual Lilly Conference on College Teaching. The session examined how various modes of online communication can aid students in a classroom process of rubric creation and can then help students draft, critique, and revise electronic portfolios. The session built directly from his recent sabbatical work.

• **Barron Hirsch**, professor of art, is showing two color relief prints from the Rome series in the exhibition “Das and More” at the Buckham Gallery in Flint. The exhibit, which opens Friday, Dec. 10 and closes Tuesday, Jan. 4, commemorates the 20th anniversary of the Buckham Gallery, located at 134 West Second Street. The opening coincides with Flint’s Greater Arts Council Gallery Walk.

• **Michael R. Mosher**, assistant professor of art/communication and multimedia, in collaboration with Noriko Uosaki of Shikoku University in Tokushima, has published The Lyrics and Background of 15 Hit Songs (Shohakusha Publications, Tokyo, Japan). The English language textbook is made up of lectures on how songs reflect American youth culture that were delivered by Mosher when he was an SVSU exchange faculty member at Shikoku University in 2002. The book, which includes Mosher’s illustrations, focuses on Michigan-based rock music, and is marketed to English language teachers in Japan. Uosaki provided vocabulary translations and comprehension exercises.

• **Altaf Rahman** and **Mohamed El-Kasabi**, professors of electrical engineering, attended a one-day curriculum development workshop organized by NextEnergy Corp., Friday, Nov. 19, at Lawrence Technological University. Rahman and El-Kasabi participated in group discussions of undergraduate and graduate curricula in alternative energy technologies. A non-profit organization supported by Gov. Granholm, NextEnergy supports research, development, engineering and prototyping of renewable and alternative energy sources with applications in the automotive and utility industries, and the military. The University of Michigan, Wayne State, Kettering and Lawrence Tech universities also are working to develop alternative energy technology curricula.

• **David Schneider**, professor of communication, presented a paper at the 90th annual meeting of the National Communication Association, Nov. 13 in Chicago. The paper was titled “Faculty Perceptions of the Learning Effectiveness of Computer-Mediated Communication.”

• **Matthew Zivich**, professor of art, has a one-man show at the Saginaw Township Office Building during the month of December. Zivich was invited to show his works since he received an award of merit during the township’s earlier competitive annual exhibition. Works are all under glass, such as drawings and watercolors from 1963 to the present.

Also, Zivich was invited for the fourth year to participate in the annual Saginaw Community Enrichment Commission’s “Hollyday Fair” by creating a design for a dinner-sized ceramic plate. This year’s design, titled “Racin’ in Heaven,” is a tribute to the late Dale Earnhardt of NASCAR fame. The commission will sponsor a Dec. 8 auction at the Andersen Enrichment Center in Saginaw, where plates by invited artists will be auctioned for charity.

New Cardinals

• **Donald Earley**, assistant professor of occupational therapy, and his wife, Amy, welcomed a girl, Claire (8 lbs., 3 oz., 18 in.), Oct. 8.

• **Julie Lynch**, assistant professor of psychology, and her husband, Alan, welcomed a son, Samuel (6 lbs., 10 oz., 19 in.), Nov. 14.

Condolences

• To **Mark Miller**, Windows server administrator, on the loss of his mother-in-law, Carol Irwin, who passed away Nov. 29.
Tuesday, Dec. 7
The SVSU Jazz Ensemble welcomes guest performer Mike Hunter on trombone for its 7:30 p.m. concert in the Rhea Miller Recital Hall. Admission is free of charge.

Thursday, Dec. 9
Faculty and staff are invited to a reception honoring Sally Shepardson, this year’s winner of the university-wide Innovative Use of Technology in Teaching Award. The reception will be held in the Emeriti Room from 4 to 5:30 p.m. Shepardson will give a brief demonstration of the technologies she effectively uses in the classroom. Hors d’oeuvres will be served.

Friday, Dec. 10
Five teams of SVSU mechanical engineering students will display their senior projects at a senior design symposium, from 9 a.m. to noon in the first floor of Pioneer Hall.

Friday, Dec. 10
The SVSU Choirs will be joined by the Bay Chorale and Orchestra to perform Handel’s Messiah and other music of the season at 7:30 p.m. at St. Mary’s Cathedral in Saginaw. A repeat performance is scheduled for 4 p.m., Sunday, Dec. 12 at St. Mary’s Church in Bay City. Tickets are $12, available at the SVSU Box Office, ext. 4261, or at the door.

Saturday, Dec. 19
The Women’s Softball Team will present Kid’s Night Out for grades 2-8. Activities such as swimming, basketball, floor hockey, tumbling, arts and crafts, games and racquetball are supervised by the Cardinal softball players in Ryder Center from 6 p.m. to 9:45 p.m. Admission at the door is $6 for all ages. Pizza, pop and candy will be available for purchase inside the arena.

Tuesday and Wednesday, Dec. 21 and 22
A consultant from TIAA-CREF will be available for one-on-one counseling sessions in 116 Curtiss Hall. For more information, call (800) 842-2044 or ext. 7100.

Saturday, Feb. 5
The SVSU Regional Mathematics and Science Center will host its annual Science and Mathematics Extravaganza for Kids Day, for grades 2-4 and 5-8, from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. Cost is $45 for several hands-on sessions and lunch in Curtiss Hall. For more information, see www.svsu.edu/mathsci-center, or call ext. 4114.

For more details on events taking place at Saginaw Valley State University, visit campusnews.svsu.edu

SVSU Foundation sponsors “Once-A-Year” Campaign

SVSU faculty and staff have a choice of giving opportunities that will fund programs for students, or leave a legacy of support for the University.

Included in the options are endowments that enable SVSU to be on the cutting-edge for the future with significant benefits for students.

Cardinal Club raises funds to support scholarships for student athletes.

The commemorative brick walkway in front of the Student Center was a sell out. However, still available are three sizes of inscribed bricks that will be placed in prominent areas on campus.

Several giving opportunities are available in the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, including for annual operations, the Museum Conservation Endowment, and the Rosalind C. Fredericks Educational Trust.

A variety of endowed awards and scholarships (e.g., Landee Award, Faculty Assn. Chrysallis Scholarship, etc.) benefit from support of faculty and staff.

In addition, individuals can opt to establish a “named” scholarship on an annual basis beginning at $500.

SVSU has until Jan. 4, 2005 to qualify for a challenge grant from the Kresge Foundation. Earnings from this unrestricted endowment will be used to augment academic programs.

For information on how to give, tax considerations, or gift clubs, contact the SVSU Foundation at ext. 4052.

Nominations are now being accepted for the new Innovative Writing in Teaching Faculty Award, supported by the vice president for academic affairs and coordinated by the University Writing Committee. The nomination deadline is Thursday, Feb. 17; details are posted to www.svsu.edu/writingprogram. Nominations should be submitted to Gary Lange, UWC Chair, SW 157, gmlange@svsu.edu. The award will be presented at the annual Writing Awards reception, Tuesday, April 12, in the Emeriti Room.

Dr. Ella L. J. Edmondson Bell

Associate Professor of Business Administration
Amos Tuck School of Business Administration, Dartmouth College, Hanover, New Hampshire

Dinner and Keynote Address
Thursday, January 20, 2005
6 - 8 p.m.
Cardinal Gym, Ryder Center West
Saginaw Valley State University

Sponsored By:
- The College of Business & Management
- The Office of Diversity Programs
Janna Kern’s life revolves around music. It is music to her ears to hear a student express gratitude after receiving assistance choosing courses, and she enjoys making music herself on the piano.

“That’s a passion of mine, getting involved in anything with music,” Kern said. “Music is my first love.”

When not reading sheet music, Kern helps students know the score to graduate.

“We usually go through a graduation audit where we see what classes they need,” she said.

That process can often be time-consuming, despite students’ preconceptions.

“Many students come in and say, ‘I just have a quick question.’ It’s become a running joke around our office,” Kern said.

“I just need to know what classes to take,” and “Nobody told me” are also familiar refrains, according to Kern.

When students are disgruntled, Kern says the key is understanding the source of their frustration and getting them on the right path.

“It takes more time to point fingers and play the blame game than it does to solve the problem,” she said.

Kern often shares her personal experiences, too.

“Not that long ago, I was a student here,” she said.

“There are some tips and tricks I can pass on. I like to think I have some wisdom to offer students.”

Kern appreciates the cooperation she receives from her colleagues in academic advising and minority student services.

“I like everybody I work with. We’re a good team,” she said.

After graduating from SVSU, Kern spent five years in the engineering industry, working as a head hunter, but she was disenchanted with the constant stress and lack of ethics.

“I prefer higher education where the goal is seeing students do well,” she said.

Kern gets to know many students personally through the Foundation Scholars program.

“It was originally designed to encourage students to study abroad, but what it’s become is a living learning community,” she said. “It has created some really strong connections to the University.”

Now in its fourth year, the program currently includes around 270 students and will see its first graduates in May.

Social events are also part of the program. The group recently attended the SVSU Theatre Department’s performance of “Dark of the Moon.”

Kern is no stranger to the stage, having provided musical accompaniment to plays, but how she appeared there is a bit of a strange tale.

When Ric Roberts, now a professor, was a student, Kern was his advisor. When she mentioned that she played piano, his eyes lit up and he asked her to play for the musical “Scrooge.”

“It was the most incredible experience of my life,” Kern said.

She has continued to tickle the ivories ever since, though “the butterflies never go away completely.”

In her spare time, Kern visits her nieces, nephews and other relatives around the area. She also gives private piano lessons to students ranging in age from 8 to 45.

Kern is always happy to return to campus.

“Where else could I work where there are three Steinways to play?”