

Dean, vice president appointments announced in president's address

Student Services & Enrollment Management split into separate divisions

As Eric Gilbertson remarked in his annual State of the University Address, Jan. 28 in the Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts, "There are, or will soon be, a number of important administrative changes" at the university.

The series of appointments, Gilbertson noted, reflects an effort to "grow our own" leaders, with nearly every vacancy or new position filled internally.

With the retirement of Robert Maurovich, units that are part of student services and enrollment management have been reorganized into two divisions. Jim Dwyer has been promoted to vice president for enrollment management, and will be responsible for admissions, financial aid, academic advising, career planning and placement, Web communications and international programs. Cliff Dorne will move from his post in academic affairs to his new role as associate vice president for enrollment management.

The new student services division will be headed by Merry Jo Brandimore, whose dean of student affairs title will now include vice president for student services. She will oversee student life, residential life, health and counseling services, minority student services, recreation programs and disability services.

The registrar's office, headed by Chris Looney, now will report to vice president for academic affairs Don Bachand, who also will assume the new title of provost. In addition, Jim Muladore becomes executive vice president for administration and business affairs.



Donald Bachand



Andrew Bethune



Janalou Blecke



MJ Brandimore



Mark Clevey



Clifford Dorne



James Dwyer



Nosa Egiebor



Deborah Huntley



Chris Looney



Dottie Millar



James Muladore



Marc Peretz



Mark Potts



George Puia



Carlos Ramet



Jill Wetmore

To promote and better coordinate the university's work with and support for various external constituencies, Gilbertson formed a "Public Affairs Council" that will be co-administered by Andy Bethune, executive director of the SVSU Foundation, and Carlos Ramet, who in addition to holding the title of executive assistant to the president also now will be executive director of public affairs.

Gilbertson said the growing complexity of academic units requires implementing a "team" approach to meet the multiple responsibilities of deanships.

In the College of Science, Engineering & Technology, a new associate dean will work

with dean Deb Huntley. Nosa Egiebor will join SVSU in June; a chemical engineer with a Ph.D. from Queens University, Ontario, Egiebor comes to SVSU from Tuskegee University.

Jill Wetmore is the new dean of the College of Business & Management. She will be assisted by Dow Chemical Company Centennial Chair in Global Business George Puia, who assumes the additional title of associate dean. Mark Clevey and Mark Potts also will take on expanded responsibilities in the areas of external relations and student services, respectively.

Dean searches are under way in Health & Human Services and in Education. After 34

years at SVSU—including seven years as dean—Jan Blecke recently announced her plans to retire in June. In the College of Education, Bachand will serve as acting dean, and will rely on assistance from Marc Peretz, associate vice president for academic affairs, and Dottie Millar, who will continue as acting assistant dean, with primary responsibility for the NCATE accreditation process.

"All of these administrative moves are intended to put the right people in the right places to best use their talents and abilities," Gilbertson said in his address, which is available in its entirety online at svsu.edu/president/SOU-2010/.

T W E N T Y - F I R S T A N N U A L
ALL UNIVERSITY AWARDS BANQUET
 MARK YOUR CALENDAR: FRIDAY, APRIL 16

Tina Holtz

Clinical Coordinator • Department of Nursing

No one needs to tell Tina Holtz that health careers are hot, making nursing an increasingly popular field of study. She sees it every day. As clinical coordinator, she is responsible for arranging students' field placements.

"It's taking what they're being taught in the classroom and being able to take that out to the clinical site to have that hands-on experience," she said.

While in high demand, Holtz says nursing is a profession where the demands are high.

"It's a hard job. It's a caring job. You have to have a passion for it."

The same applies to Holtz in her role, as she places students with local hospitals, extended care facilities and home care sites. Most stay in the region, but some go farther afield, such as the 32 students gaining pediatric nursing experience in Detroit at Children's Hospital of Michigan. Holtz stays in contact with all of them.

"You have to be very organized. You have to be able to communicate well with a lot of different people." Including some 50 working nurses typically teaching eight SVSU students at a time.

"We have great clinical faculty," Holtz said. "We're very lucky to have them working with us, because they have the experience to show students what they need to know."

"The clinical faculty we have want to teach. It's something they want to do. It's not just a job for them; they enjoy helping students."

When it comes to finding clinical faculty, Holtz is convinced there is no substitute for old-fashioned leg work.

"It's really just networking. I ask our agencies if they have any nurses interested in teaching."

It was the same approach Holtz used upon assuming her role in 2006.

"When I came into this, it was brand new. The agencies didn't know me and I didn't know them."

Many of the health care providers work with multiple schools, and Holtz reports receiving "very positive" feedback on SVSU students' performance.

"The agencies speak very highly of our students and how prepared they are. We're also very conscious of hearing from agencies what they want from our students when they graduate. It's a continuous improvement process."

If Holtz hears of a student who is struggling, she will travel to work with them one on one.

"It's the best of both worlds. I get to meet and work with people outside of SVSU. I get to meet and work with different schools, and I'm still able to work with students directly. I love it."



Sahar Al-Masri

International Student Advisor • January 2010

When Sahar Al-Masri began working at SVSU in 2006, a headline in *The Chronicle of Higher Education* read “America’s Hot New Export: Higher Education.” In today’s global marketplace, education and cultural understanding are highly valued commodities; that’s why Saudi Arabia is sending 5,000 students a year to study abroad.

“It’s to enhance the ability of both cultures to understand one another,” Al-Masri said. “It’s also to clear cultural stereotypes, especially after September 11.”

Some 150 Saudi students attend SVSU, where the language, the culture, the climate and the coeducational setting are utterly foreign, but they know Al-Masri is there to assist their acclimation.

“It’s not an easy thing to handle. I’m available to them 24 hours a day,” she said. “It’s my mission in life – within my capacity as a human being – to help others reach their goals.”

That includes translating official documents, finding doctors that speak Arabic, and a host of other necessary tasks to complement what takes place in the classroom. That extra effort is a large reason why SVSU received a special invitation from King Abdullah to a January international education exposition, which Al-Masri attended in Riyadh.

“It’s my wish for Saginaw Valley to be recognized globally.”

That recognition is built one student, one interaction at a time; that’s where Al-Masri finds satisfaction.

“It’s so fulfilling when I go home and feel that I helped one, two, three or more students, and they are satisfied and happy.”

Those daily joys are why Al-Masri has mixed feelings about her plans to leave June 30 and join her family in Indiana. Already working with her replacement, she will carry “Red Pride” with her.

“Saginaw Valley not only provided the opportunity for me to put my expertise to good use in the service of international students, but also opened great opportunities for our family.”

Including her son, Abudllah Wafa, who graduated last year from SVSU.

“It was an indescribable precious moment,” she said.

Already accepted to medical school, Abdullah is currently a Fulbright scholar in Jordan.

“It’s because of the quality of education he received here.”

Al-Masri celebrates the day when international students return home with degree in hand.

“It’s so fulfilling when I can make a difference in their lives. It’s more fulfilling when I see them graduate. It feels so good to see them shaking the president’s hand. Now you can see the fruit.”

As for her role, Al-Masri remains humble.

“What I do is a normal part of the way things are done at Saginaw Valley.”



Professional Profile

- **Alan D. Freed**, Clifford H. Spicer Chair in Engineering, released version 1.2 of his software package BEL (Biological Engineering Laboratory), written in the Zonnon programming language (most recent descendant in the Pascal family of languages). It is available online from zonnon.ethz.ch.
- **Eric Gardner**, professor of English, gave a paper titled “Rhetorics of Discovery, Nineteenth-Century African American Literature, and the Archive” at the Modern Language Association’s Annual Convention in Philadelphia in December.
- **Eric Gilbertson**, president, has an essay in a volume titled “The First Days,” published by the Administrator’s Bookshelf, (Marilyn Newell, Ed.); also, Gilbertson and Dan Hurley of the American Association of State Colleges and Universities co-authored a chapter in a three-volume set titled *The Business of Higher Education*. The title of the chapter is “College Costs and Cost Containment in American Higher Education.” The publisher of the set is Praeger Perspectives (California, Colorado, Great Britain).
- **David E. Schneider**, professor of communication, and Melissa Walter-Reed, director of Sylvan Learning Center in Bellevue, Wash., published an article titled “Readability and Basic Course Hybrid Textbooks in Human Communication: A Disparity of Reading Difficulty” in the November 2009 issue of *Communication Research Reports*.
- **Marcia Shannon**, assistant professor of nursing, presented “Building Blocks to a Multidisciplinary Behavioral Health Disaster Plan” at the First International conference of the World Society of Disaster Nursing, held in Kobe, Japan, Jan. 8-10. This presentation was jointly prepared with Debra Miller LMSW, QMHP, of Community Mental Health of Mid Michigan. Eighteen countries were represented at this conference on the 15th anniversary of the great Kobe earthquake.
- **Robert Tuttle**, associate professor of mechanical engineering, has three papers accepted for publication and presentation at the 2010 Cast Expo, the premier North American metalcasting exposition, in Orlando, Fla. The papers are titled: “Effect of Cooling Rate on the Mechanical Properties of Fully Pearlitic Ductile Iron,” “Macroinclusion Sources within the Steel Casting Process,” and “Grain Refinement in Plain Carbon Steels.” These papers cover research conducted from funding by the American Foundry Society, SVSU Foundation UNIT committee, and the Office of Naval Research. Additionally, a paper titled “Preliminary Experiment on Grain Refining Cast Steels,” which was published at last year’s CastingCongress, has been highlighted by *Modern Casting* as an online-only article in January.

New Cardinals

- **Yanmei Xu**, associate professor of sociology, welcomed the birth of a son, Henry Yang Qin, Jan. 14.

Condolences

- To **Paul Ballard**, associate professor of kinesiology, on the loss of his mother, Patricia Lynn Beck Ballard McEwan, who passed away Jan. 16.
- To **Marian Shih**, professor of physics, on the loss of her father, Shein-Keng Shih, who passed away Dec. 22.
- To **William Vautaw**, assistant professor of mathematics, on the loss of his mother, Marguerite Vautaw, who passed away Jan. 11.

Transitions

For new faculty/staff office numbers, phone extensions, e-mail addresses and other information, go to svsu.edu/lookup.

New to SVSU

- Rod Cowan – Head Men’s & Women’s Cross Country/Track & Field Coach
- Jeremy Glaser – Assistant Athletic Trainer
- Danielle Lavigne – Assistant Laboratory Technician
- Lori Reyna – Instructor of Biology
- James Rollins – Instructor of Sociology
- Amanda Ross – Instructor of Biology
- Kevin Simons – Instructor of Music
- Joshua Spinney – Assistant Director Admissions
- Kellie Swiercz – Administrative Secretary, UCEC
- Cale Wassermann – Head Men’s Soccer Coach
- John West – Instructor of Physics

Promoted/Transferred/Title Change

- Marc Peretz – Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs
- Mark Potts – Assistant Dean of Graduate and Undergraduate Programs
- Joseph Rousseau – Director of School and University Partnerships

Left/Leaving

Andrea Witkowski, Jenny Belsky, Andy Rishmawi, Ronald Schneider

Grants announced

- **Jo Brownlie**, director of the Osher Lifelong Learning Institute, received \$500 from the Michigan Humanities Council to help bring Benjamin Ajak and Alephonsion Deng to campus to present “Lost Boys of Sudan.”
- **Mamie Thorns**, special assistant to the president for diversity programs, received \$35,746 and \$11,213 from the King-Chavez-Parks Initiative for SVSU’s Future Faculty Fellowship Program and Visiting Professors Program.
- **Marilyn Wheaton**, director of the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, received \$6,000 from the National Endowment for the Humanities to support a conservation assessment of select drawings at the Marshall Fredericks Sculpture Museum.
- **Gary Clark**, professor of marketing, received a total of \$9,880 in contracts from four organizations for marketing services to be provided by SVSU business students.
- **David McCloy**, assistant director of the Math Science Center, received \$57,864 from the Michigan Department of Education for the 2009-10 Mathematics and Science Center program.

The Interior is published on the last Tuesday of each month for faculty and staff at SVSU. 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.

Tim Inman

Director of Creative Services
tmi@svsu.edu • (989) 964-4086

J.J. Boehm

Director of Media Relations
jjboehm@svsu.edu • (989) 964-4055

Submission Deadline:

Noon on Wednesday before the publication date.

Please send items by e-mail to: tmi@svsu.edu.