SVSU dedicates new home for Health & Human Services

SVSU held a dedication ceremony for the new Health & Human Services Building Monday, Aug. 16 at 10 a.m.

The facility has nearly 90,000 square feet of floor space consisting of a dozen classrooms along with 13 laboratories for use by the more than 2,000 students who have declared majors in disciplines such as athletic training, exercise science, nursing, occupational therapy and social work.

“As a physician, every day I see the importance of highly-trained health care professionals,” said K.P. Karunakaran, M.D., chair of the Board of Control. “This new facility will provide students with the highest quality education and preparation. We are grateful to our regional legislators for their support of this most important project.”

The State of Michigan provided 75 percent of the funding ($21 million) for the building; SVSU is supplying the remaining amount ($7 million).

Health care and health care education have gone high-tech — the labs feature equipment that is state of the art. Two professors who also are SVSU alumni say that is essential in the health professions where graduates are expected to be proficient in the latest techniques.

“Our field evolves incredibly quickly and the equipment and technology advance at a rapid rate,” said Josh Ode, assistant professor of kinesiology. “This facility will provide our students with a tremendous opportunity to gain an advantage when they go into the field.”

Ava Lewis, professor of nursing, noted the building’s nursing labs include mannequins outfitted with the latest computer technology to exhibit a variety of symptoms. “That will improve our ability to use simulation as a learning tool, which makes our students better prepared when they go into the community to care for others,” she said. “For faculty and students, having the different health disciplines in the same building allows us to collaborate and take a truly holistic approach to health care.”

In addition to its educational features, the building has been constructed to achieve a silver rating for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. Its aqua-thermal heating and cooling system is the largest in Michigan and expected to result in energy savings of around $85,000 per year. Some 22 miles of coiled piping has been submerged in a nearby retention pond that has been filled with 10,000 gallons of an environmentally safe propylene glycol product.

Where are they now?

Now that HHS has moved into its new facility, turn to Page 3 for a listing of offices that also have relocated during the summer.

An audience of special guests, faculty and staff attended the Aug. 16 dedication ceremony that took place under a tent near the main entrance to the Health & Human Services Building. After Board of Control Chair K.P. Karunakaran cut the ceremonial ribbon, guests headed inside where SVSU students gave tours and demonstrations of lab equipment.

All SVSU faculty and staff and their families are invited to the annual Back to School Picnic

Thursday, Aug. 26 • 5 to 7 p.m.
Owsley Grove
(Northwest of the Arbury Fine Arts Center)

The festivities follow the introduction of new faculty and staff, along with remarks by President Eric Gilbertson, at 4 p.m. in the Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts.
Some 400 part-time instructors will step into classrooms as another semester begins this fall. The number is similar to recent years, but the manner in which they accepted their assignments is entirely different, as they used a new online system three years in the making.

The Information Technology Services team of Debbie Fegan, Nanette Fein and Pat Samolewski labored over the project in collaboration with the offices of Academic Affairs, Adjunct Faculty Support, Human Resources and Payroll.

“It was a pleasure working with everyone,” Fein said. “The teamwork that went into this project was amazing.”

While no one anticipated such a lengthy time line at the outset, Fegan says the process “actually went fairly well. It allowed everyone to get together and discuss the ways things currently work and the way they’d prefer to see things work.”

SVSU staff looked at existing products, but realized they required something more customized.

“We thought we could do even more streamlining and do more electronically,” Samolewski explained. “It continued to evolve as we got into it. We determined there were things we needed to do differently to come up with the best solution for the university.”

Previously, the deans’ offices prepared paper contracts. Now they initiate an online form that the adjunct faculty member accepts and everything falls into place behind the scenes.

Fein had experience with a similar project, putting the course sections online for the department chairs.

“That helped a lot,” she said. “Learning the flow of Cardinal Direct, the security issues, working with a conglomerate of people ... it’s a little easier every time you do it.”

For Fegan, it was especially useful to get direct feedback from those who use the system during testing last winter.

“They helped us see what we missed,” she explained. “It really helps when the persons who are going to be using the system sit down and give us their thoughts, because we can envision what people might want, but we’re not the ones doing their jobs.”

The transition also cements another step toward paperless processes.

“That’s what we’re hoping for,” Samolewski said.

Throughout the system’s development, the meetings were many and the test versions too numerous to recall, but in the end, the technology trio delivered a program with pride.

“It’s very satisfying,” Fegan said, “especially knowing how many departments will benefit. That is the thing that has been so exciting. Knowing that we’re helping people is what makes it all worthwhile.”
SVSU students receive funds to protect potatoes, start green news network

Some of the most creative and scholarly students at SVSU will receive financial support for their projects through the Student Research and Creativity Institute. Six separate initiatives received awards, including a study of how to protect potatoes without pesticides, building a news network to highlight environmental activity, and studying cultural differences among the English and French populations in Quebec.

Any SVSU student may submit a proposal to receive financial support for research or other creative endeavors. Each student project is eligible to receive up to $10,000. All student submissions must be sponsored by an SVSU faculty or staff member. Students serve as the primary researcher, author or creative agent for each project but are guided by SVSU faculty and staff. The following students were selected to receive funding for their projects:

- Bethany Benson, a French major from Essexville, received $8,782 to fund travel and other expenses related to a research project investigating the cultural differences between Canadians of French and English heritage in Quebec City. Her findings may provide insight into how minority language groups can best integrate in a multicultural society. Benson’s plans include a 45-day trip to Quebec in July and August that included language immersion, archival research and interviews with city officials regarding the recent celebration of Quebec’s 400th anniversary.
- Maegan Byer, a communication/multimedia graduate student from Bay City, was awarded $1,313 to study the rise in popularity of the audio cassette culture in the 1980s. During that time period, some consumers would record songs from the radio, leading to charges of piracy, long before file-sharing controversies arose in the 21st century. Creating “mix tapes” of a form of personal expression, especially to significant others, also flourished during the 1980s. Byer plans to travel to research libraries in the Midwest to examine these phenomena and their effect on popular culture.
- Sisters Julie and Lisa Luce, who are both professional and technical writing majors from Bay City, received $2,522 to develop a “Green News Network” to report on environmental news at SVSU. The funds would be used to purchase video equipment and build a Web site to capture and disseminate appropriate news material in video, print and online formats.
- Timothy Pionk, a biology and psychology major from Bad Axe, received $1,006 for his study of procrastination in college students. He intends to build on previous research to identify the factors that influence procrastination, which could improve the design of future programs designed to reduce the behavior.
- Kristina Stilson, a pre-secondary education major from Morley, was awarded $3,000 for her research into natural methods of protecting potatoes from insects. She will study whether compounds from the Jerusalem artichoke will deter Colorado potato beetles from attacking potato crops and could serve as a substitute for toxic pesticides.
- Jordan Vincent, a communication and marketing major from Manistee, received $1,276 to study how video game companies’ presentations at major industry events influence customer behavior, especially among “core” video game players who comprise a large market segment. He used those funds to travel to the Electronic Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles June 15-17 to survey attendees.

Familiar Faces in New Places

Several campus offices have relocated this summer to more effectively serve students. Below is a list of those offices and the new locations.

- Career Services, Wickes Hall 270
- Disability Services/Peer Health Education/Student Counseling, Curtiss Hall 112
- Geography Department, Wickes Hall, Second floor
- Graduate Admissions, Wickes Hall 160
- Institutional Research, Wickes Hall 160
- International Programs/English Language Program, Wickes Hall 250
- Math and Physics Resource Center, Brown Hall 214
- Multicultural Services (formerly Minority Student Services), Curtiss Hall 111
- Study Abroad, Wickes Hall 280
- University Ombudsman, Wickes Hall 160

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

New
• Ellen Adams, Instructor of History
• Mohammad Alam, Assistant Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering
• Wissem Bennani, International Student Advisor
• David Berry, Associate Professor of Kinesiology
• Stephanie Brouet, Assistant Professor of English
• Kay Castillo, Assistant Professor of Medical Laboratory Science
• Kim Davis, Assistant Professor of English
• Andrea Frederick, Assistant Professor of Nursing
• Kylie Goggins, Assistant Professor of Economics
• Tom Hare, Grounds
• Ling He, Associate Professor of Accounting
• Sara Hinderer, Assistant Professor of Nursing
• Joyce Hoffman, Associate Professor of Management
• Anne Marie Horcher, Web Designer
• Jason Kahler, Instructor of English
• Aaron Kostko, Instructor of Philosophy
• David Lewis, School Improvement Specialist
• Ryan Martz, Instructor of Criminal Justice
• Bradley Mason, Accountant
• Shannon McMorrow, Assistant Professor of Health Science
• David Nichols, Instructor of Philosophy
• Kristopher Nitz, Instructor of Biology
• Therese-Marie Oeming, Instructor of English
• John Parham, Assistant Professor of Criminal Justice
• Janet Puhalla, Instructor of Geography
• Michelle Randall, Lecturer of Art
• Arra Ross, Assistant Professor of English
• Jeffrey Smith, E. Malcolm and Lois Field Endowed Chair in Health Science
• Rebecca Toth, Instructor of Nursing
• Gardner Umbarger, Associate Professor of Teacher Education-Special Education
• LaDonna Young, Human Resource Specialist

Promoted/Transferred/Title Change
• Hasan Al-Halees, Professor of Math
• Paul Ballard, Interim Assistant Dean, Health & Human Services
• Irene Bauer, Administrative Secretary
• Janalou Blecke, Professor of Health & Human Services
• Elson Boles, Professor of Sociology
• Emmie Busch, Coordinator of Scholarships & Foundation Communications
• Clifford Dorne, Associate Vice President, Enrollment Management
• Susie Emond, Interim Dean, College of Education
• Drew Hinderer, Finkbeiner Endowed Chair of Ethics
• Amy Hlavacek, Associate Professor of Math
• David Jerome, Inventory Management Specialist
• David Karpovich, H.H. Dow Endowed Chair of Chemistry
• Emily Kelley, Assistant Professor of Art
• Melissa Lewis, Assistant Professor of Communications
• Sharon Livernois, Grant Coordinator, Nursing Workforce Diversity
• John Lowry, Clinical Coordinator
• Catherine Macomber, Social Work Fieldwork Assistant
• Robert Maurovich, Executive in Residence
• Travis Mercier, Support Center Technology Specialist
• Michael Mosher, Professor of Art/Communication & Multimedia
• Timothy Rex, Administrative Secretary
• Stephanie Sieggreen, Interim Director of International Programs
• Teresa Stackhouse, Registration Assistant
• Anne Tapp, Professor of Education Technology and Development
• Melissa Teed, Professor of History
• Robert Tutslock, Director of Environmental Health and Safety
• Carolyn Wierda, Interim Associate Dean/Executive in Residence

Left/Leaving/Retiring
Sahar Al-Masri, Nicole Arbary, Stephen Babus, Diane Bassett, Sourav Batabyal, Francis Dane, Brian Ducolon, Gamal Elashhab, Ruth Garske, Hillery Glasby, Maya Heneveld, Rebecca Horn, Ashleigh Hubbard, Karima Kchirid, David Lutenski, Anita Marcott, Lisa Midcalf, Eric Moeller, Kristina Parker, Martha Pichla, Kathy Putman, Jacques Randolet, Walter Rathkamp, Donald Ricker, Jessica Rivett, James Rollin, Patricia Salemi, Amy Shurlow, Melissa Seitz, Matthew Slack, Batabyal Sourav, Sara Tank, John West

Briefly Speaking
• SVSU faculty and staff are eligible for 2010-11 All Sports Passes, which allow the holder into all home, regular season football and basketball games. Contact Shelly Reminder in the Ryder Center at ext. 7306.
• Faculty/staff reserved parking permits for 2010-11 (lots F, G-1 South, H South, J-4, and L) are now being issued by Parking Services, valid through Sept. 15, 2011. Current permits will expire Wednesday, Sept. 15. Permits may be purchased via mail by completing a downloadable permit application at svsu.edu/universitypolice, or in person at University Police (open 24 hours a day, seven days a week), or the Cashier’s office, Monday through Friday, 9 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.

The Cardinal Kids Club is a terrific way for young Cardinal fans (ages 12 and under) to become involved in SVSU athletics and activities. By joining the club, kids will receive really cool, one-of-a-kind Cardinal collectibles and awesome benefits.

They’ll also have fun, get exercise, meet new friends and have the opportunity to interact with Cardinal athletes. Registration is available now; membership benefits include: VIP membership card, Kids Club T-shirt, a birthday greeting from the Cardinal mascot, fast track registration and VIP photo at Community Youth Days, and much more!

athletics.svsu.edu/kidsclub
“It’s a pretty miraculous thing.” Mark Engelhart was talking about the series of events that brought him to work at SVSU. He just as easily could have made the remark in reference to what happened in Wickes Hall one Sunday evening during a rainstorm.

“The custodians (Bill Hackler and Dan Rhodus) looked up and saw water leaking,” Engelhart recalled. “The next thing you know, we had a downpour. It was like the heavens opened up. I went to investigate and found there was a hole in the roof that hadn’t been covered completely.”

Outside contractors had been working on the building’s HVAC system and had removed two sump pumps, thinking they weren’t needed. SVSU plumber Scott Schafer quickly found two pumps to replace them. Meanwhile, Engelhart returned to the third floor where water “was pouring in.”

“I was unplugging computers and moving stuff out of the way to save as much as we could.”

After the rain stopped, Engelhart was “mortified” at the damage done to offices in Information Technology Services and University Communications, but he knows it could have been much worse. Had water seeped to the second floor, several computer servers could have been destroyed.

“Our containment efforts saved a lot of equipment,” he said. “We extracted thousands of gallons of water. Every person on our team of second shift and weekends played a significant role making sure that job got done. We have great people out here.”

Engelhart never expected to be one of them. He had worked in maintenance at a pair of colleges in Chicago in the 1990s, but he left to go into business as a manufacturer’s representative, which ultimately brought him to Gaylord. His daughter, Stacy, decided to come to SVSU in 2005 to play volleyball and study nursing. As the economy went south, Mark was facing a job transfer to Ohio when he saw the job posting and applied for his current position. Now his sons, Jon and Jordan, are enrolled and living on campus.

“They’re all really excelling out here,” the proud parent said.

Engelhart knows many people would not want his schedule of nights and weekends, but he is grateful for the opportunity it has allowed him to spend time with his children.

“I sit down at RFoC and eat dinners with them. I get to see my family whether I’m here or at home.”

As an employee and parent, Engelhart says, “This place has been really good to me.”

And vice versa.
Professional Profile

• Geoffrey V. Carter, assistant professor of rhetoric and professional writing, presented papers at the Computers and Writing Conference at Purdue University (“The Mask of Zotero 2.0: All About BiblioBouts, the Citation Game”) and the Rhetoric Society of America Conference in Minneapolis (“The Sounds of Windows 95/Vista: Softing Our Aural Wares”).

• George Eastland, faculty athletics representative and professor of chemistry, has been named the 2010 recipient of the Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference’s Tom Donahue Service Award. Eastland, who has served as SVSU’s faculty athletics representative since 1973, has been a member of numerous NCAA and GLIAC Committees, serving on the NCAA nominating committee and chairing the conference’s eligibility committee for a number of years. He also served as parliamentarian to the GLIAC management council.

• Eric Gardner, professor of English, recently received the inaugural EBSCOhost/RSAP Book Prize for his Unexpected Places: Relocating Nineteenth-Century African American Literature (University Press of Mississippi, 2009). The prize recognizes the best scholarly monograph on American periodicals published in the past three years. It is sponsored by database developer/vendor EBSCOhost and a national scholarly group, the Research Society for American Periodicals; the prize includes a plaque and a cash award that allowed Gardner to attend the presentation ceremony at the American Literature Association’s annual meeting in San Francisco.

• Brad Jarvis, assistant professor of history, published a book titled The Brethren of the Nation of Indians: Land Ownership and Nationalism in Early America, 1740–1840 (University of Nebraska Press, 2010).

• Joseph Ofori-Dankwa and Yu Liu, management faculty, co-presented a paper titled “Nested Resource-Based Contingency in an Emerging Economy” at the Academy of Management in Montreal, Aug. 6–10. The paper also is co-authored by Scott Julian (Wayne State University).

• Hong Park, professor of economics, presented a paper titled “Ideation as a Practice for Knowledge Creation and Protection” at the Tenth International Conference on Knowledge, Culture and Change in Organizations, in Montreal, July 27. The paper is co-authored by Hyejung Chang (Kyung Hee University) and Sangkyu Lee (The University of Suwon).

• Stephen Taber, associate professor of biology, discovered a new species—a mosquito-like fly from a Michigan swamp. The finding will be reported in a forthcoming issue of The Southwestern Entomologist as “A New Species of Diosella Dyar and Shannon Meniscus Midge (Diptera: Dixidae).

• Richard Trdan, professor of biology, recently was named the second recipient of the Yang Biology Faculty Award for Excellence. Gene Yang, a retired SVSU microbiologist, established the award to recognize outstanding biology faculty members on campus by providing funds for teaching/research projects. Trdan will use the money to buy chemicals and supplies for his research on the reproductive biology of clams. Similar histological examination of clam gonadal tissue by Trdan’s undergrad students have generated five scientific papers published in highly respected national and international journals within the last few years. Three Honors Program theses have been completed in the last three years in his lab and several students have presented scientific papers at venues such as Argonne National Labortories under his tutelage. The inaugural winner of the Yang award was Stephen Taber.

• Matthew Zivich, professor of art, recently had a painting on view at “Interstices,” the Fourth Annual Alumni Show at the University of Michigan, July 16–Aug. 6. This year’s themed show was based on the phrase “Interstices” and called for art works that were about in-between events for the artist. Zivich’s oil painting, Kathy, Bloomington, 1964, was the last painting he completed for his M.F.A. degree at Indiana University, and marks the time between being a student and becoming a professional in the arts.

New Cardinals

• Colleen D’Arcy, assistant professor of teacher education, welcomed a son, Micah Timothy John (9 lbs., 19.5 in.), April 28.

• Dale Klimmek, network analyst, adopted a 6-week-old son, Conner Robert, June 10.

• Mark Nicol, assistant professor of political science, welcomed a son, Connor Alexander (6 lbs., 20 oz., 20 in.), July 20.

• David Rzeszutek, lecturer of theatre, welcomed a son, Evan Daniel (8.5 lbs., 20 in.), July 14.

Condolences

• To Deborah Albrough, faculty secretary for Health & Human Services, whose mother-in-law, Marie Albrough, passed away July 21.

• To Eric De Vos, professor of psychology, whose father, George A. De Vos, passed away July 9.

• To Maryann Gillette, administrative assistant for the math and science center, whose father, Leonard M. Kostus, passed away July 14.

• To Steve Hocquard, assistant vice president of campus facilities, whose mother, Doris Hocquard, passed away June 27.

• To Lisa Kramp, administrative secretary in the College of Education, whose father-in-law passed away July 24.

• To Bradley Mason, accountant, whose father, Wilbur (Bill) Mason, passed away July 28.

• To Sue May, quality/curriculum specialist, whose father, Wesley Hayward, passed away Aug. 17.

• To Gail Sype, associate professor of management, whose mother, Velma Sype, passed away Aug. 4.

• To the family of G. James Williams, a former Board of Control member and an honorary director of the Foundation Board, who passed away May 20 in Delray Beach, Fla. He was 89.

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.

Submission Deadline: Noon on Wednesday before the publication date. Please send items by e-mail to: tmi@svsu.edu.

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For campus event information, go to svsu.edu/calendar