

Braun Fellows to study special education, Civil War

A special education scholar and a Civil War historian have been awarded the Braun Fellowship to pursue their research. Dorothy "Dottie" Millar, professor of educational technology & development, and Paul Teed, professor of history, will each receive research support grants totaling up to \$37,500 over the next three years to further their scholarly and professional activities. Funds may be used for research expenses, equipment, travel and/or other related support.

Millar plans to author a book on youth and young adults with disabilities and how family members or guardians can work with them toward achieving self-determination. She also intends to produce assessment tools and design activities to aid educators, health providers and others.

Millar has written several journal articles and book chapters related to the field of special education. In her application, she wrote, "A growing body of research provides evidence that self-determination does positively impact employment outcomes, post-secondary education, and overall quality of life" for disabled individuals.

Teed plans to author a book on the partnership of Joseph and Harriet Hawley, a married couple during the Civil War.



Dottie Millar



Paul Teed

Joseph Hawley served as a Union general and relied heavily upon his wife, who traveled to the front lines of the battle field, uncommon for women of that time. In his application, Teed wrote that the study "offers a remarkable opportunity to combine social and military history, two historical methods that rarely find common ground."

A companion piece of study will be to research the relationship between Union occupation forces and southern civilians, both black and white. Joseph Hawley was given command of forces in North and South Carolina and his responsibilities included enforcement of the Emancipation Proclamation. Teed wrote that "initial investigations suggest the Hawleys' personal papers contain significant commentary on the condition of the slaves and the attitudes of white Confederates toward their conquerors."

A resident of Midland, Millar

joined the SVSU faculty in 2000. She co-edited the book, *Innovations in Teacher Education: Partnerships, Pedagogy and Practice*, which chronicles the measures undertaken as part of the Teacher Quality Enhancement – Partnership Grant for Improving Teacher Quality first awarded to SVSU in 1999. Millar completed her Ph.D. at the University of Illinois, Urbana-Champaign; she received a bachelor's degree from the University of California-Irvine.

A resident of Midland, Teed joined the SVSU faculty in 1997. He has authored two books on American history, one in print and the other in press, as well as seven articles in scholarly journals. Teed's awards include being the co-recipient of a grant

from the National Endowment for the Humanities to conduct an institute at SVSU for teachers on re-examining the Civil War. He completed his Ph.D. at the University of Connecticut; he received a bachelor's degree from New York University.

Established in 2005, the Braun Fellowship program was created through a \$1.5 million endowment from the Saginaw-based Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation. Administered by the Saginaw Community Foundation, the program's purpose is to recognize the exceptional accomplishments and potential of select SVSU faculty and staff. It is named in honor of Ruth and Ted Braun of Saginaw.

Stedman Graham highlights regional MLK celebration

New York Times best-selling author Stedman Graham will speak at the second annual Great Lakes Bay Regional Martin Luther King Jr. Celebration Wednesday, Jan. 12 at 7 p.m. in the Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts.

Chairman and CEO of S. Graham & Associates, a management and marketing consulting company that specializes in corporate and educational markets, Graham's clients have included Fortune 500 companies and leading

governmental and educational institutions.

This year's celebration also



Stedman
Graham

will include a peace march and presentation of scholarship awards by local community foundations to high school seniors.

Admission is free of charge; tickets are required. Call the SVSU Box Office at ext. 4261.

President Eric R. Gilbertson will deliver his annual

State of the University Address

Thursday, Jan. 27 at 4 p.m. in the Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts.

The campus community is invited to attend. A reception will follow the address.

Julie Foss

Assistant Professor of Modern Foreign Languages (French)

French has been called the language of love. Julie Foss loves sharing the language with students.

"I've been showing French films the past three semesters and we're starting a French club," she said.

Foss will advise the club, something far afield from her initial pursuit of a legal career. In her second year of law school, she realized she "hated it." She then went to work in the mortgage industry for a decade.

"It paid well but was soul-sucking."

One aspect Foss found satisfying was her role as a hiring manager, interviewing applicants, many of whom were fresh out of college. Eventually that led her toward seeking additional education.

"French never really left my life. I continued to read in French and listen to French radio. One day, the light bulb went on."

Foss completed her teaching certificate and then pursued graduate study. Having taken an unconventional career path has its advantages.

"Some of the management experience I've had is really useful as a teacher," she said, "the knowledge of the world and the way the world works. I think it's valuable to tell students about that. That 'real world' experience can help in their job search, too."

"Having another language at the ready is always an advantage.

Studying a foreign language in this country is an 'extra,' and students who do that set themselves apart."

Today's students seeking a career in foreign languages are often pushed to pursue Mandarin or Arabic. As a college student in the 1980s, Foss recalls the "hot" language was Russian, but interest in French is enduring. A 2008 national high school survey found French to be the most popular language to study.

"These trends come and go, but French continues to be relevant," she said. "It's spoken on five continents."

In her second year on the faculty, Foss recalls first visiting SVSU in the 1980s for a leadership conference. The modern campus culture suits her perfectly.

"It was clear to me from the get-go that the focus is on the students. That's central to my teaching philosophy."

Foss is convinced she has found her "final" occupation.

"I can't tell you how much fun it is to teach another language and French, in particular. Even though you could say 'teaching is teaching,' I think the teaching of a foreign language is a little bit different, because you can't successfully teach a language in a 200-person lecture hall. You really get to know your students on a personal level, and they get to know you on a personal level. That's the highlight of my job."



Marie Rabideau

Coordinator of Student Conduct Programs • December 2010

Marie Rabideau knows what characteristics are essential to her job overseeing student conduct programs.

"You have to have empathy," she said. "You can't be just hard-nosed."

Detachment can be required, too, especially when students unleash their frustrations upon being disciplined. "A lot of things I don't take personally."

Rabideau keeps a positive attitude and takes measures to ensure students are treated fairly. "Just because I call a student into my office doesn't mean that he or she will be disciplined," she emphasized.

There are some 40 to 50 violations of the code of student conduct that could ultimately lead to a meeting with Rabideau. Alcohol and noise violations are the most common complaints. More serious charges can result in removal from university housing or dismissal from the university. Most cases require relatively little investigation. "The majority of students admit what they've done," she said.

When investigation is required, Rabideau has learned to keep an open mind. "In this job, you cannot say, 'This is what happened.' I had one student bring a complaint against another student, and during the investigation, the story got switched around."

If unsatisfied with an investigation, or the recommended sanction, a student may request a hearing. Rabideau served as the hearing

officer for 39 academic hearings and 171 disciplinary hearings last year.

"I make sure the process is followed and I make sure everyone understands what is going to happen," she said.

For hearing panels, Rabideau relies on around 90 faculty, staff and student volunteers to weigh the evidence.

"I have to give credit to the conduct board. I could not do my job without them, and I tell them that all the time. They do a great job."

Many students appreciate being set straight.

"It's really quite surprising. In some cases where you've sanctioned the student, after it's all done they'll say 'Thank you.'"

Others reach the same conclusion... after some time elapses.

"It may take more than a year or two," she said.

To step away from student conduct, Rabideau walked two half-marathons with former SVSU classmates this year. She said she also is very close with her nieces, nephews and extended family, some of whom live out of state.

Rabideau has worked at SVSU for 23 years in a variety of roles.

"It's a great place to work," she said. "I've made so many friends."

And they know the "real" Rabideau, not just her disciplinarian reputation.

"I'm not as tough as some people think I am. My friends know that."



Professional Profile

• **Mohammad Saad Alam**, assistant professor of electrical & computer engineering, presented a paper titled “Hardware in the Loop Verification of the Dynamic Model of a Photovoltaic Module for Maximum Power Point Tracking” at the Conference on Advances in Mechanical Engineering, Nov 27-28 at Aligarh Muslim University, India. He also chaired a session on renewable energy technologies at the conference.

• **Said Elfakhani**, Harvey R. Wickes Chair in International Business, published a paper titled “The Effect of Deregulating Price Limit on Stock Split in Japan” in *The International Review of Applied Financial Issues and Economics Journal*, Vol. 2, No. 3.

• **Ling He**, associate professor of accounting, published an article titled “Disclosure Control of Confidential Data by Applying PAC Learning Theory,” with Gary Koehler and Haldun Aytug, in the *Journal of Database Management*. Also, she published “Password Security Risk versus Effort: An Exploratory Study on User-Perceived Risk and the Intention to Use Online Applications,” in the proceedings of CONISAR 2010, Nashville, Tenn.

New Cardinals

• **Megan Biskup**, assistant director of career services, announced the birth of a son, Owen Robert (6 lbs., 5 oz., 18.5 in.), Oct. 16

Condolences

- To **David Berry**, associate professor of kinesiology, whose mother, Doreen Marie Berry, passed away Dec. 4.
- To **Sharon Carlin**, admissions and certification secretary, whose father-in-law, Samuel Carlin, passed away Nov. 27.
- To **Marc Peretz**, associate provost, whose mother-in-law, Joan Fletcher Addington, passed away Dec. 2.
- To **William Vautaw**, associate professor of mathematics, whose father, Raymond Vautaw, passed away Nov. 21.

Transitions

New

- Stephanie Champagne, Cass City—Student Office Manager
- Scott MacLeod, Assistant Technology Specialist
- Jeanette O’Boyle, Benefits Manager
- Katrina Philips, Associate Director, Student Life
- Daniel Rhodus, Custodial Specialist
- Laura Townsend, Sales & Training Specialist
- Robert VanSumeren, Custodial Specialist
- Larry Woiderski, Counselor

Promoted/Title Change

- Tamara Barrientos, Director, Regional Mathematics & Science Center
- Lori Lipinski, Operations Manager/Compliance Officer
- Jennifer Ordway, Director, Student Counseling Center
- Heather O’Hearn, Event Coordinator
- LaToya Peoples, Event Coordinator
- Kevin Schultz, Director, Alumni Relations

Leaving

- Robert Cooper, Director, Student Counseling Center
- Michelle Davis, Database Administrative Assistant
- Vickie Jaskiewicz, Administrative Assistant of Health & Human Services
- Julie Marsh, Event Coordinator
- Nicole Ryan, Coordinator, Student Technology Center

Grants Announced

Arts & Behavioral Sciences

• **Monika Dix**, assistant professor of modern foreign languages, and **Linda Farynk**, director of the Melvin J. Zahnow Library, received 74 books from the Nippon Foundation’s Library Book Donation Program. The donated books will promote understanding of the language and culture of contemporary Japan.

• **Carol Zimmerman**, assistant professor of criminal justice, received \$6,634 from the Michigan Supreme Court to analyze data to determine

the benefits of adopting a restorative justice process for middle school students.

Health & Human Services

• **Janalou Blecke**, professor of health sciences, received an initial grant of \$62,182, followed by an additional ARRA grant of \$40,784, from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services for SVSU’s Scholarships for Disadvantaged Nursing Students program.

• **Karen Brown-Fackler**, associate professor of nursing, received \$33,553 for Graduate Nursing Program Traineeships and \$64,643 for SVSU’s Nurse Faculty Loan Program from the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services.

Science, Engineering & Technology

• **Alan Freed**, Clifford H. Spicer Endowed Chair in Engineering, received \$82,817 from the National Institutes of Health for the project Viscoelastic Model for Lung Parenchyma for Multi-scale Modeling. Freed will create elastic and viscoelastic material models to describe healthy lung tissue.

• **Thomas Kullgren**, professor of mechanical engineering, received \$20,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy to support “Development of a High Strength, High Fatigue Wind Blade Spars.” This project will allow students to gain industrial experience in the field of high performance composites.

• **Christopher Schilling**, Charles J. Strosacker Endowed Chair in Mechanical Engineering, received \$50,000 from the U.S. Department of Energy to support “21st Century Renewable Fuels, Energy, and Materials.” The project will analyze methods to convert commercial energy crops into hydrogen and ethanol.

Staff

• **Megan Biskup**, assistant director of career services, received \$63,825 from the U.S. Department of Education to support the Off-Campus Community Service Program.

• **Kimberly Brandimore**, director of the student life center, received \$13,584 from Michigan Campus Compact to support the Michigan Service Scholars AmeriCorps Program.

• **Clifford Dorne**, associate vice president for enrollment management, received \$17,150 from Michigan Campus Compact to support the SVSU College Coaching Corps Program.

• **Harry Leaver**, executive director of the Center for Business & Economic Development, received \$199,997 from the Michigan Department of Labor & Economic Growth for the Regional Entrepreneurial Collaborative Project.

• **Andrea Ondish**, curator of education for the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, received \$450 from the Bay Area Community Foundation to provide bus transportation subsidies for Bay County elementary students.

• **Robert Schoeks**, director of the Center for Manufacturing Improvement, received \$158,750 from the Michigan Manufacturing Technology Center in support of the Northeast Office at SVSU.

• **Marilyn Wheaton**, director of the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum, received \$5,000 from Midland Area Community Foundation and \$5,000 from Bay Area Community Foundation to support an exhibition, titled “2 Centuries, 3 Decades, 28 Works by Charles McGee,” which will run June 3 through Sept. 24, 2011, at the museum.

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.

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