

## SVSU receives \$400,000 to study Saginaw Bay conservation

SVSU received a \$413,234 grant from the University of Michigan Water Center to support SVSU's Saginaw Bay Environmental Science Institute. The funds will support additional ecological studies of Saginaw Bay and the development of priorities to guide continued conservation efforts there.

David Karpovich, H.H. Dow Endowed Chair in Chemistry and director of the institute, applied for the grant.

"This project will integrate all of the available data, models, and decision tools to address the scientific gap between placement of land-based conservation actions and their resulting ecological outcomes in rivers and nearshore areas of the Saginaw Bay Watershed," he said. "The results of this project will ultimately be used to guide future placement of agricultural best management practices for the best possible ecological



"The health of Saginaw Bay and its surroundings is important to all of us who live in the Great Lakes Bay Region," said College of Science, Engineering & Technology Dean Deborah Huntley, who christened the SBESI research vessel Sept. 19. "This institute serves as an important asset to SVSU and the region we serve. It will provide important interdisciplinary learning and research opportunities for our students and faculty, and will allow for further scientific study of this invaluable natural resource."

outcomes at the lowest cost and impact to the community thereby enhancing the effective use of restoration funds."

Karpovich and fellow researchers will leverage information and resources from many other projects including the NOAA-funded

Multiple Stressor Project and the federal Great Lakes Restoration Initiative.

Established in March, SVSU's Saginaw Bay Environmental Science Institute builds upon existing partnerships with the Bay County Health Department, Delta College and Kawkawlin River Property Owners Association, among others; it is aimed at monitoring water quality and studying the health of river ecosystems.

"This is our first major grant," Karpovich said. "We are pleased to have many talented external collaborators on our team, including scientists from LimnoTech, The Nature Conservancy, several state and federal agencies, and Michigan State University's Institute for Water Resources. This project will help build an important foundation for continued scientific work by SVSU faculty and students."

SVSU netted the third-largest of eight grants that totaled \$2.9 million.

SVSU's project includes both a retrospective assessment and scientific guidance for future restoration activities funded through the federal Great Lakes Restoration Initiative and Michigan Agriculture Environmental Assurance Program, which are intended to reduce nutrient runoff from agricultural land into the Saginaw Bay and encourage voluntary implementation of best management practices by farmers. There will be particular focus on the sub-watersheds of the Kawkawlin and Pigeon/Pinnebog rivers.

The project is slated for completion in September 2015. It will include the development of a science-based, system-wide integrated framework to help guide investments in nutrient management practices and restoration projects.

For details of the Water Center's eight grant projects, visit [graham.umich.edu/water/projects/tier2](http://graham.umich.edu/water/projects/tier2).



Carlos Ramet, executive assistant to the president and executive director of public affairs, and Ken Santa, president of the Castle Museum, partnered to create a display for the museum that highlights the university's 50th anniversary. The lobby display will remain until the end of November. The museum is located at 500 Federal Avenue in Saginaw. For hours and directions, go to [castlemuseum.org](http://castlemuseum.org).

# Yu Zou

## Assistant Professor of Electrical & Computer Engineering

Yu Zou is an expert in energy, and at first the big city China native was unsure what would spark up his interest at a campus surrounded by suburban neighborhoods and rural farmland.

A year into his career as an SVSU assistant professor of electrical & computer engineering, Zou said he's discovered all the energy he needs to power forward right here in mid-Michigan.

"This is something new to me," Zou said of his new home and lifestyle. "I think I like this way better."

Zou—who spent all but five years of his life in the hustle and bustle of Tianjin, not far from Beijing—was concerned that the lifestyle waiting in America's Midwest wouldn't suit his interest.

"I was a little bit worried about a boring life with not a lot of people around," he said.

Instead, after a 5-year stay in Akron and one year living in Saginaw Township, Zou has discovered the relatively quiet surroundings coupled with an engaging campus life has offered him all the inspiration he needs.

"I found it is very good to have this kind of life," Zou said. "This makes me expect to have a long-term commitment to this area, this school and career."

Zou said he has felt welcomed at SVSU since arriving in fall 2012.

"Everything is very close, and my request of help can be answered very fast and very productively," he said.

He said the electrical engineering students are engaged in classrooms and make teaching the topic easy.

Zou said his teaching style emphasizes understanding "how to think" about the subject rather than simply learning the subject matter well enough to score high on exams.

To help students make such a connection, Zou endorses an old school method of teaching—with chalk. He has pieces of the powdery writing utensil stored in a classroom bag, ready to write on the few chalkboards still available in classrooms.

"It helps the students to follow along," he said. "After class, a lot of students who followed along might realize, 'I didn't write down anything to review.' This gives them the chance."

So far, the method has earned him positive reviews and appreciation from his pupils, Zou said.

As for his life away from the classroom, Zou is anxious to go hiking soon. He's heard of attractive outdoor sites in northern Michigan, but has yet to venture outside the comforts of his new mid-Michigan home to look for what all the fuss is about.

"I'm looking forward to it," he said. "I'm looking forward to many things."



# Pat Samolewski

Director of Enterprise Applications & Development • September 2013

Don't call Pat Samolewski an analog worker living in a digital world.

He is an expert in both.

SVSU's director of enterprise applications & development for Information Technology Services has been working on the institution's computer systems since Jimmy Carter was president.

In his office, the Bay City native likes to keep a reminder of his deep roots in the technology. Parked in one corner of his desk is an ancient looking computer screen he used on campus back in the 1980s.

"It's like a souvenir," he said.

Besides that old computer, his office features other reminders of his work plugging SVSU into the Internet generation. Those archives include two Staff Member of the Month plaques commemorating his hard work. The oldest of the two honors was the first such award given at SVSU when, back in March 1990, Samolewski's efforts networking the campus computers helped nab the award.

This month, he is adding his third such award, thanks to his nomination by James G Muladore, executive vice president for administration & business affairs.

"I wanted the institution to have some awareness of the high level of service he's provided," Muladore said. "He plays a very significant role. We've made a big commitment as far as a wide range of strategic

initiatives in information technology, and he's been a big part of that."

Muladore said Samolewski's work on a new SVSU intranet network known as "Portal," in particular, has earned him the latest recognition. Samolewski is the project manager for the initiative, which will give SVSU students, staff and faculty a centralized location on the Internet to access the features now available within svsu.edu. He said Portal will be available to access for everyone by early winter semester. For now, a trial group within the campus is testing the network while Samolewski and his crew work out the program bugs.

Portal is only the latest in many campus projects Samolewski has overseen. He attributes the length of his career at the institution to the "fulfilling" nature of working within higher education.

That calling began as a student computer programmer in 1978 and advanced when he was hired as a full-time program analyst in 1981. He's remained in his current role since 1996.

"You are helping with the development and education of future generations," he said. "It's one of the nice things about working in an educational arena as opposed to a for-profit organization. It's a good feeling when we can develop and implement applications and technology that help to streamline and create efficiencies throughout the university for faculty, staff and students."



## Professional Profile

- **Geoffrey V. Carter**, assistant professor of English, had a webtext titled “iPad Invention” published in *Kairos: A Journal of Rhetoric, Technology and Pedagogy*. This effort is also the subject of a case study by Cheryl E. Ball for the November 2013 issue of *Classroom Discourse* titled “Multimodal Revision Techniques in Webtexts.”
- **Ann Coburn-Collins**, director of academic programs support, was invited to lead two roundtable discussions titled “The Chair’s Role in Managing Part-time and Contingent Faculty” at the 2013 Department Chair Pre-Conference Workshops prior to the American Sociological Association’s Annual Meeting, Aug. 9 in New York City.
- **David S. Karpovich**, H.H. Dow Chair of Chemistry, published a paper titled “Water Leaching of Chelated Pb Complexes from Post-Phytoremediation Biomass” in *Water, Air, & Soil Pollution*.
- **Tai-Chi Lee**, professor of computer science & information systems, presented a paper titled “A learning Model of Simple Computing Machine Architecture” at the 2013 International Conference on Frontiers in Education: Computer Science and Computer Engineering, July 22-25 in Las Vegas. Hector Zimmerman co-authored the article.
- **Rhett L. Mohler**, assistant professor of geography, published a paper titled “Temporal Burn Scar Evolution in Tallgrass Prairie based on Field Spectroscopy” in the *International Journal of Remote Sensing*. Douglas G. Goodin co-authored the article.
- **Jay Scott**, assistant professor of biology, recently published two papers: “The multifunctional Ca<sup>2+</sup>/calmodulin-dependent kinase II  $\delta$  (CaMKII $\delta$ ) regulates arteriogenesis in a mouse model of flow-mediated remodeling” in *PLOS ONE* (Vol. 8, Issue 8); and “CaMKII is essential for the proasthmatic effects of oxidation” in *Science Translational Medicine* (Vol. 5, Issue 195).
- **Jim Sullivan**, professor of English, was awarded a National Endowment for the Humanities grant—his seventh—to participate in the 2013 NEH Summer Institute’s “The Centrality of Translation to the Humanities: New Interdisciplinary Scholarship,” hosted by the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign. His proposed study, inspired by Zahn Library’s recently-acquired James Joyce collection, explores the vicissitudes of Joyce’s Dubliners through its early Italian translations.

## New Cardinals

- **Geoffrey Carter**, assistant professor of English, announced the birth of twin daughters, Lilith Christine (5 lbs., 13 oz.) and Grace Kathleen (5 lbs., 13 oz.), Sept. 5.
- **Daniel Goodell**, classroom technology/video production technician, announced the birth of a son, Samuel James (9 lbs., 19 in.), Aug. 15.

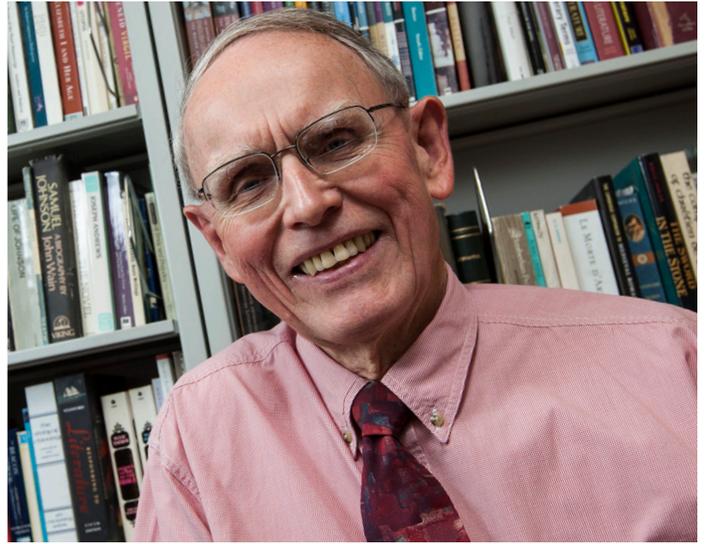
## Condolences

- To **Farid Hallouche**, associate professor of computer science & information systems, whose father, Laid Hallouche, passed away Aug. 17.
- To **Patrick Samolewski**, director enterprise operations & development, whose father, Edward Samolewski, passed away Sept. 5.

16th Annual Thomas and Hilda Rush Distinguished Lecture  
Thursday, Oct. 3 • Founders Hall, 4 p.m.

## Basil A. Clark

*Profiles and Personalities: A Story of Some SVSU People*



Basil Clark, professor of English, will introduce a selection of persons who have served SVSU over the years and contributed to its institutional psyche. The author of a book examining SVSU’s first 25 years, Clark has studied the university’s more recent history, as well. The individuals he profiles—some distinguished, others humble—are those he has met in his research, many remembered from his own long association with SVSU as a faculty member.

- To the family of **Mary Lou Taylor**, retired administrative secretary in information technology services, who passed away Sept. 1.

## Briefly Speaking

- Special Assistant to the President for Diversity Programs **Mamie T. Thorns** earned certified diversity executive credentials from the Plainfield, Ind.-based Institute for Diversity Certification, which provides diversity and inclusion management preparation courses. The institute’s exam is a uniform test assessing a candidate on 16 competencies. Acquiring certification requires reading a study guide, finishing a classroom-based or online preparation course and a 170-question exam. Thorns was the sole designee from a Michigan public university. Since earning the credentials, she has volunteered to teach preparation course classes.

**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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## Submission Deadline:

**Noon on Wednesday before the publication date.  
Please send items by email to: [jjboehm@svsu.edu](mailto:jjboehm@svsu.edu).**