

SVSU Establishing Dow Science and Sustainability Education Center

SVSU is receiving a gift from The Dow Chemical Company Foundation to establish the Dow Science & Sustainability Education Center at SVSU. Andrew N. Liveris, chairman and chief executive officer,

announced the contribution during his keynote address at SVSU's 50th anniversary economic summit Friday, Oct. 25.

"Today's life-changing innovations are developed

at the intersections of many different sciences such as chemistry, biology, and materials engineering," said Liveris. "What manufacturers need now are highly skilled workers who can navigate these intersections—scientists, engineers and professionals who can interface with the advanced technologies that are increasingly present in our plants. This is why we must invest more in STEM education, especially at universities like this one." The center will support increased education and research opportunities in the Great Lakes Bay Region. SVSU will partner with K-12 schools to encourage improved education in the STEM fields (science, technology, engineering and math). One visible example will

be a mobile laboratory that will visit schools to spur increased interest in science.

Another element of the center will focus on increased study of the Saginaw Bay and its watershed. The gift will support the purchase of water monitoring devices and related scientific equipment, while also funding internships for SVSU students and regional high school students.

Research teams will include high school and college interns, high school teachers, and an SVSU research director; each team will study specific aspects of the Saginaw Bay watershed.

Activity in the Dow Science & Sustainability Education Center is expected to begin in earnest in summer 2014.



Andrew N. Liveris, chairman and chief executive officer of The Dow Chemical Company, announced a significant contribution to SVSU during his keynote address at SVSU's 50th anniversary economic summit.

SVSU wins diversity award

SVSU has been recognized for a commitment to diversity and inclusion by a magazine that has focused on such distinctions for nearly 40 years. *INSIGHT Into Diversity* announced the institution received the first HEED (Higher Education Excellence in Diversity) award, considered for colleges and universities nationally.

The recognition means SVSU is featured in the magazine's November issue, which was released Wednesday, Oct. 16. In all, 56 institutions earned the award.

"SVSU has an unprecedented number of programs and initiatives in place that provide substantial opportunities for students, faculty and staff from all underrepresented groups," said Lenore Pearlstein, the

magazine's publisher. According to the magazine's producers, the award was based on SVSU's "exemplary diversity and inclusion initiatives," and considered services to groups based on gender, race, ethnicity, veteran status, sexual orientations, and people with disabilities.

One aspect of SVSU's application that drew praise is the inclusion advocate program it has employed since 2009.

"Inclusion advocates ensure that all elements of diversity are considered throughout the hiring process," explained Mamie T. Thorns, special assistant to the president for diversity programs.

For more information about the award, go to insightintodiversity.com.

50th Anniversary Celebration Banquet

SATURDAY, NOV. 9 • 6 P.M. • BANQUET ROOMS



An institutional milestone will be celebrated through this grand event featuring presentations on the Marble, Ryder and Gilbertson years, as well as highlights from the 50th anniversary musical show "The Producers." Seating is limited.

Board of Control approves space on campus for Ming Chuan University

The Board of Control approved a plan to make renovations to the Regional Education Center to create space that will be leased to Ming Chuan University of Taiwan, one of SVSU's sister institutions. The Board authorized spending up to \$650,000 for the project at its regular meeting Monday, Oct. 14.

Under the plan, Ming Chuan would have office space, a conference room, and access to classrooms in the Regional

Education Center. Lease terms are still being finalized, but SVSU expects Ming Chuan to repay the cost of renovation within the next four to five years, as part of its lease agreement.

The space Ming Chuan will occupy is approximately 7,300 square feet. It previously housed a Regional Education Resource Center that operated similar to a library for the College of Education. All those resources have been moved to SVSU's Zahnaw Library.

Rose Lange

Associate Professor of Nursing

Simulation is the best stimulation for students learning health sciences, Rose Lange will tell you.

The associate professor with SVSU's Crystal M. Lange College of Health & Human Services (no, the two Langes are not related) is making a legacy of her own by implementing programs and exercises that put students in her field as close to real world situations as possible.

The Saginaw native, who started at the university in 2001, has ramped up those efforts since the \$28 million Health & Human Services Building opened in 2010. The 90,000-square-foot facility, in addition to housing classrooms and cutting-edge equipment, also hosts mock hospital rooms, pseudo apartments and occupational therapy space.

Such resources provide Lange and her students a makeshift playground where they can simulate the work of professionals in the health sciences.

"It's like making a lecture come alive," said Lange, who was exposed to the same type of training while studying as an undergraduate at the University of Michigan.

One of the initiatives she has spearheaded is what she calls "the poverty simulator." The once-a-semester exercise gives her pupils an idea of what it's like to live as many health care consumers do—with very little.

"We're able to provide some more depth to the information we provide in lectures," said Lange, who is married to Gary Lange, professor of biology. "It connects our clinical to our didactic (studies)."

The poverty simulation takes place in a large room on the first floor of the Health & Human Services Building, where students' chairs represent their simulated homes. The room substitutes as a neighborhood, complete with surrounding chairs representing resources such as schools, grocery stores, pawn shops and police stations.

Some students are grouped together as families. They are assigned resources and situations typical of people in poverty, and then asked to navigate the pretend neighborhood in an effort to complete tasks. A month's worth of living is compacted into one day's class.

"They have to experience long lines, lack of transportation, the inability to have enough money to buy things," Lange said of the students' experience. "Sometimes they get evicted from their house. There are a lot of issues that come up."

She said the simulation gives students "a better expectation of what their patients might experience," Lange said. "We've had a lot of positive responses from students. It makes a difference."



Beth Mueller

Senior Secretary, College of Arts & Behavioral Sciences • October 2013

Finding the best balance between things is no new practice for Beth Mueller.

She spent her previous career as a research chemist for The Dow Chemical Co., where she worked for 10 years searching for the best ways to mix chemicals and additives together to make products more stable.

Now Mueller, the College of Arts & Behavioral Science's senior secretary, is looking to strike a perfect balance between her professional life and a new role at home as a mother whose children recently left the nest.

"It's just way too quiet right now," Mueller said about the house she shares with her husband, Mike. "I'm coming up with ideas of things I want to do."

Her son, Ryan, recently was married. Her daughter, Amanda, this summer moved to Chicago to pursue a career in theater after graduating from SVSU. Visiting her daughter has led to Mueller's discovery of the Windy City, "which has become one of my new favorite places."

Mueller said she might enroll in arts-related courses here — beginning with pottery classes — in an effort to strengthen her crafting hobby. Such a move would be quite a shift from her stint as an SVSU student in the 1980s, when she pursued her chemistry major while working a co-op job with Dow.

Years ago, Mueller moved on from her career at the chemical company to focus on her family life. As her son and daughter grew up, though, she decided to return to the work force.

Following a recommendation from her sister-in-law — Cheryl Michalski, an SVSU faculty secretary — Mueller began as a temp worker at her alma mater. After three years, Mueller became a part-time employee. She's spent nearly another three years working in her current position.

"Beth is organized and conscientious in everything she does," said Joni Boye-Beaman, dean of the College of Arts & Behavioral Science. "When she is given an assignment, she can be counted upon to complete it in a timely fashion and her work consistently exceeds expectations," the dean added. "Beth does an excellent job of not only defining problems but finding solutions. When appropriate, she is able to streamline complex processes that help the office to run more efficiently."

Mueller said she's discovered a new chemistry at work that allows her to balance a job she enjoys with an environment that's professionally fulfilling.

"I love what I do here," she said. "I do my job and do the best that I can. I'm so thankful my work is appreciated."



Professional Profile

• **James Bowers**, assistant professor of criminal justice, presented two coauthored works at the Midwest Criminal Justice Association in September. The first is titled “Techniques of Neutralization Used by Priests Accused of Sexual Abuse: Preliminary Results from a Case Study of the Milwaukee Archdiocese,” with J.D. Spraitz and P. Florianschitz; and the second is titled “Exploring Deviant and Criminal Behavior of University Undergraduates: Comparing Regression and Hierarchical Linear Modeling in Testing General Strain Theory,” with J. Huck, C. Morris and J. Spraitz.

Also, Bowers coauthored (with J. Wheeler, J. Walsh and K. Cook) and presented “A Drug Court Process Evaluation of the Saginaw County 10th Circuit Court” at the Michigan Sociological Conference, Oct. 19.

Bowers coauthored (with **Poonam Kumar**, director of online/hybrid learning) and presented “Hello, Is Anyone There? Creating an Instructor Presence in Online Courses” at the Lilly Conference on College & University Teaching and Learning, Oct. 17.

• **David Callejo Pérez**, Carl A. Gerstacker Endowed Chair in Education, and **Joshua Ode**, associate professor of kinesiology, coauthored a book titled *The Stewardship of Higher Education: Re-imagining the Role of Education and Wellness on Community Impact* (Rotterdam/Boston: Sense Publishers, 2013).

• **Geoffrey Carter** and **Sherrin Frances**, assistant professors of English, collaborated on a webtext titled “Exposing YouTube’s Underbelly: Four Studies in Videocy” that was published in the September issue of *Itineration: Cross-Disciplinary Studies in Rhetoric, Media, and Culture*.

• **Anna Dadlez**, professor of Modern Foreign Languages, had an article titled “The Issue of Diversity” accepted for publication in *Profiles in Diversity Journal*. She also was invited to submit an additional article for publication next year.

• **Fenobia I. Dallas**, associate professor of rhetoric & professional writing, presented a paper titled “From Domestic Service to Government Service: The Professional Evolution of African American Women in the 1940s” at the Association for African American Life and History conference, Oct. 4 in Jacksonville, Fla. She also chaired two panel sessions titled “Imagining New Black Communities” and “The Contested Meanings of Emancipation.”

Also, Dallas presented a paper titled “Seeking the Miner’s Canary: Should Technical Communication Go Online?” at the Council for Programs in Technical and Scientific Communication conference, Oct. 11 at the University of Cincinnati. She chaired a panel session titled “International Issues in Programmatic Contexts.”

In addition, Dallas presented a paper titled “The Voiceless Community: Using the Rhetoric of Connectivity to Embrace the Change” at the Michigan Sociological Association conference, Oct. 19 at SVSU.

• **Sara Beth Keough**, associate professor of geography, was interviewed Oct. 8 by the Canadian Broadcasting Corporation on the

radio program “On the Go” about her research on Newfoundlanders living in the oil sands region of northern Alberta. The podcast can be accessed by clicking the “Programs” tab at cbc.ca/onthego.

• **Sally Shepardson**, assistant professor of biology, published a paper titled “Water Leaching of Chelated Pb Complexes from Post-Phytoremediation Biomass” in *Water, Air, & Soil Pollution*. The paper was coauthored with **David Karpovich**, H.H. Dow Chair of Chemistry.

New Cardinals

• **Andre Griffin**, assistant football coach, announced the birth of a son, Adrien Michael (7 lbs., 11 oz.), Oct. 5.

Condolences

• To **Robert Bock**, custodian, whose father, W. Herbert Bock, passed away Oct. 10.

• To **Mark Engelhart**, assistant manager of maintenance, whose mother, Joann Engelhart, passed away Sept. 20.

• To **Jane Girdham**, professor of music, whose mother, Joan Girdham, passed away Oct. 8.

• To the family of **Joy Hargrove**, a retired professor of psychology, who passed away Sept. 27.

• To **Barbara Kosanovich**, ESL tutor, whose mother-in-law, June Kosanovich, passed away Oct. 2.

• To **Maria Lynch**, senior accounting clerk, whose grandson, Lukas Michael Lynch, passed away Oct. 1.

• To **Deb Newton**, audio-visual west office coordinator, whose mother-in-law, Virginia Newton, passed away Sept. 18.

• To **Jan Poppe**, director of branding & marketing support, whose mother-in-law, Dottie Poppe, passed away Oct. 1.

• To **Brian Thomas**, associate professor of sociology, whose wife, Holli Wallace, passed away Oct. 16.

Directory Revisions

Please note the following changes to your 2013-14 Faculty/Staff Directory:

• Clifford Dorne, Wickes Hall 151 (p. 41)

• Faculty Association, ext. 4235 (p. 1)

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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Please send items by email to: jjboehm@svsu.edu.**