The former top law enforcement official in the United States, Eric Holder, will serve as keynote speaker for SVSU’s Martin Luther King Jr. celebration Wednesday, Jan. 25.

Holder, named one of Time magazine’s “100 Most Influential People” in 2014, visits SVSU Jan. 25 at 7 p.m. in the Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts.

Over his career, Holder was appointed to various law enforcement-related positions by four U.S. presidents from both sides of the political aisle. Most recently, President Barack Obama nominated Holder as U.S. attorney general.

When the 82nd attorney general took office in February 2009, he was the first black person to serve in that position. When he stepped down in April 2015, he was the third-longest-serving attorney general in the nation’s history.

Holder first joined the Department of Justice through the attorney general’s Honors Program after earning his Juris Doctor degree from Columbia Law School in 1976. The New York City native was assigned to the new Public Integrity Section, where he investigated and prosecuted corruption involving officials in local, state and federal government.


Holder has made headlines in recent weeks. In October, it was announced he would serve as chairman of the National Democratic Redistricting Committee, which will in part seek to move the redistricting process from a partisan process into an open and transparent nonpartisan process.

In November, he called for the abolishment of the electoral college system — used in the elections of United States presidents — in favor of a popular vote system. Debate about the merits of both processes heated up after Donald Trump was elected president by earning more electoral college votes despite losing the popular vote to Hillary Clinton.

Those attending must present a government-issued photo ID, such as a driver’s license. Backpacks, briefcases, large umbrellas and other oversized items will not be allowed in the Malcolm Field Theatre.

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Professional Profile

• **J.J. Boehm**, director of media and community relations, gave an invited presentation, “Define Your Identity from Within,” at the American Marketing Association Symposium for the Marketing of Higher Education, Dec. 6 in Orlando, Florida. Tyler Borders, co-founder of Dartlet, a reputation strategy firm, co-presented; the two shared highlights of the market research conducted for SVSU.

• **Karen Brown-Fackler**, associate professor of nursing, received The Dorothea Milbrandt Nurse Leader award from the American Nurses Association-Michigan at the annual state conference, Nov. 4 in Howell, Michigan.

• **Chad M. Dewey**, lecturer of computer science & information systems, presented “Hacking the High Seas” at HackFest in Quebec City, Quebec, which is the largest network and information security conference in Canada. Dewey also joined a panel on the topic of “Securing the Internet of Things: What is the Real Risk for Enterprise Security” at Infosecurity Magazine’s conference in Boston.

• **Julie Foss**, associate professor of modern foreign languages, presented “Let’s Get Real: Building a Curriculum with Authentic Materials” at the American Council on the Teaching of Foreign Languages’ Annual Convention, Nov. 19 in Boston.

• **Susan L. Hillman**, professor of teacher education, with Signe Kastberg (Purdue University) and Alyson Lischka (Middle Tennessee State University), presented “Exploring prospective teachers’ written feedback on mathematics tasks” at the 38th annual meeting of the North American Chapter of the International Group for the Psychology of Mathematics Education, Nov. 3-6. The paper also was published in the conference proceedings.

Condolences

• To **Jennifer Bridges**, professor of kinesiology, whose mother, Frances Mae Bridges, passed away Dec. 15.

• To the family of **Donald Novey**, professor emeritus of economics, who passed away Dec. 1.

On hand to unveil the bust of Liu Ming-Chuan on Dec. 9 in Gilbertson Hall were Robert S.P. Yien, MCU-MI vice president for international affairs and SVSU vice president emeritus for Academic Affairs; Donald J. Bachand, SVSU president; Zhang Yong, director-general of the Taiwan Affairs Office of Anhui Provincial People’s Government; and Yu Hong, counsellor of The Economic and Commercial Counsellor’s Office of the Embassy of the People’s Republic of China in the U.S.A.

**SVSU, MCU-MI dedicate statue of Liu Ming-Chuan**

Ming Chuan University, a sister school to SVSU based in Taiwan, hosted the unveiling of a bust of Liu Ming-Chuan on Friday, Dec. 9 at its Michigan campus in Gilbertson Hall. The bust is a gift from the governor of Anhui Province, China, and symbolizes the relationship between Anhui, MCU and SVSU.

Liu Ming-Chuan (1836-1896) led the Taiwanese army to a victory against a French invasion in 1884. When Taiwan was declared a province the following year, Liu was appointed its first governor. He started a massive modernization program and was called the father of modernization in Taiwan.

Ming Chuan University, which is named for Liu, is the first Asian university to be accredited in the U.S. by the Middle States Commission on Higher Education. Two joint graduate degree programs are offered at MCU-MI; classes are taught by MCU and SVSU faculty.

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 email submissions to: jjboehm@svsu.edu