

Experts Highlight Year-long Artists & Lecture Series

The SVSU community is invited to attend another exciting, educational and eye-opening VISITING SCHOLARS and ARTISTS SERIES. This year's program features seven speakers who will engage audiences on timely topics such as immigration and political bipartisanship. Other guests will address ways to motivate students and challenge attendees' understanding of free will. Speakers include historians, educators, authors and a sitting United State congressman. All events are free of charge and open to the public.

Hispanic Heritage Month

speaker: "Cuba and its Exile: Political Generations"

SILVIA PEDRAZA

Thursday, Sept. 21

4 p.m.

Founders Hall



Pedraza is professor of sociology and American culture at the University of Michigan.

Her research interests include the sociology of immigration, race, and ethnicity in America, as well as the sociology of Cuba's revolution and exodus. Her work includes *Political Disaffection in Cuba's Revolution and Exodus*, published by the Cambridge University Press in 2007.

Rush Lecture: "Community Engagement through Student-Centered Geospatial Research"

ANDREW J. MILLER

Thursday, Sept. 28

4 p.m.

Founders Hall



With the help of his colleagues and several key internal and external partnerships,

Miller, associate professor of geography, has made geospatial techniques an integral part of the geography curriculum and community outreach at the university. Most notably, Miller and his students have undertaken community-engaged research projects, supporting the Saginaw Crime

Prevention Council, the City of Saginaw, and most recently, Mid-Michigan Health in Midland.

Dow Visiting Scholar/Beutler Forum: "Free Will and Neuroscience"

ALFRED MELE

Thursday, Oct. 5

7 p.m.

Location TBD



Mele is the William H. and Lucyle T. Werkmeister Professor of Philosophy at Florida State University. He is the author of 11 books and over 200 articles. He is the past director of the Big Questions in Free Will project and current director of the Philosophy and Science of Self-Control project, which provides incentives and opportunities for collaborative philosophical and scientific research on self-control.

O'Neill Lecture: "Promoting Civil Discourse and Fostering Bipartisanship in Today's Politics"

U.S. REP. DAN KILDEE

Thursday, Oct. 19

7 p.m.

Malcolm Field Theatre for Performing Arts



Born and raised in Flint, Kildee was elected to represent Michigan's 5th congressional district beginning in 2013. Kildee was instrumental in working to free Amir Hekmati,

a U.S. Marine and Flint native, who was detained as a political prisoner for four years in Iran. The congressman also was at the forefront of supporting families affected by the Flint water crisis.

Barstow Lecture: "The Invention and Legacy of the Amboyna Massacre"

ALISON GAMES

Monday, Oct. 30

4:30 p.m.

Founders Hall

Games is the Dorothy M. Brown Distinguished Professor of History at Georgetown University. Games teaches courses on a variety of topics including early America, the Atlantic world and European expansion and global interaction. She has also participated in fellowships with the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Huntington Library, and the Netherlands Institute for Advanced Study.

Dow Visiting Scholar: "The Motivation Breakthrough: Turning on the Tuned-Out Child"

RICHARD LAVOIE

Saturday, Nov. 4

9 a.m.

Ott Auditorium



Lavoie has served as a visiting lecturer at numerous universities and presented his message to over 500,000 parents and professionals

throughout North America, Australia, New Zealand and Hong Kong. Lavoie has delivered keynote addresses for all three of the major special needs advocacy associations in the United States including the Learning Disabilities Association, Council for Exceptional Children and Children with Attention Deficit Disorder.

Dow Visiting Scholar: "Literacy: The Full Story"

ANNE RUGGLES GERE

Wednesday, Nov. 8

7 p.m.

Gilbertson Hall, Room 202



Chair of the joint Ph.D. program in English and education, and director of the Sweetland Center for Writing at the University of Michigan, Gere regularly teaches courses on writing assessment, composition studies and literacy. Among her current projects, Gere is completing a longitudinal study of 160 student writers across their undergraduate degree. Gere has published a dozen books and over 100 articles.

Carmen Stricker

Assistant Director of Admissions • June Staff Member of the Month

Carmen Stricker has a saying: "Sí se puede," or "Yes, it is possible" translated from Spanish, the language of her ancestors.

It's a saying that defined her early on as an undergraduate at SVSU, when she overcame a struggle with how to excel academically. And it's a saying that defines her now, as an assistant director of Admissions, who strives to help others overcome their own learning challenges.

"I came here with a low GPA and not a lot of the skills that you need to succeed in school," the Saginaw native said. "I received so much assistance as a student, though. The workshops, the faculty, the people who showed me the way. When I learned how to learn, the sky was the limit."

Her education extended outside the classroom. As a student, she worked in the Office of Multicultural Student Affairs. She credits that experience with helping her develop the "soft skills" she needed to become a good employee.

"Be to work on time, stay positive, follow through on assignments, be reliable for your team: I learned a lot," Stricker said.

She earned three degrees from SVSU: bachelor's degrees in criminal justice and secondary education as well as a master's degree in organizational leadership.

She joined Admissions in 2011. It's a job that keeps her busy

recruiting prospective students in K-12 districts largely in the Great Lakes Bay Region, then keeping tabs on those who enroll at SVSU.

Stricker also is involved in the GEAR UP (Gaining Early Awareness & Readiness for Undergraduate Programs) program, which facilitates student mentoring, offers workshops on college preparation and financial aid, and assists schools and teachers to better prepare students for college studies. This year Stricker saw the program's first cohort finish the initiative as seniors. They joined in seventh grade.

The program allowed SVSU to host the Advocates for Latino Student Advancement in Michigan Education conference in October 2016, which brought more than 400 Hispanic prospective students to campus.

"To me, it was a great accomplishment to bring that conference to SVSU," she said.

Stricker, who is proud of her Hispanic heritage, is involved in Hispanic organizations including the Saginaw chapter of the American G.I. Forum as well as the Great Lakes Bay Hispanic Leadership Institute.

Stricker said she is supported in her community involvement by her husband of three years, Adam Gonzalez. "He's my backbone, my comedian and my best friend," she said. Receiving support from others is a practice she understands well.



Tim Rex

Acquisitions Assistant • July Staff Member of the Month

Tim Rex is used to being busy and on the move.

While he has spent a few weeks in his current position as acquisitions assistant at Zahnow Library, he began his career at SVSU very literally in perpetual motion. Hired as an on-campus bus driver in 1994, Rex's first job involved shuttling students along the outer rim of campus while heavy construction work made walking through the heart of campus impossible. This was at a time when Curtiss Hall was being built.

A lot has changed since that first gig for Rex. Curtiss Hall opened. So did a lot of other buildings. Meanwhile, the Pinconning native moved on to other roles. He was a groundskeeper for a while. He also worked in the bookstore and The Conference Center at SVSU.

In 2010, he was hired as the administrative assistant for Zahnow Library. He kept that position until he inherited the duties of Louise Dukarski, who retired as acquisitions assistant in early July. The job involves managing the purchase and replacement of the university's printed and online books — both for the library and the faculty — as well as overseeing software licensing agreements.

"I'm learning every day," he said of the new job.

And that's the way he likes it. On top of earning his bachelor's degree in sociology from SVSU in 2002, Rex enjoys taking home books to read from the library. He also makes a point to soak up knowledge from the library staff and faculty who he sees there.

"This is probably the job where I've learned the most from my coworkers," he said. "We have a lot of smart librarians here. They've taught me a lot."

After more than two decades on campus, Rex has witnessed dramatic changes to the library. Zahnow was a two-floor structure when he arrived at SVSU. Since then, the university added two additional floors. The most recent changes to the library resulted in Rex relocating his office to the fourth floor. While an elevator allows for a quick lift to his office, he prefers walking. In addition to the exercise benefits, the trek allows him to talk to colleagues and visitors, giving him a better sense of the day's tasks.

Rex is a fan of many of his colleagues. He often arrives to work at 6 a.m., Monday through Friday, and catches up with the earliest-arriving campus-goers, including the facilities crew still maintaining the buildings from the previous day's traffic.

Away from work, Rex is an avid outdoorsman, hunting white tail deer and fishing for salmon when the weather is right for it. He also enjoys writing. His musings on growing up in rural Michigan have appeared in the Drummond Island Digest, and he sometimes posts similar accounts on his Facebook page.

Rex is a volunteer with the Patriot Guard Riders, a group which attends the funerals of military veterans, police and firefighters at the request of the deceased's family. The volunteer work keeps him busy and on the move — the way he likes it.



Professional Profile

- **James Bowers**, associate professor of criminal justice, presented a paper titled "Crime Suppression through Partnerships and Crime Fighting Initiatives" at the Justice Studies Association annual meeting, June 1 in Detroit.
- **Geoffrey V. Carter**, assistant professor of English, contributed a chapter about overcoming writer's block to Cheryl E. Ball and Drew M. Lowe's open access textbook, *Bad Ideas About Writing* (West Virginia University Libraries).
- **Monika Dix**, associate professor of modern foreign languages, served as Japanese Content Advisory Committee Member for the Michigan Test for Teacher Certification Program for the Michigan Department of Education, May 11 in Novi. Dix also participated in a workshop titled "Let's Get Real: Using Authentic Materials and Assessments to Maximize Japanese Student Learning," May 6 at Michigan State University.
- **Enayat Mahajerin**, professor of mechanical engineering, presented a paper titled "Analysis of Transient Heat and Rotational Flow Using LSCM and FEA Methods" at the Heat Transfer Conference, sponsored by the American Society of Mechanical Engineering, July 9-14 in Seattle.
- **Paul Munn**, professor of English, presented a paper "Ashbery's Breezeway as a Book of America," July 1 at the Great Writing International Creative Writing Conference, Imperial College London. He also presented "How the Pathetic Fallacy Triumphed – Despite Its Name" at the 15th International Conference on New Directions in the Humanities, July 6 at Imperial College, London.
- **Shiva Nadavulakere**, associate professor of management, presented "Mapping Cognitive Dimensions and Processes of Value Creation in Family Firms" at the 2017 Family Enterprise Research Conference, June 2017 in Asheville, North Carolina.
- **Andy Pandian**, associate professor of mechanical engineering, presented a technical paper titled "BIW Process Modeling and Simulation Analysis" at the Industrial Engineering and Operations management International conference, July 24-25 in Bristol, UK.
- **Sharon Panepucci**, Simulation Lab coordinator, and **Dorothy Lee**, professor of nursing, conducted a podium presentation titled "An Innovative Approach to Teaching Genetics to Graduate Nursing Students using Interprofessional Teaching Modalities" at the 28th International Nursing Research Congress in Dublin, Ireland.
- **Stephen Taber**, professor of biology, has a manuscript titled "Two New Nearctic Species of *Leia Fungus Gnat*" accepted for publication in *Southwestern Entomologist*.
- **Anne Tapp**, professor of teacher education, was a delegate and presented "STEM Careers: Broadening Students' Perceptions" at the Oxford University International Round Table Symposium highlighting Childhood Education and Issues. Her paper will be published in the *Forum on Public Policy*, a journal of the Oxford Round Table.
- **Lee Trepanier**, professor of political science, has been named co-chair (along with Elizabeth Matto of Rutgers University) of the American Political Science Teaching and Learning Conference, Feb. 2-4 in Baltimore.

Condolences

- To **Laine Blasch**, special assistant to the executive vice president for Administration & Business Affairs, whose father-in-law, Robert Blasch, passed away June 25.
- To **Jennifer Bridges**, professor of kinesiology, whose father, Stanley Bridges, passed away June 22.
- To the family of **Joseph Ceraso**, adjunct faculty in chemistry, who passed away May 27.
- To the family of **Jeanne Chipman**, retired academic adviser, who passed away June 7.
- To **Tom Grobaski**, custodial specialist, whose son, Joshua Grobaski, passed away June 21.
- To **Susan Hillman**, professor of teacher education, whose mother, Jean Hillman, passed away Aug. 14.
- To the family of **Jean Houghton**, director emerita of library operations, who passed away June 11.
- To **M. Yousef Jabbari**, associate professor of mechanical engineering, whose son, Farhad Jabbari, passed away July 19.
- To the family of **Lori Lipinski**, retired operations manager/compliance officer for the University Police department, who passed away May 29.
- To **Beth Montgomery**, custodian/assistant foreman, whose mother-in-law, Phyllis Baker, passed away June 29.
- To **Beth Mueller** and **Cheryl Michalski**, whose mother and mother-in-law, respectively, Betty Michalski, passed away July 18. Beth is a senior secretary in the College of Arts & Behavioral Sciences; Cheryl is a faculty secretary.
- To **Ralph Musinski**, mechanic, whose mother, Loretta Musinski passed away July 17.

Briefly Speaking

- Faculty and staff can pick up two 2017-18 All Sports Passes from Shelly Losee in the Ryder Center. The passes grant admission to all home regular season football and basketball games. You must sign for them and you may not pick up passes for anyone else. All Sports Passes are not distributed at any home contests. Please note that your SVSU ID card does not provide you with free admission to the games; you must present your All Sports Pass to the ticket takers.
- Reserve parking permits for 2017-18 may be purchased for \$20 at svsu.edu/universitypolice, at University Police in South Campus Complex A or at Student Financial Services in Wickes Hall. Permits for 2016-17 expire Sept. 15. For further information, call ext. 4141.

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.

J.J. Boehm
Director of Media &
Community Relations
jjboehm@svsu.edu • 964-4055

Tim Inman
Director of Marketing Support
tmi@svsu.edu • 964-4086

Submission Deadline:
Noon on Wednesday before the publication date
Please email submissions to: jjboehm@svsu.edu