

Unrestricted accreditation of master degree level instruction has been granted Saginaw Valley College by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools, Dr. Walter T. James, acting president, announced today. Specifically accredited is SVC's program master of arts in teaching degree.

Dr. Harold W. Peterson, dean of SVC's College of Education, said the accreditation means that students in SVC's program now may transfer credits to a master's program at another college. It also recognizes that SVC's educational program can support instruction at a level higher than the bachelor degree.

The North Central's action continues and reaffirms the accreditation of bachelor level work at SVC. This accreditation first was granted in April of 1970. Furthermore, the master level accreditation contains no program restrictions, Dr. Peterson said. However, North Central wants to be informed annually if new programs are under consideration. The only new program being considered now is a master's degree for school principals.

North Central informed SVC that the accreditation of both bachelor and master's level programs would be uninterrupted for the next five years. North Central will return to the college then for a restudy.

SVC's master program for teachers has grown rapidly since it was instituted a year ago. It now has 200 students enrolled, including 50 in SVC program in Macomb Intermediate School District. SVC established the Macomb program at the invitation of the school district.

Dr. James said he was pleased with the North Central action, and added that this again gives proof of the excellence of SVC's academic program and offerings.

SVC, which celebrated its 10th anniversary last November, has moved fast in its first decade. It started as a private college in 1963 with rented space in Delta

Community College, became a State supported college in 1965, and has had steady enrollment growth. From an initial enrollment of 100, SVC has grown into a college that expects to enroll more than 2,500 students in September. To help accommodate this number and to present a more attractive campus, more than \$1 million is being spent on improvements this summer. The bulk of this money comes from funds contributed to the college. Efforts to get the State to build a library and another classroom building on the campus are under way.

Here is a summary of SVC's growth:

Sept. 1964 -- Charter class of 100 students enrolled with classes held in Delta College.

July 1965 -- Governor Romney signs into law a bill making SVC the 11th State-assisted four-year college in Michigan.

Jan. 1965 -- SVC moves onto its own campus.

March 1968 -- North Central grants SVC candidate status.

Sept. 1969 -- Wickes Hall is completed and occupied.

Oct. 1969 -- The campus is dedicated.

April 1970 -- North Central grants unrestricted regional accreditation for bachelor level instruction.

July 1974 -- North Central grants master level accreditation and reaffirms bachelor level accreditation.

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