

the INTERIOR

OCTOBER 18, 1977

FACULTY/ADMINISTRATION/BOARD
RETREAT THIS FRIDAY AND SATURDAY

A retreat to discuss the mission of SVSC will be held this Friday and Saturday, October 21 & 22, for the College faculty, administration and Board of Control. The first session begins at 8:30 A.M. in the Lower Level of Doan Center with coffee and rolls, followed by introductions at 9 A.M. by President Jack M. Ryder. Key addresses will be made by Charles B. Curtiss, Chairman of the Board of Control, and Dr. Lawson Crowe, consultant, National Endowment for the Humanities.

From 10:00 to noon, a discussion on the position paper for the College will take place, with lunch from 12:00 to 1:30 P.M.

Faculty members with classes that cannot easily be rearranged should plan to have lunch on Friday and participate during the day as much as possible. From 1:30 to 3:30 P.M., group discussions will take place.

Saturday's session will be held in 238 Wickes Hall, beginning with coffee and rolls at 8 A.M. and group reports from 8:30 to 10:30 A.M. Conclusions and an open discussion are slated for 10:30 to 11:30 A.M., before the SVSC-Northeast Illinois football game.

All faculty members should have received a packet of materials on October 17, which were sent to all retreat participants for their review before Friday morning. Included are the "Saginaw Valley State College Position Paper", including the mission statement and goals as proposed by the Title III Committee

chaired by Cy Smith, plus other material drafted by Dean Peterson and Director Lange following the Fall Orientation Program discussion. Other enclosures are articles entitled "Problems of Higher Education in American", "Mastery Learning: The New Classroom Revolution", and "Liberal Arts - The Educational Imperative".

PLEASE CALL THE PRESIDENT'S OFFICE AT EXT. 201 IF YOU PLAN TO ATTEND THE 12:00 NOON LUNCHEON ON FRIDAY, THE 21ST, OR IF YOU DID NOT RECEIVE THE INFORMATION PACKET.

SVSC TEAM APPROACH FIGHTING CANCER

Through a unique "team" approach, three Saginaw area scientists have developed and are testing an anti-cancer drug at SVSC which appears to be effectively controlling certain types of cancer they are trying to cure. The drug they discovered -- dirhenium propionato sulfate -- elicited enough interest at the International Chemotherapy Conference in Zurich, Switzerland last month that the National Cancer Institute has already agreed to provide funds so enough of the drug can be produced for independent testing.

The three scientists are Drs. George W. Eastland, Chairman of the Chemistry Department; Nikolay V. Dimitrov of the Saginaw Community Cancer Center; and microbiologist Gene C. H. Yang, Associate Professor of Biology.

Their drug consists of rhenium, a transition metal, which is combined with organic acids to form a new chemical compound. That mixture is then combined with yet another compound, with the result a product which possesses better solubility and greater anti-tumor effects than would otherwise be possible.

Rhenium has a great range of oxidation states, which allows it to form many and varied compounds. Because it has a remarkable ability to form bonds to itself, inorganic chemists like Eastland have examined it for more insight into metal-to-metal bonding.

For Saginaw Valley State College Employees.
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The Saginaw scientists believe that the metal compound they have discovered interacts with DNA, a substance in the body which permits cancerous cells to multiply rapidly. Yang now has good preliminary evidence that the new drug interferes with DNA duplication and hence stops the growth of cancerous cells. Both he and Eastland caution that this is strictly a theory, and both feel that scientists will be curing cancer long before they understand its cause.

The international chemotherapists in Switzerland were excited about the drug because the results obtained by the Saginaw group have been against B-16 melanoma, a strain of cancer extremely resistant to chemotherapy in the past.

Also promising about the new drug is its apparent low toxicity. Rhenium is one of the least toxic of all heavy metals and there has never been reported a case of rhenium poisoning. In addition to being readily soluble, the new drug has had minimal toxic effect on normal experimental animals tested at SVSC.

Because of Dimitrov's international reputation, clearance has already been obtained for the first phase of tests on humans in France. Those experiments will determine if there are side effects to the drug, rather than to investigate the effect on cancerous tumors. The first round of testing has already been carried out in France, and very few side effects were noted.

According to Eastland, the University of Houston is apparently the only other research center in the United States -- and possibly the world -- which is systematically studying metal compounds, other than platinum, as anti-tumor agents, although an estimated 1500 new anti-cancer agents are introduced annually.

Fewer than 1% of these have any value at all, and normally the developer sends his drug from the chemistry lab to an outside testing source. That's the advantage of the Saginaw group's efforts, Eastland believes. "We are a small group but have

all the wherewithal to do immediate testing. We are experimenting with six types of mouse cancers and can receive instant feedback. This has enabled us to do much more restructuring of the drug in a short amount of time than would have been possible any other way."

So far the group has found that the effects of the new compound are very dependent on the size of dose used and their frequency. Thus immediate feedback becomes all the more important. The researchers now know that one large dose per week is worthless, but that four small ones are extremely effective. While they have not yet optimized the schedule, they feel they can do so soon, because they have the complete facilities here.

The fact that the entire research team is in the Saginaw Valley has been of critical importance. "This is a very unique situation for a school the size of SVSC, because we're doing things you'd expect only at a large institution like the University of Houston or Duke," noted Eastland. "Our biggest problem in gaining acceptance at places like international conferences is that doctors in the large research groups don't believe we can do anything on such a small basis. But we are apparently the only place in the world actively examining rhenium compounds as anti-tumor agents."

"Our team approach is the whole thing. We are small enough to work together and perform all aspects of the research right here. We start with a material, react the results of it with something else and then that result with something again. This lets us design compounds specifically to stop tumor growth, and we don't get caught up in other unrelated things along the way," he said.

Up to now the team's work has been supported solely by the community of Saginaw. SVSC has supplied room for animal experimentation and is providing a trailer for housing animals, to maximize their care.

Eastland believes that all forms of cancer may have the same chemical cause and are

merely different manifestations of the same chemical problem. If the rhenium carboxylates and particularly dirhenium propionato sulfate prove as effective in human experimentation as they have with animals, a significant finding of international importance may have been born right here at SVSC.

FACULTY COLLOQUIUM THIS THURSDAY

Dr. Tom Hearn, Assistant Professor of English, will be featured speaker this Thursday, October 20, for the third bi-weekly faculty lunch-colloquium. The session meets at 12 noon in the large private dining room at Doan Center.

Meals may be ordered in advance by contacting Larry Kickham, Ext. 353, or you may simply go through the regular cafeteria line. For persons not planning to eat at Doan, the colloquium begins at 12:30 and lasts until 1:30 P.M. Future speakers include Dr. Stan Mazur-Hart, Assistant Professor of Psychology, on Thursday, November 3; Dr. John del Regato, Assistant Professor of Education on Thursday, Nov. 17; and Mark Greenberg, Instructor of English, on Thursday, December 1.

SCULPTOR PRESENTING SHOW AT ART WORKSHOP

H. James Hay, Associate Professor in the Sculpture Department at Olivet College, will have samples of his work on display in the College Arts Workshop daily from now through Friday, October 28. Hay received both Bachelor and Master of Fine Arts degrees from MSU and has been with Olivet for nine years.

Previous exhibits have been throughout the country, from Washington, D.C. to San Francisco, California. He has received numerous sculpture commissions, most recently from the Hilton Hotel in Washington.

BOSSES DAY LUNCHEON NEXT TUESDAY

In recognition of Bosses Day, a luncheon has been planned for all secretarial, clerical and technical staff persons

along with their bosses next Tuesday, October 25, in the Lower Level of Doan Center. Festivities begin at 12:00 noon and there is no admission charge, although S,C&T staff persons are to bring a dish to pass. Advance reservations are also required, by phoning the Personnel Office, Ext. 266.

CROSS COUNTRY TEAM HAS 47-0 RECORD

Although split into two units, the SVSC Cross Country Team won two major invitations last Saturday. They defended their Great Lakes U.S.T.F.F. (United States Track and Field Federation) Cross Country Championship and shut out the other teams, while winning the Grand Valley Invitational meet with a record low team total of just 22 points. SVSC had a three-way tie between Pete Hallop, Pat Fitzgerald and Mike Heath, and the group is now ranked 9th nationally in the NAIA.

This Saturday marks the Saginaw Valley Invitational cross country meet here on campus, and the public is invited to watch the competition begin at 11 A.M.

BERGH, MANWELL SEEKING JAYCEES

All men between the ages of 18 and 35 who might be interested in joining the Saginaw Jaycees are invited to attend their next meeting this Wednesday, October 19, at 7:30 P.M. Roger Bergh, Ext. 266, or Terry Manwell, 793-9100, Ext. 205, are both active in the group and seeking new members. Meetings are held monthly on Wednesday evenings at the Saginaw Chamber of Commerce Building, 901 S. Washington Avenue, and annual dues are \$25.00.

FRONT ROWS OF LOT C STILL FOR FACULTY ONLY

Although the barricades which had divided the two front rows of Lot C west of Wickes Hall from the rest of the lot have been removed, College employees are reminded that the two front rows closest to the building are still reserved for faculty members only. Other College employees are to use rows 3-6 of Lot C for parking their vehicles.

BUSINESS/INDUSTRY DIALOGUE THIS THURSDAY

A former student radical who once was opposed to the established social order and spent time in Bolivia with violent anti-establishment groups will discuss with area college students why the American free enterprise system is the best in the world.

John K. Belaski, now owner and president of Lansing's successful Crossroads Imports store, will be one of three panelists telling students from 14 colleges what's good about American business during the Thursday, October 20, Business/Industry Dialogue. The second annual conference, co-sponsored by SVSC and the National Association of Businessmen, will also include 150 prominent Valley representatives of business and industry who will exchange their ideas and viewpoints with the students.

Belaski was born in Detroit and at an early age found he had a deep interest in other people, lifestyles and their cultures. At the same time, he was opposed to the established social order, where he found many inequities in justices and problems.

He left home when just turning 16 and spent time in Canada, Mexico, Peru and finally Bolivia. In South America he found that the less than peaceful social groups he wanted to pattern himself after were much less humane or fair than what he had left behind. Thus came the beginning of his present opposition to violent social change as a means of solving socio-political problems. At SVSC, Belaski will tell why he now appreciates this country and what it has.

He has since received his Master's degree in sociology-anthropology at Michigan State University, where he is enrolled in the doctoral program at present. Along the way he has directed a tri-county mental health board, drug rehabilitation program, and has had a part-time job with the Michigan Department of Education. His Lansing store sells handicrafts from villages in developing countries of South America and Africa.

Other panelists are Carl A. Gerstacker, Chairman of the Board of Dow Chemical Company from 1960-1976, a director of the company, chairman of its finance and compensation committees, and a member of the audit committee; and Dr. Barbara Everitt Bryant, Vice President of Market Opinion Research and Canadian Opinion Research, Ltd.

POLISH DANCERS HAVE VARIETY OF SPONSORS

Fanciers of authentic Polish folk dancing will savor a free taste of Polish artistry at 7:30 P.M. Saturday, October 22, when the Wisla Dance Ensemble of Detroit comes to the SVSC Theatre.

Through sponsorship by the Michigan Council for the Arts and matching funds from the Polish American Congress and The Friends of Polish Art, Detroit, the group will appear without charge. Co-sponsor of the event is the SVSC Institute of Polish Studies, which welcomes the general public to attend.

The group is the Polish Folk Dance Ensemble in residence at the Detroit Historical Museum. Its performance is billed as "a celebration of Polish music, dance and songs."

The 25-member ensemble recently participated in the Third International Polish Folk Dance Competition in Rzeszow, Poland. The international flavor of the program offers universal appeal and utilizes Polish songs to accentuate ethnic dancing.

SUGGESTION BOXES AVAILABLE FOR YOUR USE

Suggestion boxes in all major buildings on campus stand ready for your recommendations on how improvements can be made so that SVSC will become an even better place. Suggestions by faculty, staff and students are welcomed and will each be considered separately, on a weekly basis. Appropriate departments or areas will then be involved, as new ideas are implemented.

Please don't forget to return your United Way pledge card this week!