BOARD LEARNS HEADCOUNT & CREDIT HOURS DOWN

Figures released by Registrar Gary R. Apsey at Monday's monthly Board of Control meeting showed winter semester headcount at 3,067 students as of Monday, compared with 3,006 a year earlier. However, credit hours -- at 28,812 -- are down 1% from last winter's 28,949 at the same date and both headcount and credit hours are below expectations. So far 434 new students have arrived for winter semester while earlier estimates were that 500 would enroll. Only 23 new juniors are on board, compared with 99 a year earlier, while there are 102 new sophomores versus 55 in winter 1977. Sixty new graduate students have enrolled, compared with 20 a year earlier.

Winter semester dorm occupancy is at 347, up 50 students from a year ago and 70 higher than the eight-year average of 277 for winter semester. Between fall and winter this year, 46 students left the dorms while 26 new residents signed up, according to John C. Burkhardt, Director of Campus Life. The result was a 94.6% net retention for fall term, versus the eight-year average of 91.9%. For winter there is an average 6.09 students per suite, down just slightly from the 6.44 student-per-suite ratio recorded fall semester. "Saginaw Valley has been growing in terms of dorm students and next year is likely to have more demand than space," Burkhardt said.

According to her, "Orientation is not a time and a place but something to do when convenient for students, not necessarily for the College staff." For fall semester, 2633 new students applied and were admitted, while 53.4% or 1434 of these actually enrolled and attended classes. Though 280 FTICs attended the two-day August orientation, a total of 1,040 were not at the formal sessions and Mrs. Ferris stated that her challenge is to develop "an effective continuing orientation program."

Dr. Emerson D. Gilbert reported that a total operation budget of $8,678,149 is being projected for the 1978-79 school year, compared with $7,187,067 this year. According to him, a 4.8% increase in student credit hours is being projected along with a 7% inflation factor, and that $357,257 additional dollars will be sought from the state for increased enrollment. Currently 67% of the student credit hours are being taught by full-time faculty, and an additional $293,080 are being sought for enough additional full-time faculty to teach 85% of the student credit hours, especially during these formative years when programs are being developed. $127,000 will be sought to expand computer capacity and develop an on-line registration system and the College is asking for $50,000 to develop public services television programming using the expertise of our faculty in cooperation with Delta College. Adding additional personnel to upgrade custodial and maintenance services and include an internal auditor/budget officer, a grand total of $921,837 in program revision requests is being sought. Because utilities are expected to increase 20% in cost and Pioneer Hall will be operated on a full-time basis next year, an additional $66,150 was sought in that category. Economic adjustments including faculty and staff compensation and inflation, supplies and equipment will add yet another $503,095 to the budget request. Tuition is expected to bring in approximately $2,181,484, meaning that a total of $6,496,665 is

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being requested in the state appropriation for SVSC's fiscal year. This equates to $6,895,720 on the state's fiscal year.

By adding the library to Instructional Facility No. 2, total project cost is now estimated at $15,643,300, including the $1,000,000 gift recently received from the Wickes Foundation. Total building size has been reduced to 189,400 square feet, with the idea of putting some classrooms and offices in the library until the space is needed for book acquisitions. Gilbert stated that the project remains in the new state bonding bill and that a favorable response has been received to including the library in the project, as this would save the state $6,031,000 over the cost of two separate building projects.

The revised cost for the central heating and cooling plant is now $13,902,000, with plans to construct the facility for burning coal immediately rather than waiting until 1985. In addition, the facility would be able to burn solid waste and possibly wood chips.

Included in requests for lump sum allocations is installation of a new Michigan Bell "dimension" telephone system at a cost of $146,600. If funded as a capital outlay, this would save money over a five-year period and would reduce operating costs. Additional money is being sought for new landscaping, to extend the sidewalk system, for theatre remodeling and repair, development of the College entrance, and repair for four existing tennis courts.

Concerning the budget, President Ryder stated that during the period of fiscal restraints seen in the past few years, SVSC has been hurt more than most other institutions because we have been growing faster. He noted that a $68,000,000 budget surplus is expected in Michigan this year and felt that we would not be having our current budgetary difficulties if the state had more adequately funded the formula approved by its fiscal agencies last year for state colleges. It was also announced that the state Association of Governing Boards will be meeting on our campus on Thursday, February 23, from 4-8:30 P.M.

Board Chairman Charles Curtiss released figures from the Michigan Citizens' Research Council which showed that state debt in Michigan has risen from $900,000,000 in 1969 to $1.6 billion in 1976. As of June 30, 1976, SVSC's total debt was about $2.5 million for dorms and the gymnasium, compared with an average of $15-25 million at other state institutions. Next lowest was Lake Superior with a $7.5 million debt and highest was the U of M with $56 million. While the chairman said that state debt figures show a need to continue maintaining the integrity of the new bonding bill, he also asked if this institution has been holding itself back more than necessary in bonding self-liquidating construction.

While final revenue figures for the current fiscal year are not yet available, President Ryder indicated that a deficit existed last year in the general fund and auxiliary funds of approximately $129,000. According to him, this has not created a cash flow problem because capital has been available in different areas to allow payment of bills, but "we can't continue to function and go in debt." He said that "we don't even have the basic state allocation indicated by the funding formula, and yet we also need additional funds as a developing institution. If the legislature were funding the formula agreed to by fiscal agencies, we'd be in good shape now," he felt.

The Board then adjourned for approximately 20 minutes to hold a closed session concerning upcoming negotiations for the Faculty Association contract, which expires June 30. When the session reconvened, a motion was made and approved to have staff members Larry Fitzpatrick, Dr. Emerson Gilbert, Dr. Crystal Lange, Allan Orr and Roger Bergh represent the Board of Control for the purpose of negotiating in good faith on behalf of the Board for tentative agreements, subject to Board approval. Others are expected to be named later for observation or special assistance in the negotiating process.
Following adjournment of the session, a joint meeting was held with the Delta College Board of Trustees to review the mission of each institution. It was learned that the two colleges are working closely together and are meeting regularly to avoid competition or unnecessary duplications. Both Boards expressed the feeling that cooperation between the two institutions has never been better and probably exceeds that of any other two and four-year college working together in the state.

CHINESE AMBASSADOR TO VISIT SVSC

James C.H. Shen, Ambassador of the Republic of China to the United States, will visit SVSC on Thursday and Friday, January 26-27. His appearance, sponsored by Fellows of the Academy of Applied Philosophy, has been arranged by Dr. Robert S.P. Yien, Acting Vice President for Academic Affairs.

Included on Ambassador Shen's agenda will be a major address entitled "Trade Relations Between the U. S. and the Republic of China", where he will discuss present and future implications of economic cooperation between the two nations. His speech will be presented free to the general public at 8:00 P.M. on Thursday, January 26, in the SVSC Theatre.

Shen was spokesman for the government of the Republic of China before accepting his present position and previously was press representative for Madame Chaing Kai Shek. He will appear at a 1:30 P.M. Thursday press conference on the SVSC campus, where he plans to answer questions about the economic development of the Republic of China and his country's plans for the future.

From 2:30 to 4 P.M. that afternoon, he will address members of the Academy of Applied Philosophy and then will be guest of honor at an all-college reception in Doan Center.

On Friday evening, the Chinese Association of the Tri-City area will host a reception for the Ambassador in Midland and he will return to Washington, D.C. on Saturday morning.

Further details concerning the visit are still being arranged.

ARGENTINE EDUCATORS WILL VISIT SVSC, MICHIGAN

Between seven and ten educators from Argentina will be coming to Michigan in February for a four-month study of the American educational system. Three of the principals and teachers from Argentina's elementary and secondary system will be based at SVSC, while the rest will be assigned to other Michigan colleges. Financial support for the visit will be paid by the government of the province of Buenos Aires.

In all, some 37 Argentine educators will visit four states through the program, arranged by the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU). In addition to the group visiting SVSC and Michigan, others will be assigned to New Mexico, Ohio and Pennsylvania. The Argentines visiting New Mexico will be headquartered at the University of New Mexico-Highlands, while the Ohio contingent will be based at Akron University and the Pennsylvania group at Lockhaven State College.

According to SVSC President Jack M. Ryder, the Argentine group will arrive in Washington on February 11 for an intensive orientation and subsequent assignment to the four states which will be hosting them. The Michigan delegation is expected to arrive on approximately Monday, February 20.

Part of the program may include living in an American home for up to one month as well as on-campus living experiences. The Argentines will be here through mid-June, after which they will return to Washington or Miami for an evaluation and debriefing session before their return to South America.

Ryder was part of a six-man team representing 325 colleges and universities which
traveled to Argentina last month as representatives of AASCU. The group signed an agreement with the Argentines to bring the 37 South American teachers to this country. While here they will learn about American society and culture as they seek out knowledge and approaches in our educational and industrial systems which will be helpful to their development. Upon their return, they will help the Argentine government decide how the transfer of technology can best be implemented through the Argentine educational process.

Present plans are to develop the secondary and higher education levels in Buenos Aires province initially and then expand the new program in other provinces. At present, only 25% of students who have completed their elementary education go on to high school in Argentina, with only about 10% of the university age group attending some form of higher education. In the future, Argentina plans to have all teacher training take place at a post-secondary level rather than through local "normal" type schools as at present. In addition, they hope to establish a new system of public, national and provincial universities and will use the American visit as part of their planning.

FACULTY NOTES

-- Dr. John V. Jezierski, Associate Professor of History, is one of 100 history professors chosen nationwide to attend the second Newberry Library National Endowment for the Humanities Conference on teaching state and community history. Sessions at the January 11-15 conference in Chicago will deal with methodology such as oral history, family history, demography, visual history, multi-media production and use of museums and archives in teaching state and community history.

-- Zane L. Rybkowski, Director of Public Safety, will be guest speaker for the Wednesday, January 11, noon luncheon program of the Bay City Exchange Club at House of Ing restaurant, Bay City. He will discuss the role of campus law enforcement in general and on the SVSC campus in particular.

-- Paul S. Gill, Director of Financial Aid and Scholarships, is new president of the Big Sisters of Saginaw County Board of Directors. He resides at 3530 Hickory Lane, Saginaw. New vice president of the board is Ms. Anne Dietiker, 116 Post Road, Saginaw.

-- Dr. Sam Sarkar, Associate Professor of Economics was recently appointed Saginaw County representative to the board of the East Central Michigan Health System Agency, Inc. (ECMHS). The federally-funded 14-county health agency is responsible for reviewing, planning and coordinating the medical care facilities in the region, including the tri-cities area. New health-related projects originating in the region must be approved by the board before consideration by the state, underlying the crucial role the board plays in developing area health care facilities.

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES OFFERS FREE TICKETS

Tickets are available in the Campus Activities Office for SVSC faculty, students or staff in limited quantities for various cultural events to be held in the tri-city area during January and February. Free tickets are on hand for the Pit and Balcony play "What Every Woman Knows", to be offered in Saginaw between January 12-21. Limited quantities of free tickets for Midland Symphony Orchestra performances on February 4 & 12 are also available. On February 4, Ani Kavafian will be guest performer, while The University of Michigan Symphony Orchestra will appear with the Midland Symphony on the 12th. On February 5, the Saginaw Symphony Orchestra will perform with guest conductor Karl Maas.

Intramural bowling on Thursday, January 12, will be free to those who sign up to participate in the IM league. Participants will be able to bowl two games.

Beginning January 11, all SVSC students, faculty and staff will be able to attend
the Quad Theatre for an admission price of only $1.25 on Wednesday nights. Both Delta and SVSC students can take part in SVSC Night at the Quad Theatre. Participants can attend any showing by presenting their SVSC I.D. card. Faculty and staff persons should contact the Audio Visual Department to obtain this card. Additional information can be obtained by contacting Emerson Holliday in the Campus Activities Office, Ext. 525.

PLAY AUDITIONS WEDNESDAY AND THURSDAY

Auditions for the February 16-18 play entitled "You Know I Can't Hear You While The Water's Running" are open to students, faculty and staff members this Wednesday and Thursday, January 11 & 12, from 8-10 P.M. in the Theatre. Two women and three men are needed for parts in the performance.

ALL-COLLEGE RECEPTION TO HONOR WOODCOCK WEDNESDAY

New Vice President for Business Affairs Jerry A. Woodcock and his wife, Tina, will be honored guests this Wednesday, January 11, at an all-college reception from 4-5 P.M. in the Lower Level of Doan Center. Hosting the reception will be President and Mrs. Jack M. Ryder.

Everyone connected with SVSC is encouraged to attend, including faculty, staff members and students. Refreshments will be served.

PERSONNEL

SPORTS INFORMATION DIRECTOR - Full-time permanent. Application deadline April 15.

This position will be open exclusively to SVSC employees for one week. Persons interested should contact the Personnel Office. SVSC is an equal opportunity employer.