BOARD APPROVED 9.266 MILLION DOLLAR OPERATING BUDGET

A general fund operating budget of $9,265,927 was approved Monday by the SVSC Board of Control. The figure reflects a 15.19% or $1,221,959 hike over last year's general fund budget. On the College's fiscal year, the state appropriation for 1979-80 will total $6,528,600, versus 5.864 million a year earlier. Tuition and fees will add $2,353,300, up from 1,975 million in 1978-79. Other various forms of income will add $169,100, and the College expects a savings of $131,944 from leaving a number of positions unfilled. Salaries paid by grants will add $82,983 to the total.

On the expenditure side, personal services --salaries, fringe benefits and other employment costs--will total $6,896,109, up from 5.859 million this past year. Supplies, materials and contractual services, including utilities, insurance and financial aid will total $2,266,318 while equipment allocations will add $103,500 to the budget.

President Jack M. Ryder said that resources are difficult to come by in the state right now due to extreme pressures on the government and intense competition at the state and federal levels to support various functions such as defense, education, social services, welfare, home heating costs, prisons and other things. "Ultimately it will be up to the American people to decide which priorities are most essential. I feel education is one of the most important because it represents an investment in human resources both in this nation and throughout the world. Only educated people will be able to solve the world's problems in an on-going process, so that we have peace in the world and all can enjoy a better standard of living at a meaningful, respectable life.

He added that it is clear the executive branch and legislature at both the House and Senate level have all made a special effort this year to help SVSC. Although the average increase in state appropriations for the 15 public colleges was 9.27%, SVSC obtained 10.5%, or a net increase of $635,200 to a total of $6,687,400. Only Lake Superior received this large an increase along with SVSC.

Ryder added that progress has been made this year, although "obviously we would like to see more ... we will operate in a very lean way, not carry out some services and wait ... the new budget is fine tuned and we are planning to end the 1979-80 year with expenditures not exceeding revenues, but that will require very careful management," he cautioned.

Both Ryder and Vice President for Business Affairs Jerry A. Woodcock indicated that it appears the $188,000 accumulated deficit has been reduced by approximately $50,000 this past year, due to careful management and last summer's lay-offs. For this next year, no further reduction in the deficit is planned due to the tight budget. However, it was pointed out that the deficit is now a manageable one and "we will make every effort to reduce it through careful management and by husbanding our funds."

Although equipment expenditures are planned at $103,500, this could be reduced because the institutional contingency fund is again severely limited. Some equipment purchases will be post-poned until later in the fiscal year, after the College is certain no major
emergencies will require using that money elsewhere. It was also announced that a supplemental appropriation from the legislature has provided $146,000 to pay for the Dimension telephone system, and that this special money came with the "help of the Board, Vice Presidents, Executive Committee and many community citizens and various friends of the College." Ryder said we are "fortunate indeed for the help we have received from the private sector" and indicated that the College will have to count even more on private gifts and a united effort in the future. The Board then unanimously approved the budget as presented.

Woodcock told the Board that detailed budget information is expected to be completed as soon as possible, with initial budget information to be included in August financial reports distributed to departments in early September. Board treasurer Melvin Zahnow congratulated "the entire College because you have finally turned the deficit around." He expressed hope that more of the deficit could be scratched out this year. Board member Florence "Jo" Saltzman said she "appreciates the timely presentation of the budget this year, which used to come along in January or February. This is excellent this year," she said.

In other action, the Board granted tenure to Dr. Arthur Andrewes, Chemistry; Dr. James Ford, Sociology; Dr. Russell Gingras, Accounting; Mr. Larry Kickham, Accounting; Dr. Robert Pratt, Physical Education; Dr. Bernyce Smith, English/ Education; Dr. Joseph Snider, Education; Dr. Norman Sterchele, Education; Mr. Robert Thaler, Sociology; Dr. Kenneth Wahl, Education; Mr. Matthew Zivich, Art.

Faculty promotions approved effective July 1 were for Dr. Hsuan "Frank" S. Chen, professor of physics; Dr. Charles Pelzer, professor of biology; Dr. Thomas Renna, professor of history; Dr. O. Zeller Robertson, professor of political science; Dr. Joseph Snider, professor of education; Dr. Kenneth Wahl, professor of education; Dr. John Willerts, professor of history.

Promoted to the rank of associate professor were: Dr. Arthur Andrewes, Dr. David Barker, Dr. Basil Clark, Dr. James Ford, Dr. Lynn Herkstroeter, Mr. Larry Kickham, Dr. Merlyn Mondol, Dr. Hong Y. Park, Dr. Robert Pratt, Dr. Norman Sterchele, Mr. Matthew Zivich.

Before the motion on tenure was approved, Mrs. Saltzman expressed concern about the number of tenured faculty here and at other institutions in light of enrollment declines nationally. Vice President Robert Yien reported that the percentage of tenured faculty at state public institutions averages 57-58%, while it was 47% here last year. Yien indicated that even with the additional number of tenured persons, SVSC would still be the lowest in the state with about 53%. Zahnow said it is unusual for an institution this young to have this high a quality of faculty. He asked the news media representatives present to investigate the quality of instructional staff here and to then better acquaint Valley residents and prospective students with this fact.

An SVSC Children's Center was approved, to care for approximately 20 children of students and college personnel at a time. The nursery school would be for youngsters 2½ to 6 years of age and would be located in a College-owned ranch house just north of the Davis Road entrance on College property. Cost is to be $1.25 per hour in 4 hour blocks, a sufficient period of time for parents to take classes and study or use the library while giving children a meaningful educational experience. One degree certified person with a strong background in child development plus one assistant will be initially hired, with the project to be self-supporting. Both acting student body president Ann Kozak and professor of education Dr. Kenneth Wahl reported on the project, which will use a Piagetian approach for cognitive development of children. Licensing has already been begun through the State Department of Social Services. There will be $9,000 in start-up costs for equipment and renovation, with a total operating budget expected to be $36,500. The student government grant will be for $5,000. After considerable discussion, the Board approved a resolution authorizing the administration to assess late charges to students with delinquent board and room bills. The charge is to be assessed at $15 per month of delinquency, with the maximum to be the lesser of 50% of the amount outstanding or $75. Board member Dr. Richard Gilmore
felt the assessment procedure "won't solve anything and is a waste of time." Woodcock pointed out that the College currently has a deferral-based system and last year showed a total of $30,000 in uncollectible receivables from over past years. While the due date for fall semester will be November 1, he indicated the College would not assess the penalty fee until a reasonable time later.

The Board also--re-elected Charles B. Curtiss, Chairman, John W. Kendall, Vice Chairman, Mrs. Ned S. Arbury, Secretary, and Melvin J. Zahnow, Treasurer for the 1979-80 year--approved a change in the Campus parking ordinance so that the College will comply with the August 1 version of Michigan's State Motor Vehicle Code. The State Court will now handle all Campus parking and traffic appeals--approved the selection of Saginaw City School Superintendent Dr. Foster Gibbs as a new member of the College Board of Fellows--agreed to list both Friday, May 2 and Monday, May 12 as meeting dates in May 1980, although one will likely be cancelled when the amount of business surrounding Commencement on May 3 is clarified--heard an up-date on the Campus comprehensive planning process, including the Ad Hoc committee's recommendations that the academic area of the College be considered first, that planning should be institutionalized and that there should be both relatively short-term and longer range planning, which will be a basic function leading to the implementation of future College budgets--heard that 95.6% of last year's dorm students took 12 or more credits per semester and that 38% of the commuter students took 12 or more hours--learned that 472 contracts have been received for fall semester housing as of last Friday, reflecting a 53% increase in the number of returning students although the projection had been for just an 8% rise. Director of Admissions Dick Thompson reported that a decision is expected by this Friday on what will be done between now and September 10 as additional requests for on campus housing are received--were told that both IF-2 and the Fine Arts building project are now in the design phase, with architects due here four times within the next week to work on IF-2. Wickes Hall will be almost totally re-roofed at a cost of $110,000 being paid by the state and re-sodding has been completed on the football field. A new scoreboard is expected to be erected in time for the opening football game September 8. Curb cuts are being completed within the next week in 3 locations on Campus, and parking lot B and C will be sealed and stripped before fall. The theatre roof repair project has been completed and SVSC's tennis courts will be resurfaced before fall semester. The new Bay Road sign is due to be completed by September 20, with landscape work and lighting coming shortly thereafter, thanks to the SVSC Foundation and Student Government. Morley Field is scheduled to be completed by the end of August, with surfacing anticipated on August 20 and fencing to be constructed this next week--heard a report from Vice President Yien on the moving of Academic Advisement to Wickes Hall and the relocation of Continuing Education to the 68 building. In addition, Public Safety will be moved to the former Chrysallis Center, which has been made a part of Continuing Education in the 68 building. President Ryder reported that "continuing education is the over arching unit, with Chrysallis as an integral part within it. Now that we're bringing this function within the mainstream of the College, we expect to expand the functioning of Chrysallis regarding additional activities and general fund support."--Learned that fall semester registration figures are still on target at this time, according to Ryder.

OPEN SC&T MEETING

All secretarial, clerical and technical staff are requested to attend a meeting on Wednesday, August 15, 1979 at 3:00 p.m. in Room P-224 Pioneer Hall. President Ryder will be present to discuss the election of representatives to serve as committee members for the SC&T staff. The Committee will have the responsibility to review and recommend changes in the SC&T manual and to meet regularly with administrative staff members to discuss matters of mutual concern and interest.

PERSONNEL--

--SECRETARY TO VICE PRESIDENT FOR BUSINESS AFFAIRS - Full-time, Permanent (replacement). $4.25 per hour.
--Administrative Secretary; School of
Education. Full-time, permanent (replacement). $4.25 per hour.

These positions will be open to members
of the campus community for one week. Interested persons should contact the Personnel
Office at ext. 4108.

SVSC is an equal opportunity, affirmative
action employer and is non-discriminatory
in its policies and practices.