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YIEN HAS YEN TO HELP CHANGE CHINESE EDUCATION

Dramatic changes are coming for secondary and college education in the Republic of China, largely because of the efforts of Robert S. P. Yien, vice president for academic affairs. A native of Taiwan, he is working with the ministry of education there and recently met with the nation's premier Yun Hsuan Sun for two hours to present his conclusions. He and minister of education Huei-Sen Chu have met four times this past month and Yien has appeared at news conferences and television interviews in Taipei and other cities.

Yien was chosen for the consulting project because, although there are many Chinese scholars in nuclear physics, medicine, science and other fields now in the U.S., he is one of the few natives of his country holding a high position in American higher education administration.

Right now Taiwan has compulsory education through the ninth year, but the last three suffer from a lack of quality because of the Republic's emphasis on economic growth and foreign trade rather than education.

"Because the island's economy is so good right now, the government is simply looking ahead 10 years and sees a need to improve the quality and change the type of education available," Yien says.

He has proposed an extension of the nine compulsory years in school to ten, with the final year aimed at vocational education for the 60-70% of graduates who don't go on to colleges or universities.

After graduating from Tunghai University in 1963, Yien immigrated to the U.S. in 1965, earned his master's and doctorate degrees from Michigan State and joined the SVSC faculty in 1970. Along the way he was a banker

for three years in Lansing, and was promoted to his current post two years ago. While in this country, he has seen his home city of Taipei become international in character.

"If the island remains stable, Taiwan will be a developed country in just three more years," he predicts. "Because 17 million people are crowded into an area about the size of Connecticut and Delaware, they realize an intense need to make the best possible use of their people. Since all do not need to become college educated, the rest will receive terminal training during their 10th and final year in school to prepare them for jobs."

The Republic of China is willing to overhaul its educational system, and Yien has recommended that a National Institute of Education be created to improve long-term educational planning. He met last month with 12 college and university presidents and provosts, proposing that they coordinate the planning process for the island.

His recommendation was that the new National Institute report directly to the premier and that it be independent from the Ministry of Education, which is responsible for executing the plans which result. A budget of \$11 million has been proposed by Yien for the initial step of the planning process.

Yien also suggested that evening schools or colleges be established to provide extended education for adults already in the work force. This training would be limited to working adults age 25 or over who have held steady employment for three or more years, so their skills can be updated.

According to him, all college admissions to public institutions in the Republic of China are made on the basis of entrance examinations. "Public colleges and universities are viewed as quality institutions, because

all students must pass the test before they can attend. Private colleges are seen there as places only the rich can attend, and higher education is very popular because it is the principal means to advancement."

One major difference between colleges in America and the Republic is that credits there cannot be transferred from one institution to another. "If you take a set of courses at one university, they will apply to a degree only at that place. The system is very rigid and this forces students to stay at the same school until they graduate," Yien notes.

Another way things are different there is that faculty and administrative appointments are made without benefit of search and screening committees, which are used in this country to assure equal access to employment by all applicants. "The ministry of education appoints a college or university president, and there is no formal search process involved," according to him.

Because he knows Chinese culture well due to his family background and is also into higher education administration in this country, he says he is simply perhaps "the right person at the right time" to help government and educational officials back in Taiwan analyze what the future role of education will be in Chinese society.

EMERGENCY PHONE AVAILABLE AT PUBLIC SAFETY

An emergency telephone has been mounted on the outside of the public safety office, located on Pierce road between Bay road and the south entrance to campus. The telephone is available to anyone who needs service of an emergency nature, evenings or weekends after the office has been closed.

To use the telephone, simply open the box marked "emergency phone" and lift the receiver. The telephone will then automatically dial a police dispatcher, who can send a police officer to aid you.

SPORTS PUBLICATION WINS NATIONAL AWARD

The winter 1980 basketball media guide published by SVSC's sports information office has won the national award of excellence from the National School Public Relations Association. It won in the special topic

category for four-year colleges with enrollments between 3,000 and 8,000 students. The booklet was edited by sports information director Gregory Branch and won out over some 1,100 entries.

ADDITIONAL STAFF MEMBERS HIRED FOR FALL SEMESTER

David W. Bertie joined SVSC on August 4 as athletic trainer/equipment manager, succeeding Rick Mitchell. Bertie received his bachelor of science degree in education from Central Michigan University and his master of arts degree from Miami University, Oxford, Ohio. Prior to joining SVSC, he was a graduate assistant at Miami in the department of health and physical education, as well as teaching physical education service courses.

Dr. Louis Jacoby will join SVSC as an instructor of accounting this fall term. He earned his B.S., M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Michigan along with an M.S. degree from Central Michigan University. Before joining SVSC, he was a consultant in urban and regional planning and a substitute teacher for the Bay City public schools.

Michael Sovansky has been hired as an assistant professor of business law, beginning with fall semester. He received his B.A. degree from York College of the City University of New York and his juris doctor degree from Thomas Cooley, Lansing. Since last November, he has been employed as a law clerk for circuit judge Joseph R. McDonald, Saginaw.

CAMPUS NOTES --

--The summer 1980 issue of the SVSC "Economic & Business Review" is currently in the mail to some 2,000 readers across the valley. Published by the school of business and management, this is the second issue of the new quarterly review. Feature article in this issue is a discussion of the Saginaw economy during the first quarter of 1980, by Hong Youl Park, director of the center for economic and business research. Frederick A. Webster, professor of marketing, serves as editor, and financial support is provided by the SVSC Foundation and Second National Bank of Saginaw.

--Susan K. Rowe, secretary to the vice president for administration and student affairs has successfully completed the basic scuba

diving course sanctioned by the National Association of Scuba Diving Schools. As a result, she has received her certification of scuba diving.

FALL LIBRARY HOURS TO BE EXTENDED

Beginning with the start of fall semester on September 8, the SVSC library will extend its weekend opening hours to meet the expanding needs of our students and faculty members.

Hours for Mondays through Thursdays will be 8:00 a.m.-10:30 p.m. On Friday the library will be open from 8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m. On Saturday and Sunday, hours have been extended from 12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m.

PHOTO EXHIBIT KICKS OFF FALL ARTS SCHEDULE

Photographs and photo silkscreens by Carol Bjerke will kick off the fall exhibition schedule at the SVSC arts workshop gallery. Admission is free and open to the general public daily between Wednesday, September 10, and Tuesday, September 30. Hours are 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at the gallery, located in the project '68 building off Pierce road on Tower drive.

Ms. Bjerke operates a one-person art center and workshop gallery in Clare and has sponsored a variety of area art events. She received a bachelor of arts degree from Central Michigan University in 1976 and has taken classes from the Art Institute of Chicago, Delta College and Maine photographic workshops.

Exhibitions have included the capitol city, Mt. Clemens art center and Traverse City art association juried shows and the Midland mid-Michigan juried multi-media exhibition. She received first prize for works on paper and photography at this year's Saginaw Women's Club regional art exhibit.

PERSONNEL

SECRETARY TO VICE PRESIDENT FOR ADMINISTRATION AND STUDENT SERVICES. Full-time permanent. (Replacement); \$4.75 - \$5.10 per hour. (Specially posted August 12, 1980.)

WRITER/PHOTOGRAPHER - OFFICE OF INFORMATION SERVICES. Full-time permanent. (1/2 replacement, 1/2 new)

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.