GOVERNOR'S COMMISSION ISSUES FINAL REPORT ON HIGHER EDUCATION IN MICHIGAN

Saying that it is "one report that won't gather dust on a shelf," Governor James J. Blanchard last Thursday accepted the final report of his Commission on the Future of Higher Education in Michigan. The document concludes work that began in September of 1983 to examine strengths and weaknesses of Michigan's system of higher education, and to form recommendations for its future course.

Titled "Putting Our Minds Together: New Directions for Michigan Higher Education," the 70-page booklet takes an in-depth look at the current position of public colleges and universities in Michigan. The report puts forward 24 recommendations of the commission for strengthening higher education, and provides rationale for each. Recommendations are targeted toward four areas:

* Making education affordable and accessible.
* Maintaining diversity but reducing duplication.
* Contributing to Michigan's economic revitalization.
* Enhancing the quality of higher education.

Among commission recommendations was a classification system listing five categories for institutions of higher education. Missions and roles for individual institutions should be defined within those categories, and future funding linked to role and mission statements, the commission said. Their list includes:

* Public Community Colleges
* Technical Colleges
* Regional State Colleges
* General State Universities
* Nationally-recognized Research Schools

SVSC is placed in the "Regional State College" classification, with a role of providing "broadly based and regionally accessible general four-year instruction." Regional colleges also are directed to provide "limited, highly focused, high-market demand non-technical business and professional graduate training," plus "regional public service and economic development assistance."

The commission also recommended that state aid be allocated using a formula that recognizes institutional cost variances (within recommended missions) and enrollment changes. SVSC President Jack M. Ryder noted there has been "very little recognition of enrollment patterns in setting appropriations." He said the Presidents Council, which he chairs, "is on record in support of some kind of formula approach."

Further, the commission recommended that any institution losing more than one third of its peak year enrollment should undergo a comprehensive cost-benefit analysis. Consideration should be given to merger with another college, or closing of a campus or of the institution.

Other report recommendations include:

* Increase financial aid to students.
* Limit tuition increases to less than the annual inflation rate.
* Tighten admission standards at four-year colleges and universities.
* Develop a comprehensive database that includes occupational supply and demand, plus placement data.
* Cap grants to private colleges at the 1985 level.
* Create a $42-million-a-year "Research Excellence Fund."
* Improve and enhance teacher education.

A copy of the report is on reserve in the Library.
The following information was excerpted from a Saginaw News supplement prepared by Sen. Jerry Hart (D., 14th District). It shows the funding level for education in relation to other categories of state spending, plus the sources of state revenue. This data gives the framework for examining appropriations, other revenues and spending specific to SVSC.

**GENERAL FUND/GENERAL PURPOSE**

The general fund/general purpose budget is that portion of the total state budget which is not constitutionally or legally mandated for use on specifically designated programs. This discretionary spending is the only segment of the budget over which the Legislature has any control and thus provides insight into the state's spending priorities.

The GF/GP budget comprises less than half of the total state budget. The remainder is made up of statutorily or constitutionally restricted or earmarked state and federal funds over which the Legislature has no control.

Some examples: the state will provide over $1.5 billion in State Aid to K-12 Schools in FY 1984-85 but only about 30% of that will come from the general fund. The rest is restricted funds that include 60% of all state sales tax revenues, 20% of cigarette tax revenues and 50% of the liquor excise tax.

**BRIEF COMMENTARY ON BUDGET AREA**

**EDUCATION (K-12 School Aid, Colleges and Universities)**

This section of the budget consistently received the largest increases in funding, in line with the commitment by the Governor and the Legislature to restore cuts made in recent years. Obviously, it is the top priority in state spending.

While GF/GP support for K-12 School Aid will either decline slightly or increase slightly, depending on final figures, funding from all sources will increase 10% to 11%. This is due primarily to higher sales tax receipts and lottery receipts (all lottery revenues are earmarked to the school aid fund). This increase, if it can be maintained, should help reduce some of the pressure to raise property taxes to pay for schools.

Similar increases are provided for community colleges and four-year state colleges and universities. Community colleges will receive an average increase of 10.2% and colleges and universities will receive an average increase of 11.2%. The increase for colleges and universities has allowed all fifteen schools to freeze in-state undergraduate tuition rates this school year. Almost all higher education schools received significant funding or grants for local or state economic development or job training projects to facilitate business and industrial expansion within Michigan.
ADVANCE SCHEDULING PERIOD SET

If you are planning an event that will take place after August 31, 1985, you may guarantee space on a priority basis by submitting requests to the Scheduling Office between January 15 and February 15, 1985. After February 15, facilities will be scheduled on a first-come, first-served basis for all events taking place before September 1, 1986. Copies of the Advance Scheduling Policy are available upon request from the Scheduling Office by calling ext. 4348.

VALLEY WOODWIND QUINTET TO APPEAR AT DOW MEMORIAL LIBRARY

The Valley Woodwind Quintet will make a second concert appearance at the Grace A. Dow Memorial Library in Midland on Friday, January 4 at 8:00 p.m. The Quintet will be joined by Larry Smith, conductor from the Midland High School music department, and by members of the Midland Symphony Orchestra. Their repertory will include works by Richard Strauss, Darius Milhaud, Paul Hindemith, and Antonin Dvorak. Admission is $2 for adults and $1 for children. Tickets are available in advance at the G.A. Dow Library circulation desk, or may be purchased at the door. For more information phone ext. 4389.

NEWS NOTE FROM THE LIBRARY

pri-or-i-tize: 1. to arrange (items) in order of priority 2. to assign (an item) to a particular level of priority

Those of you who have flouted Webster's Third New International Dictionary, 1981, by using the word 'prioritize,' which does not appear therein, have been vindicated! In performing research, Ms. Jane Anderson, staff accountant, discovered the verb in the 1976 edition of Webster's New World Dictionary of the American Language. This information was passed on to the library by Jane's colleague, staff accountant John W. Spreeman.

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

--The Valley Film Society will screen "Eyewitness," a murder mystery starring William Hurt and Sigourney Weaver, on Friday, December 21. All Valley Film Society selections are shown at 7:45 p.m. in the Wickes Hall lecture theatre. Admission is available at the door on a prorated basis. For information call ext. 4303.

--Persons interested in the Tour of Spain, scheduled for March 2 through 10, can still make reservations by phoning Dr. Ricardo Pastor at ext. 4315.

--1984 Internal Revenue Service forms are available at the circulation desk of the library. For more information call ext. 4236.

--The Bay Arts Council is sponsoring the Interlochen Arts Academy Studio Orchestra in Bay City on Sunday, January 27 at 3:30 p.m. in the Westminster Presbyterian Church. For information and ticket information, contact Donna Shugart by phoning (616) 276-9221, ext. 240.

--The Department of Public Safety will be checking identification of everyone using the gymnasium on evenings and weekends beginning with winter semester. Only persons who have a direct connection with SVSC may use gym facilities.

--Public Safety requests all faculty and staff to assist with building security by locking offices at the end of the work day.

--Plant Services has outlined procedures to prepare offices in mobile units for closing during the holiday break. Call ext. 4080 if you would like a copy of the Energy Conservation Measures memo.

--Laurence Olivier directs himself in the Valley Film Society offering, "Henry V." The film, based on the play by Shakespeare, will be shown Friday, January 4. Olivier begins by recreating a performance of the play in Stratford's Globe Theatre in authentic 16th century style. Gradually, wider scenes, including surrealistic painted backdrops, are used. The film closes in the Globe, having come full circle. All Valley Film Society screenings begin at 7:45 p.m., and are shown at SVSC in the Wickes Hall lecture theatre. Admission is by prorated membership. For further information, call Dr. David Barker at ext. 4303.
ACROSS CAMPUS

--Dr. Philip E. Beal, dean of students, served as one of two external reviewers for the student retention program at the University of Colorado December 5-7. Colorado is one of the few universities in the country with a full-time staff person heading a student retention office. Beal also met with Peter Ewell, coordinator of a Kellogg Foundation student outcomes project, to discuss SVSC's application to become one of 15 schools involved in the project.

--Jean Treadway, former member of the SVSC Board of Control, was selected for the Vital Action Citizen Award, sponsored by Volunteer Action Center of Bay County, Inc. Treadway, currently an instructor at Delta College, served on the Board in SVSC's organizing years.

HIGH FIVE

Just as a very successful football season comes to an end at SVSC, a pair of basketball squads have roared out of the gate.

The Cardinal men's basketball team defeated Spring Arbor College last Monday for their eighth consecutive win against no losses. The early season win string represents SVSC's best start since the '76-'77 campaign, when the Cards started things off with nine straight wins. Leading the way for Bob Pratt's Cardinals this season has been senior forward Mark Oates and senior guard James Preston. Oates is currently averaging 16.6 points per game, while Preston is close behind at 15.4.

Meanwhile, Marsha Reall's women's basketball team hasn't forgotten anything over the summer. The Lady Cards, who finished '83-'84 with a 30-1 mark, have started the new season out with four straight wins. Their last win was an 86-57 decision over Bowling Green State University on December 8. Beverly Sanders currently leads the talent-laden squad with 15.8 points per game, while also grabbing 11 rebounds per contest.

SVSC opens up its home schedule tonight with a 7:30 p.m. game against the highly-rated University of Wisconsin/Milwaukee.

The next issue of the Interior will be distributed Tuesday, January 8, 1985. Copy deadline for any Interior is 1:00 p.m. Wednesday preceding the issue in which an item is to appear. Additional lead time is appreciated. Send items for the Interior to Information Services or phone ext. 4054.

The campus will be closed beginning Friday, December 21 at 4:30 p.m., and will reopen Wednesday, January 2 at 8:00 a.m. Happy Holidays!

EVENTWATCH

Dec. 18 ... Women's BB: SVSC vs Mil./Wis.
Dec. 21 ... Film: "Eyewitness"
Dec. 22 - Jan. 1 ... Campus Closed
Dec. 23 ... Polish Christmas Eve
Jan. 4 ... Film: "Henry V"
Jan. 4 ... Valley Woodwind Quintet Concert
Jan. 7 ... Winter Semester Classes Begin

Have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

REFERENCE DEPARTMENT
SAGINAW VALLEY COLLEGE LIBRARY
2250 PIERCE ROAD
UNIVERSITY CENTER, MICHIGAN 48710
Saginaw Valley State College
Library/Learning Resources Center
Library/LRC Hours

Winter 1985

Regular Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 10:30 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 2:00 p.m. - 10:00 p.m.

December 10-15 (Final Exams)
December 16 (Sunday)
December 17-21
December 22-January 1 (Holidays Recess)

January 2
January 3-4
January 5-6 (Weekend)
January 7 (Classes Begin) - March 2 (Saturday)

March 3 (Sunday) [March 3-9 SPRING BREAK]
March 4-8
March 9 (Saturday)
March 10-April 6

April 7 (Easter)
April 8-27 [April 22-27 FINAL EXAMS]
April 28 (Sunday)
April 29-30

May 1-2
May 3 (Friday - Commencement, 8:00 p.m.)
May 4 (Saturday - Commencement, 1:30 p.m. tentative)
May 5 (Sunday)
May 6 (Begin Summer Term)

Regular Hours
CLOSED
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
CLOSED
8:00 a.m. - 7:00 p.m.
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
CLOSED
Regular Hours
CLOSED
Regular Hours
CLOSED
Regular Hours
CLOSED
Regular Hours
8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
11:00 a.m. - 6:00 p.m.
12:00 noon - 8:00 p.m.
CLOSED
Regular Summer Hours

Reference Librarians' Hours

Monday - Thursday 8:00 a.m. - 9:00 p.m.
Friday 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.
Saturday 9:00 a.m. - 5:00 p.m.
Sunday 2:00 p.m. - 9:00 p.m.
INCLEMENT WEATHER POLICY INFORMATION

With the advent of snow and cold weather, the campus community once again faces the prospect of occasional days when classes will be cancelled or all college operations suspended due to hazardous driving conditions. Please post this summary of SVSC closing policy in a convenient location at home. Refer to an Operations Manual for the full text of procedures dealing with closings and cancellations.

The campus will be kept open if at all possible, and classes and normal operations will continue. However, employees living some distance from campus may not be able to report as scheduled. If so, they should notify their supervisor. In these circumstances the appropriate leave to be charged will depend upon the individual's employee group.

If adverse conditions necessitate closing or cancellation, the decision to do so will be made prior to 6:00 a.m. for day classes that begin before 4:00 p.m., and by 2:00 p.m. for evening classes.

Information about cancellation of classes or closing of all college offices will be relayed to radio and TV as soon as the decision has been announced. A calling committee exists for this purpose. Messages will be broadcast on TV-5, TV-12, TV-25, WGER, WHNN, WKNX, WKYO, WMPX, WBCM, WSAM, WRCI, WSGW, WWWS and WXOX.

The SVSC Weather Line -- 790-4477 -- has taped messages about the status of campus activities. There are six different messages that cover separate situations. Summarized, they are:

1. Campus open as usual.
2. Evening classes and activities open as usual.
3. Daytime classes have been cancelled. (Employees are to report.)
4. Campus is closed for daytime classes and operations. (Employees need not report.)
5. Evening classes have been cancelled. (Employees are to report.)
6. Campus is closed for evening classes and operations. (Employees need not report.)

NOTE: Emergency crews are to report for work during closings as well as cancellations.

There are also procedures to be followed by instructors who deem it necessary to close an individual class even though the campus is officially open. Please see the Operations Manual for steps to be followed.

When hazardous weather conditions occur, it should be possible to obtain current information by listening to your local radio or TV station, or by dialing 790-4477. In extremely adverse weather, SVSC emergency crews and others with assignments listed in the Operations Manual may have difficulty completing appointed tasks efficiently. (For example, phone lines to local media are jammed with calls, resulting in time delays in airing the SVSC message.) Your patience and cooperation is appreciated in dealing with emergency situations.