November 19, 1985

SVSC WELCOMES PRESIDENT CHEN FROM CHINA

There's a bit of American folklore that tells children a hole dug deep enough will allow the digger to emerge in China. Likewise, Chinese parents tell their children it is possible to tunnel to the United States, said President Chen Ke Qian of Suzhou University in the People's Republic of China. "Now I have come to the United States," he laughed, "but I did not dig a hole to get here!"

President Chen was on campus Wednesday and Thursday, November 12 and 13, to sign an agreement, written in Chinese, for an exchange of faculty between SVSC and Suzhou University. Earlier, he had hosted a visit to Suzhou by SVSC President Jack M. Ryder, where the two signed an English translation of the pact. The contract is another step toward a sister relationship that has been developing over the past several years.

Under terms of the agreement, which extends from September 1, 1986 through June 30, 1987, SVSC and Suzhou University will exchange faculty to teach the equivalent of 9-12 credit hours. The instruction commitment can include public lectures. Details of compensation, housing and travel also are covered by the contract.

Announcement of the exchange program, and signing of the agreement, took place Thursday morning at a news conference attended by members of the campus community and outside media. President Chen told listeners about the city of Suzhou and Suzhou University.

He said there is a Chinese proverb that reads "In heaven we have paradise, and on earth we have Suzhou." President Chen explained that Suzhou, which is noted for its scenery and culture, is a very ancient city. In fact, next year it will celebrate its 2,500th anniversary. Suzhou is called the "Venice in the Far East" because of its numerous rivers.

Pres. Chen [left] and Dr. Robert Yien sign the exchange agreement, written in Chinese.

"In Chinese history many scholars were trained at Suzhou," President Chen said. "And now we have eight institutions of higher education [in Suzhou Province]." Suzhou University, the largest of the eight, is a comprehensive university with about 7,000 students enrolled. Among all those, about 4,000 are full time; the rest take courses by correspondence or are 'spare-time' students. Departments include mathematics, physics, chemistry, politics, Chinese language and literature, history, foreign language and literature, physical education, law, economics and business. The university offers 28 master and doctoral programs. Also, there are 14 research sections and three attached experimental factories owned by the university.

"I am happy to establish a sister relationship with SVSC so that we can carry out exchange programs--with professors, students, scholars," President Chen said. "Thus we can foster friendship and relations between two peoples as well as conduct exchanges between two institutions. I look forward to strong, friendly ties between the two institutions."
RENA CLMBS RESEARCH THE KEY TO HIS TEACHING

Is it Louis XIV walking down the hallway of SVSC's Wickes Hall, or is it historian Dr. Thomas J. Renna? "I like to create the past in my classroom," said Renna, a professor of history since 1970. "That's why I like to get dramatic in my teachings."

Renna will present a lecture titled "Arab-Jewish Tensions in Israel" from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. on Tuesday, November 19, in the Wickes Hall faculty lounge. The lecture is part of the 1985-86 SVSC International Lecture Series. The focus of Renna's presentation will be on current issues, prospects for peace, and politics in Israel.

In the last 12 years, Renna has published over 35 articles, two books, and has presented over 40 papers at professional societies. "I am an historian, not a history teacher," said Renna. "One definitely feeds off the other, but my teaching becomes so much better because of my research."

Renna has always wanted to be an historian. "I have had this interest from the beginning," commented Renna, referring to the beginning of his undergraduate days. "I really wanted to understand modern Europe."

Renna also knew that graduate work was part of his future from the beginning, and today he strongly encourages his students in graduate work. "The market for history majors and for teachers in general is much different today than it was 20 years ago," Renna admits, "but respect for the profession has also declined. My advice to students is to pursue what they really want, and take their chances. You have to develop your interests, not just look at the market; it's always changing anyhow."

Renna says he feels that he himself is a scholar first and foremost, but feels that people in general don't understand what scholars do. "People just don't realize what is involved in being a scholar," Renna commented. "Writing a 10 page article can be a two year process. Going to the archives and doing research is one thing, but the actual creation of an article is something else."

Research, according to Renna, directly coincides with what is brought out in the classroom. "In my case, what I do on paper is what I do in the classroom. I don't know how one could teach without keeping in contact through research. It adds so much to my own interest and creates such a fervor, that the courses are different each time I teach them because of what I have learned."

Renna admits, however, that there have been many conflicts. "I also have several committee responsibilities, and actually, I'd rather be spending much more time with my wife and three children," he said. Renna's wife, Pamela, teaches English at SVSC, and French at Delta College. "I've never resolved those conflicts, because they aren't predictable enough," said Renna. "I think all the elements help each other."

There is another element to Renna's life. He's a runner. "I've been training with the SVSC cross country team for about eight years, and race locally two or three times a month, year around." Renna added that he averages about 70 miles per week, and it's purely competitive, not for relaxation. Currently, Renna is working on a third book, "The Jerusalem Connection," pertaining to the idea of Medieval thought in the modern Middle East. Also, Renna will travel to London during December to visit British museums to study original Biblical illuminations.

FUNNY MONEY--In response to a bogus fine for missing a P.P.C. meeting, Dr. Gamal Elashhab pays Dr. Robert Yien $8,300 in funny money. The fine represents $1 for each of the 8,300 minutes calculated to have elapsed between meetings. On hand to witness the payment were [clockwise from left] Dr. James Mitchell, Elashhab, Yien, Dr. Donald Bachand, Dr. Gary Thompson, Dr. Thomas Kullgren and Ms. Faith Edwards.
LAOTIAN EMBROIDERY SHOW AND SALE SCHEDULED

The SVSC Art Department is sponsoring an exhibit of Hmong embroidery on Wednesday, November 20, from 9:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. in the Arts Workshop. Known for their unique geometric designs and rich colors, these fabric pieces represent the major art form of the Hmong people. Some of the works come from Laos, but most are made by Laotians now living in Saginaw. Several Laotian women will be demonstrating their craft in the Arts Workshop. Refreshments will be served, and everyone is welcome.

MUSIC DEPARTMENT PRESENTS JAZZ CONCERT

SVSC will present a jazz concert on Monday, November 25. Set for 7:30 p.m. at the SVSC theatre, the concert will feature guest musician Joe Freyre. The program includes such selections as "Angel Eyes," "Fire Watchers," "Cute" and "Little Brown Jug." Faculty and staff can receive complimentary tickets by calling extension 4159.

MUNITZ'S ADDRESS MADE AVAILABLE

Persons who were unable to meet with Dr. Munitz during his recent visit to SVSC may reach him at the following address:

Dr. Barry Munitz
Federated Development Company
2200 MCO Plaza, 5718 Westheimer
Houston, TX 77057

MATH LAB OFFERS TUTORING

The Math Lab, located in room 218 of Wickes Hall, is now open for student tutoring in Math 101 and Math 102. Students need not make an appointment. Walk-ins are accepted on Monday and Tuesday from 8:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m. and on Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. For further information call ext. 4144.

AUDIT COPIES AVAILABLE IN LIBRARY

The 1984-85 SVSC Audit is on reserve in the library under President Ryder's name. For further information about the audit, contact James G. Muladore at extension 4218.

UNITED WAY DRIVE COMPLETED

The United Way Fund Drive closed yesterday with $10,130.78 in total pledges. United Way agencies appreciate the support of SVSC's campus community. As it is said, "Thanks to you it works all year round. . . ."

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

--Departments requesting extra copies of the 1985-86 Faculty/Staff Directory should call the mailroom at extension 4278.

--In addition to her continued duties in the BIDI office, Amy Ferguson will hold Affirmative Action office hours on Monday from 2:00 to 4:00 p.m. and Thursday from 9:00 to 11:00 a.m. Campus community members who cannot accommodate this schedule are welcome to contact her for an appointment by phoning extension 4048. Ferguson's appointment as Affirmative Action Officer is from October 1, 1985 through August 31, 1986.

--Dr. Thomas Renna will present a lecture entitled "Arab-Jewish Tensions in Israel" today from 4:00 to 5:00 p.m. in the Wickes Hall faculty lounge. Admission is free.

--"Dealing with Anger in Children" will be the topic of Dr. Merlyn Mondol's lecture held in the Wickes Hall faculty lounge on Wednesday, November 20, from noon to 1:00 p.m. Refreshments will be served.

--I.R.R.A. members will meet for dinner and a presentation on Thursday, November 21. Call extension 4064 for reservation details.


--Visiting Chinese Professor An Zeng-Cai will speak at the International Thanksgiving Buffet Dinner, November 23. For information call extension 4069.

--A two-mile Turkey Trot will be held on campus on Tuesday, November 26, starting at noon. Entry forms must be submitted before Monday, November 25. Call ext. 4260 for registration information and entry forms.

--Faculty may announce to students a manuscript contest sponsored by the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants (MACPA). The contest offers junior and senior accounting students an opportunity to win cash prizes to help with college expenses. The deadline for submission is March 3, 1986. For more information call Janet Roberts at (313) 855-2288.

--Saginaw Northwest Optimist Club is sponsoring a Fruit Sale. To order a holiday basket, call Gary Apsey at extension 4070.
ACROSS CAMPUS

--Mr. Jim Dwyer, assistant director of Admissions, and Mr. Paul Saft, registrar, each made presentations at the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers (MACRAO), November 7 and 8. Dwyer discussed "The MACRAO Agreement for the New Kid." Saft's topic was "Transcripts: The Good, The Bad, and The Ugly." Administrative staff from the Admissions and Registrar's offices attended the meeting.

--Mr. and Mrs. Tom and Laurie Gregory are proud parents of their new baby daughter Kristine, born November 9. Laurie is a Bookstore employee. Congratulations!

--Dr. Elaine Stephens, associate professor of education, was presented the PRAISE Award of Distinction by the Public Relations Association of Greater Flint. The award was to recognize her work with the Michigan Reading Association in developing the 1985 "March is Reading Month" program.

--Dr. Rosalie Riegle Troester, assistant professor of English, will present a paper at the National Conference of Teachers of English on Saturday, November 23, held in Philadelphia. The paper, titled "Reader Response Approaches in the Core Literature Course," grew out of research conducted at the NEH-funded Institute on Contemporary Literary Criticism and the Core Literature Course held at the University of Massachusetts-Amherst during June, 1985.

PERSONNEL

HEAD OF TECHNICAL SERVICES, Library & Learning Resources - Full time, permanent (replacement). M.L.S. from ALA-accredited school, plus minimum of three years of experience in technical services and cataloging is required. Salary negotiable.

The deadline for internal applications is Monday, November 25. Call the Personnel Office for further information at extension 4112. SVSC is an equal opportunity-affirmative action employer.

HOLIDAY CLOSING

The College will be closed for Thanksgiving holidays on Thursday, November 28, and on Friday, November 29. Interior publication dates are November 26 and December 10.

HIGH FIVE

The men's cross country team finished 13th out of 39 teams at the NAIA National Championships held in Kenosha, Wisconsin, on Saturday. Several weeks of rain reduced the course to a quagmire of mud with water flowing throughout. In fact, Paul Sliger lost both shoes in the mud during the first mile, and eventually finished the race with only one sock. Robert Lemeul, a sophomore, was the first SVSC runner to cross the finish line in 27:24, placing him 33rd overall. Rich Genson was 50th with a 27:38 time.

Last week, SVSC improved from 5th to 3rd place in the Michigan Intercollegiate Bowling Conference. The Cardinal keglers won 19 out of a possible 28 points in four matches. Dan Dorion averaged 191 to lead the Cards, with Mike Monroe rolling a 684 series.

The men's basketball team defeated the varsity alumni Saturday, 87-68. Basketball season opens for the men on Monday, November 25, as the Cardinals take on Tri-State University at 7:30 p.m. in Cardinal Gym. The women open at home against Spring Arbor College on Tuesday, November 26, at 7:30 p.m.

VOLUNTEER SERVICES SPONSORS CARD SALE

A selection of UNICEF Christmas cards and gifts are on display in Volunteer Services, located outside the Dean of Students office on the third floor of Wickes Hall. Works of art from over 132 countries have been reproduced as cards. The campus community is welcome to stop by the display and place orders now for early delivery. For further information, contact Volunteer Services by phoning extension 4294.

EVENTWATCH

Nov. 7 ... Solo Recital by Thomas Renna
Nov. 21 ... R.I.A. Dinner and Meeting
Nov. 25 ... Concert: Brazilianist Series
Nov. 26 ... M.E.C. in SVSC at Tri-State
Nov. 26 ... Women's Basketball vs. Spring Arbor College

For times and details of monthly calendar or call Information Services.