March 3, 1987

**NCA COMMISSION ACTS ON SVSC EVALUATION**

Following deliberations at its Feb. 26-27 meetings, the Commission on Institutions of Higher Education, a sub-unit of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, has announced its action on SVSC accreditation. The Commission's decision concludes an evaluation process that began with the appointment of an SVSC Steering Committee in November of 1983.

The Commission has continued SVSC's accreditation, and has removed a stipulation that required Commission approval prior to initiation of all new master's degree programs. The next comprehensive evaluation is scheduled to occur in 1993-94. The seven year period between that evaluation and the current one represents the longest accreditation period in SVSC's history, and is in accord with a recommendation by the NCA evaluation team that visited campus Nov. 3-5, 1986.

In rendering its decision, the Commission considered a variety of materials, including the self-study reports prepared by the College, other supporting documents and materials made available to the visiting team, the report and recommendations of the team, the College's response to the team report, and the independent recommendations of a readers' panel that reviewed all materials. The team report, which will be available for review in the Zahnow Library, concludes by stating, "The team is in agreement that SVSC meets all requirements for continued accreditation and believes that it has the capability to continue to meet the requirements of the Commission."

SVSC President Jack M. Ryder expressed satisfaction with the outcome of the evaluation process. "The longer period recommended between evaluations is evidence that the institution is maturing, and that our programs are academically strong." He expressed his appreciation for the assistance provided by numerous faculty and staff to make the evaluation process successful, and for their efforts in building strong academic and support programs.

The visiting team report cites 13 general requirements and four evaluative criteria for accreditation. After review, the team concluded that SVSC had met all 13 general requirements, but expressed some concern about the general education curriculum. It recommended that the academic vice president and the faculty work cooperatively to address campus-wide concerns about general education requirements.

The first of the four evaluative criteria deals with the College's mission and the communication of that mission to the community. It was the team's conclusion that SVSC has adopted a formal statement supported by specific objectives and commitments that are consistent with the College mission and appropriate to a post-secondary educational institution. Members recommended, however, integration of institutional program reviews with the planning process "so that a more focused statement of goals and priorities could be developed and thus better communicated to the college community."

Regarding the second evaluative criterion, the team said that overall SVSC has effectively organized adequate human, financial and physical resources into educational and other programs to accomplish institutional purposes. The report evaluates each academic unit and several support units separately in measuring performance against that criterion, and notes both progress and areas of concern in specific units.

The final two evaluative criteria relate to evidence that the institution is presently accomplishing its purposes, and that it will continue to do so in the future. It was the team's conclusion that SVSC is accomplishing its purposes,
and that it has made considerable progress since the last comprehensive visit and focus visit. Team members concluded that the College can continue to accomplish its purposes, but expressed concerns with continuing problems. Specifically, they called for improvement in the areas of governance, planning, general education, extensive use of part-time faculty and enrollment management.

Regarding governance, the visiting team noted a "heightened" adversarial relationship between the faculty and administration. "It is incumbent upon both the Faculty Association and the administration to take the necessary steps to improve relationships," the report states.

Concerns about the planning process centered on the need to more fully integrate budgeting with planning. "There was a widespread perception that expenditures for the college were made with little reference to the plans developed through the PRC."

On general education, it was the consensus of the NCA team that the curriculum should be academically strengthened, but "to do so appears to require additional resources."

The team expressed concern about heavy use of part-time faculty in delivering general education courses, and in delivering "broadly based curriculum emphases" in undergraduate majors with a small regular staff. "Neither situation is entirely desirable."

Team members cited concern over rapid enrollment growth at SVSC. "The team believes it to be imperative that SVSC come to grips with enrollment pressures and take action appropriate to its mission and related future plans and available resources." They recommended that solutions be carefully worked out, supported by the campus community and clearly articulated both internally and externally.

The report cites several institutional strengths, including:
* a commendable approach to the self-study process.
* an expanding and loyal student clientele derived from a community strongly committed to SVSC.
* a strong and visible commitment to dealing with the problems of academically underprepared students.
* institutional commitment to providing professional development opportunities for the enrichment of faculty scholarship and creativity.
* a tenure and promotion review procedure which involves an effective faculty evaluation process "and is a model of faculty and administrative cooperation."
* a commitment to expanding academic computing opportunities and development of a complete on-line system in the library, as well as implementation of such a system for registration.
* success in raising funds from the state and from private sources to develop a number of attractive, barrier-free buildings in keeping with long-range plans of the College.
* successful fund-raising efforts of the President, supported by the Board of Control and the Board of Fellows.

The report notes the positive effect of new facilities already in place or nearing completion. Team members were particularly impressed with the institution's increased support of the library.

The team offered suggestions (not required for continuing accreditation) including:
* employment of a carefully and mutually selected consultant to work jointly with the leadership of the Faculty Association and the President, along with selected administrators, for the benefit of the College.
* preparation by the administration of a detailed and thoughtful response to the recommendations and suggestions outlined in the self study report.
* a series of presidential presentations to the general faculty focusing on such issues as plans for development of campus facilities, special charges made to the Enrollment Management Committee and the Academic Policies Committee and the report of the intercollegiate athletic program review committee.
* involvement of the academic vice president in establishing an agenda and a priority for academic development.
* review, tracking and evaluating the progress of students in the Special Admissions Program.
* surveying evening students relative to services they might desire.
* establishment of a policy requiring minority/female representation on all search/screening committees, and documenting and monitoring by the Affirmative Action Office of hiring and promotion of women and minorities.
* not counting toward graduation the academic credit earned from any remedial course offering.

The team recommended a focused visit by NCA in 1989-90. Its purpose exclusively
to examine the relationship between the administration and faculty. Team members believe this allows a sufficient period for the College to "come to grips with adversarial relations" between the groups.

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING DAY SCHEDULED FOR MARCH 13

Two vice presidents from the Dow Corning Corp. are scheduled to address nearly 800 area high school students during the annual Science and Engineering Day, Friday, March 13.

Kermit Campbell, vice president for personnel, communications and public affairs, and Don Weyenberg, vice president for research and development, are scheduled to be the guest speakers.

Students also will be given a tour of the science and engineering facilities, and a number of special displays set up by faculty and students.

The day will take place in conjunction with the Math Olympics, an exam designed to test the mathematical skills of high school students.

Included among the displays are microscope, computer graphics, and holograms demonstrations.

Students in 10th through 12th grades from the tri-cities and Genesee and Arenac counties were invited to attend.

SCHOOL OF EDUCATION CUTS OFF ADMISSIONS

The school of education received 120 applications for spring classes, but will only be able to accommodate half, according to Dr. Kenneth DePree, interim dean.

DePree said half the applications were from people desiring secondary teaching certificates and only half of those will be admitted. "This is unique for us, but it has implications for other schools as well," he added.

DePree said many students desiring secondary certificates are enrolled in history and social studies courses. He said they would have to postpone attending those classes or consider teaching something else.

DePree said a number of criteria would be considered before admitting some students. He said grade point averages, a personal interview and writing samples would all be taken into account for admission. In addition, the school may also take into consideration the teaching field the individual is considering.

Plans also are under way to implement a basic skills test in the teaching department. DePree said he is hopeful that will begin in the fall.

He also said that the increase in enrollment is not just from undergraduates, but people who have college degrees and have been successful in other careers as well.

DePree said the limited enrollment is because he does not see a big demand in the near future in area schools serviced by SVSC.

"I'm glad people want in here and I'm sorry we can't serve them all," he said.

RESPONSE PROMPTS REPEAT OF MARKETING MAGIC CONFERENCE

Due to the overwhelming response for the "Marketing Magic" conference for small businesses in February, BIDI has scheduled a repeat seminar featuring Deb Babcock as the speaker.

The encore symposium will take place Thursday, April 2, in the Fashion Square Conference Center, 4450 Fashion Square Boulevard, Saginaw.

Reservations are required in the office of BIDI by March 27. Call ext. 4048.

BRIEFLY SPEAKING

-- Candace Anderson will weave her magic during a Salad Bar Concert at 11:30 a.m., March 10. For information, call extension 4170.

-- The Saginaw Valley Entrepreneurs Club will meet March 11 for dinner at 6 p.m. and a lecture at 7:45 by author Mary Ann Sutton-Badour, owner of Marshall Realty.

-- Dr. Eric Petersen, professor of history, will address "Crisis and the Constitution," beginning at 7 p.m., March 11 in the Theatre.

PROFESSIONAL PROFILE

-- Dr. Kerry Segel, assistant professor of English, gave an in-service presentation, "The Adult as Independent Learner," to the Midland Adult Literacy Council Feb. 25. Segel previously conducted a workshop for Saginaw-area tutors at the Zuel Library in Saginaw Township.

-- Gloria Wagener, administrative secretary in BIDI, will be a panelist at the National Education Association Higher Education Conference, March 6-8 in New Orleans, La. She will be part of a panel discussion on "The Impact of Reform on Academic Professional Employees."
DOCTORAL PROGRAM IN EDUCATION AVAILABLE AT FLINT SITE

Persons interested in completing a Doctor of Education (Ed.D.) in Curriculum and Instruction will be able to attend Wayne State University classes at Mott Community College in Flint beginning with the 1987 fall semester. The two institutions have joined forces to offer the program with emphasis in adult learning theory, administration and research.

Initially the program will be limited to 30 students and will focus on higher education. Tuition costs are $84.25 per credit hour plus a $40 registration fee.

Registration will take place during the first class session, and two courses are planned for the fall. "Staff Development through Inservice Training" will meet on Mondays and a "Doctoral Seminar in Curriculum and Instruction" is set for Wednesdays.

For more information on admission requirements, courses and anticipated schedules, contact Information Services at ext. 4054.

TRANSITIONS

This column lists several staff changes that occurred in February.

New staff

-- Mr. Jaime Ayala (ext. 4275), hired as shipping and receiving clerk, business and auxiliary services.

-- Mr. Randy Julian (ext. 4080), hired as third-shift custodian.

-- Ms. Cathy Litka, hired as cataloger in the Zahnow Library. She has a bachelor of arts degree from the University of Michigan-Flint and a master of arts from the University of Michigan.

-- Ms. Joyce Retkewski (ext. 4074), hired as temporary engineering services clerk in the department of engineering services.

-- Ms. Mary Ann VanDusen (ext. 4223), hired as keypunch operator in computer services, filling in for an employee on leave.

-- Mr. Gilbert Velasquez (ext. 4080), hired as third-shift custodian.

Transfers/Promotions

-- Mr. Kirker Kranz, transferred into the position of head, media systems, in the Zahnow Library. Kranz was audio/visual technician in the library.

-- Mr. Patrick Samolewski, transferred into the position of instructional computing coordinator within the office of computer services. Samolewski was programmer/analyst in that department.

Departing staff

-- Mr. Edwin Nordine, media/systems library, Zahnow Library, February 20.

-- Mr. Frank Sherman, third-shift custodian, February 16.

-- Mr. Calvin Williams, reference librarian, February 27.

PERSONNEL

The following positions are open to all regular employees of the College:

GENERAL REFERENCE/INTERLIBRARY LOAN LIBRARIAN, full-time, permanent (replacement). Salary: minimum of $18,000. Requires MLS from an ALA-accredited institution, plus experience in reference and/or interlibrary loan.

AUDIO/VISUAL ASSISTANT, full-time, permanent (replacement). Salary: minimum of $16,000. Must have familiarity with library and audio/visual operations, plus experience working with public; highly desire working experience in reference, equipment and facility repair and maintenance.

All internal applications must be received no later than Monday, March 9, in the Personnel Office.

HIGH FIVE

-- The men's basketball team dropped its final contests of the season to St. Mary's, 64-58, February 28; and to Hillsdale, 83-61; February 26. The squad earned a berth in the playoffs due to the disqualification of Aquinas College. The Cards began tournament play Monday at Grand Rapids Baptist College.

-- The Lady Cardinals won their district February 28 and continue playoff action Wednesday in Defiance, Ohio. The most recent victim to their winning season was Spring Arbor, 76-55.

-- Freshman Tom Badour of Essexville won the NAIA national high jump title for the track team leaping 6-feet, 11-inches February 27.

EVENT WATCH

Mar. 6..."Dersu Azala"
Mar. 10...Candace Anderson
Mar. 12...W-4 Assistance
Mar. 13...Science & Engineering Day