September 12, 1989

Grant Received for 'GSVREC'

A group described as "a loose confederation of organizations" has received a big boost for its efforts to improve regional educational opportunities from kindergarten through the university level.

The new Greater Saginaw Valley Regional Education Cooperative (GSVREC), initiated by SVSU, has been awarded 10 grants totaling $479,601. The money will be used to implement a series of projects that will tie together educational resources from a 14-county region for the benefit of all.

The group plans to rely on creative use of existing technology to link elementary and secondary students, parents, teachers and administrators with colleges and universities serving the area. Intermediate school district personnel, regional media centers and libraries also will be part of the futuristic network. Others expected to benefit include farmers, health service agencies, government agencies and public safety providers, according to the plan's architects.

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SVSU Nets Share of NASA Grant

Saginaw Valley State University is among four Michigan universities selected for funding by NASA. The consortium includes Michigan Technological University, the University of Michigan and Wayne State University. U. of M.'s College of Engineering will administer the program.

SVSU's role will be to provide a pre-college-level, interdisciplinary workshop opportunity, such as a Space Systems Science experience, on campus. Of special interest is the involvement of women and minorities. The very successful Mid-Michigan Minority Pre-Engineering Program (M³PEP) will be expanded to accommodate space-related projects.

SVSU's participation will be coordinated by Dr. Thomas Kullgren, dean of the College of Science, Engineering and Technology and Dr. Terry Ishihara will administer the M³PEP program.

Kullgren noted "the declining number of women and minorities studying in technical areas" and added that he hopes "the Space Grant Consortium will help reverse the trend."

The consortium was one of 17 Space Grant College/Consortia nationwide. Congressman Bob Traxler, chairman of the House Appropriations Subcommittee which funds NASA, said, "I'm thrilled that such a fine university in the Eighth Congressional District, Saginaw Valley State University, will be a participant in this program."

Rep. James E. O'Neill Jr. (far left) and Dr. John A. Fallon III listen as Dr. Ralph Coppola describes the new Greater Saginaw Valley Regional Education Cooperative during a press conference on Sept. 11.
The funding will help the region bounded by Roscommon, Ogemaw and Iosco counties on the north and Gratiot, Saginaw, Tuscola and Sanilac counties to the south to get a head start on the 21st century. "A basic goal of GSVREC is to implement an action plan to educate youth for the 21st century," said Dr. Ralph Coppola, director of Sponsored Programs. He will serve as executive director for the 14-county cooperative, which includes Clare, Gladwin, Arenac, Isabella, Midland, Bay and Huron Counties.

"Problems of improvement in education mirror those of economic development," Coppola said. "The Stanford Research Institute study (of economic development in Saginaw County) demonstrated that, rather than a lack of resources, the major impediment to economic development has been the lack of sharing of resources and the lack of development of regional strategies for economic growth.

"An analysis of the educational system reveals that the resources needed for success are also available in the region. What is needed is cooperative use of the resources and the development of a regional strategic plan for education."

A grant of $293,134 will facilitate development of five programs, Coppola said. A regional math/science center, implemented in collaboration with the Michigan Department of Education, incorporates a regional minority science center as a central feature. Other programs are a regional professional development center for teachers and administrators, a regional arts cooperative (ArtsWork) designed to upgrade and integrate arts instruction throughout the academic curricula, the Greater Saginaw Valley Telecommunications Network (GSVTN) that links six institutions serving a predominantly rural population in northeast-central Michigan and supports the regional math/science center and the regional professional development center, and the eight-year-old Valley Library Consortium that links SVSU and Delta College libraries with the Saginaw Public Libraries.

Participating with SVSU in GSVREC programs are Delta College, Mid-Michigan Community College, nine intermediate school districts and four Regional Education Media Centers (REMCs) that serve the 14-county region. Some 68 local school districts from the Thumb and mid-Michigan area also are part of the confederation and will reap the benefits of resource sharing, Coppola said.

The telecommunications network, GSVTN, is a key element in achieving the cooperative's goal of erasing educational boundaries through shared resources. In its initial stage, the two-way interactive video network will link REMCs in Bay, Gratiot, Saginaw and Tuscola counties with SVSU and Delta College. Stage two plans call for expanding the electronic links throughout the remaining 10 counties in the region.

Through the network, teachers and students in local schools can communicate by voice or video with their counterparts at other schools or with faculty and staff at SVSU and Delta. Data also can be transmitted electronically. This allows smaller schools to expand their curricula by tapping into resources available outside their own boundaries.

Coppola cited declining school enrollments and property valuations, the difficulties of finding qualified teachers in some subject areas, the demise of inter-district busing programs for selected academic classes, repeated failures of school millages and the increasing demand for new skills for adults and students as evidence that the cooperative venture is urgently needed. "Students are not being prepared in critical subject areas for future educational opportunities," he said. GSVREC will attempt to resolve this.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grants under the GSVREC umbrella</th>
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<tr>
<td>• $293,134 for a GSVREC Action Plan</td>
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<td>• $10,000 for the GSVREC Planning Project</td>
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<tr>
<td>• $20,000 for the Regional Arts Resource Cooperative</td>
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<td>• $1,495 to create a multi-district vision for the arts</td>
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<td>• $2,500 for local leadership for education and arts planning</td>
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<td>• $2,000 for a retrospective exhibit of Saginaw artists Julia and Henry Roecker</td>
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<td>• $10,970 for an integrated model performing arts center</td>
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<tr>
<td>• $65,000 for a regional math/science center</td>
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<td>• $2,870 for &quot;Classroom Ready Science Phase II&quot;</td>
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<tr>
<td>• $71,632 from MDE for 1989 activities of &quot;Project SOLVE,&quot; an on-going program through which SVSU conducts workshops and other activities to enhance science and math programs in local school districts.</td>
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Women's Cross Country Team Nets Nearly $600

The women's cross country team raised nearly $600 during its "gym sale" on Aug. 25 and 26. More than a dozen families donated items to be sold during the benefit sale for SVSU's first-ever women's cross country team.

Unsold apparel items were taken to the Triskelions' consignment shop in Midland. All proceeds will be shared by the cross country team and the Triskelions.

Across Campus

-- Congratulations is extended to Lynn Richard, senior accounting clerk/cashier, and her husband, Kean, on the birth of their first child, a son, Nathan Neal. Nathan, born Sept. 2, was 20½-inches long and weighed 8 pounds, 14 ounces.

-- Faculty and staff members interested in forming an "Over-40" squash club should contact Matthew Zivich at extension 4390.

Around Town

-- A moonlight golf tournament to benefit Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Saginaw Bay Area will take place Sept. 15 at Twin Oaks Golf Course in Freeland. Tee-off is 8 p.m. with registration at 7:30 p.m. Cost of the scramble is $50 per male-female team. For further information, contact John Spreeman at extension 4211.

-- The campus has the opportunity to informally meet President Eric R. Gilbertson during a breakfast in his honor at 7:30 a.m., Friday, Sept. 22 at the Germania of Saginaw. Tickets are $15 each. The breakfast is sponsored by the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce.

-- The Michigan Friends of Photography Exhibit continues through Sept. 27 in the University Art Gallery. The gallery is open from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m. on Mondays; 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. on Tuesdays; 2:30 to 5 p.m. and 6 to 9:30 p.m. on Wednesdays; and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. and 6 to 9:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

-- The Xochiquetzal Children's Dance Group will perform outdoors in the areas of Zahnow, Wickes and the Great Lakes Residence halls at 4 p.m., Sept. 19 as part of Hispanic Heritage Month. In case of rain, the event will take place Sept. 20 or 21.

-- The Saginaw Valley Entrepreneurs Club will kick off its 1989-90 season with a discussion of "Striving for Excellence through Customer Service." The meeting will begin at 6 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 20 in Lower Level Doan. To register, call BIDI at ext. 4048.

-- A WordPerfect Users Group will meet from noon to 1 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 21 in Room 204 of Zahnow Library. For more information, call Sandy Madison at ext. 4295.

BACK TO THE GRIND -- Students returned to campus on Aug. 28 and were met by construction of new parking lots and final relocation of many campus offices.
Professional Profile

Dr. Jean Brown, professor of teacher education; and Ms. Barbara Quirk, certification officer in the College of Education, participated in the fifth annual retreat of the Executive Committee of Michigan Council of Teachers of English Aug. 18 and 19 at the Florentine Inn in Saginaw. Brown, a past president of MCTE, is editor of the Michigan English Teacher, the MCTE newsletter; Quirk is 1989-90 MCTE immediate past president. Setting goals, planning the fall 1989 conference in Lansing and discussing issues pertaining to teaching English language arts from kindergarten through college were among items on the two-day agenda.

Dr. Susie Emond and Dr. Elaine Stephens, both professors of teacher education, were speakers during the regional fall conference for Lutheran Early Childhood Education Teachers on Aug. 17 in Hemlock. More than 100 teachers attended their presentations. Emond spoke on "Integrating the New Research on Reading into the current School Program." Stephens discussed "Trends in Reading and Writing for Early Childhood Education for the 1990s."

Cardinal Athletic Passes Available

Faculty and staff members may pick up their Cardinal Athletic Cards from the Athletic Office in the Ryder Center for Health and Physical Education weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m.

The card grants admission to all regularly-scheduled home football and basketball games. Additional cards for spouses and family members may be purchased for $20.

Dr. Enayat Mahajerin, associate professor of mechanical engineering and technology, recently attended the 21st Midwestern Mechanics Conference at Michigan Technological University and presented a paper titled "A Numerical Method Torsion of Non-homogeneous Shafts." The conference was sponsored by General Motors Corp. Mahajerin also attended the 10th International Conference on Structural Mechanics in Reactor Technology in California. He discussed "On the Numerical Solution of Heat Conduction with Temperature Dependent Conductivity." The conference was sponsored by the U.S. Department of Energy, Bechtel Power Corp. and Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory. In connection with the SVSU Research Excellence program, Mahajerin attended the third biennial International Manufacturing Technology Research Forum in Chicago. The conference was sponsored by the National Machine Tool Builders Association.

High Five

The football team was victorious, 24-6, during its season opener Saturday at Wayne State. Junior tailback Kevin Mitchell turned in his 11th career 100-plus yard rushing game, gaining 148 yards in 24 carries. The Cardinals make their first home appearance this Saturday at 1:30 p.m. They will host the University of Indianapolis.

The women's cross country team's inaugural performance was a successful one at the University of Detroit Invitational. The Lady Cardinals finished fifth among nine teams in their first-ever varsity intercollegiate competition. They will compete in the CMU Open on Sept. 16.

The men's cross country team opened its season with a victory at that same invitational. SVSU scored 28 points, followed by Oakland University with 58. The men also will compete in the CMU Open on Sept. 16.

The women's tennis squad opens its season this week by hosting Hillsdale College at 1 p.m., Sept. 16 and Oakland University at noon on Sept. 17.

Event Watch

Sept. 12...Auditions for Dracula.
Sept. 12...Volleyball vs. Northwood Institute.
Sept. 14...Blood Drive.
Sept. 14...Auditions for Dracula.
Sept. 14...Volleyball vs. Siena Heights.
Sept. 15...Valley Film Society.
Sept. 16...PSAT/SAT Workshop.
Sept. 16...Women's Tennis vs. Hillsdale College.
Sept. 16...Football vs. University of Indianapolis.
Sept. 17...Women's Tennis vs. Oakland University.
Sept. 18...Battle for El Salvador.