Awards Banquet Honors Faculty, Staff

The first All-University Awards Banquet Saturday, April 28, honored several faculty for outstanding achievement and recognized all employees with ten or more years’ service to the University. In addition, Distinguished Service Medallions were presented to an area legislator and to an SVSU alumnus for their support to the institution.

Landee/Teaching Excellence awards went to Dr. Robert C. Braddock and Dr. W. Leslie Whittaker.

A professor of history, Braddock joined the SVSU faculty in 1970. He chaired the history department from 1985 to 1987. On three occasions he received National Endowment for the Humanities grants for summer seminars, and twice he was awarded NEH grants for summer institutes.

Braddock has numerous papers and publications to his credit and is recognized as an authority on the 16th Century English Court. He earned his bachelor's degree from Middlebury College and M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from Northwestern University.

In recognition of his service to SVSU, Braddock was presented the first Faculty Association Service Award in 1986. He served on the University's curriculum committee and on the General Education Task Force. He has been faculty advisor for the SVSU History/Political Science Club and faculty advisor/coach for the SVSU Soccer Club for several years.

Whittaker, a professor of English, came to SVSU in 1966. He could be described as a "Renaissance Man," holding academic credentials and achievements in a variety of fields. He has continued formal study throughout his life, earning his most recent degree, a Juris Doctorate from Wayne State University Law School, in 1984. Other earned degrees include a B.A. from Manchester University, England; an L.R.A.M., Royal Academy of Music, England; a B.Ed., University of Toronto; and an M.A. in theater and Ph.D. in theater and dramatic literature, both from the University of Michigan.

In addition to teaching English at the grammar school and college level, Whittaker has taught theater and has a long association with professional theater, having been both an actor and director in English theater. He also performed in educational radio and TV in England, Canada and the U.S. For several years he held a dual teaching appointment in English and education at SVSU.

Although at 71 Whittaker is past the age many choose to retire, he continues to teach full-time with passion and vigor. "I like to think of passing on to a new generation my own sense of zeal and perspective of what learning is all about," he notes.

The Landee/Teaching Excellence Award includes a $3,000 monetary award and a plaque.

Dr. Enayat H. Mahajerin was awarded the Earl L. Warrick Award for Excellence in Research. An associate professor of mechanical engineering and technology, Mahajerin joined the SVSU faculty in 1984. His research interests are structural analysis, composite materials, applied mathematics and computer modeling. He is the author of numerous publications dealing with various aspects of mechanical engineering and computer applications. He is the editor of the Mechanical Engineering Department Newsletter.

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Mahajerin received a bachelor of science degree from the College of Science and Technology in Tehran, Iran. He was awarded master of science and Ph.D. degrees from Michigan State University. In 1981 he received the Outstanding Academic Achievement Award from MSU's College of Engineering. He was the 1988-89 recipient of the Landee Award for Excellence in Teaching from SVSU.

The Warrick Award is presented annually to a faculty member whose accomplishments in scholarly work or research are outstanding. Named for Dr. Earl L. Warrick, retired Dow Corning Corporation researcher and twice interim dean of science, engineering and technology at SVSU, the award consists of a commemorative plaque and a $1,000 check.

Dr. Robert E. Cheek, associate professor of management, received the first annual House Family Award for Teacher Impact. The award has been established by the family of Robert and Jeanette House, who were deeply influenced during their college years by several professors and wished to provide recognition and a monetary reward (presently $1,000) to current college faculty who contribute significantly to the life of their students. House served as SVSU's first Executive in Residence.

The House award is limited to faculty teaching in SVSU's College of Business and Management or in the arts and humanities areas of the College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences. Selection is by graduating seniors. Cheek began his teaching assignment with SVSU in 1984. He had taught previously at the University of West Florida and Florida Atlantic University.

He brings pragmatic experience to the classroom from his entrepreneurial activities as owner/operator of Cheek Ford Tractor Company, Inc. in Franklinton, LA, and as a consultant to the U.S. Government Accounting Office and to Avondale Shipyards.

Cheek earned bachelor's and master's degrees from San Diego State College and an Ed.D. from Wayne State University. Students who nominated him for the honor noted that he "let us know we are winners" and "inspired us to keep going, to believe that people can do whatever they want or be whatever they want."

Faculty recipients of the 1989-90 MAGB award also were recognized. They are Dr. Enayat Mahajerin (who also received the Warrick Award) and Dr. Hong Y. Park, professor of economics. The MAGB awards recognize distinguished faculty and outstanding students from each of the 15 public four-year universities in the state.

Recipients of the Distinguished Service Medallion, awarded for the first time this year, are Senator Jerome T. Hart and Timothy L. Lipan.

Hart is serving his seventh term as senator from Michigan's 14th district, which encompasses Saginaw County. He has a wide variety of legislative interests ranging from state tax policy to education funding and crime. He has been especially interested in the development of both Saginaw Valley State University and Delta College. Formerly chair of the Senate committees on Appropriations and Capital Outlay, Hart currently serves on the Education and Mental Health, Health Policy and Judiciary committees.

Lipan graduated from SVSU in 1974 with a Bachelor of Business Administration degree. He is executive director of the Muskegon-Oceana Chapter of the American Red Cross. An elected student senator during his undergraduate days, Lipan has retained a keen interest in the University. He has served as president of the SVSU Alumni Association since 1980 and has volunteered his time to numerous University activities.

In addition to achievement awards, SVSU employees with 10 or more years of service were recognized. Those with 10 to 19 years of service received framed certificates and those with 20 or more years' employment were awarded plaques. A total of 154 persons were accorded recognition for length of service.

Two faculty members, Dr. William S. Hoffman, professor of history, and Dr. Samuel Levine, professor of chemistry, received special recognition for 25 years of service.

The awards banquet was conducted in Ryder Center with approximately 200 attending.
Mahajerin Receives NSF Grant

The Department of Mechanical Engineering and Technology is the beneficiary of a grant of $49,654 from the National Science Foundation (NSF). The award, which was effective April 15 and expires September 30, 1992, will fund a project directed by Dr. Enayat H. Mahajerin, associate professor of mechanical engineering and technology.

Mahajerin will use the grant to fully develop SVSU materials science and failure analysis laboratories.

According to Mahajerin, a variety of structural materials will be tested in the laboratories. The list includes metals, polymers and composites. Composites are man-made substances such as concrete. "Since between 50 and 90 percent of structural failures are blamed on fracture and fatigue, it is important to learn more about the properties of structural materials," Mahajerin said. "Factors related to failure include improper material selection, design and improper assembly."

Upon joining the SVSU staff in 1984, Mahajerin noted a need to add new courses and develop laboratories. The materials science lab has been completed and the failure analysis lab is in progress through his efforts. The failure analysis lab will be enhanced through the purchase of equipment with grant money. The labs are used to support classes such as the materials science and fracture and fatigue courses Mahajerin teaches.

Mahajerin added that it is extremely important for students to have strong analytical skills along with hands-on experience. "Engineers must compare and weigh the properties of competing materials with precision: the balance often is a delicate one," he said. "It involves an understanding of properties of materials, of how these properties are controlled by processing, and of the chain of reasoning that leads to a successful choice."

"To be effective engineers for industry, students must be good at both analytical and experimental techniques," he concluded.

"This grant is a very good thing for SVSU and its mechanical engineering program," he added. "This is the first NSF grant to go to mechanical engineering at SVSU."

Briefly Speaking

— Final session of Career Adjustment Planning Program tonight, 6:30-9:30 p.m. in the Administrative Services Building. Topic: Fitness for Life. For information call ext. 4267.

— Commencement ceremonies, featuring the 1990 graduates, will take place at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 5 in the O'Neill Arena. All faculty and staff are invited to participate.

— The Theatre Department is sponsoring lectures by acclaimed producer/director/author Oralin Corey Monday, May 7. The 12:30 p.m. lecture is scheduled in the Alumni Lounge, with a second lecture at 4:30 p.m. in 106 Arbury Center. Call ext. 4492 for details.

— The Bilingual/Bicultural Center plans a book presentation ceremony at 2:30 p.m. in lower level Doan Center Tuesday, May 8. For more information, call ext. 4487.

— The SVSU Hispanic Students Association will hold an awards banquet at 5 p.m. in lower level Doan Center.
Transitions

The following personnel changes occurred during April. Please make changes in your Faculty/Staff Directory.

New Staff

- Ms. Carolyn B. Konitzer, (ext. 4230), staff accountant, Office of the Controller. A.S., McHenry County College; B.S., Northern Illinois University.

Transfers/Promotions

- Ms. Doris Roberson (ext. 4286), transferred to Academic Advising.

- Ms. Melissa Ruterbusch (ext. 4393), promoted to student loan manager, Scholarships and Financial Aid.

Professional Profile

- Dr. Anna Dadlez, professor of Polish, was a guest expert on "Changes in the Soviet Bloc" for the Art Lewis "Open Line" show on radio WSGW Tuesday, April 24.

- Dr. Albert Menard, associate professor of physics, provided the expertise for Art Lewis' Thursday, April 26 "Open Line." The topic was the Hubble telescope mission.

Across Campus

-- Congratulations to Kathy López, assistant director of admissions, and Guillermo Castanon on the birth of a boy April 20. Andres Guillermo Castanon Post weighed in at 8 lb. 14½ oz. and was 21 in. long.

-- The campus community extends best wishes for a speedy and complete recovery to Zane Rybkowski, director of public safety. Rybkowski underwent quadruple by-pass surgery at St. Mary's Hospital Heart Unit on Monday, April 23. By Interior delivery, he is expected to be in a general care room prior to release from the hospital.

Last Call!

- Guest tickets ordered for Commencement may be picked up at the Information Desk in Doan Center.

- Academic regalia for Commencement may be picked up at the Bookstore.

Commencement begins 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 5. Questions about the day's activities should be called to ext. 4052.

High Five

-- The softball team has 39-9 overall record, tying the SVSU victory mark set last year. The Lady Cardinals won four of seven games last week as junior Brenda Eiseler broke the school RBI record with a season total of 50. Ranked No. 8 in the latest NCAA Division II poll, SVSU hosts No. 3-ranked Wayne State Tuesday, travels to GLIAC-leader Hillsdale Wednesday, and hosts the GLIAC tournament Saturday and Sunday.

Eighth-year head baseball coach Walt Head posted his 200th collegiate victory Saturday in the first game of double-header sweep at Wayne State. SVSU took three of four games from the Tartars and now have 250 wins in 12 years.

The golf team posted its first tournament victory under first-year head coach Joe Vogl, taking the 16th Annual Bay Valley Intercollegiate title for the fifth time. Freshman Mark Stephens earned medalist honors with rounds of 73 and 75 on the par-71 Bay Valley Golf Club course. SVSU fired rounds of 303 and 320 to win by five strokes. A dozen teams competed in the tournament.

Earth Day-Related Activities

The following SVSU activities related to environmental concerns have been reported to the Office of Information Services:

- Our Clean Air Policy is being studied by Delta College as a model for securing a smoke-free environment.
- Senior nursing student Lori Bowker has prepared a display on recycling. See it on the 2nd floor Wickes Hall bulletin board near the walkway to Brown Hall.
Meet Sugar. And Pooky Bear and Brutus.

The trio are among the many "lab assistants" helping Associate Professor of Psychology Louis Cohen study -- and teach -- how learning takes place.

Not to worry that Sugar, Pooky Bear and Brutus are flaky students who somehow wormed their way into psychology classes. Instead, Sugar is a lop-eared rabbit who willingly serves as an occasional subject for hypnosis. Pooky Bear and Brutus are among the many rats that take part in operant conditioning exercises to provide data on normal learning as well as learning deficits.

Between their stints as "students," the critters relish the attention lavished on them by Cohen and the junior and senior psychology students. They are frisky and bright-eyed.

"My academic background is somewhat unusual," Cohen says. "My undergraduate degree is in biology and psychology, and I took a master of science in biology, completing research in radiation biology.

"I entered a Ph.D. program in zoology. After completing a year in the program, I met a professor in physiological psychology at Texas Tech University who inspired me to combine my long-term interest in animal behavior with experimental psychology. I switched my major at the doctoral level and completed a degree with neuro-psychology emphasis."

As a child, Cohen says, he kept a veritable "zoo" of animals, with chickens, mice, rats, lizards, hamsters and other species in his menagerie. "My parents were very flexible," he notes.

His doctoral thesis was based on his research into the fetal alcohol syndrome. "It involves 'teratology' -- the study of tissue damage due to toxic substances," he points out.

While he spent seven years researching fetal alcohol syndrome, more recently Cohen has devoted his effort to studying fetal cocaine syndrome. The phenomenon of babies born to mothers who use cocaine during pregnancy has "become a national problem of major proportions," he says.

Because the birth of cocaine-damaged babies escalated suddenly, there is little solid research, he says. "We know these babies don't learn as well, that they are hyperactive and may have emotional problems. But we don't know much about precisely how the damage occurs in utero, or about treatment or therapy for babies abused in utero, or whether such damage is permanent," he states.

"To investigate these questions, I am developing a rat model that parallels human development. This allows us to simplify and control conditions so we can isolate cause and effect relationships."

Cohen is sensitive to the welfare and humane treatment of laboratory animals. He chairs SVSU's institutional review board, which examines all proposals for research projects. Since research in the psychology lab is centered on learning behavior, it is not destructive to animal subjects.

Cohen points with some pride to the involvement SVSU psychology majors have in research. Students not only work directly with research projects, but co-author and present academic papers on their work. That is unusual at the undergraduate level, he notes.

"Having direct exposure to real research enhances their ability to be admitted for postgraduate study necessary in the field."
'Diploma Lady' Brings Smiles

Ask graduates to name their most cherished memento of their college experience and most will reply, 'My diploma!'

Because she knows just how important the proverbial sheepskin is to its owner, diploma preparation is one job Beverly Salay gives her personal attention. She orders the document for students who successfully complete graduation requirements each semester.

When the certificates are returned by the printer, Salay carefully proofreads each one, checking for correct spelling of names. She adds honors designations for students earning cum laude, magna cum laude or summa cum laude status. Each completed diploma then is tucked into its Cardinal red case, along with a free transcript and an alumni card. The package is inserted into an envelope, ready for pickup or mailing, depending on the graduate's preference.

"We keep track of who's coming to Commencement," she notes. Those who do not attend the annual ceremony may elect to come to the Registrar's Office for their diplomas. "I try to greet them personally and add my congratulations when they come to the counter," Salay adds.

Students who live outside the tri-cities area or graduate during a semester other than winter routinely receive their diplomas in the mail.

Background preparation begins well ahead of the actual printing of diplomas, however. As students near graduation, they must submit degree applications to the Registrar's Office. When that has been done, Salay checks individual student files and begins the senior audit process.

"I go over all the records and do the Basic Skills audit," she says. The folders then are passed along to Registrar Paul Saft, who checks to see that General Education and other degree requirements have been met. Finally, Salay coordinates an inspection by department chairpersons for each major.

"If students submit their applications by the deadline, we are able to catch any deficiencies in time for them to make them up." She says improvements in academic advising policies have helped prevent deficiencies. Students who have gone through counseling sessions and read the University catalog seldom have problems meeting graduation requirements, she says.

Salay, administrative secretary in the Registrar's Office, will observe her twentieth anniversary with SVSU this month. She has seen many changes in that time, but the most dramatic is conversion to computer-assisted registration.

"We used to do everything by hand -- registration, grading, all records. On-line registration was the best change I've observed."

Asked what she likes best about her job, Salay jokes, "The pressure!" She quickly adds that she really most enjoys working with people, and notes that the office staff shares responsibility through peak activity periods.

Away from the office, Salay relaxes by sketching or painting. "Every Christmas I design a Christmas scene and paint it on a large window in our house." She also writes poetry for family and close friends, and enjoys swimming and sewing when time permits.
SAGINAW VALLEY COMPUTER SERVICES
NEWSLETTER
ISSUE 1.1 SPRING 1990

BITS

Thinking about a NEW COMPUTER for home? Did you know that SVSU has a no-interest payroll deduction plan?

Pictured NAME BADGES: Our student employees doing back-ups or repairs soon will be wearing them. Anyone requesting access to your computer should have identification from Computer Services.

Please help SAVE our ENVIRONMENT by saving your old laserjet cartridges for us so they can be recycled. Call 4225 for pickup or drop off at Wickes 216.

We need HELP! Let us know about new software you need or may have already purchased, because we know "you can't judge a disk by its cover." It's likely that someone else wants the same application.

PRIME USERS - It's time for new passwords again so you've got time to make up your own, as we'll be re-assigning them in May.

Do you use statistical SURVEYS? - If you want computer analyses please call John Guettler at ext. 5666, before designing the format or distributing the forms. John can save time and effort for you as well as for our department.

COPYRIGHT LAWS and internal policy compel us to install and support only legitimate software purchased through the University and on our approved list.
WHAT'S NEW

TAPE BACKUPS

Are you one of the many PC users on campus who's currently not able to backup your hard drive data? We have recently implemented a new procedure, modest in cost per computer, that will upgrade your machine to connect with Irwin tape drives. These are simple to use and are available for self-use at your discretion and convenience.

PREREQs:  Hard drive 40mb or less
           Cost approx $ 150.

TALLGRASS BACKUPS

These old, slow, Tallgrass backup drives that we've been using for several years are being phased out of general use and will be replaced by the more reliable and faster drives made by ADIC and IRWIN.

PREREQs:  ADIC- Hard drive 80mb or less.
           Cost approx $ 400.
           IRWIN-see above

WORDPERFECT 5.1

It's here and it's mostly perfect. We plan on upgrading every department and lab this summer. Classes will be offered for you and for any skill level in June & July. Be prepared for fall semester!

           Some font upgrades extra.

REMEMBER to please call us at ext. 5676, if you are considering a software upgrade, as combined orders mean lower cost per copy purchased.

Also, the Micro Help Desk will continue to reside in Computer Services Office on the second floor of Wickes Hall. Call MaryLou for HELP or questions.

DBASE IV

New features include a report generator, creating queries is much simpler, and programming takes less time. If you need to exchange Database info or reports with DBASE IV users, upgrading is a must. Also, all new micro database programming done by our staff will be in DBASE IV.

PREREQs:  Available hard drive space.
           Upgrade cost approx $ 175.
Note:  The labs will be upgraded this summer, and a class will be held for you.

LOTUS 2.2

Features:  improved graphics; ALWAYS printing utility that's superior to the SIDEWAYS utility; an "undo" feature allows you to cancel recent data changes.

PREREQs:  1mb ram, graphics card.
           Cost approx $ 75.

SOFTWARE SELF-LEARNING

We now have interactive floppy disk/audio tape courses available for your checkout on a weekly basis. New titles include WP 5.1, DBase IV, and Lotus 2.2.

MICRO MAINTENANCE

Watch, in May and June, for our new micro maintenance program. We will be cleaning and fine tuning your computers, monitors, keyboards and printers. At the same time, we will give you a few tips on extending the life of your equipment (i.e. getting the most out of your toner cartridge). If you are currently experiencing problems or have any questions, make a note of what happens and be prepared to duplicate the situation for us.

MERIT CONNECTION

Does MERIT networking merit your attention? It may be possible for you to connect to our campus instructional mini computers as well as computers on other campuses. Call extension 5666 or 4221.