May 4, 1993

SVSU Honors Shikoku University President at May 8 Commencement

The University's most prestigious acknowledgement, an honorary Doctor of Science degree, will be conferred upon Haruo Saito as part of the 28th Annual Spring Commencement ceremonies Saturday, May 8. The Distinguished Alumni Award also will be presented during the 1:30 p.m. event in the O'Neill Arena.

Some 450 members of the 1992-93 graduating class will participate in the ceremonies. Approximately 700 students completed requirements for baccalaureate and master's degrees.

Dr. Saito serves as president of SVSU's sister institution, Shikoku University, Tokushima, Japan. He was appointed to the position in April 1992 and also serves as president of Shikoku University Junior College.

Saito earned a bachelor's degree in physics from Osaka University, where he also completed his graduate work in solid state physics. His work culminated in his being awarded a doctorate. During graduate study he was a research associate and later became a professor at Osaka University.

From September of 1963 to November of 1964 Saito worked as a research physicist with the Oak Ridge National Laboratory in the U.S. while on leave from Osaka University. He resumed his faculty position with Osaka upon his return in 1968 and was named dean of the College of General Education in 1982. In 1987 he became director of the Research Center for the School of Education, Naruto University of Education. From 1988 to 1992 he was vice president of Naruto University and continues to hold the title of Honorary Professor there.

Saginaw Valley State University has maintained an exchange relationship with Shikoku University since 1982.

This year's Distinguished Alumni Award recipient, Dr. Caroline G.M. Scott, enrolled in an accelerated degree program at SVSU in 1976, following ten years of motherhood and volunteer work. In 1979 she earned the Owsley Award for outstanding work in biology and collected a bachelor's degree in biology and chemistry.

Scott received acceptance to three medical schools and chose MSU for its hands-on approach to medicine. She completed a three-year family practice residency at Saginaw Cooperative Hospitals, Inc. and now is associated with Heritage Family Physicians with offices in Birch Run and Saginaw. She is affiliated with St. Luke's and Saginaw General hospitals and St. Mary's Medical Center.

Her professional memberships include the Saginaw County Medical Society, Saginaw Academy of Family Physicians, American Medical Women's Association, American Medical Association, Michigan State Medical Society, American Academy of Family Physicians and Michigan Academy of Family Physicians.

In September of 1992 Scott received the Outstanding Female Physician award at the first reception hosted by Saginaw Cooperative Hospitals honoring women in the local medical community.

Among other honors she has been accorded are the George Adler Award for outstanding resident-emergency medicine and the Outstanding Volunteer Physician Educator-Family Practice award. She now serves as the first woman president of the 89-year old Saginaw County Medical Society.

Scott is a native of London, England. She and her husband, Gerard, came to Saginaw from Dublin, Ireland in 1966.
Faculty Association Recognizes Colleagues, Students at Annual Banquet

Members of the SVSU Faculty Association recognized the accomplishments of two colleagues from the College of Business and Management on Monday, May 3, during their Annual Awards Banquet in Doan Center. The Association also presented scholarships to two students.

The Association’s Award for University Service was presented to Lawrence J. Kickham, professor of accounting. Dr. Joseph Ofori-Dankwa, associate professor of management, received the Award for Scholarship. The awards included a plaque marking the occasion and a check for $250.

Kickham, who has been a member of the SVSU faculty since 1979, is a graduate of the University of Notre Dame. He has an M.S. in accounting from Northwestern University. He chaired the Accounting Department from 1982 to 1990, was a three-time vice president of the Faculty Association and is a member of the search team seeking a new Dean for the College of Business and Management. A Certified Public Accountant, he also serves as treasurer and board member of the Saginaw Choral Society.

Ofori-Dankwa holds a law degree from the University of Ghana, an M.S. in management and technology from the University of Wales (England) and a Ph.D. in labor relations from Michigan State University. He has been an SVSU faculty member since 1987. He has published numerous articles and scholarly papers and in 1989 received the Fellowship Award of the International Labor Organization.

Recipients of the eighth Faculty Association Endowed Scholarships and their mentors are Eric R. Peterson, a Saginaw junior with mentor Gary Clark, associate professor of marketing; and Kamaric O. Warmouth, a Sanford sophomore, with mentor Matthew G. Margres, associate professor of psychology.

The scholarships, worth $1,000, will be applied to the students’ tuition and book expenses next year.

Alpha Chi Inducts New Members

The Michigan Delta Chapter of the Alpha Chi National College Honor Society inducted 56 new members in ceremonies at SVSU on Friday, April 30.

The SVSU Chapter is one of more than 300 at four-year colleges and universities across the country. Since its installation in 1986, 426 junior and senior students have been inducted locally. Phyllis Hastings, associate professor of English, serves as faculty advisor for the chapter.

To be admitted to the society, students must have grade point averages that rank them in the top 10 percent and must be nominated by faculty members from various departments. Nominations are based on “intellectual capacity, breadth of general knowledge, ability to communicate, intellectual curiosity, classroom contribution and creativity,” according to Hastings.

Since Alpha Chi’s founding in 1922, more than 189,000 students have been admitted nationally to the society that promotes academic excellence and exemplary character.

[Left] More than 30 new Alpha Chi members attended a reception held in their honor last Friday evening in Lower Level Doan Center.
SVSU Earth Policy Institute to Record Planetary Emergencies Seminar

Science-fiction buffs may be thrilled by television re-runs of extra-terrestrial invasions of earth and similar imaginary catastrophes, but a team of technicians from Saginaw Valley State University documented the real world views of a select group of international scientists last week when they gathered to discuss the implications of a collision between an object from outer space and planet earth.

Representatives of SVSU's Institute for Environmental Policy and Education (IEPE) departed Sunday, April 25, to videotape the proceedings at the Ettore Majorana Centre for Scientific Culture in Erice, Sicily, where about 50 internationally renowned scientists gathered April 26 through May 2 to participate in the "International Seminar on Planetary Emergencies: The Collision of an Asteroid or Comet with the Earth."

As a subcontractor to the U.S. Department of Energy, SVSU's role in documenting the seminar came about "because we're developing a good reputation in the area of environmental and global change education," according to Dr. Ralph Coppola, director of IEPE.

Coppola was accompanied at the conference by Tim Von Hoff, IEPE manager of telecommunications; Donald B. Richards, IEPE manager of educational technologies; Ray A. York, IEPE graphic artist, and Cathy Flanders, consultant to IEPE.

The 1993 conference is an outgrowth of a series of scientific and policy forums begun in 1981. Earlier conferences focused primarily on nuclear weapons and deterrence. In recent years, seminar topics covered global environmental monitoring and new international relationships developing since the end of the cold war.

Former seminar participants include Nobel Prize winners Sam Ting, T.D. Lee, Kai Siegbahn and Sir John Eccles. In 1991, the Centre jointly awarded its first "Science for Peace" prize to Andre Sakharov, Edward Teller, Victor Weisskopf, Paul Dirac and Peter Kapitza. Demonstrating a common commitment to preserving life on earth, more than 10,000 international scientists have signed the Erice Statement, developed by seminar participants.

IEPE has participated in similar projects, including a pilot program for CIESIN that linked middle school teachers from Saginaw County and six states via satellite, telephone lines, computers and cable television systems to conduct experiments and study the effects of fresh water pollution in the eastern United States.

Other projects include development of "Windows on Global Change," a CD-ROM, interactive computer program for CIESIN and "EarthVision," an EPA program that provides area high school students and teachers with the opportunity to develop and conduct environmental research projects using high speed computer equipment in the National Environmental Supercomputing Center (NESC) in Bay City.

Works in Clay Featured in University Art Gallery Summer Exhibition

Works by six artists will grace the University Art Gallery during the summer months. Gallery director Barron Hirsch has assembled an exhibit of ceramic sculpture and pottery for "Clay Invitational 1993."

"It is a very interesting show," Hirsch said. "The work is lovely."

The show features pieces by six leading mid-Michigan clay artists: Terry Basmadjian, Sara Clark, Matthew Henderson, Leslie Parsons, Marlene Pellerito and Marcia Pollenberg. Hirsch notes that Basmadjian, Clark and Pellerito currently teach at SVSU, and Henderson formerly was a member of SVSU's art department.

The exhibit will be in place through September 2, overlapping the beginning of fall semester. For summer hours, call Hirsch at ext. 4391 or Clark at ext. 5684.
Sign-up for Corporate Challenge

Two teams of 30 people will be needed to compete in the 1993 Corporate Challenge, September 21-25. Registration information will be arriving in campus mailboxes in the near future. Participants can choose from the following events: volleyball, bike racing, basketball shoot, team cheer, banner construction, 5K run, 5K walk, bowling, 4x50 swim relay, crescendo swim, innertube relay, 400m track, obstacle course and tug-of-war.

Ryder Center Site for May 12 Mock Disaster Exercise

The Saginaw Medical Emergency Preparedness Council will be staging a "Mock Disaster" at SVSU's Ryder Center on Wednesday, May 12. The Department of Public Safety, the Saginaw County Sheriff's Department, local ambulance companies and hospitals will be coordinating their efforts to respond to a simulated airplane crash. During the exercise, all of Lot E will be closed, along with portions of Lots B and F.

Professional Profile

- Stephen Barbus and Melissa Hayden, both in the Teacher Education Department, presented at the Council for Exceptional Children's International Conference in San Antonio (TX), April 8. The title of their presentation was "Rural On Site Training: A Model for Effective Personnel Preparation in Special Education." The session reviewed the components of SVSU's special education teacher preparation model and efforts to meet regional personnel needs.

- Jean E. Brown, professor of teacher education, recently addressed the students at Arenac Eastern High School on "Meeting Challenges" at their winter Honors night. She also participated in the Spring Conference of the National Council of Teachers of English in Richmond (VA), where she presided over a meeting of the CEE Commission on Intellectual Freedom that she chairs. She also participated in an NCTE/NCATE Invitational Workshop for folio reviewers.

- Eric De Vos, assistant professor of psychology, presented a lecture titled "Prenatal Psychological Variables as Predictors of Complicated Labor" as a guest lecturer for the Program in Epidemiology, College of Human Medicine, April 22, at Michigan State University. He presently is conducting research on social and psychological factors that present risk for prematurity and labor complications, in collaboration with a multidisciplinary research team from MSU's College of Human Medicine. De Vos also presented a talk for students and faculty at SVSU on April 15 titled "Strategies for Developing Psychosomatic Research." De Vos also will be presenting some of his research findings in a talk titled "The Mother's Psychological Profile During Pregnancy as a Predictor of Labor Complications." This talk will be presented on April 30 at the 65th Annual Meeting of the Midwestern Psychological Association in Chicago.

- Melissa Hayden, assistant professor of teacher education, recently presented her research titled "Elementary Math Instruction with Interactive Videodisc" at the Fourth Annual Conference for Technology and Teacher Education in San Diego.

- Janet E. Rubin, professor of communication and theatre, presented a paper titled "Drama, Core Curriculum and Teacher Training" at a meeting of the National Conference on College Teaching and Learning in Jacksonville (FL) on April 17. The paper was co-authored by June Cottrell from Western Michigan University.

Did You Know? ...

- Students receiving Employee Tuition Waivers (employees or employee family members) must bring their tuition bills to the financial aid office to assure crediting of their accounts. Each time hours are added and a new bill is generated, the student should return to the financial aid office to assure the additional credit is added to his/her award.

- The Bagel Wagon and the Snack Bar will reopen Monday, May 10 at 8 a.m.

- Health Services hours through August 13 will be Tuesday, Wednesday and Thursday from 10 a.m. to 4 p.m. In any emergency, call Public Safety at ext. 4141.

- A trip in mid-July to Tiger Stadium is being organized. For details, call ext. 5697.
Saginaw Selected as Site for National Writing Project

The Saginaw area has been selected as one of two new Michigan locations to implement a program designed to improve student writing skills and writing instruction for teachers. The Saginaw Valley National Writing Project (SVNWP) recently received a $15,000 grant to conduct training.

The grant, from the National Writing Project (NWP), is being matched by funds from Saginaw Valley State University and the Saginaw Public Schools. James Gray, NWP national director, visited Saginaw April 23 through 25 to prepare for a Summer Institute to be conducted here.

Up to 24 teachers or school administrators from kindergarten through university level will be selected to participate in the June 28 through July 23 Summer Institute, which is a collaborative effort between SVSU, Delta College, the Saginaw Public Schools and other area schools. Kay Harley, professor of English, is director of SVNWP. Jane Denton, English teacher and language arts coordinator for the Saginaw Public Schools, will co-direct the Institute.

Qualified applicants from the Saginaw Public Schools will be given priority for the 1993 Summer Institute; however, teachers from other public and private schools in the region are encouraged to apply. Most sessions will be conducted at the Saginaw Public Schools Instructional and Staff Development Center, 1505 Ottawa Boulevard. Some sessions will be conducted at SVSU.

Selected participants in the Institute will receive a $400 stipend. A $100 registration and materials fee will be charged to teachers from outside the Saginaw Public School District. Application deadline is May 19.

Since its inception 19 years ago, NWP has reached 820,000 educators and receives financial support from such private organizations as the National Endowment for the Humanities, the Carnegie Corporation, the Exxon Education Foundation and the Andrew Mellon Foundation.

SVNWP and the Red Cedar Writing Project at Michigan State University join three Michigan NWP sites already operating in the Metro Detroit area, at Eastern Michigan University and at Oakland University. Approximately 170 NWP sites are in operation nationwide.

For additional information, please contact Kay Harley at ext. 4354.

Judith Kerman, dean of Arts and Behavioral Sciences, extends a welcome to James Gray, director of the National Writing Project. In the middle is Burris Smith of the Saginaw Public School District.
It's not so much a matter of what is right or wrong as what's workable, so far as Marianne Barnett is concerned.

"I don't think 'right' or 'wrong' is really useful," she says of the roles society assigns to men and women. What is significant, she believes, is whether people can negotiate workable roles.

"Women need to become better at negotiating roles," Barnett says. Relationships work best when "two people are willing to negotiate what needs to be done to be successful."

The idea of social constructs that define or limit has attracted Barnett's scholarly attention. She authored two papers and served on a panel with Sally Cannon and Mary Harmon in 1992, exploring several aspects of changing feminine roles.

Barnett describes her publication "Heros: How Gender Challenges the Concept" as "a kind of fun paper. It examines how women characters are treated in films and in the popular culture." She notes that in the '80s women often were portrayed in enabling roles.

In recent films, such as Fatal Attraction, strong women tend to be punished. She says that Aliens is an exception, "but the film is set in the future for a reason."

When women are presented as heros rather than in roles of supporting male heros, the social dynamics change, she says.

Then there is the question of women and competition. When they are placed in competitive situations at work, home or in athletics, should women follow the same patterns that have been successful for men, or can they find alternative styles?

"We don't really define 'femininity.' Women have to negotiate that, and it is hard," she says. "We tend to denounce strong women for behavior for which we praise men. We should start valuating more qualities that are assigned to women, such as networking."

Barnett observes that many of her students are grappling with issues related to socially constructed roles. "We have a culture that very much values success and defines success as being a certain amount of income or a position. I ask my students, 'What do you want? What makes you happy?'

Another of Barnett's concerns centers on generating interest in the arts at SVSU. She serves as advisor for the Cardinal Sins, which publishes original writing and art by members of the campus community. "We have started to construct an arts community on campus," she says, "though it is difficult to establish a sense of community on a commuter campus."

"One of my goals is to make creative writing and that kind of art even more of a campus focus. We need to generate the idea that art is a productive part of being human. We need to rethink what it is to be human and what art tells us about that process."

Barnett enjoys both research and writing and believes engaging in such activities makes her a better teacher. She has published both short fiction and poetry in addition to her scholarly papers.
Talk with Nancy Rood and you'll quickly discover how much she likes working with the faculty in Pioneer Hall. "I really enjoy my faculty," she smiles. "I have never felt like I had to go to work every day. It is really a great group of guys."

Her "guys" include five members of the electrical engineering faculty, six who teach mechanical engineering and a single member of the math department whose office is in Pioneer Hall. In addition, the lab supervisors are frequent visitors to Rood's office, which is located in a center section of Pioneer's first floor.

Rood's first campus post was in the Controller's Office. She began there November 3, 1980. On August 26, 1985 she transferred to the faculty secretary position in Pioneer Hall. She recalls the exact dates because "I have enjoyed it so much out here that these dates are memorable."

Her first Pioneer "office" was a station in the Pioneer Hall library. After the opening of the I.F. #2 complex relieved congested office situations, Rood moved to her present office.

In addition to performing customary support duties, such as typing letters, memos and tests, Rood often prepares scientific documents that contain lots of equations. She has mastered the equations feature of WordPerfect to assist in this process.

"It works really well, but you have to know the exact wording of the formulas. I keep a reference book of the equations that are used quite often," she says. She is looking forward to receiving the Windows version of WordPerfect. "That will allow me to see the feature on the screen, so I will know I am getting what I want." Her current version of the word processor shows only a symbol on the screen, which means editing must be done after a draft is printed.

Currently Rood is recovering from carpal tunnel surgery. She is learning to intersperse her typing sessions with other work, and she has added a wrist support to her keyboard. She notes the device was devised by Randy Hostetler (lab supervisor) when a commercial product failed to meet her needs. Rood also credits Hostetler with designing her office layout and creating some specialized computer cabinetry.

In addition to her other duties, Rood provides support service for the annual M^3PEP activities coordinated by Ray Foster. She provided assistance with the A.S.E.E. conference hosted on the SVSU campus in 1991. And she assisted Darlene Rademacher with support needed in preparation for the A.B.E.T accrediting process. "I never know what a day will bring," she says of the variety of her work.

Rood is very proud of her two sons. Brett, the younger, is a student at SVSU, He works in the Mail Room and often delivers campus correspondence. Brian, her older son, works at the Palace of Auburn Hills. He was married recently, and Rood is pleased to have a daughter-in-law. "She is an only child, so I got my girl and they got their boy."
Some 16 years ago Ruth Braun was appointed to fill an unexpired term on the City of Saginaw Board of Education. The following November she successfully ran for election and she continues to serve. Her tenure has included two terms as president.

In 1991 Governor John Engler appointed Braun to an eight-year term on SVSU’s Board of Control. From her vantage point on the two governing bodies, Braun views the problems and opportunities of the entire spectrum of education, kindergarten through university.

There are some definite differences, she notes. "K-12 students are in school because the law demands it," she says. "At SVSU, students are here because they want to be. They have a much different attitude because they are where they want to be."

Braun sees direct links between SVSU’s College of Education and the K-12 schools. "I have been encouraged by SVSU’s approach to teaching teachers," she says. "We (society) really have to concentrate on better preparation of K-12 teachers." She feels SVSU offers programs and classes that are particularly relevant to teachers’ needs.

The expansion at SVSU pleases Braun. "SVSU is growing at a faster clip than most of our sister universities," she says. "While some of the others are losing students, SVSU enrollment is up."

"The University also has gained prestige. Initially SVSU wasn’t well-known across the tri-counties and state, and now it is."

Braun does not see any need for the University to dramatically change its course in the foreseeable future. "We are doing so well with the programs we are offering—we just need to do more of it. We can always broaden the base, but that has to be done cautiously and only when the need presents itself."

Braun notes that forecasting, while always problematical, is even more difficult in today’s socioeconomic environment. "We hardly know what the state of the world is from month to month, and to predict differences with any specificity is difficult." She notes that many people studied the Soviet Union, yet most didn’t foresee the rapid changes that have occurred there.

To be successful, she believes, SVSU must "go with the times and make adjustments along the way."

The financial climate poses a challenge for SVSU, as it does for all of higher education, according to Braun. "Unfortunately, more and more of the financial burden has to be with the students. Meeting financial obligations while continuing to offer the best education possible at the lowest cost is a big challenge."

"We seem to be doing a good job; SVSU has made the most of its resources. We have a fine administrative staff and some excellent professors," she comments.

Providing facilities to accommodate expanding enrollment is a big challenge that must be balanced with other needs, Braun says. The construction of the planned Business and Professional Development Center will provide a boost to the campus.

"When the new building is complete, that probably will open some doors to additional programs and activities. It will enhance the campus and add a finishing touch."

Braun considers the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Gallery "a jewel. It is such an impressive building. Whenever we have out-of-town guests, we bring them to campus to see the Gallery."