Islamic and Comparative Religions Scholar is SVSU Lecturer

Peter J. Awn, professor of Islamic Religion and Comparative Religion at Columbia University, will present the first William and Julia Edwards Lecture in Philosophy and Religion at SVSU. He will speak at 8 p.m., Wednesday, March 9 in the University Theatre. Admission is free of charge.

Awn is author of a study of the devil in Islamic mysticism (Sufism) titled Satan’s Tragedy and Redemption: Iblis in Sufi Psychology, which received a book award from the American Council of Learned Societies. He is the first recipient of the Phillip and Ruth Hettleman Award for distinguished teaching and research. Awn has received Fulbright and National Endowment for the Humanities grants among his awards.

A major contributing editor to the Dictionary of the Middle Ages and the Encyclopedia of Asian History, Awn holds a B.A. degree in Philosophy and Letters from Fordham University, a Master of Divinity with High Distinction from Woodstock College Jesuit School of Theology and a Ph.D. from Harvard University, where he majored in Islamic Religion and Comparative Religion.

Widely traveled in Europe, the Middle East, Iran and South Asia, Awn spent a year of research in India and Tunisia under the auspices of the American Institute of Indian Studies and the Fulbright program.

Awn’s lecture is the first of three supported by a bequest from William and Julia Edwards. Now retired, the Edwards’ chaired the first fund-raising campaign on behalf of SVSU in the early 1960s. Plans call for future lectures to be presented during the 1994-95 and 1995-96 academic years.

WOMEN’S HISTORY MONTH
MARCH 1-31, 1994 AT SVSU

- Women of Courage Display
  March 1-31, Zahnow Library
- African Gifts
  Feb. 15 – Mar. 18, Wickes Showcase
- Julia Roecker: Prints
  Detroit Printmakers Consortium
  March 8-30, University Art Gallery
- Reception for SVSU Graduating Women
  March 10, 4:30-5:30 p.m.
  Registrar Lobby Area
- Women of Courage Wall
  March 10-31, Brown Concourse
- Active Parenting Workshop
  March 15, 4-7 p.m., Alumni Lounge
- Film on Alice Walker
  March 28, 12-1 p.m.,
  Lower Level Doan Center
- Women and Law Lecture
  March 29, 1-2:30 p.m., Brown 203
- Inside Michigan Nursing Display
  April 11-15, Zahnow Library
Graphics Center Installs New Equipment

A slide-film processor recently installed on the Graphics Center’s color copier enables supervisor Perry Toyzan to create enlarged color copies on paper or transparencies directly from color slides or negatives. The added equipment allows a full range of services for persons who need graphic elements for a written or visual presentation.

In addition, the Graphics Center recently acquired a Unibind system. As the name implies, the equipment will bind sheets, using a glue process with a clear plastic cover on both sides. The system supplements the tape binder available in the Satellite Graphics Center and replaces the GBC comb binder previously used to create booklets.

For more information about the capabilities of either piece of equipment, call Toyzan at ext. 4278.

Detroit Printmakers Consortium Displays Work in University Art Gallery

Prints by Detroit area artists will be on display in the University Art Gallery from March 8 through March 30. The exhibit includes the work of 10 artists and will feature a variety of mediums.

"The Printmakers Consortium is an organization of Detroit area artists who have joined together to share their knowledge and enthusiasm for printmaking as an art form," notes Gallery director Barron Hirsch. "Its artists work in all forms of printmaking, traditional as well as experimental. This exhibit will include work in collagraph, linocut, woodblock, etching, monoprint, silkscreen and unique photographic processes," he said.

In conjunction with the Consortium show, the Gallery also will show a collection of prints by Saginaw artist Julia Roecker (1887-1988). Formerly professor of art at Alma College and director of the Saginaw Art Museum, Ms. Roecker devoted much of her creative energy to printmaking. Her images came from nature, plants, animals and the life around her.

"Like the French impressionists, she documented the passing scene with spontaneity, light and color," Hirsch said. The exhibit includes traditional and experimental work.

Nominations Sought for Service and Recognition Awards

The SVSU community is encouraged to submit nominations for the following awards:

Faculty Recognition Awards

The SVSU Faculty Association is recognizing the outstanding achievements of faculty members through two awards—one for scholarly activity and the other for college service. Each award recipient will be honored at the Faculty Awards Banquet, held in the spring, with an engraved plaque and monetary gift. Deadline for nominations is March 8. Criteria and nomination forms are available at faculty secretary stations in Brown Hall and the Science Building. Submit nominations to Melissa Hayden, Brown 223.

Youth Service Awards

Young people between the ages of 18 and 22 who have demonstrated a high level of voluntary community service are eligible to receive one of two awards—the President’s Youth Service Award, which is the highest honor, and the National Youth Service Award, which recognizes meaningful community service. Deadline for nominations is March 7. For nomination forms, call ext. 4170 or 4167.

Ruben Daniels Community Service Award

All University employees are eligible for the Ruben Daniels Community Service Award, which is supported by Michigan National Bank. A $500 cash award and plaque will be presented to the recipient, who will be recognized at the April 15, 1994 All-University Awards Banquet. Deadline for nominations is March 7. Leadership criteria and nomination forms are available from Jean Houghton, selection committee chair, Zahnrow Library.

Outstanding Curricular Involvement

Joe Vogl is accepting nominations for the Award for Outstanding Curricular Involvement. Two awards will be presented—one to faculty, one to staff (full- and part-time are eligible). The recipients will be announced at the All-University Awards Banquet in April. For nomination forms and information on criteria, contact Vogl at ext. 7300.
Career Days to be Held at SVSU

SVSU will host more than 60 employers at the 14th Annual Career Exploration Day, 10 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, Feb. 23 in Brown Concours.

Faculty are asked to announce to their classes that students will be able to ask questions about careers and explore potential professional employment at the event. On hand will be representatives from governmental agencies, education, social services, business and industry. For further information, contact the Placement Office at ext. 4070.

High School Computer Programmers Invited to SVSU Competition

Moe Bidgoli, associate professor of computer science and advisor for the SVSU Chapter of the Association for Computing Machines (ACM), is coordinating a computer programming competition for high school students.

Teams of high schoolers with a flair for computer programming are being invited to compete for honors and cash prizes, including a $150 top prize, $100 for a second place finish and $50 for third.

Teams, consisting of one to three students, will be asked to solve nine problems of varying difficulty with the aid of human readable source material and hand-held calculators. Solutions must be written in BASIC, FORTRAN or Pascal. All solutions will be designed interactively and displayed on computer monitors. Participating teams will provide their own computer hardware, except for printers, which are prohibited.

March 4 is the deadline for applications. The competition runs from 9 a.m. to noon in Wickes 261. An awards luncheon will be held at noon in Lower Level Doan Center. For more information, contact Bidgoli at ext. 4198.

SVSU Students Named to Deans List

Richard P. Thompson, dean of Student Affairs, announced that this year 85 SVSU students have been named to the 1993-94 National Dean’s List. Those nominated were full-time students receiving the highest academic honor—a 4.00 grade point average for both winter and fall 1993 semesters. Recipients will be eligible to compete for $25,000 in scholarship awards, a National Dean’s List College Loan Program, as well as other benefits. The named students will be honored at the annual Student Leadership Banquet on April 12, 1994.

Volunteers Needed for Festival

The Office of Student Life is actively seeking volunteers to assist in the Valley Festival of the Fine Arts. The event takes place from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., Saturday, March 19, and from 12 noon to 5 p.m., Sunday, March 20.

Volunteers will be needed in all areas, including the Fine Arts Fair, Children’s Fun Arts Factory, the trolley shuttle, refreshment booths and as guides/assistants to guests and staff. Training will be provided in advance. Call ext. 4170 or 4167 to receive additional information or to sign up.

SVSU Artists Place in Photo Show

Hideki Kihata, associate professor of art, is among a group of artists from SVSU who have work on display in the All Area Photo 1994 show at the Saginaw Art Museum, 1126 N. Michigan.

Others who won were David A. Estrada, a senior design major; JoAnn S. Ford, a senior English major; Adrian Johnson, a junior design major; and Brian Biff Ward, a senior art major. Ward was the winner of the prestigious one-person show award.

The show, which includes 63 works by 34 artists, runs through Sunday, March 6.

Area Hotels Offer Package Rates to SVSU

Bay Valley Hotel and Resort, Hampton Inn and the Sheraton Inn Fashion Square are offering special package rates to SVSU personnel. Each package includes a list of amenities and is based on availability. Rates are available through Dec. 30, 1994. A room is $55 at Bay Valley; $45 at the Hampton Inn; and $61 at the Sheraton Fashion Square.
Campus Happenings

- Workforce Development Exposition and Seminar: Offered by BIDI from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., Monday, Feb. 28 in Ryder Center. Call ext. 4048 for additional information.

- Valley Film Society: Alexander Nevsky (Russia: Sergei Eisenstein, 1938) will be screened at 7:45 p.m., Friday, March 4 in the University Theatre.

Professional Profile

- Anna R. Dadlez, professor in the Department of Modern Foreign Languages, gave a talk titled "Russia in Transition" at the meeting of Business and Professional Women at the Bay City Holiday Inn on February 14.

- Michael Panhorst, director of the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Gallery, presented a paper titled "Artists' Intent for Outdoor Bronze Sculpture in the United States" at the annual conference of the College Art Association on February 16. About half of the paper deals with Marshall Fredericks, the other half with earlier 20th-century artists.

- Tirumale Ramesh, associate professor of electrical engineering, received an invitation to become a regular technical reviewer for papers submitted to the International Journal of Computers and Electrical Engineering. His main research interests are in Parallel Processing, Computer Architecture and VLSI.

- Jill Wetmore, associate professor of finance, has had a paper accepted for publication in The Journal of Financial Research. The paper, titled "Commercial Bank Risk: Market, Interest Rate and Foreign Exchange," is coauthored with Dr. John R. Brick, professor of finance, Michigan State University.

High Five

- The men's basketball team defeated Grand Valley State University, 109-93, Saturday. The victory leaves SVSU with a 9-7 league record, 13-11 overall.

- In women's basketball action, the Lady Cards whipped Grand Valley, 77-58, on Saturday. SVSU finishes the season with the Upper Peninsula road trip this week, with games against Michigan Tech on Thursday and Northern Michigan on Saturday.
February 14, 1994

Board Okays Tenure, New Chemistry Degree, Hears Updates of Campus Construction Plans

The Board of Control granted tenure to seven faculty members during the February 14 regular meeting. By resolution, the Board approved continuous appointments for Dr. William K. Barnett of the Sociology Department; Dr. Jonathan Leonard, Electrical Engineering; Dr. Bradley J. Miller, Political Science; Dr. Marc Perez, Music; Dr. C. Surender Reddy, Management; Dr. Joseph Shlien, Mechanical Engineering; and Dr. Carrie Sorenson, Teacher Education. The appointments take effect July 1, 1994.

The Board also endorsed creation of a bachelor of science degree in Environmental Chemistry, effective July 1. The program, believed to be the first of its kind in the state, will include all the traditional chemistry core courses so the student with this major is both a full-fledged Chemistry major and an Environmental Chemist, according to Vice President Robert S.P. Yien.

Board members heard updates on the status of campus construction projects in the ground or on the drawing board. Steve Hocquard, director of Engineering Services, said the Doan Center expansion and remodeling is proceeding on schedule. Bid in two phases, foundation work for the expansion was completed and covered before bitter cold weather set in. Work on a new kitchen and dining facilities should be completed by September.

The second phase, bid in January, is within budget and proceeding according to plan, Hocquard said. Target dates call for Housing and Residential Life to be relocated in May. The Bookstore is to be moved into renovated space by mid-July and should be open for business by mid-August.

Associate Vice President Crystal Lange told the Board that plans for the West Complex are expected to go to the state for review later this month and should be returned to the University for any modifications early in March. Plans call for bid documents to be started in April with final approval in May and contract awards by late June. Work on the $33 million structure should be underway by mid-July.

President Gilbertson said plans for the Founders Building are getting attention from acoustical experts because one of its uses will be as a musical recital hall. To be constructed of wood, stone and glass and with a seating capacity of 120-130, the structure should be completed by early December.

Dr. Gilbertson also told the Board a committee has been appointed to prepare a master plan for future campus development. The committee will use the services of a professional planning firm to assist in its work.
Burnett Kelly’s relationship with Saginaw Valley State University predated his August 1993 appointment to the Board of Control. As a member of SVSU’s Board of Fellows since 1989, he served in an advisory capacity. Since shifting to the University’s governing board, he finds his involvement much more intense.

“The Board of Fellows provides a level of exposure, but not to the level with the Board of Control,” he notes. The experience did give him background for his present role, however.

Kelly says he had formed a very favorable impression of SVSU. “The community that is served by Saginaw Valley is very important,” he says. “To have the kind of opportunity that Saginaw Valley is offering in the area makes me feel good about being part of it.”

“One of the things SVSU does well is offering opportunities for young people — anybody, really — to be involved in higher education in situations when they might not otherwise be involved.” He cites SVSU’s location and evening class schedules as factors that open educational doors for area residents. “Programs are set up to allow people to earn degrees and then use those degrees in a very productive way,” he says.

Kelly, president of Dow Corning USA, believes SVSU’s links with the business community are extremely important. “The relationship with local industry helps gear program development in ways that will be useful,” he says.

He sees a need for University course offerings to change in response to changing needs in society. “I would like to see, as the need arises, there be different kinds of programs or degrees added in the future,” he says. Noting that Board members would be considering addition of a program in leading to a B.S. in environmental chemistry, Kelly points out, “The whole area of environmental anything is going to be very important in the future. The degree puts tools in the hands of people who are going to use them.

“Dow Chemical and Dow Corning and other local firms give local people a chance to compete for local jobs. The degree should be a big plus.”

Kelly is enthusiastic about the proposed and in-progress construction projects at SVSU. “This is great,” he says. “Whether you are a resident student or you are someone who commutes, it feels good to be part of a growing university.

“That I am a college student and this is my college’ feeling is important. This is a really beautiful campus.”

Education is a very high priority with Kelly. “I am a great believer that we have to continue to prepare ourselves so that we have more choices. The more prepared I am the more choices I have. In my mind, education is key for people giving themselves more options, more choices. I try to communicate that message. Being part of a school that really is dedicated to helping people prepare is something I value a great deal.”

Kelly notes that SVSU serves a very diverse population. “SVSU has an opportunity to bring together that diversity. The world is getting smaller and smaller. We have to prepare people to compete and participate in a global world,” he says.

He adds that he is “delighted to be part of the Board of Control. I very much enjoy the relationships that I am developing with fellow Board members and with SVSU administrators and faculty. It is my impression that the school is well run.”
Norma Gase
Zivich

Norma Zivich has a history of accepting responsibilities on an interim basis and performing them so well that they become part of her permanent job description.

Not that she’s actually pirated anyone’s position; rather, she has filled in on a “temporary” basis when positions are left vacant, only to have the duties assigned long-term.

Zivich took on responsibility for directing SVSU’s Annual Fund activities in 1984 following the departure of a former Foundation employee. She retained that title in 1988 while accepting the additional responsibilities (on an interim basis) left by a departing Alumni Relations director. “And that stuck, too,” she smiles.

Initially Zivich joined the SVSU Foundation staff in 1979. She recalls cramped quarters in the old Wickes Annex complex, and the fire that destroyed the offices in 1985. Her first administrative position came in 1982 as a prospect researcher for the Special Funds Project, which sought contributions for the Arbury Fine Arts Center, support for the fledgling engineering programs and endowments for scholarships.

Along the way, Zivich completed two college degrees to add to her professional credentials. She received a B.A. in English from SVSU in 1984 and an M.A. in education administration from CMU. She also has attended numerous conferences and holds professional memberships related to fund raising. “Because I enjoyed my work so much, I chose that direction for my educational career,” she says.

Her dual role makes for a busy year. “The cycle for Annual Fund starts with the Alumni Phonathon in the spring,” she explains. “We follow up with a fall mailing to the community, campus employees and alumni who were not called during the phonathon.”

In between Zivich oversees production of the Report of Annual Giving. Her financial tables for the 1993 Report will show a grand total of $256,912 in contributions and pledges, up 14 percent from the previous year.

Zivich already has plans underway for a second “Taste of America,” an event that is both appreciation for the volunteer Annual Fund committee and current donors and cultivation for new contributors. The reception is set for March 23.

Periodically Zivich switches to her Alumni Relations hat, working with a 15-member volunteer board. The board provides advice and assistance to plan such activities as the Homecoming Afterglow. Securing active alumni support is a challenge, she says, because many SVSU students are commuters who may be beyond the traditional college-going age and may require several years of part time study to graduate.

“There is no year-of-graduation cohesiveness,” she notes. Therefore, activities probably will center on constituencies such as major or organizational affiliation. “This year I am working with Alumni Board focus groups on long range planning.” Zivich edits the Alumni Announcer, which communicates this and other information to the more than 13,000 SVSU graduates.

When Zivich married Art Professor Matt Zivich in 1990, the couple exchanged their vows in the lobby of Arbury Center, with Dr. Al Beutler officiating. “Ours was the first wedding held on campus,” she says. “It was nice to be in the building I helped to build.”
As a child, Sally Edgerton reveled in the pleasure of long walks through the lanes and woods on her parents’ farm.

“I had opportunities that other people don’t have,” she says. “Living on a farm had great impact in terms of appreciation of nature.”

Later Edgerton drew upon her childhood experiences when she taught elementary school children in Lansing. “I taught inner city children who lack in nature-type experience,” she notes. To fill the gap, Edgerton planned activities to put the youngsters in touch with their world.

“We spent many days at the Eversoll Enrichment Center,” she says. The jaunts included overnight camping trips for kindergarten to second graders. “It was a really important component of giving children a chance to experience nature.”

Edgerton also provided opportunities for her own daughter and son to become acquainted with the diverse environments found across the U.S. “When I came here (to SVSU), I had done quite a bit of travelling with my children and had given them opportunities to experience nature. I realized that not all children were as lucky.

“This became clear to me when I was in California at a national education conference in Sequoia National Park.”

Acting on her convictions, Edgerton began assembling materials that would help children learn about and appreciate nature. The list includes videos, tapes and books. Many carry the message of preserving as well as appreciating the environment.

Today Edgerton focuses her efforts on teaching teachers ways to introduce the topic to young children. She often presents papers at education conferences or in-service training sessions. “I encourage teachers to use literature that incorporates environmental issues,” she says. Her list of reference materials includes such books as A River Ran Wild, Mother Earth and Brother Eagle, Sister Sky.

“I think children are very aware of their environment and very aware of recycling,” she says. “There are all sorts of resources available from the state for teachers and students to participate in some type of environmental issue. We need to let children know about issues because it’s going to be their world.”

Edgerton also is passionate about motivating young children to become involved in math and sciences. With assistance from a grant, she has developed a teaching module called “Legos, Logos and Computers” to provide hands-on experiences in technology. Initially she worked with third and fourth graders, but today she is teaching the concept to other teachers.

A long-time Lansing resident, Edgerton has earned bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees from Michigan State University. She’s a dyed-in-the-green-and-white Spartan fan and met her husband on a 1988 trip to the Rose Bowl. The couple was joined in a romantic wedding on St. Thomas Island — sealing their vows with a wedding band set with a green emerald and white diamonds.