ACCESS: Helping Students Adjust to Campus Life at SVSU

"Some mentoring programs are for special groups such as minorities, women, handicapped or students encountering academic difficulties," says Cynthia Woiderski. "We wanted ACCESS to be open to everyone. It's more social in nature than some other programs."

She quotes from a brochure which says ACCESS (Advancement through Co-Curricular Experiences for Successful Students) is "designed to help everyone feel better about themselves and SVSU...and to influence social interaction of freshmen and transfer students while assisting them in becoming acclimated to the university system."

Woiderski, coordinator of mentoring and disability services, says even though ACCESS is being implemented for the first time this fall, 64 faculty, staff and students already have signed up to be mentors and 156 students have asked to participate as protégés.

A student who requests participation in ACCESS is matched with a volunteer faculty, staff member or student peer mentor. Development of a special relationship with a mentor is expected to enhance a student's personal growth and provide a sense of belonging. To that end, the protégé and mentor meet at least twice a month on an informal basis. Monthly programs with speakers and refreshments will be held for all mentors and protégés.

Both mentors and protégés have responsibilities. Mentors must attend training sessions, be available to meet with students, be aware of campus activities and obtain free tickets when available, maintain contact logs and fill out evaluation forms, refer protégés to proper resources and be prepared to invest time nurturing the relationship with a protégé.

A protégé must attend training sessions, initiate contact with the mentor, attend planned sessions, keep a contact log, provide feedback to improve the program, invest time nurturing the relationship and seek assistance when necessary.

"Contact logs are important, but they don't have to be too detailed," Woiderski says. "It simply means recording where they met, the date and time. And they're asked to participate in at least four campus events per semester. Which could be lectures, concerts, sporting events, or any combination of events."

Any of the following people may be contacted for more information about ACCESS:
- Cynthia Woiderski, ext. 4168
- Kim McDonald, ext. 4284
- Jean Chesney, ext. 4267
- Cassandra Ealy, ext. 5631
- Robert Lemuel, ext. 4163
- Merry Jo Starine, ext. 4255

Come help us celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month!

Kickoff Celebration featuring Dan Soza, Saginaw City Councilman, who will discuss Mexico's Independence Day.

Thursday, Sept. 15
11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m.
Leaping Gazelle Fountain

In case of rain, this event will relocate to Lower Level Doan Center. Admission $3.

Hope to see you there!
SVSU Teams Compete in 1994 Corporate Challenge

While some 60 participants from SVSU are competing in the 1994 Community Corporate Challenge (CCC), many more people from the University are needed to cheer on our teams.

The Challenge, which unites mid-Michigan businesses and their employees in the pursuit of personal fitness and company spirit, began competition Friday, Sept. 9. Many activities remain before the CCC's conclusion at 6 p.m., Saturday, Sept. 17 in Cardinal Gym.

Among the events remaining on the schedule are volleyball, a team cheer, basketball shoot, 5K run and walk, swimming and inner-tube relays, and a tug-of-war and obstacle course. Most of the events are being held on SVSU's campus.

Admission is free of charge. For further information on the CCC, or for a schedule of events, contact Mike Holliday in Pioneer Hall 136 or call ext. 4225.

Public Safety Officers to Provide Instruction in Self Defense

Rape Aggression Defense (R.A.D.) is America's fastest-growing self defense system for women. Created by Larry Nadeau, a University of Virginia police officer, the program is a comprehensive approach to women's safety that heightens awareness, improves alertness and encourages avoidance.

Presently in the state of Michigan, the only two certified R.A.D. instructors are SVSU Public Safety Officers Beth Rusch and Marc Strain. Any women who is interested in attending a R.A.D. class or obtaining more information should contact the Department of Public Safety at ext. 4250.

Freshmen Lead Fall Semester University Enrollments Above 7,000

Fall semester enrollments at SVSU rose to 7,066 as graduate and undergraduate students signed up for a record 69,203 credit hours of instruction. An enrollment increase of 1.3 percent above last year was led by a significant rise in the number of incoming freshmen.

"The count of first-time students was 728 on September 1, an increase of 6.0 percent," according to Registrar Paul Saft.

"Not only have we enrolled the largest freshman class in the history of the University, but the level of academic achievement of our first-year class also went up," said James Dwyer, director of admissions. "In the face of a statewide demographic downturn, enrollment of students with a 3.50 or better grade point average increased by 51 percent, from 92 a year ago to 139 this year."

Undergraduate enrollments totalled 5,726, an 0.8 percent increase over last year. Graduate registrations rose by 1.7 percent to 763. Students seeking teaching certificates climbed to 398, an 8.4 percent increase. The number of returning and readmitted students rose by 3.1 percent to 5,365, according to Saft.

Since 1964 fall enrollments have increased every year except 1973.

The final tabulation of fall enrollment figures will be confirmed later this month after all schedule adjustments have been received and processed.

Opinions Sought on University Prayer Policy

The SVSU Board of Control on July 14, 1993 adopted a policy regarding prayer as part of Commencement programs. The measure, which includes an invocation and benediction, was approved by a five-to-three vote following discussion of a variety of viewpoints on prayer at campus gatherings.

The Board, which may reconsider this policy in the future, requests comments from the SVSU community. Interested faculty, staff and students may express their views on this matter in writing to Richard Payne, secretary to the Board of Control.

As approved, the policy reads:

Pursuant to the Free Speech and the Free Exercise clauses of the First Amendment, it is the policy of the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University to include an invocation and a benediction on the program of Commencement. We would request that the invocation and the benediction be nonsectarian and nonproselytizing in nature.
Professional Profile

- Russell Gingras, professor of accounting, presented a paper titled "Dogmatism, Field Dependence and Decision Making in Accounting" on May 7 at the Regional Meeting of the American Accounting Association in Columbus (OH).

- Ann Rae, professor of social work, recently visited China, Hong Kong and Japan with a social work educators delegation that was sponsored by the Citizen Ambassador Program of the People to People Program. The delegation visited universities, social service organizations and mental health centers in Beijing, Shanghai and Hangzhou. The group also visited Hong Kong, where Rae made a presentation titled "Infusion of Research Methods and Critical Thinking in the Social Work Curriculum" at the Hong Kong Polytechnic Department of Applied Social Studies. Rae plans to present her impressions and findings about social work and child welfare in these countries in the near future to interested community organizations.

- Tirumale Ramesh, associate professor of electrical engineering, presented a one-day technical tutorial titled "Parallel Architecture for Image Processing" at the International Conference on Computer Systems and Education on June 24-26 at the Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore, India. The conference, which was organized by the SuperComputer Education and Research Center (SERC), was a forum to disseminate research and education in the field of computers in India and across the globe. Scholars and researchers from all over the world attended the conference, which was sponsored by the IEEE (India chapter); IBM, USA; and Control Data Corporation, USA. Ramesh was presented with a memento and a cash award.

  In addition, Ramesh presented a technical seminar titled "MIMD Communication Reconfiguration in an SIMD/MIMD Processor/ Switch Architecture" on August 4 at the Indian Space Research Organization (ISRO) in Bangalore. Ramesh presented another seminar July 26 at the Indian Institute of Technology in Madras, India. Afterward, he was presented with a memento.

  While in India, Ramesh presented an August 12 technical seminar titled "Reconfigurable Architectures: A Growing Trend in Parallel Architectures" at the SERC, Indian Institute of Science in Bangalore. He received a memento.

- Charles Pelzer, professor of biology, served as the director of the Michigan Outstanding Biology Teacher Award (OBTA), the only national award of its kind acknowledging teaching excellence in the life sciences for grades 7-12. The award, sponsored by the National Association of Biology Teachers, reviews teaching style, subject expertise, teaching environment, community involvement and professional development. Pelzer, who was the OBTA recipient last year, has directed the program since 1987.

Did You Know?...

- SVSU faculty and staff may pick up their Cardinal Athletic Card weekdays between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. from Karen Klemish in the Athletic Office in Ryder Center. This card grants admission to all regularly scheduled home football and basketball games. Additional cards for spouses and family members also can be purchased for $20.

- SVSU I.D. Card Stickers for 1994-95 are available in the Cashier's Office for returning faculty and staff. New faculty and staff should contact Alice Cornejo, ext. 5669, for a card and sticker.

- E Lot will be closed from 4 to 8 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 22 for a GM Car Show special event.

- The Wickes Showcase will display sports items from the Athletic Department through mid-October.

Accent on Alumni

- Marylin E. Atkins ('73) was appointed by Gov. John M. Engler to a 36th District judge post in Detroit. She was formally sworn in April 9 in the City-County Building in Detroit after a private swearing in ceremony March 30. Atkins grew up near Annesley and East Genesee, graduated from the former St. Joseph High School and received a B.A. from SVSU. She left Saginaw in 1975, living in Oak Park and Okemos before settling in Detroit in 1987. Three years ago, the chief of the 36th District Court appointed her to a magistrate's position. Atkins said she will face an election in November.

- Roselyn Argyle ('66), owner and president of A&D Health Care Professional Inc. and A&D Home Health Care Inc., was named Woman of Achievement by the Michigan Federation of Business and Professional Women's Clubs Inc.
University employees with reserved parking permits are requested to park in either D or K Lot. The University has made C Lot available to students until construction of West Complex forces the permanent closing of C Lot.

**High Five**
The Cardinal football team lost their home and season opener to Northern Michigan University, 24-14, in front of 3,350 fans and about 100 "bleacher creatures." Chuckie Davis and Dar Destramp each scored touchdowns for SVSU. The Cards play their next game this Saturday at Wayne State. Kickoff is at noon.

**Bay Valley Hosts Social Gathering**
Bay Valley Hotel and Resort will host a "College Night" reception for Delta and SVSU faculty and staff on Wednesday, Sept. 28 from 5 to 7 p.m. Complimentary refreshments and hors d'oeuvres will be served. RSVP to Bay Valley by Sept. 26, 686-3540.

**Campus Happenings**
- **Theatre Auditions:** for *The Adding Machine* will be held today at 4 p.m. in the University Theatre. Auditioners need not pre-read the script or have prior stage experience. The 1923 Elmer L. Rice play is a satirical observation about the effects of mechanization on the lives of human beings. Directed by Janet Rubin, professor of communication and theatre, the production's public performances will be November 4-6 and November 11-13.
- **Graduate Day Panel:** 12 noon to 1 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 14 in Alumni Lounge. Sponsored by the Office of Academic and Career Development Services, the panel will consist of SVSU faculty. Please encourage students to attend.
- **University Art Gallery:** Opening reception for "Contemporary Painting from the Republic of China" exhibit, Wednesday, September 14, 3-5 p.m. The exhibit runs through September 28. The fall hours for the Gallery are Sundays, 1 to 5 p.m.; Mondays, 10 a.m. to 1 p.m.; Tuesdays and Thursdays, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.; and Wednesdays and Fridays, 9 a.m. to noon. The Gallery is closed on Saturdays.
- **Career Lecture Series:** 4 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 14, Alumni Lounge. Kim McDonald will present "A Fantasy Exercise: Planning Your Future." Admission is free of charge. Please encourage students to attend.
- **Fiesta Hispanica Kickoff Celebration:** 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 15, Gazelle Fountain area. Refreshments served. Saginaw City Councilman Daniel Soza will be the guest presenter. Call ext. 5663 for more information.
- **Valley Film Society:** 8 p.m., Friday, Sept. 16


- **Hispanic Heritage Month Presentation:** Noon to 1:30 p.m., Monday, Sept. 19, Alumni Lounge. A brown bag discussion on "The Political Agenda of the Hispanic Community in Saginaw," presented by civil leader and attorney David Perez. Refreshments served.
- **Blood Drive:** Tuesday, Sept. 20 in Brown Concource.
- **Career Lecture Series:** 4 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 21, Alumni Lounge. Diana Gutierrez will discuss "Academic and Career Decision Making." Admission is free of charge. Please encourage students to attend.
- **Third Wednesday Poetry Workshop:** 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 21 in the Studio K coffee house at Bay and Pierce Roads. Local poets invited.
- **Fall Leadership Getaway:** SVSU faculty and staff are invited to join the students for lunch at 12 noon on Saturday, Sept. 24 at the Hartley Nature Center in St. Charles. The students participating in the two-day event will be learning leadership and organizational skills. Today is the deadline for luncheon reservations. Call ext. 4170 for further information.
- **Humanities Lecture Series:** 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, Sept. 27 at the Ruben Daniels Lifelong Learning Center. Maestro Leo Najar will present "In Celebration of Song: The Saginaw Symphony Orchestra." Admission is free of charge. Call ext. 4267 for further information.
- **Career Lecture Series:** 4 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 28, Alumni Lounge. The topic will be "Cooperative Education to Get You the Job." Admission is free of charge. Please encourage students to attend.
- **Flûte in Concert:** 7:30 p.m., Wednesday, Sept. 28, University Theatre. SVSU faculty and staff may receive a complimentary ticket by calling ext. 4159.
- **Hispanic Heritage Month Presentation:** 4 to 7 p.m., Thursday, Sept. 29, Lower Level Doan Center. Carmen Menchaca will give lessons in the art of Latin dance. Refreshments served. This program is highly participatory. Music will be provided by Francisco Lugo. Hispanic Heritage Month activities continue in October. Call ext. 5663 for more information.
Earlier this year Terry Ishihara retired from SVSU's engineering faculty. He and Simi have relocated to Sedona, Arizona, where they are adjusting to a new environment and new schedule. In the following letter, dated 8/24/94, Terry shares his experiences with the SVSU community.

Dear SVSU Colleagues:

The 1994-95 academic year is about to begin as I write this letter. I will be teaching part time at both Northern Arizona University in Flagstaff and the Verde Valley Campus of Yavapai College in Clarkdale. Thus, I attended two orientation activities. At NAU I will be teaching two sections of EGR 180 Engineering Design and Graphics and at Yavapai College I will be teaching a section of MTH 131 College Algebra. All of my part-time assignments will be meeting on Tuesdays and Thursdays on which days I will start at 8 a.m. and end at 8:10 p.m. Flagstaff is 36 miles from my home and Clarkdale is 30 miles away. I am looking forward to a wonderful experience with students at both institutions.

I have good memories of my 14 years at SVSU and now I have entered the retirement phase of my life in a beautiful location in Arizona. We have a spectacular view of red rock mountains from our house. I walk briskly for about a half hour each morning through paths in a nearby golf course to start my day. It is great to walk and enjoy cool mornings and be uplifted by the scenery. It is an easy two-hour drive to Phoenix where we can enjoy the benefits of a big city. Our youngest son, his wife and our six grandchildren live in Scottsdale, a suburb of Phoenix. It is wonderful to be able to attend birthday parties and outings with our grandchildren, activities we greatly missed while we were in Michigan. Three of our five children have visited us here already and another one is coming over the Labor Day weekend. Not being near our children is what we missed most of all while in Michigan.

Living in Sedona is like being on a continuous vacation. There are many wonderful attractions in the area and Sedona itself is a major tourist destination. Our house is eight miles from Sedona in a community called the Village of Oak Creek.

We have had a very enjoyable summer, highlighted by a trip to Edmonton, Canada, and side trips to Banff and Jasper National Parks. All of our married lives we have wanted to visit Banff and Jasper National Parks, so that dream has been fulfilled. Also during the summer I devoted much of my time to learning to use AutoCAD in order to be able to teach it to my students at NAU.

We have had many visitors over the summer, including SVSU Exchange Professor Kazuko Ikumoto and her friend, Eriko Shoijima. We took them to see the majestic grandeur of the Grand Canyon and other places. We knew Kazuko from the sabbatical leave I took to teach at Shikoku University in 1987. She is a delightful person and I hope that many of you came to know her and to enjoy her enthusiasm.

I plan to continue teaching part time as long as I am able to do so. Most of the courses at Yavapai College are taught by adjunct instructors. The new president wishes to have the adjunct instructors share in the governance and operation of Yavapai College. I have joined the Yavapai College Adjunct Faculty Association, which is in its formative stage. Yavapai College has two main campuses, one in Clarkdale and the other in Prescott. They also have extension programs in Sedona, Verde Valley, Chino Valley and other locations. Full-time faculty on both major campuses total around 80, while there are about 325 adjunct faculty. The Governor of Arizona has declared September to be "Adjunct Faculty Month" to recognize the important role of adjunct faculty in higher education.

Each and all of you are welcome to visit us when you happen to be in the vicinity. Also I welcome any letters that you may write. Our address and telephone number are: 20 West Tonto Drive, Sedona, AZ 86351-7570; Phone (602) 284-0155. We thank you all for your roles in enabling us to enjoy 14 great years at SVSU.