Environmental chemist named to Dow Endowed Chair

A chemist who has specialized in environmental chemistry and cancer research has been selected as the first Herbert H. Dow Professor of Chemistry at SVSU.

Dr. David H. Swenson will teach and develop the environmental chemistry program at SVSU beginning fall semester 1996. His appointment is for a three-year term.

The appointment of the H.H. Dow Professor of Chemistry is funded through a $1.25 million endowment established by family members of Herbert H. Dow and by the Dow Chemical Company Foundation. The endowment recognizes Dow’s leadership in the chemical industry and his significant contributions to the community and to the founding of SVSU.

“The endowment is a wonderful opportunity for SVSU to enhance its offerings in chemistry,” commented George Eastland, chair of the chemistry department. “It enables us to being in someone who is nationally and internationally recognized.”

Swenson currently teaches and conducts research in the Department of Veterinary Physiology, Pharmacology and Toxicology of the School of Veterinary Medicine at Louisiana State University. He is the principal or co-investigator for several toxicological and other research studies. He has performed research for the U.S. Department of Energy, the Food and Drug Administration, Upjohn Company and the Ethyl Corporation, as well as through a number of grants.

After earning a bachelor’s degree in biochemistry at the University of Minnesota, Swenson completed a Ph.D. in experimental oncology at the University of Wisconsin-Madison. He completed postdoctoral study in carcinogenesis at the Institute for Cancer Research, Chester Beatty Institute, Chalfont St. Giles, England.

Swenson established and operated Karkinos Biochem, Inc., an Arizona corporation specializing in anticancer technologies. He is the founder and president of FloraPharm International, Ltd., a firm set up to locate and screen limited quantities of natural products worldwide for anticancer and antiviral activities.

Swenson was employed by Upjohn Co. for eight years, first as a research scientist in the genetic toxicology unit and later as senior research scientist with the cancer and viral diseases research unit.

“He is an extremely versatile individual,” said Thomas E. Kullgren, dean of the College of Science, Engineering and Technology. “We were attracted by his experience in industrial research, the fact that he has established two successful high tech businesses, and his position on the faculty of a major university. He will bring to our students the added component of experience in developing a scientific business.

“The H.H. Dow Professor of Chemistry is expected to establish and sustain strong university-industry relations, form faculty-student research teams, head the development of disciplinary and interdisciplinary undergraduate and graduate curricula and secure external grant funds,” Kullgren said.

“The chemistry faculty did a good job of establishing our environmental chemistry major,” Eastland said. “Dr. Swenson is expected to bring leadership to the program through teaching, possible changing of the curriculum, research and relationships with businesses and governmental agencies.”

Swenson was selected through a nation-wide search. He is a member of the American Association for Cancer Research; Sigma Xi, the Scientific Research Society; the American Association for the Advancement of Science; the American Chemical Society; and Phi Zeta Veterinary Honor Society. He received the Carl J. Norden Distinguished Teaching Award from LSU’s School of Veterinary Medicine in 1993 and was named to the Gamma Sigma Delta Honor Roll of Top Ten Veterinary Medicine Faculty in 1995.

For more information about the H.H. Dow Professor of Chemistry or the environmental chemistry program, call Kullgren at ext. 4144 or Eastland at ext. 4231.
Volunteers sought for ’96 Challenge

Mid-Michigan businesses united in the pursuit of good health, personal fitness and company spirit once again will compete in the annual Community Corporate Challenge, which is set for September 10-21. A series of competitive events will be hosted by SVSU, the Saginaw YMCA, Garden Lanes and Bay Valley Resort. Among the events are basketball, biking, bowling, swimming, running, walking, volleyball and golf.

To help organize SVSU’s co-ed teams or volunteer to be an event captain, contact Mike Holliday at ext. 7710.

Two added to BIDI staff

Two small business counselors have been added to the Michigan Small Business Development Center (MI-SBDC) headquartered at BIDI.

Charles B. Curtiss and James B. Rowley, both of Bay City, will be developing and maintaining consulting service relationships with current and potential business owners in a six-county region. Their services include analysis of business problems and of management, marketing operations and financial information for small business owners and managers.

Curtiss and Rowley also will assist area businesses by coordinating training activities and by identifying resources to develop solutions to problems or take advantage of opportunities.

Curtiss has a broad range of experience that includes seven years in heavy manufacturing, 20 years in sales, seven years in office management and a variety of consulting responsibilities in engineering, finance, economics, organizational structure and business planning. In addition, he has 15 years’ experience in lending to small businesses involving the analysis of both credit worthiness and adequacy of business planning.

Rowley has been associated with Rowley Brothers, Inc. of Bay City for more than 35 years. He served as manager of the Tire Division during a period that saw the unit grow into a major area market presence. His responsibilities included purchasing, marketing, accounting, inventory management, customer relations and supervision of human resources.

Region 5 MI-SBDC encompasses Arenac, Bay, Gladwin, Gratiot, Midland and Saginaw counties. It is one of 13 Michigan Small Business Development Centers throughout the state.

Entrepreneurs to discuss the Internet

William M. Kurz, Director of Operations Consulting for Omni Tech International Ltd., will present “The Internet—A Small Business Resource” at the Wednesday, April 10 meeting of the Saginaw Valley Entrepreneurs Club. A social/networking hour begins at 6 p.m., followed by a buffet dinner and program in Lower Level Doan Center. Advance reservations are $14 per person, or $16 at the door. Those interested in making advance reservations should contact BIDI at ext. 4048.

SVSU project nominated for award

A unique project that links high school students and teachers with the Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) technology is among 15 Michigan-based organizations that have been nominated for a 1996 Computerworld Smithsonian Award (CWSA). Finalists will be announced in late April and will be honored along with the winners at the eighth annual awards dinner at the National Building Museum in Washington, D.C. on June 3.

“EarthVision: EPA’s Grand Challenge for High Schools” enables high school students and teachers to learn environmental research techniques and supercomputer simulation. The project promotes environmental awareness and a shared student-teacher style of learning. Introduced in 1993, EarthVision operates through the Office of Sponsored Programs.
MAGB honors SVSU faculty, students

Two students and two faculty members from SVSU are among representatives of Michigan’s 15 state supported four-year universities who will receive recognition from the Michigan Association of Governing Boards of State Universities (MAGB). The awards will be presented at MAGB’s annual state-wide convocation at 6 p.m. Tuesday, April 9 in the Kellogg Center in East Lansing.

Faculty members receiving MAGB awards are Stephen S. Lawrence, associate professor of chemistry, and Tirumale K. Ramesh, associate professor of electrical engineering. They will be joined by Jason Liddell and Andrea Kieser.

Liddell graduated summa cum laude in December 1995 with a bachelor of business administration. He majored in accounting and minored in general business. He earned a grade point average of 3.90 while participating in varsity athletics, the cooperative education program and volunteer experiences.

Kieser is studying secondary education with an English major and a physical and health education minor. She has maintained a 3.60 grade point average while actively taking on leadership positions and excelling in athletics.

Scholar invited to give KCP lecture

Dr. Alice A. Tait, an associate professor of communication at Butler University, will present “African Americans In The Media” at 1 p.m. Thursday, April 4 in Lower Level Doan Center. Admission is free of charge.

Tait graduated with a bachelor’s degree in speech (English & Spanish) and a master’s degree in mass communication and communication theory from Wayne State University. Her Ph.D. is from Bowling Green State University. For more information, contact the Office of Multicultural Programs at ext. 4397.

SVSU alumnus to present Ruffin lecture

As part of the Roosevelt Ruffin Lecture Series, Dr. Johnie D. Smith will present “More Than Just a Game,” a historic overview of Black baseball leagues in the U.S. and Saginaw. The lecture will begin at 4 p.m. Monday, April 8 in Lower Level Doan Center.

Smith will share a view of the great teams and players of the “Negro Major Leagues.” Included are the 1935 Pittsburgh Crawfords, the New York Lincoln Giants, the Homestead Grays and Adrian (Michigan) Page Fence Giants. Players he will discuss are “Cool Papa” Bell, Josh Gibson, Buck Leonard, Rube Foster, John Henry Lloyd, “Judy” Johnson and Satchel Paige.

Smith will examine the unique relationship between the baseball teams and Saginaw’s slowly growing Black community. Saginaw ballclubs included the G.M.C. Colored Giants in 1926 and the Saginaw Yankees. Local players were Eugene Henderson, Johnny Bryant, Ruben Daniels, Andy “Red Rock” Johnson, Pete Radcliff and Arthur Cotton.

Smith received a bachelor of arts degree from SVSU, graduating summa cum laude from the Honors Program. He earned an M.A. from Central Michigan University and a Ph.D. from Wayne State University. Currently Smith is an assistant professor of history at Central Michigan University.
Have You Heard?

- The deadline for purchasing tickets to the eleventh annual Faculty Association Spring Awards Buffet Dinner is Monday, April 22. The dinner will begin at 6:30 p.m. Monday, April 29. Tickets are available from faculty secretaries on third floor Brown Hall or first floor Science Building.

- The 1996 Student Recognition Banquet is set for 6:30 p.m. Thursday, April 11 in Ryder Center. The banquet honors students who were nominated to the National Dean’s List, Who’s Who Among Students in American Universities and Colleges and the Michigan Association of Governing Board Award recipients. The 1996-97 Student Association members also will be installed. Complimentary child care will be available during the evening. For information, contact the Campus Life Center at ext. 4170.

- Public Safety is offering a “Rape Aggression Defense” (R.A.D.) course from 5 to 9 p.m. Friday, April 12 and from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, April 13 in the Ryder Center Dance Studio. Cost for the two sessions is $20 per person. For more information or to enroll, call ext. 4157 or 4133.

Campus Happenings

- University Art Gallery—through April 17, the work of graduating seniors will be on display. Admission is free of charge.

- Valley Film Society—8 p.m. Friday, April 12 in the SVSU Theatre. “Persona” (1965, Sweden) will be the featured film. Admission by pro-rated membership.

- Third Wednesday Poetry Workshop—7:30 p.m. Wednesday, April 17 at Studio K Caffe.

- Valley Film Society—8 p.m. Friday, April 19 in the SVSU Theatre. “Tom Jones” will be the featured film. Admission by pro-rated membership.

Accent on Alumni

- Carol Jones (’90, B.S.N., nursing) recently was named 5 South nurse manager at St. Mary’s Medical Center. She previously worked at Bay Medical Center.

- Jason Liddell (’95, B.B.A., business administration) was hired recently by Rehmann Robson as an accountant, working with for-profit clients.

- Michelle Wagner (’95, B.B.A., finance) has joined the staff of Flagstar Bank Saginaw, formerly First Security Savings Bank, as a mortgage loan officer.

- Keith Wenzel (’90, B.A., marketing) is working for Chemical Bank and Trust Company as manager and assistant cashier of the Gratiot Road branch.

High Five

- Baseball (5-6-1 overall)—swept a doubleheader on Sunday against Wayne State University, 11-4 and 10-4. On Saturday, the Cards split against WSU, losing the first game 11-5, but winning the nightcap, 4-3.

- Softball (6-11 overall)—lost all five games in a weekend tournament at Wayne State University. Sunday’s losses were to Wisconsin-Parkside, 8-2, and Lewis University, 6-4.
Professional Profile

- William K. Barnett, professor of anthropology and sociology, and Arnold Parks, professor of sociology at Lincoln University in Missouri, jointly presented a paper titled “Crime Effects on the Quality of Life Among the Black and White Elderly in Rural, Town, and City Areas: A Longitudinal Study” at the Academy of Criminal Justice Sciences, March 14 in Las Vegas. Support for the research on which the article was based was partially provided by the SVSU Foundation and the United States Department of Agriculture.

- Barron Hirsch, professor of art, has been chosen by the Northeast Michigan Arts Council to judge the 1996 Women’s Work Art Exhibit. Women artists from Michigan may submit works in any medium. Hirsch will select the works to be exhibited and award prizes. The show is scheduled for May 3 to 31 at the Northeast Art Center in Standish. An Opening Reception will be held from 5 to 8 p.m. Friday, May 3.

- Yousef Jabbari, assistant professor of mechanical engineering, was a mentor for a student project that won the American Society of Heating, Refrigeration and Air-Conditioning Engineers’ (ASHRAE) Grant. The project, supported by a Faculty Association Scholarship, started as an independent study in the summer of 1995. In the following fall semester, the preliminary study was taken up by a group of students to be detailed out and expanded for construction as a laboratory set up. At the same time, a proposal was submitted to the ASHRAE’s Undergraduate Senior Project Grant (open to seniors nationwide) to cover the cost of materials needed for its construction. Early in March 1996, it was learned the proposed student design-project had won the grant. The setup currently is about 95 percent complete and has been successfully trial tested.

  Jabbari, in collaboration with researchers at the University of Minnesota and the Yonsei University in Korea, submitted a paper for publication in the International Journal of Heat and Mass Transfer. The paper, titled “Experimental Mass (Heat) Transfer In And Near A Circular Hole In A Flat Plate,” relates to the cooling of combustion chamber walls and gas turbine blades.

- Gary M. Lange, assistant professor in biology, presented a workshop titled “Patient Profiles—Group Learning in Anatomy and Physiology Classrooms” at the 1996 Michigan Science Teachers Association Conference and Exposition held March 2 at the Lansing Center.

- Enayat Mahajerin, professor of mechanical engineering, presented a paper titled “An Easy-To-Teach Undergraduate Finite Element Course” at the Michigan Teachers of Mechanics Conference on March 15 at Oakland University, Rochester. The attendees at the conference were from Michigan engineering schools. Finite Element Method (FEM) is an advanced computer-based technique used by industry to reduce product development and production cost. It was developed in the mid-1950s in the aerospace industries, and it became a graduate course during the late '60s. Mahajerin developed an undergraduate version of the subject in 1984, and since then has taught an FEM course at SVSU under ME 453.

- Woody Pelton, special assistant to the president for International Programs, served on a panel that discussed “Models of Consortia for Study Abroad” at the annual meeting of the Michigan Association of Foreign Student Advisors held March 21-22 in Ypsilanti.

- Jill Wetmore, professor of finance, presented two papers at the Midwest Finance conference in Chicago. The first, titled “The Basis Risk Component of Commercial Bank Stocks,” was co-authored with John R. Brick. The second paper was titled “1994 Interest Rate Increases and Commercial Bank Stock Returns: A Reprieve?”

  Wetmore served as discussant for a paper titled “The Impact of Stock Dividend Distributions on Stock Prices: Evidence from Taiwan” by Hasan and Alangar. She also was a track chair for the conference in the area of banking and financial institutions.

Across Campus

- The campus community extends condolences to Peter Moehs, professor of chemistry, whose mother, Teta, passed away March 27.

- Condolences also go out to James E. O'Neill Jr., coordinator of state relations, and Peggy O'Neill, student employment specialist, on the loss of their mother and grandmother, respectively. Margaret Lennon O'Neill passed away Monday, March 25 at St. Francis Home. Those planning an expression of sympathy may wish to consider memorials to St. Mary Cathedral, St. Francis Home or St. Mary’s Medical Center.
Spring Concert Schedule

SVSU Concert Band and Chamber Choir
7:30 p.m. Monday, April 8 in the SVSU Theatre
The concert will combine two diverse ensembles from the SVSU Department of Music. Both ensembles are composed of music majors and minors as well as other SVSU students.

SVSU Early Music Collegium, Collegium Musicum, and the Chamber Choir
7:30 p.m. Friday, April 12 in Founders Hall
The three ensembles will present Music of the Renaissance IV, which will feature music by Cara, Adson, Bruckner and Ortega.

Flûtée Concert
7:30 p.m. Sunday, April 14 in the SVSU Theatre
The quartet will be joined by special guest artists Tony Rongo (piano & vibes), Robert Gras (drums) and Dave Kjellberg (string bass). The concert will feature Alley Cat, Bjorn; Black and White Rag, Botsford; Fluter's Ball, Mancini; St. Louis Blues, Handy; and Blues Sophisticato, Seven Come Eleven, Super Flutes Jazz Suite, v2, and That's A Plenty, by Holcombe. In addition, Flûtée will perform Little One, a commissioned piece written by Tony Rongo especially for this ensemble.

SVSU Jazz Ensemble
7:30 p.m. Tuesday, April 16 in the SVSU Theatre
The ensemble will be joined by special guest artist Ron Trombly. The concert will feature Caravan, Duke Ellington; Time Check, Don Manza; Tip-Toe, Thad Jones; and Who's Sorry Now, Sammy Nestico.

SVSU Chamber and Concert Choirs, along with the Bay Chorale and Orchestra
8 p.m. Saturday, April 20 in the SVSU Theatre & 4 p.m. Sunday, April 21 at the Westminster Presbyterian Church, Bay City
The concert’s theme will be “Music of Spring, Love, and Renewal,” which will include Songs Filled My Heart, When Evening Chimes Fill the Forrest, by Dvorak; Johannes Brahms’ Hark, the Wind Sighs, In Stiller Nacht - In the Still Night; and J.S. Bach’s Motet #1, Singet Dem Herrn - Sing Unto the Lord.

SVSU faculty and staff may request complimentary tickets for any of these concert performances. For further information or to request tickets, contact the Music Department at ext. 4159.

“CULTURAL NATIONALIST” PROVIDES GLIMPSE OF ART WORKS FROM WEST AFRICA — Chief Omowale Art Smith Nnanyelugo Mbaukwu shows off a bell that reflects the vanishing form of lost-wax casting. Smith discussed the “Treasures of Ancient Nigeria” during a March 19 lecture in the Arbary Fine Arts Center. An activist for more than 25 years, Smith is known throughout the Midwest as a pioneer in Afrocentric thought and programming. Smith brought a collection that contained a variety of work, including wood-carvings, bronze castings, fabrics, charts, photographs and other documents.
When it’s time for the University’s annual fiscal audit, Jackie Goldman is ready, looking up requested documents and typing others as the need arises.

Likewise, she plays an integral role in the preparation of materials for SVSU’s annual appropriations request.

Each of these activities stretches over several months, Goldman says, with the appropriations request process beginning just as the audit is concluding.

“These are the two biggest projects each year,” she says. Along with that, Goldman performs a number of clerical tasks, such as ordering supplies, completing forms and typing letters in a busy office. And—she handles payroll distribution every two weeks!

“I also help Jim (Muladore) administer the University’s American Express® card program,” she notes. The cards are used by many full-time faculty and A/P staff who travel on University business. “I work with Alice Cornejo (Personnel) to see that all eligible people get an American Express application. If they leave the University, I notify American Express. And if someone has a problem with the card while out on the road, I work with American Express to take care of the problem.”

After starting her SVSU career as a payroll clerk in 1985, Goldman moved to her present position as administrative secretary. She enjoys her work. She says, “There is the security of knowing what has to be done from month to month, but the variety that comes from a schedule that varies day by day.”

Goldman appreciates the strides that have been made in compiling financial data on the computer. “It is really great that the basic audit form doesn’t change from year to year. It’s in the computer; thank God for the computer!”

She notes that now the appropriations request covers two years in advance. “It really makes time fly,” she laughs. “Already we are looking two years ahead on finances.” It takes a certain level of mental gymnastics to keep everything straight, she says, and to be sure all data is applied to the correct fiscal year.

Outside the office, Goldman lists reading as a favorite pastime. “I love to read; love books; love the written word.” She is working toward a degree in English and is enrolled in two classes this semester.

Astronomy is another of her passions. “My pride and joy is my six-inch telescope,” she says. With it she views the moons of Jupiter, as well as galaxies and nebulae.

“I love to sit and look at Jupiter. You can watch a moon, during the course of the night, go behind Jupiter and come out the other side.”

Goldman capitalized on the chance to view Comet Hyakutake recently. She was somewhat surprised that little had been written about it in the scientific journal she receives. “But they are writing about another one that will appear in 1997,” she says. “There is just so much going on out there.”
Harriet Tillock hardly fits the stereotype often assigned to feminists. She’s generally attired conservatively. She’s much more likely to be found at the head of a classroom than the head of a protest march. And, at least initially, she followed the traditional pattern for women in her age group: choose a traditional women’s field (teaching), marry, raise a family.

But in her own quiet, dignified way, Harriet Tillock has defined many of the issues of feminism and become a model for what women can be and do.

“I went into graduate school as a grandmother,” she smiles. “I had been teaching at the elementary level. My daughter was in high school when I started teaching. When she got married, I went back to at least get a master’s degree.”

Tillock found that it would take about two years of study to bring her credentials up to date and earn a permanent teaching certificate, so she decided to go for an advanced degree in sociology instead.

Her late husband, a dentist whom she met when both were students at U. of M., was her biggest supporter. He urged her to complete requirements for a Ph.D. “He said, ‘If somebody calls here and asks for Dr. Tillock, I can ask them which one,’” she says.

Tillock recounts the story of her master’s degree orals, when her major advisor had told her there would be only a short recess while the committee determined whether she was ready to enter the doctoral program. The wait stretched to 25 minutes before an embarrassed advisor stepped out to say that a committee member demanded to know whether her husband approved of her continuing her studies.

Tillock’s answer left little doubt in their minds.

While completing requirements for her doctorate, Tillock faced the perception some held that her marriage must be failing. Wives weren’t expected to leave during the week to pursue an education. Nothing could have been further from the truth; Tillock says her husband encouraged her career.

“Even after he was ill, my husband wanted me to keep working. He knew it would help in working through the grieving process.”

She joined the SVSU faculty as an adjunct professor in 1971 and became full time in 1973. While she teaches several sociology courses and has developed courses in environmental and population sociology, her special interests are sociology of families and sociology of aging. She often teaches classes of 50 or more students in these popular courses.

Her teaching style and knowledge of her field led to Tillock’s 1979 selection as the first female recipient of the Landee Award for Excellence in Teaching.

Tillock’s outside interests tend to parallel her professional life. She is active in her church, serving on the social justice and peace-making committee for the local presbytery. She also is coordinator for the older adult ministries of the presbytery.

Tillock is a charter member of HUGS (Human Understanding and Grief Socializing). “It evolved from the people meeting in brief support groups. You don’t get over the death of a spouse in six or eight weeks,” she says, adding that Hospice could not support a longer program.

“The advantage of the group is that if you have a bad day, you can say that to a member and say you need a hug.” The group meets four times a month for socializing and support.
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