SVSU to dedicate Groening Commons

When SVSU was chartered as a private college in 1963, William A. Groening Jr. was elected chairman of its first governing board. Among the community leaders instrumental in the institution’s establishment, Groening later was named to the Board of Control when Saginaw Valley became a public college.

His many contributions to SVSU’s founding and development will be honored in a Friday, May 16 ceremony dedicating the atrium of West Complex in Groening’s honor. The dedication begins at 1:15 p.m., with Groening and his wife, Haven, in attendance.

Officially named Groening Commons, the atrium is a spectacular three-story, glass-enclosed structure that serves as a main entrance to campus. The Commons opens to Curtiss Hall on the south and the Performing Arts Center on the north. It encompasses the mezzanine and entryways to both the Performing Arts Theatre and the Rhea E. Miller Recital Hall. A reception area and semi-enclosed alcoves also are part of the Commons.

Groening, an attorney and retired General Counsel and Vice President of The Dow Chemical Company, relocated to Delray Beach, Florida after many years’ residence in Midland. In addition to his 41-year career with Dow’s legal department, Groening was active in Midland city government. He served for six years on the city council and was mayor from 1950-52.

He also was involved in several local United Way campaigns and was president of Catholic Family Services.

Groening’s interest in higher education in the Saginaw Valley pre-dates the founding of SVSU. He was a member of both the “Committee of 100” and the “Committee of 300,” groups of people committed to establishing a college in East Central Michigan. Their efforts led to the founding of both Delta College and SVSU.

When the SVSU Foundation was established in 1977, Groening became a charter member. He was elected as the organization’s first honorary director in 1985. He chaired the Annual Fund Committee from its inception until 1982, helping to raise nearly half a million dollars during that time.

In 1974 Groening was awarded an Honorary Doctor of Laws degree, recognizing his service to SVSU.

The dedication ceremony, which includes the unveiling of a commemorative plaque, is open to the campus community. For more information contact Kathi Curtiss Morley at ext. 4071.
SVSU Faculty Association honors outstanding members, awards scholarships to three students

The SVSU Faculty Association honored two of its members for scholarship and service at the organization’s 12th annual banquet, held Monday, April 28. The occasion also was highlighted by the presentation of $1,500 scholarships to three students.

Eldon L. Graham, associate professor of mechanical engineering, received the Association’s award for service. Graham joined the SVSU faculty in 1970 and has served on numerous campus committees in addition to his teaching duties. He also served for five years as acting assistant dean in the College of Science, Engineering and Technology. For the past three years Graham has headed the selection committee for SVSU’s “Ruben Daniels Community Service Award.”

Graham holds a B.S. degree from Purdue University and a Master of Science from Michigan State University. He is a Midland resident.

The Association’s award for scholarship went to Mary Harmon, associate professor of English. Harmon joined the SVSU faculty in 1992 after teaching at other Michigan universities and high schools. She has presented seminars and sessions for local, state and national organizations, including the National Council of Teachers of English, the Michigan Department of Education and the Michigan Association of Middle School Educators.

Since joining SVSU Harmon has published several papers dealing with various topics related to teaching English. She holds B.A. and M.A. degrees from Western Michigan University and earned a Ph.D. from Michigan State University. Harmon resides in Owosso.

Scholarships were presented to Jim Kaupp of Saginaw, a senior majoring in computer information systems; Jason Pond of Saginaw, a junior with a chemistry major; and Bing Wu of Midland, a freshman majoring in accounting.

Faculty Association scholarship students work with a faculty mentor on projects related to their field of interest. Kaupp will be working with Sally Shepardson, lecturer in biology. Stephen Lawrence, associate professor of chemistry, will guide Pond in his studies. Wu’s mentor will be Andrew Tierman, lecturer in mathematical sciences.

SVSU revises, renames graduate degree program

SVSU has updated one of its master’s degree programs and plans to offer the revised curriculum to students enrolling this fall.

The graduate program, which replaces the former Master of Arts—Criminal Justice/Political Science, has been retitled “Master of Arts, Organizational Leadership and Administration” (OLA). It is designed for people who have earned baccalaureate degrees in criminal justice, political science and other social sciences, but is open to others who may have degrees in other disciplines.

According to University administrators, the program prepares people for advancement to leadership positions. Graduation requires 30 credits of master’s level courses in organizational leadership and administration, criminal justice and political science. Courses cover such topics as mediation and conciliation, gender and ethnic issues in organizations, fiscal administration and professional ethics.

In their first research course, OLA students are helped to identify a set of problems to pursue throughout the program. Each 600-level course consists of a two-credit lecture-format class plus a one-hour practicum requiring students to research and write on the focus of interest they identified in the first course. The approach helps them integrate research with course content.

In a concluding capstone course students, with faculty guidance, merge diverse areas of knowledge into the interest they chose initially.

An interdisciplinary approach involves faculty from English, communication, management and psychology, as well as professors from the criminal justice and political science departments in teaching program contents. According to Don Bachand, professor of criminal justice, the OLA curriculum meets the requirements of P.A. 116 for corrections supervisory licensure.

The program proposal was ratified by SVSU faculty March 13 and approved by the University’s governing board May 2.
May 2, 1997

Board agenda focuses on University’s future

In their annual pre-Commencement meeting SVSU’s Board of Control approved an academic program revision, a new graduate degree and an updated Campus Master Plan. Members also observed the annual tradition of commending outgoing Student Association officers and welcoming those elected to serve in the coming year.

Receiving Board approval were a graduate program leading to the Education Specialist (Ed.S.) degree and a revision and retitling of the existing Master of Arts in Criminal Justice/Political Science program.

- The Ed.S. degree provides a planned program of graduate studies requiring 30 credits beyond the master’s degree. It is designed to enhance the academic knowledge and skills of educational leaders and prepare them to meet increasingly complex challenges.

The Ed.S. program, which received SVSU faculty ratification in March, was developed in response to a study showing a regional need for educational leadership preparation beyond the master’s level.

- The Board also gave its approval to a revision and retitling of a Master of Arts degree program. (See related article.)

- Noting that the Campus Master Plan last was revised in 1979, administrators presented an updated plan for Board approval. The revision was prepared in conjunction with Johnson, Johnson & Roy, who developed the initial Campus Master Plan in 1968.

The new plan was described as a map, or guide for the future, but carries no timetable. The development of various phases depends upon the growth of the University, according to President Eric Gilbertson.

- Promotions were approved for nine faculty who were recommended to receive advancement. Moving to full professorship were: Diane Krider, communication/theatre; Zhidong (Patrick) Pan, mathematical sciences; Carol Wolfe, teacher education; and Stephen Yanca, social work. Moving to associate professor were Stephen Barbus, teacher education; Robert Cheek, management; Sally Edgerton, teacher education; Hideki Kihata, art; and Albert Menard, physics.

In other action the Board:

- approved goals through 2000 and objectives for 1997-98.
- elected Robert H. Walpole to serve as chair, Burnett S. Kelly as vice chair, Robert J. Vitito as treasurer and D. Brian Law as secretary for the 1997-98 fiscal year.
- established their 1997-98 calendar.
- heard a report updating them on the University’s “Campaign for Distinction.” They were informed that more than $9.5 million had been raised during the “quiet phase” of the campaign. The public phase, which will reach out to individuals and businesses in the University’s service area, was announced April 28.

After an executive session, the Board approved a resolution extending the contract with President Eric R. Gilbertson for a five year term that ends in June 2002. Gilbertson’s salary will remain the same as under the previous contract. When executed, a copy of the contract will be on file in the Zahnow Library.
Dean chooses teaching assignment

Judith B. Kerman is stepping aside from her position as Dean of the College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences effective August 24 to become a full-time professor of English. Kerman has served as dean since July 1, 1991.

The move will enable Kerman to spend more of her energies writing and publishing, and running her small literary publishing house. “Since I am a writer and will be teaching writing, these activities enhance my classroom activities,” Kerman said. “They can be more easily accommodated by a teaching rather than an administrative schedule.”

Kerman has published several books of poetry and has had poems published in numerous literary magazines. Her most recent book is Mothering & Dream of Rain (Ridgeway Press, 1996). She is a pioneer in the use of computers as a performance medium for poetry, and has given several presentations in this area. Since joining SVSU she organized and led the monthly “Third Wednesday Poetry Workshop” and she is active on the local poetry scene.

Kerman, who holds master’s and doctoral degrees in English, has taught part-time in SVSU’s English Department throughout her service as dean.

Donald J. Bachand, professor of criminal justice, will serve as interim dean during the search for a permanent replacement, according to Vice President for Academic Affairs Robert S.P. Yien. Bachand previously served in this capacity in 1991 and he served a year as acting assistant dean to Kerman.

Quint, Roecker works on display at University Art Gallery

The works of two Michigan women acclaimed for their artistic talent will be on display in the Saginaw Valley State University Art Gallery throughout the summer months. The exhibition features work by Frances Quint and Julia Roecker.

For more than 50 years Frances Quint (1907-1994) worked in her native Detroit as fine artist, graphic designer and book illustrator. A graduate of the Parsons School of Design and Wayne State University, she was highly skilled in drawing, painting and printmaking.

“As an artist, she documented the people and scenes she knew well in Michigan and the many places she visited,” said Barron Hirsch, director of the University Art Gallery. “She was represented by galleries in Michigan, New Jersey, New York and Texas.”

Many of Quint’s works were donated to the University’s permanent collection by her family.

“Julia Roecker (1887-1988) was without question Saginaw’s most popular artist,” Hirsch said. Influenced by modern French painting and particularly Impressionism, Roecker was educated at the Art Institute of Chicago. She worked as an independent artist until she joined the faculty at Alma College.

On her retirement from college teaching, she became director of the Saginaw Art Museum and continued to inspire many area art students. Her work records the beauty of nature, scenes of Saginaw and the people and places that she loved, Hirsch said.

During the summer months the gallery is open by appointment. Admission is free. To arrange for a viewing, call Hirsch or Sara Clark at ext. 4391 or 5684 respectively.

Campus Happenings

- Second Annual P.A.C. (Political Action Committee) Party — 4:30-6:30 p.m. Wednesday, May 28 at Ted’s Party Hall, 5660 Bay Road, Saginaw. Sponsored by the “Friends of SVSU.” Food and entertainment provided. Tickets are $10. Those who purchase tickets before May 21 will be eligible for a special drawing for two nights at Grand Traverse Resort. For further information, call ext. 4068.

Have You Heard?

- Doan Cafe summer hours are 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday.
- Children of University employees will receive a $15 discount on SVSU Summer Sports Camps. The discount applies toward the following camps: boys individual basketball camp; girls individual basketball camp; golf camp; and volleyball camp. For more information and registration materials, call ext. 7300.
- The University will be closed Monday, May 26 to observe Memorial Day.

Across Campus

- The campus community extends condolences to Sally Callahan, administrative secretary in Engineering Services, on the loss of her brother, Miles Laundra, who passed away May 1.
Jerome selected to head Office of Information Services

Cecilia A. Jerome has been named Director of Information Services, effective May 27. She replaces Marilyn Frahm, who is retiring June 30 after serving as SVSU’s Director of Information Services since 1982.

The appointment marks a return to SVSU for Jerome, who served as media coordinator in the Information Services office from November 1986 through 1989 before accepting a position as communications director for Michigan Special Olympics.

Jerome comes to SVSU from a position as director of marketing and membership services for the 720-member Midland Area Chamber of Commerce. She has worked with Chamber members since 1994.

A graduate of Central Michigan University, Jerome holds a bachelor’s degree in journalism and a master’s degree in business administration. She also is a graduate of “Leadership Midland,” a community/business leadership program of the Midland Chamber.

Jerome received the 1997 Chamber Professional Award, recognizing excellence in the pursuit of professional education and training. She was a 1995 recipient of the Michigan Chamber of Commerce Executives Scholarship for first-year Chamber Institute course work. She is listed in Who’s Who in the Midwest.

A Midland representative to the Tri-Source Steering Committee, Jerome serves on the marketing subcommittee for the tri-county business-to-business expo effort. She is a member of the Blue Cross/Blue Shield, East-Central Michigan Chamber Advisory Board, which includes Blue Cross/Blue Shield executives and professionals from nine mid-Michigan chambers of commerce. She also holds membership in the Public Relations Society of America.

Jerome and her husband, Dave, duplicator operator in the SVSU Graphics Center, are residents of Midland.

Professional Profile

- Margaret M. Flatt, professor of nursing, was presented the 1997 Theta Chi Nursing Excellence Award at the chapter’s April 17 induction ceremony in Founders Hall. Theta Chi is a chapter of Sigma Theta Tau, an international honor society of nursing that recognizes outstanding achievements by students and practicing nurses. Chapter members also inducted 22 students, recognized retired Dean Crystal M. Lange for her services and welcomed incoming Dean Cheryl E. Easley.

- Ann Rae, professor of social work, and Wanda Nicholas-Wolosuk, adjunct professor of social work, co-presented a paper titled “How to Practice Social Welfare Policy in Communities and Organizations” at the National Association of Social Workers, Michigan Chapter, 21st Annual Conference, held May 7 in Lansing.

- Donald E. Wiseman, professor of accounting, has collaborated with a former student, Marie Emmendorfer Archambault, to co-author a paper that will be reported at the American Accounting Association (AAA) annual meeting this August in Dallas, Texas. “Competing Current Value Alternatives to IASC/FASB Pro Forma EPS Dilution” compares and evaluates two models proposed earlier by Wiseman. The first was included in a 1991 article in Accounting Horizons. His work later was reprinted in a book of readings on “Accounting Issues” (Dryden Press, 1995). The second model was first presented by Wiseman at the AAA meeting in 1995. A native of Freeland, Archambault now holds a Ph.D. and is an assistant professor of accounting at Clarkson University in northern New York.

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SVSU Polish Students Club hosts pig roast

The SVSU Polish Students Club is inviting the campus community to share in good food and good fun for a good cause. The club’s second annual pig roast is set for 2 to 7 p.m. Sunday, June 8 at Szczepanski’s Villa, 2681 Graham Road (M-52 and Swan Creek Road).

Club members will provide the barbequed pork and refreshments. Participants are asked to bring a dish to pass, their own lawn chairs for comfortable seating, and a donation. All contributions will be used toward defraying travel costs and college expenses for exchange students.

In addition to food, the pig roast features a variety of activities and a picnic atmosphere. The agenda includes volleyball, badminton, horseshoes and fishing. Crowd-pleaser Jim Lapeak will be on hand to provide live music for dancing.

For more information about the pig roast, contact club members Dina Wehner at 793-7903 or Helen Szczepanski at 865-9803.

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Campus campaign continues to receive contributions to the Campaign for Distinction

“The campus portion of the Campaign for Distinction is really making great strides,” notes Gene Hamilton. Pledges and donations continue to come in, and 91 of the 162 contributors to date have made commitments of $1,000 or more. Their names will be included on the stainless steel engraved plaque to be on permanent display.

Contributors may direct their gifts to specific Campaign projects if they wish, and pledges may be made for a period as long as five years. To obtain contribution forms or to pledge to the Campaign for Distinction, call the Foundation office at ext. 4423.

Campaign for Distinction
“Intellectual Bricks and Mortar”

University Division Goal: $225,000

As of May 12: $188,868 = 84%

As of February 28: $40,178 = 18%

Accent on Alumni

- Kathie Grzesiak (M.A.T., 1975), a fifth-grade teacher at Midland’s Eastlawn Elementary School, was named Michigan’s 1997-98 Teacher of the Year. She will represent Michigan for the National Teacher of the Year competition in the spring of 1998. As part of the state award, she will travel across Michigan as an “ambassador” for education, speaking to teachers and other education officials.

- Charles I. Priem Jr. (B.B.A., accounting, 1983) was promoted to assistant vice president at Citizens Bank in Saginaw. He joined the bank as a staff auditor in 1985 and became an audit officer in 1993. He also became a certified trust auditor in 1992.

In addition, Kimberley Egerer (B.B.A., finance, 1994) was promoted to public funds and cash management officer in commercial banking at Citizens. She started as a teller in 1977, and in 1995 was named cash management representative.

High Five

- Baseball — closed out the season by sweeping Grand Valley State University 4-1, 11-1 Sunday. The Cardinals, who finished with a 23-21 overall record and 12-13 in Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference play, won 13 of their last 15 games. Coach Walt Head enjoyed his 400th career victory Saturday afternoon when the Cardinals defeated GVSU 3-2 and 15-9. Head, who began coaching at SVSU in 1983, owns a 402-323-4 career record at SVSU.

- Golf — qualified for the NCAA Division II nationals by finishing fourth in the Great Lakes regional at Indianapolis last week. SVSU shot a 940 at the three-day tournament. The host school won the event with a 910 score. The top five teams qualified for the nationals in Scottsdale, Ariz., May 20. Brian Eggleton led SVSU with a 74 while Matt Baker shot 76, and Brent Baranek and Dave Tokarsky carded a pair of 77s.