August 5, 1997

Registrar's Office merges with Academic and Student Support Services

A recent administrative merger will have Chris Looney assuming responsibility for both the Offices of the Registrar and that of Academic and Student Support Services.

Looney said it won't drive him crazy, though. In fact, he promised it actually should create more sanity among the departments.

"It really is a kind of natural fit, administratively," Looney said of the merger, which will take effect Aug. 11. "The two do work together on a day-to-day basis. The information from the Registrar's Office is used by the Office of Academic and Student Support Services."

Robert Maurovich, vice president of Student Services and Enrollment Management, said Looney will retain the title of registrar and assume the title of director of Academic and Student Support Services.

"This will create more symmetry in academic support functions," Maurovich said. "In his registrar's role, and before that, Chris worked directly with directors, department chairs and deans. He will help this office in its efforts to reach out to faculty in terms of Academic and Student Support Services."

The merger came about following the resignation of Kevin Hurlahe. Hurlahe had been Director of the Office of Academic and Student Support Services. He left the position to open a private business. Looney will move into Hurlahe's office in Wickes 123, ext. 4259.

"We will reconfigure Kevin's position into an assistant registrar position in the Registrar's Office," Maurovich said. He added that the assistant registrar will handle the day-to-day functions and duties the registrar had and Looney will retain the overall decision making and policy responsibilities for the office.

"This is a promotion for Chris," Maurovich said. "This builds on his experience and knowledge and ability. He has been exemplary in his service as Registrar and he is returning to an office where he was a staff member for a number of years. He knows the office and how important it is for our students."

"This fits for me," Looney said, "because that's the unit I came from and I am familiar with the activities going on there.

"Since I moved away from there, I'll be coming in fresh," he continued. "They've done some things differently (under Hurlahe's leadership), and they are very well organized."

Looney said: "The challenge — which is exciting for me — will be to develop the next generation of student services. We have reached a level at this institution that we have to rethink what we do and how we do it."

Looney emphasized that with technology, more opportunities exist to enhance the operations of both the Registrar's Office and the Office of Academic and Student Support Services. He said that using the technology effectively will be important for the offices, without losing the "human touch."

Looney said he has the added "luxury" of working with two really good staffs. Personnel in the two departments will retain their existing responsibilities and the two departments their own identities, Maurovich said.

Looney has been with SVSU since 1979. He became Registrar in May 1996. Looney has served as Coordinator of Basic Skills in English, Academic Advisor, Coordinator of Cooperative Education and Assistant Director of Academic and Career Services. He has both bachelor's and master's degrees from Michigan State University.
University Art Gallery announces fall exhibition

“Michigan Clay Invitational” will be the first exhibition of the 1997-98 academic year held in the University Art Gallery. The exhibit will take place from Sept. 3 through 24.

“This exhibition highlights the great variety of objects being produced in Michigan today,” said Gallery Director Barron Hirsch. “It includes simple functional ware as well as complex sculptural pieces.”

For more information on the exhibition, or for gallery hours, contact Hirsch at ext. 4391.

SVSU takes third in Community Corporate Games softball tourney

SVSU fielded a team in the YMCA Community Corporate Games softball tournament July 12. Team players/co-workers representing SVSU were Mike Holliday, Beth Rusch, Pat Samolewski, Amy Zastrow, Daryl Bernard, Tish Drexler, John Guettler, Kris Kwiatkowski, Dave Stanton, Julie Spiekerman and Debbie Riefel.

After a 3-0 start, the team lost in the final match in the winner’s bracket to EDS. A loss in the loser’s bracket to Citizens Bank knocked SVSU out of the tournament.

Currently, SVSU stands in third place overall with five more events remaining in the Community Corporate Games schedule. Upcoming events include a golf tournament on Sept. 9, and a time-predicted swim relay, inner-tube relay, obstacle course and tug-of-war on Sept. 13. To participate or for more information, call ext. 5683. The deadline is Aug. 15.

Have You Heard?

• Do you have a friend or loved one who has been touched by cancer? Join the SVSU Employees’ “Relay for Life” Team. The Relay for Life, which benefits the American Cancer Society, will take place Aug. 22 and 23 at Ojibway Island. Entertainment, food, games, prizes and camaraderie will be available for all. Additionally, at 9 p.m. Friday, a candlelight ceremony will honor survivors and remember those lost to cancer. To join the team or for more information on this 24-hour, family-oriented event, contact Holly Furlo at ext. 4230.

• Campus personnel are encouraged to contact the Office of Information Services to schedule a portrait for the 1997-98 Faculty/Staff Directory. Last year’s edition of the Directory did not include photos due to relocation of campus offices following the opening of Curtiss Hall. This year, a new photographic background for portraits and high-quality production processes promise to result in a distinctive publication. Also, Campus Directory/Catalog Information forms need to be returned as soon as possible. For another copy of the form, or to schedule your portrait appointment, call ext. 5641 or 4039.

• Activities and special events to be included in the Fall 1997 Calendar of Events should be in the Office of Information Services by Friday, Aug. 15. Include name/type of event; time, date and location; a brief description of the event or brief bio of the artist/lecturer; admission information, including ticket prices; and a phone number for more information. Information returned by Aug. 15 also will be printed in the Alumni Announcer.

• Reserve parking permits for 1997-98 will be available at the Department of Public Safety Parking Bureau beginning Aug. 15. Current permits expire Sept. 15. Permits can be purchased for $20 Monday through Friday between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. Permits also are available by mail. A letter and permit application have been mailed to all full-time faculty, and full- and part-time staff. F Lot, half of K Lot and J-3 Lot will be reserved parking. For further information, call ext. 4140.

• The Student Affairs Office is accepting information on campus events for Student Happenings, a newsletter that advertises events of student interest. The deadline for the Aug. 25th issue is Aug. 11. For future issues, always submit information at least two weeks in advance. For further information, call ext. 4294.

• Effective Sept. 1, 1997, employees traveling on University business using a personal automobile will be reimbursed at the rate of 31.5c per mile. This is a change from the current approved rate of 29c per mile.

• Cardinal Athletic Cards are available from the Athletic Department. Faculty and staff should contact Karen Klemish from 8 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. weekdays. The cards grant free admission to all regular season home football and basketball games. Additional cards for spouses and family members can be purchased for $20 each. For more information, call ext. 7306.

Across Campus

• Tim Inman, associate director of Information Services, expresses many thanks to the campus community for sympathy and support expressed following the death of his mother, Edna Inman, who passed away July 11.
The Detroit Lions professional football team this week concludes three weeks of intense training at Saginaw Valley State University in preparation for the 1997-98 NFL season. The team arrived on July 17 and will remain in residence through Aug. 7. Fans aplenty arrived daily to the SVSU campus to catch a glimpse (or maybe an autograph) of their favorite Lions players. With them came a multitude of sports reporters and photographers. Fans appeared in droves averaging between 5,000 and 10,000 per day during the camp. The Detroit Lions Inc. organization provided several gridiron opportunities for football fans of all ages and degrees of fanaticism, from the NFL experience for kicking, passing and running, to autograph areas. In addition, fans were able to see the team practice up to twice a day seven days a week.

Lions players, such as running back Barry Sanders, used SVSU athletic facilities, including the newly-renovated weight room in the Ryder Center. Former SVSU stand-out Chuck Davis (No. 16) puts on a display of his talents for new Lions head coach Bobby Ross.

Fans fill Cardinal Stadium to watch the Detroit Lions practice for the 1997-98 NFL season.
SVSU joins Fordney Club to reestablish Red Feather Game

SVSU president Eric Gilbertson has announced a change in the 1997 football schedule.

The Cardinals will join with Saginaw’s oldest service group — The Fordney Club — to bring back one of the city’s fondest traditions. SVSU will host Michigan Tech University Saturday, Sept. 20 in the “Red Feather Game.”

“It is with great pride that Saginaw Valley State can help bring back the Red Feather Game,” Gilbertson said at a July 25 press conference at SVSU.

The game will be played at Arthur Hill High School’s Memorial Stadium, a facility built in part through fund-raising efforts of the Fordney Club. Proceeds from the event will go toward Saginaw County Youth Athletics.

The Red Feather Game was played from 1952 to 1972 with Central Michigan University, and later Alma College, serving as the “home” team. The contests served as the primary fund-raising effort for the Fordney Club during that span and returns to that role this fall.

“There has been much talk about reviving the Red Feather Game since it was dropped,” said Red Feather Game Co-

Chairman Christopher Boyd. “(SVSU Coach) Jerry Kill has done a great job promoting his program in our community and we thought it would be the ideal time to revive the game and link with Saginaw Valley State.”

SVSU has played four previous games at Arthur Hill, including three in 1990 during construction on Harvey Randell Wickes Memorial Stadium. The Cardinals have posted a 2-2 record at AHHS, but a 2-0 mark in league games played there.

Kill, who begins his fourth season at SVSU, has compiled a 20-10 mark in three seasons — the best three-year span in the history of the program. The Cardinals have turned in 7-3 records the past two years.

“Our kids are all excited about playing a night game,” said Kill, “and getting the chance to do something for charity makes this a good situation for everybody involved.”

A Wickes Stadium attendance record (4,000) was set in 1995 when Michigan Tech made its last visit to SVSU. AHHS Memorial Stadium has seating for 6,000 fans.
For Tracy Claeys, it isn’t so much it’s the Detroit Lions. It’s the fact it’s football at its highest possible level.

Claeys, assistant football coach, has helped organize the Lions Training Camp here at SVSU — making sure all parties were “on the same page.” He helps ensure the housing, fields and meeting rooms are what the Lions desire. Claeys also helps with security — no easy venture.

“I did it because I like football,” Claeys said. “This is the top in our field and it’s interesting to see how they do things.”

Claeys organized Cardinal football players to serve as security for the three-week camp.

“Between our kids and the Department of Public Safety, security wise, it’s as good as or better than anyone hoped for,” Claeys said.

“The people have made their jobs easier,” he added. “Everyone wants an autograph. We understand that, the players understand that, but, obviously, they can’t autograph for all.”

Claeys works with several Lions staff in the operations and accommodations for the team and personnel, but his “regular” job is working for Cardinal Football Coach Jerry Kill. Claeys primarily is recruiting coordinator for the metro-Detroit area and Ohio.

Claeys was introduced to Kill through Dave Wiemers, defensive coordinator. Claeys said he had heard Coach Kill speak on a couple of occasions and jumped at the opportunity to work with him and Wiemers, a former high school teammate.

“All I’ve ever done is football,” Claeys said. He actually has a secondary education degree in math education. Claeys coached high school football for one year before joining Kill, although he served as a graduate assistant for the University of Kansas — his home state. Claeys began his college career at U. of K., then completed his degree at Kansas State University, a little closer to his hometown of Clay Center, KS. His parents, Bob and Jane Walker still reside there. Claeys lives in Saginaw Township.

Claeys begins his third season with the Cardinals this fall. Besides his duties as recruiting coordinator, he also helps with sports camps and athletic fund raisers.
Exploring paths in psychology

Even within a discipline, a career may take distinctly different directions, Janet Robinson has found. And the path that best suits you can take interesting twists and turns.

Finding her niche in psychology — in fact, entering the field at all — is a “strange story,” Robinson says.

“When I went to college, my parents told me I had to have a major,” she recounts. “At that time I don’t think I was aware of many options, so I listed medical technology. I completed a year, left for the summer and came back as a sophomore, still, so far as I knew, a med. tech major.

“But the first class meeting in organic chemistry changed my mind. I got up and left; dropped all the classes on my schedule and picked up electives,” she laughs.

“I enrolled in a psychology class during winter quarter. The professor was teaching from an encyclopedia. What really captivated me was that he was doing a research project and was looking for students to participate. I volunteered and was paid a salary.

“I got interested in the research aspect, decided on a psych major and went on through,” she says.

Robinson came to SVSU in 1972, expecting to stay only a year while she finished her doctoral dissertation. However, she got caught up in relationships with her faculty colleagues and has been here ever since. Once her Ph.D. work was finished, she even became active in “faculty politics.”

“The Faculty Association had just been formed when I got here,” she notes. “I came about the time they got their first contract.” Later Robinson served as Association president, and she has been a member of the faculty bargaining team on various occasions.

Along the way Robinson’s academic interest shifted from the experimental, research side of psychology to clinical psychology. “I trained for that after I came here,” she says. “I was lucky at the time, because I was able to change the courses that I taught. The department was growing, and we hired a new person to teach the courses I taught my first year.”

Today Robinson has a part-time private clinical practice that she says adds balance to her life and teaching. “The clinical work dovetails very nicely with my teaching,” she says. “It uses different parts of me. It is a really nice balance in many ways and adds to my classroom teaching. The clinical experience develops the emotional, affective aspects, while teaching focuses more on the cognitive side.”

When she was growing up, Robinson said she would never be a teacher. “I equated that with K-12 teaching. Looking back, I didn’t really have a clue about what I wanted to do,” she says.

Since joining the faculty here, she has found she thoroughly enjoys teaching.

“I really get up a head of steam,” she laughs. “I pace back and forth. I even get excited about teaching statistics. I never realize how tired I am until I come out of the classroom.”