

January 12, 1999

# American Lebanese community develops scholarship

embers of the Lebanese community in the Tri-County area have developed the American Lebanese Community Scholarship Fund. The scholarship celebrates their Middle Eastern heritage and the belief that education is the key to personal and community growth and success.

"We realize the opportunity that education at all levels provides and that scholarships enhance those opportunities," said Patricia Shaheen, an initiator of the scholarship. "This is a great opportunity for the American Lebanese community to take pride in its Middle Eastern heritage by uniting and putting us at the forefront of education and our community."

Dr. Samuel and Mrs. Patricia Shaheen led the effort to establish the scholarship fund. Mrs. Shaheen is an alumna of SVSU and a member of the board of directors of the SVSU Foundation

The scholarship fund will assist undergradu-

ate students enrolled for a minimum of two courses – freshmen are eligible to apply.

Recipients will be selected on the basis of academic achievement and character and leadership. Community service will be considered. Students should have a minimum grade point average of 3.00. Financial need may be considered.

Applicants familiar with Lebanese heritage, especially the children of individuals with Lebanese heritage from the Bay-Midland-Saginaw area, are encouraged to apply, as well as others of Middle Eastern heritage.

The scholarship may continue from year to year depending upon satisfactory academic performance (3.00 GPA).

Funds for the scholarship were created through gifts received from members of the American Lebanese community and from funds acquired through their participation in the city of Saginaw Ethnic Festival.



# SVSU names new dean of the College of Business and Management

SVSU Dec. 17 named Paul Uselding its new dean of the College of Business and Management. Paul J. Uselding replaces Severin Carlson who left in August for a similar position in Albany, NY.

Uselding is a professor of economics at the University of Illinois at Chicago. He also has been a dean of business at U of I-Chicago, and the universities of Toledo and Northern Iowa. Uselding received his Ph.D. in economics and his B.S. in industrial engineering both from Northwestern University. He has an MBA in finance from Cornell University.

"I am very pleased to be joining the Saginaw Valley State University team," Uselding said via phone. "I especially look forward to working with the faculty and senior administrators to help build Saginaw Valley's College of Business and Management to the outstanding college the Tri-Cities deserves."

The selection of Uselding as dean follows an intense search of more than two months, said Robert S.P. Yien, SVSU vice president for academic affairs.

"This is a highly competitive market," Yien said, "and we are very pleased to be able to obtain such a highly qualified and experienced dean of business."

Uselding is scheduled to assume the position of dean in mid-May, following the completion



Paul Uselding

# Water damage forces offices to relocate

Early Thursday morning, Dec. 31, a physical plant employee discovered a major water leak in Brown Hall. A one- and one-half-inch water line for the sprinkler system located above the faculty secretaries' area in the atrium ruptured and flooded the first and second floors of Brown Hall.

The majority of faculty and faculty secretaries from the first and second floors of Brown Hall have relocated to third floor Wickes Hall in the area once occupied by the College of Education, which moved across campus in the fall.

It recently was discovered that damage did indeed occur in some of the classrooms in Brown Hall. Jerry Woodcock, vice president of administration and business affairs, said the damage was not immediately noticeable because the classroom walls are vinyl over drywall and the water migrated and soaked into some of the drywall. The problem was noticed when the vinyl covering began to separate from the drywall, Woodcock said.

The classrooms most impacted were renovated the weekend of Jan. 9 and 10 in hopes they would be in operation the first week of classes. Renovation of other classrooms will be scheduled during the next few weeks, Woodcock said. That schedule will be developed as work progresses.

SVSU anticipates renovation of the center part of Brown Hall to take a minimum of six to eight weeks.

Damage was extensive and is expected to be more than \$500,000.

# SVSU educators develop program for community inclusion of children with disabilities

Children with developmental disabilities and physical disabilities now are being included in a wider range of programs in schools. Although schools increasingly are trying to integrate these youth into classrooms, children with disabilities have no regular access to community activities. Two members of SVSU's College of Education are working with area organizations and schools to change that.

Ellen Fennick, assistant professor of teacher education, and James Royle, associate professor of teacher education, both instruct elementary and special education at SVSU. According to their program plans, the community inclusion program would take trained SVSU teacher

education students and assign them to accompany and assist children with disabilities who attend ongoing community recreation activities. These activities could include art classes, sports teams, drama and dance classes, scouting groups, activities that could be inaccessible without specialized help.

Fennick and Royle anticipate enrollment for the pilot project to be 25 to 30 children.

"Each child will be matched with a support person (activity coach) who assists that child at each scheduled session of an activity," the pair state in their proposal. "Members of the SVSU elementary and special education department will match activity coaches with individual children included in the project."

Two community organizations already are taking advantage of the pilot program: The Boys and Girls Club of Saginaw and the Bay City YMCA.

There is no cost to families for the activity coach, although registration is required and any fees required for the activity and transportation to and from the activity site are the individual family's responsibilities.

For additional information, contact Fennick at ext. 1965, or Royle at ext. 4598.

### Music from gallery concert on sale

The Sculptures Sing, the concert celebrating the 10th anniversary of the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Gallery, was listed as the No. 1 arts/entertainment event of 1998 by The Saginaw News. A CD of the concert – featuring music written by Catherine McMichael and performances by the Saginaw Choral Society, the Camerata Singers of Midland, the Valley Wind Quintet, pianist Tamara Grefe and vocal soloists Dee Blair and Robert Bracey – is available at area music stores.

### **New Dean** (Continued from Page 1)

of the winter semester at U of I-Chicago.

Uselding also has taught at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign, Johns Hopkins University and Northwestern University. He is widely published in both journals and books and was editor of *The Quarterly Review of Economics and Business* and series editor of *Research in Economic History*, an annual compilation of research. Uselding was the recipient of the Charles Warren Fellow (1978-79), the John Simon Guggenheim Memorial Foundation Fellowship (1978-79), and the *Abbott Payson Usher Prize* of the Society for the History of Technology (1975). He also was a staff consultant for AT Kearney & Co., management consultants, in Chicago, Ill.

Pamela Eddy, coordinator of continuing education, is seeking volunteers for the regional Odyssey of the Mind competition, a national program for students in kindergarten to college who develop creative solutions to given problems. SVSU faculty and staff are welcome to become judges for the March 6 event. For more information, call ext. 1952 or E-mail eddy@svsu.edu.

# Science plus mathematics equals fun!

SVSU's Regional Mathematics and Science Center is registering students in second through fourth and fifth through seventh grades for Science and Mathematics Extravaganza for Kids day. The event will take place from 8:30 a.m. to 2:05 p.m., Saturday, Jan. 30.

Students in these grades will participate in several exciting and educational hands-on activities. Students can choose from activities that allow them to race cars, analyze colors, study the stars, manipulate fraction tiles, compute sports statistics, make soap, test soils, manufacture "goop" and surf the Internet.

Seating is limited in some sessions, so early registration is encouraged by calling ext. 4114.

Area educators or SVSU staff or students will provide instruction. The \$35 registration fee includes materials and a lunch in Curtiss Hall.

# Woodblock prints lead off art gallery's winter exhibition schedule

Japanese Woodblock prints from the Louis W. Doll Collection will be on display Jan. 14 through Feb. 3 in the University Art Gallery.

According to Barron Hirsch, director of the gallery, the woodblock print became a major medium of artistic expression in Japan during the Edo period (1603 through 1867).

"An age of unprecedented peace, it was a time of great prosperity," Hirsch said. "Woodblock prints supplied the middle class with images that recorded the pleasures and beauty of life in and around the capital."

Hirsch noted that urban scenes, Kabuki actors and mountain landscapes were popular subjects. Later prints from the Meiji period (1868 through 1912) document the change to a modern industrial society.

Gallery hours are noon to 4:30 p.m. Monday, 1:30 to 5:30 p.m. Wednesday, and noon to 4 p.m. Tuesday and Thursday. For more information, call ext. 4391 or 4159.

# Investment strategies topic of workshop

Wayne Mackie, professor of finance, will offer comprehensive principles of investing at two "Principles of Investing: How to Become a Savvy Investor" workshops sponsored by the Office of Continuing Education.

Participants have a choice of two workshops: Workshop A, which meets Feb. 4, 11, 18 and 25; or Workshop B, which meets

Feb. 4, 11, 18, 25 and March 11, 18 and 25. Both workshops take place from 7 to 10 p.m.

The sessions will include tips on how to use the latest in information technology on the Internet to increase personal knowledge of investing and to open up new avenues of investment options. Participants will receive a 10-week subscription to the Wall Street Journal (both paper and online editions), along with instruction on how to make full use of the Journal for investing purposes. The use of a computerized, interactive investment simulator will allow the opportunity to practice newly-acquired strategies without the risk of losing money.

The cost for Workshop A is \$225; and for Workshop B, \$299. The registration deadline is Monday, Jan. 25. For a brochure and registration form, call ext. 4475.

# Campus Life schedules first-ever "Coming Home Week"

If you enjoy Homecoming during the fall, this winter's "Coming Home Week" also offers a slate of activities for the campus community.

The celebration begins with a "Smud" football tournament at 3 p.m. Sunday, Jan. 24 on the I.M. fields.

Spirit banners will be unveiled at noon Monday, Jan. 25 in the Campus Life Center.

Weather permitting, a snow sculpture competition will take place Tuesday, Jan. 26.

Swing D.J. and swing dance lessons will be the featured event from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 27 in Doan Café. Also on Wednesday, a broomball tournament begins at 3 p.m. on the I.M. fields, with finals scheduled for Friday, Jan. 29.

A pair of Cardinal basketball doubleheaders also are on the week's schedule. SVSU hosts Grand Valley State University Thursday, Jan. 28 in O'Neill Arena. The women tipoff is at 5:30 p.m., with the men's game following at 7:30 p.m.

Capping off the week will be the Ferris State contest on Saturday, Jan. 30. The women's game starts at 1 p.m., followed by the men at 3 p.m. A tug-o-war, indoor fireworks and entertainment for kids will be part of the day's events.

Cash and prize give-aways will be available at both games.

For further information on Coming Home Week events, contact the Campus Life Center at ext. 4170.



Friday, Jan. 22 4:30 p.m. President's Reception Area

Refreshments served

Come and enjoy the company of your colleagues and friends! Health Services is sponsoring a **blood** drive from 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 20 in the Alumni Lounge. Donors and others also can register as a potential bone marrow donor. For an appointment, call ext. 4271.

The Interior is published biweekly when classes are in session fall and winter semesters and periodically through the summer. Items should be submitted to the Office of Information Services, 276 Wickes Hall, 790-4055, or send E-mail to infoservices@svsu.edu.

University departments sponsoring activities or events listed in *The Interior* will provide reasonable accommodations for persons with disabilities when contacted at least three days in advance.

Cecilia A. Jerome Director, Information Services

> Tim M. Inman Layout/Photography

Tammy J. Elliott Copy Assistant

### **Professional Profile**

- Thomas Renna, professor of history, presented "The Meaning of Christian Jerusalem: Past and Present" to the Annual Convocation of the Episcopal Churches of the Diocese of Michigan, Dec. 13 at Calvary Church in Saginaw.
- Dee Storey, professor of teacher education, gave two presentations at the annual conference of the National Council for the Social Studies in November in Anaheim, Calif. The two presentations were titled "Grandparents in Picture Books" and "Using Carter G. Woodson Elementary Award and Honor Books in the Elementary Classroom."

### **Transitions**

Please note the following Human Resource changes in your Faculty/Staff Directory:

### **SVSU Welcomes**

- **Jon Cisky**, professor of criminal justice, B352, 790-7044
- Marlin Frey, maintenance I, Physical Plant, 790-4274
- Gene Karrow, school improvement specialist, School/University Partnerships, E141, 249-4623
- Gloria Lawler, reference and instruction librarian, 790-7054
- Maria Lynch, cashier, Controller's Office, W166, 790-8422
- Reginald Rye, school improvement specialist, School/University Partnerships, E141, 249-4623
- Camille Rutherford, senior woman administrator and compliance coordinator. Athletics, R217, 791-7311

### Same Face, New Place

- James Hewitt, director of clinical experiences, E119, 790-4470, jhewitt@svsu.edu
- **Jerry Kill**, director of athletics, R210, 791-7315, jkill@svsu.edu
- Jill Learman, personal counselor/disability services specialist, W173, 790-4168, jlearman@svsu.edu
- **Debbie Martin,** student loan clerk, Scholarships and Student Financial Aid, W155, 790-4394

### **Moving On**

• Michelle Summer

### Retiring

- Robert Becker
- Mary Lou Taylor

### **Directory Revisions**

- Jack Ryder, SVSU retiree, (352) 336-0482
- Tammi Waugh, computer technician, Z120C, 790-4036

### **Across Campus**

- SVSU extends condolences to the family of Lois Keen, a student who passed away in December.
- Kristina K. Schultz, curator of education for the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Gallery, won an honorable mention in the 1998 All Area Show sponsored by the Saginaw Art Museum. The exhibition of 48 works by 43 artists will be on display through Sunday, Jan. 31.

### Have You Heard?

- A series of **faculty/staff luncheons** will take place from 11:30 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. in the Emeriti Room on Jan. 21, Feb. 1 and 23, March 17 and April 8. The cost is \$3.95 per person.
- The SVSU softball and volleyball teams are sponsoring a **Fun Night for Kids** in grades 2 through 8. The youths can enjoy supervised activities from 6 to 9:45 p.m. Friday, Jan. 29 in Ryder Center. The cost is \$5 per child. For further information, call ext. 7300.
- Reservations are being accepted for "Turn Vision into Reality: Partner for Performance," a workshop recommended for A/P employees. In this hands-on session conducted by David Eastman, participants will learn strategies, tools and techniques to joyfully work with others and produce extraordinary results. The conference is set for 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Monday, Feb. 1 in Curtiss Hall. For more information, or to register, call Tamie Grunow at ext. 4111 or E-mail tgrunow@svsu.edu. Seating is limited to 60 registrants, so make reservations early.
- The newly-formed string orchestra will hold Sunday rehearsals from 2 to 4 p.m. in A102 beginning Sunday, Jan. 17. For more information, call Jane Girdham at ext. 4386.

### **High Five**

- Women's Basketball (12-1, 7-0) defeated Ashland University 73-62 Saturday.
- Men's Basketball (6-7, 4-3) dropped an 89-88 overtime decision to Ashland University Saturday.

# SHALL BULL OF THE MONTH

# Nancy Whalen

Senior Faculty
Secretary,
Music and Art
Department

January 1999

When SVSU added Curtiss Hall, Groening Commons and the Performing Arts Center to its campus, Nancy Whalen also welcomed a couple of additions to her household.

While clearing land near Arbury Fine Arts Center, work crews discovered a litter of newborn kittens hidden deep inside the shrubs. Before long, the displaced little felines found themselves huddling in a cardboard box in Whalen's office.

Whalen, senior faculty secretary for the music and art departments, found homes for the cuddly critters, keeping two for herself.

"We tried to find the mother, but she never turned up," Whalen said, noting that the kittens were only a few weeks old and had to be bottle fed.

This would not be the first time that Whalen could be called a "life saver." Her position often requires her to respond to a variety of crisis situations, from assisting with fund raisers and checking out instruments to locating lost pianos and staffing the ticket tables at concerts.

"The Music Department presents about 14 concerts every year, which is a lot," Whalen said. "And there are eight to 10 art exhibits

during the year, also. People would not believe all the work that goes on behind the scenes to make these events successful."

For example, for each performance Whalen assists with scheduling rehearsal dates and reserving facilities. She schedules seating for area elementary school events. She also manages all aspects of the printing and distribution of programs, flyers, tickets and bulk mailings.

"I also am involved in selling tickets and handling money from ticket sales, and I arrange to have students working at each of the events," Whalen said.

In addition, Whalen responds to numerous requests during Valley Fest and the Latent Image Photo Competition, including accepting works for exhibition, making exhibit labels, helping with set-up and supervising the return of art work after the events.

Whalen is one of SVSU's earliest employees, joining the clerical staff in October 1976. Her first assignment was in the Polish Institute, where she earned \$2.50 an hour.

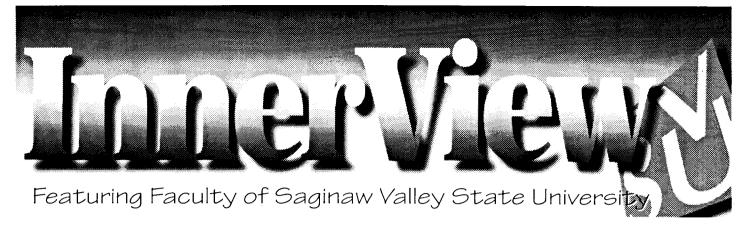
"I didn't know how to speak or read Polish or any other foreign language," Whalen confessed. "And many of the letters that I had to type were written in Polish — instead of reading the words, I had to type and proofread each letter of every word."

After three years, Whalen transferred to a faculty secretary position in the '66-'68 Building. In 1988, her office relocated to the Fine Arts Center, although conditions in her new work space were less than ideal.

"This end of the building wasn't even finished," she said. "I had no computer, the windows weren't installed, and the office was lit with a single bulb hanging on an extension cord from the ceiling."

Away from the office, Whalen said she enjoys traveling, attending concerts at SVSU, golfing and downhill skiing. She has two adult children, Bill and Diane.





# Resolving to Help Youth Grow

Gayle Sype and Ed Minnock may take different approaches to their roles with Big Brothers/Big Sisters of Saginaw Bay Area, but their goals are the same: To make a difference in someone's life. And make a difference, they do.

Sype, associate professor of management and marketing, and Minnock, executive director of continuing education, both serve on the board of the organization. Sype also is in her second year as a big sister.

"I thought about this a long time ago," Sype said. "When I was in Mississippi in 1982, however, they would not cross racial lines. At the time, they did not need whites, they were in need of African-American volunteers."

Sype then became busy in graduate school and it wasn't until fall 1995 that she found the time to go through the orientation process to become a "big." A year later, BB/BS contacted SVSU and asked if anyone wanted to serve on its governing board. Sype and Minnock rose to the challenge.

"I wanted to get involved in the administration of the program," Minnock said. "I was particularly interested in the recruitment and retention of Bigs. I also wanted to help the local organization grow."

Both Sype and Minnock agree they can't

save the whole world, but maybe by helping one child at a time, they can make a difference.

"Part of (BB/BS) success in working with kids is they get involved with them before there's a problem," Minnock said.

Recent research by the national organization found that children in the Big Brothers/Big Sisters program are 46 percent less likely to begin using drugs, 52 percent less likely to skip school, and they have more confidence in themselves.

"The program offers a kid who may have so much unstructured time – and may use it poorly – someone interested in them and other ways to spend that time," Sype said.

Sype said she particularly enjoys the time she spends with her little "sister," Sheila, because it enables her to do things she would not do alone – like attend children's movies, go to Deer Acres, or hang out at Kokomo's. However, Sype said she also does things with Sheila that do not involve a lot of money, such as going to the library, baking cookies, or going to Art Sample Furniture and sitting in all the chairs.

"It doesn't always have to be something fancy," Sype said. "Sometimes they just need someone to hang out with." She and Sheila have been matched for nearly two years.

David Hall, executive in residence in the College of Business and Management, and his wife also are involved in the BB/BS program – serving in the "Big for a Day Program" as a couple. The Halls take a different Little every other month and spend the day with them.

Individuals or married couples can become as involved as time permits by contacting Sype, Minnock or their local chapter of Big Brothers/Big Sisters. One also can participate in fund raisers, such as the annual bowling tournament (March) and an auction. The second annual auction will take place at SVSU in May.

Sype said men in particular are needed to match with the young males in the program.

"For me, with no kids of my own," Sype said, "it's a chance for me to make a difference and I don't have to do it 24 hours a day!"



**December 18, 1998** 

### SVSU, faculty agree to new contract

Following an executive session, the SVSU Board of Control Friday, Dec. 18 approved a new three-year contract with the Faculty Association beginning July 1, 1999. The current agreement between the Faculty Association and the Board expires June 30, 1999.

The agreement includes a 3.5 percent increase in faculty salaries during each of the three years – July 1, 1999 to June 30, 2002. It also includes an increase in University health care contributions. The University contributions to health care will increase 3.92 percent during FY 2000; 3.77 percent in FY 2001; and 3.63 percent in FY 2002. The total compensation increase (salary and benefits) for the three-year contract is 10.91 percent for the more than 200 faculty.

Members of the Faculty Association ratified the contract on Dec. 10.

During the regular meeting, the Board established housing rates for the 1999-2000 academic year. New student housing – scheduled to open for fall 1999 – rates also were established. Single efficiency units will lease for \$3,920. Double/triple efficiency units will be \$4,200. Apartments in the new housing units will lease for \$3,320 (four and five bedrooms) and \$4,200 (two bedrooms).

Pine Grove Apartment rates begin at \$260 for individuals, up to \$620 for families.

Residence halls will lease from \$4,445 up to \$5,185, depending upon selected meal plan.

Room and board rates for guest rooms, conferences and specific academic sessions also were set for both residence halls and Pine Grove Apartments.

The Board granted Emeritus status to Robert T. Becker, athletic director, who retired in December. Becker joined the SVSU staff in August 1968 as director of business and auxil-

iary services. He was named director of athletics in 1980. Becker was cited for his part in establishing a golf team and its success. During his tenure as director of athletics, SVSU sports teams won five national championships and 63 Great Lakes Intercollegiate Athletic Conference league titles in 12 sports. Becker also has held leadership roles in the GLIAC and NCAA organizations.

In other Board action:

- The Board approved the fiscal year 1999-2000 Budget Development Request to be given to the Michigan Department of Management and Budget. SVSU requested a 7.5 percent increase in state appropriation toward ongoing University operations. In addition, requests for \$250,000 in technology updates, \$500,000 in deferred maintenance and \$375,000 in debt service were made.
- The Board approved a \$47.4 million Capital Outlay Budget Request for 1999-2000 for submission to the State of Michigan. The proposal includes a request for \$40 million toward construction of Instructional Facility No. 4, library expansion and associated renovations. SVSU will provide matching funds for the request. The project will provide new space to accommodate the Colleges of Education and Nursing and Allied Health Sciences. Administration and faculty offices will be constructed along with necessary laboratory and clinical spaces for the two colleges. In addition, new construction will provide space for classrooms, computer labs and faculty offices for general University use. The project also will provide an expansion and renovation of the University library.

The work was proposed for the last "Capital Outlay" project, but was eliminated due to budgetary constraints. Additionally, renovation of

This is an unofficial report of Board activities.
Official minutes are on file in Zahnow Library.

space in existing buildings, which are impacted by moves to the new facility, will be required. Total estimated new construction space is 130,000 square feet. Construction could begin as early as May 2000 with completion by December 2002.

More than \$4.1 million was requested for a heating, cooling loop and control extension to the Ryder Center – the last major facility on campus not connected to the loop. The project also includes installing new heating boilers for Pioneer, Tranquil and Great Lakes halls, as well as the Arbury Fine Arts Center. An estimated \$62,500 reduction in annual operation costs is expected with the completion of the project.

Infrastructure improvements of \$3.3 million also are part of the proposal. The funds requested are for planning and construction of a system of trails and lighted walks, additional retention ponds to help prevent flooding, completion of street lights and a boulevard on College Drive, and a 16,000-square-foot heated building to house grounds and receiving operations of the University.

- The Board approved four appointments to three charter schools: Chandler Park Academy in Detroit (two), Chatfield School in Lapeer (one) and New Land Academy in Manistee (one). The Board also approved three reappointments to Northwest Academy in Charlevoix.
- The Board approved the awarding of baccalaureate and master's degrees at the Dec. 18 Commencement, as certified by the faculty and the Registrar's Office.

# Science and the Visual Arts

A Lecture Presented by **Dr. Lawrence Slifkin** 



Wednesday, January 20, 1999 7:30 p.m. Rhea Miller Recital Hall Saginaw Valley State University

The general public is invited.

Question & answer session following.

# FREE ADMISSION!

Dr. Slifkin also will give a semi-technical talk on

The Physical "Impossibility" of the Photographic Process

> Thursday January 21, 1999 3 p.m.

> Science Building, Room 108

Wednesday's lecture, Science and the Visual Arts, will discuss and illustrate ways in which science interacts with the arts: the use of scientific analysis to understand ancient monuments, the effects of scientific notions on schools of painting; the analysis of specific art objects for determination of date, provenance, and techniques of manufacture; the functional origin of many aspects of architectural decoration (such as in Gothic); the role of the Golden Section, and why; and processes of visual perception.

In Thursday's presentation, The Physical "Impossibility" of the Photographic Process, Slifkin will discuss how a physicist examines the conventional photographic process and will further demonstrate that the silver halide emulsion of film must have a set of quite unusual solid



state properties to produce what is known to photographers as the "latent" image. Although the photographic process is not a literal impossibility, the scientist is left with a sense of wonder that the process even works at all.

Slifkin is retired from the physics faculty of the University of North Carolina at
 Chapel Hill, N.C., which he joined in

1955. His academic degrees are from New York University and Princeton. While at UNC, Slifkin taught a course on the physics of music, developed and taught a course on science and the visual arts, as well as a number of standard physics courses.

His research has been in the field of solid state physics. In particular, his work has been to study the roles that defects in the crystal lattice play in determining many of the most interesting properties of crystalline solids. Slifkin has received several awards for both teaching and research. He is a Fellow of the American Physical Society and a Fellow of the Society of Imaging Science and Technology. He has served on the Board of Editors of the prestigious physics professional journal, Physical Review B, as well as a number of other government and professional society committees.

Dr. Slifkin is visiting SVSU under the sponsorship of the American Institute of Physics's Visiting Scientist Program, the SVSU Department of Physics, the SVSU Physics Club and the Dean of Science, Engineering and Technology.