Endowment supports annual public speaking competition

Many people have a great fear of public speaking and yet nearly every one of us, whatever career choice, has a need at one time or another to speak before a group. Recognizing this need, and with a desire to reward those who strive toward bettering their own public speaking abilities, Larry and Linda Sims established an endowment for the Sims Awards for Excellence in Public Speaking. The Sims wanted to encourage SVSU students to develop their public speaking skills. Through this endowment, they seek to promote and celebrate the development of such competence with an annual public speaking competition.

Participation in the competition is open to all SVSU students and first through third places will be awarded tuition credit awards. In the past, an annual public speaking competition took place at SVSU, sponsored by the Communication Guild, but primarily focused toward students majoring in Communication. The Sims’ endowment funds will allow the Communication Guild to redirect fund-raising efforts toward other club activities, such as campus and community service.

“With our own backgrounds in business, community service and political involvement, we are very aware of the need to have very good communication skills,” Mrs. Sims said. “Many people think those who do public speaking are only in high visibility positions—we know that’s not true.

“I salute anyone who’s trying to improve their communication ability and become a better public speaker,” she added. “I think it’s a good measure of one’s self worth.”

The Department of Communication and Theatre will oversee the competition and scholarship awards will be made to those judged to be in first, second and third place. Awards to graduating seniors may be made in cash. The Sims will be invited to serve as judges in the annual competition.

Mr. Sims is senior vice president of Saginaw Bay Underwriters. He has a strong record of community involvement and leadership—as vice chair of the board for Covenant Health Care Systems, past board chair of Saginaw General Hospital and co-chair of the Bridge Center for Racial harmony. Mr. Sims also has served as board chair of the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce and of Michigan State University Development.

Mrs. Sims, a member of the SVSU Board of Control, is community services manager for the gas division of Consumers Energy. She is a member of the executive boards of both the Saginaw County Chamber of Commerce and Saginaw Future Inc., and a board member of the Saginaw Community Foundation. She also is vice president of the Academy for Technology and Enterprise, a charter school and trade academy in Saginaw.

The 1999 winners of the Sims Awards for Excellence in Public Speaking—all communications majors—are Frankie Smith, a senior from Merrill (first), Chrystal Glasco, a senior from Birch Run (second) and Travis McCurdy, a senior from Gladwin (third).
SVSU makes transferring easier

SVSU’s College of Science, Engineering and Technology and the Office of Transfer Student Programs and Services have been working together to promote transfer into SVSU through two new articulation agreements. Students from Mott Community College and from St. Clair College (Windsor, Ontario) transferring into SVSU’s College of Science, Engineering and Technology will find the path a little smoother through the articulation agreements.

On April 20, administrators from MCC and SVSU met at SVSU to sign a new agreement, which formalizes the transfer of Computer Information Systems credits from the community college to the University.

SVSU will accept select Computer Information Systems credits and general education credits from MCC for transfer toward a bachelor of science degree in Computer Information Systems (with a non-B.B.A. minor in management).

Through a separate agreement with St. Clair College, SVSU will accept credit from the Electronics Engineering Technology program (three-year diploma) toward a bachelor of science degree in electrical engineering. Once enrolled at SVSU, the St. Clair students will take a minimum of 68 credits in major requirements and will need to fulfill basic skills and general education requirements.

Additional information on these and all established articulation agreements between SVSU and other institutions can be acquired through Robert Lemuel, associate director of admissions, at ext. 4163.

TriSource returns to SVSU

SVSU again will host the tri-county chambers of commerce annual business expo: Tri-Source ’99, Wednesday, May 12 in the Ryder Center. The day begins with a Student Expo in the Ryder Center on the show floor from 9 to 10:30 a.m.

The Office of Graduate Admissions has reserved Booth No. 409, which is located near the “Business After Hours” section of the event.

The TriSource Premier Luncheon with Laura Pedersen will be in Curtiss Hall. Doors open at 11 a.m. Pedersen, the youngest person and first woman to ever get a seat on Wall Street, became a full-fledged trader at age 20, a partner in a Wall Street firm at 21, and a millionaire at 22. Her highly successful experience helped her author two books, Street-Smart Career Guide and Play Money: My Brief But Brilliant Career on Wall Street. She currently writes a financial advice column for the Sunday New York Times.

The TriSource exhibits will open at 1 p.m. and close at 6 p.m. A Business After Hours, featuring refreshments, will take place from 4 to 6 p.m. on the show floor.

Shuttle service will take participants between Ryder Center and Curtiss Hall, a well as to and from the various parking lots on campus.

For additional information on TriSource, contact the Bay, Midland or Saginaw chambers of commerce, SVSU Conference Bureau at ext. 4348, or, consult the organization’s web site at www.trisource-expo.com.

Law Enforcement Workshop focuses on interviewing, polygraph

A workshop for area law enforcement personnel that focuses on interview techniques and the use of the polygraph is taking place this week at SVSU.

The program concludes Friday, May 7 in Curtiss Hall. The 28th Annual National Polygraph Workshop is sponsored by the Michigan Association of Polygraph Examiners and the Michigan State Police.

Nationally-recognized experts will conduct seminars highlighting neurolinguistics, various aspects of the polygraph and polygraph instrumentation, arson investigation and managing sex offenders in the community.

For additional information, contact the Office of Continuing Education at ext. 4475.
SVSU faculty, staff receive service awards

The following SVSU faculty and staff were presented Service Awards at the All-University Awards Banquet.

30 years
• Hsuan S. Chen, Professor of Physics
• George W. Eastland, Professor of Chemistry
• Gamal A. Elashhab, Professor of Educational Leadership and Services
• William G. Elliott, Professor of Law and Finance
• Diana S. Frederick, Assistant Professor of Mathematical Sciences
• Eugene J. Hamilton, Special Assistant to the President, Gov. and Community Relations
• Katherine H. Harley, Professor of English
• Joseph T. Matti, Professor of Mathematical Sciences
• Merlyn M. Mondol, Professor of Psychology
• Donald F. Novey, Professor of Economics
• Rose S. Novey, Professor of Mathematical Sciences
• Charles F. Pelzer, Professor of Biology
• Eric F. Petersen, Professor of History
• Shyamalendu Sarkar, Professor of Economics
• William F. Smith, Professor of English
• Mason Y. Wang, Professor of English

25 years
• Nola D. Carvey, Administrative Secretary, Government and Community Relations
• Lawrence J. Kickham, Professor of Accounting
• Linda K. Peterson, Senior Faculty Secretary
• Robert J. Thaler, Assistant Professor of Sociology
• Gloria J. Wagener, Administrative Secretary, Business and Industrial Development Institute

20 years
• William K. Barnett, Professor of Sociology
• Helen L. Burns, Switchboard Operator
• Sally K. Callahan, Administrative Secretary, Engineering Services
• Carl L. Dueweke, Custodian
• Gerald D. Engelhardt, Custodian
• Kim C. Kettelhohn, Custodian
• Anne T. Reitzenbach, Administrative Secretary, College of Education
• Jo Ann Stanley, Administrative Assistant to the President
• Victoria M. Stewart, Associate Registrar
• Gary L. Thompson, Professor of English
• Gordon R. Wolf, Maintenance

15 years
• Claudia J. Anderson, Lead Programmer/Analyst

• Michael D. Andrzejewski, Energy Specialist, H.V.A.C. Working Foreman
• Merry Jo Brandimore, Assistant Dean for Campus and Residential Life
• Robert E. Cheek, Professor of Management and Marketing
• Louis E. Cohen, Professor of Psychology
• Roseline B. Connelly, Senior Registration Assistant
• Laura J. Gregory, Bookstore Assistant
• Gloria J. Hansen, Coordinator, Health Services
• Randall L. Hock, Assistant Professor of Computer Science
• Gail E. Kantak, Professor of Biology
• Mahendra S. Kanthi, Professor of Economics
• Marilyn Y. Knight, Assistant Professor of Accounting
• Enayat H. Mahajerin, Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Technology
• Cheryl L. Michalski, Senior Faculty Secretary
• Laurene C. Powell, Senior Secretary, Equal Opportunities and Special Programs
• Ghulam H. Raz, Associate Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering
• Bethany K. Rusch, Officer Public Safety

10 Years
• Barbara M. Abeare, Senior Accounting Clerk
• Roy J. Atkinson, Custodial Specialist
• Cynthia I. Bala, Grant Accountant
• James C. Chasnis, Custodial/Maintenance
• William J. Demand, H.V.A.C. Assistant
• Jonathan B. Leonard, Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering
• Ralph P. Musinski, Mechanic
• Marc H. Peretz, Professor of Music
• Keith D. Pruetter, Groundskeeper
• C. Surender Reddy, Professor of Management and Marketing
• Shelly A. Remender, Administrative Secretary, Housing and Residential Life
• D. Joseph Shlien, Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Technology

Did You Know?
• Sharon Chenette, senior secretary in Minority Student Services, is a member of the Saginaw Valley chapter of Professional Secretaries International.
• Ellen Fenrick, assistant professor of education, is a member of the Council for Exceptional Children and the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

From the Community & Professional Organization Affiliation Survey, retained in the office of Gene Hamilton, special assistant to the president, government & community relations. For more information, call ext. 4068.

Fourth Friday
4:30 p.m.
Friday, May 21
President's Reception Area

Refreshments served

Come and enjoy the company of your colleagues and friends!
Commencement set for May 8

A record number of SVSU students are expected to participate in Commencement at 1:30 p.m. Saturday, May 8 in the O’Neill Arena. More than 600 people who expect to complete degree requirements this semester or during the spring/summer semesters have indicated they plan to don regalia and march in the ceremony.

They are part of a graduating class that includes 535 who will receive bachelor’s degrees and 268 who will be accorded master’s degrees.

The Commencement address will be given by Connie Binsfeld, former Michigan lieutenant governor.

In addition to conferring degrees, University administrators will recognize 1999 recipients of the Landee Award for Teaching Excellence and the Earl L. Warrick Award for Excellence in Research. Matthew Marges, professor of psychology, was selected for the Landee Award, while the Warrick Award went to Stephen Lawrence, associate professor of chemistry.

The ceremony also features presentation of the annual Distinguished Alumni Award, which honors outstanding accomplishment by University graduates from prior years.

Professional Profile

- **Jeffrey S. Ashley**, assistant professor of political science, presented a paper, “Superficiality and Bias: The (Mis)Treatment of Native Americans in U.S. Government Textbooks,” at the Western Social Science Association annual conference, April 21 through 24 in Fort Worth, Texas. Karen Jarratt-Ziemski of Northern Arizona University, was co-presenter.


- **Tai-Chi Lee**, professor of computer science, presented a paper at the 37th Annual ACM (Association for Computing Machinery) Southeast Conference, April 15 through 18 at the University of South Alabama. “A Software/Hardware Solution for Fractal Image Compression” explored the use of field programmable gate arrays (FPGA) in the improvement and enhancement of data compression techniques. The potential applications are full-motion video image compression for teleconferencing, data compression for a large volume of satellite download images, and other high speed data communication.

Across Campus

- The campus community extends condolences to the family of **David Johnson**, an SVSU student who died April 14.

- **Gayle Koehler**, assistant director of Information Services for special projects, has a watercolor triptych, “Monet’s Garden,” on display through Friday, May 28 in the State of the Arts Exhibition 1999 at the Saginaw Township Hall. The annual art competition is open to artists throughout the state. Juror Don Desmett, executive director of the Art Center of Battle Creek, selected 82 pieces from 217 entries. The painting was completed during a trip to Monet’s garden in Giverny, France.

- The campus community extends condolences to **Jill Wetmore**, professor of finance and interim dean of the College of Business and Management, on the loss of her mother-in-law, Marion Denby Wetmore.

Have You Heard?

- **Doan Café** will reopen at 8 a.m. Monday, May 17. Summer hours will be from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday through Thursday.

- Violinist Martha Curtis will present “Music for the Soul,” a concert co-sponsored by SVSU and the Field Neurosciences Institute (St. Mary’s Hospital), at 7 p.m. Thursday, May 20 in the Rhea E. Miller Recital Hall. An accomplished musician, Curtis has battled severe epilepsy since age 3. Admission to the concert is free of charge. A reception on the Groening Mezzanine will follow the hour-long performance.

Transitions

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

**SVSU Welcomes**

- **Roger Zacharko**, custodian, Physical Plant, 790-4279

**Same Face, New Place**

- **Becky Mietz**, admissions clerk, 790-4201

**Moving On**

- **Chris Holgard**

**High Five**

- **Jack & Lila Ryder Male and Female Athletes of the Year** — Senior Amy Rembisz and junior Tim Neelands are this year’s recipients, based on a range of criteria. Rembisz is a four-year letterwinner in track and field; Neelands is an All-MIFC football player.
As director of the University Writing Program, Diane Boehm’s mission is to provide programs and support services that develop students’ academic and future professional writing. Boehm was hired in January 1995 to develop a new writing program that would serve students and faculty in all disciplines.

"Inventing a program is both a daunting challenge and an exciting opportunity," Boehm said. "On any given day, the ratio of challenges and opportunities may differ, but I’m pleased with the many ways the program has evolved."

The Writing Program has many elements:

- The Writing Associates Program, which has placed Writing Associates in 48 courses in 18 departments, plus the O.L.A. program
- Interdisciplinary presentations, including the College Success Program, TE 100 and the multimedia program
- Faculty consultations on materials for publication as well as teaching strategies
- Faculty workshops and institutes
- Student workshops on the MTTTC (Michigan Test for Teacher Certification), job search strategies
- Collaboration with the Saginaw Bay National Writing Project

- Technology initiatives, including websites and electronic teaching/learning materials
- The SVSU Writing Center, which is approaching its 5,000th tutorial session since opening in Fall 1996, assists students with course assignments, scholarship applications, résumés, presentations, graduate and professional school applications, and more. The Writing Center staff currently includes 13 undergraduate peer tutors, two part-time English as a Second Language specialists, one community volunteer, a coordinator, and six faculty members who volunteer their time to work with students from all disciplines.

- Outreach to area schools through the Creative Writers in the Schools Program, the Roosevelt Ruffin Symposium, as well as seminars and workshops for area teachers
- The Ruth and Ted Braun Awards for Writing Excellence, coordinated by the University Writing Committee and the Writing Program

The Writing Center also has a website with many resources for writers, and this semester is piloting Online Tutoring, preparing to offer it to the campus community in the fall semester.

"I also teach one course per semester," Boehm noted, "everything from ENGL 111 to ENGL 304, Technical Report Writing.

"I am fortunate to work with an incredible staff in the Writing Center," Boehm said. "Even though our tutors are taking heavy academic loads, they make the needs of students who visit the Center their first priority."

Boehm noted that Writing Center tutors have received campus and national recognition, and often make presentations at regional and national conferences.

"Every day, our tutors contribute to the success of numerous students," Boehm said. "Every day they hear students tell them how much that help has meant.

"In fact, the Writing Center probably hears more ‘thank yous’ per day than any other place on campus!"
Jim Hewitt is doing anything but sailing through retirement. The director of clinical experiences in the College of Education "retired" in 1994 as assistant superintendent of the Chesaning School District. In August 1998, Hewitt joined SVSU on a temporary basis and now is full time. So, sailing does not garner as much of his time as it once did, but it remains a priority.

A plaque on his desk may best sum up his philosophy: "Never get so busy making a living that you forget to live."

This is Hewitt's first summer in his position at SVSU, although, he has been an adjunct member of the college since 1980.

Hewitt took up sailing about 14 years ago, spending time off the coast of Maine.

"I love being on the water," he said.

Hewitt was "bitten" by the sailing bug when a friend offered her boat. Her children had grown and she and her husband were more into powerboats. Hewitt took the boat, restored it and set sail. That was about three boats ago.

Currently, Hewitt has a 25 footer that is in dry storage in a barn. He has yet to decide where to dock it for the summer. In the past, Hewitt has kept the boat in Tawas, Bay Harbor (Bay City) and Hessel (near St. Ignace). This summer he will visit the country of his heritage – Ireland – which could postpone his sailing season.

"I'm very clearly a fair weather sailor," Hewitt said. "I'm not into the competition. I do 'lazy' sailing – no white knuckles for me!"

But Hewitt does don white for his annual appearances as Santa Claus for area elementary and preschools.

"Every year I use less whitening and less padding," he laughed. "I won't do the commercial-type stuff. I prefer to do it in situations where the kids can set the boundaries and approach me when they want."

Hewitt tells of two young children who remind him how important Santa is in all our lives. One boy, who was blind, was intrigued with the tactile sensations of Santa's beard and stayed with Hewitt for more than a half hour. A second child talked about the loss of his father a few weeks earlier.

Santa's success spurred developing a leprechaun each St. Patrick's Day. Hewitt tried on a green derby for fun one day and fell for the look. He already owned a kelly green jacket and a "gnarly" carved shillelagh, so a friend this year made him the outfit – knickers and all.

But there's a reason for these diversions:

"To encourage people to loosen up a little bit."

"I have fun with adults in that setting," Hewitt said. "Some need more help than others in getting the kid out."

These forays counter the time Hewitt spends teaching TE100 classes – with about 200 students per semester. He also is the primary coordinator for field experience programs. This year with 181 student teachers. Hewitt said the fun part of his job is the perspective districts now take in hiring.

"They now see they can look at prospective employees during their student teaching," he said, which makes the experience more valuable for all.

Hewitt has two children, both married, and is expecting his first grandson later this year.