

Dean's Message

It's hard to believe it's already been over a month since we watched the Class of 2025 cross the stage, ready to embark on their next chapter. Saying goodbye to our graduates always comes with a mix of pride and nostalgia—we're proud of their accomplishments and excited for what lies ahead, and we encourage them to stay connected as they join our alumni community. Time truly flies. Now, as we approach the 4th of July, I'm reminded of this time last year when I was in Paris and Normandy, honoring the 80th anniversary of D-Day and what would have been my father's 100th birthday. I remain deeply moved by my visit to Pointe du Hoc, Omaha Beach, the remnants of battlefield bunkers, and the rows of crosses and stars at the Normandy American Cemetery. As we prepare to celebrate Independence Day, I want to express my gratitude—to our forefathers, and to my father—for their sacrifices that helped shape the nation we are today. I wish you and your loved ones a safe, meaningful, and healthy holiday.

AY 24–25 has also brought some sadness with the loss of two of our faculty members, Dr. Rachel Darr and Dr. Michael Heron. These losses remain very raw for many of us as we move into the fall semester. Both were deeply valued members of our academic community—respected colleagues, dedicated educators, and cherished friends. Their contributions to the college and the lives of their students were profound, and their absence is deeply felt. As we remember and honor their legacies, may we also find strength in one another and continue to support our community with the same compassion and commitment they embodied.

I encourage you to take time this summer to reflect, recharge, and enjoy meaningful moments with your families. Summer offers a valuable opportunity to step back from the fast pace of academic life, to reconnect with what grounds and inspires us, and to find clarity in moments of rest. Whether you're traveling, spending time outdoors, diving into a good book, or simply enjoying quiet time at home, I hope you find space to renew your energy and return with a fresh perspective. These moments of pause are not only restorative but essential as we prepare for the exciting challenges and opportunities that lie ahead.

As some of you heard during our virtual meeting on June 11, I have decided to step back from my role as Dean after the 2025–2026 academic year. At that time, I plan to exercise my option to transition to the faculty as a Professor of Public Health. This decision is bittersweet. Serving as Dean over the past four years has been one of the most rewarding chapters of my career. Together, we've achieved a great deal—from expanding community engagement across the college to supporting the development of the Graduate Health Professions Building in Downtown Saginaw. I'm especially proud of the establishment of the Malcolm Field Biomedical Science Research Institute, which I believe will serve as a catalyst for new academic programs and certificate offerings. I remain confident in the strong partnerships we've built and in the bright future ahead for both SVSU and our college. I have no doubt that the important work we've started will continue to grow and thrive in the years to come. It has been an incredible honor to serve as your Dean, and I look forward to the next chapter with both gratitude and excitement.

I wish you all a safe, enjoyable, and healthy summer. Remember we will be starting up again the week of 18th with our 'All College Meeting' and other campus events. See you then!

Celebrate Employees Years of Service with SVSU

The college had seven employees who celebrated their years of service this year.

Patrick Olivarez – Administrative Secretary – 35 years

Christine Noller - Associate Professor of Public Health - 10 years

Aricka Schweitzer - Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy - 10 years

Catherine Macomber - Professor of Social Work - 15 years

Rebecca Toth - Assistant Professor of Nursing - 15 years

David Berry - Professor of Kinesiology - 15 years

Andrea Frederick - Professor of Nursing - 15 years

Congratulations!



MELISSA HAYES, BSW STUDENT VOLUNTEER ACTIVITIES



We'd like to recognize the outstanding work of Melissa Hayes, a current BSW student, for her dedication at the Saginaw Defenders Office. This spring, Melissa helped coordinate the Saginaw United Mock Trial team's participation at the Oakland County Courthouse. While the team didn't take home a win, they continue to grow stronger each year, gaining valuable insight into the legal process.

Melissa also helped organize a special field trip arranged by Judge Gafkay, where students had the opportunity to practice in her courtroom. Their performances were evaluated by Judge Gafkay along with Emilie Lyday, Zach Yancer, and Ayiteh Sowah, who offered thoughtful feedback—followed by a well-deserved pizza party!

Additionally, Melissa supported the 2025 Saginaw County Law Day competition held at the Saginaw County Courthouse. Known for her infectious energy and generosity, she always makes sure students have fun, and are well-fed with plenty of snacks along the way. While the preparation for these events can be long and tedious, Melissa brings joy, encouragement, and snacks—making all the difference.

ISSY COLE, SOCIAL WORK STUDENT



Congratulations to Issy Cole on being recognized for her outstanding contributions to the Office of Student Life! Issy recently earned her Bachelor of Science in Social Work and will be continuing her academic journey in the Master's program this fall.

During her time at SVSU, Issy made a meaningful impact by helping organize the Cardinal Volunteers Days of Service, an initiative that mobilized over 200 students to support local non-profit organizations in 2024.

We are proud of you, Issy!

PROMOTIONS

Congratulations to Drs. Jill Brown, Cynthia Hupert, and Melvin McDowell on their promotions.

Dr. Jill Brown, Occupational Therapy, was promoted to full professor.

Dr. Cynthia Hupert, Nursing, was promoted to full professor.

Dr. Melvin McDowell, Social Work, was promoted to associate professor.

Congratulations to all three!



Dr. Jill Brown



Dr. Cynthia Hupert



Dr. Melvin McDowell

THE ANATOMAGE TABLE

In March, we received our *Anatamage*® Table. With the help of donors, we secured advanced 3D medical visualization technology for use within HHS. We want to thank the donors who recognized the importance of this technology in health sciences education.

William F. McNally Family Foundation

Frank N. Andersen Foundation

Harvey Randall Wickes Foundation

The table will be housed within the Department of Kinesiology, however a system will be developed for anyone to sign the table out for purposes of training. We are thrilled to have the table as an educational tool to enhance our programs.



MICHIGAN ASSOCIATION OF SCHOOL NURSES

On Wednesday, May 7, 2025, SVSU Nursing Department hosted a simulation for the participants of the 2025 Annual Michigan Association of School Nurses conference. The school nurses had the ability to practice skills that they don't normally get a chance to practice. Thanks to all the Simulation staff and nursing faculty for a job well done!



Thank You...

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HIRES

We have new folks joining us starting the fall 2025 semester. Join me in welcoming them to the HHS family.



Reem Khaled
Abdalgani Telfah

Reem Telfah, originally from Jordan, will receive her Ph.D. in Nursing and a graduate certificate in Applied Gerontology in August 2025. Her research focuses on self-management behaviors among older adults, aiming to promote healthy aging and improve quality of life in later years. She has seven years of hands-on experience in a cardiac unit, which has greatly influenced her approach to patient-centered care. In addition, Reem holds a master's degree in Community Health Nursing. Outside of work, she is a mom to two amazing kids, a 4-year-old boy and a 7-month-old girl.

Reem says, *"I'm truly excited to join SVSU and be part of such a supportive and inspiring academic community."*

Welcome Stephanie Hebbert – Family Nurse Practitioner & Nursing Faculty. We're pleased to welcome Stephanie to the nursing faculty at SVSU! A proud SVSU alumna, Stephanie earned both her undergraduate and graduate degrees here and is excited to return—this time as an educator—to help prepare the next generation of nurses. Since graduating in 2015, she has worked in a rural family practice clinic, where she also precepted multiple nurse practitioner students. This fall, she looks forward to transitioning into the classroom setting.

Stephanie lives in North Branch with her husband and three children. In her free time, she enjoys running, golfing, and reading—when she's not keeping up with her energetic kids! Please join us in welcoming Stephanie to the team!



Stephanie Hebbert



Sarah Brooks

Welcome Sarah Brooks, a doctorally prepared nurse educator with over ten years of experience across hospital, school-based, and outpatient settings. Sarah is skilled in evidence-based nursing care, learner-centered education, and adaptable to diverse populations and environments. She has extensive experience with multiple EMR systems and managed care. Sarah is passionate about patient education and autonomy. Her dissertation focused on implementing annual insomnia screening to reduce adverse interactions and mental health-related hospitalizations.

Sarah lives in Freeland. Please join us in welcoming Sarah to the team!

WELCOME TO OUR NEW HIRES, CONT.



Katrina Oberski

We are pleased to welcome Katrina Kreichelt to the nursing department as a one-year temporary faculty member. Katrina earned her BSN from the University of Detroit Mercy in 2013 and her MSN with a focus in Nursing Education from SVSU in 2020. She brings clinical experience in adult health, including medical-surgical and endoscopy nursing. Katrina began her teaching career as an adjunct faculty member at SVSU before joining Siena Heights University as full-time faculty in 2021. At Siena, she primarily taught foundational nursing courses and served as the nursing lab coordinator.

Outside the classroom, Katrina enjoys running, gardening, and spending time outdoors with her husband and two young sons. Please join us in giving Katrina a warm welcome!

We're excited to announce that Megan Novak will be joining our team as the Nursing Simulation Coordinator! Megan is no stranger to SVSU—she has served as a nursing faculty member and clinical instructor, and we're thrilled to welcome her into this new role. She brings over nine years of acute care experience and holds both a BSN (2013) and MSN (2020) from SVSU, making her a proud double alumna. Megan has worked in the region since graduating and is deeply committed to advancing nursing education and practice.

Please join us in giving Megan a warm welcome!



Megan Novak, MSN



Asya Ozkizilcik, PhD

We are thrilled to welcome Dr. Asya Ozkizilcik as the Founding Director of the Malcolm Field Biomedical Sciences Research Institute. Dr. Ozkizilcik is a biomedical engineer with over eight years of research experience in biomaterials, polymer scaffolds, and nanoparticle drug delivery systems. She earned her Ph.D. in Biomedical Engineering from the University of Arkansas, where she also completed a postdoctoral fellowship supported by the American Heart Association. Her interdisciplinary work bridges materials science and biomedical innovation, with significant contributions to organ-on-chip technologies, tissue engineering, and research on neurodegenerative diseases. Dr. Ozkizilcik has authored numerous publications, collaborated with industry partners, and served as a peer reviewer for top scientific journals.

She brings a passion for collaborative discovery and a commitment to advancing biomedical science. Please join us in warmly welcoming Dr. Ozkizilcik to our team.

GOOD-BYE KAREN BROWN-FACKLER



Karen has been a registered nurse since 1976 and has served in a wide variety of roles, including staff nurse, clinical nurse specialist, administrator, educator, and expert witness. Her clinical expertise lies in maternal and child health, though she spent much of her career as Director of Nursing at a local acute care hospital. She holds certifications as a Nursing Executive Advanced, Nursing Educator, and Clinical Nurse Leader. Karen has served as the coordinator of the Graduate Nursing Program and as Chair of the Department of Nursing. Her connection to SVSU began in 1978–79, when she taught as a part-time instructor while completing graduate studies at the University of Michigan.

Karen's impact on the Department of Nursing, the College of Health and Human Services, and SVSU as a whole has been profound. Through her leadership, she helped shape rigorous and student-centered nursing programs, mentored countless students and colleagues, and contributed to the growth and reputation of nursing education at SVSU. Her commitment to academic excellence, collaborative culture, and professional integrity has left a lasting mark on the university community. Please join us in congratulating Karen on her retirement and thanking her for her many years of dedicated service. She will be greatly missed.

2025 MAY GRADUATION EVENTS

As we conclude another successful winter semester, I want to extend my sincere thanks to all faculty and staff for your hard work and dedication. Your efforts have once again contributed to a strong and meaningful academic term.

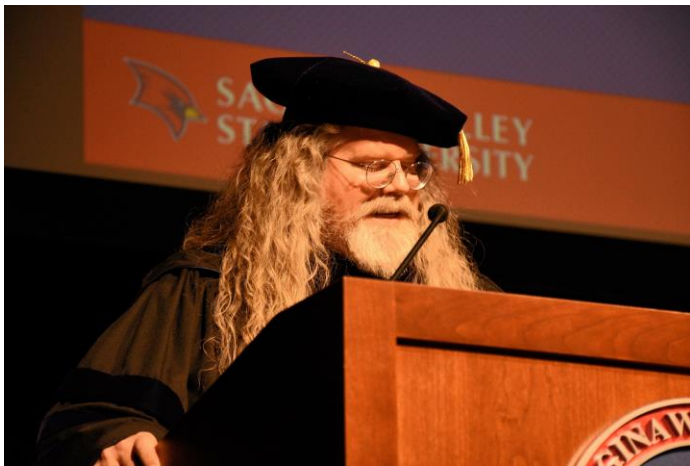
Graduation is not only a celebration for our students, but also a proud moment for all of us—as we witness the culmination of our collective work and support coming to life. It's a time of joy, reflection, and shared accomplishment.

Below are some photos highlighting the many memorable events we enjoyed together this semester.

2025 NURSING SYMPOSIUM



2025 MAY GRADUATE RECOGNITION CEREMONY



2025 MAY COMMENCEMENT



UPDATES IN THE OCCUPATIONAL THERAPY ADL SUITE

Several exciting upgrades were completed this year in the Occupational Therapy Labs and Activities of Daily Living (ADL) Suite. The OT lab received updated electrical work to fully support the new plinths purchased last year through one-time funding. These additional electrical outlets will also benefit students by allowing them to power their laptops during class sessions. In addition, the ADL suite received a generous donation of a gantry lift from **Saginaw Medical**. We are deeply grateful for their continued support and the confidence they place in our program.



HHS AWARDED THE 2025 BWell CHAMPION AWARD



Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) demonstrated exceptional leadership in supporting BWell Saginaw and contributing to the collective effort to address some of our community's most pressing health challenges.

Our dedication to building authentic partnerships and developing innovative, community-centered solutions was recognized at the BWell Conference on April 11, 2025.

SVSU received recognition for its role in the development of both the Youth Mental Healthopedia and the Health Equity Assessment —two impactful initiatives aimed at advancing health equity and mental wellness in the region.

DAVID BERRY IN CHINA

Dr. David Berry, Chair of the Department of Kinesiology, has been selected to participate in the Faculty Exchange Program with Shikoku University in China.

Established over 20 years ago, this longstanding exchange program offers SVSU faculty the opportunity to engage in international teaching experiences. This year, Dr. Berry was chosen to represent SVSU and is spending April through July at Shikoku University. During his time there, he is teaching courses in English—most notably, a class on American Culture—to members of the campus community.

Below are some pictures of his adventures.



Conference Participation and National Exam Prep

MLS seniors and faculty (pictured on left, below) attended the ASCLS-Michigan Annual Conference, held April 6–8 in Grand Rapids. Students fundraised through club events and received generous support from the Department of Public Health & Health Sciences, University Residential Life, and Student Life to attend this prestigious professional event.

All 15 seniors participated in conference sessions, networked with industry professionals and peers, and sat for a state-wide mock National Certification Examination alongside 137 students from other several other Michigan programs.



Prof. Margot Alvey (pictured on left, above) served as a conference speaker, leading a widely attended clinical chemistry case review session titled *G'Day: Navigating the Clinical Chemistry Outback*.

Certification and Employment Success

We are thrilled to announce that the 2024 graduating cohort achieved a 100% pass rate on the national Board of Certification (BOC) exam in Medical Laboratory Science through the American Society for Clinical Pathology (ASCP). In addition, all members of the 2024 cohort are employed in the field—an extraordinary outcome that reflects both their preparation and the urgent national need for skilled clinical laboratory professionals. This milestone directly supports the MLS program's mission of producing career-ready graduates who advance the quality of healthcare.

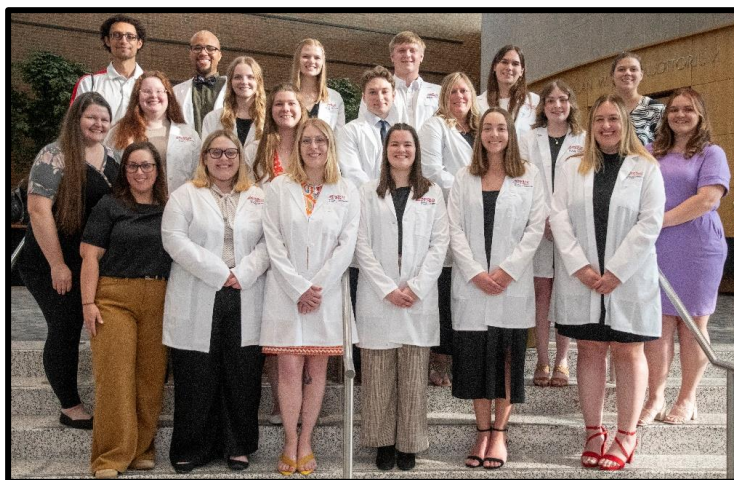
MEDICAL LAB SCIENCE UPDATES, CONT.

Clinical Fieldwork Completion and White Coat Ceremony

The class of 2025 MLS students recently completed their 22-week clinical fieldwork experience, marking the completion of requirements both for the MLS program and SVSU's Bachelor of Science degree. Their dedication and hard work were honored at a White Coat Ceremony held on June 13th in the Alan W. Ott Auditorium.



Darius Aimesbury-White



Special recognition was given to graduate Darius Aimesbury-White for his service in the U.S. Army. Darius will continue employment as a Medical Laboratory Scientist with MyMichigan Medical Center Alma, where he completed his clinical fieldwork.

Graduate Kailee Smith received both the Public Health and Health Science 2024–2025 Outstanding Graduate Award and the 2025 Outstanding Medical Laboratory Science Student Award. Kailee has held numerous positions across campus; contributed to Prof. Alvey's faculty research with Drs. Rose and Gary Lange, Dr. Robert Kelch, and Dr. Adam Coughlin; and volunteered extensively at recruitment and community outreach events.

Her attention to detail, her willingness to help others, and her positive attitude sets a gold standard for excellence! Kailee will begin employment as a Medical Laboratory Scientist at her clinical fieldwork site, Hurley Medical Center, following graduation.



HHS ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

On May 14, 2025, HHS hosted its biannual advisory board meeting. This year, we have expanded the advisory board. We extend our heartfelt thanks to our longstanding advisory board members for their continued dedication, insight, and unwavering support over the years—it has been instrumental to our growth and success.

Nana Kwame Akowuah, Managing Accountant at Tri City Business Services	Catherine M. Baase, MD, FAAFP, FACOEM, Michigan Health Improvement Alliance, Inc. (MiHIA), Board Chair Emeritus
Beth Charlton, RN, President & Chief Executive Officer at Covenant HealthCare	Dr. Brenda Coughlin, President & CEO Great Lakes Bay Health Centers
Shane Hunt RN, BBA, MSA Vice President of Nursing MyMichigan Medical Center Saginaw	Dan Kehres, DC Owner of Kehres Health & Chiropractic
Janey J. Lamar, JD, Magistrate, 70 th District, County of Saginaw	Stacey Klump VP Patient Care Services and CNO McLaren Bay Region
Delicia Pruitt, M.D., F.A.A.F.P. Medical Director, Saginaw County Health Department	Beth L. Roszatycki, Regional Director, Michigan Small Business Development Center, Lake Huron Region
Samuel Shaheen, MD, FACS, President - CEO CMU Medical Education Partners and Professor of Surgery	Joel Strasz, Public Health Director, Bay County Health Department
Gretchen Wagner Director of Early Childhood Education Bay-Arenac ISD	Stacey Webster, MSOT Saginaw Valley State University
Fred Yanoski MPH, Director/Health Officer, Midland County Health Department	

We sincerely thank our new advisory board members for joining us—your fresh perspectives and enthusiasm are greatly valued, and we look forward to the contributions you'll bring to our shared mission.

Megan Finn Personal Trainer Midland Community Centers	Nicole Luczak Executive Director United Way of Bay County
Marissa Palmer VP of Nursing Services MyMichigan Health	Reverend Chris Pryor Senior Pastor, Victorious Believers Ministries Saginaw, MI
Dallas Rau Executive Director, GLB Regional Mental Health Partnership	Amy Livsey Sommer, OTRL, MSOL Clinical Supervisor – Acute Care MyMichigan Health
Valeria Waugh, MSOT VP of Operations Michigan OVATION Rehab Center	

2025 CARLEEN K MOORE RN NURSING EXCELLENCE AWARDS

Each year, the Department of Nursing at Saginaw Valley State University acknowledges and honors the valuable contributions registered nurses make in our regional community as part of the Annual Carleen K. Moore, RN Nursing Excellence Celebration. The 2025 event marks the 14th anniversary of the award.

This award is possible due to the generous support of Terry Moore and his wife Carleen K. Moore, RN. Carleen K. Moore worked as an LPN for almost fifteen years before returning to nursing school to become an RN. She then worked in the Critical Care Units at the Midland Medical Center for the next eleven years before retiring from full-time nursing in 2001. Carleen and her husband, Terry, believe in the importance of recognizing and encouraging nurses who demonstrate excellence in their field, and promoting the reputation of Saginaw Valley State University and the SVSU Nursing Program. Thank you Terry and Carleen!

This year's winners included:

Acute Care

Paige Kwapiszewski – MyMichigan Health
Rachel Reed – Covenant HealthCare
Jennifer Pressler – McLaren Bay Region

Education

Ashley Selle-Colby – MyMichigan Health
Katelyn Scribner – Covenant HealthCare

Community

Danielle Premo – Residential Home Care
Jill Toporski – Covenant HealthCare



TRAVEL ABROAD – EDINBURGH NAPIER UNIVERSITY, SCOTLAND

Drs. Andrea Fredrick and Colleen Markel led a group of nursing and social work students on a study abroad experience to Edinburgh, Scotland this summer. The trip was both enriching and bittersweet, as Michael Heron had originally been scheduled to join them. His absence was deeply felt by all.

The team at Edinburgh Napier University (ENU) was exceptionally welcoming and supportive. Prior to the group's departure, Dr. Heyman from ENU sent a heartfelt message that I'd like to share in part:

"I have experienced the sudden death of two cherished academic colleagues, and I am aware how difficult and raw such a loss is experienced across the entire university and practice communities. Your faculty and students are very much in our thoughts as you all try to process the loss of your valued colleague and friend. Please be assured we will support Andrea, Colleen, and the students (as if they were our own) on their visit. Michael will not be far from their thoughts, and his absence will be heartfelt. We will ensure he is warmly and respectfully remembered throughout the trip."

During their visit, students and faculty engaged in joint classes with ENU students and participated in a poverty simulation alongside them—an impactful learning experience for all involved. Of course, they also had the opportunity to explore the beautiful Scottish countryside—a highlight that added to the richness of their time abroad.

Below are a few photos capturing moments from their unforgettable journey.



Edinburgh Castle in the background.



Following the Poverty Simulation

REMEMBERING MICHAEL HERON



On May 24, 2025, we lost a cherished colleague and friend, Dr. Michael Heron, Associate Professor and Chair of the Department of Social Work in the College of Health and Human Services, as well as the incoming President of the Faculty Association.

Dr. Heron was an extraordinary member of our college, campus, and broader community. His presence, leadership, and unwavering commitment to others had a profound impact on the lives of students, colleagues, and friends alike. His loss is deeply felt by all who had the privilege of knowing him.

Michael was known not only for his academic excellence and advocacy in social work but also for his warmth, mentorship, and the genuine care he extended to everyone around him. He had a remarkable ability to build connections across disciplines and foster a sense of community wherever he went. His legacy will continue through the many lives he touched and the programs he helped shape.

A service to honor Michael's life and legacy will be held on July 18, 2025, from 1:00 PM to 4:00 PM in the Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms at SVSU.

You may still share messages and memories by signing the Guest Book on the Penzien-Steele Funeral Home [website](#).

To commemorate Michael, the Potluck luncheons will be called the "*Michael Heron Competitive Potluck Luncheons*." Michael had already picked the theme, 'sandwiches.' The first one took place on June 11, 2025. The following are our winners.



Jason Jaime, 1st Place



Teri Hill, 2nd Place



Liz Martin, 3rd Place

We had a record number of folks join us for this luncheon! We shared a meal and were all able to share experiences and stories about Michael. It was a great event. In addition to the sandwiches, there were desserts that topped the chart. Patrick brought his famous 'tres leches' cake and Anthony Paletta sent two Martha Stewart cakes, chocolate and rainbow cake. It was a great event!

PUZZLE ACTIVITY IN THE HHS LOBBY

Incorporating puzzles into the workplace provides a simple yet effective way to support the well-being of faculty, staff, and students. Providing the puzzle in a common area encourages mindfulness, reduces stress, and promotes mental clarity. Take a few minutes to engage in one of the puzzles in the HHS Lobby. We have completed 3 thus far, see 3 examples.



HHS BOOKCLUB – ‘BOOKIN’ WITH THE BIRDS’

Our book club, formed in February, just gathered for our third meeting with a fantastic group of readers. We don't stick to any particular genre; so far, we've explored romantasy, fantasy, and historical fiction. Most recently, we discussed *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah, which sparked meaningful conversation and connection. Looking ahead, our next read is the sci-fi thriller *The One* by John Marrs. We'll be meeting to chat about it on August 7th at 4:30 PM at the Pierce Road Bar & Grill. All are welcome, whether you've read every page or just want to join in the fun. We hope to see you there!



FACULTY/STAFF ACOLADES

- ✓ Dr. Cathy Macomber was elected to the National Association for Social Work Delegate Assembly 2026-2029. Congratulations Cathy!
- ✓ Dr. Meghan Baruth for receiving a Faculty-led Research Grant named “*Community Health Assessment Projects.*” Congratulations Meghan!
- ✓ Dr. Rose Lange is recognized for her continued leadership in coordinating Poverty Simulations that engage both SVSU students and the broader community. In addition to her work on campus, Dr. Lange recently led a community-based simulation on June 11th, in partnership with LifeClinic in Midland. This nonprofit organization supports expectant mothers and families with young children in the Tri-Cities. She is also facilitating a simulation for volunteers and staff at the East Side Soup Kitchen, with an upcoming session on July 11. There is still time to participate in this impactful event. Thank you, Dr. Lange, for your dedication to raising awareness and fostering empathy through experiential learning.
- ✓ APHA, 2025 Annual Meeting & Expo, Washington, D.C. (Nov 2-5, 2025)
 - Ditmyer, M. Road to a healthier church community: One church’s community story (Abstract #565202) [Program Area: Caucus on Public Health and Faith Community].
 - Macomber, C. Ditmyer, M. Rebuilding connection and wellness: A multidimensional approach to workforce wellbeing in higher education (Abstract #568939) [Program Area: Public Health Education and Health Promotion].

IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER

Adjunct Faculty Kickoff	August 13, 2025
Brown Hall Reopening	August 14, 2025
All College Meeting	August 21, 2025
Convocation Ceremony	August 22, 2025
Classes Begin	August 25, 2025
Labor Day Recess	September 1-2, 2025
Coffee with the Dean	September 23, 2025, 12pm
Coffee with the Dean	September 24, 2025, 4pm
Thanksgiving Recess	November 26-30, 2025
Classes End	December 6, 2025
Final Exams	December 8-13, 2025
Commencement Activities	December 11-13, 2025
Holiday Break	TBD



HHS INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION SUMMER CAMP

The College of Health & Human Services welcomes students from Saginaw United for a three-day program aimed at introducing students interested in healthcare to the various health disciplines offered here at SVSU. The program included educational sessions with hands-on activities that allowed the students to explore the professions and ask questions about potential career options. The sessions were led by faculty, staff, and students currently enrolled in the programs; however, we did not hold the sessions in the College of Health & Human Services. Instead, we guided the students to various places around campus for our activities. We were able to showcase not only the programs offered here, but also our beautiful campus.

The high school students started the program with learning to identify and test out adaptive equipment with Occupational Therapy at the Zahnow Library. They then tested their skills at moulage by creating wounds with Nursing in the MJ Brandimore House. Next, the students ran through various movement activities and assessments with Kinesiology at the Ryder Center, followed by gathering specimens from the ponds behind Gilbertson and surrounding area prior to prepping slides and analyzing what they prepped with Medical Lab Sciences. The final day had the students learning about the importance of communication with Social Work at the Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum. We ended the program with the students participating in a table-top simulation that was held in one of the labs. The students were also able to explore the Student Life Center, talk with student guides about college life, and have lunch at Market Place with the faculty, staff, students, and other individuals visiting SVSU on SOAR days.

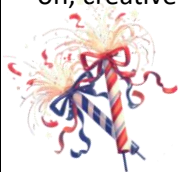
The overall program was a success with students commenting on the evaluations that they wanted to come back to SVSU's campus again, as well as a couple of the evaluations stating they could not wait to enroll as a student here. Thank you to all who helped to make this program a success! Your time and efforts are greatly appreciated!



NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION

Submit any newsworthy items for the next edition of the HHS newsletter.

We are always looking for faculty and staff achievements, external funding, recent publications, and accepted presentations since the last newsletter, including those you have completed with students, research projects going on, creative activities, community service activities, and anyone special in the college (faculty, staff, or student) you would like to highlight.



If anything was left out, it was unintentional.
Please ensure you get things to me timely for the next edition.

To submit information, please send to mditmyer@svsu.edu

Deadline for 4th Quarter is Sept 15, 2025.



As we head into the holiday, I want to take a moment to wish you and your loved ones a safe, healthy, and enjoyable Fourth of July weekend.

Whether you're celebrating with family and friends or taking time to relax and recharge, I hope the days ahead bring you peace and joy.

Thank you for all that you do! Marcia