



Dean's Message. Welcome back! I hope that each of you had a wonderful break and enjoyed special time with your family and friends. Time away from our everyday tasks can be very restorative, with renewed enthusiasm and vigor. For those of you joining SVSU for the first time, we are so excited to celebrate you becoming a part of our dynamic community. As you begin the new year, I hope you take time to reflect on who and what is important to you. Leading the Crystal M. Lange College for Health and Human Services remains an honor and privilege, and I appreciate all of your contributions that allow us to thrive, grow, and advance into the future. This past year was a very special year for me with memorable moments. I want to thank all the faculty and staff for their unflinching support over this past year and the dedication to seeing through the vision of HHS. We will face many exciting changes as we begin 2023, starting with our new president, Dr. George Grant, Jr.

As our college explores new opportunities, such as a part-time nursing program, new credentials/badges, with the first badge in cardiology in January 2023, and cooperative agreements with hospital systems and community colleges, we have much to look forward to. We will be seeking accreditation for our Exercise Science program, with the initial site visit in January. We will also be revamping the nursing program to meet the new essentials (competencies) and preparing for their next accreditation site visit in 2024. We are looking to make changes in our MSOT program, with dual entry points and seeking approval for a doctoral program (OTD). Social work will be coming up for their accreditation in 2024, thus will be working diligently on their self-study. And lastly, Health Sciences is starting a graduate certificate in public health.

I also recognize the fundamental importance of maintaining a healthy balance for all of our faculty, staff, and students. We will continue to advance our wellness and DIEBA initiatives into 2023. I look forward what 2023 will bring our college, and the university.

GRADUATION FALL 2022

Another successful graduation. College can be very challenging, stressful, and demanding. Our graduates should be proud of what they have accomplished. Fall 2022 graduation for our college took place on December 16, 2022, at 4:30pm. Many faculty were present to witness as our students crossed the stage in front of friends and family.

In addition to the general commencement, we also held two other very important ceremonies for our graduates: the BSN Symposium and the Graduate Recognition Ceremony. The BSN Symposium, or pinning ceremony as it is sometimes called, is distinctive for the nursing community. This symbolizes the accomplishments of graduates and their transition from student to colleague.

The graduate recognition ceremony, or hooding ceremony as it is sometimes called. This ceremony is one of the oldest and most colorful customs that links 21st century education with its origins. The ceremony is a very special recognition ceremony for masters or doctoral degree candidates. During the ceremony, a faculty, advisor, or mentor will place the hood over the head of the graduate, signifying their success in completing the graduate program. Their presence and participation remind us that the complex journey to an advanced degree is made possible only with continued encouragement, guidance, and support of those individuals.

GRADUATION FALL 2022, Cont.



President Bachand's last commencement as he will retire December 31, 2022. We will miss you!



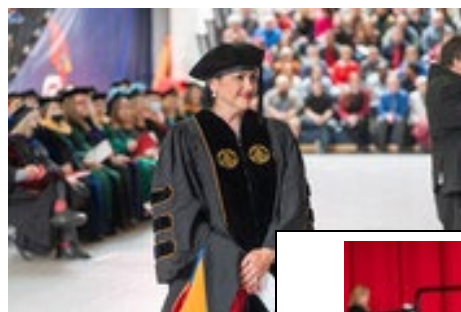
Faculty and Staff at Pinning Ceremony. Great pix.



Excitement!!!



Faculty at hooding ceremony!



Dr. Colleen Markel



Congratulated by her mentor, Dr. Fredricks



What a great celebration!

HHS Holiday Party

This year's holiday party was a tremendous success. There were a great many folks who attended and participated in the events. The holiday party format went back to the original format pre-COVID. The event was held in the faculty hallway with the food and deserts in the center by the conference room. The highlight was the holiday cookie bake-off with 18 participants. In addition, we had our annual door decorating contest as well.

Holiday Cookie Bake-off Contest



2nd place winner
Patrick Olivarez



1st place winner
Rebecca Salvner



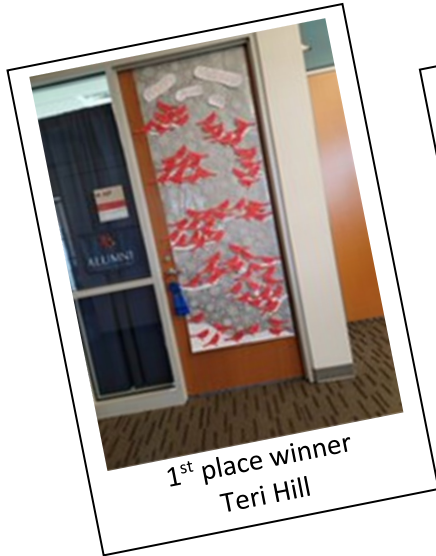
3rd place winner
Teri Hill



Thanks to the judges for cookie
bake-off. I am sure it was a tough
job!



Door Decorating Contest



1st place winner
Teri Hill



2nd place winner
Marilyn Skrocki



3rd place winner
Simulation Center

Today Show Interview SVSU Nursing Hero Story

Inspired by the care she received from nurses during her battle with Hodgkin's lymphoma, Molly Pratt decided to make helping others her life mission. NBC's Savannah Sellers reports for TODAY. (Sponsored by Johnson & Johnson). If you wish to see the story, please click on the link below.

[Link to story, Click Here.](#)



Grants Awarded Fall 2022

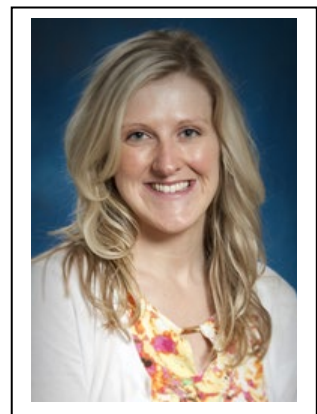


Congratulations to Gena Guerin, Assistant Professor of Kinesiology.

Gena has been awarded funding for her Foundation Community Engagement Grant for her project "Healthy Lifestyle Your Way at Center of Hope."

Congratulations to Jill Brown, Associate Professor of Occupational Therapy.

Jill has been awarded funding for her Foundation Research Grant for her (and her students) project "Lotus Project."



Grants Awarded Fall 2022, Cont.



Congratulations to Maureen Muchimba, Associate Professor of Health Sciences.

Maureen has been awarded funding for her Foundation Research Grant for her (and her students) project “Student Satisfaction: Association with the Learning Environment, Climate of Diversity, and Sense of Inclusion.”

St. Charles Career and Trades Day at SVSU for our Students



On November 2, 2022, Monika Sciba and Marcelina Fulgencio, Admission Representative, provided information about SVSU programs to high school students attending the St. Charles Career and Trades Day at St. Charles High School. They spoke with a steady stream of students including many who were interested in the nursing program. After the event, Monika contacted several students who had requested more information and some of them have already applied and been admitted to SVSU. One of the St. Charles students came to campus for a tour of our Simulation Center. She brought her grandmother with her who works at Covenant as a medical laboratory scientist and is an SVSU alum. They both enjoyed talking to SVSU nursing student mentors in the practice lab.

Saginaw County Youth Ambassadors Program



On November 18, 2022, SVSU helped make students who participated in the Saginaw Valley Youth Ambassador's program time memorable. Thanks to Kisha for putting this together and ensuring these students had a great experience!

Social Workers in SW 551 Get Close and Personal to Urban Life

Dr. Giesler oversees a fieldtrip to Detroit and Saginaw to supplement their learning. Students paired up to conduct preliminary research on five agencies that employ social workers—three in Detroit and two in Saginaw. After a tour of each facility, they interviewed staff about their roles. The trip to Detroit was complemented by a tour of the Charles H. Wright Museum of African American History. Mark Giesler said, "I was proud that my students endured the cold and wintry day to get a firsthand look at the strengths and challenges of urban agencies. They represented SVSU well with their positive attitudes and professional demeanor."

Social Workers in SW 551 Get Close and Personal to Urban Life, Cont.



Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT)

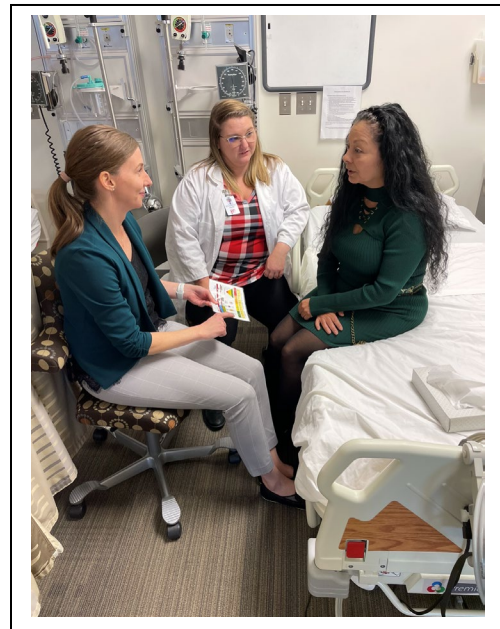
The Rural Center for Rural Behavioral Health and Addiction Studies has been working to help students and community partners learn to do Screening, Brief Intervention and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT). Through a three-step scaffolding approach, students and professionals have become more confident, competent, and ready to help treat people living with substance use and mental health disorders by identifying the issues, intervening and have the resources to refer them to a proper treatment provider. Participants in the SBIRT training complete an online, self-paced, didactic training explaining SBIRT and viewing a video of how SBIRT could look. Once the didactic training is completed, participants engage in a virtual simulation in a gaming environment, using a product called Kognito, to safely practice the new skills that were learned through the didactic training. Following the didactic training, participants engage in a interdisciplinary live simulation experience.

Through the MI Babies, a grant-funded project led by Project Director, Kimberly Martini-Toth, 72 professionals employed by Central Michigan District Health Department completed SBIRT training from November 28 – 30, 2022. These professionals held various roles at the Health Department. Everyone from front desk clerks to Nurse Practitioners were trained and participated in the live simulation. The staff were very thankful to have the training with one staff member sharing, *“Our staff here at CMDHD have to learn how to ask the tough questions. If we don’t, we will never be able to help these families. We have to learn how to ask the tough questions and welcome everyone without any judgement. This is what gains the trust from our community. This is how we change the community and the future. This training was probably the best yet!”*

Screening, Brief Intervention, and Referral to Treatment (SBIRT), Cont.

On December 9 – 10, 2022 there were 55 students who were trained in the SVSU simulation laboratory. These students were currently enrolled in SVSU's Family Nurse Practitioner Program, Social Work program (both BSW & MSW), and Occupational Therapy program. The students participated in three rounds of simulations throughout the day. During lunch, Narcan training was done and Narcan kits were distributed to any participant who was interested in taking one. The Narcan kits were provided by Recovery Pathways, a community partner.

The Center for Rural Behavioral Health and Addiction Studies staff would like to thank the Simulation Laboratory Staff for their help in completing yet another very successful weekend of SBIRT simulations. The Center for Rural Behavioral Health and Addiction Studies Staff would also like to thank the faculty who took time out of their weekend to come and do evaluations for the simulations as well as to Anthony for all of his help with copying and preparing documents for the simulations. Together we are taking the steps necessary to address Substance Use and Mental Health Disorders in rural Michigan!



Social Work Student Elected to Reina of La Union Civica Mexicana

Congratulations to senior social work major Jayla Flores, who was recently elected as the Reina of La Unión Cívica Mexicana for 2022-2023. She will serve as the face of the organization and represent its commitment to celebrating and passing down Mexican culture and traditions. Congratulations, Jayla!

La Unión Cívica Mexicana is a local organization started in 1945 by a group of Mexican men who wanted to inform other Mexican citizens of their rights due to a rise in discriminatory acts against Mexican people. Today, the organization serves as a safe place for Mexicans to come and connect with others. It works to empower Mexican culture through celebratory events of traditional Mexican holidays like Día de los Muertos and Cinco de Mayo. They also participate in community outreach to engage anyone interested in learning more about the culture and its traditions.

You can learn more about La Unión Cívica Mexicana [here](#).



Project ECHO at SVSU awarded “Superhub” Status

The Center for Rural Behavioral Health and Addiction Studies became a Project ECHO Superhub, joining the ranks of only 25 organizations with the designation worldwide. As a Superhub, SVSU is authorized to train new ECHO partners (called “hubs”) and provide technical assistance and support as they grow their programs.

[Project ECHO](#), a global nonprofit organization headquartered at The University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center, uses a revolutionary guided-practice model that reduces health and education disparities in underserved and rural areas around the world.

Project ECHO at SVSU awarded “Superhub” Status

ECHO “hubs” are sites that facilitate ECHO programs. “Superhubs” are sites that are authorized to train even more hubs, accelerating the spread of specialized knowledge at an exponential rate. They are vetted, have a high degree of fidelity to the ECHO model, and have the teaching capability and expertise to provide quality, immersive training, and continuous mentorship.

“Project ECHO has allowed us to address the dearth of substance use disorder providers in rural communities to contribute to ending the disparity in treatment access in rural communities. As we work to develop additional hub teams we build capacity to improve access to care.” Indicated Trisha Charbonneau-Ivey, Associate Director of the Center for Rural Behavioral Health & Addiction Studies and Project ECHO Superhub Director. “Our SVSU Center for Rural Behavioral Health & Addiction Studies team has embraced the opportunity to play this critical role in the ECHO movement as we work together to touch one billion lives by 2025.”

Project ECHO offers the opportunity to obtain Continuing Medical Education credits (CME), Social Work Continuing Education credits (SWCE), and Substance Use Disorder continuing education hours for each session.

Dr. Kathleen Schachman, HR Wickes Endowed Professor of Nursing, Project Director and Director of the Center shares, “SVSU and the Center for Rural Behavioral Health & Addiction Studies deeply values the relationship with the ECHO Institute and is proud to serve as an ECHO Superhub. We are honored have the opportunity to build capacity in continuing education across Michigan and beyond.”

You may register for one or both of SVSU’s Project ECHO offerings by visiting our website svsu.edu/echo. If you are interested in starting an ECHO hub, please contact Trisha Charbonneau-Ivey at tkcharbo@svsu.edu or 989-964-7161.

About Project ECHO at SVSU

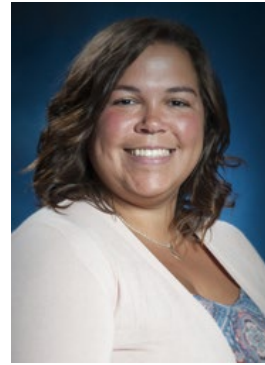
SVSU first introduced Project ECHO for Substance Use Disorders in October of 2018. Through our team of experts, we have provided tele-mentoring to over 850 health care professionals in 78 Michigan counties and across 43 states in the United States. SVSU’s Substance Use Disorder (SUD) ECHO and the Perinatal Substance Use Disorder (P-SUD) ECHO, bring together healthcare workers and providers seeking guidance from our interdisciplinary team of experts on the most pressing issues and difficult cases. This team leverages the expertise of an Addictionologist, a Psychiatric Mental Health Nurse Practitioner, a master’s level social worker specializing in Perinatal Substance Use Disorder, a pharmacist, and a peer recovery coach providing the perspective of lived experience. Our Project ECHO sessions utilize teleconferencing technology to provide easy access to cutting edge information and interactive case-based learning for any healthcare provider, mental health or substance use disorder professional, social worker, peer recovery specialist, administrator, or student with interest in substance use disorder prevention, treatment, and recovery.

CONGRATULATIONS!

The following faculty are being supported for tenure. The Board of Control (BOC) will officially vote on their tenure at the February 13th meeting. Congratulations on all your hard work!



Teresa Coker, PhD, MSW
Assistant Professor, Department of Social Work



Judith Cox, PhD, MSN
Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing



Mindy Fabbro, DNP, MSN, BSN
Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing



Merrick Lincoln, DPT
Assistant Professor, Department of Kinesiology



Jennifer Scott, DNP, MSN, BSN
Assistant Professor, Department of Nursing

NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION

Submit any newsworthy items for the next edition of the HHS newsletter that will come out in January/February

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.

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

Deadline for Jan/Feb edition is February 24, 2023