



**Dean's Message.** We're delighted to welcome students, faculty, and staff back to campus for this 2022-2023 academic year. I want to personally thank the faculty for their creativity, flexibility, and dedication since the start of the COVID-19 pandemic. I realize how challenging this year has been, and I hope you were able to enjoy some well-deserved relaxation with your families over the course of the summer. I wish you an invigorating, challenging, and productive fall semester. A new school year always holds opportunities for new learning and growth, with each of us the author of our own story. As we approach the fall, please keep in mind that while we are back in full swing, we are still monitoring COVID very closely. It is my hope that we have turned the corner and are entering the endemic phase. Any new updates relative to this can be found on our NEST ("New Expectations for a Safer TODAY" ) website at <https://www.svsu.edu/nestplan/>.

For those of you joining SVSU for the first time, we are so excited to celebrate you becoming part of our SVSU family. As I move into my second academic year, I too will continue to embark on my journey with all of you. I am eager to engage in meaningful ways.

The college has been working to update our vision, mission, core values, and strategic priorities. This year, Diversity & Inclusion and Wellness are two new priorities in addition to Education, Scholarship, Community Outreach & Engagement, and Professional Development. We have accomplished many things this past year, including, but not limited to, establishing an inaugural advisory board for the college, enhancing existing and building new relationships in the community, finalized agreements with regional partners to help employees complete college, and approval of early college programs for both Nursing and Medical Lab Science.

## Renaming HHS to Bachand Hall



I hope you will all join us as the Health and Human Services Building will be renamed Bachand Hall after Dr. Bachand who has been with SVSU since 1978 and has served as the 4<sup>th</sup> president since 2014.

Bachand will continue to house the Crystal M. Lange College for Health and Human Services. Our college name will be prominently placed over the main entrance.

The event will be held on October 3, 2022, at 10am outside the HHS building. I hope you will all join us in this recognition of President Bachand.

# COMINGS TO HHS

AY 21-22 was a year of many changes, as well as comings and goings for HHS. For all those who have left SVSU we wish them the best in the new chapter of their lives. For those joining us, welcome to the SVSU HHS family. We are very excited to have you join us for the AY22-23 year. There are many exciting things on the horizon and in SVSU fashion, many fun activities with food, drink, and socializing. Below is a list of the new folks joining us, and below that more details of each. Changes in the Dean's office. This year, Cathy Macomber will join the Dean's office as Assistant Dean overseeing nursing and social work. We are very excited to have provided this opportunity for her. In addition, we have 2 support staff joining us. These include Kelsey Lipinski as Senior Secretary, and Anthony Dirusso as a faculty secretary. Welcome.

The following are additions to our departments (faculty and AP's).

## Health Science

1. Margot Alvey, MS, MLS (ASCP)<sup>CM</sup>

## Kinesiology

1. Gena Guerin, PhD
2. Josh Ode, PhD

## Nursing

1. Carol Essenmacher, DNP, RN, PMHCNS-BC, NCTTP  
PMH Faculty
2. Stacey Klump, MS, RN  
RM-BSN Coordinator
3. Teri Hill, DNP, MSN, RN  
One-year Temp
4. Marlene Smalley  
One-Year Temp
5. Megan Novak  
One-Year Temp



## Occupational Therapy

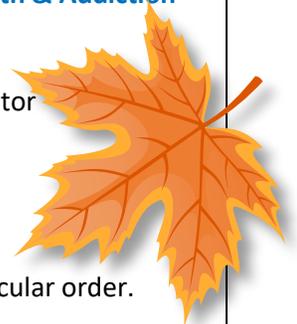
1. Stacey Webster, OTD, OTRL  
Academic Fieldwork Coordinator

## Social Work

1. Ashley Sanders, EdD, MSW
2. Kathleen Woerhle, PhD, MSW
3. Rebecca Salvner, MSW  
Field Education Coordinator, BSW
4. Jason Jaime, MSW  
Field Education Coordinator, MSW

## Center for Rural Behavioral Health & Addiction Studies

1. Rebecca Bicigo, BS  
PMHNP Clinical Coordinator



Those who have not been highlighted in our newsletter prior are highlighted below, in no particular order.

In addition, we have 4 new chairs this year, and 2 new program directors.

### CHAIRS:

1. Jean Prast, Occupational Therapy
2. Michael Heron, Social Work
3. Maureen Muchimba, Health Sciences
4. Tami Pobcik, Nursing

### PROGRAM DIRECTORS:

1. Elizabeth Row, Nursing
2. Denise Dedman, Social Work (MSW)



Stacey Klump

Stacey joined our team as the ADN/RN to BSN coordinator. Stacey is a two-time SVSU Nursing graduate and has joined SVSU as the RN to BSN Program Coordinator in June 2022. She has been in a registered nurse in acute care for over 25 years, specializing in Med Surg, Nursing Education, and Nursing Administration. She has devoted her career to improving patient care, focusing on patient safety, and nursing quality indicator growth. In addition, she has always stayed connected to our local nursing education programs and desires to lend her knowledge and ability to promoting the development of our next generation of professional nurses. "I am very excited about this next phase in my career path and look very forward to working with this department and the amazing

Marlene Smalley joins our nursing department as a one-year temporary. "My name is Marlene Smalley and I am very excited to be joining the nursing faculty here at SVSU! I have been a nurse for 21 years and have worked in medical/surgical units, diabetes education, infection prevention, employee health, and home care. I earned my ADN at MidMichigan College, my MSN at the University of Phoenix, and my DNP at Liberty University. I have also been married for 34 years and have three children, three grandchildren, and three cats. I love spending time with my family and traveling to new places. I am looking forward to a great year with the SVSU family!"

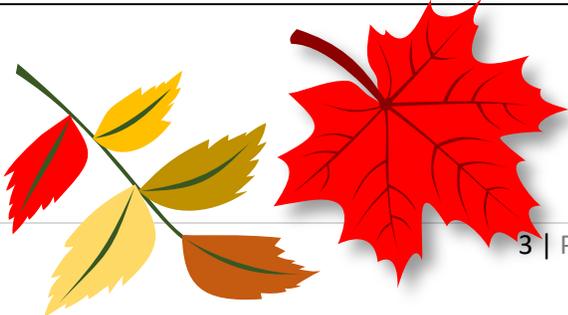


Marlene Smalley



Teri Hill

Teri Hill joins our nursing department as a one-year temporary. Raised in the thumb, married almost 43 years (same person), three adult children, seven grandchildren, and one dog. Enjoys traveling, gardening, and watching grandchildren's sporting events. Earned MSN and DNP from SVSU.



Megah Novak joins our nursing department as a one-year temporary.

“My name is Megan Novak and this is my first year as a full-time faculty member. I'm a double graduate of SVSU and have taught nursing clinicals for several semesters. My background is in acute care and cardiology. In my spare time, I enjoy crafting, concerts, traveling, and spending time with friends and family.”



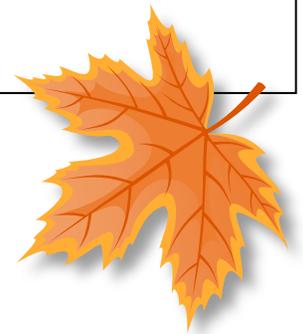
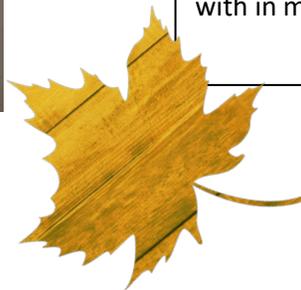
Megan Novak



Stacey Webster

Stacey Webster joins the OT Department as their fieldwork coordinator.\

“My name is Stacey Webster and I'm so excited to take on the role of Fieldwork Coordinator for the MSOT program, after working as a research advisor/clinical instructor in the program since 2017. I'm a 2009 SVSU alumna and graduated with my OTD in 2017. I have 2 crazy kids, and one giant German Shepherd who I love to bike, camp, and read with in my spare time!”



Jason Jaime joins the SW Department as their fieldwork coordinator. Jason is a Saginaw native and alum who graduated from SVSU with my BSW in 2004 and from the UofM with my MSW in 2005. While an undergraduate SW student here, Jason served as president of the Student Social Work Organization and awarded the Bob Vitito award. Since graduation he worked in Community Mental Health settings in the surrounding local counties from Infant Mental Health Therapist to Geriatric Outreach Specialist to Clinical Supervisor. Social

“Work at SVSU is sort of a family tradition with my father having received his BSW from "SVSC" in 1983 and my younger sister from SVSU in 2006. My family also established a social work scholarship at SVSU, The Robert Castro Jaime Endowed Scholarship, named after my grandfather who immigrated from Mexico, benefiting undergraduate SW students. My wife and I have three children who play travel soccer keeping us pretty busy. In my spare time I love bike riding all year round, reading, camping and being out-doors in general. I am excited, humbled, and honored to be here and a part of the social work program.”



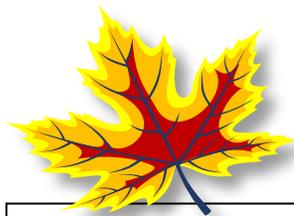
Jason Jaime



Kathleen Woerhle

Kathleen Woerhle joins the Social Work Department as Assistant Professor. Kathleen Woerhle has earned an MSW and a PHD from The Ohio State University. Kathleen is a Licensed Social Worker- Clinical in Michigan and has worked primarily with children and families affected by foster care. Kathleen's research interests include best practices in child welfare and building communities in high poverty areas.

Kathleen stated "I have taught undergraduate social work students for many years and am excited to learn about teaching students at the MSW level."



Gena Guerin

Gena Guerin joins the Department of Kinesiology as assistant professor.

Although teaching in higher education was my career goal, I took the long approach and spent many years in the field doing health promotion and even owned a gym. In 2014, I began my doctoral journey and completed my PhD in Kinesiology with Exercise Physiology as my area of emphasis. My research involves examining hypothyroidism in women and exercise as an intervention. Interestingly, I was able to use an in vitro human skeletal muscle model and an exercise mimetic to investigate gene transcription. After completion of my doctorate, I moved to Michigan for family reasons, however, it was fortuitous as the Assistant Professor position opened in Kinesiology at SVSU right in my area. I am excited to be teaching Clinical Exercise Prescription, Exercise Physiology, Exercise is Medicine, and Personal Health this semester.

My spouse and two of my three daughters (my oldest lives in Pittsburgh, PA) accompanied me to MI and we now reside outside of Midland. We are busy with kids' sports, a large puppy, and 2 cats.



Kelsey Lipinski joins the Dean's Office as Senior Secretary.

"In August, I started a new position in the Dean's office as the Administrative Secretary. I have recently graduated from Delta College with an Associate in Business Studies with future goals to pursue a bachelor's degree at SVSU. I am beyond excited for this opportunity and to be working with all of you.

I have two cats, Marvel and Lux, and I love spoiling them. I enjoy reading, taking road trips and going to the beach. Please don't hesitate to stop by and say hi!"



Kelsey Lipinski



Rebecca Bicigo

Rebecca Bicigo joins the Center for Rural Behavioral Health & Addiction Studies as the PMHNP Clinical Coordinator.

"Hello! My name is Rebecca Bicigo and I just started at SVSU last month as the new PMHNP Clinical Coordinator. I graduated from SVSU in 2021 with my bachelor's in public health and look forward to graduating with my MPH in May 2023. I am thrilled to be working at SVSU because I love the culture of the university. Go Cards!

I am currently living in Hemlock with my husband Charles, 3-year-old Emma, and Labradoodle BlackJack! Together, we enjoy watching movies, swimming, and exploring Michigan! In my spare time I enjoy painting, cooking, and couponing! I love to meet new people, so please feel free to say hello if you see me!



Anthony Dirusso joins the Dean's office and department faculty secretary.

"I have worked at SVSU for 13 years, and it has become part of my family. In August, I started my position as Faculty Secretary. Everyone has been very warm and welcoming, and I could not be happier to meet all of you and for what the future brings! I am married and a father of two boys, 5 and 2 years old. In my free time, I enjoy camping, reading, and watching sports."



Anthony Dirusso

## MOVE-IN DAY WAS A SUCCESS

Housing Check-in has always been an exciting time for all of us on campus. For me, it was my first and it did not disappoint. Faculty, staff, and administration volunteer to help with the 'move-in'. Volunteers included members of the Board of Control, Senior administration including President Bachand and Provost Huntley, faculty, staff, and students. What a fun filled-and exciting day. It ranged from the minimalist who only had a few bags and took 1 cart to those that brought many carts full that included large screen televisions, furniture, and a year supply of goodies. Whatever they brought, we tooted around in golf carts and volunteers were there to help them move into their rooms. Below are some of the pictures of the fun-filled day.



## MOVE-IN DAY WAS A SUCCESS, Cont.



## Fresh Start Day

As in SVSU tradition, Fresh Start is a day where all first-year students are required to attend. Students go through a full day of activities that culminate with students meeting within the colleges and departments that house their declared majors.

The convocation is held at 1pm and the excitement of all the first-year students in the Ryder Center was amazing to watch. When it came to the College of Health and Human Services, we had the most and naturally were the loudest as they cheered in pride of becoming a Cardinal.

# Fresh Start Day, Cont.



# 20<sup>th</sup> Annual Walk for Hope

The 20th Annual Walk for Hope...Depression and Suicide Awareness Event was held on Sunday, August 7th at Saginaw Valley State University. There were over 25 resource/activity booths, raffles, live music, and guest speakers. The 5K walk/run or 1 mile walk will be untimed on paved walks throughout the SVSU campus. Some of our nursing faculty and staff were on hand to help in case there was a need.

The goal of the event was \$100,000. The event raised \$121,586 dollars to help support the Barb Smith Suicide Resource & Response Network. This important organization's mission is to prevent suicide through education and resources, and to support those impacted by suicide.



# August 2022 Graduate Recognition Ceremony

Graduation is always a great time, especially when you are finally achieving that dream goal of a graduate degree. On August 5, 2022, we celebrated the graduates from the MSN, DNP, and PMHP programs. Surrounded by family, friends and colleagues, graduates received their recognition.

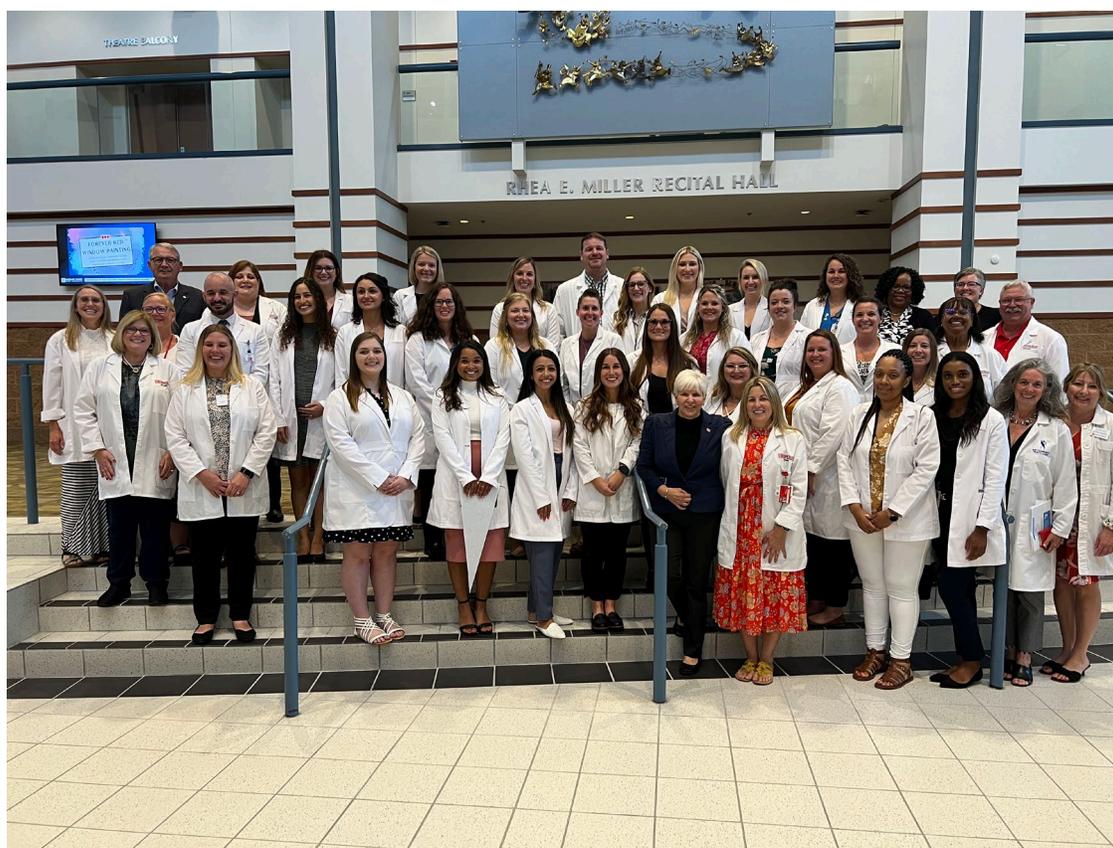
This graduate recognition ceremony is a very special recognition for masters or doctoral degree candidates. During the ceremony, a faculty, advisor, or mentor congratulated the graduates, and they received their certificate of completion which designated their completion of the program. The presence and participation of faculty and mentors remind graduates that the complex journey to an advanced degree is made possible only with continued encouragement, guidance, and support of those individuals. We congratulate all of our August graduates.



## FNP Students White Coat Ceremony

On August 29, 2022, the White Coat Ceremony was held for FNP students. The White Coat Ceremony is an iconic ritual that provides a powerful emphasis on compassion in combination with scientific excellence. It reaffirms the science and medical community's support of the educational process that prepares future health providers for practice. The first two well-documented white coat ceremonies were in 1989 at the University of Chicago and in 1993 at Columbia University in New York City medical schools. It is said it was established to highlight the student's first step into a profession, thus ensuring their professionalism and emphasizing the importance of humanism in all care of patients. While each program is a bit different, the white coat ceremony traditionally marks the point in time when students begin clinical or practical work.

One of the most significant parts of the ceremony is the public pledge that students make symbolizing what it means to be part of this impactful and elite health care profession, and excellent reminders to all of us, regardless of which of the many health care professions we serve in, that welcoming and supporting our colleagues in their commitment to caring for others is one of the many elements of professionalism. Below is a picture of this year's class. Congratulations!



## MLS Faculty Works with Chief Science Officers

Professor Margot Alvey met with three local high school CSOs for a luncheon discussion at the Chief Science Officer (CSO) Leadership Training Institute on August 10th. Professor Alvey and adjunct Professor Amanda (Rosie) Lovejoy also setup a demo table for the CSOs. The students enjoyed observing parasites under a microscope and performing a test for agglutination of blood with blood bank antibody reagents.



## MSHAL Graduates Celebrate their Capstone Presentations

The 2022 graduates of the MSHAL class celebrate their graduation by meeting to view all their final capstones. One of the graduates graciously hosted the event. All the graduates were able to present their final capstones while enjoying an evening with colleagues. Congratulations!



## Study Abroad to Zambia

Dr. Ava Lewis, along with two other faculty, Robert Kelch and Renee Hernandez, led a study abroad trip to Zambia. The experience a wonderful experience for our students. They were able to visit two local hospitals, an elementary school, orphanage, senior home, as well as worked in clinics alongside nurses, clinic officers, and physicians. The world views of our students are forever changed. See pictures below of their activities.

# Study Abroad to Zambia, Cont.



## SVSU and MyMichigan Partnership

MyMichigan Health and SVSU have partnered to create a unique opportunity for you to earn professional certificates, take individual courses or complete a bachelor's or master's degree while working. In addition to MyMichigan Health's tuition reimbursement program, **SVSU is offering additional savings by reducing tuition and fees by 30% for qualified MyMichigan Health employees.** Details below

- **Save 30% off tuition and fees** for most undergraduate, graduate and certificate programs.
- No application fee.
- There is still time to register for fall 2022 classes.
- Online and in-person graduate programs.
- Option of course offerings at MyMichigan Health facilities.
- **Experience where it counts** — since 1979, SVSU has been leading the way in health care education by providing real-world experience taught by experts.

SVSU is in talks with Covenant, Ascension, and McLaren as well. The goal is to help employees achieve their educational goals through SVSU. More information to follow

## Race to BWell Saginaw (5K run/walk)

The BWell 5K Run/Walk, Family Fun Run, and Healthy Living Expo will be held on Saturday, October 1, 2022 on the property around the Saginaw YMCA. The goal of this race is to encourage our community to get moving and learn about all the wonderful resources we have in Saginaw to promote health and well-being. SVSU College for Health and Human Services will be hosting a table at the expo. The table will need to be manned from 9am-1pm and we would like to use this as an opportunity to highlight all our HHS programs. We are looking for volunteers to ensure we have folks representing all departments at the table. Folks can rotate or do shifts (e.g., 9-10, 11-12, etc.). SVSU HHS t-shirts will be made up for our volunteers.

Additionally, we would like to advertise this 5K walk/run for our faculty, staff, and students. It could be used by students as a community event. We hope to have a large contingent of HHS folks at the event. It can serve HHS as a teambuilding event and demonstrate Cardinal Energy in our Saginaw area. We are also hoping for our Cardinal Mascot to be present. You can share the flyer that was sent by Stacey Klump or use the QR code below to register. There are various costs depending on whether you want a BWell t-shirt or not. \$25 includes a BWell t-shirt. Flyers are posted around our building to advertise the event. In addition, I plan to reach out to our student organizations within HHS to seek participation from them as well.

## REGISTER NOW



Scan the QR code  
to go to the race  
website.

## Battle of the Valley at SVSU



This year's beneficiary for the Battle of the Valleys is *Self-Love Beauty* which is a non-profit organization whose mission is to educate, invest, and impact individuals on the importance of self-love and confidence in order to empower them to be the best version of themselves. Our students are once again prepared to continue the tradition as in the past, especially the Battle of the Valleys fundraising competition. Since 2003, our SVSU community has raised over \$500,000 for regional nonprofits through Battle of the Valleys.

In an effort to support this event, and our students, HHS is going to host a 'gift basket' competition. Each department will have the opportunity to develop their own theme that should tie into this year's beneficiary and create a one-of-a-kind gift basket that will be raffled off in the silent auction. Our HHS students will have the opportunity to vote on the baskets and one will be crowned this year's winner. That department will receive a free lunch from the Dean's office for their efforts.

The events will begin Sept 26<sup>th</sup> and culminate with the SVSU-GVSU football game on Saturday, October 1, 2022, at GVSU. I know that our departments will put their heart-and-soul into this competition and create gift baskets that will help raise funds for this great event.

## Save the Dates

The following are dates to remember for fall, 2022. More information to follow.

- ✓ All College-wide Employment Fair, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup>, 12-3pm, Curtiss Hall
- ✓ Renaming Ceremony from HHS to Bachand Hall, October 3<sup>rd</sup>, 10am, outside HHS building
- ✓ Benefits and Wellness Fair, October 19<sup>th</sup>
- ✓ Fall Open House, October 22<sup>nd</sup>
- ✓ HHS Halloween Party and Costume Contest, 4pm HHS Lobby
- ✓ HHS Holiday Party, December 1<sup>st</sup>, 11:30am-1pm, HHS 2<sup>nd</sup> floor
- ✓ Commencement activities, December 15-16

## NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION

Submit any newsworthy items for the next edition of the HHS newsletter that will come out in Nov/Dec 2022.

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 use this [link](#).

***Deadline for Nov/Dec edition is October 28, 2022, for fall newsletter***