

**SVSU.**  

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**BOARD OF CONTROL**  
**MINUTES**

**AUGUST 18, 2008**



SAGINAW VALLEY STATE UNIVERSITY  
BOARD OF CONTROL  
AUGUST 18, 2008  
REGULAR FORMAL SESSION  
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MINUTES  
BOARD OF CONTROL  
Regular Formal Session  
August 18, 2008  
Board of Control Room, Third Floor Wickes Hall

Present: Abbs  
Gamez  
Gilbertson  
Karu  
Law  
Martin  
Sedrowski  
Wilson  
Yantz

Absent:

Others

Present: D. Bachand  
G. Baksa  
A. Bethune  
M. Binder  
J. Boehm  
D. Fegan  
B. Foster  
E. Hamilton  
M. Hedberg  
D. Huntley  
H. Leaver  
C. Looney  
R. Maurovich  
B. Mudd  
J. Muladore  
M. Owens  
C. Ramet  
P. Samolewski  
R. Schneider  
A. Seeley  
J. Stanley  
G. Thompson  
J. VanHoorelbeke  
Press (1)

I. CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Gamez called the meeting to order at 1:33 p.m., with Board members Karu, Law, Martin, Sedrowski, Wilson, and Yantz present.

II. PROCEDURAL ITEMS

**A. Approval of Agenda and Additions to and Deletions from Agenda**

There were no additions to or deletions from the agenda.

The agenda was APPROVED as distributed.

**B. Approval of Minutes of June 9, 2008 Regular Formal Session of the Board of Control**

**It was moved and supported that the minutes of the June 9, 2008 Regular Formal Session of the Board of Control be approved.**

The minutes were unanimously APPROVED as written.

**C. Recognition of the Official Representative of the Faculty Association**

Professor Gary Thompson, President of the Faculty Association, told the Board that negotiations between the administration and the Faculty Association were nearing completion. He noted that this was the first time he had been involved in that process as a member of the team and as a representative of the Faculty Association. He thanked the members of the administration team for negotiating very professionally and in good faith, and stated that the Association looked forward to a satisfying conclusion to the process.

**D. Communications and Requests to Appear Before the Board**

Monique Owens, Staff Member of the Month for May; Debbie Fegan, Staff Member of the

Month for July; and Greta Baksa and Matt Binder, Staff Members of the Month for August, were presented to the Board. (See Appendix One: Owens; Appendix Two: Fegan; and Appendix Three: Baksa/Binder.)

(Trustee Abbs joined the meeting at 1:39 p.m.)

President Gilbertson introduced D. Burk Foster, who has been a member of the Criminal Justice program for two years, and who is now the new University Ombudsman, as well as advisor to the Student Association.

### III. ACTION ITEMS

#### 1. Resolution to Grant Undergraduate and Graduate Degrees

RES-1793 **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University is granted the authority to confer undergraduate and graduate degrees as outlined in Section 5 of Public and Local Acts of Michigan 1965; and**

**WHEREAS, Operating Policy 3.101 Article III of the Board reserves to the Board the authority to grant degrees;**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University approve the awarding of undergraduate and graduate degrees at the August 18, 2008 Commencement as certified by the faculty and Registrar.**

President Gilbertson told the Board that some 300 students were eligible to graduate this August, approximately 220 of whom will cross the stage at tonight's graduation ceremony. He noted that Board of Control member Brian Law will present the Commencement Address.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

#### 2. Resolution to Grant Emerita Status to Katherine (Kay) Harley

RES-1794     **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University grants emeritus/emerita status to retiring faculty/administrators who have served the University with distinction; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Kay Harley joined the faculty at Saginaw Valley State University in 1969 and was Professor of English until her retirement in June 2008; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Harley is highly regarded by her colleagues and students for her high standards and dedication to teaching; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Harley served as the Chairperson for the Department of English on two occasions and served as Assistant Dean to the College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences. Further, she procured the grant that created the Saginaw Bay Writing Project and worked tirelessly to develop the professional and Technical Writing program at Saginaw Valley State University. Dr. Harley has also been actively involved in University service throughout her career including service as a coach in the Athletic Program; and**

**WHEREAS, In addition to Dr. Harley's teaching and administrative duties at the University, she has been active professionally in organizations in her field.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University gratefully acknowledge Dr. Harley's exemplary service and dedication to the University and bestow upon her the title of "Professor Emerita of English" with all the rights and privileges appertaining to this distinction.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be framed and presented to Dr. Kay Harley as a permanent expression of the University's appreciation.**

Dr. Mary Hedberg, Dean of the College of Arts and Behavioral Sciences, reviewed Dr. Harley's many accomplishments and recommended her highly for Emerita Status.

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

3.     Resolution to Grant Emeritus Status to Richard P. Thompson

RES-1795     **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University grants emeritus/emerita status to retiring faculty and administrators who have served the University with distinction; and**

**WHEREAS, Richard P. Thompson first joined the staff of Saginaw Valley State University in 1970 as an admissions representative. During a thirty-eight year career at SVSU and in a variety of positions, ranging from Registrar to Director of Admissions to Dean of Students to University Ombudsman, Dick Thompson exemplified the best traditions of SVSU**

**and earned the respect and admiration of all whom he served; and**

**WHEREAS, Dick Thompson has been a lifelong educator. Prior to his employment at SVSU, he taught high school math, business, and history courses. He has remained active in community youth programs and has coached a variety of sports at a local elementary school. He has guided generations of students who have come to see him as a positive influence on their lives and who regard him with the deepest affection; and**

**WHEREAS, Richard P. Thompson was a longtime advisor to the Student Association, mentoring student leaders and elected student representatives, and chair of the advisory committee to *The Valley Vanguard* and *Cardinal Sins*, student publications which have been important outlets for the expression of ideas and creativity; and**

**WHEREAS, Dick Thompson has served on the SVSU Foundation Board, the Athletic Council at St. Thomas Aquinas Elementary School, the Nouvel Catholic Central Foundation Board, and is a member of the Knights of Columbus. He has been a friend to colleagues, a counselor to the young, and a leader in the design of a University known for its student-centered learning, strong work ethic, and belief in the value of each student.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University gratefully acknowledge Dick Thompson's exemplary service and dedication to the University and bestow upon him the title of "Dean of Students Emeritus" with all the rights and privileges appertaining to this distinction.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be framed and presented to Mr. Richard P. Thompson as a permanent expression of the University's appreciation.**

President Gilbertson noted that Dick Thompson had served in numerous positions at the University since 1970. He stated: "There is no one in our history who was known by more students or loved by more students than Dick Thompson. He was their father, their confessor, their counselor."

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

4. Resolution to Grant Emeritus Status to Dr. W. Leslie Whittaker

RES-1796 **It was moved and supported that the following resolution be adopted:**

**WHEREAS, Saginaw Valley State University grants emeritus/emerita status to retiring faculty/administrators who have served the University with distinction; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. W. Leslie Whittaker joined the faculty at Saginaw Valley State**

**University in 1966 and was Professor of English until his passing in April 2008; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Whittaker was highly regarded by his colleagues and students for his high standards and dedication to teaching; and**

**WHEREAS, Dr. Whittaker served as one of the founding faculty members of Saginaw Valley College and was integral in building the college into the university it is today. Dr. Whitaker's immense contributions to the English Department provided both breadth and depth to the program and his mentoring skills afforded countless opportunities and positive outcomes for generations of students and junior faculty members. Dr. Whittaker was also actively and collegially involved in university service throughout his long career; and**

**WHEREAS, In addition to Dr. Whittaker's teaching and administrative duties at the University, he was active professionally in organizations in his field.**

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, That the Board of Control of Saginaw Valley State University gratefully acknowledge Dr. Whittaker's exemplary service and dedication to the University and bestow upon him the title of "Professor Emeritus of English" with all the rights and privileges appertaining to this distinction.**

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this resolution be framed and presented to Dr. Leslie Whittaker's family as a permanent expression of the University's appreciation.**

Dr. Hedberg stated: "Les Whittaker was a legend at SVSU. He died this past winter from complications following surgery. He was approaching his 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. . . . He died doing what he loved to do, always being active in the College, the Department, and the University. . . . He was still thinking about what was best for his students and how to remain actively involved."

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

#### IV. INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

##### 5. Report on Title III Grant Award

Dr. Deborah Huntley, Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, told the Board that SVSU was the recipient of a Department of Education Title III grant for \$1.78 million over a five-year period, to be utilized essentially to enhance and expand online education.

Dr. Huntley reviewed the types of classes made possible by the grant and noted that they tied

in very clearly with the University's Strategic Plan.

President Gilbertson thanked Dr. Huntley for her presentation and for co-authoring the grant.

**6. Report on New Faculty Hires**

Dr. Donald Bachand, Vice President for Academic Affairs, told the Board that hiring for the fall semester had been completed. He reviewed the attached list of new faculty for Fall 2008. (See Appendix Four: Faculty.)

**7. Report on Construction Projects**

Mr. James Muladore, Vice President for Administration and Business Affairs, updated the Board on several ongoing and upcoming construction projects on campus.

**8. Fall Semester Enrollment Report**

Dr. Robert Maurovich, Vice President for Student Services and Enrollment Management, reported that enrollments for the fall semester were very strong.

**V. REMARKS BY THE PRESIDENT**

President Gilbertson invited the Board to attend his orientation speech and the Back to School Picnic on August 21<sup>st</sup>.

Angela Seeley, President of the Student Association, reviewed the organization's plans for a mini-retreat, a back-to-school picnic, and the September 8<sup>th</sup> through 13<sup>th</sup> Battle of the Valleys.

**VI. OTHER ITEMS FOR CONSIDERATION OR ACTION**

**9. Motion to Move to Informal Session to Discuss Collective Bargaining**

BM-1076      **It was moved and supported that the Board move to Informal Session to discuss collective bargaining.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

The Board moved to Informal Session at 2:25 p.m. and reconvened in Regular Formal Session at 2:58 p.m.

VII.    ADJOURNMENT

10.    Motion to Adjourn

BM-1077      **It was moved and supported that the meeting be adjourned.**

The motion was APPROVED unanimously.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:59 p.m.

Respectfully submitted:

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David R. Gamez  
Chairman

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Lawrence E. Sedrowski  
Secretary

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Jo A. Stanley  
Recording Secretary  
Secretary to the Board of Control

## STAFF MEMBER OF THE MONTH

# Monique Owens

WIRED Project Coordinator • May 2008

Monique Owens says she “has never met a stranger.” She has had hundreds of new introductions through her role with the Workforce Innovation in Regional Economic Development (WIRED) initiative, making new friends and colleagues through the process. Backed by the U.S. Department of Labor, WIRED is intended to enliven the economy of a 13-county region in Michigan, and it has given her quite an education.

While Owens has a degree from SVSU, she jests that she “feels like I’ve earned a Ph.D. in two years.”

“I had no idea that the (\$15 million) grant involves so many people, so many partners, so many organizations. At times, I’ve been a reporter, a researcher, a biographer, a technical writer. It’s been an amazing experience.”

Owens is often the liaison between companies, agencies and government organizations, encouraging them to see one another as partners rather than rivals.

“I really believe a strong community helps everyone. That’s what WIRED is really about, getting those in the region to map their resources and understand those resources well enough to be economically viable and competitive.”

Owens has also worked to build better bridges within SVSU between the Center for Business and Economic Development where she works and other departments such as the colleges of

Business & Management, and Science, Engineering & Technology.

“We’ve worked a lot with businesses and with students to get them to think entrepreneurially,” she said.

Owens says her personal background aids her in understanding business and diverse groups of people. Growing up in rural Mt. Vernon, Ala., with 12 siblings, she moved to Saginaw at age 15 after her brother landed a job with General Motors and purchased a home large enough to accommodate the family.

“What brought us here is economics, and for our family to take care of one another,” she said. “The South and the North are very different. It was difficult at first, but I’ve loved it here ever since.”

Outside the workplace, Owens says she “loves going to church” and spending time with family — when schedules permit. Her husband James travels as a professional guitar player, and with three stepchildren and a daughter of her own, the calendar is frequently full.

“We find time to bond over the weekends,” she said.

Owens can’t speculate as to what her future workplace challenges may be, but she is ready to embrace them.

“I love learning. That’s why I took this job.”



# Debbie Fegan

AIS Programmer/Analyst • July 2008

Debbie Fegan knows why others place a premium on what she does.

“People like to get their paychecks and have their information correct,” she explained.

As the information technology support person for payroll and human resources, Fegan develops reports, fixes problems, and answers questions “so they can take care of their work more efficiently. It works well that I support both groups” because of the interaction between the departments.

Considerable teamwork and communication is required.

“There’s a lot that has to be comprehended to pull all the pieces together,” Fegan said. “The expertise of the people I support is very important because they understand what they do much better than I can.”

When there are payroll changes or when employees alter their benefits during open enrollment, Fegan checks and double-checks to make sure the data transfer is accurate.

“I test very thoroughly. It takes time, but with the critical nature of what we do, it’s something that has to happen.”

Fegan sometimes wears headphones to block out any distractions. She feels fortunate to have “some really good and talented people” to work with on her team and in her office, but sometimes the job requires old-fashioned legwork.

“I have two cupboards full of software manuals I refer to,” she said, adding that she often goes online for updates too, though for her home computer she – like most people – uses manuals “only as a last resort.”

Fegan uses her home computer to take care of her family’s finances and other tasks, like creating a spreadsheet for Christmas shopping, but after eight hours a day at a terminal, she likes “to do other things” such as working in her flower gardens, which keep her busy all spring.

She also has two sons active in sports and a daughter into dance and band. Her oldest daughter Jennifer starts her second year at SVSU this August.

“The upside is that I get to see her quite often, and if she needs anything she knows where I’m at and can get snacks or borrow money.”

In her job, Fegan says “it was a challenge at first getting to know everything,” but after two years at SVSU she feels more comfortable and more confident, though her objective remains the same.

“The ultimate goal is to give the customers the best support we can, so they can do their job and in turn support the students who are coming here.”



# •Greta Baksa & Matt Binder

Institutional Research • August 2008

Greta Baksa and Matt Binder have researched a great deal about SVSU, processing data requests large and small, simple and complicated. Binder says the job “does encompass a lot.”

“The majority of it,” he said, “deals with student-centered data on retention, academic performance, surveys of student opinions and satisfaction.”

One of Baksa’s key responsibilities is completing surveys for external organizations such as the college directories and publications that appear in supermarkets and bookstores. “We supply them with data that they put in their books,” she said. “Some of them are 50- or 100-page surveys.”

The move to a Common Data Set simplified the process somewhat, but each publication still has its own questions, which sometimes are ambiguous or unclear. “You’ve got to figure out what do they really want to know,” Baksa said. “A lot of times the interpretations are left to the individual institutional research offices,” Binder added.

The pair also provide information for state and federal government reports, which can be quite labor-intensive; they fill requests for those inside the university too. When fall enrollment figures are finalized, “everyone wants to know their numbers,” Baksa said.

The pair “don’t do too much collaboration,” according to

Binder, as each has individual assignments, but Baksa says they “do bounce ideas off each other,” because judgment calls and critical thinking skills make the job much more than finding information and regurgitating it.

Binder says finding a data source that is applicable to someone’s needs is a frequent challenge, and he enjoys it, along with the variety and problem-solving aspects of his work.

“There are a lot of different ways you can approach a problem,” he said.

Outside the office, Binder can frequently be found in the Ryder Center as he works out “four to five times a week.” He also enjoys paintball and joined the mailing list for the new paintball club at SVSU.

Baksa has more hobbies than she has time for, including hockey, photography, scrapbooking, and “anything outside.” “I’m never bored,” she said.

Both say it can be frustrating to gather data that goes into reports that are never reviewed, and conversely they gain satisfaction from seeing their time and effort put to use by others.

Baksa put it this way: “If I give somebody data and they come back and say ‘Thanks, it helped me out,’ I know my time spent on it was worthwhile.”



# SVSU Welcomes New Faculty for Fall 2008

Department	Name	Rank	Degree	Degree From	Came From
<b>College of Arts &amp; Behavioral Sciences</b>					
Communication	Alexa Dare**	Instr	PhD	University of Denver	University of Montana
Communication	Melissa Lewis*	Instr	ABD	Michigan State University	Michigan State University
Criminal Justice	Carol Zimmerman	Asst	PhD	Michigan State University	Michigan State University
English	Holly Bird*	Instr	MA	Central Michigan University	SVSU/Delta College adjunct
English	Hillery Glasby*	Instr	MA	Central Michigan University	Mid-Michigan Community College
English	Daniel Gates	Asst	PhD	University of Notre Dame	Tulane University
English	Christina Montgomery	Lec	MA	Central Michigan University	Central Michigan University
English	Timothy Kenyon	Lec	MFA	Goddard College	Delta/Truckee Meadows Comm College adjunct
English	Marianne Bird**	Instr	MSA	Central Michigan University	SVSU/Delta College adjunct
English	Isabel Deppe**	Instr	MDiv	Princeton Theological Seminary	SVSU adjunct
English	Cathy Gondek**	Instr	M Ed	Baldwin Wallace College	SVSU adjunct
English	Gayle Neuman**	Instr	MAT	Saginaw Valley State Univ	SVSU adjunct
English	Kristina Parker*	Instr	MA	Oakland University	Mott Community College
History	Byungil Ahn	Asst	ABD	University of California-L.A.	University of California-Los Angeles
Philosophy	Anton Tupa*	Asst	-PhD	University of Florida	Auburn University
Sociology	Eric Moeller*	Instr	PhD	University of Chicago	Ivy Tech Community College
Sociology	Kathlyn Barry*	Asst	PhD	Wayne State University	Ferris State University
Int'l Guest Scholar	Edward Noronha	- visiting from Mysore, India			
Fulbright Scholar	Nasser Al-Hashmi	- visiting from Oman			
<b>College of Business &amp; Management</b>					
Accounting	Nan Hu	Asst	PhD	University of Texas-Dallas	Sinapore Management University
Law	Rhonda Ross	Asst	JD	Wayne State University	Private law practice
Management	Zachary Leffakis*	Asst	ABD	University of Toledo	Dowling College
Marketing	Thomas List*	Asst	MBA	University of Colorado	Winona State University
H.R. Wickes Endowed Chair in Int'l Business	Said Elfakhani		PhD	University of Texas-Dallas	American University of Beirut

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**College of Education**

TE:Elem/Sp Ed/EC	Lisa Midcalf	Asst	ABD	Oakland University	Oakland/SVSU adjunct
TE:Elem/Sp Ed/EC	Jennifer Seifferly*	Asst	MAT	Saginaw Valley State Univ	SVSU adjunct
TEMS	Patricia Salemi*	Asst	EdD	Wayne State University	SVSU adjunct
TEMS	Jonathan Gould*	Asst	EdS	Saginaw Valley State Univ	SVSU adjunct

**Crystal M. L ange College of Health & Human Services**

Nursing	Karen Brown	Assoc	EdD	Central Michigan University	Kirtland Community College
Nursing	Kathy Putman*	Instr	MSN	Clarkson College	SVSU adjunct
Kinesiology	Jeremy Knous	Asst	ABD	Michigan State University	Michigan State University

**College of Science, Engineering & Technology**

Biology	Arthur Martin	Asst	PhD	Bowling Green State Univ	Florida International University
Chemistry	Jason Pagano	Asst	PhD	Florida State University	Florida State University
Chemistry	Tami Sivy	Asst	PhD	University of Colorado	Portland State Univ/Portland Comm College
Electrical Engineering	David Voisine*	Asst	BSEE	General Motors Institute	Davenport University
Mathematics	Nicholas Scheall*	Instr	MS	Michigan State University	Davenport University/SVSU adjunct
Physics	Danny Krebs*	Asst	PHD	University of Missouri-Rolla	SVSU adjunct

Int'l Guest Scholar Kyrohong Jin - visiting from South Korea

**Interdisciplinary**

Executive-in-Residence	Terence Moore		MBA	Central Michigan University	MidMichigan Health
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\*One year temporary appointment|\*\*One semester temporary appointment