



Dean's Message. I hope everyone's winter semester got off to a great start. It is hard to believe that we have made it through mid-semester break and are heading toward the end of the Winter semester. It seems like we just started back from the holidays. There is so many activities during the last half of the semester and into the spring/summer. After almost 2 years (March 20, 2020), we are now starting to feel a sense of normalcy, with shedding masks as a step towards life after COVID-19. On February 14, 2022, we relaxed university mask mandates, from everywhere in all buildings, to only in classrooms and labs, and in auditoriums and the library. It is really nice to finally be able to see people smiling. We are on a very good trajectory and are moving from a pandemic to an endemic phase of Covid-19, with California being the first to publish their plan (SMARTER). Michigan has also moved to a 3-phase plan on February 16, 2022. The SVSU COVID response team continues to monitor and will update you regularly. My hope is that we can begin Spring mask optional policy. The campus will be notified when further changes are made to the existing policy. As you probably already heard, Don Bachand has decided to retire and SVSU has begun its search for its 5th president. The Search Advisory Committee is comprised of a diverse cross-section of campus and community stakeholders including trustees, faculty, staff, students, administrators, donors, alumni, community members and others. It is led by the Board of Control Chair, Vicki Rupp and the Board of Control Vice-Chair, Raj Wiener. For more information about the search process, [click here](#). I would, once again, like to take moment to recognize your resiliency, understanding, and perseverance as we settle into the Spring semester. We remain an exceptional community because of each and everyone of you.

MID-SEMESTER RECESS (March 7-11,2022)

Remember when recess was the favorite part of your day? For the couple hours that seemed like forever, that big clock on the classroom wall would grind out the school day one tick at a time, then recess would come along, and it would feel amazing. Hopefully your mid-semester recess was a great opportunity to take time out away from school responsibilities and get a bit of reprieve before finals and the last half of the winter semester approaches. I hope you enjoyed this time for yourselves and came back invigorated, ready to face the rest of the semester and into the spring/summer semesters.

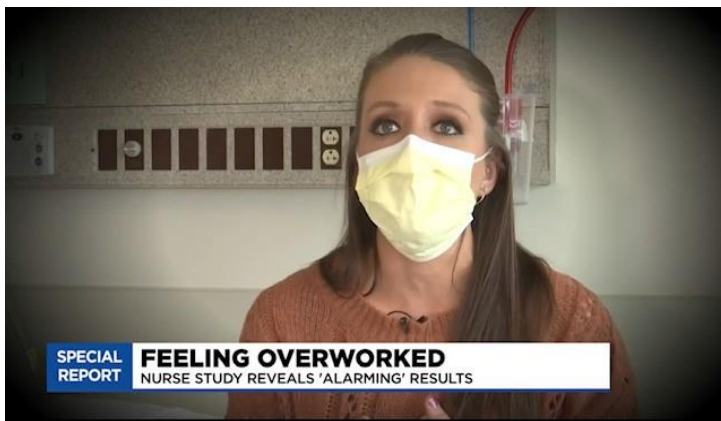


Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum

TRADITION *interrupted*

On February 19, 2022, the SVSU's Marshall M. Fredericks Sculpture Museum presented the opening of "Tradition Interrupted" a contemporary and traditional art exhibit. Consisting of 12 international artists, this display shows how artists can use contemporary ideas and mix them with aspects of their culture and will be available to view at the Museum through Saturday, Jun. 18. If interested, you can find out more about these exhibition by [clicking here](#).

SVSU Alumna Highlighted Through Community-based Research



With an emphasis on the concern for the wellbeing of healthcare professionals across Michigan, Shelby Rancour, a recent graduate of our master's in public health program, conducted research on the health status and health behaviors of nurses in the Great Lakes Bay Region. Shelby's findings indicate that nurses need more support and often struggle with taking time for self-care.

With the determination to create more health and wellness initiatives for nurses, Shelby has taken the results of her study and has met with hospital representatives within the Great Lakes Bay Region.

Shelby's goal is for healthcare facilities to establish more concrete workplace wellness programs to offer more support for their healthcare workers. Shelby's research is a great example of how our students apply their SVSU education and extend their knowledge to improve our community. Community-based research is a wonderful way for our students and faculty to examine a problem they see present within



Winter 2022 Commencements

Winter 2022 SVSU Commencement Activities

It is difficult to imagine that we're already in the planning stages of the May commencement. This time of the year, students are working to complete all their requirements. Students are getting excited about walking across the stage in front of their family and friends, anticipating the "turning of the tassel" from the right side of their cap to the left side confirming their newfound graduate status. This semester's commencement for the College of Health & Human Services is scheduled for Friday, May 6, 2022 at 4:30pm. The ceremonies will be held at the O'Neill Arena, Ryder Center. In addition to the live ceremony, it will also be streamed for sharing with loved ones and friends who cannot attend in person. Graduates will be receiving more information as the date approaches. The commencement webpage is located on the SVSU website ([click here](#)).

Dr. Wei-ju Chen, Dean of School of Nursing in Jinan University, will be awarded an Honorary Doctorate Degree in Nurse Practice from SVSU at this year's May commencement. This honors her decades of work to support nursing and nursing education in China and as the long-standing partnership between Jinan University in Guangzhou China and SVSU.



BSN Symposium Ceremony



Our BSN students who are graduating will be going through a special ceremony on Thursday, May 5, 2022 beginning at 4pm in the O'Neill Arena, Ryder Center.

The pinning ceremony is a unique and special ceremony for the nursing community. It is a symbol of the nursing students' hard work and dedication towards their coursework and clinicals. It is an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishment of becoming a nurse with family, friends and faculty.

The pinning ceremony has roots from the 12th century when knights who aided the sick and infirm were given a Maltese cross to wear. Today's pinning ceremony is closely tied to an award given to legendary nurse Florence Nightingale. Known as the mother of modern nursing, she was awarded the Red Cross of St. George in the 1860s for her tireless work during the Crimean War. To share this honor, Florence presented a medal of excellence to her brightest graduates. Soon, the Nightingale School of Nursing at St. Thomas Hospital in London designed and awarded a badge with a Maltese Cross to all nurses as they completed their program.

Winter 2022 Commencements (Cont.)

HHS Graduate Recognition and Hooding Ceremony

The Winter 2022 Health and Human Services Graduate Recognition and Hooding Ceremony takes place on Friday morning, May 6, 2022. Time and location TBD. Students and faculty will be notified so family and friends have plenty of time to plan.

At this ceremony, HHS graduate students are recognized through a special hooding ceremony. This special ceremony is one of the oldest and most colorful customs that links 21st century education with its origins. The academic apparel that contemporary scholars wear dates to medieval times and the rise of universities. Medieval scholars dressed in gowns, caps, and hoods to distinguish themselves as belonging to the Guild of Academics.



- Significance of the graduate hoods.** The hoods are the most expressive component of the academic costume. They serve to communicate the graduate's school, degree, and field of study through their length and the colors of the lining and binding. The tradition of special academic dress entered the USA in the 1880's.
- ✓ The hoods for all degrees are lined with silk of the colors of the academic institution conferring the degree (Cardinal Red and Royal Blue).
 - ✓ The edging or trim of the hood is a wide velvet band, the color of which indicates the academic field of study.
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 - ✓ The doctoral hood differs from the master hoods as they are longer, have a wider velvet edging, and expose more of the silk lining.
 - ✓ The gowns themselves also are different. The sleeves of the master's gown are oblong with the base being square cut forming a pocket-like space. The doctoral has velvet trimming down the front and three bars of velvet across the sleeves which can be either black/gold as in my case, or the color of the degree.

BATS Event – April 21, 2022



BATS is an interdisciplinary, cross college experiential learning program that this year involves students from the **Business, Art, Theater** and **Social Work** disciplines. The event this year will be held in the Rhea Miller Theater on Thursday, April 21, 2022 at 5:30pm.

Students will share their experiences that specifically helped them become more successful leaders. Come out and show your support!

CELEBRATING AN SVSU GRADUATE!



DO IT FOR YOUR HEALTH!

Sarah Fechter, a 2007 graduate of SVSU in Exercise Science, went on to start a very successful business in Saginaw, *Sarah Fechter Fitness*. We are always proud to showcase our graduates.



SUPPORTING MENTAL HEALTH IN YOUR WORKPLACE



Great Lakes Bay Region (GBLR) Mental Health Partnership is hosted an event on March 2, 2022 from 8am to 11:30pm. The event, Supporting Mental Health in your Workplace, was held at SVSU Curtis Hall. This hands-on workshop session with speakers tailored to learning how organizations can support mental health in the workplace. SVSU Chair of Social Work, Dr. Catherine Macomber was one of the presenters for this workshop. Along with important information presented, a panel of experts spoke about strategies to support mental health, along with next steps.

COLLEGE NOTEWORTHY ACTIVITIES

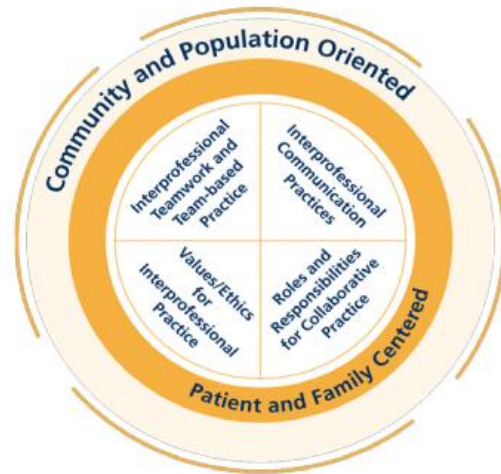
N-5 Nursing Emergency Disaster Table-Top Simulation



On Friday March 4, 2022, the N-5 nursing students participated in the Emergency Disaster Simulation. This activity provides students with an exercise that allows them to use skills like critical thinking, communication, coordination, and interprofessional collaboration in the form of a simulated disaster that happens on the SVSU campus.

This table-top activity was facilitated by faculty and staff from SVSU. This fast-moving interactive morning allowed students to demonstrate their critical thinking and reasoning skills to meet specific needs of various situations during a disaster. The students did a great job! Thank you to all the facilitators who made this activity a success.

COLLEGE NOTEWORTHY ACTIVITIES, CONT.



HHS INTERPROFESSIONAL EDUCATION (IPE) MEGA SIMULATION

"MegaSim Winter 2022" engaged more than 500 students over three days, facilitated by 55 faculty, staff, and MSW students. The topic was communication and the events opened with an activity designed to highlight the difficulty individuals can face when communication is not optimal. Students engaged in a case study developed by an interprofessional team from SVSU and included information relevant to all disciplines in our college. The facilitation team of Jean Prast, Michael Heron, and Cathy Macomber wants to thank all participants in this semester's virtual *MegaSim*. Five-hundred and seventy-three attended over a 3-session period, including faculty, staff, administrative professionals and students. During our event this winter, a small team of interprofessional faculty collaborated to pilot a student observation and feedback tool (iTOFT) to determine reliability and feasibility of use for future interprofessional events. Thank you to all of you who supported and helped with the event! We look forward to the next event in Fall 2022 where we will work on Interprofessional Teamwork and Collaboration.

A special thanks to Jean, Mike and Cathy for all they did to put together the winter 2022 simulation event. Beginning in Fall 2022, Jean Prast will be stepping down as the college's IPE coordinator. Judy Cox will be taking over for her. A special thanks to Jean for all she has done to move IPE forward in the college. Judy's vision is to continue to expand IPE and looks forward to working with the great IPE team.

A Warm Welcome to HHS



Emily A. Larocque, DNP, RN

Emily Larocque has accepted the position as Assistant Professor, Tenure Track for the Department of Nursing beginning fall 2022. We are very excited that Emily will be transitioning from her role as temporary to full-time permanent position. Emily has worked in many different roles in the acute care setting for the last 12 years. Emily has gone to Saginaw Valley State University (SVSU) her entire nursing career (Triple Graduate). She graduated with her BSN in May of 2010 and later went on to obtain her MSN in August of 2015. In December of 2019, Emily received her DNP in Administration and Education through SVSU. Emily has taught as an Adjunct Faculty member at SVSU since 2014 in many different courses including both BSN and Graduate students. She is excited to continue her career as a Nursing faculty at SVSU! Welcome Emily!

DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI AWARDS



The Alumni Celebration recognizes SVSU alumni whose personal and professional achievements have positively affected their community and strongly reflect the values of SVSU. This year's event is being held on March 18, 2022 from 5:30pm to 8:30pm at Curtiss Hall Banquet Rooms. This year, our college is being represented by Bethany Charlton, class of 1989. Many of you know Beth, but those that do not, during her time at SVSU, Beth was a member of the Student Nurse Association and was elected for Homecoming Court.

She started her career at St. Luke's Hospital in the Pediatric Intensive Care Unit. She served on an organizational redesign project for two years, led teams through the merger of St. Luke's and Saginaw General Hospital, and implemented the electronic medical record. She has also served as adjunct faculty for the SVSU nursing program, supporting the pediatric clinical rotation for multiple semesters. She has been the clinical manager in multiple areas including heart failure and the birth center. Beth has also served as the director of Critical Care and Progressive Care departments and as the Executive Vice President of Patient Services and Chief Nursing Officer. Currently, Bethany brings 32 years of hands-on experience to her current position as President/CEO of Covenant Healthcare, a healthcare facility with over 4,000 employees and a Level II Adult and Pediatric Trauma Center. Over the past months, Beth has had to lead in a very challenging healthcare environment and use her multiple clinical and leadership skills. She also serves on the Board of St. Francis nursing home as well as on the Great Lakes Boys and Girls Club. We are so proud that she has been chosen as a Distinguished Alumni and certainly deserves this award.

RETIREMENTS



Sally Decker
Department of Nursing
Monday, June 13, 2022
4pm to 6:30pm
Curtiss Banquet Halls
More details to follow

Jennifer Bridges
Department of Kinesiology
Friday, April 22, 2021
4pm to 6pm
Curtiss Banquet Halls,
More details to follow



ADMINISTRATIVE PROFESSIONALS DAY



Administrative Professionals day will be celebrated April 27, 2022. The purpose of this day is to recognize the contributions of those Administrative Professionals and Administrative Assistants that work tirelessly for all of us. Let's make sure we remember them!

50th ANNIVERSARY CELEBRATION – DEPT. OF KINESIOLOGY



**DATE AND
CELEBRATION
DETAILS
FORTHCOMING!**

The Kinesiology department will be turning 50 in 2023! The program began in 1973 with the hiring of Dr. Bob Pratt, who taught 42 of those 50 years. The department will be having a celebration sometime during 2023 (Date TBD).

Some of you might not know the close relationship of our own Occupational Therapy department to Kinesiology. Dr. Bridges, Kinesiology professor, suggested to Dean Crystal M. Lange, that SVSU develop a Department of Occupational Therapy. With her experience teaching in both Kinesiology and Occupational Therapy at Texas Woman's University, Dr. Bridges helped integrate the kinesiology curriculum within OT.

Stay tuned for more fun facts and celebration details and information about the upcoming celebration as we move into 2023!

CARDINALS FOR PUBLIC HEALTH RSO

Bringing together students of Saginaw Valley State University that are pursuing a career in Public Health and or are interested in the Public Health career options that Saginaw Valley State University can offer. Therefore, Cardinals for Public Health will work to provide leadership opportunities, cultural and social learning of public health initiatives, career opportunities, and learning from members in our community what we can do as future Public Health professionals. We will do this through our two pillars being service and professionalism.

To find out more about them, please [click here](#).

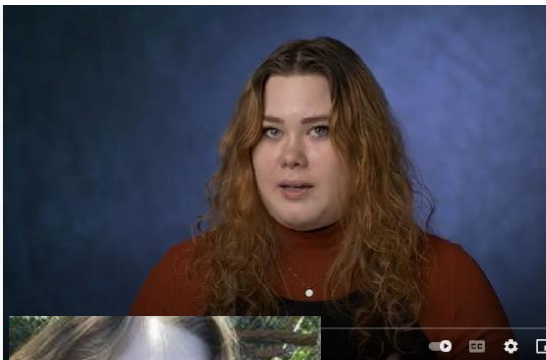
Winter meeting dates

March 3, 2022 7pm to 9pm, H280

March 24, 2022 7pm to 9pm, H136



STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS



Taylor Host,
Social Work
Student

Throughout her younger years, she was never too sure that she would attend college at all. She said, "I am first-generation student, so it was never encouraged. That combined with the fact we lived well below the poverty line; I would have never been able to afford it."

Because of this, she took a year off after high school to save money because she knew she would have to pay for it all on her own. She originally planned to go to CMU but decided on a local community college and received her AA degree. The price tag of a 4-year university was very intimidating. She was ready to take off another year, but speaking to an advisor from HHS at SVSU, they talked about the importance of staying the course so that she wouldn't lose the momentum. He encouraged and helped her apply for scholarships so that she could stay on track. There were options to help to her feel comfortable enough to continue here education.

Taylor says, "Without the financial opportunities that SVSU offers, I would not be here so close to graduation. I am eternally grateful." View her message [here](#).

STUDENT HIGHLIGHTS, CONT.

Sarah N. Lynn a nursing student at Saginaw Valley State University, recently publish an article in Home Healthcare, Jan/Feb 2022 edition.

The article was called Home Care: A Student Nurse's Perspective. To read the article, [click here](#).

Sara is from Canton, MI and graduated from Saginaw Valley State in December of 2021. She is now a registered pediatric nurse at Mott Children's hospital in Ann Arbor.



Ms. Sarah N. Lynn, Nursing Student



SVSU Graduate, Lauren Huebner
Rehabilitative Medicine and Occupational Therapy

A former Saginaw Valley State University track standout was named to the NCAA's 2022 Today's Top 10 list. Lauren Huebner, a two-time graduate of SVSU, was recognized along with nine other recipients at an honors celebration on Wednesday, Jan. 19, during the NCAA Convention in Indianapolis.

Huebner graduated with a Bachelor of Science in rehabilitation medicine in May 2020 and a Master of Science in occupational therapy in December 2021. She is preparing for her certification and licensing exams in the near future.

The award recognizes former student-athletes for success in the classroom, competition and community. Huebner, a Saginaw native, is the first SVSU student-athlete to be named an NCAA Today's Top-10 Award winner. Congratulations!

IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING



IMPLICIT BIAS TRAINING

MAY 4, 2022 12pm to 4pm
Lunch 12pm-1 pm
Workshop 1pm-4pm
GS202, Gilbertson Hall

Presenter: Marcia Mastracci Ditmyer

This implicit bias training for health professions workshop will focus on adaptive strategies for reducing barriers and disparities in access to and delivery of education and health care services across populations and settings. (CEU's provided)

Registration available through Dr. Jean Prast

PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH

SVSU Board of Control has retained WittKieffer, an executive search firm, to assist in the search for SVSU's 5th president. Beginning February 21, a series of listening sessions began including various SVSU stakeholders. The goal was to gather information regarding their thoughts on the characteristics and experience that the next president should have. In addition to the listening sessions, a survey was available to gather information.

A presidential search advisory committee, co-chaired, by Vicki Rupp, Chair of SVSU Board of Control and Raj Wiener, Vice Chair of the Board of Control, has been formed. The list of committee members can be found here.

The committee will continue to update the campus throughout the search. Recommended finalists should be identified by late spring or early summer.

Updated information can be found on the [SVSU University Presidential Search page](#).

CAMPUS ACTIVITIES



Admitted Student Day (March 19, 2022). This is the last day of the academic year for faculty and staff to meet and greet students on campus. This day will be held much like the October Open House with prospective students and families coming to the college anytime during the 2-hour window (10am to 12pm). We realize what a time commitment this is, but so very important for the future of HHS and SVSU. Thanks in advance for all those who will be volunteering their time on Saturday.



Saturday, March 19th from 9am-noon. Gear up for the Spring University-wide Employment & Networking Fair and get up to an extra 60% OFF of select men's and women's career dress apparel and shoes by showing your student ID! Saginaw Valley State University presents JCPenney Suit-Up Event on Saturday, March 19th from 9am-noon.

Friday, March 25, 2022 | Curtiss Hall | 12pm - 3pm

The Spring University-Wide Employment & Networking Fair is our largest employment fair of the school year that will feature 130+ employers seeking part-time and full-time employees, as well as offering co-ops and internships.

Registration is done through the Cardinal Career Network (Handshake) Click [here](#) for registration page.



NEWSWORTHY INFORMATION

LOOKING FOR NEWSWORTHY ITEMS FOR THE HHS NEWSLETTER!

Submit any newsworthy items for the next edition of the HHS newsletter that will come out in June/July 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 June/July edition is May 27, 2022

