

Sauk Valley Community College
May 18, 2026

Agenda Item 3.1.1

Topic: Acknowledgement – Richard (Dick) Holtam

Mission: Sauk Valley Community College is dedicated to teaching and learning while creating opportunities by engaging the community in lifelong education, public service, and economic development.

Presented By: Drs. David Hellmich and Jon Mandrell

Presentation:

Sauk Valley Community College remembers Dick Holtam, who passed away on May 2, 2026. Dick was a pillar of the Sauk Valley community and a dedicated, longtime SVCC staff member. His legacy at Sauk began on July 1, 1970, and was as broad as it was meaningful. He began his career at Sauk as a counselor and community services instructor. In 1976, he was Director of Public Service Programs, and by 1982, Dick was the Assistant Dean of Community and Extended Services. He served as Dean of Health and Community Services beginning in 1990 before returning to his roots in the Counseling Department, where he retired as the counselor for Health Careers students on April 30, 2007.

Beyond his administrative roles, Dick was a mentor and an involved community member who partnered with local organizations to create a beloved annual tradition – the SVCC Child Fair. He not only coached tennis for Sauk, but also assisted Frank Palumbo with learning the sport. Dick and his wife, Judy, were active in the Dixon community and civic organizations such as the Kiwanis, where he helped improve the lives of many children in the community.