**SACS Returns**

*By Paul Yoder  
Staff Writer*

Two representatives from the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools (SACS) visited EMU this week to gather some final details before making a recommendation to the Commission of Colleges (COC) about lifting the university’s current accreditation probation.

Monday’s visit was simply a “normal part of [SACS] follow-up procedures,” said Dr. Rudolph Jackson, associate executive director of the COC.

The representatives came to EMU because the university had not yet addressed all of the staffing issues previously identified in accordance with the SACS accreditation process.

“We’re part of the second follow-up team,” said Dr. Frieda Jackson, associate executive director of the COC.

Junior Darren Stauffer casts his vote for the 2002-03 Student Government Association senate. Thirteen students were elected to represent the student body. Thirty percent of the student body turned out to vote last Friday.

**EMU’s Grad. School Niche**

*By Paul Yoder  
Staff Writer*

In his Presidential State of the University Address at the Fall Faculty Conference, President Joe Lapp presented the idea of EMU expanding its graduate programs.

“Whatever I say, you need to take with a grain of salt, because my numbers are numbered,” said President Joe Lapp after being asked to elaborate on his thoughts.

“I don’t have any particular graduate programs to suggest. My general thought is that schools like EMU ought to give more attention to what occurs in graduate education.”

President Lapp said that the current time is ideal for Christian colleges to further develop graduate offerings because he identifies the current generation of students as having not yet made decisions concerning faith, values and a Christian worldview.

“I had a paper route, saved money and paid for part of my Mennonite high schooling and all of college,” explained Lapp. He compared this to today’s college students, some of whom may be earning money for the first time through a college work-study position. Lapp referred to other cultures where children have to face the formation of values and faith head on, he said.

Lapp concluded that because of this later development, some students face the formation of values and faith head on, he said.

The senate will meet once a week to hear and vote on student issues and concerns, such as the distribution of funds to student organizations or how to address problems raised by students, administration, faculty and the community. Senators will also serve on SGA committees with administration and faculty to represent the voice of the student body.

**Elections: SGA Gears Up for Year**

*By Roxi Allen  
Staff Writer*

The Campus Center greeting hall was abuzz last Friday as 30 percent of the student body turned out to elect this year’s Student Government Association (SGA) senate.

The new senators are Derrick Charles, Jeremiah Denlinger, Conrad Erb, Renee Holospooke Glick, Jason Good, Brad Hertzler, Nate Hoffer, Amanda Jantz, Chris Lowen, Emily Miller, Chris Noll, Rachelle O’Connor and Alexis Sauder.

Senators will also serve on SGA committees with administration and faculty to represent the voice of the student body.

Candidates ran on a variety of platforms. Lowen, a fourth-year student and an international agribusiness major, was elected last spring.

Students’ work that is occurring here now is not diminished.”

Davision, Davision, who serves as Dean of Libraries at the University of South Carolina-Orangeburg, noted that “each university is given a certain amount of time to follow up on recommendations.”

The representatives will now take a recommendation, based on Monday’s findings, about whether to take EMU off probation, to the December meeting of the Commission in San Antonio, Texas.

Jackson opened his comments by stating that “EMU is fully accredited.” He then...