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RELEASE:

Immediate

EAST LANSING -- The ombudsman at MIchigan State University now has an associate to help share the burden of student problems and complaints.

Dr. Theodore J. Brooks, assistant dean of research development and graduate studies for the School of Advanced Graduate Studies, and assistant professor of the School of Social Work, will begin a half-time post this fall as associate ombudsman.

The ombudsman, modeled after a public official of Sweden, acts to cut red tape and establish channels for students, whose problems can range from tuition difficulties to a stolen bicycle. The post, one of the first in the nation, was established at Michigan State in 1967.

Dr. Brooks has been at MSU since 1964, when he was employed as an instructor in social work. He holds the A.B. degree from Calvin College, Grand Rapids, Mich.; the M.S.W. from the University of Michigan and the Ph.D. from MSU.

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