

50th Anniversary

July 25, 2007

Dear friends,

I am proud of the many accomplishments Oakland University has achieved in its 50-year history. When I reflect on the excitement surrounding the announcement that Oakland University will partner with Beaumont Hospitals to open the first M.D. medical school in Michigan in 46 years, I can only imagine how the planners of Oakland University must have felt in 1957, when they were creating our institution.

Oakland was created with the highest standard of excellence, and we are planning our medical school with the same care. We will draw on our expertise, including the schools of Health Sciences and Nursing, our biomedical research facilities and internationally renowned Eye Research Institute, to provide a high quality medical education program. With Beaumont Hospitals at our side, recently included as among the best hospitals in the nation in the 2007 Best Hospitals list by U.S. News and World Report, we will build a medical school that will attract top-level medical leaders and medical students from around the country.

Through partnerships like this, as well as dozens of others, Oakland is making a positive impact on the economy as well as bringing myriad unique learning experiences to our students and faculty.

We continue to advance our vision of preparing leaders who are preferentially hired in the workplace through our successful fundraising effort, "Innovation and Opportunity – The Campaign for Oakland University." We appreciate the generosity of our alumni and friends whose unwavering support has made this possible. As we close in on our 2010 goal of \$110 million, we are more and more encouraged about the possibilities for Oakland University and its next 50 years.

Gary D. Russi
President, Oakland University