

# OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

From the office of the  
President



Colleagues,

NASA astronaut John L. Phillips shared an intriguing thought relative to the human race when he said:

"A civilization that only looks inward will stagnate. We have to keep looking outward; we have to keep finding new avenues for human endeavor and human expression."

I think the same idea can aptly be applied to a community, including a university that looks far beyond its campus boundaries while pursuing its mission. The highlights below illustrate just a few ways in which the Oakland University community is doing so.

Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.  
President

## EVOLVING DISTINCTION

Our Ph.D. program in psychology will mark a prestigious milestone in its relatively short history when it welcomes its first Fulbright Graduate Fellowship recipient to work in the evolutionary psychology lab of Distinguished Professor and Chair of Psychology Todd Shackelford.



Poland native Anna Szala had the opportunity to use her fellowship at a Fulbright participating institution in any of 140 countries, but chose Oakland University in light of how the quality and distinction of the [Ph.D. program in psychology](#) would help advance her studies in evolutionary psychology.

As prestigious an accomplishment as receiving a Fulbright Graduate Fellowship is for the student, I believe the institution and program receiving the student need to be commended for equally prestigious success. Congratulations to Anna, Dr. Shackelford and our psychology program as a whole.

## ENGINEERING ESTEEM



Oakland University Professor of Engineering Barbara Oakley has been named a [Michigan Distinguished Professor of the Year](#) by the Michigan

Association of State Universities (MASU).

Among many other accomplishments, the honor recognizes success Dr. Oakley has seen with her New York Times best-selling book, "A Mind for Numbers," as well as the world's most popular massive open online course, Coursera's "Learning How to Learn."

MASU Chief Executive Officer Daniel J. Hurley said, "(Dr.) Oakley represents the very best of teaching, inclusivity and dedication to student success." I could not have said it better myself, but offer my highest commendations nonetheless.

## IN GOOD COMPANY



David T. Fischer



Ted Lindsay



Angela Braly

From the start, the impetus for this newsletter has been to share the promising, inspiring and breathtaking accomplishments of faculty, staff, students, alumni and supporters within the Oakland University community.

I believe there is value in also recognizing that wonderful work is being done by a distinct cadre of individuals outside our campus – individuals who are dedicated and passionate about making our world a better place.

The University is honored to be associated with and formally recognize such individuals by awarding honorary degrees, and I think our three most recent recipients are particularly deserving. I congratulate Oakland University Trustee Emeritus David T. Fischer, former Detroit Red Wing Ted Lindsay and acclaimed business executive Angela Braly for their tremendous contributions, and I encourage all in our campus community to learn more about their work in this [News at OU web article](#).

Is there a point of pride you feel is worth sharing with the campus community?

If so, please [submit your idea](#) for consideration.

If you are interested in exploring past editions of this newsletter, we invite you to visit the [Points of Pride archive page](#).

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