

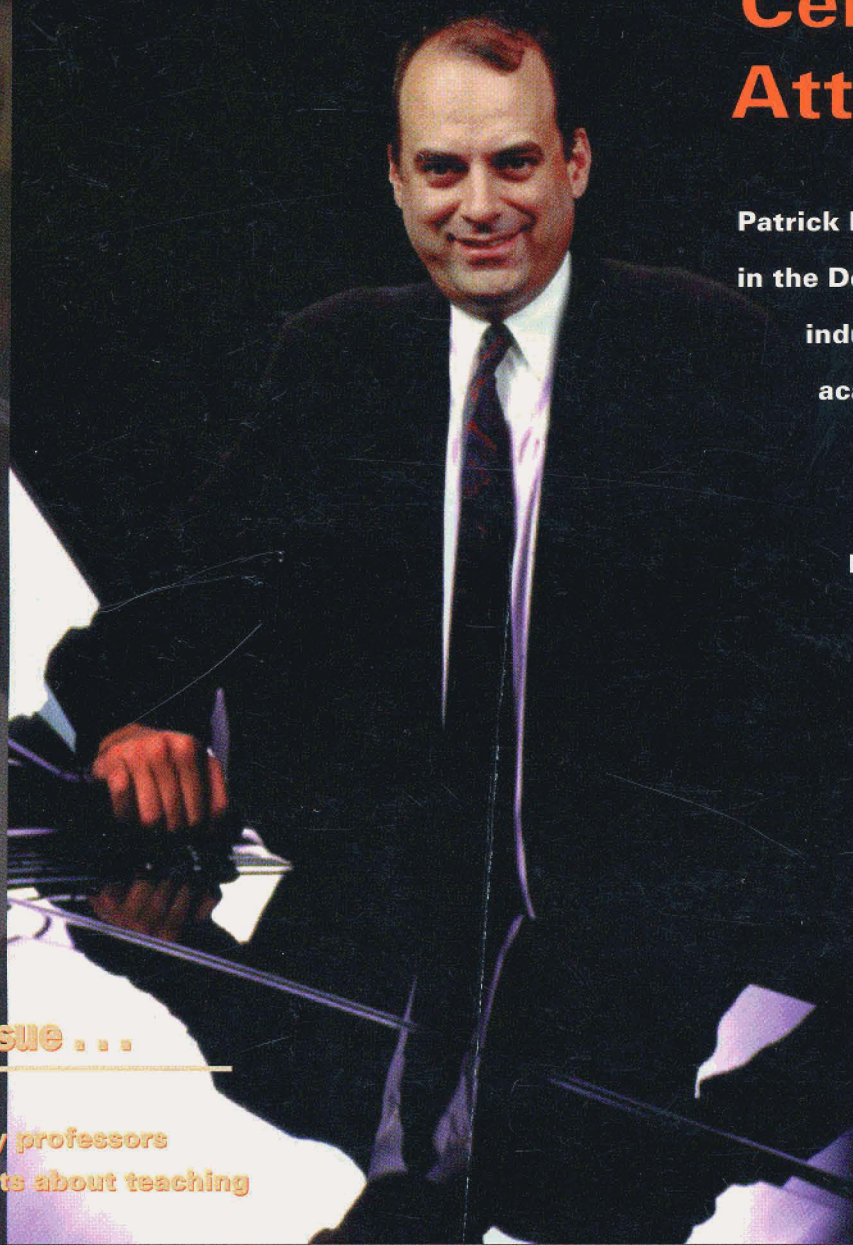
Oakland University

Fall 1998

MAGAZINE

Center of Attention

Oakland alumnus
Patrick Dessert's interest
in the Detroit automotive
industry isn't merely
academic. He's also
turning real-life
problems into
practical learning
experiences for
OU students.



Also in this issue . . .

The Masters

Oakland University professors
share their thoughts about teaching
and life

Let's Get Physical

Oakland University meets student
expectations for a living-learning
environment

Don't be left behind

Here is a one-time offer to be part of history!

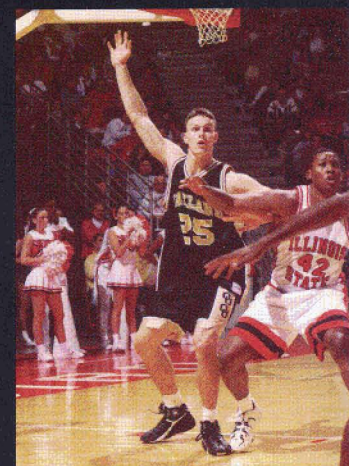
Don't miss this limited opportunity to buy season tickets. **Oakland University's** Division I men's basketball team opens its new state-of-the-art arena against the third-ranked **Michigan State University Spartans** Nov. 17.

- **Ticket Price:** \$96 (\$72 for OU faculty and staff; good locations still available. **Act now!**)
- **Number of games included in the package:** 12 men's games and 12 women's games.

1998-99 Oakland University Home Basketball Schedule

Day	Date		Opponent	Time
Tue.	Nov.	17	Michigan State	7:00 p.m.
Tue.	Nov.	24	UM-Dearborn	7:35 p.m.
			Morehead State (WBB)	5:15 p.m.
Wed.	Dec.	16	Ohio University (WBB)	7:00 p.m.
Sat.	Dec.	19	Rochester College	3:00 p.m.
Tue.	Dec.	29	Loyola of Chicago	7:35 p.m.
			Detroit Mercy (WBB)	5:15 p.m.
Thu.	Jan.	7	Valparaiso #	7:35 p.m.
Thu.	Jan.	14	Oral Roberts #	7:35 p.m.
Sat.	Jan.	16	Missouri-Kansas City #	3:30 p.m.
Thu.	Jan.	21	IUPUI #	7:35 p.m.
Sat.	Jan.	23	Youngstown State #	3:30 p.m.
Tue.	Jan.	29	UM-Dearborn (WBB)	7:00 p.m.
Thu.	Feb.	4	Southern Utah #	7:35 p.m.
Sat.	Feb.	6	Western Illinois #	3:30 p.m.
Sat.	Feb.	13	Chicago State #	8:00 p.m.

Indicates Mid-Continent Conference doubleheader, men's game time listed, preceded by women's game two hours earlier. All dates and times are tentative and subject to change. For any additional questions, call **(248) 370-4034**.



OU BASKETBALL SEASON TICKET ORDER FORM

I am interested in _____ season tickets @ \$96 per seat (\$72 for OU faculty and staff).
 Enclosed is my check (payable to Oakland University) in the amount of _____ (please enclose \$2 for postage/handling).
 My preferred location, if possible, is (check where applicable) _____ Players' side _____ Opposite players _____ Rows 1-7 _____ Rows 8-14 _____ Behind basket (top row only).

NAME _____ DAYTIME PHONE _____
 ADDRESS _____

Return to: Oakland University Basketball Tickets, Lepley Sports Center, Rochester, MI 48309-4401.

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Executive Director of the
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On the cover: Patrick Dessert MS '88,
Ph.D. '94, assistant professor and director,
Product Development and Manufacturing
Center



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Center provides needed training in engineering of commercial products



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Stop — in the name of copies

To meet the needs of students, Oakland University's new Copy Stop Etc. opened in the Oakland Center.

The full-service copy center offers such services as high-speed copying, faxing, notary public, digital color copying, laminating, coil binding, stapling and collating, and duplicating of resumes, dissertations and theses. The center, which houses Mac and IBM computers, also provides services needed to complete printing projects.

"The 'etc.' portion of our service center offers United States Postal Service, UPS

and Fed Ex and all packaging materials needed to use these services," Center Coordinator Kathleen Osentoski says.

Osentoski and Dave Lewis, the assistant coordinator, welcome OU employees and alumni to stop by for a visit.

Fall hours of operation are 8 a.m. through 8 p.m. Monday through Friday.

Call (248) 370-2851 for more information.

Jay Delcamp rates courses for *Golf Digest*

Golf Digest magazine chose Jay Delcamp, Katke-Cousins golf course superintendent for 19 years, to serve as a panelist for rating the *100 New Best*

Golf Courses in America.

His evaluations of new courses in Michigan will appear in a January 1999 issue. Delcamp will play the courses and rate from 1-10 shot values, playability, resistance to scoring, design variety, memorability, aesthetics and conditioning.

New services for the hearing and visually impaired at MBT

Oakland University's Meadow Brook Theatre will offer new services for the hearing and visually impaired during its 1998-99 season, with designated performances of



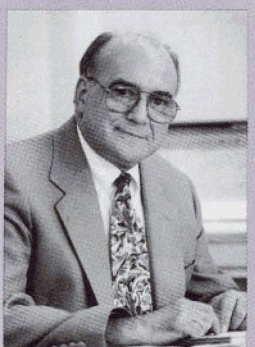
Lynne Schaefer



David Downing



William Macauley



Ron Cigna



David Doyle



Ann Nicholson

Oakland University names new vice president; other leadership moves announced

Lynne Schaefer is Oakland University's new vice president for Finance and Administration and treasurer to the Board of Trustees.

Schaefer has spent the last 10 years working for Wayne State University, where she held positions ranging from vice president of administrative services to director of the budget office.

For the past six months, she has served as a financial management consultant for the Barbara Ann Karmanos Cancer Institute. She also spent nine years working in Lansing for the Michigan Department of Treasury and the Michigan Department of Management and Budget.

Oakland also named David Downing interim

vice president for Academic Affairs and Provost, taking over for Dagmar Cronn, who returned to teaching as a professor of chemistry.

William Macauley, associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences, will assume Downing's former role as CAS dean on an interim basis.

Ron Cigna is Oakland's new vice provost for information technology. Cigna comes from Indiana University Purdue University Fort Wayne (IPFW), a regional campus for Indiana University and Purdue University. He was director of computing and data processing services at IPFW since 1991.

David Doyle is the new chair of the OU Board of Trustees, and Ann Nicholson is the new vice chair.

each production providing special interpreting.

American Sign Language-interpreted performances will be offered on one Tuesday evening for each of the season's seven productions. Audio-described performances will be offered on one Wednesday evening for each of the seven productions.

Ticket reservations and more information are available from the MBT box office at (248) 370-3300.

Program celebrates first graduation

Mentors acknowledged the scientific contributions of Oakland University's first graduates of a biological communication program on August 20 at Meadow Brook Hall.

The class includes eleven OU undergraduates and two high school teachers. Students in the two-year Howard Hughes Fellowship Program in Biological Communication attend a summer seminar and do part-time research with faculty mentors in the fall and winter. They work in the labs full time the next summer before they graduate. Mentors are faculty members from the Eye Research Institute and the departments of Biological Sciences and Chemistry.

Campus crime drops 15 percent in 1997

Oakland University campus crime statistics for 1997 show that nothing beats the beat cop. Oakland's overall crime rate dropped last year by 15 percent. Much of the credit goes to the sight of the friendly beat cop patrolling campus, says Police Lt. Mel Gilroy.

"Our police officers make it their responsibility to know the community and the people they serve, and when there is a problem on campus, they take it very personally," Gilroy says.

In 1992, the Oakland Police Department became one of the first units in the area to form and staff a routine and special-event mountain bike patrol.

OU Police Chief Richard Leonard says the support of the university administration and the Oakland County prosecutor helps patrol officers do their job.

The administration recently approved a realignment of the duties of the 16-officer force, allowing for another patrol officer, Leonard says. And the prosecutor's office has been helpful when it comes time to press charges against perpetrators of crime on campus, Leonard says.

"Other crime prevention programs, such as emergency blue light phones, illuminated walkways, closed circuit television cameras and our student cadet program have helped to provide additional safety services to the university community and have helped to reduce crime."

Summer enrollment climbs 7 percent

Oakland University's summer 1998 student enrollment totaled 4,338 compared to last year's 4,071.

The gain follows an increase to 6,703 in spring 1998 enrollment, which was up 1.5 percent compared to spring 1997's total of 6,605. Winter 1998's headcount of 13,295 is OU's highest winter enrollment total, up from 13,075 in winter 1997.

Oakland's highest enrollment total was 14,379 students in fall 1997.

Committee makes progress

In preparation for an accreditation site visit, the Oakland University North Central Self-Study Committee presented its first draft in early September to the President's Cabinet, Deans' Council and Steering Committee.

Other key dates:

- October 30, final draft of executive summary completed and printed
- November 1, advance packet to be sent to evaluation team
- November 15, final report to be sent to evaluation team

- December, begin to arrange visit of site team
- January, Power Point presentation to OU academic units
- February 15, site visit begins

Oakland selects faculty excellence winners

The 1998 Oakland University Faculty Excellence Award Winners are:

- Ronald Finucane, Research Excellence Award. Finucane is a professor of History, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Dyanne Tracy, Teaching Excellence Award. Tracy is an associate professor, School of Education and Human Services.
- Natalie Cole, Teaching Excellence Award. Cole is an associate professor, Department of English, College of Arts and Sciences.
- Guohua (James) Pan, New Investigator Research Excellence Award. Pan is an assistant professor, Department of Mathematics and Statistics, College of Arts and Sciences.



Oakland dedicates Recreation and Athletics Center

Preparing to cut the Recreation and Athletics Center ribbon are (from left) OU student leader Scott Beebe, State Rep. Hubert Price Jr. (D-Pontiac), OU President Gary D. Russi, OU Board Chair David Doyle, State Senate Majority Leader Dick Posthumus (R-Alto), State Sen. Mat Dunaskiss (R-Lake Orion) and keynote speaker Patti Holmes. "For me, the Recreation and Athletics Center is one more sign of the university's progress in becoming the model university for the 21st century," Russi says. "This state-of-the-art building is symbolic of our efforts to develop the minds and bodies of our students — whether they be the scholar-athletes who have built our reputation in intercollegiate competition or the recreational participants who seek enrichment through wellness, fitness and social interaction." See related story on page 14.

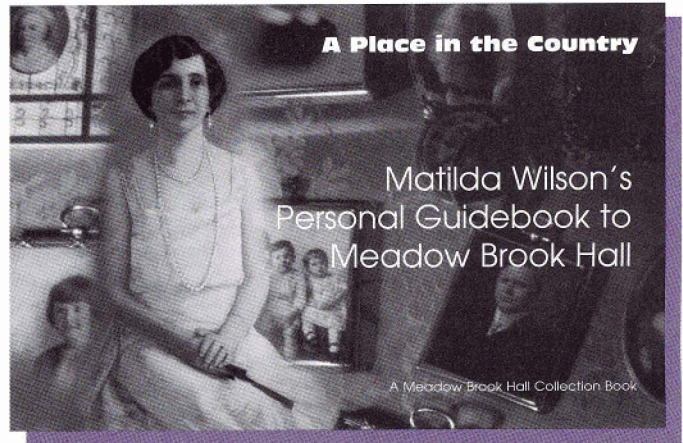
Start the presses — Oakland to roll out university press

The new Oakland University Press will launch a pilot project this fall titled *A Place in the Country: Matilda Wilson's Personal Guidebook to Meadow Brook Hall*.

Supported by a \$10,000 Strategic Plan Fund grant, the press was the inspiration of Bradley P. Driscoll Jr. CAS '66, president, Lyceum Publishing.

- Goals include providing:
- contributions to scholarly and consumer publishing
 - publishing opportunities for faculty research and scholarship
 - university recognition opportunities
 - student enrichment and education

"The Oakland University Press will advance the educational mission of the university by direct, tangible and enduring contributions in teaching, learning, research and service," says Geoff Upward, press executive director and director of University Communications and Marketing. "Further, the press activities and products of the press will produce local, regional and national recognition in selected areas. Our charge is to operate on a self-supporting, revolving



fund basis, so we will be seeking titles with strong sales potential.

"We will publish through selected 'lines,' areas of university strength and excellence. As lines are defined and added to the publishing mix, the press' approach will be to seek manuscripts and other project ideas from experts and notables in the various fields."

The first line selected, focusing on Meadow Brook Hall, will address such topics as architecture and architectural history, social history, historic preservation and interpretation, historical landscape architecture, and art and art history. Future MBH "line" projects may include Wilson family life, a MBH cookbook and a MBH coffee table book.

Press activity may also include creation of a publishing curriculum in the College of Arts and Sciences.

Participants would learn the steps in the book publishing process, and, as part of their work, create a product that could be sold as a title through the press (with generated revenues funding the class project for the next year as well as producing additional income for the press).

An advisory board for the pilot project included Lynn Anderson, external relations director, MBH; Lisa Ashby, executive director, MBH; David Disend, vice president for University Relations and executive director of the OU Foundation; David Downing, interim vice president, Academic Affairs and Provost; William V. Haney, executive vice president of DMB&B advertising and founder and president of Momentum Books; Driscoll and Upward. An ongoing board will be formed after publication of the pilot project.

Books may be purchased through the Meadow Brook Hall Giftshop. Call (248) 370-3140.



Oakland offers new ID card

Oakland University students, faculty and staff this fall will use new

convenient ID cards that will allow them to check out library materials, do their banking, enter buildings and pay for items from books to meals.

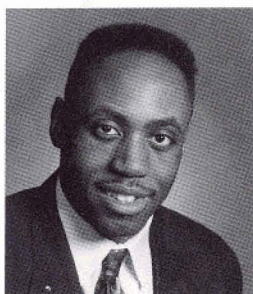
The SpiritCard includes the holder's picture and signature and a magnetic strip on the back, like conventional credit, debit or ATM cards. The campus is being wired now to enable communication between points of service and a computer in the Oakland Center, which keeps track of transactions.

New student services center to provide an effective experience

Oakland University this fall will launch an innovative student services center.

The Advising Resource Center connects new students with OU advisers, peer mentors, graduate assistants, faculty and various support services on campus to provide a more effective student

experience, especially during the critical first year. The center is equipped to create a technology supported academic advising environment that will provide students and advising staff access to information resources. This will enhance the adviser-student interaction process, says



Glenn McIntosh

Glenn McIntosh, center director and director, Office of Equity.

Center goals are to increase connections among new students, faculty and staff, provide a friendly, consolidated, student-centered advising program, and enhance the retention of all students, particularly undecided students, through the advising process.

"Outcomes are anticipated to be improved student retention, higher graduation rates, more student involvement on campus, and new programs and services," McIntosh says. "We will be very active in the lives of students until graduation. We

will counsel and advise them on a regular basis, tracking their success and identifying problems before they can hinder academic and social success."

Center provides helpful workshops

Oakland University's Center for Family Business presents quarterly workshops on issues affecting family businesses.

Upcoming workshops include *The Family Business in the Information Age: Using Information Technology to Give Your Family Business a Competitive Edge* in November and *Growing Up in a Family Business* in February 1999.

The center also provides continuing education to the business sector. Programs include Personal Financial Planning and Production and Manufacturing Management.

Kresge Library launches Voyager computer system

Oakland University's Kresge Library dedicated its new Voyager on-line computer information management system September 3.

Voyager, which replaces the LUIS information system,

uses Microsoft Windows and is compatible with OU's new campus administrative system, Banner.

The computer system will improve student services and reduce the time it takes to research.

You've got questions, they've got answers

A new campus information center opened July 1 on the first floor of the Oakland Center, next to Fireside Lounge.

Called 2020 Info, student employees offer information about OU departments, programs, services, events and activities.

They also provide information about surrounding communities, accommodations, shopping and events, directions to lost-and-found sites and a book of menus from nearby restaurants.

Tentative fall hours are 8 a.m.-10 p.m.



Oakland University student Heather McEvoy gets her question answered by student Sara Gorgow at OU's new 2020 Info center on the main floor of the Oakland Center. Eventually, a computer terminal will offer access to OU Web sites and other information.

Book donations contribute to Zimbabwe progress



Algea Harrison

Book donations started by an Oakland University professor are helping to rebuild Zimbabwe under black majority rule.

Algea Harrison, professor, Department of Psychology, College of Arts and Sciences (pictured right), started sending about 100 psychology textbooks every year to the University of Zimbabwe since her 1990 sabbatical there. Now OU's psychology students are helping by collecting sample textbooks from department faculty.

The southern African nation of Zimbabwe, formerly the British Colony of Southern Rhodesia, gained independence in 1980. Since then, the push has been on to educate blacks to replace whites in government and industry. Whites started to leave the nation after it gained independence.

Harrison taught at the University of Zimbabwe, the nation's only university, as a Fulbright scholar. The university built to house 3,000 white students now boasts 10,000 African students.

Books are scarce. Five students usually pool money to buy one textbook, which they share. Harrison has spent about \$300 annually in postage to send books to Washington, D.C. A contact at the American embassy in Zimbabwe arranges for shipment of the books from Washington.

Last spring, Psi Chi, the OU psychology club, collected textbooks, and the psychology department faculty and staff paid for postage.

To contribute books, call Harrison at (248) 370-2309.



Oakland University President Gary D. Russi presents a plaque to Suzanne Frankie, retiring dean, University Library. Before doing so, Russi and Frankie unveiled the library's new Voyager on-line computer information management system.

**Oakland
University
alumnus Patrick
Dessert's interest
in the Detroit
automotive
industry isn't
merely academic.
He's also turning
real-life problems
into practical
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OU students.**

By Theodore G. Coutilish



CENTER ATTENTION *of*

Patrick Dessert MS '88, Ph.D. '94, began his automotive engineering career as an 8-year-old on Detroit's east side, tinkering with engine parts and removing tires to see how they work. Today, he's one of the hottest young professors around, with an even brighter future.

Dessert — an assistant professor and the director of Oakland University's new Product Development and Manufacturing Center — is on a mission. He knows what happened to the American automotive industry in the 1970s, and never wants it to go there again.

"It was scary growing up," he says. "Detroit lost touch with where the automotive industry was going. People were going on strike, losing their jobs, and companies were shutting factories down and losing their market share. So I made a lifetime commitment to the automotive industry and the future of Detroit."

Through the PDMC, Dessert is fulfilling that pledge. The center tackles real-life, automotive-related manufacturing problems and turns them into practical learning experiences for OU students. The pilot program is intended to act as a catalyst for the advancement of the automotive industry by providing education, research and technology application in automotive design, development and manufacturing.

Savings through a virtual company

What's unique about the program is the opportunity to build and test a product through a virtual company called the Oakland Manufacturing Corporation. The OMC includes financial goals, engineering departments, a "virtual" mini manufacturing plant in the new Science and Engineering Building and front office support. This manufacturing environment is a test bed for prototyping application of technical solutions and integration of people and change issues. Called the "heart of simulation," the OMC is a baseline company that carries a completely "engineered" set of business process, financial and operational metrics and balanced white- and blue-collar work loads. The introduction of a new technology into OMC can be simulated

and studied from an engineering and business perspective to assure that the costs, risks, benefits and implementation issues are known. More than 300 business processes have been simulated to date, including the Automated Unmanned Vehicle System.

The center also provides:

- Training for manufacturing executives, engineers and OU students in such areas as systems engineering management and fundamentals and organizational learning. Current engineering technologies and tools and leading-edge engineering and engineering management theory principles are exchanged.

"The PDMC is a great idea that goes a long way to link industry to academia. This partnership gives the university a better understanding of what we're expecting from their output. We're looking for graduates to be standard parts that don't require a lot of modifications. If the fit is good, we're going to be more comfortable with that relationship. We're looking for finished products."

— John Borza

**chief engineer, Steering Systems
TRW, Sterling Heights**



relationship. We're looking for finished products."

Borza says the automotive industry is changing fast and the PDMC is on the leading "retooling" edge.

"Engineers now must see the bigger picture," he says. "The industry used to be these chimneys within the engineering disciplines, such as mechanical, electrical and computer, that wouldn't talk with each other."

"The PDMC bridges the chimneys and gives an opportunity for every engineer to walk in another's shoes from design to finished product to provide a more modular design."

-
- Industry-focused research, such as knowledge acquisition and collaborative engineering decision making, to keep training courses, engineering simulations and technology platforms current.

"The PDMC is a great idea that goes a long way to link industry to academia," says John Borza, chief engineer, Steering Systems, TRW, Sterling Heights. "This partnership gives the university a better understanding of what we're expecting from their output."

"We're looking for graduates to be standard parts that don't require a lot of modifications. If the fit is good, we're going to be more comfortable with that

'Automotive in my blood'

To borrow words from a commercial, this is not just a job for Dessert; it's an adventure. He's emotional and passionate about his work. He loves it, every minute. His enthusiasm is contagious. "I have automotive in my blood," he says. "I have the best job in academia. We're out there solving problems every day and making a difference in the real world."

Dessert earned a bachelor of science degree in engineering from the General Motors Institute in June 1985, a master's in engineering from OU in 1988 and a Ph.D. from OU in systems engineering in 1994. His previous work experiences

included stints with General Motors Corporation's Fisher Body World Headquarters, Flint Automotive and the Carnegie Group Inc. He has written numerous papers and made countless presentations, in addition to consulting for various automotive companies and suppliers.

Dessert credits his industry friendships and OU Engineering Professors Christian Wagner, Robert Judd and David Evans for his success. "I talk to Dr. Wagner all the time about how my OU education has really been invaluable to me," Dessert says. "Through the PDMC, I view myself giving back to the community, industry and school. I am sort of a lens that has focused the influences of others to create a laser to help everyone. My limited success is also their success."

SECS Dean Mike Polis supports Dessert's efforts in directing the PDMC.

"Pat is doing a great job in moving us closer to the current and future needs of the automotive industry and its suppliers," Polis says. "This supports the school's strategic direction."

"The PDMC is really going to change the way we teach manufacturing education, bringing systems engineering thinking into the process of design and manufacturing. The PDMC allows the industry to use the newest tools to see how they affect previous and future



What's unique about the PDMC is the opportunity to build and test a product through a virtual company called the Oakland Manufacturing Corporation. The OMC includes financial goals, engineering departments and a "virtual" mini manufacturing plant.

decisions through simulation tools."

Dessert sees a major discrepancy in the ability to identify engineering problems and knowing how to solve them on the manufacturing floor. Engineers must be good troubleshooters, but they also must understand who the user is.

"People come in all different shapes and sizes," Dessert says. "They have different-sized fingers and arm lengths and height and weight. Understanding

ergonomics is critical."

Lack of an overall perspective is a major shortcoming in the automotive manufacturing environment, Dessert says.

"Take, for example, a car that is built by engineers but cannot be easily serviced," he says. "Or take a manufacturing line that does not have good balance. You need to optimize the entire line to ensure parts flow from station to station in a timely manner."

Watch this center grow

Since its opening two years ago, the PDMC has trained more than 2,000 industry employees and collected \$1.7 million in support. The center now has 13 partners, including Daimler-Chrysler AG, Baan, TRW, NHK International and Deloitte Consulting. Dessert and a dozen other organizations are discussing future collaborations. "We're hoping to build toward \$3 million a year in funding," Dessert says.

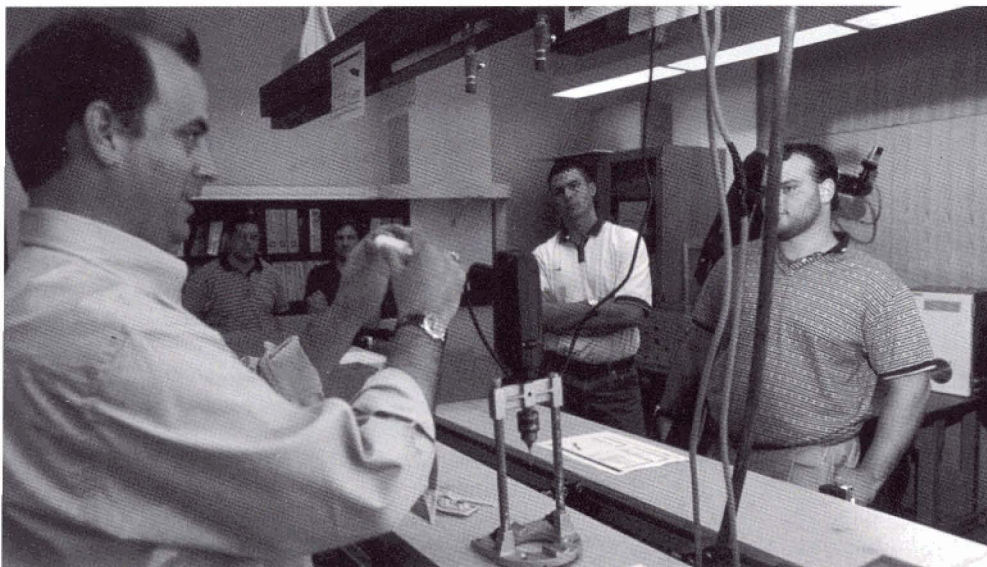
For industry, the center offers meaningful research, identification of important technological trends and the ability to customize the experience, knowledge and skills of graduating engineers. Active industry participation in instruction includes on-site collaboration, recruitment and sponsorship of doctoral students, guest lectures, field trips and improved course offerings through real-world examples of engineering technology and application.

Frederick O.R. Miesterfeld, engineering supervisor, Daimler-Chrysler, says the partnership has been beneficial, educationally and financially (see *The Last Page*).

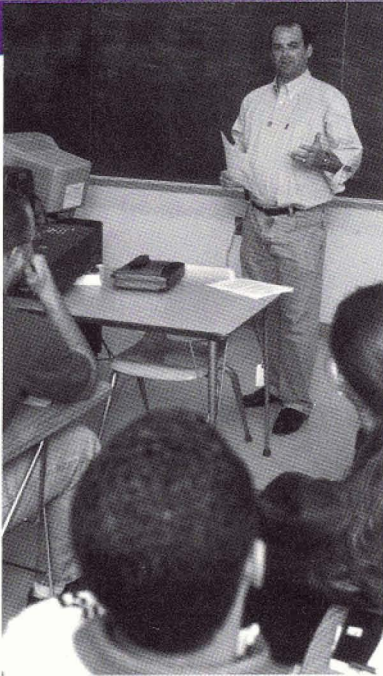
"We have trained 350 Daimler-Chrysler employees through the PDMC," Dessert says. "During a systems engineering exercise, some Daimler-Chrysler employees removed a superfluous minivan component which resulted in a multimillion dollar savings."

At TRW, engineers have gotten closer to customers through improved systems engineering capabilities learned at the PDMC. "OU students gain exposure to real-world applications and problems and we benefit from this partnership," Borza says.

Baan Automotive, a business unit of Baan Company, manages a simulated



Patrick Dessert (left) describes to Oakland University engineering students the importance of line balance in the automotive manufacturing environment.



"We're the only school in the country with the capability to give students hands-on experience in real-world automotive engineering applications."

**— Patrick Dessert
PDMC director**

assembly line and manufacturing operation at the PDMC.

"We have a unique opportunity to showcase the capability, flexibility and simplicity of our software," says Jeff Gross, Baan marketing director. "The PDMC allows us to bullet-proof some of our next-generation solutions in a sophisticated real-world environment."

For students, the PDMC supports Ph.D. research, independent studies, continuing education, and offers opportunities to work on leading-edge manufacturing projects. Projects include:

- The New Manufacturing Paradigm, aimed at understanding the extent at which organizational advancement can be achieved through the wise use of tools. Deneb Robotics, CSI and Deloitte Consulting sponsor the project.
- Daimler-Chrysler's Next Generation Vehicle Electrical Architecture, which takes a "green-field" approach to the design and development of the

automotive electrical systems to create the next generation of electrical systems. Vince Audet, an OU electrical engineering senior, and other PDMC students are trained to consider the design of a system, say a car's electrical system, rather than just a part or component. "This view is what the auto manufacturers are looking for in employees," Audet says. "When you take a systems engineering approach, you're thinking about every kind of process; how an automobile can be serviced, for example, before it is built."

Dave Shirkey, senior mechanical engineering major, has worked on the OMC, designing, building and assembling an unmanned vehicle. Shirkey joined several of Dessert's graduate students to develop the company. The company serves as a model for students who can change processes to see how it affects the business. For example, they can make changes in the cost, quality and speed of manufacturing and the service and maintenance of a product (such as a car's electrical system).

On a computer, Shirkey helped design a vehicle and the plant to produce it.

Dessert believes Oakland's proximity to the automotive industry — within miles of General Motors Corporation, Ford Motor Company and Daimler-Chrysler — gives it a unique position in automotive research, design and education.

"Auto executives in this area can drive 10 minutes up the road to Oakland University to support classes," he says. "Our distinct location and commitment to the automotive industry sets OU apart from every other school in the nation. We're the only school in the country with the capability to give students hands-on experience in real-world automotive engineering applications."

For more information, contact Dessert at (248) 370-2205.

Theodore G. Coutilish is the Oakland University Magazine editor.

PDMC benefits are many for industry

The Oakland University Product Development and Manufacturing Center provides:

- Training for manufacturing executives, engineers, lab partners and OU students in current engineering technologies and tools and leading-edge engineering and engineering management theory.
- A simulated product development and manufacturing environment and test bed for prototyping application of technical solutions and integration of people issues.
- Research in the capture of knowledge and integration of knowledge into the product development process through an industry-focused approach.



OU's Science and Engineering Building

THE MASTERS

By Amy Mindell

**Oakland
University
professors
share their
thoughts
about
teaching and
life**

Years ago, you came to a crossroads in your life. You stood before higher education and, without exception, knew this was the right path for you.

You took the path of knowledge.

You knew the journey would be difficult at times, but along the way there would always be someone to guide you. Perhaps it was a few reassuring words from the dean, an all-nighter with friends or insightful words of advice from one of your professors that allowed you to continue on your journey, meshing with the university and the very spirit the institution instills.

Oakland University professors know this journey well, and they understand that knowledge must be tempered with experience to have true meaning. "This is what knowledge really is," wrote Thomas Wolfe in *The Web and the Rock*. "It is finding out something for oneself with pain, with joy, with exultancy, with labor, and with all the little ticking, breathing moments of our lives, until it is rooted in the structure of our lives."

As today's students approach their crossroads, *Oakland University Magazine* asked six senior professors to share their lives and ideas on teaching.

Here's what we found.

Vincent Khapoya

Political Science, College of Arts and Sciences

Education, Empowerment, Life

Born in a rural area of Kenya, Africa, Vince Khapoya employed determination and talent to create an academic life. Neither of his parents were highly schooled, but they were dedicated to educating their six children. As the oldest child, Khapoya helped educate his five siblings, including one brother who attended Oakland.

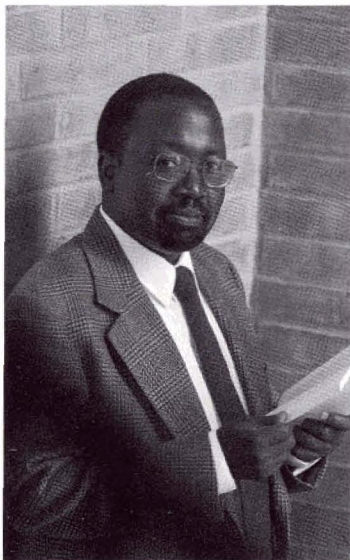
As such, one of Khapoya's life missions is to show students that education is fundamental to a solid adult life. "I tell them, 'Don't think about music or basketball. Very few make it. Think about education,'" he says. "Education is my religion."

Khapoya was greatly influenced by the fight for independence in his native country. Although he secured three bachelor degrees — mathematics, meteorology and political science — he chose to continue with political science because, in part, of his interest in political activism and the civil rights struggle in the United States, which were in full swing when he landed at Oregon State in 1965.

Being at OU since 1973, Khapoya has participated in numerous discussions and panels about political and social equality. He was on the president's committee on South African divestiture in the late 1970s, testified before Congress as an African affairs specialist and has advised state legislators.

"At the height of the American anti-Apartheid movement in 1988, I gave 45 speeches to university groups, civil rights groups, religious groups, business groups," he says.

Perhaps the most poignant struggle, however, was in his own backyard. When his two children began at a local public school in the mid-1980s, Khapoya and his wife were appalled at the insensitivity their children encountered, which led them to discover there were literally no teachers of color in the local schools. They set out on a campaign to integrate the district's hiring process. "Diversity is good for everybody because the world is diverse," he says.



Ron L. Cramer

Education, School of Education and Human Services

Looking for the 'Secret of Life'

When Nobel-laureate author Isaac Bashevis Singer was young, he entered a public library for the first time.

The splendor of it bedazzled him — high ceilings, wooden tables, row upon row of books.

Finally, he spotted the librarian behind the counter and blurted out, "I want to know the secret of life. I want a book on philosophy."

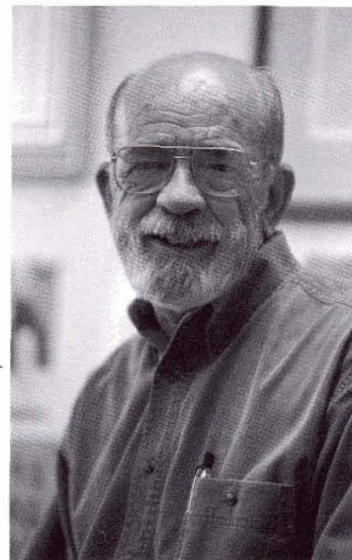
The librarian brought down two books, and neither had the answer. Over his lifetime, Singer constructed his own philosophy of life and perhaps even found his own secret.

For Ron Cramer, the secret of life remains one of the few things in this world that cannot be bought.

"You have to construct your own, and I believe that reading is the compass that can send you in the right direction," he says. "Reading opens doors to the intellect and soul. Books can take you on journeys of the mind and imagination down yellow brick roads and dark staircases, across mountains and plains, and through multiple universes many light years away. Journeys of the mind can be taken while sitting in a chair, riding on the subway, or swinging from a hammock. Readers can live a rich and satisfying life. And, whether prosperous or penurious, readers can sample the best life offers."

At OU since 1967, Cramer's mission is to try to impress upon teachers the importance of literacy in children's lives.

"Learning to read and write is the beginning of intellectual life," he says. "Nothing is more precious than literacy, and it should be the birthright of every child. And that has been my passion and my professional interest most of my adult life — to teach children how to read and write. Like young Isaac Singer, I'd like to know the secret of life but I'm beginning to suspect that God isn't going to tell me. And I know that books of philosophy haven't got a clue, either. I'll probably have to settle for a good book, a comfortable chair, and a Diet Coke."



Liz Barclay
**Management,
School of Business
Administration**

**The Experience of
Discovery**

Liz Barclay, an expert in industrial/organizational psychology, recalls her earliest days of teaching, when she selected the classroom over a corporate career.

"A university career with its teaching responsibilities had not been my primary reason for entering a doctoral program," says Barclay, who has taught at Oakland since 1980. "But soon I appreciated the great responsibility that is associated with teaching. This is something that I carry with me each time I step into a classroom."

Barclay says she owes a debt to one of her own professors, the late Ross Stagner of Wayne State University. She assisted Stagner, a well-known and respected researcher, as a teaching assistant and soon began to view teaching differently.

"He was dedicated, and I soon began to see that we played a role in shaping students' lives," she says.

Stagner played a strong role in her life, taking the time to visit her first classroom and critique her teaching skills. "His example and commitment to both graduate and undergraduate education encouraged me to consider a different career option," she says.

One of the great things about teaching for Barclay is seeing students learn how to solve problems and put ideas into a conceptual framework. "An even better outcome of teaching in my discipline is when, several years after graduation, students call and let me know they are using what they learned in class and how it has helped them," she says.

"Teaching is sharing a special part of yourself. The knowledge and skills you hope to impart are connected to a discipline that defines you as a professional."

Barclay believes teachers must remain "excited" about their research and that effective teaching is related to effective research.

"I know most of my students will return to ideas we discuss," she says. "The problems they address at work often have a foundation in our classroom experiences."



Lynne Williams
**Medical Laboratory
Sciences, School of
Health Sciences**

Encouraging Balance

For Lynne Williams, achieving balance is paramount.

As a Michigan State University student, Williams was interested in science but she couldn't decide on a single major. She chose medical technology because of its interdisciplinary mix among basic sciences and medicine.

"What sometimes is esoteric science had a real application to human pathology," she says.

At Oakland, Williams has worked to assure that health sciences majors get the same beneficial combination of clinical and science education.

When Williams applied for a teaching job at Oakland in 1978, she was surprised — and flattered — when the university asked her to head the Medical Technology Program.

She accepted.

"I did everything because there were not enough people to share the load," she recalls, adding that the curriculum is now "as strong or stronger" than any other program in the state. Williams is especially gratified that the curriculum is counterweighted, and emphasizes clinical expertise and basic science research.

"The curriculum really fits my philosophy in terms of overall balance. I like that Oakland encourages balance. The university expects its faculty to be scholarly, but puts the emphasis on students and teaching."

Williams is dedicated to teaching and to her students. She takes great pride in the successes of her former students.



Paul Tombouliau
Chemistry, College
of Arts and Sciences

Teaching for the Future

A charter Oakland University faculty member, Paul Tombouliau has learned to have a thick skin about his favorite academic area.

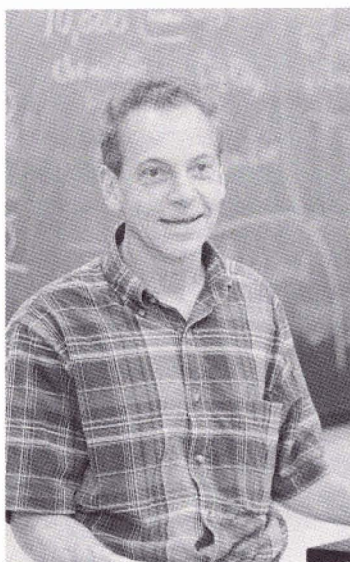
He had to; not many people appreciate environmental and organic chemistry as much as he does. In fact, Tombouliau himself admits that "it scares people; it's often poorly taught, and students don't know where it is leading. In a world surrounded by chemicals, it's unfortunate that chemistry is not intrinsically interesting to most people."

Although chemistry is a fascinating subject area, "newcomers tend to be frustrated by the complexities of the field." One of Tombouliau's professional challenges, as well as that of other Department of Chemistry faculty, has been to find ways to reveal the excitement and wonder of chemistry.

For Tombouliau, academia is a way of life. His father was a professor of physics at Cornell University and his grandfather taught at Robert College near Istanbul. As a child he knew that he would become a scientist. After 39 years at Oakland, he still looks forward to years of research and teaching. One of Tombouliau's proudest achievements has been the creation of the Environmental Health program in the Department of Chemistry, where students are prepared at a baccalaureate level to do sophisticated work in complex settings.

Tombouliau has avoided the pitfalls of other environmental science programs, which he believes are usually too narrow, too soft and out-of-date. He knew that Oakland would be the perfect setting to improve that record. "Oakland's history is to make success stories. Our program is better than other name-brand programs elsewhere in the state," he says.

The Environmental Health program is interdisciplinary, provides students with a strong science-based background, and develops critical-thinking skills about emerging concerns. While students take courses in many departments, the program is firmly rooted in chemistry. Graduates of this nontraditional program are snapped up by public agencies and private sector employers because they are well-equipped to contend with complex environmental and toxic substance control issues. "We must be educating for the future," he says. "Faculty have to stay current and teach students to do the same — keep learning, ask questions, challenge authority, solve problems and seek all the dimensions of any issue whether political, economic or scientific."



Gilbert L. Wedekind
Mechanical
Engineering, School
of Engineering and
Computer Science

Genuine Enthusiasm

Gil Wedekind knew he was a tinkerer growing up.

"I was always experimenting and building things or taking things apart to see how they worked," he says. "Engineering seemed natural. Teaching, however, never entered my mind until my senior year, when one of my professors at the University of Illinois took me aside and suggested that I give it serious consideration. Looking back from the vantage point of 30-plus enjoyable and satisfying years as an engineering professor, I am grateful for that conversation."

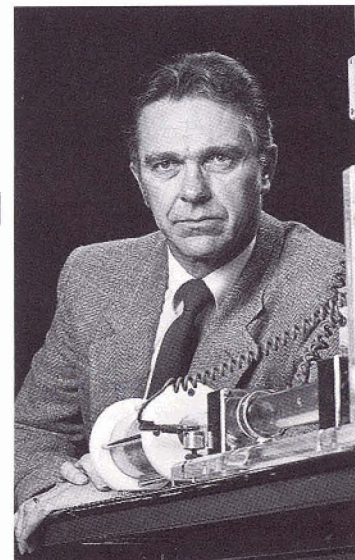
Wedekind joined Oakland's School of Engineering when it was only four months old.

"I was motivated by the sense of adventure, which has not abated. I always look forward to going to work, and each day holds the promise of discovery — discovery of a solution to a difficult research problem, or the discovery of a better way to teach a complex technical concept."

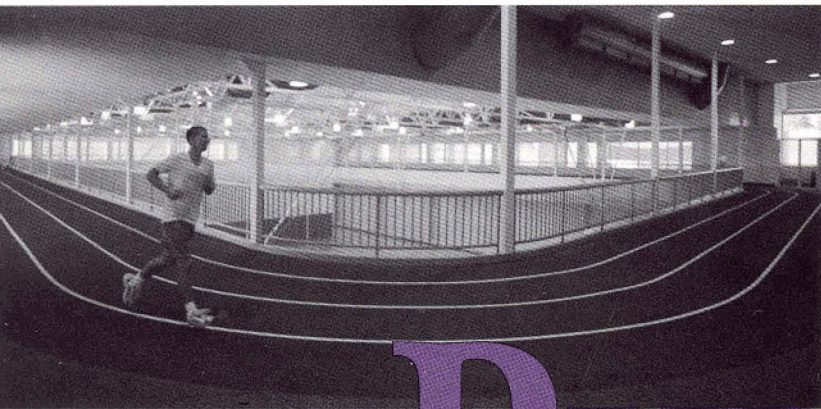
Good engineering requires a creative blending of theoretical and experiential knowledge. "A good engineering teacher must first be a good engineer," he says. "If you are confident that what you are teaching is of value, if you can get your students' attention and, if the students sense that you really care about them as individuals, then you'll be able to really communicate with them."

Wedekind loves his work.

Having the opportunity to interact with students in the classroom, laboratory or in research and on a personal level gives him great satisfaction. My hope is that I am able to make a meaningful contribution to their professional and personal lives," he says.



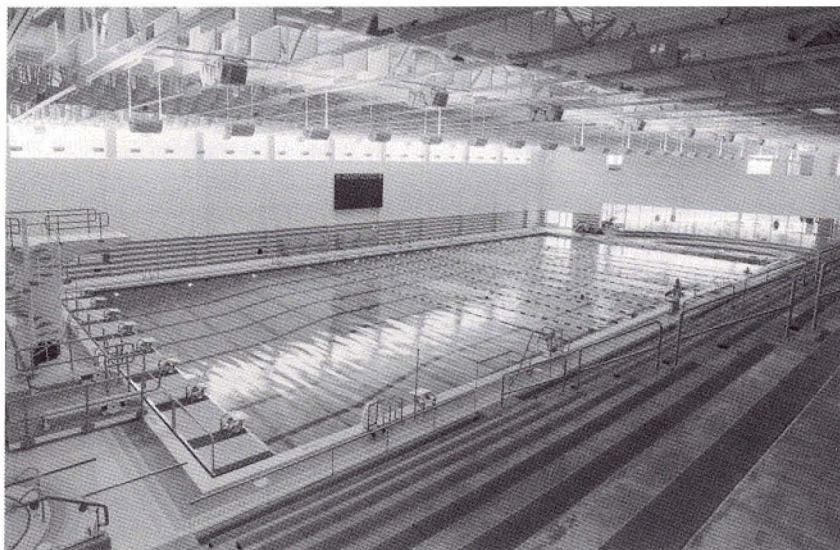
Amy Mindell is a Southfield-based freelance writer.



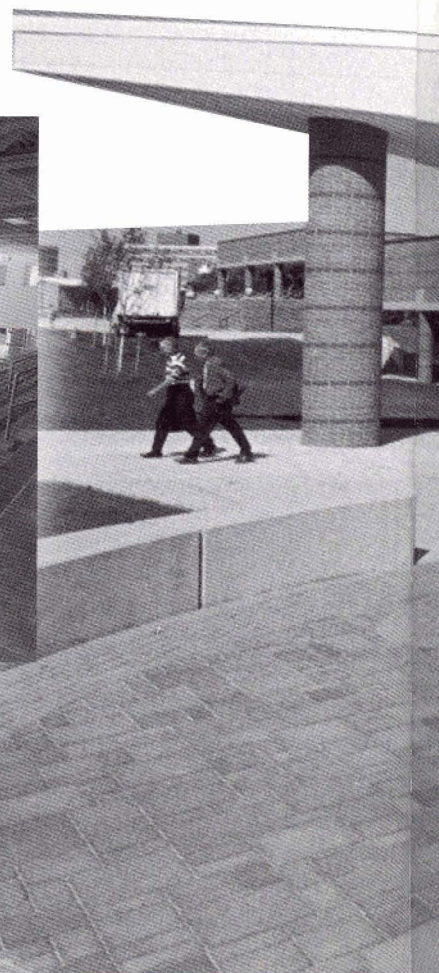
LET'S GET PHYSICAL

By Jennifer Charney

**With the opening of the
Recreation and Athletics Center,
Oakland University meets
students' expectations for a
living-learning environment**



The Oakland University Recreation and Athletics Center features a 50-meter pool with two bulkheads spanning the pool's width. These floating partitions can divide the pool five ways, allowing the center staff to hold different events simultaneously.



During the Carter administration, the standard for a university's basic provisions was simple: rows of residence hall rooms, hall pay phones and a basic gym.

But today's students are more sophisticated consumers who want colleges to provide amenities that they have at home: fitness centers, phones and voice mail, e-mail, and Internet connections from residential suites, for example.

Oakland University has responded — in a big way. On September 8, OU opened its \$37-million state-of-the-art Recreation and Athletics Center. The center opening comes amid a flurry of Oakland construction projects in recent years: the \$1.3-million Pioneer Court, a mall-style food center including Pizza Hut, Taco Bell and Burger King; the \$43-million Science and Engineering Building; a new mall in front of Kresge Library; the new Honors College facility; new

entranceways, signage, landscaping, parking lots and walkways; and a \$17.5-million School of Business and Applied Technology Institute (to open in fall 2000) and a \$1.4-million School of Health Sciences renovation. Renovations to Oakland Center's lower-level will include a games room with video games and pool tables, a TV lounge, new meeting rooms, a quiet study lounge and a computer lab with about 20 stations.

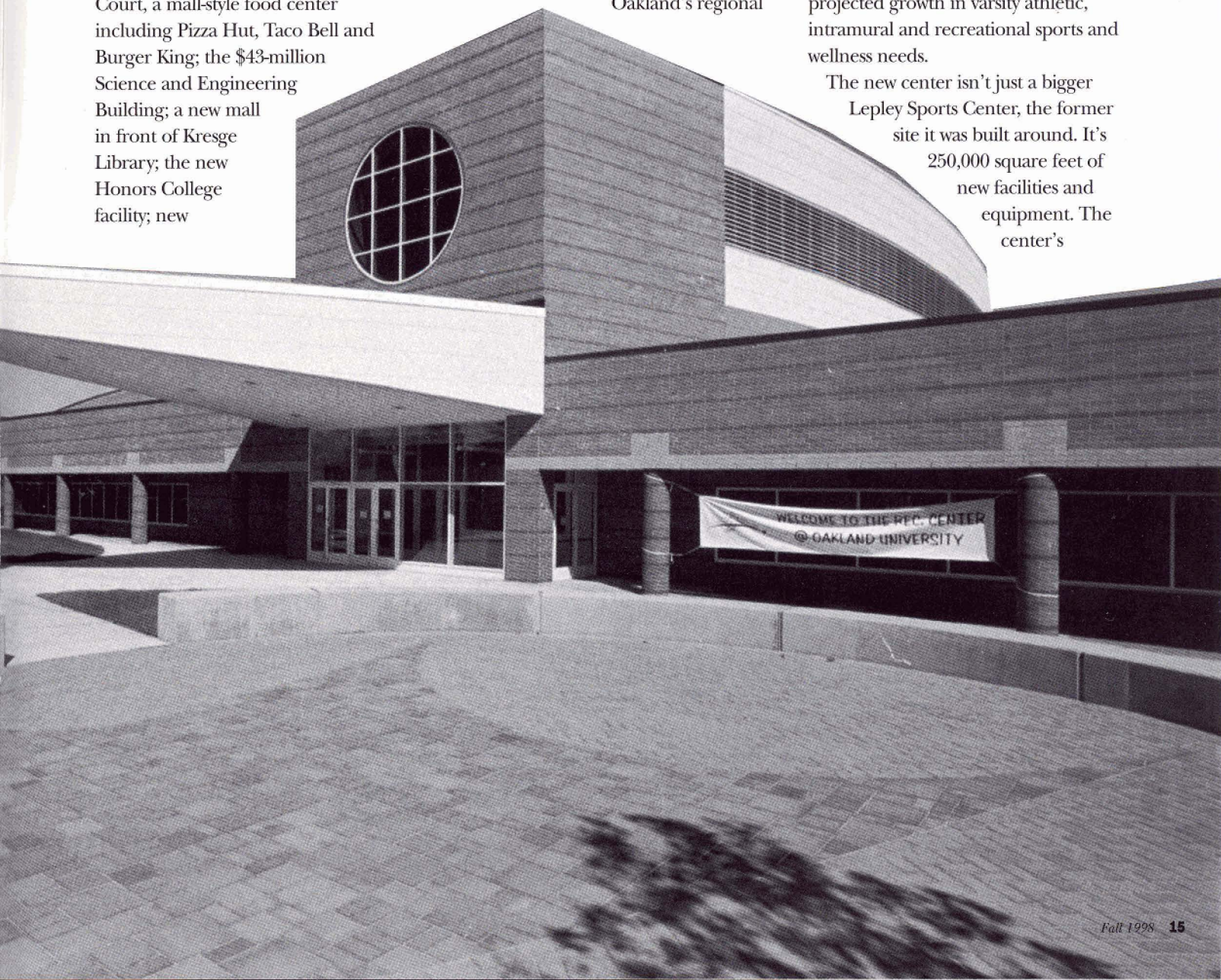
Construction of Oakland's recreation center became a priority after a study published in 1994 by Brailsford Associates, a Washington, D.C., market research company. The report said focus groups of students, faculty and staff perceived that many of Oakland's regional

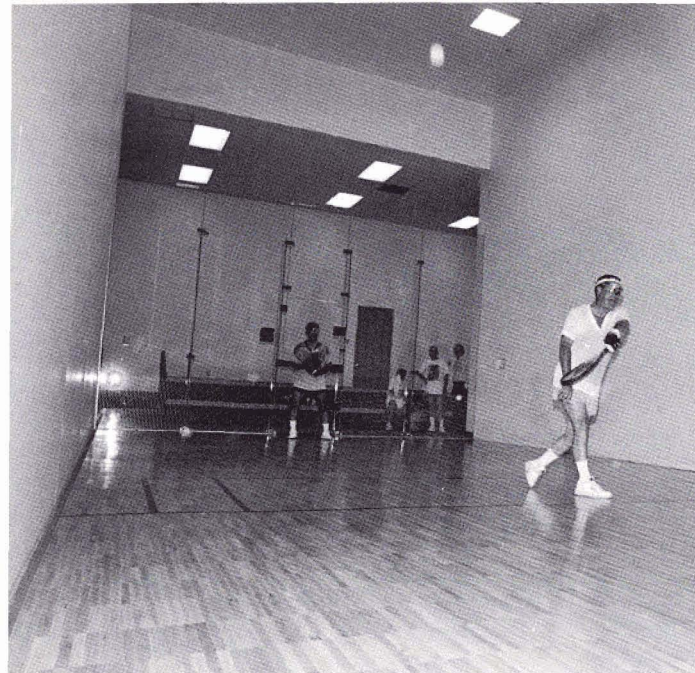
and national competitors offer better recreational facilities. It also said 61 percent of students and 71 percent of employees felt that new recreation and fitness facilities should be a high priority.

OU's Lepley Sports Center, built as an intramural building in 1962 for a student population of several thousand, was obsolete. It was the only indoor recreation and athletic facility for varsity practice, athletic competitions and the general recreation needs of some 16,000 students, faculty and staff.

Brailsford's market and programming analysis showed that Lepley did not meet the demand generated by the university's growth over the last 20 years, combined with projected growth in varsity athletic, intramural and recreational sports and wellness needs.

The new center isn't just a bigger Lepley Sports Center, the former site it was built around. It's 250,000 square feet of new facilities and equipment. The center's





Three racquetball courts are provided in the Recreation and Athletics Center.

athletics side features a 3,000-seat arena for basketball, volleyball and special events. The recreation side offers something for everyone, from beginner to advanced member:

- 50-meter pool (shared with athletics)
- Bubble pool (a warm whirlpool for about 30 bathers)
- 12-person hot whirlpool on the pool deck
- Three-court recreation gym for basketball, volleyball and badminton
- Four-lane running and walking track
- Three racquetball/walleyball courts
- Squash court
- 70 strength and cardiovascular machines
- Aerobic rooms
- Locker rooms
- Family changing room
- Classroom
- Team sport gym
- Social lounge
- Vending machines
- Large-screen TV area
- Club Cappuccino snack bar

The aquatic center features a 1,000-seat natatorium and a 50-meter pool

with two bulkheads spanning the pool's width. These floating partitions can divide the pool five ways, allowing the center to hold different events simultaneously. For instance, open lap swimming can continue in one section while intercollegiate swimming or diving competitions are under way in another. Even if the entire rec center pool is used for a large swim meet, lap swimming would still be available in the old Lepley pool.

Now, lap swimming is available virtually whenever the rec center is open.

"OU's natatorium is one of the largest in the state with 1,000 spectator seats and a pool 11 feet longer than the standard Olympic-sized pool," says Mike Rossi, aquatic coordinator.

Recreation programs include group fitness sessions, such as step and hi-lo aerobics. All fitness sessions are drop in — none require registration. The center also offers fitness assessments; open swimming; open gym (for pickup basketball, volleyball and badminton); strength training; wellness programs including weight and stress management and smoking cessation; instruction in how to use equipment; family nights and children's programs.

Advantages include early and late hours — plenty of time to work in a workout, before work, at lunch or after work. Center members also get more services and amenities for a lower fee compared to other local gyms, says Greg Jordan, director, Campus Recreation.

"We offer a full-service facility with

an aquatic center, weight training area and more," Jordan says.

With all that the center offers, members could develop interests in other fitness activities, he says. Most other gyms add charges for programs such as fitness sessions, but most center sessions won't require additional fees.

Other benefits include:

- An expanded aquatic program. Lap swimming is available virtually whenever the center is open.
- More time for workouts. "When there's an event in the arena, recreation will still be available," Jordan says. "You can still get your workout."
- Trained, friendly staff help tailor exercise programs to meet your needs. Center professionals are always available.
- The latest in recreation technology. The weight room features 70 exercise machines, some new on the market, such as the StairMaster Free Runner, an elliptical exercise machine that lessens loads on knees and ankles compared to conventional steppers; and Paramount ART (Advanced Rotary Technology), a line of strength-building machines that provide a smoother workout with greater ranges of motion.
- High-fidelity audio and video equipment. Twenty-three monitors throughout the building will show daily program schedules and cable-TV sports. Instructors will also use TVs in classrooms to enhance courses, showing videotapes to reinforce or introduce a lesson, for example.

To join or for more information about the Recreation and Athletics Center, call Campus Recreation at (248) 370-4732.

Jennifer Charney is a freelance writer from Ferndale, Michigan.

Alumni Relations adds staff members

Alumni Relations staff members Adrienne Bass and Linda Oliver, who have been doing double duty for several months, have been joined by three new staff members.

Susan McGough, the new director of Alumni Relations, comes to Oakland University from Penn State University where she was director of alumni continuing education. Her professional background is in student recruitment and continuing education and training. She also works with nonprofit organizations and boards in the areas of strategic planning, volunteer administration and organizational culture.

Michelle La-Vita, originally from Cambridge, Massachusetts, and most recently from Birmingham, Alabama, is handling alumni records and also compiles the classnotes for *OU Magazine*. La-Vita served in the Navy and will be enrolled at Oakland University as a part-time student, to complete her psychology degree.

Jaulanda Davenport, a soon-to-be Oakland alumna with a degree in management information systems, updates membership records. Davenport also works with La-Vita on alumni records and assists Oliver with special projects.

For alumni-related information, call (248) 370-2158 or send an e-mail: ouaa@oakland.edu

Oakland cancels Katke-Cousins golf outing

Unusually high temperatures and moisture levels spurred growth of a turf-destroying fungus at Katke-Cousins Golf Course, prompting cancellation of the August 10 alumni association golf outing.



Susan McGough



Michelle La-Vita



Jaulanda Davenport

Pythium disease spread to several areas of the course by the evening of August 9. Pesticides were applied immediately and again on the day of the event. Jay Delcamp, golf course superintendent, closed the course because of the pesticide's environmental re-entry period

and because of the high possibility that golfers and carts could spread the fungus. All players received a certificate to play golf later. Next year's outing is August 9.

Watch your mail for an invitation.

Oakland celebrates fifth Alumni Awards Banquet

The Oakland University Alumni Association on September 18 sponsored the fifth annual Alumni Awards Banquet at Meadow Brook Hall. Standing with OU President Gary D. Russi, Spirit Award winners from upper right, right center and right below: Stephan and Rita Sharf, Susan Jezewski Evans CAS '88 and James and Anne Howlett. Below are Michael W. Grieves MBA '79 and Diane Grieves SBA '83, winners of The Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award; Jerry L. Clark CAS '75, The Odyssey Award; and Gary W. Laidlaw CAS '64, The Distinguished Alumni Service Award. Information on the awards nomination process is available by calling Alumni Relations at (248) 370-2158.



Companies become philanthropic partners with Oakland and gain future employees, other benefits

Oakland University has long been committed to involving local companies in the business of learning. Now Oakland's Corporate Associates Program is involving them in the life of the university.

Corporate Associates creates partnerships that strengthen the university while contributing to the well-being of corporations. Companies give to Oakland, and the program — and students — give right back.

"It's a wonderful way to involve businesses and nonprofit organizations in the life of the university," says Margo King, assistant vice president for University Relations and director of the Corporate Associates Program. "What's unique is that businesses benefit as much as we do."



Jeffery Van Dorn, executive vice president, Cardell Corporation

The program is enjoying tremendous success, with nearly 60 corporate associates that financially support the university. In return, they receive opportunities to become directly involved in the

university's academic efforts.

Some firms use university labs to train employees or partner with faculty to study production problems. Others recruit students for internships, even jobs.

"If a gift is designated to a certain school, that dean may develop an internship, co-op or other learning opportunity with the company," King says. "It opens the door to further partnerships. They gain access to our resources and facilities while providing support to future learners."

Cardell Corporation has

found the Corporate Associates Program rewarding for Oakland and the company's future.

"We conduct research in partnership with Oakland University," says Jeffery Van Dorn, executive vice president, Cardell Corporation. "Being a Corporate Associate fosters research, brings faculty into our work setting and provides us with access to top students."

Cardell Corporation supported Oakland for nearly a decade before becoming a Corporate Associate last year. Van Dorn now serves on the School of Engineering and Computer Science's Industry Advisory Board, providing opportunities to develop business relationships with other area suppliers.

"It's a valuable relationship that serves the needs of Cardell and Oakland," he says. "The program adds practical knowledge to the student experience, and it gives us opportunities we couldn't possibly afford ourselves. It's become very important to Cardell to participate."

Oakland's new Applied Technology in Business (ATiB) program is one area that has benefited from the generosity of corporate partners. Many companies have provided a two-year sponsorship for students admitted to the program.

"Sponsor companies provide us with problems they're facing, and our students use our labs to study and solve them. They're solving real-world problems as they apply theory from the classrooms," ATiB Director Mohan Tanniru says.

Competition is heavy for the nearly 20 spots available in ATiB annually.

Eighteen students have been offered internships with sponsoring companies.

"They've done such a good job and their sponsors feel they deserve the work experience,"

Tanniru says. "That's a strong indication the program is working and our sponsors are realizing genuine benefits."

The Corporate Associates Program offers varied philanthropic options for partnership. Unrestricted gifts allow the university to use them in areas of greatest need, while designated gifts can be directed to support one or more of the following:

- College of Arts and Sciences
- School of Business Administration
- School of Education and Human Services
- School of Engineering and Computer Science
- School of Health Sciences
- School of Nursing
- Center for Family Business
- Meadow Brook Hall
- Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute
- Meadow Brook Theatre

Companies receive extensive benefits including access to the 18-hole championship Katke-Cousins Golf Course (the 18-hole R & S Sharf Golf Course will open in fall 2000), Meadow Brook Hall events, Kresge Library, the Center for Family Business, Meadow Brook Health Enhancement Institute and the newly opened Recreation and Athletics Center.

Companies also are invited to business events. Through the Executive-On-Campus Program, executives participate in roundtable discussions with faculty, then move on to the classroom where they present to students. Members are also invited to the annual Hammerle Lecture Series, the Braun Lecture and other educational events.

"This program opens dialogue and creates new opportunities to work together," King says. "We're trying to share all that Oakland University has to offer."

For more information on the Corporate Associates Program and the ATiB Program, call King at (248) 370-4350.

Career/Accomplishments 1990s

Christine Blandina CAS '95

is currently working as an account executive at Marcus Advertising, New York.

Marie Bulaclac SON '95

won this year's distinguished alumni award. Bulaclac is manager of community health services and occupational health at Oakland Hospital in Madison Heights. She spearheaded a program that resulted in two-thirds of the hospital's employees achieving wellness goals.

Peter M. Czamanske SBA

'97 was promoted to vice president, Information Systems and Administration, Compass Group, Birmingham, Michigan. Czamanske joined Compass Group in 1990 after working in commodity options at the Chicago Mercantile Exchange.

Jennifer L. Farina SON '97

is a nurse practitioner in the birthing center at St. John Hospital, Detroit.

Rhonda S. Gaines SEHS

'94, MA '96, is a counselor for Student Success Services, Oakland University. She has completed certification as a trauma and loss consultant from the Institute for Trauma and Loss in Children.

Renee Gielniak SBA '98

has accepted a position with PricewaterhouseCoopers, Detroit, an international public accounting firm. She began work in September.

Garry Gilbert CAS '95

was promoted to executive editor of *The Oakland Press*, the top position in the newspaper's editorial department. Gilbert began covering high school sports for the newspaper more than 20 years ago.

Constance E. Ratliff SON

'95 was inducted into the University of Michigan-Flint Honor Society. She is employed part time as a faculty member at Mott Community

College, Flint, in nursing and in health care administration at Detroit College of Business-Flint Campus. She was also inducted into the Sigma Theta Tau International Honor Society of Nursing, Pi Delta Chapter.

Fenton Remick CAS '90

was named a partner with J. Walter Thompson advertising agency, Detroit.

Frauke Salewski SBA '96

returned home to Germany after spending eight years in the United States. He is now employed as a nationwide marketer at a network system integrator.

Sherri L. Steele SEHS '90

is an assistant principal at Chancellor Middle School, Spotsylvania County, Virginia.

Rayissa Slywka CAS '96

received a promotion at ESPN television network. Her new position is sales planner.

Kristen Francis Taylor SEHS

'97 has been named the new varsity girls basketball coach at Midland High School.

David L. Wisz CAS '94

is an attorney who specializes in intellectual property law at Howard & Howard law firm, Bloomfield Hills. He is a member of the State Bar of Michigan and the Michigan Patent Law Association.

June Schultz-Zydek CAS '96

has completed an apprenticeship in opera at Dorian Opera Theatre, Decorah, Iowa. In addition to her full-time vocal music teaching positions at St. Clair Middle/High Schools, she began this fall to teach at St. Clair Community College, Port Huron.

Gretchen Noel Strauchman

SON '97 is employed as a registered nurse at Mt. Clemens General Hospital. She is married to Michael J. Altermatt, who is an engineer at Gonzales Design. They were married on August 1, 1998, in Emmett, Michigan. She is currently working on a master's

degree and certification as a family nurse practitioner.

Tracy S. Utech (Wade)

CAS '91 moved from the Oakland University School of Business Administration to take a position as OU's assistant director of Annual Giving.



She does more than talk the Walk

Sometimes the best ideas come from chatting.

Just ask Michelle Walk SBA '93, a research analyst for the State of Michigan. She was talking with the Oakland University alumni relations staff about the Alumni Ambassadors Program in early 1997 when the "c" word came up.

"Somebody mentioned the word 'chapter' and we all thought it was a great idea for Lansing alumni," she says. "I was asked to check it out. So I did."

Since then, Walk has put together a small group of dedicated Lansing alumni. About 15 attended an after-work party last fall at Lansing's Trippers restaurant.

Chapter members are also active in the annual OU Day at the Capitol and the ambassadors program. Walk encourages Lansing-area alumni to join.

"We have between 300 and 400 alumni within a 30-mile radius of Lansing," she says. "By being active in the chapter, you will find an excellent way to network with area alumni and serve as a resource to the university."

Walk says it's important for OU to have a strong alumni chapter in Lansing.

"We want to help get OU's name out into the Lansing community, show that its alumni are successful and serve as a 'capitol' resource to OU students," she says. "We'll continue working on getting the word out."

Chatting will definitely help.

For information, call Walk at (517) 322-5070 or send an e-mail message to ouaa@oakland.edu

1980s

Karen Anderson SON '84, MSN '90, is a nurse practitioner in the plastic surgery unit at the William Beaumont Hospital, Royal Oak.

Jim Anker CAS '71, MBA '84, has been appointed superintendent of schools, Hazel Park.



Charles G. Clark CAS '72, MBA '80, is senior information technology manager solving year 2000 problems for large clients. He has been married 30 years to **Gail Moody CAS '75**, an artist-writer.

Duane Day CAS '81 is president/CEO, Molecular Innovations Incorporated, Royal Oak. Day has recently filed a joint patent with the American Red Cross, Washington, D.C., for a new biochemical assay for the accurate measurement of proteases in complex biological fluids such as plasma. The results could help prevent strokes and heart attacks.

James C. DeMar Jr. CAS '87 received a Ph.D. in biochemistry from the Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences, Baylor College of Medicine, Houston, May 26. He will perform post-doctoral work in the biochemistry of fatty acid metabolism at the USDA Children's Nutrition Research Center at Baylor.

Steve Dworack CAS '89 was promoted to engineering technologist, Ford Motor Company.

Paul E. Foley CAS '89 has been appointed as chairman of the Department of Community Service/Public Administration at St. Mary's College, Orchard Lake, Michigan.

Crossing the line

Carl and Nicole Cooper know how to make lemonade when handed lemons.

It was 1993 when Ameritech, during a corporate downsizing, laid off Carl Cooper CAS '90, MA '94. Nicole Cooper CAS '89 wanted to stay home with their children (Tyler, now 8; Tara, 6; and Isaac, 2).

The time off gave them the opportunity to think of a solution: They turned their degrees in history and communications into a unique home-based business — a bed and breakfast inn.

Called Holly Crossing Bed and Breakfast, the inn offers five guest rooms decorated in Victorian style. The most sought-after room is the Tara Suite, featuring a whirlpool tub, fireplace and balcony.

The Queen Anne Victorian B&B is filled with priceless antiques (far left). The Coopers opened the inn in May 1994 after extensive renovations.



Carl and Nicole Cooper



Holly Crossings is located in Holly, Michigan. The Queen Anne Victorian B&B is filled with priceless antiques (far left).

"Business has doubled every year," Nicole says. "We liked this house because of its historical attributes and its location near Holly's popular antique shops and dining."

All rooms have private bathrooms and are smoke-free. Prices range from \$49 to \$159 a day. Special packages are available.

"The greatest benefit for me is that I get to work at home and be with my family," Nicole says. "We have made a lot of friends. People come back and it's great to provide a place for special memories."

For those thinking of starting a bed and breakfast, Nicole advises them to do research.

"Read books, learn the city ordinances and state laws, crunch the numbers and make sure it will be profitable," she says. "For us, it's been sweet."

For reservation information, call (800) 556-2262.

Kevin R. Grazier CAS '87 has been promoted to the position of science system engineer for the Cassini Mission to Saturn at NASA's Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California. He was also the recipient of a NASA New Technology Award for innovative software.

Gary Lewis CAS '88 is working as a broadcast designer/graphic artist at InSync, Detroit.

Renee Mahler CAS '75, MA '82, was named director of community relations at West Bloomfield Township-based Regent Street Incorporated, specializing in older adult assisted-living communities. Mahler is a past commissioner on aging for the State of Michigan.

Christian McCallister CAS '82, MA '84, is a clinical psychologist at North Oakland Family Health Center. McCallister also volunteers for Oakland County Youth Assistance.

Rhonda L. Moon (Buckner) CAS '87 is midwest manager, Campus Relations, Electronic Data Systems, Troy. She married James Moon in 1995.

Lee A. Sartori SBA '83, MBA '86, is an attorney at Howard & Howard, P.C. He specializes in business, real estate and tax laws. Sartori is also a certified public accountant.

Martha Smyth CAS '80 opened a religious gift and supply store in Royal Oak called *The Good Book*. Smyth is married to Patrick Smyth, a Detroit zookeeper, and they have two daughters, Monica, 16, and Julie, 8. The family is active at St. Paul Lutheran Church, Royal Oak.

Mary Jo Pachla Whitbey SBA '80 received the Master's Club designation from Century 21 Great Lakes Region honoring agents for high 1997 sales production levels. She and Jeff, her husband, are residential real estate sales specialists at Century 21 Sakmar & Associates, Rochester.

1970s

Don Beagle CAS '75 has joined the faculty of the University of North Carolina at Charlotte, where he serves as associate director, Library Services, and head of the Information Commons. Beagle is completing his first book, *Text and Hypertext*, to be published in 1999, as a volume in the Foundations in Library and Information Science Series.

Stephen J. Bonczek SBA '73, MPA '76, is managing director for the City of Reading, Pennsylvania. He is co-editor of the book, *The Ethics Edge*, which is based on government ethics. He also authored and co-authored three of the articles in the book.

Ken Godowski CAS '70 is a microbiology manager, Atrix Laboratories, Ft. Collins, Colorado. Godowski enjoys mountain climbing and is planning to climb El Pico de Orizaba during the fall.

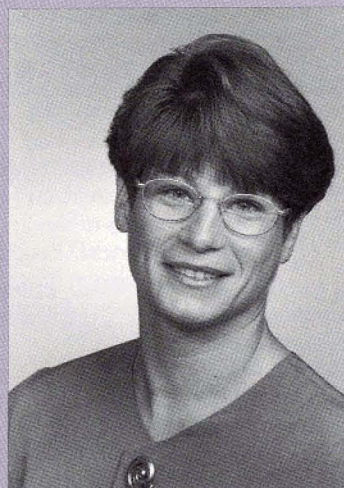
George W. Jackson Jr. SEHS '75 has been appointed as assistant manager, Economic Development and Ethnic Marketing, Detroit Edison.

J. Michael Jay SECS '77, MS '79, is now employed by J.D. Power and Associates, heading up their Marketing and Statistical Sciences Department which is located on the West Coast.

Judith Mather (Gervason) CAS '78 is a program coordinator of a 93-bed substance abuse treatment facility in Tuscon, Arizona. Mather went back to Macomb Community College to get her nursing degree.

Dave Sheehan CAS '79 owns Mr. Video Productions LLP, a video production company in Great Falls, Montana. His wife, Kristie, is an LPN at the Great Falls Clinic. They recently had their first child, Brianna Nicholle Sheehan.

Christopher Smith CAS '73 was promoted to vice president, Regulatory Affairs and Quality Assurance, AAI Inc., a pharmaceutical research and development company



Out of Africa

Love, poets say, makes the world go 'round.

Not entirely true, says Jan Shinske MSN '96. Caring also helps spin the orb on its axis.

"Caring is an international language that knows no boundaries, cultural or otherwise," Shinske says.

Shinske was a nursing consultant performing hospital operational assessments in Nairobi, Kenya, Africa, in 1996 when she realized that good health care is knowing more than the technical aspects.

"The spirit of nursing is knowing what to do, caring and applying all of the principles of health care to the clients' best advantage," she says. "You can't underestimate the power of caring in health care."

In Brazil this past spring, Shinske worked side by side with nurses and doctors who did not speak English. They communicated through body language.

"It was an amazing experience to see this unfold," she says. "You could see the passion and commitment without the use of words."

Shinske is an Oakland University visiting instructor. She teaches at the sophomore, junior and senior levels.

Her best advice: "Stay grounded in today and never stop learning."

based in Wilmington, North Carolina. Together with Susan Crissey, his wife, Smith regularly hosts high school-level foreign exchange students.

Edward Williams CAS '73 has joined the New England Securities Firm as a Registered Financial Representative. Williams brings to New England Financial Group a 20-year background in financial strategies and investments.

1960s

Katha Horne James CAS '69 is a senior quality engineer, General Motors Truck Group, Arlington, Texas. She has two adult children. The older graduated from Howard University and the younger child will be starting at Case Western Reserve University this fall.

Marty Williams CAS '68 is currently co-director of the Bay Area Writing Project in Berkeley, California. She ran her first marathon in June in

her hometown of Anchorage, Alaska. She writes and coordinates writing workshops for teachers in the San Francisco Bay Area.

Engagements/ Weddings

Heather Arnott SEHS '94, MA '98, announces her engagement to Paul Payne. She has been teaching at Davisburg Elementary in the Holly area schools for 3 1/2 years. He is pursuing a degree in law enforcement. The wedding is scheduled for July 10, 1999.

Christopher Kennedy SECS '97 married Amy Christensen in December. Kennedy is a vehicle engineer, Chrysler Corporation. Christensen is a research assistant and graduate student at Michigan State University.

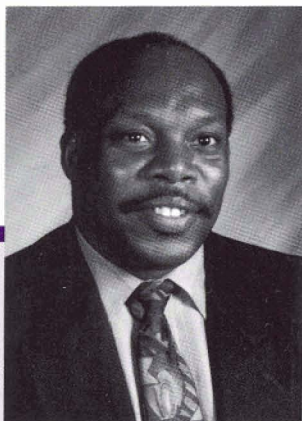
Mary Lynn (Barbee) Lusane CAS '82 married Therman Lusane Jr. on May 30, 1998. She is a marketing and communications officer for the Department of Parks and Recreation, City of Flint. He is a teacher at the Genesee Area Skill Center.

Michelle M. Rademacher BGS '96 married **Timothy Hellebuyck SBA '97** on June 27, 1998. Michelle, a three-year member of the OU women's swimming and diving team and six time All-American, is completing her graduate degree in physical therapy at the University of Michigan-Flint. Tim was a four-year starter for OU's baseball team and is currently the computer systems administrator at Newcor-Bay City.

Rayissa Slywka CAS '96 became engaged to Adam Palmer on Valentines' Day 1998. They planned to marry on September 26, 1998.

Troy Edward Timko MSN '98 married Kimberly Jeanne Sykes in August. He works at St. Mary's Hospital, Livonia. She is employed at the Wayne Westland Federal Credit Union, Wayne.

Marianne Nichols CAS '97 is announcing her engagement to David Rush. The bride-to-be graduated from Oakland University with a degree in sociology. The groom-to-be is a graduate of Oakland Community College and is attending OU. A January 1999 wedding is planned.



Opening the baggage

Harold Parker SEHS '75, MA '79, knows a thing or two about growing up in Pontiac.

The Pontiac native, resident and Central High School graduate is using his personal and professional experiences as a licensed professional counselor to help troubled youths in the city's school district.

"I work with overachievers on the negative side," he says. "Most of the time they are carrying baggage. We open the baggage, see what's necessary and what's not, reorganize it and place the students back in the classroom setting with new skills. They learn what is acceptable and what is unacceptable."

Parker has worked as a counselor in the Pontiac school district since 1975. His commitment to troubled students is unwavering.

"It's personally gratifying to me to make a positive change in someone's behavior," he says. "It's important to me to know that I can contribute in a positive way."

Parker also believes strongly in the school and city's resurgence.

"I didn't want all the good people to leave the city so I decided to come back and contribute," he says. "It's been extremely rewarding."

Parker is also a minister of the Church of God Pentecostal, Pontiac.

Oakland University
College of Arts and Sciences

DEPARTMENT OF MUSIC, THEATRE AND DANCE

1998-99 Fall Season Events Calender

Oakland University Symphonic Band
"Serendipitous Serenade"

Nov. 5, 8:00 p.m.
Varner Recital Hall

Pontiac-Oakland Symphony
with Guest Artist Edith Diggory

Nov. 14, 8:00 p.m.
Varner Recital Hall

Artist Descending a Staircase and
Albert's Bridge

by Tom Stoppard
Nov. 12, 13, 14, 19, 20 and 21, 8:00 p.m.
Nov. 15 and 22, 2:00 p.m.
Nov. 17 and 18, 10:00 a.m.
Varner Recital Hall

The University Chorale/University
Chorus

Nov. 20, 8:00 p.m.
Varner Recital Hall

Oakland University Jazz Band and
Vocal Jazz Ensemble

Nov. 24, 8:00 p.m.
Varner Recital Hall

Oakland Dance Theatre and
Repertory Company "Leaving
Ground!"

Dec. 3, 4 and 5, 8:00 p.m.
Dec. 6, 3:00 p.m.
Varner Studio Theatre

Meadow Brook Estate
"Holiday Spectacular"

Dec. 3, 10:00 a.m.
Dec. 4 and 5, 8:00 p.m.
Dec. 6, 2:00 p.m. and 7:30 p.m.
Varner Recital Hall

Pontiac-Oakland Symphony
"Holiday Concert"

Dec. 12, 3:00 p.m.
Pontiac Central High School

The Oakland University
Community Chorus

"36th Annual Yultide Concert"
Dec. 18, 8:00 p.m.
Varner Recital Hall



For more information and tickets, call the
Box Office at (248) 370-3013.
Tickets are also available at all
TicketMaster Ticket Centers including
Hudson's and Harmony House stores by
phone at (248) 645-5666 or on-line at
www.ticketmaster.com

ENJOY 7 NIGHTS IN MEXICO

OR 9 NIGHTS IN

TURKEY

MEXICO • February 20-27

- Tour the Museum of Anthropology and Templo Mayor
- Walk the Road of the Dead
- Stroll through the Pyramids of Teotihuacan
- Enjoy a performance of Folklore Ballet
- Celebrate Mexico's flag day

TURKEY • May 15-24

- Visit the Virgin Mary's house
- Drive to Pamukkale (noted spa)
- Cruise through Aphrodisias (city dedicated to the goddess of love)
- Walk through the Asiatic side of Istanbul, the Beylerbeyi Palace and the Camilica Hill

BOTH TRIPS INCLUDE:

- Air and land package
- Escort from Oakland University
- Air transport from Detroit
- Breakfast
- Motorcoach transfers
- Hotel accommodations
- English-speaking tour guides

Price for Mexico trip is \$1,590:

- \$250 due with enrollment form
- Balance due before December 17, 1998

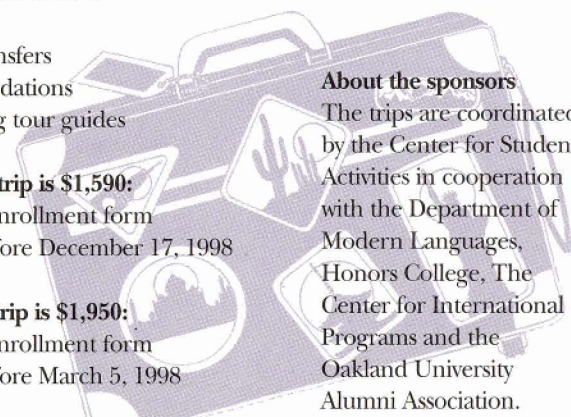
Price for Turkey trip is \$1,950:

- \$250 due with enrollment form
- Balance due before March 5, 1999

Call Dewald Travel at (800) 228-0707
for information and reservations.

About the sponsors

The trips are coordinated by the Center for Student Activities in cooperation with the Department of Modern Languages, Honors College, The Center for International Programs and the Oakland University Alumni Association.





Frederick King
CAS '86, MA '88,
has come clean.

He's a doodler.
Always has been.

"My test papers
in high school
were filled with
drawings and illustrations
of houses or trees," he
says. "Teachers returned
them with comments like

'nice drawing.'"

After prodding by
friends and family, King is
now giving in to his
illustrative side.

The former Gale
Research technical editor
and current English
teacher for the
Archdiocese of Detroit
began two years ago to
refine the Gothic art style

into his own creation.

King says he starts with
the Gothic style and alters
the perspective based on
quantum physics.

The goal is to provide
a feeling of multiple
dimensions.

"My breakthrough
illustration is *House of
Relativity*," he says.

Recently, publishing
house Silver Salamander
and fiction magazines
Weird Tales and *Crossroads*
have taken notice and
published King's works.

"Perspective is a false
thing," he says. "It only
shows one angle. I show
all perspectives. I throw
out all the rules."

For more information,
call King at (810) 776-
6051 or contact him via
e-mail: warlock@advdata.net

ABBREVIATION KEY

BGS	General Studies
CAS	College of Arts and Sciences
MA	Master of Arts
MAT	Master of Arts in Teaching
MBA	Master of Business Administration
MM	Master of Music
MPA	Master of Public Administration
MS	Master of Science
MSLS	Master of Science- Library Science
MSN	Master of Science Nursing
MSW	Master of Science- Social Work
SBA	School of Business Administration
SEHS	School of Education and Human Services
SECS	School of Engineering and Computer Science
SHS	School of Health Sciences
SON	School of Nursing

Calendar of Events

January 9, 14 and 17

Volunteer opportunities at
OU, information sessions

Monday, March 1

Nomination materials for 1999
alumni awards are available

Monday, May 3

Deadline for receipt of alumni
awards

Monday, August 9

Annual Alumni Golf Outing

September 11-12

Art and Apples Festival

Saturday, October 1

Annual Alumni Awards
Banquet

For more information, call
(248) 370-2158 or e-mail
OUAA@oakland.edu

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Please call me.

Center provides needed training in engineering of commercial products

By Frederick O. R. Miesterfeld

Oakland University's Product Development and Manufacturing Center (PDMC) is first in a progressive movement in commercial engineering.

OU and the PDMC staff are in tune to the needs of the automotive industry and the commercial products community in developing a commercial version of systems engineering. It is for this reason that the center has been established and promises to provide needed training in engineering of commercial products. The PDMC program will benefit engineering professionals with the training and tools needed for the highly competitive job market.

OU is pioneering an educational program that will be emulated in the near future by the educational establishment. Normally, systems engineering is thought of as a function of the government contract office, which meters the deliverables for military/government projects. The military process of systems engineering is normally considered a top-down process to develop the contracted product and establish the payment schedules.

In the commercial world, however, and particularly in the automotive industry, systems engineering will be used to communicate and manage changes on a concurrent basis to the many facets of the product. This product development will rarely be performed as a top-down process, but most likely as a continuous improvement activity. This is the concept by which OU agrees to teach systems engineering. This process promises a more reliable product, more efficient product engineering organizations and improved profitability.

The challenge is the closed minds of



"The PDMC process promises a more reliable product, more efficient product engineering organizations and improved profitability. The challenge is the closed minds of humans that don't like change and would prefer the status quo instead of accepting new methodology, which will surely come to satisfy the needs of a growing trend."

humans who don't like change and would prefer the status quo instead of accepting new methodology, which will surely come to satisfy the needs of a growing trend.

PDMC systems engineering will prove to be an innovative move that sets the stage for future engineering educational development.

Frederick O. R. Miesterfeld is an engineering supervisor at Daimler-Chrysler Corporation. A 1971 graduate of Johns Hopkins University with a BS degree in electrical engineering, he is recipient of the 1993 SAE Henry Ford II Award for his work in Vehicle Multiplexing. He has more than 26 years of automotive electronics experience and has been granted 25 patents by the U.S. Patent Office, many of which were instrumental in the operation of high-volume automotive products. He received the Walter P. Chrysler award for his patents in multiplexing.

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