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New apartments nearly ready for occupancy

By **Jeff Samoray**, OU Web Writer

Construction crews are preparing for landscape work and applying the finishing touches to Oakland University's new student apartments, which will be ready for occupancy on Saturday, Aug. 24.

In late June, more than 200 people took a special preview of a two- and four-bedroom furnished unit and were very impressed by the apartment layouts and furnishings, said Felicia Bumpus, university apartments manager.

"Most of the preview attendees were students, but we also had some faculty and staff and former staff members, too," Bumpus said. "Everyone liked the layout of the apartments and the amenities the students will be receiving. People had nice remarks about the appliances, the location and view of Meadow Brook Drive, and the nice size and individual privacy the units offer.

"The apartments really are bigger than I would have imagined. I think some students were initially concerned about having enough room, but once they saw the layout, all those fears were put to rest. It's really going to be an exciting addition to Oakland's campus."

The six Tudor-style apartments and central clubhouse building are about 85 percent complete and undergoing interior finishing work, said Rusty Postlewait, associate vice president for facilities management. Exterior brickwork has been set on the first two floors, sidewalks have been installed and landscaping will be complete by the third week of August.

Some of the amenities included in each unit are full kitchens with appliances, furnished bedrooms and living rooms, and basic cable TV. The central clubhouse will feature a manager's office, lounge, two fireplaces, a game room and deck overlooking basketball and volleyball courts. Parking at the apartments will be free.

Depending on the rental period, rates range from \$4,240 to \$6,360 per student per academic year for a three- or four-bedroom unit and \$4,452 to \$6,678 per student per academic year for a two-bedroom unit.

There are a limited number of apartment spaces still available, and students are encouraged to submit applications, Bumpus said. University housing staff enter the applications into a database to help determine apartment assignments based on established priorities. Any student can apply to live in the apartments, though upperclassmen with previous residence hall experience have first priority.

"We have about 40 spaces remaining for about 20 men and 20 women, and 12 of those spaces will be reserved for international students," Bumpus said. "But I encourage all who are interested to apply for a space because you never know what can happen. Students often have a change of plans at the last minute, which could result in a space becoming available."

Apartment applications are available by calling or visiting the University Housing Office, 448 Hamlin Hall, (248) 370-3570. Architectural renderings, floor plans and a description of the apartments are on display in the University Housing Office, 448 Hamlin Hall.

SUMMARY

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