



Monday, September 23, 2002

## Alumni Awards Banquet is Sept. 27

The **Oakland University Alumni Association** will recognize the 15 recipients of this year's alumni scholarships and will honor six individuals and celebrate their leadership, achievements and service to the university at the eighth annual Oakland University Alumni Awards Banquet on Friday, Sept. 27, at 6 p.m.

Held at **Meadow Brook Hall**, the event includes a grand reception, dinner and program featuring entertainment by the Sun Messengers – the official band of the Detroit Pistons – followed by an evening of dancing. Lisa Jesswein (CAS '89), female character voice talent and executive producer of the "Breakfast Club" on WNIC, will be the mistress of ceremonies.

Reservations are \$100 per person, or \$750 for a table of eight. To make reservations or for more information, contact Jamie Simek at (248) 370-3700, ext. 1113, or [ruark@oakland.edu](mailto:ruark@oakland.edu).

The awards and recipients include:

- **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI SERVICE AWARD**

Oakland University's highest alumni honor, recognizes outstanding alumni leadership and service to the Alumni Association or the university.

**David Doyle (CAS '80), vice president, Marketing Resource Group**

Since graduating from OU, Doyle has provided support to the university in various ways. Through his leadership as chair of the Board of Trustees from 1998-2000, the university embarked on two major capital improvements – Elliott Hall of Business and Information Technology and the School of Education and Human Services Building. He also guided the board's prioritization of the "Creating the Future" recommendations, within the context of the university's strategic goals, and aided in the Land Use and Development Guidelines and campus master planning process. A board member since 1995, Doyle was chair of the University Affairs Advisory Committee and Finance and Personal Advisory Committee. He also was a member of the Investment Advisory Committee. Through his relationships with other government entities, he helped OU secure necessary resources to make tremendous strides in achieving its goals.

- **DISTINGUISHED ALUMNI ACHIEVEMENT AWARD**

Recognizes outstanding professional achievement or contributions to the community.

**Dr. Susan Quattrociocchi (CAS '72), director, Northeast Tech Prep Consortium; director, Call to Parents**

By combining her educational background with community service, Quattrociocchi is helping innumerable students and their parents grapple with the many options of higher education. Through her position as director of the Northeast Tech Prep Consortium in Washington, she recognized an extremely important and often overlooked side of education – the responsibility of parents in the educational process. She also created a highly successful outreach program – Call to Parents. The program is receiving nationwide acclaim as well as state support and funding. During the past two years, Quattrociocchi has trained more than 650 educators and presented to more than 10,000 parents, teachers, and business and community leaders. In August, she received the Washington State Career and Technical Education Outstanding Service Award. While attending OU, she was a non-traditional student, raising five children. After graduating with departmental honors in sociology, she was awarded a fellowship to the Rackham School of Graduate Studies at the University of Michigan.

- **ODYSSEY AWARD**

Recognizes alumni who seek to exemplify OU's motto "to follow courage and knowledge."

**Heidi Van Arnem (BGS '89), founder and CEO of iCan! (awarded posthumously)**

Van Arnem's vision for the future was that one day there would be no barriers between people with and without disabilities. She was making her vision a reality when her life was cut short last year at age 35. A quadriplegic since 16, Van Arnem didn't let her wheelchair slow her down. After graduating from Oakland University, she opened a full-service travel agency, Travel Headquarters, specializing in the travel needs of wheelchair users. As the travel industry was undergoing radical changes, she closed her agency and created a business that could reach and help more people. In 1998, she founded iCan!, a company providing an online forum for people affected by disabilities. Can! also assists companies to better serve the needs of customers or employees who are disabled. Van Arnem formed the nonprofit Heidi Van Arnem Foundation to Cure Paralysis, which

received a proclamation from Michigan Governor John Engler recognizing Spinal Cord Injury Awareness and Prevention Month in 1998.

- **SPIRIT AWARD**

Recognizes exemplary volunteer service to the university.

**Michael Palazzola (SBA '78), partner, Derderian, Kann, Seyferth and Salucci, P.C.**

Palazzola earned an accounting degree from OU in 1978 and is still a familiar face on campus by attending, supporting and helping to plan many alumni events. Through his work on the Alumni Ambassador Program, he is dedicated to recruiting top-talent high school students to OU. As a partner in an accounting firm, he also actively recruits OU graduates for employment. Palazzola has been a member of the Oakland University Accounting and Finance Advisory Board since its inception in 1992, serving as chairman for the last two years. In his role on the Advisory Board, he is invaluable to OU faculty in assembling executives from the community to provide advice on the School of Business Administration's accounting and finance program. Palazzola is currently a member of the Oakland University Accounting and Finance Reunion Committee and the Oakland mentoring program. He also has participated in the Oakland Accounting Program class project, acted as host for the CPA Small Firm Tour Day for several years and volunteered during the Oakland telefund.

- **HONORARY ALUMNI AWARD**

Recognizes non-OU alumni who have given outstanding service to the university.

**Richard Stamps, associate professor, Sociology and Anthropology Department**

Words synonymous with OU Associate Professor Richard Stamps include inspirational, outstanding, enthusiastic, involved, inspiring and dedicated. Since arriving at OU in 1974, he is consistently the highest student-rated teacher in the Sociology and Anthropology Department. He was recognized with OU's Teaching Excellence Award in 1986 and the Michigan Association of Governing Boards of Colleges and Universities Distinguished Faculty Award in 1987. He lives by the phrase, "think globally, act locally," and has organized numerous tours of China providing hundreds of OU students, faculty members and alumni with rewarding cross-cultural experiences. This spring, he was a member of the Oakland educational delegation that visited China as part of Oakland County's Automation Alley trade mission. Between 1976 and 1983, he received more than 40 funded contracts to perform archaeological surveys for the state, including directing the acclaimed archaeological investigations at the boyhood home of Thomas Edison in Port Huron. Stamps also works ceaselessly to place OU students in internships in archaeological, curatorial and museum management activities throughout Oakland's service area.

- **HONORARY ALUMNI AWARD**

Recognizes non-OU alumni who have given outstanding service to the university.

**George Wibby, American Red Cross** (*awarded posthumously*)

When Wibby passed away last year at age 90, OU's athletics program lost its number one ambassador and supporter. Wibby's long history with Oakland began in the 1960's, when he was the first official for the swimming and diving program. He was a familiar face at all sporting events, especially basketball games and golf outings. After retiring from the American Red Cross, he coached golf and worked as a golf ranger at Katke-Cousins Golf Course. Wibby and his wife were two of the early contributors to help raise money for the Athletics Department. He established the Jewel Wibby Scholarship Fund, created in his wife's honor after her death, to help promising athletes. To recognize Wibby's dedication and service, OU created the George Wibby Award. The award is presented annually to an employee who exemplifies his spirit and humanity.

- **OAAA SCHOLARSHIP RECIPIENTS**

The OAAA scholarship selection committee chose the recipients based on their academic accomplishments, student leadership and university and community involvement. Funds for the scholarships came in part from OAAA memberships, donations and revenue generated by OU license plate sales.

**School of Business Administration Alumni Affiliate Scholarship** – Tonia Babi of Troy is a senior accounting major, president of Beta Alpha Psi, lead administrative assistant with Computer Associates, a student representative at OU's School of Business faculty meetings and a member of the Oakland Accounting Students Information Society. Babi also has been named a Dean's Scholar and has received academic honors.

**College of Arts and Sciences Alumni Affiliate Scholarship** – Dennis O'Connor of Ortonville is a senior biology major and is involved in the Pre-Med Society and Golden Key International Honour Society as corresponding secretary. O'Connor volunteers at Genesis Hospital and works as an after school program teacher at Synergy Works Program, where he also is the fourth and fifth grade basketball coach. O'Connor has been named to the Dean's List and the Academic Honor Roll and plans to attend medical school after graduating from Oakland University. **S**

**School of Education and Human Services Alumni Affiliate Scholarship** – Bozena Lin Johnson of Louisville, Ohio, is a senior elementary education major. She is a member of the OU Women's Softball Team, Student Athletic Advisory Council and Intervarsity Christian Fellowship. She also serves as an orientation group leader, an ExplORations mentor, executive board

secretary of the Residence Halls Council, and is a member of and volunteer coach for Oakland Sidewinders youth softball. Johnson has been named a Mid-Continent Conference Scholar Athlete and has received the Golden Grizzlies Excellence in Academics award.

**School of Engineering and Computer Science Alumni Affiliate Scholarship** – Dennis Werner II of Waterford is a junior computer science major. Werner works full-time in technical support at the Kmart Resource Center.

**School of Health Sciences Alumni Affiliate Scholarship** – Jeffrey Dehn of Lake Orion is a senior physical therapy major. Dehn is active with the Residence Halls Council, is the Van Wagoner House president, a teacher's assistant, class representative for first-year physical therapy students and works as a physical therapy technician at HealthQuest Physical Therapy. Dehn has received academic honors and has been named to the Dean's List.

**School of Nursing Alumni Affiliate Scholarship** – Jeri Raab of Port Huron is a junior nursing major. Raab is vice president of the OU Student Nursing Association, a tutor for underprivileged youth at Port Huron Library, participant in annual diabetes bike rides and Habitat for Humanity, and an American Red Cross sponsor of St. Clair County blood drives.

**Black Alumni Affiliate Scholarship** – Shelby Jones of Detroit is a junior sociology major. Jones is president of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, a peer mentor in OU's Office of Equity, and member of the OU Social Work Club and Human Resources Development Student Association. Jones also has volunteered at the Detroit Medical Center, Calumet Townhouse annual picnic, FOX2 Detroit City-Wide Cleaning Day and the Focus Hope Community Service Project. Jones has received an OU Academic Achievement Commendation.

**Honors College Alumni Affiliate Scholarship** – Bryan Austin of Rochester Hills is a senior English major. While working part-time, Austin has served as an orientation group leader and Connections peer leader. Austin also is enrolled in the Honors College and plays ice hockey in adult leagues.

**Frances C. Amos School of Business Administration Alumni Scholarship** – Emily Fulton is a senior finance major from Lake Orion. Fulton has served as vice president and president of Golden Key International Honour Society. She also has been involved with the Financial Management Association and Beta Gamma Sigma. She has been a GM Finance intern and has received academic honors.

**Frances C. Amos School of Business Administration Alumni Scholarship** – Rami Hasani is a senior accounting major from Sterling Heights. While working full-time, Hasani has been a member of Beta Alpha Psi.

**Frances C. Amos School of Business Administration Alumni Scholarship** – Sarah Phillips is a senior accounting major from Hazel Park. Phillips has served as reporting secretary for Beta Alpha Psi and as a student affiliate with the Michigan Association of Certified Public Accountants. Phillips also has been involved with the Oakland Accounting Students Information Society, Golden Key International Honour Society, Volunteer Income Tax Assistance and the Make a Wish Foundation. Phillips has received academic honors, a National Collegiate Business Merit Award and was named an All-American Scholar and to the OU Dean's List.

**School of Engineering and Computer Science Thomas A. Yatooma Memorial Alumni Scholarship** – Gakushi Fukuda is a senior mechanical engineering major from Troy. Fukuda serves as a pledge master and corresponding secretary for Theta Tau and a project leader for the Rube Goldberg Machine Contest. While working as a project manager assistant and translator at Fuji Dietec Co., Fukuda also is a teaching assistant in Japanese at OU and a volunteer teaching assistant in Japanese and mathematics at the Academic Skills Center. Fukuda belongs to the Japan Club, Battlebot Team, Adopted Highway Pickup and is captain of the Pontiac Soccer Team. Fukuda has received academic honors and academic commendation.

**School of Engineering and Computer Science Thomas A. Yatooma Memorial Alumni Scholarship** – Dani Nadra is a senior computer engineering major from Macomb. While working as a cash office staff member with Meijer Inc., Nadra received academic honors and has been named to the Dean's List.

**School of Engineering and Computer Science Thomas A. Yatooma Memorial Alumni Scholarship** – Paul Halicki is a senior electrical and chemical engineering major from Chesterfield. Halicki has been active in mission trips to Hungary and Haiti, has served as a church volunteer in audiovisual and youth ministry, and has been a member of the Clinton River Watershed Council. Halicki has received scholarships from Auto Interiors Magazine and TAC Automotive and received academic honors and academic commendation.

**Oakland University Alumni Association Memorial Scholarship** – Alicia Sossi plans to study business at OU upon her graduation from Lutheran High North, where she is ranked first in her class and serves as president of the Honor Society and Student Council. Sossi is a member of S.A.D.D., the Quiz Bowl, Key Club, her church choir and the tennis, track and volleyball teams. Sossi teaches piano lessons and is employed as a dental assistant. Sossi has received the Metro Conference Award for Academic Excellence and Michigan Music Teachers Association Award. She has been recognized by the National Federation of

Music Clubs and has received superior ratings in piano in the District Solo Ensemble.

**SUMMARY**

The Oakland University Alumni Association will recognize the 15 recipients of this year's alumni scholarships and will honor six individuals and celebrate their leadership, achievements and service to the university at the eighth annual Oakland University Alumni Awards Banquet on Friday, Sept. 27, at 6 p.m.

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