



Thursday, January 2, 2003

OUAA forms student alumni organization

By **Jeff Samoray**, OU Web Writer

The **Oakland University Alumni Association** is working with a group of six OU undergraduates to form a student alumni organization. Besides offering students invaluable experience in networking and leadership, the group will encourage other students to take active ownership in Oakland University and help integrate the alumni association into their lives.

"We want to introduce undergraduates to the alumni association while they're on campus and provide activities and services to help them become engaged alumni after graduation," said Jamie Simek, assistant director of alumni relations. "We'd also like to count on these students to be the faces of our current undergraduates for the alums who don't always get to see OU from the students' point of view. Current students can give our alums a good perspective on the growth of OU, and in turn, this organization will provide networking opportunities."

Some of the benefits members will gain include leadership experience through committee work and interaction with the OUAA Board of Directors, networking opportunities by working closely with key members of University Relations and the President's Office, ambassador opportunities by planning and hosting special events for the student body, and opportunities to be considered for a student alumni scholarship sponsored by the OUAA.

"We'd like to see it become a strong student organization on campus that allows an impressive level of exchange," Simek said. "Students will have the opportunity to develop their talents by becoming involved and gain a perspective of what it's like to be an alum by welcoming them back to campus."

The yet-to-be-named organization has met informally thus far and plans to elect officers and register with the Center for Student Activities in the winter semester.

To learn more about the student alumni organization, contact Simek at (248) 370-3700, ext. 1113, or e-mail her at ruark@oakland.edu.

SUMMARY

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