

Friday, September 25, 2015

Longtime employee and alumna makes a gift to benefit student orgs and scholarships

For 32 years, Jean Ann Miller has befriended, encouraged and inspired OU students and has maintained relationships with hundreds of alumni.

The director of the **Center for Student Activities and Leadership Development** champions and supports campus programming and can usually be found behind the scenes of almost every student on campus.

The “proud black and gold graduate of Oakland University” has always put students at the heart of what she does. “The students – they are the reason why I come to work every day with a smile on my face and in my heart.”



Miller demonstrated a personal dedication to OU students with a \$25,000 commitment to the University as part of the latest **All University Fund Drive (AUF)**.

Jean Ann Miller, OU's director for student activities and leadership development, demonstrates her dedication through a \$25,000 commitment that will go toward scholarships and student organizations.

Miller's gift will be used to support the Center for Student Activities Student Organization Gift Fund, **Women of OU Critical Difference Scholarship**, Women's Basketball, **Meadow Brook Hall**, and the **Department of Psychology**. Miller will select the funds every year, and they may vary from year to year. This year, funds will go to six scholarships and student organizations such as **Alternative Spring Break**, **Student Organic Farmers** and **WXOU**.

The residence halls community is also special to Miller, CAS '77, who spent “half of her OU life” in the Department of University Housing in roles ranging from hall director to assistant director.

“Oakland University has been my ‘home away from home’ since I attended OU as an undergraduate,” she says. “This gift reflects the legacy of opportunities for current and future students to experience and enjoy while they attend OU.”

Angie Schmucker says Miller's gift is very personal to her and reflects areas that are “near and dear to Jean Ann's heart.”

Her gift “puts the focus on the students and demonstrates her belief in the organization and love of these particular funds,” adds Schmucker, executive director of Planned and Annual Giving. “She sought us out and asked us if this could be done. We were happy to design it to meet her needs.”