

# OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

From the office of the  
President



Colleagues,

When do you imagine Oakland University will be counted among the top five universities in the country? Well, imagine no more, because that day is already here in at least one aspect of our aspirational endeavors.

Oakland is among the top five universities in the country supplying highly-educated, ambitious and creative workers to the rapidly growing autonomous vehicle industry.

And as wonderful as this news is, it is even more exciting to think that this is one of many ways we are advancing knowledge and quality of life in our regional, national and global communities.

Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D. President

## EXCEPTIONALLY AUTONOMOUS

According to the San Francisco Business Times, 1.75 percent of all engineering jobs in the self-driving car industry are filled by OU alumni. Their numbers trail not far behind those of peers from Carnegie Mellon, Stanford, UC Berkeley and the Illinois Institute of Technology.



## LEADING THE WAY

Because OU offers its engineering students tremendous advantages including outstanding faculty and curricula, real-world experience using leading-edge technology, and close proximity to the global hub of auto industry innovation, the University is placing more of these students in the autonomous vehicle industry than Purdue, San Jose State, the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and the University of Michigan.

## EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

According to a 2017 Princeton Review survey, the greatest benefit students and their parents see to investing in a college education is the ability to land better, higher-paying jobs. The autonomous vehicle industry is just one destination that offers OU grads fantastic career opportunities.

## CUTTING-EDGE COMPETITION



For the last 25 years, Oakland University has welcomed aspiring engineers from around the world to the Intelligent Ground Vehicle Competition (IGVC).

Last year, this [world-class design and systems engineering experience](#) – which already had introduced an autonomous navigation challenge – also incorporated the Spec 2 Challenge. This competition featured street legal, fully autonomous vehicles demonstrating their autonomous street driving capabilities.

In this way, Oakland University is not only advancing technology careers of the future among its own students, but also among students from dozens of universities worldwide that also compete in the IGVC.

## MINDING THE PAST

As Oakland charges into the future, it is not by any means abandoning the past. In fact, Kresge Library has accepted and made a commitment to preserve a comprehensive historic archive of photographs, articles and original print editions of The Oakland Press and its forerunner publications.



This collection, which includes countless thousands of materials and dates as far back as the 1840's, will be catalogued, archived, digitized and ultimately made available for community use. Stephen Weiter, dean of University Libraries, said, "It's a preservation of part of the human record. There's a local significance and a cultural importance to this collection."

A team of Kresge librarians has submitted a grant request to the Clarke Historical Library at Central Michigan University, which may approve funding for digitization of all of The Oakland Press collection's 1960s materials. Kresge and OU supporters can help the team win the grant through a [popular vote](#) on Twitter the week of January 22 by using the hashtag #DigPontiac.

Is there a point of pride you feel is worth sharing with the campus community?

If so, please [submit your idea](#) for consideration.

If you are interested in exploring past editions of this newsletter, we invite you to visit the [Points of Pride archive page](#).

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