



Monday, October 13, 2003

OU employees to be honored at dinner

By **Jeff Samoray**, *OU Web Writer*

The past 12 winners of the Oakland University Employee of the Month award and their guests have been invited to attend a special dinner on Thursday, Oct. 30, at 7 p.m. at Meadow Brook Hall. Awardees are selected based on their demonstrated involvement in Oakland University, and their invaluable contributions above and beyond their job requirements.

The honorees include:

Oct. 2002 – Barbara Fortier, office assistant II

Fortier is an excellent, dedicated processor, with a very strong work ethic. During a recent computer system malfunction, she initiated many calls to students and campus departments with the information they needed. Under normal circumstances this information would have been provided programmatically. Her attitude affects her co-workers in a positive manner.

Nov. 2002 – Eilene Lohmeier, executive secretary, School of Nursing

Lohmeier has been an exemplary employee through the many changes and challenges the School of Nursing has experienced. She is welcoming to new faculty and is always willing to assist any faculty or staff when necessary. Lohmeier has volunteered at every opportunity to assist in staging campus events, including President Bush's visit and all graduation ceremonies and social functions held by the School of Nursing.

Dec. 2002 – Todd Hensel, skilled trades VI, Plant Maintenance

Hensel is known to be a very pleasant and outgoing worker. In just eight months at Oakland, it has been remarked that the university couldn't operate without him. His service is impeccable and has a positive impact on his co-workers.

Jan. 2003 – Eddie Turner, equipment room attendant, Athletics

Without Turner's work ethic and commitment to his job, a large aspect of athletics would suffer. He does whatever it takes to get the job done, including working odd hours and weekends. Turner has the respect and friendship of student athletes and coaches alike, and because of his work excellence, he has been given complete autonomy in his area.

Feb. 2003 – Sheryl Klemanski, assistant vice president for academic affairs

Klemanski has been employed at Oakland University since 1982. In the Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost's Office, Klemanski has been assigned many varied tasks over and above budget responsibilities. She is the resident technical expert and people come to her regularly with questions. She is always willing to help and does it with a smile.

March 2003 – Michelle Southward, admissions adviser

Whether speaking with her co-workers or students, Southward devotes her all. She represents Oakland with grace, poise, and professionalism to the highest degree. As an OU graduate, she has a genuine concern for the university. Besides being a hard-working individual, Southward is also known as a team player.

April 2003 – Bonnie Koch, office assistant II, International Students and Scholars Office

In addition to her high-level office and computer skills, Koch is great at keeping multiple projects going simultaneously. She is a caring individual, which is evident in her daily interactions with students and staff alike. Bonnie has hosted international students in her home both at Thanksgiving and at other times throughout the year. She gives generously of her time and resources.

May 2003 – Eric Nelson, desk top publisher, University Services

In various printing projects, Nelson has been known for helping to set up documents in the most cost effective and professional looking manner. He often suggests more cost-effective or better ways to print jobs. His projects are done very quickly and professionally.

June 2003 – Steve Sapilewski, multimedia producer, Information and Instruction Technology

Sapilewski is dedicated to assisting fellow employees and the OU community, and frequently "goes the extra mile" in order to get the job done right and on time. In doing so, he is constantly promoting the high caliber work being performed on campus. His expertise in the field of multimedia production is evident in the final products coming out of his area.

July 2003 – Marvel Vaughn, custodian II

Vaughn and her son, Robert, work together in the Campus Cleaning Department. They are responsible for maintaining the Eye Research Institute and were nominated together. Their efforts synergize to serve OU in ways seen only rarely on campus. Their dedication, conscientiousness, and integrity should serve as examples to students, faculty, administrators and staff.

August 2003 – Robert Vaughn, custodian II

Vaughn and his mother, Marvel, serve OU as a matter of personal pride, and the positive attitude they bring to work each day are reflected both in their superior job performance and in the exceptional working relationship they maintain with everyone they contact.

Sept. 2003 – Dorothy Dziedzic, laboratory research technician II

Dziedzic has worked as a research associate in the Department of Biological Sciences for 31 years. She has co-authored over 35 publications dealing with vision research, and has expertise in tissue culture, organ culture and molecular biology. In addition to her scientific acumen, she is extremely skilled with computers, which has been of benefit to her department's grant submissions as well as to other faculty members. She is always willing to help other students and faculty members with experiments.

Nominations for the OU Employee of the Month award can be submitted at any time from the OU Web site. Visit the **University Human Resources** Web site for a **nomination form**, further award guidelines and a list of previous award winners.

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Created by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Monday, October 13, 2003

Modified by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Monday, October 13, 2003

Article Start Date: Wednesday, November 19, 2003