



Wednesday, September 12, 2001

Memorial held for victims of terrorist attacks

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

Oakland University students, faculty, staff and administrators gathered Wednesday, Sept. 12, in the Oakland Center to offer prayers, provide support, and reflect upon the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks on the United States.

"It is important for us, as a community of learners, to share our thoughts and feelings with each other today and in the days to come," said **OU President Gary Russi**. "We may have no answers, but the very act of talking and listening can help us to begin to heal our wounds."

President Russi, **Political Science Professor Vincent Khapoya**, **Student Body President Derek Dickow** and **Lisa Brown**, director of the Catholic Campus Ministry at St. John Fisher Chapel University Parish, each addressed a crowd of about 400 in the OC Gold Rooms. An overflow crowd gathered to watch the proceedings on television monitors in the Fireside Lounge.

Khapoya, Dickow and Brown each urged the crowd, mostly composed of OU students, to share their grief and find strength and comfort in one another.

"I have a great faith in the people that make up the community of Oakland University — the students, the faculty, staff, administration and service providers," Brown said. "I have faith that we are good-hearted people who are experiencing great pain in the wake of this national tragedy. And I believe that God shares in our mourning, as well as in our dream for a better world."

The service concluded with a rendition of "Amazing Grace" sung by Virginia Howard, president of the OU Gospel Choir.

SUMMARY

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