



Friday, March 22, 2002

## Snyder receives Googasian Award

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

The Oakland University affiliate for the American Council on Education Network presented Vice President for Student Affairs Mary Beth Snyder with its 2002 Phyllis Law Googasian Award at an award luncheon March 21 in the Oakland Center Gold Rooms.

This award has presented annually since 1992 to an outstanding women leader who has demonstrated commitment to the advancement of women at OU through distinguished leadership, scholarship, advocacy, mentoring, program development and other activities. It was created to honor Phyllis Law Googasian, an OU Trustee Emerita, for her exceptional commitment to the university and to the advancement of women.

Snyder received her Ph.D. in higher education from the University of California-Los Angeles in 1983 and came to OU in 1995. Before her arrival at OU, she served as dean of students at Iowa State University and in several student-service related roles at the University of California and Ohio State.

"This is a wonderful way to celebrate the accomplishments of women," Snyder said in her acceptance remarks. "This year is the 30th anniversary of the passage of Title IX (which mandates gender equity in our educational systems) and that anniversary coincides with the time when I began my work in student affairs. I'm grateful for being part of that historical event.

"Today we are producing women in a vast number of fields. We have women astronauts, politicians and CEOs that have come through the ranks. The face of higher education has changed tremendously in those 30 years. I've been grateful to work with many wonderful female and male students and administrators. Receiving this award makes me want to do that much more on behalf of women."

OU President Gary Russi presented the award to Snyder and spoke of her many achievements as vice president for Student Affairs.

"It is truly fitting that Dr. Snyder receive this award," Russi said. "She is truly an advocate for her division and for student life at Oakland University. She has helped to enhance the collegiate experience for OU students as shown by the growing number of student organizations and services. Some of the challenges she is currently facing on behalf of students are further renovation and expansion of the Oakland Center as well as the completion of a new food service contract."

Mary Otto, dean of the School of Education and Human Services, spoke of the need for women mentors in her **keynote address**. Elaine Didier, dean of OU's Kresge Library and OU American Council on Education Network chairperson, provided the welcome and closing remarks.

Googasian award winners come from any segment of the OU community. Past award winners include:

- 1992 – Phyllis Law Googasian
- 1993 – Margo King
- 1994 – Cathy Rush and Liz Barclay
- 1995 – Jacqueline Loughheed
- 1996 – Jacqueline Scherer
- 1998 – Suzanne Frankie
- 1999 – Joan Rosen
- 2000 – Mary Otto
- 2001 – Natalie Cole and Martha Zingo

The American Council on Education Women's Network of Michigan will hold its annual conference on Tuesday, June 11, at Michigan State University. For more information, visit the **ACE** Web site.

### SUMMARY

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Created by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Friday, March 22, 2002

Modified by CareTech Administrator (webservices@caretechsolutions.com) on Friday, March 22, 2002

Article Start Date: Monday, January 23, 2006