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## Freshman Outlook hitting e-mail boxes

By **Dawn Pauli**, contributing writer

This fall, about 2,000 freshmen are starting their college careers at Oakland University with a little help from cyberspace.

**Freshman Outlook**, sent by the Office of New Student Programs, hits student e-mail boxes every week, packed with tips, advice and resource links to make transition to college life smooth.

"Our goal is integrating technology. It's the computer age, and students are going to get their information online," said Parvati del Razo, Freshman Outlook coordinator and graduate student. "Freshman Outlook is an excellent way to reach people, and it connects them to resources."

Based on survey results from last year, a few changes were made to improve Freshman Outlook, distributed during the fall and winter semesters.

"Based on the comments, we looked at the strengths and weaknesses and condensed things," del Razo said. "We found that students had a pattern of checking it the first half of the semester, and then they would get familiar with campus, and they could help themselves. We wanted to add more things to help students stay interested."

The first issue covered everything students needed to acclimate themselves to campus, including i.d. badges, parking and housing.

This year's topics include:

- having fun and getting connected;
- your responsibilities as a student;
- developing study skills;
- getting commuters involved in campus life;
- time management.

"We're not just going to provide academic information, but tips for general well being," del Razo said. "We want to help students find a balance. We want to make Outlook more inclusive to help the student in a mind/body frame."

For more information on the program, visit the **Freshman Outlook** Web site or contact the Office of New Student programs at (248) 370-3260 or [nsp@oakland.edu](mailto:nsp@oakland.edu).

### SUMMARY

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