News for Oakland University colleagues

# OU — Y2OK? Transition to new year brings no major technical problems

Oakland University seems to have dodged any major millennium-bug bites. The university's critical systems sailed smoothly through the new year, thanks to the foresight, commitment and hard



work of many dedicated staff members across the campus, says Lynne Schaefer, vice president, Finance and Administration. Information and Instructional Technology staff members were monitoring network systems from offcampus locations. A team from Campus Facilities and Operations, the OU Police Department and Risk Management was on site December 31 and January 1. They checked all major campus buildings and did not encounter any Y2K problems

with building systems, security, fire alarm systems, research labs or the water supply, Schaefer says. "We do not anticipate any major problems at this point, although we are keeping a close watch on the campus," she says.

Randy Hansen, Interim Vice Provost for Research and Graduate Studies, and Oakland's Y2K project leader, says a few minor problems were anticipated: ELM, an old e-mail program used by some OU employees, shows the date in the heading as 100 instead of 00. Staff members plan to address the ELM problem soon. "It is not causing any real problems right now,' says Ron Cigna, Vice Provost for Information Technology.

On January 3, the Y2K team started the weeklong task of manually resetting internal clocks on 150 older desktop computers throughout campus.

The team will also remediate the few remaining non-compliant desktop computers throughout campus. Hansen expects isolated problems with software to surface as they are used. The team will be available to correct such problems.

And for those who spent

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December 31 and January 1 on campus, Schaefer says, "We are very fortunate to have highly skilled and committed staff who were willing to forego their millennium holiday celebrations to make sure our campus was safe, secure and running smoothly."

Oakland launched its Y2K initiative in fall 1998. The costs for the project's personnel and hardware total more than \$2.1 million. "The university's Y2K solution is the result of millions of dollars invested over many years as well as years of hard work by many dedicated people in Information and Instructional Technology and a number of other units," Hansen says. "These people deserve the lion's share of the credit."

If you have questions about the Y2K remediation, call the Y2K hotline at 4Y2K or send e-mail to OUY2K@oakland.edu.

## **OU Update Preview**

The 2000 OU Update: Transformation through Collaboration

Oakland University Update January 13 201 Dodge Hall noon Carl Barnes, professor,

President Gary Russi invites the OU communi-

> ty to his annual address January 13. when he will discuss the university's efforts toward achieving the goals of the Strategic Plan. In the 20-minute Oakland University Update, he will highlight successes of 1995-1999. A special video presentation will bring to life the hard work of the OU community during the last five years.

The event will end with refreshments in the lobby.

"None of the university's successes of the past five years could have been possible without the commitment and hard work of dedicated faculty, staff and students," Russi says.

The address will cover OU's unprecedented growth and change; enhanced academic programs, campus services and campus life; public recognition; technological advancements; new partnerships with business and industry; and future projects.

Grand opening for bookstore

Refreshments, giveaways and a chance to meet the staff of the OU Bookstore will await the OU community at the store's grand opening January 20, noon-5 p.m. The ribbon-cutting is set for 1 p.m. at this open

Reception opens Barnes

A reception for the opening of the Meadow Brook Art Gallery (MBAG) exhibit, Personal Favorites: Fine Prints from the Collection of Carl F. Barnes Jr. and Anna M. Barnes, is set for 4-7 p.m. January 14 at the gallery.

Department of Art and Art History, will give a lecture, Collecting Art: Greed, Need, Speed, at MBAG, January 26 at 4 p.m.

Seeking Varner memorial ideas

A new committee is soliciting ideas to honor OU's first chancellor, the late D.B. 'Woody" Varner. Please submit suggestions for a single event and a lasting memorial by January 15. Send messages to Karen Kukuk, Office of the

late D.B. "Woody" Varner. President, extension 3506, kukuk@oakland.edu; or Paul Tomboulian, Department of Chemistry, extension 2324, tombouli@oakland.edu.

#### **MLK Day** celebrations are set

Classes are canceled January 17 to allow the OU community to celebrate Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. Day. Festivities start with the All-Campus Unity March at 11:30 a.m., first floor lobby, Vandenberg Hall. Other events of MLK Day:

- MLK Birthday Celebration: noon-1 p.m., Pioneer Court, Oakland Center (OC), light lunch and birthday cake
  - Reception: Reflections on the Unity March, for high school seniors, 1-2 p.m., Pioneer Court, OC.
  - Candlelight Vigil and Alumni Night: 7 p.m., Gold Room C, OC

African-American Celebration Month at OU is January 17 through February 23. The kickoff is on January 19, noon-1 p.m., in the OC Fireside Lounge.

