



OU OFFICIAL: University Points of Pride - Thursday, March 7, 2019

1 message

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From the office of the
President



Colleagues,

The true measure of a great university is reflected in the lives we touch through the extraordinary work of our staff and graduates along with the timeliness of our outreach initiatives.

In looking around Oakland University, I am so proud of the exceptional examples of compassion and caring reflected in the work of Kristin Rohrbeck, who is committed to improving the quality of life of families dealing with autism; nursing school graduates who are transforming the quality of care throughout the state; and, Veterans Support Services staff for reaching out to military vets.

Compassion and responsiveness are among our core values, and the heart of our mission to engage in the communities we so proudly serve.

*Ora Hirsh Pescovitz, M.D.
President*

AMONG THE ELITE

Oakland University has long attracted faculty, staff, students and supporters with tremendous hearts, and a fantastic example of this is **Kristin Rohrbeck**, director of the Joanne & Ted Lindsay Foundation Autism Outreach Services. In honor of her outstanding work and steadfast commitment to improving quality of life in the region, she was recently named the Elite 40 Winner of the Oakland County Executive's Elite 40 Under 40 Class of 2019.



OUCARES serves more than 2,300 people impacted by autism spectrum disorder each year with more than 100 programs. In addition to overseeing this work, Kristin collaborated with the Ted Lindsay Foundation to facilitate a \$1 million gift to expand and enhance OUCARES programs.

As remarkable as these accomplishments are, Kristin is not the only OU community member recognized by County Executive L. Brooks Patterson. OU alumnus **Nicholas Kristock**, chief executive officer of Empathy 313, and **Madelyn Rzadkowolski**, director of curatorial services for Meadow Brook Hall, were also members of the Elite 40 Under 40 Class of 2019.

I commend all three of our honorees for their meaningful and impactful work, as well as for helping to raise broader awareness of the ambitious, dedicated and giving nature of our campus community.

A PATH TO COMPASSION



According to data recently released by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, Oakland University graduates the largest number of nurses with bachelor's degrees in the state of Michigan – 392 in the 2017 academic year.

The same report reveals that we also enroll the second largest number of nursing students in the state, trailing the University of Detroit Mercy by just 19 students.

This data demonstrates not only that our **School of Nursing** maintains outstanding academic programs for future health care professionals, but also that Oakland's impact in a critical sector of the state's economy and human service infrastructure is vital. Congratulations and thank you to all in SON who make OU the top choice for nursing.

HONORING THEIR SERVICE



It is hard to imagine that there has ever been any doubt here on campus that Oakland University is dedicated to serving military veterans, but it certainly is heartening that we are not alone in making that assessment.

For the third consecutive year, the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency has awarded OU its gold ranking – the highest ranking attainable – for veteran friendly institutions of higher education. We maintain this ranking because of outstanding efforts to connect with, support, guide and empower students who

have served our country in the military.

Kudos to our **Office of Veterans Support Services** and everyone who helps to enhance these students' experiences on campus. Veterans are certainly deserving of all we can do to thank and honor them for their service.

Is there a point of pride you feel is worth sharing with the campus community?

If so, please [submit your idea](#) for consideration.

*If you are interested in exploring past editions of this newsletter,
we invite you to visit the [Points of Pride archive page](#).*

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