

Wednesday, November 10, 2004

Political writer to speak at OU

By Dawn Pauli, contributing writer

The co-author of this year's community book, "The Press Effect: Politicians, Journalists and the Stories that Shape the World," is speaking at Oakland University Monday, Nov. 29, at 7 p.m. in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

Kathleen Hall Jamieson, professor of communication and dean of the Annenberg School for Communication at the University of Pennsylvania, will discuss current news stories and the recent political campaign.

"Kathleen Hall Jamieson is very highly respected, and we're fortunate she was available and willing to come to Oakland," said Michelle Piskalich, associate dean of the College of Arts and Sciences. "She'll be bringing examples on videotape and integrating that into her lecture. Students will see it, hear it and read it; it's a really strong way to engage them and help them understand how important these issues are."

The community book is recommended reading in many of OU's rhetoric classes, in conjunction with this year's **Celebrating the Liberal Arts Presidential Leadership** theme. The book takes a detailed look at how the media affects politics and shapes our thinking about political issues and candidates.

"This book was a great selection partly because politics pervaded the media in the lead-up to Nov. 2, and students became involved in what the nation was experiencing," said Cathie Breidenbach, special instructor in rhetoric. "They felt part of the American political process and are aware of ways the media sometimes distort, slant and frame stories. The book helps students become more informed and thoughtful consumers of media information."

The book also had an added benefit, said Breidenbach. "Some students who were formerly apolitical, unconcerned and uninterested have become much more politicized and able to talk intelligently about the issues making headlines."

The lecture is free and open to the public. Questions can be directed to the College of Arts and Sciences at (248) 370-2140.

SUMMARY

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