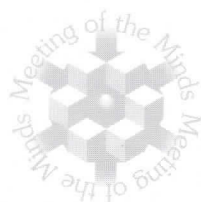


Mid-March 1999

inside OAKLAND

News briefs for Oakland University colleagues



Proposal and registration deadline nears for faculty-student research symposium

Proposal and registration deadline is March 19 for the Meeting of the Minds VII symposium at Oakland University.

The May 14 event will showcase the depth and scope of undergraduate research at Oakland, the University of Michigan-Flint and the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

The symposium promotes collaboration between student researchers and faculty mentors and highlights their accomplishments. Students make oral and poster presentations of their work at this daylong event in the Oakland Center. A journal of student papers is distributed following the symposium.

Virinder Moudgil, chair, Biological Sciences, serves as senior editor of the journal and is a featured speaker at the symposium.

Contact Mary Papazian, associate dean, College of Arts and Sciences, at 2140 or via e-mail at papazian@oakland.edu for more information.

breaking NEWS

Board OKs facelift for North Foundation Hall

Spiffy new homes are in store for student service offices in North Foundation Hall.

Oakland University's Board of Trustees gave the go-ahead March 4 to proceed with plans for NFH's remodeling and expansion. The \$2.4-million multiphase project, to be completed in winter 2001, will consolidate key student services in the building, says Susan Aldrich, associate vice president, Facilities Management.

The project includes moving Placement & Career Services to NFH from the third floor of Vandenberg Hall and the Office of Graduate Studies from the fifth floor of O'Dowd Hall. Those current offices are too small and difficult for students to find, Aldrich says.

The Communications and Marketing

Department will move from NFH into renovated space in Vandenberg Hall.

About 11,000 square feet in NFH will be renovated for current occupants to make offices for first-year advising, Financial Aid and the Office of Equity.

A 9,000-square-foot addition to NFH will create an obvious campus "front door" facing the parking lot, Aldrich says.

Plans also call for adding two state-of-the-art classrooms in the current NFH Financial Aid site. Financial Aid will move elsewhere in the building.

The next step is hiring a consultant to prepare a detailed program for the project.

Prize-winning scholar to lecture on American anti-government movement

Oakland University's Department of History will sponsor a noon March 26 lecture, *The Road to Oklahoma City: How Some Americans Came to Hate Their National Government*.

Dan T. Carter, Kenan University professor at Emory University, Atlanta, Georgia, is the speaker for the annual lecture and discussion in Gold Room A, Oakland Center.

The lecture is free and open to the public.

Carter authored and edited seven books, including his first book, the prize-winning *Scottsboro: A*

Tragedy of the American South, published in 1969. His account of the aftermath of the Civil War, *When the War Was Over: The Failure of Self-Reconstruction in the South, 1865-1867*, won two awards from the Organization of American Historians.

Carter's most recent book, published in 1996, is *From George Wallace to Newt Gingrich: Race in the Conservative Counterrevolution*.

Carter's next book is a study of right-wing anti-government extremism since the 1930s.

ADA team works hard to ensure accessibility

Oakland University will spend \$260,000 this fiscal year on American Disabilities Act (ADA) campus improvements.

That brings to total \$600,000 spent since 1995, the year OU completed and prioritized a facility survey to determine what campus modifications were needed to ensure facilities and programs are accessible.

"Since that time, we have made very good progress in completing the projects that have the biggest impact on students, faculty and staff," says Sharon Abraham, chair, ADA Transition Plan Implementation Team, the group responsible for prioritizing and following through



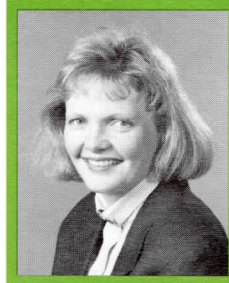
Automatic door openers allow better access to Oakland University buildings.

on ADA modifications.

Completed projects include restroom modifications, elevator control changes, improvements in roads, walks and parking lots, creation of accessible seating in theatre and recital hall spaces, provision of assistive devices, building entrances, curb ramps, lecture halls, automatic door openers, fire alarm system, telephones and reading equipment.

Council takes steps toward improved campus alcohol and drug awareness

Nancy Schmitz likes the direction Oakland University's Alcohol and Other Drugs Council is taking these days.



Nancy Schmitz

Schmitz, director, University Health and Counseling Center, is council chair. She says the group, formed last fall, has made good progress.

"As with any organization, the initial work has to be done within the group before outreach can have a big impact," she says. "We have done that and now our initiatives will be visible within the community. The council will grow to become a university resource and a barometer and a thermometer for alcohol-related issues on campus."

Meeting highlights:

- December: Made recommendations to Dean of Students Dave Herman during a session on conduct-related sanctions and the newly passed legislation which allows educational institutions to report alcohol and/or drug infractions to the parents of students under the age of 21.
- February: Met with Manager Cleon Converse of Big Buck Brewery and owner Chris Khami of C.K. Diggs to discuss underage drinking, binge drinking and using false identification. The managers, in turn, learned about OU's

educational efforts to help students make good judgments about alcohol.

- March: Met with Jim McBride, special assistant for Drug Policy and liaison for the Michigan Department of Community Health, to discuss upcoming statewide campus alcohol awareness initiatives.

Task force to develop campus master plan

Oakland University's Board of Trustees on March 4 approved a strategy to develop a campus master plan by March 2001.

Lynne C. Schaefer, vice president for Finance and Administration and treasurer to the Board of Trustees, says the existing campus plan, published in March 1989, is outdated.

OU will form a task force with representatives from such groups as the University Senate, Student Congress, the President's Cabinet and the Dean's Council. The task force will also have experts in information technology and facilities planning and design. The task force, which will report to the president, will convene in April.

Starting in September, the group will consult students, faculty, staff, alumni and the external community about campus priorities.

Schaefer says the planning process will cost about \$400,000 for such things as infrastructure and space utilization studies, design development and other task force activities.

University Update is now available on-line

The 1999 Oakland University Update can be found on the university's Website, www.oakland.edu

The address link is under General Information between Fast Facts and Campus Map.