

Monday, September 15, 2008

OU, Cooley announce major partnership enhancements

Oakland University officials announced that the Thomas M. Cooley Law School-Auburn Hills campus has become the exclusive educational law school of Oakland University, and that Oakland University is now the exclusive education partner university of Cooley Law School's Auburn Hills campus. Launched today were several significant additions to the institutions' longstanding partnership.

"When we first entered into this partnership, one of our key goals was to make law school more accessible to students from southeastern Michigan, and to bring needed graduate programs to law students. Working together, we have accomplished that goal," said OU President Gary Russi.

Under the enhanced partnership, students graduating from Oakland University who meet Cooley's admission requirements will be given priority in selection of both campus and entering term. Cooley has committed to reserving a minimum of 15 seats per section for OU students at Cooley's Auburn Hills campus.

In addition, Oakland University Honors College students earning a minimum GPA of 3.5 and a minimum LSAT score of 149 will be eligible for early admission to Cooley Law School during or after the second semester of their junior year. These students may also receive a 35 percent tuition scholarship.

OU Honors College students who meet the criteria for the early admission program and are admitted to Cooley Law School can begin their law school education early by taking two introductory courses at Cooley's Auburn Hills campus while enrolled at OU during their last or next to last semester.

"Michigan is looking to higher education for leadership during this time of economic recovery, and through partnerships like this one, we are using all of our resources efficiently, effectively and creatively. Sharing resources and goals --- including preferred, early and simultaneous admissions; quality faculty; filling a niche in an underserved area for a law education --- these are the important outcomes of this new partnership," said Virinder Moudgil, OU Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost.

Through joint-degree programs established in 2006, Cooley students can obtain both a J.D. and an Oakland University Master of Business Administration or a Master of Public Administration degree.

SUMMARY

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