

inside OAKLAND

A newsletter for Oakland University colleagues

'A breath of fresh air'

New electronics revolutionize classroom learning at Oakland

New, souped-up Oakland University classrooms are virtual spaceships that may transport students anywhere.

OU now has 10 classrooms that have a combination of VCRs, televisions and video/data projection systems. Instructors during class may access the World Wide Web using a laptop or through a personal computer, then show what is on the TV or project it onto a

movie-type screen.

"When the instructor accesses a weather site," says George Preisinger, manager, Instructional Technology Center, "the class would have up-to-the-minute weather information."

Instructors during class may also access other computers on the Internet, from Tokyo to Toledo. The technology provides more classroom teaching tools — students benefit from the vast array of information and engaging capabilities. With the new equipment, lessons may be much more compelling than traditional lectures.

The new classroom also

makes it easier for instructors to schedule services: using home or office computers, they can browse the university's video catalog, then schedule videos to play in classrooms automatically, Preisinger says.

Classroom systems started operating last October.

Kieran Mathieson, associate professor, Management Information Systems, School of Business Administration, says he accesses a Web site in class when he needs to show students something about it.

"All of my notes, assignments, examples and schedules are on the Web," Mathieson says. "Students also use an on-line discussion forum to ask questions outside of class, so they don't need to physically find me. Everyone in the class sees the questions and my answers, so students learn answers to questions they didn't think to ask. It works well."

Kevin Early, assistant professor, Sociology, Sociology and Anthropology, College of Arts and Sciences, likes the convenience of the new electronic equipment.

"It's a breath of fresh air," he says.

Early recently scheduled a video to play from a remote location. "That's the whole beauty of the technology," he says.

Founders' Day - April 18, 1997



Cutting the ribbon during the opening of the Science and Engineering Building are, from left, Robert Halsey, Governor Engler representative; Garrick Landsburg, student congress president; Rex Schlaybaugh, member, Board of Trustees; Gary D. Russi, OU president; David Downing, dean College of Arts and Sciences; and Michael Polis, dean School of Engineering and Computer Science. (See pg. 4)

Politics — up close and personal

Take a Lansing road trip to learn about state government during OU Day at the Capitol

Oakland University staff and faculty members, students, alumni and university supporters are invited to meet Michigan state legislators and decision-makers May 21 during OU Day at the Capitol.

Experts will talk about legislative policies during briefing sessions. Speakers include officials from the Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan; Senate and House agencies; and the state's Management and Budget department.

Visitors will have the opportunity to meet with legislators or watch House or Senate sessions

after the briefings. A lunch and reception are also planned for the day; activities are planned from 8 a.m. - 6:30 p.m.

"Politics is personal," says Alan Mann CAS '70, who directs the public opinion research for the Michigan House Republican caucus. "We are building a network of alumni who have established personal relationships with their local legislators and who can influence how the Michigan legislature views OU, our facilities, our resources."

Combining students, alumni and supporters for one day will build a stronger relationship in Lansing, says Rochelle Black, director, OU's Government Relations. "If you don't know who your state senator or representative is, we'll introduce

you," Black says.

Participants will receive a fact sheet the week before the meeting.



Rochelle Black

"We want the legislature to become more knowledgeable about OU and the best way for them to understand what we have to offer is to hear it from our alumni," Mann says.

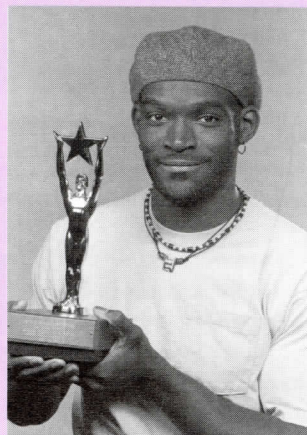
As OU's alumni grow older and more established, they see how politics affects

their lives on a personal level. Term limits for the state legislature opens opportunities for them to become involved as candidates, campaign finance managers or lobbyists.

OU is renting three vans for transportation to Lansing.

For information or to sign up, call OU's Office of Government Relations at 4630.

breaking NEWS



OU theatre student Esau Pritchett wins national scholarship

Oakland University theatre major Esau Pritchett is one of two 1996-97 Kennedy Center/American College Theatre Festival (KC/ACTF) national winners of the Irene Ryan Acting Scholarship.

The award was made April 20 at the Kennedy Center, Washington, D.C.

A junior in the Department of Music, Theatre and Dance, College of Arts and Sciences, Pritchett was nominated for his portrayal of Joe Keller, a modern white collar victim in Arthur Miller's *All My Sons*, directed by OU Associate Professor of Theatre Michael Gillespie.

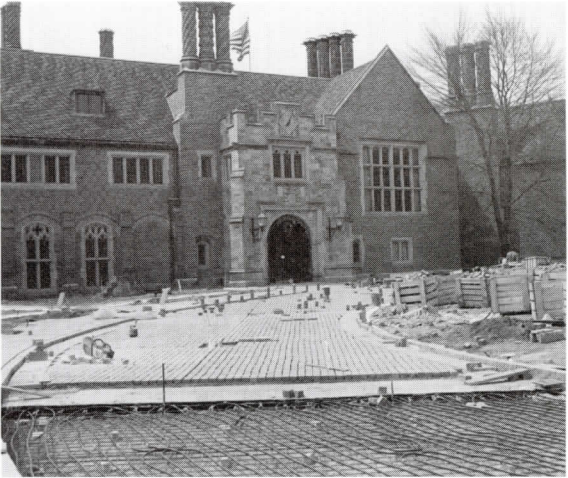
"We are extremely proud of Esau and his accomplishment, and look forward to his future performances," OU President Gary D. Russi says.

Pritchett, 23, will play Sugi Brookfield in the Plowshares Theatre Company April 25-May 11 Detroit premiere of *The Last Season* by Christopher Moore, the story of a Negro Baseball League's struggle, circa 1947.

Since 1972, the Irene Ryan Foundation of Encino, California, has awarded scholarships to the outstanding student performers at each regional festival, reserving the greater prize for the national winner. These scholarships are made possible by the generosity of the late Irene Ryan, stage and screen actress who is best known as the lovable and feisty Granny Clamptett on the television series *The Beverly Hillbillies*.

As the national winner, Pritchett receives a \$2,500 scholarship toward tuition at the institution of his choice. In addition, Pritchett was also awarded the KC/ACTF Classical Acting Award of Excellence, and has acted at OU's Meadow

bits and
PIECES



Meadow Brook Hall's restoration of the front drive is nearing completion.

OU's Meadow Brook Hall restoration on schedule

Phase I of the Oakland University Meadow Brook Hall driveway and landscape restoration project is nearing completion and phase II is to be completed in July.

Finishing touches at the back of the house are under way: the visitor orientation area's lighting will be improved and new signage and seating is planned.

Barrier-free reconstruction of the courtyard includes driveway realignment and resurfacing, a low masonry wall in keeping with the estate's original landscape study,

new lighting and staff parking out of visitors' view.

Phase II includes enhancement of the entrance gates, a spruced-up arrival avenue and a redesigned front courtyard, including new lighting.

Kazarian wins AP award

Katie Kazarian CAS '76, MA '80, coordinator, Academic Advising, School of Business Administration, will be honored on May 22 as Oakland University's Outstanding Administrative Professional.

The annual award is given to an administrative professional who has

demonstrated outstanding achievement in his or her professional role.

"The selection committee was impressed by the relationships Katie has developed with students; the respect she has gained from her office colleagues; and her involvement in the university," says Amy Rickstad, chair, Administrative Professional selection committee, and admissions adviser, Office of Admissions.

Kazarian has worked at Oakland since 1977. Her secret to success: "My love of the institution, especially the students."

Kazarian will receive a plaque and \$1,000 in the Gold Room at Oakland Center during a reception between 3 p.m. - 5 p.m. May 22.

Nursing announces Nightingale awards

The Oakland University School of Nursing and its Board of Visitors recognizes excellence in nursing by Michigan registered nurses through a nomination and competitive selection process. Each Nightingale award recipient receives a cash prize and an original bronze statue of Florence Nightingale.

On May 1, SON honored nominees during a dinner at the Troy Marriott Hotel. Award recipients included:

- Administration — Barbara Cliff, MSA, CNAA, CHE, vice president, Patient Care Services, St. John Hospital System-Saratoga Campus.
- Education — Georgianna Rose Tutay, MS, RN, case manager, NICU, and chair, Education Committee, William Beaumont Hospital
- Long-term care practice — Martha Dettloff, RN, director, Nurses, Menorah House

employee of the
MONTH

..... May

Employee: Lois Roelse
Title: Office Assistant II
Department: Disability Support Services and International Students and Scholars

Length of Service: 2 years
University Service: Women of OU Scholarship and Nomination Committee

Comments: "Lois has a great working attitude with a tenacity that never gives up."

"Lois is always ready and willing to help with any questions that come up pertaining to her area."

"Lois is the bright spot in my day. She exudes confidence and capability. When Lois is working on something, you just know it will be handled professionally. She is a terrific person."

Employee of the Month nomination forms are available in all departments, ERD and CIPO. For more information, call Gail Ryckman at 3480.



- Practice — Mary Loncharich, RN, CRRN, certified rehabilitation registered nurse, St. John Hospital-Macomb Center
- Research — Judy Horonzy, BSN, RN, staff registered nurse, Pediatric Patient Care Unit, St. Mary's Medical Center, Saginaw
- Distinguished alumni — Kim Nemecek, MSN, RN, CS, advanced practice nurse, Division of Neurosurgery, St. John Hospital and Medical Center, Detroit

Nursing plans new undergraduate curriculum

Students entering Oakland Univer-

sity's nursing program this fall will be enrolling in a new curriculum designed to prepare them for professional nursing practice in the next century.

Responding to HEALTHY PEOPLE 2000 challenges, SON faculty have designed a plan of study that emphasizes health promotion and illness prevention across the lifespan.

During their freshman year, students will enroll in courses such as chemistry, anatomy and physiology, and sociology, in order to establish a foundation in the biological and social sciences.

campus
REGISTER

INSIDE OAKLAND is published each month September through May for the faculty and staff of Oakland University by the University Communications and Marketing Department (C&M). C&M also publishes a condensed mid-month **Inside Oakland** edition to update faculty and staff on university news and information.

Newsletter Staff:

Sheila Carpenter, Jennifer Charney, Ted Coutilish, Cindy Heck, Angela Marchesi, Anne Oliveira, Rick Smith

Call: 3184 **Fax:** 3182

Write: 119 NFH

E-mail: coutilis@oakland.edu

♻️ Printed on recycled paper

of distinction

Hoda S. Abdel-Aty-Zohdy, Microelectronics System Design Lab, Electrical and Systems Engineering, had four papers published in the IEEE Proceedings of the MW Symposium on Circuits and Systems in April. The papers are: *A Comparison of Public-Domain VLSIC-Chips Design-Tool Suites*, co-authored with graduate student Fatma A. El-Licy; *An Improved ASIC Design and Implementation for Color Space Conversion Applications*, co-authored with graduate student Mahmoud A Nsour; *Combinational Logic Design Approach of A Residue-Arithmetic Multiplier*, co-authored with Ahmad A. Hiasat SECS '95; and *Uncertain Nonlinear Algebraic Solutions and Their Implementations Using Neural Networks*, co-authored with Mohamed Zohdy and Marc Karam.

Wali Andersen, Rhetoric, Communication, and Journalism, attended the Conference on College Composition and Communication annual meeting in Phoenix March 12-15. At the conference, she chaired the Computer Connection and participated in the meeting of the Committee on Computers in Composition and Communication.

Beverly Berger, Physics, attended the conference on *New Concepts and Techniques: Experiments versus Computing*, March 9-12, Zushi, Japan. She delivered a talk on *Numerical Investigations of Cosmological Singularities* at the conference.

Baruch Cahlon, Mathematical Sciences, authored an article in the *Dynamic Systems and Applications Journal* titled *Unconditional Stability For Certain Delay Differential Equations*.

John B. Cameron, Art & Art History, has published a short monograph, titled *Claude-Marie Ferrier's Glass Stereographs in the 1855/1856 Catalogue of the London Stereographic Company: A Con-*

cordance. This work, published in 1996 as volume 24 in the National Stereographic Association View-List Series, establishes the authorship of the 572 lots of glass stereographs offered by the London Stereographic Company, the noted French photographer Claude-Marie Ferrier (1811-1889).

Brian Connery, English, has published *IMHO: Authority and Egalitarian Rhetoric in the Virtual Coffeehouse* in a new volume titled *Internet Culture*, edited by David Porter, available from Routledge. This essay was the basis for a presentation in last year's President's Colloquium series.

Manohar Das, Engineering and Computer Science, has been awarded a \$75,000 contract by Ford Motor Company to conduct research on *Development of automated Anomaly Detection and Correction Algorithm for Data Validation System*.

Eric Follo, Curriculum, Instructional Leadership, was elected president of the Michigan Association of Professors of Education Administration for 1997-98.

Augustin K. Fosu, Economics, presented his paper, *Occupational Gains of Black Women Since the 1964 Civil Rights Act: Long-Term or Episodic?*, in the joint session of the American Economic Association (AEA) and the National Economic Association (NEA) at the Allied Social Sciences Association (ASSA) annual conference in New Orleans in January. At the conference, he also chaired the African Finance and Economics Association (AFEA) session, *African Economic Issues*. In addition, he served as program chair for both the NEA and AFEA conference programs. He published *Instabilities and Economic Growth in Contemporary Africa: The Role of Export Price Instability*, in Thomas D. Boston's *A Different Vision: Race and Public Policy*; and *The Impact of External Debt on Economic Growth in Sub-*

Saharan Africa, Journal of Economic Development.

Frank Giblin, Eye Research Institute, presented an invited lecture at a Lens and Cataract Conference in Washington, D.C., sponsored by the Research to Prevent Blindness. The title of the talk was *The hyperbaric oxygen model: What can it tell us about oxidative stress and nuclear cataract?*

Barbara Hamilton, Rhetoric, Communication and Journalism, chaired a session at the National Conference on College Composition March 12-15. The session was titled *Opening Doors and Building Bridges: Integrating Nontraditional Students into the Academy*.

Judy Hoppin, Career Development Training Institute, was given the National Career Development Association Practitioner of the Year Award April 5. This award recognizes a practicing career counselor, consultant or teacher for outstanding performance in day-to-day service for people.

Alice Horning, Rhetoric and Linguistics, presented a paper, titled *Acquiring Critical Literacy: Language Acquisition and Literacy Development*, at the national conference of the American Association for Applied Linguistics March 8-11, Orlando.

Keyu Li, Engineering and Computer Science, was awarded a \$10,000 contract for additional support by the National Science Foundation for her research on *A Quasi-Nondestructive Method for Residual Stress Evaluation*.

Rikki B. Schwartz, Environmental Health and Safety, presented two papers April 15-16 at the American Chemical Society's (ACS) national meeting in San Francisco. In both presentations, she provided the history, content and status of the Oakland University Laboratory Student Safety Program, developed by the Office of EH&S in conjunction with the OU Laboratory Safety Committee to the ACS Divisions of

Chemical Education and Chemical Health and Safety.

Barry S. Winkler, Biomedical Sciences, Eye Research Institute, has been appointed to the Editorial Board of *Investigative Ophthalmology and Visual Science*, the official journal of the Association for Research in Vision and Ophthalmology and the leading national/international journal publishing articles on basic/clinical ophthalmic research.

Margaret B. Pigott, Rhetoric, Communication, and Journalism, in March read GMAT essays for the Educational Testing Service, Princeton, New Jersey; gave a paper, *Persuasive Writing: Learning How to Write for the 21st Century*, at the Michigan Academy; and chaired and participated in a panel on *The Writing Center as the Center of Writing Instruction* at the Conference on College Composition and Communication, in Phoenix. In April, she gave the plenary address to the Society for Creative Anachronism, titled *Somewhat of Love, Somewhat of Lust: Romantic Love in the Middle Ages*. Her article, *The English of Advertising: Differences in the British and American Languages of Television Advertising*, was published in the November issue of *Revista de lenguas para fines específicos*, a journal published by the Universidad de Las Palmas de Gran Canaria.

new faces

- Daniel DuHame, interim general manager, Concours d'Elegance, Meadow Brook Hall
- Debbie Misztura, accounting clerk III, Campus Facilities and Operations
- Cheryl Slobodian, associate director, Admissions
- Judy Mason, project manager, Alumni Admissions Ambassadors Program, Alumni Relations

DEADLINES

Submit items for publication no later than the 10th of the month before publication

NEXT DEADLINE

August 10

Note: May will be the last published issue of *Inside Oakland* until September.

Eye Research Institute retains prestigious grant



Eye Research Institute Director Venkat Reddy is pleased to accept a \$300,000 core grant, part of a five-year grant.

Oakland University's Eye Research Institute has retained a prestigious core grant from the National Eye Institute (NEI).

Oakland has received the Core Grant for Vision Research for 12 consecutive years from the NEI, which is one of the National Institutes of Health. The grant helps OU continue its research work using eye tissue cultures, electron microscopy and animal holding and surgery, says Institute Director Venkat Reddy.

The 1997 core grant is about \$300,000, Reddy says. It is part of a five-year grant that OU won in 1995. Altogether, the grant will provide up to \$1.2 million over that time.

"This grant is very competitive," says Reddy, distinguished professor, Biomedical Sciences. "Only 30 core grants are awarded in the nation, and almost all of them are in schools or universities with a medical school. We are the only exception."

The purpose of the core grant is to help institutions improve their ability to conduct vision research on the eye and blinding eye diseases. The core grant is targeted for institutions where a significant number of researchers already are conducting individual investigations funded by the NEI. Oakland has eight individual NEI grants.

Reddy says the institutions that receive the core grants

must show their commitment through the number of faculty positions and the amount of space devoted to vision research.

The Eye Research Institute shares its research facilities with clinical faculty members from William Beaumont Hospital's Department of Ophthalmology and OU's Department of Biological Sciences.

Since winning its first core grant in 1985, the Eye Research Institute has received more than \$2.7 million in direct and indirect money from the NEI.

"The very award of the core grant itself," Reddy says, "recognizes Oakland as a center of excellence in vision research in this country."

Addressing OU students' homefront battles



Counseling assistant professors Elyce Cron and Tom Blume are considering creating special support services for overburdened students.

Professors consider services to help Oakland students juggling commitments

The bane of many non-traditional students isn't the burden of homework, but the blitz on the home front, say two Oakland University counseling professors.

Tom Blume and Elyce Cron, assistant professors, Department of Counseling, School of

Education and Human Services, want to set up special support services for overburdened students. Their plan is an example of OU's commitment to providing a dynamic, student-focused learning environment.

Nontraditional students are increasing in higher education, they contend, because lifetime careers are disappearing for economic, political and personal fulfillment reasons. People lose jobs in downsizing, they choose to leave their careers more often to work in emerging fields and they return to school to keep up with technology in their changing industries.

"Returning students' ability to stay in school depends on the family being supportive — putting up with cold dinners instead of hot meals, getting by on less income because a spouse quit a job to return to school," Blume says. "When the person who isn't the primary provider decides to return to school, there's a major challenge to the family power structure."

Cron agrees.

"The breadwinner may think, 'Oh my god, you're not

going to be dependent on me anymore.' I fear you're planning a breakaway from the marriage," she says.

Blume and Cron learned of these struggles through reading the papers of students in OU's counseling program. The students are assigned to write papers and participate in discussions about their personal lives.

The professors are trying to determine what kind of special on-campus support services would help these students. Their ideas include support groups, pamphlets and seminars. They say they plan to draft proposals next year.

"We're concerned about people who are in their first, second, third semester, and the heat is increasing," Blume says. "It's becoming obvious this return to school is threatening family life. It may quite often end in divorce — or the student drops out."

"Or positive adjustments and stabilization take place for the marriage and student," Cron adds.

Heave ho! Good throw!

Students learn about machine design by hurling softballs

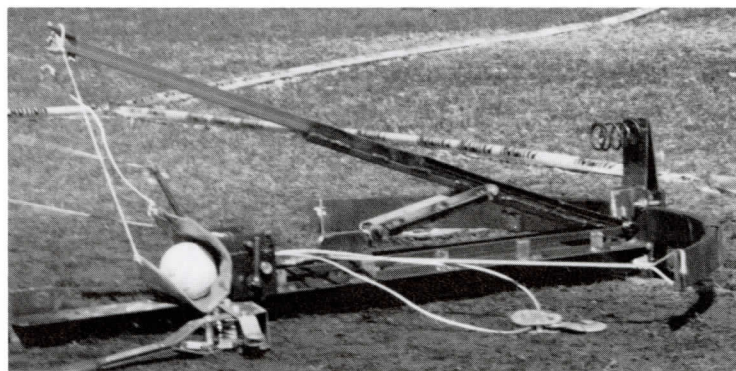
When Michael Latcha, associate professor, Department of Mechanical Engineering, School of Engineering and Computer Science, told his students to chuck it, they did — 382 feet.

For eight weeks, students in his machine design class designed and built devices for a contest to hurl softballs as far as 400 feet and hit a target 150 feet away.

Several designs are modern adaptations of ancient hurling devices. Each group had to buy construction material for \$165 or less.

Local industry donated \$1,500 to fund the competition.

The winning machine, powered by two garage door



Oakland University students (left) show off self-built machines that hurl softballs during a recent competition on campus.

springs, was designed by seniors Diego Myers, Jeff Volkenant, Jim Adams and Thomas Brain.

It hurled a softball 382 feet in the April 18 showdown.

The machine by Dan Felleke, Doug Feyers and Jeff Pagel won the accuracy contest — the average of three shots was 10 feet from a target 150 feet away.

"Students were graded on how well they could predict what their machines would do," Latcha says. "Everybody seemed to have fun. Students have more appreciation for how long it takes to build something."

get to **KNOW**
EMPLOYEES WITH CHILDREN AT THE LOWRY CENTER

A feature highlighting specific groups of university colleagues.

Besides convenience, what are the advantages of on-campus early childhood education facilities?

Why did you choose Lowry over other preschool and kindergarten programs?

What are the challenges of being a working parent?

How could Oakland make life easier for working parents?

(For the child) What do you like best about the school?



LIZ BARCLAY & STEPHEN CHISA
Business Administration

Excellent developmental education instruction and being able to play with Stephen.

Reputation and convenience to work setting.

Getting enough sleep.

More flexible schedule for non-faculty.

Going outside to play on the bicycles and the play structure.



KATE LARK & MARTHA KOCH
Risk Management and Contracting

Martha gets a lot of attention and individualized instruction.

I liked that it was associated with the School of Education and Human Services and it was close.

Demands on your time and it's hard to be in so many places at the same time.

They've taken a big step with flex time; that has helped.

The toys, the computer, big blocks and my best friend Claire.



DAVID DISEND & MOLLY
University Relations

Quality educational experience combined with lots of personal attention.

We thought it would be the best experience for Molly.

Getting there in time to pick up Molly.

Oakland has done a fine job.

The teachers are really nice and we do fun things there.



NATALIE COLE & HOLLIS HENRY
English, College of Arts and Sciences

Talented teachers with excellent training and opportunities for parents to participate.

Teachers prepare imaginative lesson plans.

Teaching night classes means not being able to see your child until the next morning.

They could start an elementary school with the same caliber of learning as the Lowry Center pre-school program.

The invention center and coloring in my journal.

A celebration for the ages

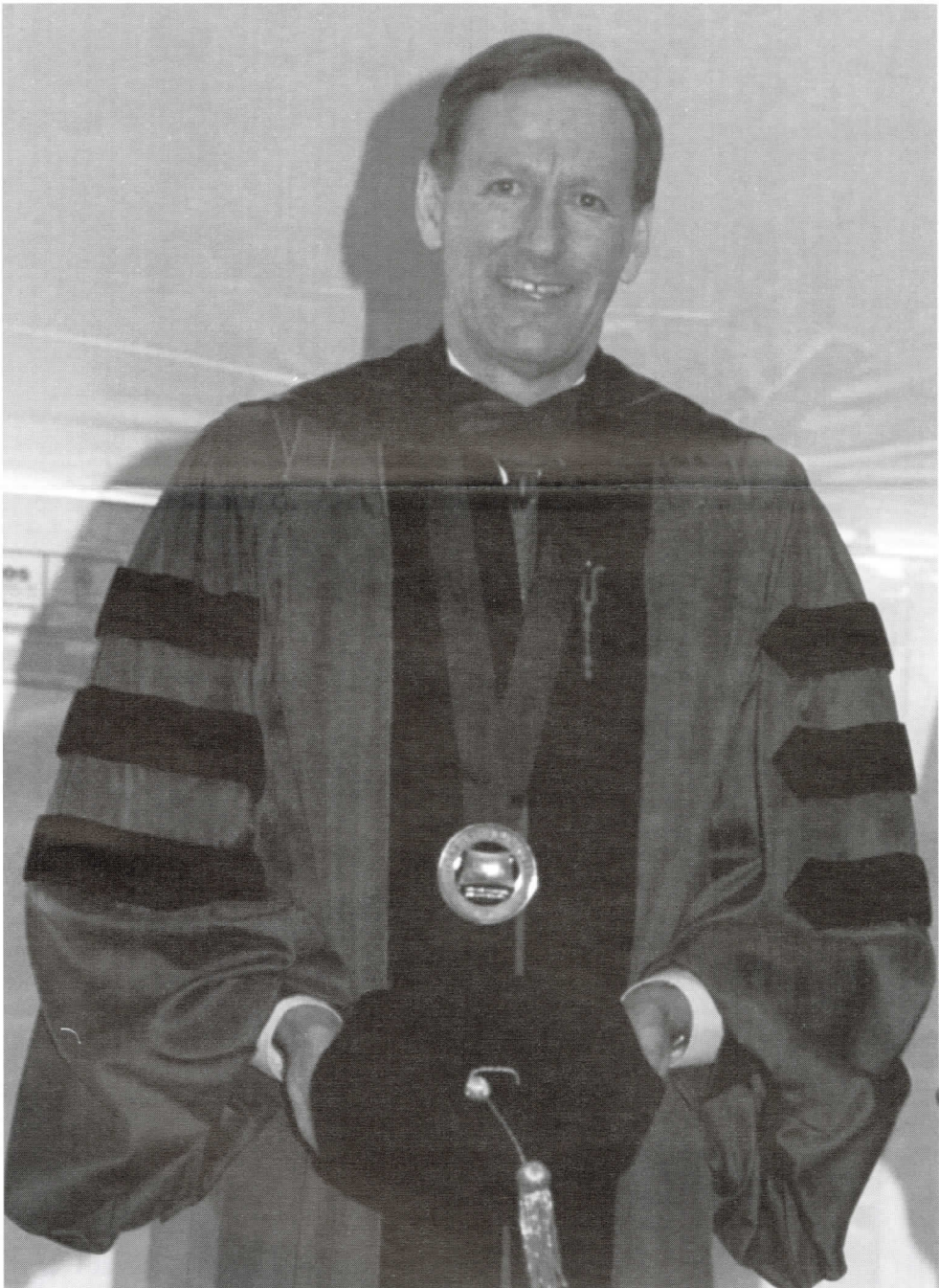


Oakland University President Gary D. Russi, right, following his investiture as the university's fifth president. Faculty, staff, alumni and friends of the university officially welcomed Russi during Oakland University's first Founders' Day April 18. The mace, left, was created in 1994 to symbolize the university and typically is held by the university marshal at the head of processions and recessions.

Founders' Day was also a celebration of two other major events: a faculty recognition luncheon and a building opening ceremony — all marking OU's first 40 years.

Founders' Day began with the Second Annual Faculty Recognition Luncheon at noon in the Gold Rooms, Oakland Center. Andrew Rusek, Teaching Excellence Award winner, and Virinder Moudgil, Research Excellence Award winner, delivered brief remarks and Russi introduced faculty members recommended by the deans for special recognition. The opening of the Science and Engineering Building and Investiture were held in a tent in a courtyard formed by the new building and Hannah Hall.

Russi, David Downing, dean, College of Arts and Sciences; and Michael Polis,



Jerome D. Hill CAS '70 and Brian Murphy, director, Honors College right, share a few laughs.



History Professor Linda Benson, receives congratulations from Gary D. Russi during the second annual Faculty Recognition Luncheon.



Andrew Rusek, recipient of the Teaching Excellence Award, shows his commemorative bookmark after the Science and Engineering Building dedication.



Virinder Moudgil, speaks during the recognition luncheon. He was honored as the Research Excellence Award winner.