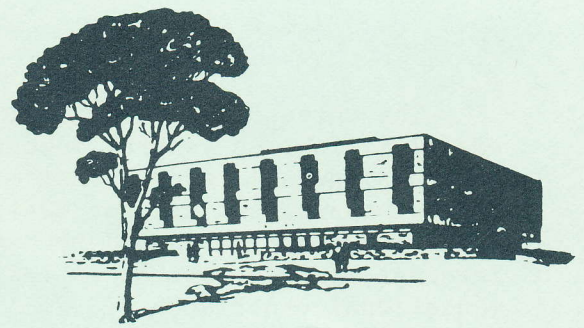


OAKLAND UNIVERSITY

OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS



Freshman Newsletter - #2

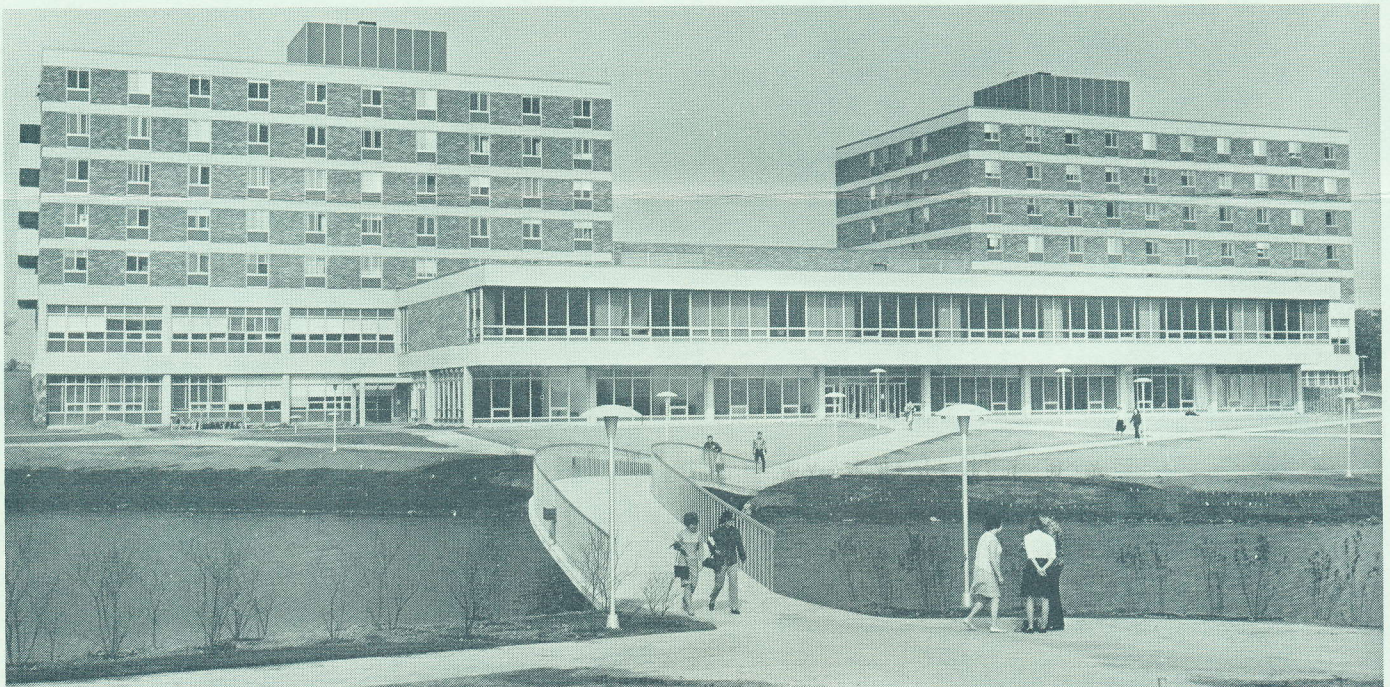
June, 1968

*... an exciting
community
of learning*

THREE OPTIONS--THE CHOICE IS YOURS

Oakland University offers three options to the incoming freshman for satisfying the general education requirements--Charter College, New College, and the University Course program. The alternative you select will form the framework for your studies at Oakland, the course requirements of each program representing approximately one-third of the total of 124 credits needed for graduation. The remaining two-thirds of your university education will consist of courses taken within your major field of concentration and supplementary electives from other departments.

The courses in the major field and allied electives focus mainly on in-depth training in particular areas, whereas the general education programs are designed to impart broad understanding through exposure to a wide range of subjects and perspectives not covered in departmental offerings. General education assumes that breadth of knowledge is as important to the educated person as depth in one major field, and thus requires that all students take courses in the humanities, social sciences, and the natural sciences, regardless of their major field of study or vocational interests.



Vandenberg Hall--Home of New College and Charter College

The three options available to you represent three distinct and unique ways of fulfilling the general education requirements. All three are open to all students and all majors, residents and commuters alike. You must choose one. Since the programs are not designed to appeal to certain majors, or occupational goals, your choice should be based completely on what appeals to your personal interest, on what you as an individual think will be an exciting and rewarding educational experience.

The University Course program as well as the Charter College and New College programs are described in the University Catalog and the Guide to Freshman Enrollment which will be distributed at Freshman Orientation. Here is some advance information on the programs of Charter and New College.

CHARTER COLLEGE

Charter College was formed in 1965 in an effort to retain some of the advantages of the small liberal arts college within the organizational framework of an expanding university. Charter students take their major courses in and receive their degrees from Oakland University, but are offered the opportunity to meet many of their general education requirements and to take some elective courses in a "small college" setting.

To assure that students and faculty in the college will get to know one another as people, both residence and freshman advising are linked to the academic program as much as possible, and most Charter College classes are smaller in size than general education courses in the University at large. Faculty members who have volunteered to teach in the college do so because they enjoy teaching in this context and because the college invites them to orient their courses around whatever area in their fields of competence interests them most at the moment. Thus the main focus of Charter College courses is not a prescribed body of subject matter, but the process of inquiry itself. It is hoped that both the instructor's enthusiasm for his subject and some of his skills in approaching it will be transmitted to the students who choose to learn with him. Innovative teaching methods and student participation in the making of college policies are also welcomed.

Any full-time Oakland University freshman student is welcome to apply for admission to the college, with the understanding that Charter College courses should be expected to claim at least as much of his time and energies as--and sometimes more than--equivalent general education courses and programs in the University as a whole. Only about 100 freshmen will be accepted each year.

Distinctive Features of Charter College

- Freshman Program linking residence to classroom and freshman advising to seminar, and bringing all Charter freshmen together in common lectures and readings.
- Wide Freedom in selection of courses and instructors; special courses offered during the past three years have covered such challenging topics as America's Racial Crisis, The Art of Movement, China in Revolution, History and Philosophy of Science Since Galileo, Modern Man and the Nature of the Present, Science and Authority, Some Inquiries Into Literary Censorship, The Symphony, and Work and Play.
- Ungraded Freshman Seminars and Senior Colloquia, which emphasize learning for its own sake rather than working for grades.
- Extra-Curricular Activities and Programs, such as serving as volunteers to provide free tutorial help to fellow students.

- Educational Policy Role for Charter students is possible through participating in faculty-student committees which study and make recommendations on significant policy questions.

NEW COLLEGE

New College, like Charter College, provides an opportunity for close contact with a relatively small group of students and teachers who have some curricular and extra-curricular interests in common. Even more than in Charter College, the "collegiate" atmosphere is maintained by the fact that, for the most part, students take the same academic courses--although there is considerable possibility for individual options in about half the program--and consequently share some common experiences throughout their university career.

Like both the Exploratory-UC program and Charter College, New College is designed to introduce the student to a number of fields of study that ought to be part of the background of every liberally educated person. But even more than these, it specifies the manner in which these fields are to be approached; that is to say, it strives to put the student through a carefully planned presentation of the various subjects that make up a modern university. In this task, it draws upon the teaching resources of many divisions of the University, and will accept students majoring in any department. (A few majors may require either an exemption from some New College courses or an extra semester of attendance; you will be given the opportunity to ask questions about these during the Orientation sessions.)

Distinctive Features of New College

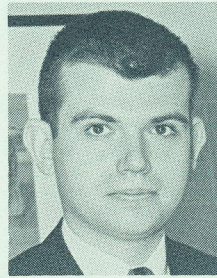
- World Civilization course in freshman, sophomore, and junior years, drawing upon writings of leading European and Asian thinkers, poets, and playwrights, and taught by instructors in philosophy, history, and literature, Eastern and Western.
- Contemporary Society course taught by a social scientist, followed by an off-campus field term involving actual living in a new social environment and completion of a related study project.
- Performing Arts Workshop taught by a creative artist and aimed not at turning out a professional performer but in helping the student explore his own potentialities for creativity and loosen some of his inhibitions.
- Science courses (two) in senior year.
- Senior Seminar or an alternative (independent research, oral examination, or, for students planning to enter college teaching as a career, a term as a teaching apprentice).
- Extra-Curricular Program of evening programs (dinners followed by musical programs, films, etc.), trips to cultural activities and clubs for students especially interested in opera, underground films, ballet, theatre, and other arts.

TRIO REAPS LAURELS UPON LAURELS

Three Oakland seniors rated by the Woodrow Wilson Fellowship Foundation as "among the best future college teacher prospects on the continent" have received generous and prestigious fellowships to support graduate study. Nine of the nation's top schools offered grants and they chose Stanford, Harvard, and Cornell.

The trio--Carol S. Freeman, an economics major from Royal Oak; Robert S. Sullivan, a history major from Pontiac; and Donald C. Main, a social psychology major from Leonia, New Jersey--were among 1,124 students in the United States and

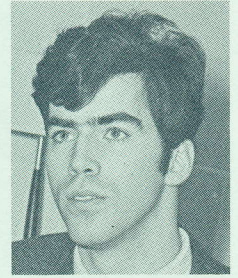
Canada to be named Woodrow Wilson Designates. Three other Oakland students won honorable mention in the competition--Paul D. Browning, an English major from Marine City; Janet L. Holmgren, a linguistics major from Hinsdale, Illinois; and Martha L. Williams, an English major from Anchorage, Alaska.



Bob Sullivan



Carol Freeman



Don Main

Provost Donald D. O'Dowd commented on the academic laurels won by the students:

"I am very proud of the success of the Oakland students who were awarded recognition as Woodrow Wilson Designates in stiff national competition. This is a fitting reward for the hard work they have invested in their academic work. We are also very pleased with this objective evidence of the high quality of the teaching that our students are receiving. We know that they will live up to the standards of the Wilson Foundation in their graduate work."

Oakland was one of only four state-supported universities in Michigan to place students on the select list, and proportional to enrollment fared very well in comparison with the other three. The nationwide competition involved 11,682 seniors nominated by their college professors and screened by faculty panels set up by the foundation.

Carol Freeman went on to win another Wilson award--the Matilda R. Wilson Award--as Oakland's outstanding girl graduate this spring. This honor and the Alfred G. Wilson Award are bestowed annually to the young man and woman graduates who have been chosen for having made the outstanding contributions to the life of the University through scholarship, student leadership, and the expression of responsibility in the solution of social problems. Miss Freeman will do her graduate work in economics at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California.

Sullivan, who has been termed the best-read student ever to major in history at OU, will tackle Harvard's awesome library holdings in Cambridge, Massachusetts. And Main turned down bids from the University of Michigan and Northwestern University to pursue his doctorate in psychology at Cornell in Ithaca, New York.

O A K L A N D U N I V E R S I T Y
Rochester, Michigan

Freshman Newsletter -- June, 1968