



THE PIONEER CLUB

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CONNECT WITH FORMER COLLEAGUES.

March 2015

It's officially spring and although nothing has bloomed, the snow has finally melted. The campus community is certainly ready to fully embrace the new season. While it is a busy time as the semester winds down in preparation for final exams, faculty, staff and students are looking forward to celebrating President Hynd's inauguration on April 29th. See what's happening at OU with the latest [campus news](#) and [calendar of events](#)!

Group Lunches

The group meets the 2nd Wednesday of every month at 1:00 p.m. at Nick's Country Oven in Rochester (Adams and Silverbell). These lunches are very casual, so please stop by when your schedule permits.

President Hynd's Inauguration

The campus community is abuzz with excitement in anticipation of the inauguration of Oakland University's sixth president, George W. Hynd, on April 29th. The Inaugural Ceremony will be held at 3 p.m. at the Athletics Center O'rena. All are welcome to attend this historic event. To register for the Ceremony, [click here](#). For a complete schedule of inaugural events, [click here](#).

Newsworthy

OU ranked 11th in the country for percentage of women faculty in engineering. To read more about the survey conducted by the American Society for Engineering Education, [click here](#).

Giving Back

A total of 786 faculty, staff and retirees contributed \$388,814 in the 2014 All-University Fund Drive, surpassing the campaign's goal in both dollars raised and number of participants. We are especially appreciative of our retirees who give long after working at Oakland. [Click here](#) to read how the campus community came together in record numbers to fund their passion and invest in the success of the University.

By the Book

Anyone interested in a book discussion group? Please let us know if a book club appeals to you by emailing pioneerclub@oakland.edu. We will keep you posted on the feedback!

Pioneer Profile

By Amanda Iodice



William Schwab, charter faculty member and Professor Emeritus (Linguistics, English), says that moving to Fort Lauderdale was probably the second best decision of his life. The first was accepting Woody Varner's invitation to join MSU-Oakland in 1959. However, after nearly four decades of Michigan snow and ice he is thriving in Fort Lauderdale's warmth and sunshine.

As most of us are doing now or perhaps putting off doing, Bill has been culling old files and papers. He discovered a "four page single-spaced letter in erudite prose" from Bob Hoopes, first chairman of the English Department, written to him during his 1963-64 Fulbright year in the Philippines. The letter ended with a request that he teach the Spring trimester of 1964. The promise that he could teach a Shakespeare class was the only thing that caused him to spend only three weeks instead of three months traveling in Asia and Europe.

Bill still enjoys reading Shakespeare's tragedies and plays all the parts. Among his favorites are Hamlet and Iago. He frequents his local library, never knowing what might be checked out. Biographies are it for now and he is enjoying Sonia Sotomayor's "My Beloved World" and Anthony Holden's "William Shakespeare."

While he does miss his close friends and colleagues, he says the winters are wonderful now and even during the summer there are breezes from the ocean that make life bearable. He visits his health club three times a week and is pretty healthy and active for 91.

Bill says being just a short taxi ride from the cruise terminal in Port Everglades has allowed him to sample most every cruise line except Disney. He enjoys a variety of different trips.

Almost everyone our age realizes consciously or subconsciously that if you were born, you will eventually die. Bill mourns the death of his forty plus years companion, Primo Ortiz, who died in March of last year. His supportive friends and his many activities help him to "keep on going."

Amanda Iodice is the wife of Don Iodice, Professor Emeritus of French and Linguistics. She writes for the Rochester OPC (Older Persons' Commission) newsletter and is a member of the Pioneer Club.

Pioneer Profile is a feature that appears monthly in the Pioneer Club eNewsletter. Anyone interested in being profiled or if you have suggestions on fellow retirees to showcase, please share your contact information and details with us at pioneerclub@oakland.edu.

Save the Date

Come see what's new at Kresge Library! On Friday, May 29th, Interim Dean Nancy Bulgarelli will give us a tour of the library's extensive collections and University archives. Following the tour, we will enjoy lunch alfresco at Elliott Tower with musical accompaniment by Dennis Curry, University Carillonneur. Stay tuned for more information!

Richard J. Burke Lecture

The Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society
"Moral Objectivity and Social Justice" presented by Amartya Sen

Friday, April 17th, 7:00-9:30 p.m.
Banquet Rooms, Oakland Center

Admission is free, but reservations are required

RSVP by April 10 to reserve your special Pioneer Club seats to pioneerclub@oakland.edu
[Click here for more info!](#)

Upcoming Events

OU Jazz Band Concert with Steve Wood, saxophone & Michael Zaporski, piano

Tuesday, April 7th, 7:30-9:30 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall

All seats \$8

[Click here for more info!](#)

World Music Concert with Haruna Walusimbi

Friday, April 10th, 8:00-10:00 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall

All seats \$8

[Click here for more info!](#)

OU Chamber Ensembles Concert

Sunday, April 12th, 3:00-5:00 p.m.

Varner Recital Hall

Free admission

[Click here for more info!](#)

Spring Kickoff Golf Scramble

Saturday, April 25th, 7:00 a.m. – 3:00 p.m.

Katke-Cousins Golf Course

Registration required

[Click here for more info!](#)

About the Pioneer Club

The purpose of the Oakland University Pioneer Club is to provide social, educational and volunteer service opportunities to OU retirees and their spouses. It is our hope that this group will serve as a way for you to reconnect with former colleagues as well as maintain a relationship with OU. As a retiree, you remain a valued member of the University community.

SAVVY LIVING



How Medicare Covers In-Home Care

How does Medicare cover home health care? Because of my illness, my doctor suggested I get home health care, but I want to find out how it's covered before I proceed. [Read More](#)