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# *Oakland University Commencement*

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*1984*

**Celebrating  
A Quarter Century  
of Access to Excellence**

**Oakland  
University**

A large, dark, stylized graphic element resembling a teardrop or a swoosh, positioned to the right of the text "Oakland University". It has a pointed top and a curved bottom, with a small horizontal line extending from its base.





The motto, **Seguir Virtute E Canoskenza**, has a very distinguished origin, Canto XXVI, 1. 120, of Dante's *Inferno*. These are the final words of Ulysses' great speech to his men urging them to sail on and on in pursuit of knowledge and experience of the world—even beyond the pillars of Hercules, traditionally the frontier and limit of legitimate exploration.

**This is the three-line stanza:**

*Considerate la vostra semenza  
Fatti non foste a viver come bruti  
Ma per seguir virtute e canoskenza.*

*Consider your birth  
You were not made to live like brutes  
But to follow courage and knowledge.*



Paula and Woody Varner Hall

5:00 p.m.

June 3, 1984



# On Academic Regalia

An edifying note contributed by a certain anonymous doctor of philosophy

On at least two solemn occasions during the academic calendar—spring and fall commencement—the faculty of the university publicly displays its full academic regalia and participates in the liturgy of processional and recessional, that curious coming and going that symbolizes the ceremony of commencement. The purposes of commencement are well known, but the reasons for the peculiar garb of the celebrants and their odd order of march are often as obscure to the audience as they are, in fact, to the faculty itself. This note may serve to explain academic dress and the professional pecking order it costumes.

Contemporary academics are descendants of clerical schoolmen in the universities of medieval Europe. Like the clergy, members of the bench and bar, and other learned professions, the medieval scholar clothed himself in heavy robes to stay warm in unheated stone buildings. Like all members of an hierarchical society, the medieval faculties rejoiced in visible insignia of rank. These outward signs of accomplishment and authority were tailored into the robes. Although the need for such voluminous garments to keep the scholar from freezing is long past, the use of them as emblems of dignity remains.

You will observe that all caps and gowns worn by our faculty are black, with certain disturbing exceptions. Black was the color adopted by mutual agreement among American universities at the end of the nineteenth century. In Europe each university has its own distinctive gown, varying in color and cut from all others. A European academic assemblage is a far gaudier occasion than its counterpart in America. Recently, certain universities in this country rashly broke the agreement and authorized robes in their own colors: for example, the crimson of Harvard and the green of Dartmouth may be seen in our ranks. This unsuitable spontaneity has been frowned on by sister institutions, yet the mavericks not only persist in their madness, but gain adherents to their ranks with each passing year.

There are three basic academic degrees: the baccalaureate or bachelor's degree, the master's degree, and the doctorate. A special style of robe is prescribed for each. The bachelor's gown is sparsely cut, neat, but a bit skimpy and unadorned, as befits apprentices. The master's gown is still simple, but fuller, sports a sleeve of extraordinary design impossible to describe, and has a hood draped from the shoulders down the back. Once used to keep the frost from the tonsured heads of medieval clerks, the hood now is solely a badge of a degree of scholarly achievement. The master's

hood is small and narrow, but displays the colors of the institution that awarded the degree. If you knew the colors of American universities, you could easily identify whence came our masters. The doctoral robe is the most handsome of academic raiment. Generous of cut, of fine aristocratic stuff, it is faced with velvet and emblazoned with velvet chevrons on the ample sleeves. You will note that most of the velvet facings and chevrons are black, but that some are of other colors. According to personal taste, the doctor may display the color of his doctoral degree on his sleeves and facings: light blue for education, pink for music, apricot for nursing, orange for engineering, and many more. The royal blue of the Doctor of Philosophy (Ph.D.) is the most commonly seen in a liberal arts institution such as Oakland. The doctor's hood is the most elegant of all academic appurtenances. Large and graceful, it is lined in satin with the colors of the university that awarded the degree and is bordered with the color of the degree itself. Most academic costumes include the square cap called a mortarboard; the doctor's tassel may be either black or gold—tassels of all other degrees are black and stringy.

To instructed eyes, the order of march in the processional and recessional reveals the standing of individuals in the institution's formal hierarchy. In the processional the order of entrance into the hall is, quite fittingly, from most junior to most senior. The baccalaureate candidates enter first, followed successively by the masters and doctoral candidates with the whole separated from the faculty by a decent interval. In the faculty order, the instructors precede the assistant professors who in turn are followed by the associate professors. The august full professors bring up the rear. After a respectful distance come the deans who in turn are separated by a significant space from the awful majesty of the platform party, the president, the vice-president, and the members of the board of trustees. All remain standing until the board is seated. After the ceremony, the order of recessional is the reverse of the processional. The greatest dignitaries stream out of the hall first, with the artfully organized ranks of priority wallowing in their wake.

It is hoped that these notes may make more intelligible the spectacle you are witnessing today. A discerning intelligence may detect in it many clues to an understanding of the academic profession as it confronts the ambiguities of the future with ancient wisdom and dignified confidence.

# BACHELOR OF SCIENCE IN NURSING

## DEGREES AWARDED DECEMBER 1983

Colleen Margaret Bowman  
Suzanne Marie Carter  
Mary Holly Frevik  
Juliana A. Opara  
Cheryl A. Wendland

## CANDIDATES FOR DEGREES APRIL 1984

Karen Kaye Abrahamson  
Sheryl Ann Alston  
Karen Marie Anderson  
Susan Kay Anderson  
Allison Ann Ayotte  
Kathryn Ann Baunoch  
Donna Kay Beare  
Sandra Kay Tackabury Belanger  
Joanne K. Bender  
Diana June Biller  
Kathleen Joan Blevins  
Nannette Michele Brisson  
Therese Ann Bucknell  
Elizabeth Ann Burke  
Joan M. Cambray  
Theresa Marie Charters  
Jan R. Cody  
Linda Ann Cooper  
Denise Jo Costantini  
Elisabetta Rita Currado  
Theresa Marie DelPup  
Petra Kay Douglas  
Victoria Ruth Edwards  
Pamela Ann Estep  
Loretta Ann Estrada  
Suzanne Marie Fillmore  
Mary Elizabeth Foley  
Daniele Marie Francis  
Lisa Frauenheim  
Connie Marie Gaines  
Lenora Lynne Goodman  
Judy Graham  
Deborah A. Grix  
Amy Lee Hall  
Veronica Marie Hall

Karen Ann Heidenrich  
Julia Jordan Hodson  
Sandra J. Inger  
Suzanne Geri Kudela  
Gloria Jean Latimer  
Lori Denise Lauinger  
John Lawrence Libertine  
Cheryl Lynn Lixey  
Linda Lois Loftus  
Louisa Rose Long  
Janet Loomer  
Sandra Lee Lopatowski  
Kathy Marie Machuta  
Margaret Mary Macy  
MaryAnne Manzano  
Amy Marie Marchand  
Sharon Marie Martuscelli  
Kathy Ann McLaughlin  
Stephanie A. Simmons Mercer  
Deborah June Merchel  
Susan Diane Miller  
Sabrina Marie Morelli  
Carrie Lynne Mourand  
Joyce Karen Muckenthaler  
Lisa Martha Mulligan  
Lori Lyn Nickens  
Laura Lynne Nordberg  
Bridget Mary O'Brien  
Terri Elaine Parker  
Carolyn Jeanine (Krohn) Price  
Karen Marie Pylar  
Susan Marie Rassette  
Carol Leigh Rembor  
Dana Ann Roll  
Janet Helen Cape Rosenthal



Kristine Tope Rowen  
Martha Alice Sak  
Shannon Mae Satterlee  
Janice Kay Schindler  
Kathy A. Schmitz  
Paul Francis Schoenherr  
Mary Elizabeth Sherriff Skaar  
Carla Anne Smith  
Julie Ann Smith  
Laura Ann Thompson  
Norma M. Thompson  
Carol C. Tracey

Carolyn Louise Trinklein  
Charlotte B. Tripoli  
Kimberly Jean Trulu  
Kelsey Ann VanKeuren  
Nora Eileen Vinic  
Pauline Marie Walter  
Theresa Lynn Wassell  
Hilde J. Weber  
Pamela Louise Whateley  
Kathy Ann Wilstermann  
Linda Ann Wisniewski  
Debra Ann Zoltowski

# UNIVERSITY AND SCHOOL HONORS

At each Commencement Oakland University extends special recognition to those students who have attained outstanding levels of academic achievement.

The University Senate, acting on the advice of its Committee on Academic Standing and Honors, authorizes University Honors at three levels for those students who have completed 62 credits or more at Oakland, with cumulative averages as follows:

<i>Cum Laude</i>	3.60-3.74
<i>Magna Cum Laude</i>	3.75-3.89
<i>Summa Cum Laude</i>	3.90-4.00

Each student who has a record of superior achievement in a major field of study is designated as graduating with school honors.

# UNIVERSITY HONORS AWARDED APRIL 1984

## *Magna Cum Laude*

Joan M. Cambray  
Carol Leigh Rembor

## *Cum Laude*

Amy Lee Hall  
Laura Lynne Nordberg  
Martha Alice Sak  
Carla Anne Smith

# SCHOOL OF NURSING HONORS AWARDED APRIL 1984

Awarded to students who have met the established criteria which include achievement of at least a 3.5 cumulative average in nursing courses.

Kathleen Joan Blevins  
Lenora Lynne Goodman\*  
Laura Lynne Nordberg\*  
Carol Leigh Rembor  
Carolyn Louise Trinklein  
Charlotte B. Tripoli

## GERALDENE FELTON LEADERSHIP AWARD

Awarded by the School of Nursing and the Oakland University Alumni Association for outstanding leadership.

Kathy Ann Wilstermann

## AWARD FOR PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

Awarded for exceptional professional and leadership qualities and high initiative in connection with a nursing project.

Cheryl Lynn Lixey\*  
Stephanie A. Simmons Mercer\*  
Lisa Martha Mulligan\*  
Lori Lyn Nickens\*  
Carolyn Louise Trinklein

## AWARD FOR EXCEPTIONAL ACHIEVEMENT

Awarded for outstanding academic and professional performance.  
Recipient to be announced during commencement ceremony

\*Group project



## OAKLAND UNIVERSITY BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Oakland University is a legally autonomous state institution of higher learning. Legislation creating Oakland University as an independent institution, separate from Michigan State University, was established under Act No. 35, Public Acts of 1970. The university is governed by an eight-member board of trustees appointed by the governor with the advice and consent of the state senate. The president of the university is appointed by the board of trustees and is an ex officio member without vote. The board also appoints a secretary and treasurer.

Ken Morris, Chairperson  
Alex C. Mair, Vice Chairperson  
David Handleman  
Patricia B. Hartmann  
Richard H. Headlee  
Wallace D. Riley  
Arthur Saltzman  
Howard F. Sims

Joseph E. Champagne, President  
John H. De Carlo, Secretary  
Robert J. McGarry, Treasurer



