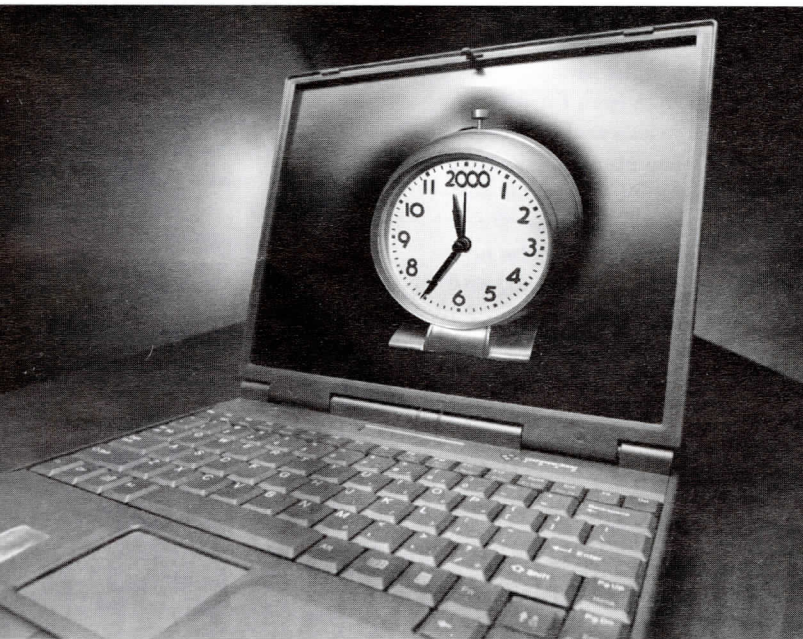


inside OAKLAND

News briefs for Oakland University colleagues

Group addresses Y2K risks



You've heard the fuss about Y2K, the "Year 2000" problem: Date-controlled devices will malfunction because their two digit fields cannot distinguish between the year 1900 and the year 2000.

Some experts predict global paralysis — airplanes falling from the sky, banking catastrophes, realization of biblical prophecies. Before you start to panic, consider the practical advice of a new steering committee that will help identify Y2K issues at Oakland University.

Susan Aldrich, Ron Cigna, Randy Hansen, Tom Lemarbe and Kate Lark

make up the committee established to address Y2K issues beyond the major administrative systems such as Banner.

"The job of the steering committee is to steer, but not do the work," says Cigna, vice provost for Information Technology. "Everyone will need to assist in addressing this issue. The committee will be providing information on what you can do."

Things that Y2K might affect:

- Computer hardware such as mini computers, local-area and wide-area network equipment, personal

computers, printers and accessories.

- Computer software: operating systems, commercial software applications, and any locally developed applications software. Locally developed software includes such items as MSAccess, MSeExcel, or SAS programs created by staff in a departmental or operating unit office.
- Instructional equipment: VCRs, classroom personal computers, projection equipment, and any other electronic instructional support equipment or software.
- Scientific and technical instruments: diagnostic or scientific equipment that measures mass/density, radiation, wavelength, temperature, or time, and technical equipment used in the manufacturing or maintenance of other equipment or products. Related diagnostic and calibration software is also at risk.
- Medical equipment and instruments: diagnostic or therapeutic medical equipment and related software. Software that provides archival data storage and retrieval is also of concern.

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breaking NEWS

Russi appointed to MVU Board

The Michigan Jobs Commissions appointed Oakland University President Gary D. Russi to its Michigan Virtual University's (MVU) Board of Directors December 9.

The 21-member board will initially work to form goals and strategies needed to create an overall vision and direction for MVU. The board will also work to identify appropriate business and industry segments for future virtual colleges beyond the Michigan Virtual Automotive College.

Russi will serve a term of one year.

The board includes leading members from the state's core industries: tourism, plastics, automotive, information technology, office furniture and research development and engineering.

South Foundation Hall adds 3 classrooms

Three new general use classrooms are open on the second floor of South Foundation Hall.

The 45-seat rooms occupy former office space. Plans call for converting remain-

ing SFH offices to classrooms after completion of a proposed student services consolidation project in North Foundation Hall.

A date for this conversion has not been established.

OTUS sells software

The Office of Training and User Support is selling to Oakland University faculty and staff popular software packages for use on campus:

- WordPerfect 8.0 for Win95/NT
- MS Office 97 Pro for Win95/NT (Full)

- MS Windows 98 (Upgrade)
- Eudora 4.0 for Win95/NT
- Norton AntiVirus for Win95 - V.5.0
- MS Windows NT Workstation 4.0 (Upgrade)
- MS Windows NT Server 4.0
- MS Office 97 Pro for Win95/NT (Upgrade)

- MS Office 98 for Macintosh
- MS Windows 95 (Upgrade)
- MS Word 97 Pro for Win95
- Paint Shop Pro- v 5.0
- PC AnyWhere
- Eudora for Mac
- Soft Windows for Mac

For prices and hardware requirements, call the help desk at 4560. To order software, e-mail software@oakland.edu including the number of licenses needed, user platform (Windows or Apple) and the departmental account number.

This software is not available for home use.

Apartment project under consideration

A committee with representatives from Student Affairs, Auxiliary Services and Facilities Management is researching options to finance a 300-bed student apartment project.

"The project looks feasi-

ble," says Susan Aldrich, associate vice president, Facilities Management.

"There is a market for student apartments and there is a desire to construct them, but we don't have a firm project yet."

Video advising saves time for business students

Advisers in Oakland University's School of Business Administration (SBA) next semester will have a quicker, easier way to meet with undergraduate and graduate students — using video technology.

Through a desktop computer, video advising will likely be used by students who are employed full time

and wish to "meet" the adviser from the workplace. Oakland will use Microsoft's NetMeeting software.

"It is our expectation that most advising sessions will take place from larger corporations in the area," SBA Dean John Gardner says. "However, this technology will open the door to virtual advising sessions overseas."

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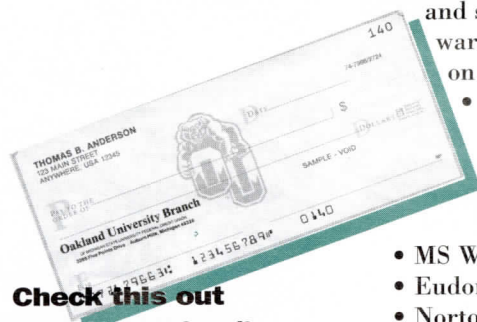
Y2K

- Communications and office equipment: switchers, routers, bridges and concentrators. At-risk office equipment includes fax and copying machines, automated safes and vaults and time-reporting devices such as time clocks or punch clocks.
- Building mechanicals: heating/cooling regulators as well as security systems, alarms and other safety devices.
- Potentially at-risk items for review: security or mechanical devices that detect motion, sound, light or temperature fluctuations and emergency control devices that may trigger an automated emergency call. Elevators, automated lighting systems, electronic vending machines, keyed access devices or continuous current monitors must also be reviewed for compliance.
- Transportation systems: automobiles, vans, trucks (owned or leased), may be equipped with computer chips; fuel pumps and diagnostic devices used in servicing or repairing vehicles.

To learn more about Y2K, visit the following Web sites: www.y2k.com and www.educare.edu/issues/y2k.html

The steering committee will be establishing a network of department contact people to be identified early in the new year. They will be your resources to answer questions.

"The steering committee is not the first attempt to address Y2K issues at OU," Cigna adds. "The implementation of the Banner system will go a long way toward addressing major system compliance issues."



Check this out
The Oakland University Branch of the Michigan State University Federal Credit Union is sporting new checks featuring the Golden Grizzlies logo. Call (248) 370-3545 for more information.