



Thursday, January 31, 2002

Dennis Pawley and OU

Dennis Pawley, an Oakland University alumnus and former member of its **Board of Trustees**, has been a generous supporter and benefactor to the university for many years.

In 1997, he and his wife, Carlotta, donated \$2 million to Oakland University to support the schools of **Education and Human Services**, and **Engineering and Computer Science**.

In 2002, he donated \$1 million to OU to establish an interdisciplinary institute that will provide education, research and outreach on the concepts of "lean manufacturing" and other management philosophies. Initial participants in this institute will be the schools of **Business Administration**, **Engineering and Computer Science**, and **Education and Human Services**.

Pawley graduated from OU with a Bachelor of Arts degree in human resource development in 1982. He served as a director of the **Oakland University Foundation** from 1993-96 and again from 1999-present. He was appointed a member of the **Board of Trustees** in 1996 and served on the board from 1996-98. In addition to being an OU Foundation director, Pawley is a current member of the joint trustee-foundation ad hoc capital campaign planning committee.

As an executive vice president at (then) Chrysler Corporation, Pawley was instrumental in helping the company and university develop a long-term relationship. That relationship has included corporate support for faculty research and student scholarships, collaborative projects and fellowships, research and development projects in such areas as advanced computer controls and on-board diagnostics, and faculty educational seminars and training opportunities. In addition, DaimlerChrysler has been a steady employer of OU graduates, hiring more than 700 to date.

Pawley has been an active alumni volunteer and has devoted many years of service to the university, including:

- Working with the Placement Office to help recruit students to OU.
- Serving as vice chair and chair of the Meadow Brook Executive Committee.
- Serving as keynote speaker for the School of Business Administration's Organizational Behavior Teaching Conference.
- Extending an invitation to 12 OU engineering faculty to participate in the first OU summer externships at Chrysler during the summer of 1995.
- Serving on OU's Creating the Future Task Force Steering Committee.

Pawley has also been the recipient of various awards during his distinguished career, including:

- Chrysler's Top Manufacturing Executive in 1991.
- Manufacturing All Star (chosen by the Automotive News), 1994-97.
- Manufacturing Leadership Award from the Society of Automotive Engineers and the Engineering Society of Detroit.
- The OU Distinguished Alumni Achievement Award.

Throughout his career, Pawley has steadfastly maintained the importance of a college education and its value to business, manufacturing and personal growth. Those beliefs continue to be reflected in his close connection to OU. He is currently chair and CEO of Pawley Enterprises in Farmington, Michigan.

SUMMARY

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