

# inside OAKLAND

A newsletter for Oakland University colleagues

September 2000

## A new home for SBA, ITI

### A guide to the BIT

- SBA level 4: faculty and departmental offices, dean's and MBA suites
- SBA level 3: faculty offices, ATiB lab and undergraduate advising suite
- SBA level 2: (street level), classrooms and executive education suite
- SBA level 1: mechanical rooms
- ITI wing level 2: information technology training and multimedia production and development
- ITI wing level 1: TV studio suite, audio-visual engineering



### Breaking News

#### OU receives generous gift to name BIT

Oakland Township residents Hugh and Nancy Elliott recently gave a gift to the new business and information technology building. The new home of the School of Business and the Information Technology Institute will be known as the R. Hugh and Nancy Elliott Hall of Business and Information Technology.

R. Hugh Elliott heads Elliott Group International, which includes Elliott Tape in Rochester Hills, Automotive Plastics and Tubing and Cast Films. Nancy Ellen Elliott, a former teacher for the Utica Public School System, has been an active volunteer for Meadow Brook Hall.

Details on the opening of the R. Hugh and Nancy Elliott Hall of Business and Information Technology will appear in the next issue of *Inside Oakland*.

Michigan Governor John Engler delivered the keynote address at the September 22 opening ceremony of Oakland University's newest building — the new home for the School of Business Administration and Information Technology Institute (BIT). Long-awaited by faculty and staff, the \$17.5-million, 74,000 square foot high-tech facility is more than a bit welcome.

The BIT showcases Oakland's commitment to infusing education with technology, says OU President Gary Russi. The building has four networks: a telephone network; a 100 million bit per second data network; a fiber optic video network for distributing forms of video to classrooms and conference rooms and sending video originating in those rooms; and a coaxial cable network for delivering cable TV-type video programming.

Information technology is available at BIT faculty desktops and to students in PC labs using cables, and to students in classrooms and lounge spaces via wireless technology. The building con-

tains nine classrooms — five traditional, and a 100-seat auditorium that can deliver distance learning with the following equipment: cameras for viewing students and instructors at remote locations; cameras for displaying documents; VCRs; computer, telephone and fax links; TV and computer monitors; and controlled lighting and acoustical treatments.

The auditorium is the new site for Board of Trustees meetings. In three, 40-chair "case" classrooms, students sit on different floor levels surrounding the instructor or presenter of a "case." This setup allows for better interaction and observation.

The Information Technology Institute or ITI, in suites 100 and 200 BIT and 207-212 Varner Hall, will house an academic technology center, and a technical service center offering training, user support and instructional technology services, says Randy Hansen, co-chair, IT Task Force.

The academic technology center is for faculty members offering technology-based instruction, researchers and entrepreneurs seeking cutting-edge technology, and those

exploring the technology of knowledge navigation, says George Preisinger, associate director, Instructional Technology. Training and user support services and instructional technology services include Web site course development, instructional video production and multimedia presentation production. The ITI also features a faculty-staff multimedia resource lab that includes eight high-end computer workstations. Faculty and staff can learn the latest information technologies in two computer training labs.

A new television production suite supports OU marketing, OU cable TV programming, instructional video production and academic support for the Department of Rhetoric, Communications and Journalism in the College of Arts and Sciences.

The BIT also includes:

- Seats in the hallways with network connections
- A faculty and staff lounge (room 434)
- 57 faculty offices and 34 staff offices
- A technology engineering center (room 103)
- A PC repair center (room 219).

By 2015, the SBA expects to grow through enrollment increases, new programs and new outreach undertakings that will lead to an additional building, says SBA Dean John Gardner.

"The IT Institute and SBA staff are most appreciative of the great work on the wonderful new BIT building by the architects, Albert Kahn and Associates; the general contractor, Barton-Malow; the various subcontractors; and the staff of OU's Capital Planning and Design," says John Tower, SBA's liaison with the project managers.

Russi says the construction of the new building is a critical element in achieving a state-of-the-art campus to provide superior educational services for the 21st century and beyond.

"An education received in the new business building will equip our students with the high-tech skills they need so that they — and area businesses — may continue to flourish," Russi says.

For more information on the BIT, including floor plans, go to <http://www.sba.oakland.edu/building/index.html>.





Benefactor Stephan Sharf (center) cuts the ribbon to officially open Oakland's R&S Sharf Golf Course on August 25. Joining him are (from left) OU President Gary D. Russi; course designer, Rick Smith; OU Foundation Chair Diane Grieves; and Bill Rogers, managing director, Oakland University Golf Courses. Grieves said: "Our motivation to create a second golf course on Oakland's campus sprang from our desire to provide additional support to the academic community. With Steve and Rita Sharf's generous gift as a catalyst, we have created a premier golfing center in the hope of inspiring other donors to contribute to Oakland's program growth, providing creative new opportunities for students."

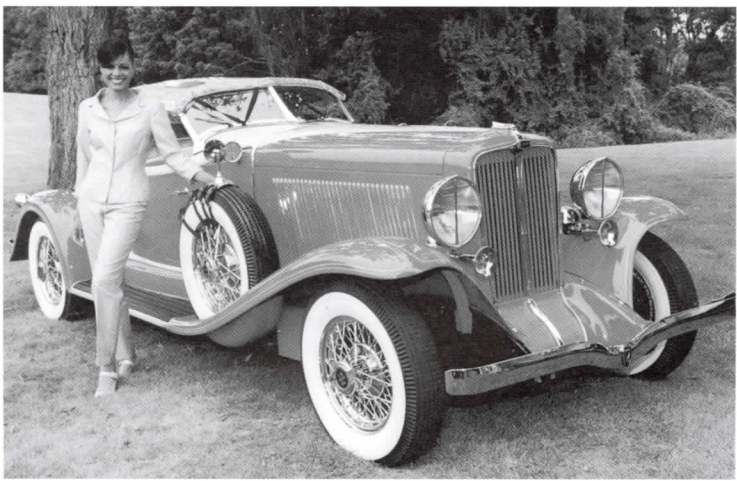
## Clerical-technical staff seek expert representation

Oakland's 250 clerical-technical employees are now represented by the Michigan Education Association (MEA) after 25 years with the UAW.

"It was clear to the overwhelming majority of our members that the MEA is the foremost union for education employees because they have a track record of 'putting people first,'" said Susan Russell, union president. "The MEA's expertise in collective bargaining and advocacy for education is well known. We are now part of a union that represents more

higher education employees than any other union in Michigan. We can draw on the expertise they have. . . . The sharing of contract bargaining information, grievance resolutions and general advocacy [will be] invaluable to our membership."

Of the 210 clerical-technicals who voted, only four cast "no" votes. Under the MEA, the organization will be known as the Oakland University Professional Support Association-MEA/NEA.



More than 250 vintage automobiles, including rare Jaguars, made the 2000 Meadow Brook Hall Concours d'Elegance an event to remember.

## Rare Jaguars sited

Although rain-soaked grounds forced relocation of the cars, nothing dampened the spirits of classic car enthusiasts for the rare Jaguars, 1941 Automobile Show marques, Aston Martins, vintage Indy race cars and historic hot rods presented at the 2000 Meadow Brook Hall Concours d'Elegance August 6.

Approximately 17,000 visitors took part in the week of activities that make up the annual Concours. This year, events included a golf outing, fashion show, art and auto

auctions, a black-tie banquet, automotive tours and the exhibition of more than 250 of the world's most prized automobiles.

Ford Motor Company was the lead sponsor. Ford President and CEO, Jacques Nasser, served as honorary chairman alongside Larry Moss, who completed his second term as chairman.

All proceeds from the Concours d'Elegance support the preservation and interpretation of Oakland University's Meadow Brook Hall.

## La Celebracion de la Vida Hispana!

### OU Marked Hispanic Heritage Month with Weeklong Celebration

Hispanic Celebration Week has become a tradition at Oakland University — a tradition that celebrates the influence of Hispanic culture in our communities, recognizes the contributions of Hispanics and expands our understanding of a people with a vibrant past, influential present and promising future. Hispanic Celebration Week is a joint effort of the Office of the Dean of Students, Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs, Office of the Vice President of Academic Affairs and Provost, Office of Equity, Center for Student Activities, School of Education and Human Services and the University Student Congress. This year, the event was held from September 18-22.

## One step ahead

### SON partnership provides scholarships for Pontiac nurses

The School of Nursing recently received a two-year, \$100,000 grant from the Helene Fuld Health Trust, HSBC, Trustee, to support scholarships for economically disadvantaged registered nurses (RNs) who live or work in Pontiac. The scholarships will enable the RNs to return to school and receive Bachelor of Science in Nursing degrees.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for nurses in Pontiac to get one step ahead through returning to school," says Justine Speer, professor. "Through help provided by many community sponsors, these nurses will have support to succeed, including child care or mentoring if needed."

The grant is a result of a collaborative effort of the Pontiac hospitals and health care organizations, including

St. Joseph Mercy-Oakland, Pontiac Osteopathic Hospital, North Oakland Medical Center, Ministerial Alliance Fellowship of Pontiac, Oakland County Health Department, the Pontiac Health Initiative and Oakland University. RNs who live or work in Pontiac, and who have an associate's degree or diploma, are eligible to apply. Churches and health care agencies will be asked to nominate nurses; nurses can also nominate themselves.

The scholarships will assist 20-30 registered nurses. The first awards will be made so that scholarship recipients can begin the program in the winter 2001 semester.

The Helene Fuld Health Trust, HSBC, Trustee, is one of the nation's largest foundations devoted exclusively to nursing students and nursing education.

For more information, contact Justine Speer at extension 4496 or Debbie Weathers at extension 4068.

## The Six Senses of WOCOU

The sixth annual Weekend of Champions at Oakland University (WOCOU) takes place October 12-14.

Highlights include:

### Thursday, Oct. 12

- *Get in Touch with Your Senses.* The official kick-off of WOCOU VI includes free peanuts, popcorn, root beer floats and free WOCOU T-shirts for OU students, faculty and staff. Meet "The Grizz," OU Cheerleaders, and Images Dance Team. 11:30 a.m.-1 p.m., Fireside Lounge, Oakland Center.
- Sense-sational indoor picnic featuring food, music and giveaways, 4:30-7 p.m., Vandenberg Dining Center. Open to all OU students, faculty and staff.

### Friday, Oct. 13

- Show Your OU Spirit — It Makes Sense to Wear OU!
- WOCOU Billiards Tournament, noon to 5 p.m.

- Entry fee: \$5. Sign up at the Bumpers Games Room Counter. Prizes awarded.
- A "TASTE" of Italy — awaits you at the University Appreciation Dinner for OU students, faculty and staff, sponsored by the Office of the President. Tickets for faculty and staff through the Office of the President, 204 Wilson Hall. RSVP by Friday, October 6.
- SEE tricks that will amaze you — Family Entertainment: Professional Magician Mike Super, 7-8 p.m. Gold Rooms, OC.

### Saturday, Oct. 14

- HEAR the roar at Women's Volleyball. OU vs. University of Missouri-Kansas City, 2 p.m., O'Rena, Athletics Center. Lots of Prizes! Free for OU students, faculty and staff.



bits and **PIECES**

**Have a heart**

Many generous OU faculty and staff dug deep into their pockets and purses in July and parted with their spare nickels, dimes, pennies and quarters to support the American Heart Association's Heart Walk campaign at Oakland. The university raised more than \$600 in spare change to help in the fight against heart disease and stroke.

In August, employees donned Oakland University T-shirts, jeans and other casual attire for two "Dress Down Days." These fund-raising efforts netted \$700.

On September 11, 12, 20 and 21, the Heart Walk committee sponsored "Hole-in-One" contests in the Oakland Center food court. Hundreds of staff and faculty members joined celebrity putters in the competition for \$1 per putt. Successful putters became eligible for a special drawing for prizes on September 27.

Oakland University encourages all warm-hearted, lion-hearted, and otherwise wonderful colleagues to participate in any way they can at the 2000 Metro Detroit Heart Walk hosted by OU on campus, Saturday, October 7.

Call Glenn McIntosh at extension 4404 to sign up.

**Showing Our appreciation**

The Oakland University community is invited to attend the annual OU Faculty, Staff and Student Appreciation Dinner hosted by President Gary D. Russi on Friday, October 13 from 5-7 p.m. in the Pioneer Food Court at Oakland Center. Wear your OU attire to help celebrate OU Spirit Day.



**Temporary parking lot adjacent to the Science and Engineering Building makes an additional 275 parking spaces available while more permanent solutions are explored.**

**Campus improvements**

As enrollment goes, so goes the campus. That is, as the student body grows, so must services and facilities to accommodate them. Over the summer, Oakland University went to work to improve campus life for faculty, staff and students. A new parking lot, resurfaced sidewalks, crosswalks and streets will help to provide an uncrowded environment as well as safe, efficient and effective services for everyone.

**In the mix**

Herb Lucre, campus cleaning supervisor and recycling coordinator, Campus Cleaning, wants you to know that it is no long necessary to separate white paper and mixed paper for recycling purposes. You may use one bin will be for both types of paper if it is labeled "Mixed Paper." Questions may be directed to Lucre at extension 2168.

**39th Annual Writers' Conference**

Oakland University, College of Arts and Sciences, and Detroit Women Writers present the 39th Annual Writers' Conference October 20-21 in the Oakland Center. Dozens of workshops will be presented on a wide variety of topics, including "Personal Journals," "Picture Books for Children," "Historical Fiction" and "Getting Your Play

Published." The keynote speaker will be Patricia Polacco, a native Michigander, and well-known author-illustrator of children's books.

Polacco is the author of the moving *Pink and Say*. Her honors include the Sydney Taylor Book Award for *The Keeping Quilt*, the International Reading Association Children's Book Award for *Rechenka's Eggs*, the Commonwealth Club of California Silver Medal for *Babushka's Doll*, and the Golden Kite Award for *Chicken Sunday*.

Conference Director Gloria Boddy says the deadline for registration is October 13.

**Depression screening day**

The Counseling Center at Graham Health Center invites the OU community to learn about depression symptoms and treatments by attending Depression Screening Day, Thursday, October 5. A talk and video on depression will be featured at 10 a.m. and 1 p.m.

Participants also may complete a depression screening questionnaire and meet individually with a counselor to discuss the results or any other concerns. Pamphlets and fact sheets on depression will be available. The event is free. Call the Counseling Center at extension 3465 for more information.

**A nostalgic glimpse of Pontiac's past**

In 1976, when Geoff Brieger, professor, Chemistry, CAS, was living in Pontiac, he noticed that not much had been published about the city's history, despite its significance in Michigan. At a stamp show, he happened to see postcards for sale. He discovered six cards from Pontiac for five cents each.

"I was hooked," Brieger says. "So for the last 25 years I have been collecting postcards of Pontiac. I have well over a thousand."

While collecting postcards, Brieger also began collecting historical material on Pontiac.

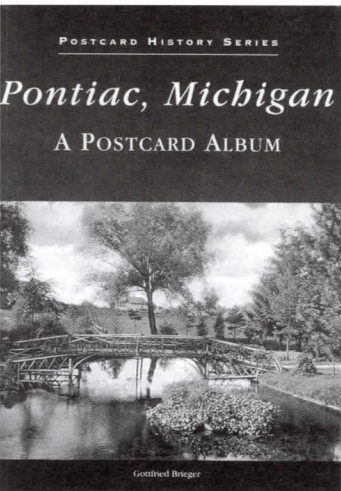
"Gradually I realized that I wanted to do something with my materials. I gave lectures to local groups. Then I considered writing a history," he says.

Brieger went on to sell the idea to Arcadia Publishing. The result is his book, *Pontiac, Michigan, A Postcard Album*, featuring

postcards from 1869 to the 1960s. Brieger includes interesting facts from Pontiac's history — from its prominence as an agricultural center for the region, to its days as an early hub for the transportation industry, to its decline and present renewal.

Topics include early settlers, businesses, public buildings, recreation on the lakes, downtown scenes, industry, the Clinton River when it meandered through Pontiac and scenic park settings. Now the Clinton only flows through a culvert under the city.

Brieger collected the postcards at flea markets, antique stores and the monthly Postcard Show and Sale in Berkley. His favorite card shows a big industrial chimney (on page 61). At first glance, it doesn't appear to be of any great interest. But the back of the card says, "This is the big chimney, 185 ft. high at the Rapid Motor Car Company in Pontiac, just



built this fall. Part of it fell down and killed two men while it was being built. It is all made of cement. They tried to build it too fast and it was too green is why it fell." The Rapid Motor Co. existed before 1918.

The book is available at the OU bookstore and local Borders and Barnes & Noble stores for \$18.99, ISBN 0-7385-0714-8. Brieger also has a few copies for sale. He can be reached at extension 2325 or gbrieger@oakland.edu.

**Survey says...Inside Oakland is a keeper**

Some like it, some don't. Some rely on it, while others don't seem to know that it exists. The results of the Communications and Marketing survey of OU employees who read *Inside Oakland* at turns put smiles on our faces, cut us to the quick and challenged us to think about how we might improve OU publications and enhance communication and community.

Most survey respondents like *Inside Oakland*. Their reasons were many and varied. Some found the information on its pages very useful, while others enjoyed the features, appreciated its design or its way of making them feel connected to the university. We discovered through the survey that some colleagues were not getting *Inside Oakland* and moved to correct that problem. Others found the information to be redundant; they had already been informed via flyers, memos or other publications.

Bottom line, the survey confirmed our belief that a newsletter for faculty and staff is a wanted and needed resource. We hope you will continue to give us your feedback as we move to make *Inside Oakland* the best that it can be for you. Below are highlights of the survey results.

Surveys mailed: 1,425  
Surveys returned: 355  
Faculty: 102  
Staff: 236

**How often do you read Inside Oakland?**

Regularly: 248  
Sometimes: 83  
Seldom: 19  
Never: 10

**How would you prefer to get your campus news?**

Paper: 155  
Web: 108  
E-mail: 120

**How often do you prefer to get your campus news?**

Weekly: 103  
Twice a month: 118  
Monthly: 117  
Other: 3

**How valuable do you find the information in Inside Oakland?**

Very: 88

Somewhat: 232  
Not at all: 15

**How important are the following topics to you in a faculty-staff news medium?**

Top three answers (for "very important"):  
Administrative policy decisions: 274  
Employee benefits: 237  
Campus events: 207

**What would you like to see in a faculty-staff news medium?**

Names of retiring faculty and staff: 192 (Highest)  
Classified ads: 140 (Never)

**Here's a sampling of what respondents think of Inside Oakland:**

"How about news on staff? It seems overloaded with faculty news."

"Because we are so isolated from the faculty and staff, I like seeing photos and [stories] so I can put names and faces together."

"It usually makes me proud to work here."

"Too little news — mostly 'feel good' articles."

"I like *Inside Oakland* but feel it is a little too much of a propaganda sheet."

"Sometimes a repetition of what I have read in other sources."

"Chatty stuff is less valuable than news about programs, scholarships and events."

"Interesting to read — would like to see more info on maximizing-utilizing OU services and getting involved with the OU community."

"The *Inside Oakland* newsletter is a quality publication. I would hate for it to turn into a publication for employees to air their dislikes."

"More interesting than valuable."

"This communication is important to OU faculty and staff; it's a means of keeping us connected."

"*Inside Oakland* is too sterile — should be more fun."

"This is the only publication where I receive all my Oakland news."



employees of the MONTH



**August 2000**  
**EMPLOYEE:** Rochelle A. Black  
**TITLE:** Director, Government Relations  
**DEPARTMENT:** Office of the President  
**LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 5 years

**COMMENTS:**  
“I have observed the abundant energy, wisdom and commitment with which Rochelle represents Oakland University to the state legislature and departments. Due to the nature of her position, Rochelle’s contribution may not be known to many among the university faculty, staff, students and administration.”  
“Rochelle spends many hours at the state capitol, often until late into the evening, garnering support and nurturing positive relations between the university and the state. She is very highly regarded by members of the legislature, legislative staff and departmental directors.”



**JULY 2000**  
**EMPLOYEE:** Jenny Cloutier  
**TITLE:** Office Assistant III  
**DEPARTMENT:** Financial Aid  
**LENGTH OF SERVICE:** 24 years

**COMMENTS:** “Jenny is a great team member for BannerHR. She goes above and beyond by keeping thorough records so when problems occur, she has the reference materials to resolve the problem and get things rolling again.”  
“Jenny is always upbeat and great to work with. She gets the job done accurately and in a timely manner.”

calendar of EVENTS

- Oct. 6 Women’s Volleyball. OU vs. Valparaiso. 7 p.m.
- Oct. 7 Pontiac-Oakland Symphony season premiere concert featuring pianist Scott Holden at Clarkston High School. Call (248) 334-6024.
- Eisenhower Dance Ensemble performs *On the Move* at 8 p.m. in Varner Recital Hall. Tickets: \$10. Call (248) 370-3013 to reserve.
- Crossing Eight Mile: The Art of Not Knowing Your Place.* A symposium on deconstructing representations of race in the arts and society. Meadow Brook Art Gallery, 2 p.m.
- Women’s Volleyball. OU vs. IUPUI. 5 p.m.
- Men’s and women’s soccer. OU vs. Western Illinois. Women at noon. Men at 2:30 p.m.
- Through Oct. 8 *Dancing at Lughnasa*, a “colorful, Celtic comedy” on stage at Meadow Brook Theatre. Call (248) 377-3300 for ticket information.
- Oct. 13 Women’s Volleyball. OU vs. Oral Roberts. 4 p.m.
- Oct. 13-21 *Oleanna* by David Mamet, a drama about sexual harassment between professor and student. Tickets: \$10. Phone the Varner Studio Theatre box office at (248) 370-3013 to reserve.
- Oct. 14 Women’s Volleyball. OU vs. UMKC. 2 p.m.
- Through Oct. 15 *Eight Years, Nine Months, Six Hours.* A retrospective of paintings by Peter Williams at Meadow Brook Art Gallery.
- Oct. 15 Women’s Volleyball. OU vs. Wisconsin-Green Bay. 2 p.m.
- Oct. 18 – Nov. 12 *The Diary of Anne Frank*, “a gripping drama of human courage,” on stage at Meadow Brook Theatre. Call (248) 370-3300 for ticket information.
- Through Nov. 2 *Tiffany: The Essence of Light, The Meadow Brook Hall Collection*, a free exhibition of authentic Tiffany art glass, interior design renderings and more. Oakland County Galleria, 1200 N. Telegraph Road, Pontiac.

campus REGISTRY

of distinction

**Augustin K. Fosu**, professor, Economics, School of Business Administration, published the following papers: “An Economic Theory of Pan-Africanism” (National Economic Association presidential address), *Review of Black Political Economy*, Vol. 27, No. 2 (1999); “The External Debt Burden and Economic Growth in the 1980s: Evidence from Sub-Saharan Africa,” *Canadian Journal of Development Studies*, Vol. 20, No. 2 (1999); “Cost of Living and Labor Force Participation: Married Women in Urban Labor Markets,” *Journal of Labor Research*, Vol. 20, No. 2 (1999); “Labor Force Participation of Married Women: Do Regions Matter?” *American Economist*, Vol. 44, No. 1 (2000); and “Antidiscrimination Measures of the 60s and Occupational Mobility: Evidence for Black American Men,” *Journal of Labor*

*Research*, Vol. 21, No. 1 (2000). Fosu also has edited (with G. Mwabu, University of Nairobi), the following: “Poverty, Inequality and Intrahousehold Allocation Issues in Sub-Saharan Africa,” *Journal of African Economies*, Vol. 9, Supplement 1 (June 2000), Oxford University Press.

In 1999, Fosu presented the following papers: “The International Dimension of African Economic Growth,” at Harvard University; “Openness, Trade and Development,” at a World Bank conference in Dar es Salaam, Tanzania; “Explaining Slow Growth in Africa” (with J-P Azam, Univ. Toulouse, France and N. Ndungu, Univ. of Abidjan, Cote d’Ivoire). Most recently (July 2000), he presented “International Trade and Labor Market Adjustment in Developing Countries” at the International Economic Association conference, University of Nottingham, United Kingdom.

**Annette M. Gilson**, assistant professor, English, gave a talk on “Jean Rhys, Ford Madox Ford, and the Fiction of Autobiography” at The Space Between Conference in May 2000. Gilson also has been invited to speak on “Charlotte Mew and the Sacrificing Gaze” at the Modernist Studies Association in October 2000.

**Carol Halsted**, professor and chair, Music, Theatre and Dance, College of Arts and Sciences, received a 2000 Arts Achievement Award from Wayne State

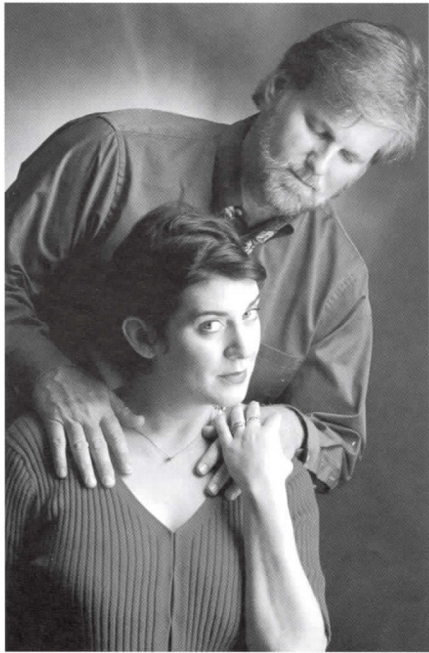
University September 14. Halsted completed her MEd and EdD degrees at Wayne State. She has studied and worked extensively in London, San Francisco and New York, including a stint with the Martha Graham Studio, and has been teaching dance at Oakland since 1970.

**Jude V. Nixon**, visiting associate professor, English, College of Arts and Sciences, published a review of Victorian poetry in volume 78 (603-29) of *The Year’s Work in English Studies*, published by Blackwells.

**Susan Wood**, professor, Art and Art History, will have her book, *Imperial Women: A Study in Public Images, 40 B.C. - A.D. 68*, re-issued in paperback by Brill.



Carol Halsted



Michael Gillespie, associate professor, MTD, and Angel Maclean in a scene from *Oleanna*.



**INSIDE OAKLAND** is published each month September through May for the faculty and staff of Oakland University by the University Communications and Marketing Department (C&M).

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Printed on recycled paper

**DEADLINES**  
Submit items for publication no later than the 10th of the month before publication.