

Monday, May 4, 2015

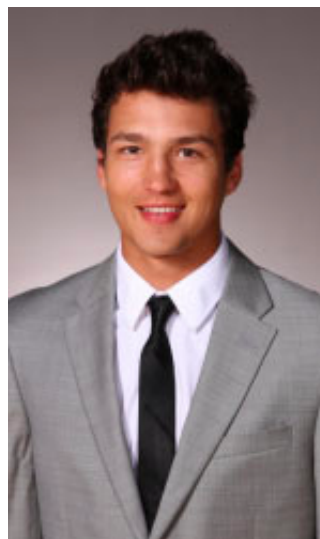
Three student leaders recognized with prestigious university honors

Each spring, Oakland University's Board of Trustees takes time to recognize three students for distinguishing themselves as outstanding scholars and leaders on campus and in the community. Spencer Marentette, a senior majoring in creative writing, received Oakland's 2015 Alfred G. Wilson Award; Kayla Fike, a senior majoring in psychology, received the 2015 Matilda R. Wilson Award; and Brittany Hall, a senior communication major, won the 2015 Human Relations Award. The Wilson Awards – the most prestigious honors the university presents to students – have recognized OU's top male and female scholars and leaders since 1965. The awards commemorate the Wilson family, whose generous donation of land and financial resources helped establish the university in 1957. The Human Relations Award recognizes a student who has made a valuable social impact within the University community. A committee that reviews nominations from faculty and staff members selects award recipients. Recommended candidates are ultimately approved as honorees by the vice president for academic affairs and the president.

2015 Alfred G. Wilson Award

After graduating from Leamington District Secondary School in Ontario, Canada, Spencer Marentette came to Oakland University, where he has excelled in academics and athletics. He holds a 3.97 GPA and has appeared on the Dean's List every semester. He was named to the All-Horizon League Academic Team in 2014 and the All-Summit League Academic Team in 2013.

Outside the classroom, Marentette has shown exemplary leadership in his roles as a captain of the Oakland University baseball team, a member of the Student-Athlete Academic Advisory Committee, co-founder of the Grizzlies Outstanding Leadership Development Program, and a member of the Fellowship of Christian Athletes. He has helped enrich the campus and surrounding community by participating in Oakland's Day of Service, City of Auburn Hills street cleaning, Oakland University Summer Baseball Camp and the Oakland University Center for Autism. He has also volunteered with Hispanic Outreach Service, Rochester Older Persons Commission and Salvation Army.



Spencer Marentette

2015 Matilda R. Wilson Award

Kayla Fike has exhibited strong leadership through her work in a number of service organizations, both on Oakland's campus and beyond. She is treasurer of Intrigue, OU's hip-hop dance team, a mentor in



Kayla Fike

OU's Pre-College Programs and a co-facilitator with Simple Methods for Anger Relief Training (SMART), an anger management program in the Waterford and Walled Lake school districts. She has also volunteered with Centerstage Soup Kitchen and the Baldwin Center in Pontiac, along with interning at the Dreams Realized through Academic Mentoring (DREAM), an academic mentoring program at a residential foster home.

While balancing a busy schedule, Fike has maintained an impressive academic record. She owns a 3.81 GPA and has served as a research assistant in OU's Department of Psychology. She also presented research at the Meeting of the Minds Conference and the Society for Research in Child Development Conference. Her efforts earned her a place on the Dean's List for seven consecutive semesters, and she received the Wade H. McRee Incentive Scholarship.

2015 Human Relations Award

Brittany Hall has worn many hats in her efforts to promote a positive campus culture. She has served on numerous Oakland University campus committees, including the Internal Branding Taskforce, Yearbook Club, 2014 Winter Homecoming, and the Campus Development and Environment Committee. She has also assumed leadership roles on the Student Program Board, University Housing and OU Student Congress, along with serving as co-president of the Grizz Gang.



Around the community, Hall has supported the efforts of the Baldwin Center, Gleaners Food Bank, American Cancer Society and a family-run animal shelter. Her academic achievements include maintaining a 3.36 GPA and winning first place in the 2014 "Creative Expression for Communication and Journalism Undergraduate Showcase."

Brittany Hall