



Tuesday, May 8, 2001

Student retention program wins national award

Oakland University's Trustee Academic Success Program recently won the Noel-Levitz Retention Excellence Award for its student retention efforts.

"It is one of the highest honors you can get as an institution," said Glenn McIntosh, director of the Office of Equity and **Advising Resource Center**, which operates the program.

OU's Trustee Academic Success Program has a retention rate of 69 percent to 72 percent, about 30 percent higher than the national average.

Since 1994, the program has helped 203 white, black, Hispanic, Asian, Philippine, Native American and multiracial students.

Success students receive scholarships of \$1,000 to \$3,000 a year if they maintain at least a 2.5 grade point average and meet with a staff member twice a month, said Gloria Sosa, assistant director of the Office of Equity and **Advising Resource Center**.

McIntosh and Sosa will accept the award and present their program at the 15th annual national Conference on Student Retention, July 25-28, in New Orleans, La. The Retention Excellence Awards Program was established in 1989 to honor retention achievements of post-secondary institutions throughout North America. The awards recognize innovative programs and services that impact student retention by promoting student success and satisfaction.

Nominees are judged by a panel of higher education administrators and consultants on identifiable and measurable institutional outcomes, originality and creativity, use of resources, and adaptability to other institutions.

Noel-Levitz, with offices in Denver, Iowa City and St. Catharines, Ontario, is a nationally recognized consulting firm specializing in higher education enrollment management, financial aid and student retention. Offering 28 years of experience, Noel-Levitz has partnered with more than 1,600 colleges and universities throughout North America.

Oakland University is a comprehensive state-supported institution of higher education located in Oakland County, Michigan. The university has 110 bachelor's degree programs and 63 graduate degree and certificate programs. Dedicated to preparing learners for the 21st-century workplace and society, Oakland University is organized into the **College of Arts and Sciences** and the Schools of **Business Administration, Education and Human Services, Engineering and Computer Science, Health Sciences, Nursing** and the **Honors College**.

SUMMARY

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