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New director brings military experience to OU

By *Jennifer Charney*, OU Staff Writer

Because he grew up as the son of a U.S. Army officer and because of his own 21-year career as a U.S. Army officer, Peter Nacy never spent more than four years living in one place. Germany, Korea and Saudi Arabia are among the places he served in the military. Additional travels with the Army took him to every country in Western Europe as well as Iraq, Kuwait and Japan.

This background had a lot to do with Nacy taking the position of Oakland's director of admissions in April 2001. He hadn't lived in Michigan yet, and he was ready to apply his Army and post-Army experience in admissions and enrollment management in a position at a four-year institution.

In the army, he held many positions, including battalion maintenance officer, leadership/management instructor and director of human resources. He also chaired the Military Science Department at East Central University in Ada, Oklahoma; and was director of collegiate recruiting for the U.S. Army ROTC at Fort Lewis, Washington.

It was at Fort Lewis that Nacy chose to leave the army in 1996 because he didn't want to take his next assignment in Turkey — he wanted to stay in the United States. He went on to serve in admissions and enrollment leadership positions, including dean of enrollment services and then dean of student services at Palmer College of Chiropractic in Davenport, Iowa; and director of admissions at New Mexico Military Institute in Roswell, New Mexico.

Nacy currently is busy pursuing the OU's enrollment goals for 2010:

- reaching an all-time high enrollment of 20,000 students for fall 2010
- achieving a 10 percent increase in full-time undergraduate students
- increasing the number of students of color to represent 20 percent of the first-time-in-any-college enrollment

"As enrollment grows and programs and services advance, we expect to become the first choice of many more high-achieving students," Nacy said. "The Enrollment Planning report projects an all-time high average freshman ACT composite score of 25 by 2010 — that's three points higher than in 2000."

Plans are under way to expand recruiting efforts, not only in Michigan, but also in Ohio, Illinois and Ontario. To attract more Canadian students, Oakland will offer them in-state tuition rates, Nacy said.

When he's not working, Nacy enjoys golfing and spending time with his family: Michele, his wife, who holds a Ph.D. in history, and his youngest son, a junior at Oxford High School. Pete and Michele's daughter and two other sons, both in the army, are adults.

SUMMARY

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