

# OAKLAND UNIVERSITY™

## School of Education and Human Services



## ACCOLADES AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS

### **Linda Pavonetti Earns Rank of Distinguished Professor from University Board of Trustees**

The Oakland University Board of Trustees unanimously approved to appoint Dr. Linda Pavonetti to the rank of distinguished professor at their meeting on Monday, February 10. Linda was one of three professors to be granted the rank of distinguished professor, alongside Vijayan Sugumaran (School of Business Administration) and Karen Sheridan (School of Music, Theatre and Dance). The appointment is effective August 15, 2020.

“These professors are outstanding examples of people who are not only really excellent in their discipline, but also people who have been here a long time and committed a lot of their career and lives to Oakland University,” said Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs and Provost James Lentini. “They really fit the bill for people who make a real impact on the institution and on our students.”

Linda has been a faculty member at OU since 1997. She was promoted to associate professor in 2003 and professor in 2012. She served as chair for the Department of Reading and Language Arts from 2011–2014 and was reappointed as chair in 2018, with her term scheduled to end in 2021. Linda is also a two-time nominee of the University’s Teaching Excellence Award.

“It is such an honor to be appointed a distinguished professor,” Linda said. “I never expected anything like this. I started my career very early in education, but I became a professor very late. I was 50 when I started here, and I never expected it to be anything as exciting and



*From left: Linda Pavonetti,  
Vijayan Sugumaran and Karen  
Sheridan*

rewarding as it is working with the young people here and with my wonderful colleagues.”

**Congratulations, Linda!**

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### **PSA Student Featured in Rhonda Walker’s Brag Book**

Channel 4 anchorwoman Rhonda Walker recently featured Detroit Edison Early College High School student Makiah Shipp for her leadership, service and academic success in her brag book. Makiah is a 17-year-old honor student who is passionate about giving back and helping others. She is an active member of the National Honor Society, Girls Making Change, Midnight Golf Program, The Rhonda Walker Foundation and Wolverine Pathways. Makiah has a 3.96 GPA and is class president. She has received 11 college acceptance letters and multiple college scholarships.



Makiah has expressed an interest in public policy, political activism and education reform. At her request, State Representative Rashida Tlaib will visit Detroit Edison Early College for a round table discussion.

**Congratulations, Makiah!**

## **IN THE NEWS**

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### **Weekly ERL Update: New Ways to Listen to Classic Literature**

Any fans of the Middle Ages and Chaucer out there? Would you like to listen to the *General Prologue to the Canterbury Tales* read aloud in Middle English by an actor? Learn more details about it in an [article by Ellen Gutoskey](#) and try it out for yourself. A cursor scrolls within an image of the actual Middle English script, along with subtitles in both a modern spelling of the 14<sup>th</sup> century text, and in a modern English translation. This app is a British literature or secondary English teacher’s delight!

What a great tool for teaching Chaucer. There are links within the article to access the app or a [desktop version](#). Happy listening!



### **Where Are They Now: Spotlight on Student Alumni**

Four Corners Montessori Academy graduate Jazzmin Partridge paid a visit to her former school and talked to students about her time at FCMA and her high school experience. Partridge is currently an 11<sup>th</sup> grader at Royal Oak High School. She is dual enrolled at Oakland Community College and is studying to be an astrophysicist.

Partridge will complete an internship with NASA over the



summer, and the students had a “blast” asking her questions about her studies and space. Partridge expressed gratitude for her FCMA education, stating, “If it wasn’t for FCMA and its Montessori education, I would not be where I am today.”

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## **Jim Cipielewski and Linda Pavonetti Loan Artwork to Local School**

Professor Linda Pavonetti and Professor Emeritus Jim Cipielewski have loaned pieces of artwork to Auburn Elementary for their Black History Month display case. The theme of the display is “How will YOU write the story of your life?” and was selected based on the artwork, much of which is from biographies.



*As Jim and Linda finished the display, a young student approached them and told them he would want his biography to say he lived a good life.*

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## **UPCOMING EVENTS**

### **OUCARES Family Fun Day — Saturday, March 21**

OUCARES will be hosting a Family Fun Day on Saturday, March 21 from noon – 4 p.m. in the Recreation Center. Come enjoy a day full of fun for all families impacted by Autism Spectrum Disorders! There is no cost to attend and no registration is needed.

Activities include:

- information fair with over 20 organizations
- sensory room, hosted by Kaufman Children’s Center
- art projects

- face painting
- bouncy inflatables
- swimming from noon – 2 p.m. (bring your own towel)

For more information, [view the event flyer](#) or email [oucares@oakland.edu](mailto:oucares@oakland.edu).

## **BIRTHDAYS**

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If you do not wish to have your birthday included, contact [Trevor Tyle](#).

## **ABOUT THE SEHS BULLETIN**

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The SEHS Bulletin is a place where faculty and staff can share news and celebrate the wonderful things happening in SEHS. The bulletin is the perfect place to share information about your publications and awards, special projects and committee news, as well as announce events.

All are welcome to send items for inclusion. If you choose to do so, please ensure that your items are print ready, that you include all related links, and that you have permission to publish any photos being submitted. Please put “SEHS Bulletin” in the subject line and email your information to: [ttyle@oakland.edu](mailto:ttyle@oakland.edu).

**If you have questions about the bulletin, email Trevor Tyle at [ttyle@oakland.edu](mailto:ttyle@oakland.edu).**

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**Oakland University**  
**School of Education and Human Services**

Pawley Hall  
456 Pioneer Drive, Rochester, MI 48309-4482

(248) 370-3050

[sehs@oakland.edu](mailto:sehs@oakland.edu)

[oakland.edu/sehs](http://oakland.edu/sehs)



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