

# THE OAKLAND POST

OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER



## THE KICKOFF IS GOOD

OU FOOTBALL CLUB WINS FIRST GAME AGAINST UM-FLINT PAGE 10

## OVER THE LINE

A GUIDE TO PARKING AT OAKLAND UNIVERSITY PAGE 13



OU  CLEAN AIR

## UNFILTERED REACTIONS

STUDENTS TALK ABOUT OAKLAND'S SMOKING POLICY PAGES 8-9

*A smoke-free campus*

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OU alum runs in American Distance Project

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Taking a clumsy trip down memory lane

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# thisweek

September 25, 2013 // Volume 40. Issue 5



## ontheweb

Sept. 13-Oct. 15 is Hispanic Celebration Month at Oakland University. Find out what events were held and what's coming up.

[www.oaklandpostonline.com](http://www.oaklandpostonline.com)

## POLL OF THE WEEK

What are your favorite freebies given out by student organizations?

- A** Food
- B** Shirts, clothing, etc.
- C** Backpacks, pens, etc.
- D** Hugs

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## LAST WEEK'S POLL

What do you think of Greek Life at Oakland University?

**A** I'm in a Greek Org, and I love it.

41.7%

**B** I'm not in a Greek Org, but I like them.

8.3%

**C** It's a stupid tradition.

13.9%

**D** I'm just not interested.

36.1%

## THIS WEEK IN HISTORY

### SEPTEMBER 22, 1980

Oakland University was finishing work on housing for married students. Rent was tentatively set at \$250 per month.

### SEPTEMBER 26, 1969

A group of 800 students demonstrated to keep Woody Varner at Oakland University. Varner was not on the list of presidential candidates.

### SEPTEMBER 22, 1961

The Student Center Council was renamed the Student Activities Council, also changing focus to facilitating recreational and cultural events.



## PHOTO OF THE WEEK

**LITTLE PINK CROSSES** // Dozens of pink crosses dot the grounds at Oakland University as part of display by Students for Life of America. According to the group's website, The Planned Parenthood Project "is heading out on a 18,041 mile, 41 university, 20 state, 8 week tour" to speak out against Planned Parenthood, which it calls "the Goliath of the abortion industry." *SALWAN GEORGES // The Oakland Post*

Submit a photo to [editor@oaklandpostonline.com](mailto:editor@oaklandpostonline.com) for a chance to be featured. View all submissions at [oaklandpostonline.com](http://oaklandpostonline.com)



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### EMPLOYERS ONLY

The 2013 Fall Business and Liberal Arts Career Fair took place in the Oakland Center Banquet and Gold Rooms. Over 60 employers showed up to meet OU students.



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### FEET OF SKILL

OU Men's Soccer played Indiana University-Purdue University Indianapolis Wednesday, Sept. 18, winning a 2-0 victory.



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### TALES FROM CUBA

Alina Fernandez, daughter of former Cuban Prime Minister Fidel Castro, visited Oakland University, speaking of both her father and life in Cuba.

## BY THE NUMBERS

**\$25,000**

Average adjunct salary nationwide

**60%**

Administrator job growth 1993-2009

**75%**

percent of instructors are adjuncts

**\$56,200**

Average instructor salary at Oakland University as of 2011

**21:1**

Student-instructor ratio at OU

### Low rungs of higher education

A recent article on NPR's website tells of adjunct instructor Margaret Mary Vojtko from Duquesne University in Pittsburgh.

After working 25 years in education, Vojtko was "deserted and nearly homeless," making only \$10,000 a year.

Vojtko was attempting to unionize adjunct professors at the university. She died of a heart attack months later.

NPR's piece shows a disturbing trend in higher education. Adjuncts currently make up roughly 75 percent of college instructors, earning between \$20,000-25,000 a year, the article reads.

An article in BusinessWeek shows an even more disturbing trend. While tuition costs soar and more full-time educators are replaced with less-expensive part-time adjuncts, the number of deans and administrators has increased in Purdue and other universities.

"At universities nationwide, employment of administrators jumped 60 percent from 1993 to 2009, 10 times the growth rate for tenured faculty," the article reads.

Instructor salaries are declining as "administrative expenses" climb, according to that and other articles.

A cursory evaluation of Oakland University's transparency report shows Oakland University has thankfully not gone down this path.

A list of employee salaries shows most of them are significantly more than the \$20,000-\$25,000 listed by the

"Nobody at a school is any more or less important than anyone else. Without students, there would be no teachers. Without teachers, there would be no need for administrators. Without administrators, the college wouldn't function."

NPR piece.

According to The Chronicle of Higher Education, Oakland University's average instructor salary was above the median, at an average of \$56,200 a year, in 2011.

Assistant professors, associate professors and full-time professors make below the median amounts but still average between \$63,700 and \$99,300 per year, according to the Chronicle.

And that survey was performed before the 2012 contract negotiations.

Oakland University is to be commended for not succumbing to the same temptation as other schools in the country. We hope this trend continues.

For most students, the point of college is to learn marketable skills and eventually receive a job that pays a living wage.

It might shake a student's confidence to realize the person teaching that skill is not

even paid enough to live on.

If teachers are to be considered exemplars - persons who students should look to when determining their own futures - it seems downright scary to know some instructors might be better off working unskilled labor jobs.

We encourage Oakland University to continue fairly compensating its instructors, now and in the future.

For those of you who plan on transferring to another university for graduate studies or otherwise, we encourage you to look into salaries and compensation.

Find out what teachers are making, and what benefits they receive. If you find out they aren't making what you think they should make, inform the school why you've opted to learn your trade elsewhere.

Nobody at a school is any more or less important than anyone else. Without students, there would be no teachers. Without teachers, there would be no need for administrators. Without administrators, the college wouldn't function.

The most important vote you have is your pocketbook. A quality education is easier to attain if instructors are being fairly paid.

Part-time or full-time, teachers deserve fair pay.

*The staff editorial is written weekly by members of The Oakland Post's editorial board.*

The views expressed in Perspectives do not necessarily represent those of The Oakland Post.



THE OAKLAND POST

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#### Corrections Corner

The Sept. 11 editorial should read "The university was shut down by President Gary Russi in the wake of the attacks."

The Oakland Post corrects all errors of fact. If you know of an error, please e-mail oakpostmanaging@gmail.com or call 248.370.2537. You can also write us at 61 Oakland Center Rochester, MI 48309.

#### Letters to the Editor

Writers must provide full name, class rank, phone number and field of study. Please limit letters to 250 words or less. Letters may be edited for content, length and grammar.



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EDITORIAL

# To Cuba, with love: a family heritage

The forbidden country of Cuba has always been looked at from a negative perspective. My experience in Cuba is a little different than most people would imagine.

My father left Cuba at the age of 13 to come to the United States. Not all of his family was able to leave with him so I have a lot of family left living in Havana.

I have traveled to Cuba many times to visit my family and experience the culture and the beauty of the country.

Every time I arrive in the city of Havana, I am welcomed by many people.

My whole family lives in the same neighborhood so there is always a big gathering. My family and I are very close to each other even though we don't see one another for years at a time.

The people of Cuba are so intrigued by Americans. It's most Cubans' dream to be able to leave the island and live the way we do here in America. Cubans are lively, passionate and hardworking people who are



Jessah Rolstone  
Ads Manager

limited in reaching their potential because of the government. Its amazing how intrigued the Cuban people are, they want to be as educated as they possibly can.

### La Cultura

My favorite thing to do is going to the beach with my family. We also have lots of fun going to La Habana, downtown Havana, where all the salsa clubs and hang out spots are. There

are beautiful sites in La Habana like Fort Morro, the museums where Castro's story of the rebellion is shown. The cathedrals are amazing, the architecture is something that you will never see here.

Another distinct thing Cuba is known for is its cars. They are old-school cars that we would see here in The Dream Cruise.

Baseball, boxing and volleyball are the three biggest sports in Cuba. It's always fun to watch a national baseball team in Cuba ending up playing in the Olympics or the World Baseball Classic.

There are so many things I was able to experience

"We also have lots of fun going to La Habana, (downtown Habana) where all the salsa clubs and hangout spots are."

in Cuba that I could never here. Just because of how different people live.

### La Vida Cubano

In Cuba you appreciate life whether you live there or are just visiting. Everyone I run across from there always has a positive outlook on life. I always feel at home when I'm there.

While Cuba may be less fortunate, then the U.S., they live the most lavish life they can with what they have. Everyone is welcoming and full of questions about the United States.

I hope that one day Cuba will be open to everyone in the U.S. If you ever have the opportunity to go take full advantage of it. There truly is nothing like Cuba, it's full of potential with old treasures.

Contact Jessah at [jarolsto@oakland.edu](mailto:jarolsto@oakland.edu)

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## Master of Health Sciences debuts at OU

*Oakland University adds the first graduate program ever for the department of health sciences.*

**Kailee Mathias**  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University has added its first graduate program for health sciences. The process to create the masters of public health program began in Jan. 2012 through surveying students to see if there was an interest in the program and gaining accreditation.

The course is 44 credits in length and can be completed in two years of full-time study.

Program director, Patricia Wren, Ph.D, M.P.H, had an analogy for the work behind creating this program.

"When you do all that it's like a cake recipe," Wren said. "You have all those ingredients and a good team of bakers behind you. At the end of the day—bing, the timer sounds and you have this awesome cake called, the master of public health program."

### Inaugural Class

The program debuted in fall 2013. The inaugural class consists of 12 students. So far they are taking Public Health 600 with Wren, which is where they are learning about different theories explaining why people do what they do in health care, or health related decisions. They are also taking Public Health 610 with Dr. Rebecca Cheezum. That course offers students practice in research and data collection.

"They are a lively, engaged group, they come to class and challenge us," Wren said. "They are keeping Rebecca and me on our toes, which has to be a good thing."

The class is from a wide-range of professional experience and degrees. "From public relations to engineering and pretty much any major could feed into health care," Wren said. "When your colleagues in class say, 'what am I going to do after this,' send them over to us," Wren said.

### Summer Break Practicum

In the summer between their first and second year in the master's program students will get the opportunity to participate in a practicum.

"The best way to describe the practicum is the coolest summer break you can plan for yourself," Wren said.

With the help of an advisor, the student will pick an organization to intern at and get first-hand experience in their field.

Wren hopes this program will help give back to the community in years to come. "It's an opportunity for us to give back. We have to earn this beautiful Human Health Building (HHB) day by day," Wren said. "Part of the way we will earn this trust that we were given, in the form of this building, is to raise peoples health and the quality and quantity of life."

Applications for next fall are due Feb. 1. If students are interested there are information fairs throughout the year, or they can stop by HHB and check them out.

Contact Staff Reporter Kailee Mathias at [kmmathia@oakland.edu](mailto:kmmathia@oakland.edu)

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Kailee Mathias / The Oakland Post

Oakland University students were encouraged to dress their best and meet with employers at the 2013 Fall Career Fair.

## Students dress to impress potential employers at the fall career fair

*Students met with, talked with, and gave out resumes, to the various different employers from the various companies that represented the fair*

**Kailee Mathias**  
Staff Reporter

**O**akland University career services hosted the Fall Career Fair Tuesday, Sept 24 in the Oakland Center Banquet Rooms.

From 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. students have the opportunity to network with 72 registered employers in various fields.

"This was my first career fair. It was a little overwhelming, but everyone is super nice up there," Stephanie Krause, senior, said.

### Looking Professional

Professional dress was a requirement. Students were informed to come with plenty of resumes to show to the registered employers.

The Career Services website provided students with a list of things to know before attending the fair.

"I went my freshmen year I found out about the career fair a half an hour be-

fore and I didn't really know what I was doing," Aurthur Pawlikowski, sophomore said, "I went in a t-shirt and jeans and I don't think too many people took me seriously, but I learned from it. I'm in a suit today so I think I'm doing a bit better."

### Talking With Companies

Throughout the fair students get to discuss full-time interning and co-op opportunities with attending employers. Employers will have a brief interview with the students reviewed their resumes.

Students also had the opportunity to ask the employer any questions they had on the company.

"I spoke with a few companies that are immediately hiring which was awesome to hear because then I have a shot at getting a job after graduation in December," Megan Scott, senior, said. "It was very helpful they told me exactly what they were hiring for."

The website also informed students to not chew gum or bring in a beverage and

leave cell phones turned off for the event. They also had students keep their backpacks outside of the career fair.

### Who Attended

Some of the employers in attendance included Chrysler Group LLC, Fox 2 WJBK, Palace Sports & Entertainment and Quicken Loans.

"I met with so many different ones; Reliance, Target Auto Owners Insurance, and The State of Michigan Department," Kalie Reynolds, senior, said. "I was very successful, I got two interviews out of it."

For more information visit the Career Services website. It lists information on future fairs, informs students on what to do and how to act during the fair and has plenty of insightful resources to help students prepare to meet with future employers.

Contact Staff Reporter Kailee Mathias at [kmmathia@oakland.edu](mailto:kmmathia@oakland.edu)

## POLICE BRIEFS

### Damaged Property

On Sept. 9, an officer took a report from a student who said that they parked their vehicle at 1:00pm and returned at approximately 8:45 p.m. to find their rear window shattered.

An impact mark was visible in the upper right corner.

The vehicle was parked approximately halfway down the row; on the north side, facing south.

### Assault in Hamlin Hall

On Sept. 18, an officer responded to Hamlin Hall for a threats complaint. All identified themselves as students. On Sept. 17, the female victim said that she had an argument with another female student around 11 p.m. on the third floor of Hamlin.

The victim stated that a male student who was a friend of the female student came up to her room with the attention of cutting her. This was witnessed by other students and they left the room without being harmed. The victim said that she did not see the scissors.

On Sept. 18, at around 11 p.m. the male student entered the victim's room. The victim stated that he had a shirt wrapped around his hand like he was going to protect his hand when he punched her.

The victim felt that the presence of other students was the only thing that stopped the male student from assaulting the victim.

On Sept. 19, officers found the male student at 12:30 a.m. and interviewed him. They placed the male student under arrest and handcuffed him.

Compiled by Rachel Arouder  
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*Ali DeRees / The Oakland Post*

Katherine and Nick Desrochers spice it up on the dance floor and bust out some fresh and classy dance moves

**Ali DeRees**  
Staff Reporter

Oakland University's Ballroom Dance Club, which began last winter, had a great turnout, and are ready to take their dancing to the next level and start dancing competitively.

The club's president Taylor Born says that this semester will be used as preparation for the competitions that they will participate in next semester.

"We wanted to work towards a goal," said Born.

Their open house and practice was held on Monday, Sept. 9. According to Born, 51 students showed up to the open house and 25 of them are looking to compete.

Born says the club is looking into participating in a competition at Purdue in the fall and one in Ann Arbor in the winter.

Born herself has taken private lessons from the dance studio that works in partner with the Ballroom Dance Club, Elegance in Motion.

She stresses though that no dance experience is needed in order to join or compete.

"Most people don't have dance experience," said Born. "Ballroom dancing is something anyone can do and it's what you make of it."

Born says the club is looking to host their own competition here at Oakland University next fall.

One of the dance instructors who can be found teaching at the club's practices is Curtis Haremza.

Haremza owns the dance studio Elegance in Motion with his wife Sarah located in Auburn Hills. Haremza himself has 17 years of ballroom dancing experience.

Haremza is excited to see the Ballroom Dance Club competing this year. "Collegiate competitions are very popular right now," said Haremza.

Haremza explained how the competitions work. There are up to 70 people on the floor at a time and that number keeps narrowing until there is a winner. Couples are judged off or their heat's which are minute and a half dances.

Other experienced ballroom dancers can be found at the Ballroom Dance Club's practices.

Alex Chevrier is a nationally competitive ballroom dancer with nine years of ballet experience and three years of ballroom dance experience.

Chevrier explains the advantages for students looking to compete in ballroom dancing.

"Not a lot of young people my age compete," said Chevrier. "Going through a college is more affordable."

Chevrier is happy to see the turnout the club has seen and how many students want to compete.

"We are going to go to competition based on these guys' drive," said Chevrier.

The Ballroom Dance Club meets Mondays at 8:30 p.m. for Beginners classes and Wednesdays at 8:30 p.m. for the advanced class.

Contact Staff Reporter Ali DeRees at [apderees@oakland.edu](mailto:apderees@oakland.edu)

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