



Friday, January 9, 2004

Gift announcement, reports given at board meeting

President Gary Russi announced at the meeting on Jan. 7 that Trustee Dennis Pawley and his wife Carlotta have made a \$4 million gift to the university. The university will name the Education and Human Services Building "Carlotta and Dennis Pawley Hall" in honor of the long-time benefactors and supporters.

"Dennis Pawley's leadership as a trustee, an alumnus and a supporter **Oakland University Board of Trustees** has impacted Oakland and our students and faculty in countless ways," Russi said. (The Pawleys) are taking a leadership role in securing our future and advancing Oakland toward its goal of providing a distinctive undergraduate experience."

The Pawleys also have funded a \$1 million endowment to establish the Pawley Lean Learning Institute on Oakland's campus and donated \$2 million to support the schools of Business Administration, Education and Human Services and Engineering and Computer Science.

The naming of the building will be made official pending board approval at the Feb. 4 meeting.

In other board activity:

- The annual report on diversity, OU's affirmative action plan and retention showed that the percentage of female and other minority new hires has decreased while the percentage of black new hires has increased. The university remained constant in the level of female, black and other minority faculty employed. The level of female, black and other minority staff employed by the university is virtually unchanged. Members of the board urged the University Diversity and Compliance staff to strive in the coming year to improve the numbers of minority hires and retention, on both the staff and faculty levels.
- A budget performance report on the University Student Apartments and residence halls was presented to the board. Higher than anticipated occupancy in the student apartments generated an increase in revenue of \$45,570. In the residence halls, a projected increase of \$417,200 in revenue is expected, once again due to higher than budgeted occupancy.
- A report on the status of the Michigan Universities Self-Insurance Corporation (M.U.S.I.C.) activities was presented.
- The proposed budget for Meadow Brook Hall is scheduled for a vote on Feb. 4. While Meadow Brook Hall continues to struggle financially under the current business model, the Finance, Audit and Investment Committee and the administration have been engaged in strategic business planning activities since last spring. Changes in the business model already are under way, and further new initiatives are under consideration.
- A proposal to appoint PricewaterhouseCoopers as Oakland's independent public accounting firm was discussed and will be formally voted on at the Feb. 4 meeting.
- A report was presented regarding the appointment of board directors for chartered schools and board members for public school academies.
- President Russi congratulated the September, October and November Employees of the Month:
 - September: Dorothy Dzedzic, research associate in the Department of Biological Sciences
 - October: Kimberly Popiolek, Web editor in the Department of Communications and Marketing
 - November: Clifford Snitgen, manager of the Laboratory of Animal Management in the Department of Grants, Contracts and Sponsored Research
- Provost Virinder Moudgil presented the Faculty Recognition Awards:
 - Ravindra Khattree, professor of mathematical sciences in the Department of Mathematics and Statistics
 - Andy Goldberg, assistant professor of biomedical sciences in the Eye Research Institute

The next **Oakland University Board of Trustees** meeting will be Wednesday, Feb. 4, at 2 p.m. in Elliott Hall Auditorium.

SUMMARY

At the Oakland University Board of Trustees meeting Jan. 7, OU President Gary Russi announced that Trustee Dennis Pawley and his wife Carlotta have made a \$4 million gift to the university. The university will name the Education and Human Services Building "Carlotta and Dennis Pawley Hall" in honor of the long-time benefactors and supporters. The board also received the annual report on diversity, the budget performance report on the University Student Apartments, and discussed the proposed budget for Meadow Brook Hall.

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