



Oakland University News Information Update

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Sandra Packard Accepts Offer for OU Presidency

Sandra Packard of the University of Tennessee-Chattanooga has accepted an offer to become the next Oakland University president.

Packard, pending contract approval from the university Board of Trustees, will become president on June 15. The Board of Trustees selected Packard at its March 11 meeting before several hundred spectators in the Oakland Center Gold Rooms. Trustees cited Packard's academic leadership skills, planning abilities and polished presentation style during the nomination and discussion of the four finalists for the presidency. They noted she is an extremely articulate administrator who will be able to communicate well with all of the various university constituencies.

Past University Leaders

Chief executives in Oakland University's history have been the following:

- Durward B. "Woody" Varner — Appointed chancellor in 1959 when OU began as Michigan State University-Oakland. He served until 1970, when he resigned to become chancellor at the University of Nebraska. He later headed the University of Nebraska Foundation. Varner is now retired.
- Donald D. O'Dowd — Appointed chancellor in 1970 (title later changed to president). He served until 1979 when he resigned to become executive vice chancellor of the State University of New York. He is now retired.
- George T. Matthews — Served as interim president from 1979-81. Now professor emeritus of history.
- Joseph E. Champagne — President from 1981-91. Now president and chief executive officer of Crittenton Corp. in Rochester.
- John De Carlo — Has served as interim president since June 5, 1991.

Other finalists were Richard S. Meyers, president of Western Oregon State College; Claire A. Van Ummersen, chancellor of the University System of New Hampshire; and Luis A. Proenza, vice chancellor for research and dean of the graduate school at the University of Alaska-Fairbanks. In all, 121 candidates had applied for the position.

Packard is provost and vice chancellor for academic affairs, and professor of curriculum and instruction at the University of Tennessee at Chattanooga. She has held the position since 1985.

Packard visited campus on March 17-18 and worked out details of her contract. The Board of Trustees is expected to vote on the agreement at its April 8 meeting.

Trustees chose Packard on the second ballot. The first ended with four votes for Packard by Larry Chunovich, Phyllis Googasian, David Handleman and Stephan Sharf; two for Meyers by Andrea Fischer and James Sharp, Jr.; and one for Van Ummersen by Chairperson Howard Sims. Five votes are necessary. On the second ballot, Sims changed his vote.

Sims asked for the board to affirm Packard by acclamation, giving her a 7-0 vote. Trustee L. Brooks Patterson was absent.

At UT-C, Packard is responsible for an annual budget of \$27 million. She initiated and raised funds to establish a \$3.5 million center for arts education. She co-raised funds for and established nine \$1 million endowed faculty chairs of excellence and established the College of Health and Human Services and the School of Social and Community Services. Under her direction, black faculty employment has risen more than 100 percent.

Packard received a Bachelor of Fine Arts
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Sandra Packard

Trustees cited Sandra Packard's academic leadership skills, her planning skills and her willingness to listen to others among the reasons for choosing her for the presidency.

degree from Syracuse University and master's and doctoral degrees in art education from Indiana University.

Packard previously worked at Bowling Green State University and Miami University.

The board also thanked Interim President John De Carlo for his work in leading the university. He was appointed interim president on June 5, 1991. The action followed the resignation of President Joseph E. Champagne, who resigned to accept a

position with Crittenton Corp. in Rochester.▼