

Black Awareness Month
chairpersons profiled

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Oakland University, Rochester, MI

\$2,000 tax deduction for tuition in Michigan sought

By LISABETH PINTO
Staff Writer

Taxpayers would be allowed to deduct up to \$2,000 annually in tuition cost from their Michigan income tax under a bill to be introduced in the Michigan House of Representatives this week.

"This legislation is the logical extension of the Michigan Education Trust program," said the sponsor of the bill, State Representative

Judith Miller (R-Birmingham).

"What we are trying to do is give the same advantage to people who are paying as they go as the MET people (are getting)," Miller said.

Participants in the MET program are allowed to deduct their contract payments from adjusted gross income on their Michigan tax forms.

Miller's bill would allow for a \$2,000 per student tax deduction, for a maximum of four years. It would apply only to tuition paid at

Michigan universities and colleges.

"We need to take care of this concern before we look at expanding the MET program," Miller said.

"We need to alleviate tuition costs."

Robert Kolt, spokesman for the Michigan treasury department, said the treasury department would have to consider the revenue impact the bill may have before it would make any recommendations.

The tax deduction would not be limited to parents, Miller said, but would be available to anyone who pays tuition costs in Michigan.

The bill has been defeated in committee twice before.

"There is a reluctance on the part of the Democratic leadership to deal with the issue of deduction for tuition," Miller said. "It is a challenging issue, there is no question about it."

"We are going to be pushing

pretty hard with this. Maybe the Michigan Collegiate Coalition can help us lobby for this bill," she said.

The MCC is a lobbying organization for the 15 four-year public institutions in Michigan. It is comprised of student governors from each institution who work together to present student concerns to the state legislature.

The bill is not on the agenda for the MCC's Feb. 10 meeting, accord-

ing to Freshman Andy DePage of University Student Congress and OU's governor on the MCC.

"We have not scheduled discussion on this bill," DePage said. "It will be reviewed by (MCC's) full-time employees in Lansing, and if they decide MCC would like to discuss it, we would come up with a platform saying whether we support it or not. We might actually lobby for it if the vote is right."

Inauguration ceremony kicks off BAM month

By KATHLEEN MILLER
Special Writer

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us.

Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us.

Facing the rising sun of our new day begun,

Let us march on 'til victory is won.

—from *Lift Every Voice and Sing* performed by Ortheia Barnes

Detroit jazz singer Ortheia Barnes and Free Press columnist Susan Watson encouraged students to believe in themselves and to not settle for second best at Wednesday's Black Awareness Month Inauguration ceremony.

This year's theme is *Communications and the Arts*, spotlighting contributions made by black people.

"When you accept less than best, you are betraying all of those people who gave so much to get you here," said Watson, keynote speaker, to approximately 150 students, faculty and staff.

Watson was the first black city editor of a major metropolitan newspaper in the United States. She received the United Press International award and the Associated Press award.

Watson said the media often show only one side of the black community—the failing side. She said the media leave out news of "good, hard-working black folks who are making it day by day."

Watson warned students to be wary of what they read in the newspapers about themselves.

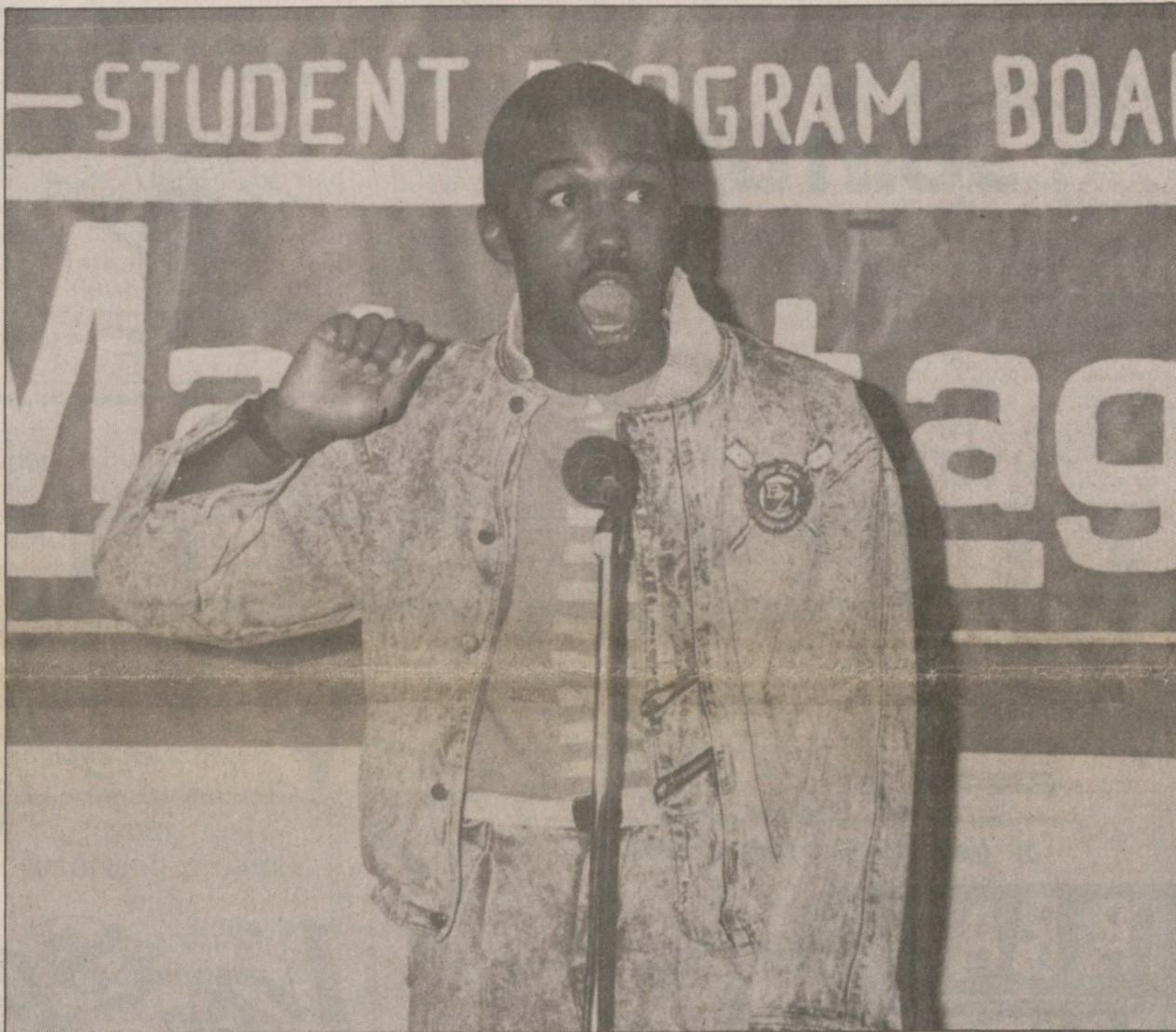
"Don't accept everything that's said about you," she said.

Encouraging students to act on their feelings, Watson suggested they tell the media when they are unhappy with something that appears in the news.

"Express your feelings. Don't be

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Make 'em laugh



Comedian Earl Reed cracks up his audience in the SPB-sponsored Mainstage performance in Oakland Center's Crockery Feb. 2.

The Oakland Post / Karen Langer

Board to review new master plan at next meeting

By MICHELLE MICHAEL
and CAROL ZITO
Staff Writers

A manual suggesting the construction of a new science building and ways to increase parking availability will be reviewed for approval at the board of trustees Feb. 8 meeting.

The 50-page plan also suggests expanding the Oakland Center to include a new bookstore and additional meeting rooms and constructing a new 120,000 square foot classroom/office building, possibly near the proposed new science building.

The plan is not binding, but it "gives us a vision of where collectively we'd like to go," said Richard Tucker, chairman of the Campus Environment and Development committee of the Faculty Senate.

"We wanted to get a document detailed enough to be useful, but not so detailed that it locks us into anything," Tucker said.

He said recently proposed budget cuts don't affect the university's physical development because "capital construction is separate

from running the university."

The text, called *Campus Development Guidelines 1989*, took Ann Arbor consulting firm Johnson, Johnson & Roy 19 months to complete.

JJR was paid \$130,000 to make the recommendations, according to Alan Miller, assistant vice president of Campus Facilities and Operations.

The same firm was the author of OU's 1971 master plan.

"We're looking for an update based on a number of different things that are changing in the (community)," said Barry Murray, the firm's project manager.

Faculty and administrators helped JJR gather ideas contained in the text, he said.

The manual "gives the university an opportunity to take plans and run with specific improvements," Murray said. The text is to be used as a guideline.

Tucker said discussion has already started about some of the issues in the plan.

See PLAN page 3

Chairpersons waiting to fill faculty positions

By KATHY POMAVILLE
Staff Writer

Departments in the College of Arts and Sciences are awaiting authorization to fill vacant faculty positions while the dean and chairpersons struggle with proposed budget cuts.

The college is working on reducing its budget by almost \$900,000 over the next two years by cutting operating expenses and faculty positions, according to David Downing, acting dean.

Layoffs are not being considered, but professors who leave may not be replaced.

In a yet unscheduled meeting, department chairpersons "will plead their case," Downing said. Decisions will be made after that meeting.

Meanwhile, those department chairpersons are wondering about the future.

Lucinda Hart-Gonzalez, associate professor of linguistics, plans to leave the department after this spring semester. She is moving to

Virginia, where her husband has taken a job.

Hart-Gonzalez teaches AL 176, The Humanity of Language, the only alternative to the modern language general education requirement.

Although she is not the only instructor, fewer sections may be offered if she cannot be replaced, Hart-Gonzalez said.

Losing linguistic majors is a primary concern, since a significant number of majors stem from the class, she said.

Linguistics Chairman Peter Binkert said the department is "sitting tight" and waiting to see if Hart-Gonzalez' full-time position can be filled.

Meanwhile, "time is running out and our choices (for a new professor) are diminishing," Binkert said.

Downing said the faculty hiring process is a long one because "it takes time to totally retrain someone in a new area."

The modern language department lost a full-time position when

French professor Alfred Dubruck retired last December.

The department advertised for a full-time replacement for Dubruck, but the position was cut during the selection process.

In order to save money, more part-timers may be hired, according to Renate Gerulaitis, modern languages and literatures chairwoman.

Part-time faculty are "paid a pittance" compared to full-time faculty, Gerulaitis said.

See FACULTY page 3

Baby boom



The Oakland Post / Charles Kowal

Salomon Boachie-Yiadom shows his drumming expertise at the Traditional African Drumming and Dancing festival Feb. 3.

Monolingual students suffer in translation

College graduates should speak more than one language, professor says

By NANCY AITKEN
Special Writer

While most college graduates from other countries speak more than one language, the majority of U.S. students only learn English, educators say. Even at OU, which has a four-credit foreign language requirement, several hundred students per semester choose ALS 176, The Humanity of Language, as a substitute.

Last semester 382 students were enrolled in ALS 176, according to Rosemary Robinson, a College of Arts and Sciences adviser.

"We show them what their choices are, (but) students want to shy away from a foreign language," she said.

One OU professor agrees that students should speak more than one language because the United States needs to be more competitive in the world market.

Renate Gerulaitis, chairwoman of the Department of Modern Languages and Literatures, sees studying a foreign language as a means for students and businesses to equalize cultural and economic disadvantages.

"The U.S. is at a distinct disadvantage economically. We must be able to sell in the buyer's language."

Because of this need, students who learn another language have an advantage in the job market, she said.

"You don't get an engineering job because you know German. But if there are two engineers applying for a job in a company, and one knows a foreign language, the one with the foreign language is more likely to get the job," Gerulaitis said.

There are 14 world languages that have at least 50 million speakers each. The Chinese language has the largest number of speakers—more than 1 billion. Yet nearby larger universities Wayne State and the University of Michigan do not re-

"... We must be able to sell in the buyer's language."

— Renate Gerulaitis, modern languages and literatures chairwoman

quire any foreign language for an undergraduate degree.

At OU, exchange students have a bilingual advantage.

Jeanie Man, a sophomore from Hong Kong said learning English is mandatory in China. Even so, Man enjoys knowing more than one language.

"I am glad I learned another language, but I understand why Americans speak only English—because it is used so much. In most places, you can communicate in English."

Gerulaitis said OU could better serve students by insisting on more foreign language study. She said a cultural gap exists between OU students and students from more prestigious schools, since most OU students are the first generation in their families to attend college.

"I want a student from OU who applies for a job together with a student from some other university—be it U. of M., be it Michigan State—to be as educated and cultured, because employers do also look for that."

Gerulaitis said a two-year foreign language requirement would be ideal, but difficult to implement since curriculum demands are currently tight.

She believes using a three-credit

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UNIVERSITY CONGRESS



CONGRESS MEETING WILL BE HELD TODAY AT 5:15 PM IN THE OAKLAND ROOM (BEHIND J.W.'S & COMPANY) ALL ARE INVITED TO ATTEND WE WANT TO HEAR FROM YOU

NOTICE

THE STUDENT ALLOCATIONS BOARD IS LOOKING FOR A NEW MEMBERS! IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN HOW FUNDS ARE ALLOCATED, PLEASE PICK UP THE PHONE AND CALL BEVERLY SIKORA THE PHONE NUMBER IS 370-4290

TODAY'S NEWS

BRIAN MURPHY, YOUR CONGRESS PRESIDENT, IS PRESENTLY SITTING ON THE STATE SENATE TASK FORCE ON THE ACCESSABILITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION. SO IF YOU HAVE ANY COMMENTS OR QUESTIONS ABOUT THE QUALITY OF HIGHER EDUCATION AND ITS DIRECTION PLEASE CALL BRIAN AND SPEAK YOUR PIECE. PHONE 370-4290.

VIEWPOINT


DURING TODAY'S MEETING THERE WILL BE A SPECIAL DISCUSSION ON MINORITY CONCERNS AT O.U.

Join up!

TWO CONGRESS VACANCIES WILL ALSO BE FILLED AT THIS CONGRESS MEETING SO COME AND TAKE CHARGE!

HAVE YOU EVER REALLY WANTED TO KNOW WHAT IS REALLY GOING ON AT OAKLAND? WELL, ANDY DePAGE AND THE LAC HAVE THE ANSWERS FOR YOU, AND ANDY COULD USE YOUR HELP GETTING THE NEWS OUT SO CALL ANDY AT 370-4290 OR STOP BY THE CONGRESS OFFICE





of University Student Congress

DANNY GLOYER


Feb. 8th

This versatile actor, seen in "Lethal Weapon," will speak on "Communication in the Arts" at 2:30 pm, and will also give a dramatic reading session at 8pm. Tickets for both are sold seperately, \$1 for AU students, \$3 for AU employees and Alumni Association Members, and \$5 for the general public. Come to the OC Crackerly!

AIRBAND AUDITIONS

Feb. 14 + 15

coming soon



ST. VALENTINE'S DANCE

Feb. 11th

Love will fill the air at our Annual St. Valentines Dance!

WANTED:
ALL STUDENTS INTERESTED IN HELPING TO **MAKE IT HAPPEN**

Apply for Committee member in SPB Office!!

MOVIE: CRY FREEDOM

Friday Feb. 10	Saturday Feb. 11
7:00	3:00
9:30	

201 DODGE HALL

Pick Up Your SPB Yo Yo's

In the SPB office for only \$1.50

