

THE OAKLAND POST

July 16, 2008

Volume 33, Number 61

FIND YOUR DESTINATION

EXIT 46

The
Travel
Issue

Getaways right here in Michigan

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Plan the perfect road trip

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Two Grizzlies head overseas

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Former editor reports from the road

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**OU RAISES
TUITION**

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Cover photo by Dustin Alexander

WELCOME WEEK - FALL SEMESTER 2008

Tuesday, September 2	CSA: Jump Start (10 am-3 pm, Banquet Rooms, OC)
Tuesday, September 2	CMI Scholars: Meet & Greet (1-2 pm, Oakland Room, OC)
Tuesday, September 2	New Student Convocation & Involvement Fair (3-5 pm, Recreation and Athletics Center)
Tuesday, September 2	OU Classes Begin at 5 pm
Tuesday, September 2	ABS/CMI: Welcome BBQ (6-9 pm, Hamlin Basketball Court)
Wednesday-Friday,	Kresge Café (8 am-8 pm, Student Lounge, Kresge Library)
Wednesday, September 3	First Full Day of Classes Begin at 7:30 am
Wednesday, September 3	InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Welcome Picnic (4-6:30 pm, Between the OC and The Lake)
Wednesday, September 3	"The Walk" to Meadow Brook Hall (9 pm, 9:30 pm, 10 pm, Meet at Hamlin Courtyard)
Wednesday, September 3	OU Greeks: Pizza, Pop and Music (9-11 pm, Meadow Brook Hall)
Thursday, September 4	Community Business Fair (11 am-1pm, between the OC, O'Dowd Hall and Kresge Library)
Thursday, September 4	Greek Carnival (11 am-2 pm, Outside between the OC, O'Dowd Hall and Kresge Library)
Thursday, September 4	Student Affairs Ice Cream Social (11:30 am-1 pm, Outside between the OC, O'Dowd Hall and Kresge Library)
Thursday, September 4	Student Affairs Ice Cream Social (5-6:30 pm, Outside between NFH & SFH)
Thursday, September 4	Graham Health Center & OU Counseling Center: Open House (1-4 pm, Graham Health Center)
Thursday, September 4	Athletics: Grizz Gang Jumpin' Jamboree (5-9 pm, Hamlin Courtyard)
Thursday, September 4	InterVarsity Christian Fellowship: Large Group Meeting (7 pm, Oakland Room, OC)
Friday-Sunday, Sept. 5-7	Actors 'N' Techies: Annual Student Production (8 pm, Varner Studio Theatre, Varner Hall)
Friday, September 5	ISSO: International Welcome Reception (5-7 pm, Gold Rooms, OC)
Friday, September 5	SPB & SAFB: 3rd Annual Carnival (7 pm-Midnight, P11 Parking Lot)
Friday, September 5	Sigma Pi Fraternity: 14th Annual Pig Roast (7 pm-Midnight, Upper Fields)
Monday, September 8	SPB: College Dome Theater Experience (10 am-4 pm, Fireside Lounge, OC)
Monday, September 8	School of Education and Human Services (SEHS): Welcome Reception (11:30 am-1 pm, Atrium, Pawley Hall)
Tuesday, September 9	GrizzFest: Student & Greek Organizations Fair (11 am-1 pm, Outside the OC between North & South Foundation Halls)
Tuesday, September 9	Career Services: Open House (11 am-1 pm, Fireside Lounge, OC)
Tuesday, September 9	School of Business Administration (SBA): Open House (11:30 am-2 pm, Outside Elliott Hall)
Tuesday, September 9	Athletics: Golden Grizzlies Pep Rally (Noon-12:30 pm, Outside the OC between North & South Foundation Halls)
Tuesday, September 9	Academic Advisors: Amazing Race around OU's Campus (TBD)
Tuesday, September 9	Women's Volleyball: OU vs Bowling Green State University (7 pm, O'rena)
Tuesday, September 9	Student Michigan Education Association (SMEA): Outdoor Movie (9-11 pm, Between the Oakland Center and The Lake)
Wednesday, September 10	Play for FREE in Bumpers Game Room (11 am -1 pm, Bumpers Game Room, OC)
Wednesday, September 10	OUSC, Post, SPB & WXOU: Open House (11:30 am-1 pm, Lower Level of the OC)
Thursday, September 11	CSA: Volunteer Fair (11 am-1 pm, Fireside Lounge & Main Hallway, OC)
Thursday, September 11	7th Annual Campus Recreation vs. University Housing Tailgate Party (6-8 pm - Tailgate Party; 8-9:30 pm - Flag Football Challenge, Upper Fields)
Friday, September 12	GSC, LGBT ERG & GSA: LGBTQA Welcome Reception (11 am-1 pm, OC Patio)
Friday, September 12	SPB Mainstage Concert @ Meadow Brook Music Festival



Looking Forward:

FALL SEMESTER 2008

Welcome Week Fall Semester 2008 - September 2-12, 2008
 Hispanic Celebration 2008 - September 15-October 3, 2008
 Rec Fest - September 26, 2008
 WOCO (Week of Champions at OU) - October 13-17, 2008
 Midnite Madnezz - October 17, 2008
 Cultural Awareness Week - November 3-7, 2008
 Global Market - November 6, 2008

WINTER SEMESTER 2009

Welcome Week Winter Semester 2009 - Jan. 6-10, 2009
 Keeper of the Dream Celebration w/ Danny Glover - Jan. 19
 African-American Celebration 2009 - Jan. 19-Feb. 20, 2009
 Meadow Brook Ball - January 31, 2009
 OU Basketball Homecoming - February 6-7, 2009
 Women's History Month - March 2-31, 2009
 International Night - March 27, 2009

THIS WEEK 7.16.08

THE OAKLAND POST
OAKLAND UNIVERSITY'S INDEPENDENT STUDENT NEWSPAPER

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Perspectives page 4

OUSC Vice President Dan Evola sounds off on the recent tuition increase.



Campus page 6

OU offers staff and faculty a compressed work week option. Plus, a colorful change in the Oakland Center basement's future.



Local page 10

There's no need to go to a faraway land for a great summer getaway. Find out what Michigan has to offer.



The Mix page 12

See where in the world OU students would travel to if given the chance. Plus, what's on a traveling student's iPod?



you page 14

Learn how to be prepared before hitting the road for a summer adventure. Also, see what some students think the world would be like without the U.S.



Sports page 16

Golden Grizzlies head across the pond to discover new recruits and compete in tournaments. Plus, under the radar club sports such as fencing and cricket.



the Scene page 20

Find ways to take a memorable vacation on a tank of gas. Also, see summer blockbusters at affordable prices.



MOUTHING OFF page 22

Retired Mouting Off Editor Alex Cherup unloads some baggage regarding flying in America. Plus, Detroit celebrates the Fourth of July a little early this year.



Nation | World page 24

The International Criminal Court charges Sudan President Omar al-Bashir with genocide. Plus, The New Yorker upsets the Obama campaign.



OU raises tuition 6.29 percent.

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Perspectives

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www.oaklandpostonline.com

July 16, 2008

STAFF EDITORIAL

Tuition increase makes sense, but students deserved some input

It seems that for Oakland University students there are a few guarantees in life: death, taxes and the ever-increasing tuition rates for higher education.

OU's board of trustees voted on June 25 to raise the tuition rate for the 2008-09 school year by 6.29 percent for undergraduate students and five percent for graduate students.

Usually, we can be safe in blaming the pitiful economy of the Great Lakes state. Given Michigan's \$920 million deficit, we understand that OU can't get as much aid from the state of Michigan that it deserves. Currently, OU gets 27 percent of its funding from the state and the rest of the budget has to come from the student tuitions.

This time, it seems as if the state of Michigan's woeful economy is not the only culprit. It appears as if the board was given the silent treatment by state representatives regarding the amount of money that OU would be given for the upcoming year.

As a result, the board budgeted "conservatively" and underestimated the amount that OU would be given. This left the average student with a tuition hike of about \$30 per credit hour.

However, we can live with the tuition increase. It pales in comparison to last year's 13.9 percent increase and seems necessary to not only maintain but also improve upon our current quality standard of education. It is, after all, the reason that we pay as much as we do in the first place.

What we find especially troubling is what happened three days after the decision was made to increase tuition. On June 28, Michigan lawmakers got together and decided to give a one percent increase in appropriations to all public universities in the state, which includes OU.

We find it hard to believe that the state had no idea how much would be given, only to have the thought come suddenly on a

sunny Saturday morning.

We find it even harder to believe that OU administration and the board of trustees could not have scheduled another meeting to reconsider the tuition increase in lieu of the state's decision.

Instead of returning the one percent increase in appropriations, which tallies to about \$519,329, to current students by lowering the tuition increase, it will be invested in classrooms and labs to benefit future classes.

As previously mentioned, it's not like the money is going to waste. We're not particularly upset that future classes will be taught better than we are.

But we feel the freeze of Michigan's economy as much as anyone else. The one percent appropriation would have better served students by lowering the tuition increase rate, which would have helped out students at a time when the cost of living and education are continually rising.

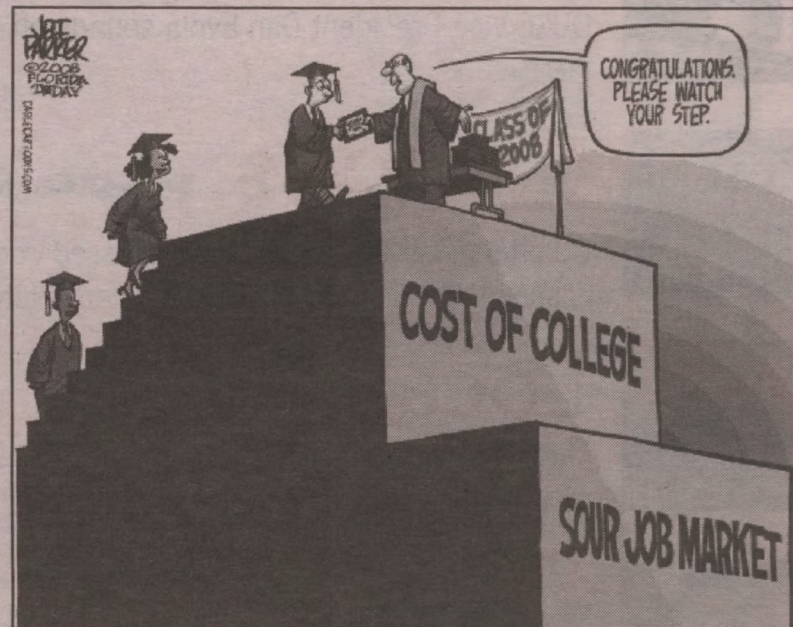
A tuition increase of this size seems to be too harsh a price for students to pay just because one decision was made only three days after another decision. There have been different reasons for tuition increases of varying legitimacy in the past and a time difference of three days seems to be one of the worst.

At the very least, a poll could have been taken to include students' wishes in the discussion. If the student body had voted to invest in better classrooms and labs, we would have supported the measure unquestionably.

More likely, the student body would have voted to using the one percent increase in state aid to lower the tuition increase rate.

Whatever the results of the hypothetical poll of the students might have been, we would have welcomed more input into the decision.

Instead, we just feel left out.



JEFF PARKER/Parker, Florida Today

What do you think? Have a news tip?

Send your comments to The Oakland Post.

By e-mail: oakpostmanaging@gmail.com

By mail: Letter to the Editor
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Letter Policy: 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.

CORRECTIONS CORNER

In "Brain food helps minds stay healthy to learn," on page 11, Joanne Talarek's name was misspelled.

On page 12, the Special Orientation Insert, Dustin Alexander was not credited for creating the map of OU's campus.

Congress shall make no law respecting an establishment of religion, or prohibiting the free exercise thereof; or abridging the freedom of speech, or of the press; or the right of the people peaceably to assemble, and to petition the government for a redress of grievances.

- The First Amendment of the Constitution of the United States