



Friday, May 2, 2003

## Student research shown at Meeting of Minds

By **Jeff Samoray**, OU Web Writer

Oakland University undergraduates from all disciplines have an opportunity to take their research beyond the confines of the classroom in a daylong program of seminars, poster presentations and performances at the 11th annual **Meeting of Minds** symposium Friday, May 9, from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the University of Michigan-Dearborn.

Students from OU, the University of Michigan-Dearborn and University of Michigan-Flint will deliver 101 oral presentations and 53 poster presentations representing diverse scholarship and collaborations with faculty stemming from regular coursework or independent studies. Students from all academic disciplines may participate.

"Meeting of Minds is a very important event because it showcases the fine work of our undergraduates in the area of research," said Mary Papazian, associate dean in the College of Arts and Sciences and organizer of the OU contingent. "Undergraduates at Oakland have a unique opportunity to engage in serious research with faculty and their work represents the closest student/mentor relationship. Students gain firsthand experience of what it's like to present at a professional conference, including taking questions from the audience. They also gain a sense of pride in that their work matters beyond themselves. We hope the process of sharing will help enrich their own understanding of their work."

Some of the presentation topics from OU students are "Zen Influence on Japanese Painting" by Taeko Metzler with faculty sponsor Susan Wood from the Department of Art and Art History, "Electrical Resistivity in various Carbon Nanotubes" by David Masica with faculty sponsor Uma Venkateswaran from the Department of Physics, "The Effects of First World Agricultural Subsidies On Developing African Economies" by Sean Porter with faculty sponsor Vince Khapoya from the Department of Political Science, and "Epistemic Cognition and the College Student: Is Religion a Factor?" by Adrianna Scobie with faculty sponsor Debra McGinnis from the Department of Psychology.

Participating students also may consider publishing their papers in the "Journal of Undergraduate Research." Publication information is available upon registration.

There is no cost to attend Meeting of Minds. For more information on the event, including directions to the Michigan-Dearborn campus, visit the **Meeting of Minds** Web site or contact Katie Anderson-Levitt at (313) 593-5490 or [katieal@umd.umich.edu](mailto:katieal@umd.umich.edu). To register for lunch, contact Susan Gedert at [sgedert@umd.umich.edu](mailto:sgedert@umd.umich.edu).

### SUMMARY

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Created by CareTech Administrator ([webservices@caretechsolutions.com](mailto:webservices@caretechsolutions.com)) on Friday, May 2, 2003

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Article Start Date: Friday, October 17, 2003