



Friday, February 23, 2001

## School of Education reports on federal grant progress

Oakland University's **School of Education and Human Services** (SEHS) is now halfway through its three-year, \$1.3 million grant given by the U.S. Department of Education.

"The overall purpose for this project is to develop educators who can make high quality, autonomous decisions in their classrooms for optimal student learning," said Anne Porter, Ph.D., associate professor of the Department of Reading and Language Arts. "We want to bring together the wisdom and classroom experience of established teachers, with the enthusiasm and technology experience of our students and offer dynamic possibilities for growth by all concerned."

The grant, titled "Teaching to Learn: A Consultant/Client Model to Enhance Classroom Integration of Technology," is designed to help both OU faculty and K-12 teachers in Rochester and Pontiac school systems integrate more technology into their classrooms so students will experience more modeling of this integration.

"Students have reported numerous benefits including the resources made available to them, technology resources, workshops, the online discussion tools and the help given by their instructors and technology support personnel," said James Quinn, Ph.D., associate professor of the Department of Human Resource Development. "The students are very certain that the experiences they have learned, made available to them through the grant, will impact their use of technology in the classroom."

Quinn also said teachers report significant benefits in having an individual consultant available to work with them on technology issues in the classrooms.

"Many teachers had very little previous experience in the use of technology and were appreciative of the willingness of the student consultants working with them at any level," Quinn says. "Several teachers have expressed amazement at how far they have come in terms of their knowledge of technology in the classroom while working with the consultants, and many teachers have requested that they be allowed to work with a consultant for several terms."

For more details on the grant and its implementation, contact Anne Porter at (248) 370-3074.

Oakland University is a comprehensive state-supported institution of higher education located in Oakland County, Michigan. The university has 110 bachelor's degree programs and 63 graduate degree and certificate programs. Dedicated to preparing learners for the 21st-century workplace and society, Oakland University is organized into the College of Arts and Sciences and the Schools of Business Administration, Education and Human Services, Engineering and Computer Science, Health Sciences, Nursing and the Honors College.

### SUMMARY

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