



Friday, September 13, 2002

## Provost to review State of Academic Affairs

By **Mary E. Iorio**, OU Writer

From the Department of Music Theatre and Dance's accreditation to millions in research grants and strengthened partnerships with DaimlerChrysler and St. John Health System, Oakland University's Academic Affairs continued on an upward climb last year.

Expect even better things for the 2002-2003 year, says Virinder Moudgil, interim vice president for Academic Affairs and provost.

"It is with great pleasure and anticipation that I look forward to working with faculty, staff, students, alumni and business partners in helping Oakland University further its transformation into a university of distinction," Moudgil said.

He will outline the State of Academic Affairs during a speech at noon, Tuesday, Sept. 17, in Room 201 of Dodge Hall. His address is open to the public.

Moudgil will examine efforts to focus on the university's 2010 Vision and four critical areas: quality academic programs, inspired faculty, a scholarly community strengthened by diversity as well as community outreach and partnerships.

### Achievements over the past year include:

- Expanded degree offerings, including two new master of science options and two doctoral programs in physical therapy, along with expanded options in new styles of learning, including online courses in nursing and rhetoric.
- Research grants and contract expenditures exceeded \$2.7 million in the School of Engineering and Computer Science alone. OU's Eye Research Institute received nearly \$1.9 million in funding from the National Institute of Health.
- Increased scholarship offerings and award programs, including the Undergraduate Research Scholar Award.
- National recognition of top faculty members such as Michael Chopp, whose study earned notice from the American Heart Association as one of the top 10 research advances of 2001.

"We are becoming well known for the significant research and accomplishments of our faculty members," Moudgil said. "With the dedication of the Academic Affairs team, bright, hard-working students in our classrooms and labs and the ongoing support of the larger university community, we are poised for great success."

Moudgil will touch on budget increases for the 2003 fiscal year and preview new initiatives such as enhanced learning technology and educational colloquia and seminars.

There will be time for questions and answers following Moudgil's address. A reception with light refreshments will begin at 11:30 a.m. prior to the address at noon.

### SUMMARY

From the Department of Music Theatre and Dance's accreditation to millions in research grants and strengthened partnerships with DaimlerChrysler and St. John Health System, Oakland University's Academic Affairs continued on an upward climb last year. Expect even better things for the 2002-2003 year, says Virinder Moudgil, interim vice president for Academic Affairs and provost. He will outline the State of Academic Affairs during a speech at noon, Tuesday, Sept. 17.

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