



OAKLAND **OU** UNIVERSITY

# ALUMNI NEWS

Vol. I, No. 1 - January 1964

## THE CHANCELLOR'S COLUMN

I am pleased to be invited to contribute to this first newsletter to this first class of graduates from this first-class center for learning. Let me share with you the news from my office--or at least that which may be of some interest to you.

Oakland continues to grow, and this means that changes continue to occur. Our enrollment this fall was 1,498, and there is reason to believe that it will be over 1800 next September and that in 1967 we will pass the 3,000 mark. Applications for admission are exceeding last year's rate by a  $2\frac{1}{2}$  to 1 margin, and there is reason to think that the new class next September will number almost 900. The quality continues to improve! (No one anticipates, of course, that the high quality of the Charter Class will ever be reached.)

Growth in students means growth in faculty, in buildings, and we trust, in appropriations. Dean O'Dowd has authorized the appointment of 11 new faculty members for next September, and if the appropriation permits and the applications for admission continue to grow, this number will be expanded by spring.

Construction has already started on a new dormitory to be located just north of Fitzgerald House--across the shallow ravine. This is to be a six story dormitory with accommodations for 200 students--40 per floor with one floor committed to lounges and general services. We plan to continue

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## OAKLAND UNIVERSITY ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

Before the graduation of Oakland University's Charter Class, thought was given to the possibility of organizing an active Alumni Association, and so Chancellor Varner appointed a group of twelve students to serve as a nucleus for an association in its initial stages. The group took immediate action, adopted a name (The Alumni Council), a constitution, and gave some direction to the association. The Alumni Council realizes that these steps will be meaningless unless the alumni give it their support. This council has been working on the premise that as a former Oakland student you desire to maintain some identity with the institution that has influenced the course of your life. Your response to this newsletter will give an accurate reflection of your true sentiments. You will determine what is to become of this organization in the future.

If you wish to be listed as an active member of the Oakland University Alumni Association, you may purchase a one-year subscription to the Alumni News for \$2.00. Your subscription will entitle you to the identification card of the association, all alumni publications, and invitations to alumni sponsored activities, for one year. Married couples who are alumni of Oakland University may purchase a one-year subscription for \$3.00, which includes the additional identification card. Checks for subscriptions should be made out to the Oakland University Alumni News and sent to Julie Becker, Editor, care of the Alumni Relations Office, OU.

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Chancellor--(continued from Page 1)

with the new dormitory complex in this area north of the present dormitories, bordered on the east by the deep ravine and on the north by Walton. Present plans call for a central dining hall in this area on a line directly north from the library.

The new Kettering Magnetics Laboratory has been completed, and research will begin soon in this new facility. We have plans under way for a new \$2½ million classroom-office building, and if the Legislature is cooperative, this will be ready for occupancy in the fall of 1965. Plans and enthusiasm continue for the auditorium--all we need to make this a reality is for some wealthy alumnus to provide \$3 million!

The curriculum is under constant study. A committee chaired by Dean Matthews has been given the responsibility for initiating recommendations for improving the curriculum in every way possible. You, the products of our present scheme of study, can make a valuable contribution by sharing your views on this subject, and I can assure you that they would be most welcome.

The question of intercollegiate athletics was studied again in the year just past, and a committee chaired by Professor Burke recommended that we not adopt a program of intercollegiate athletics at this time but that we strengthen the intramural program and that we permit individual students to participate in intercollegiate athletics as representatives of the University.

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#### FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

One of the most pleasant ways for an alumnus to continue his interest in Oakland is through the Friends of the Library. This group meets on a regular basis for small informal programs involving members of the faculty and people from the community and seeks ways to support the expansion and enrichment of the Kresge Library. An individual membership (including spouse) is \$5 per year. If you are interested, call the University, 338-7211, Ext. 2111.

Lan is teaching Vietnamese language in the Army Language School, Monterey, California.

#### TEACHER EDUCATION

The Teacher Placement Office wishes to announce the establishment of a procedure for the re-activation of the placement file of graduates of Oakland University. Any alumnus who desires to receive weekly placement bulletins and to schedule interviews with visiting school systems may do so by addressing a request in writing to:

Peter G. Evarts  
Assistant to the Director  
Teacher Education Program  
Oakland University  
Rochester, Michigan

At the time of re-activation, letters of recommendation from current employers and transcripts for graduate study should also be sent to the Teacher Placement Office.

#### PLACEMENT OFFICE

One of the fringe benefits for this year's seniors is the interest generated among recruiters by the Charter Class. Your record of professional job offers is still a topic of conversation on and off campus, and from all reports your on-the-job performance has been equally impressive. Congratulations to all of you!

The Placement Office has an active recruiting program under way this year with many companies, government agencies, school systems scheduled for campus visits. Some new to the campus this year are Central Intelligence Agency, Atomic Energy Commission, National Bank of Detroit, Dun and Bradstreet, National Cash Register. School systems are coming in from places as far removed as Garden City, California, and Baltimore, Maryland.

In October the Engineering Society invited engineers from six large companies to a luncheon and panel discussion on campus. Each engineer was asked to define his own job functions and indicate by what route he arrived at his present position. This meeting was so successful that a Careers Day Conference is in the planning stage for next year, with student participation an important feature.

Now that Oakland University has its first alumni, we expect alumni placement to become a significant factor in the Placement Office operation. We hope you will contact us if we can be of assistance to you.



## OAKLAND U GIVES DEGREES TO 29 AUGUST GRADUATES

Oakland University awarded degrees to 29 graduates August 25 at a brief ceremony followed by a reception in the Oakland Center.

Eugene LaRowe of Massapequa, New York, who graduated magna cum laude, won University honors. A major in mathematics, LaRowe also has been awarded a National Science Foundation fellowship for graduate study which he will take at the University of Washington.

Departmental honors went to Janet Lichvar of 3479 Teggerdine, Clarkston, who is in teacher education, and to Sixten Netzler of 3751 Tienken Road, Rochester, a sociology-anthropology major.

Twenty-eight seniors received Bachelor of Arts degrees, while one qualified for a Bachelor of Science degree. Eight of the graduates have been scholarship students.

The graduates received copies of their college records and an official letter from Chancellor D.B. Varner certifying that they had won their degrees and will receive their diplomas at the annual commencement exercises next April.

### HOMECOMING

The Alumni Council is discussing plans for a "unique" Homecoming.

### '64 YEARBOOK ACCENTS SUBSCRIPTIONS

Yearbook editor Daniel Polsby announced that advanced subscriptions will be accepted in 109 NFH for the 1964 Oakland yearbook. "This year's yearbook will be quite a new departure in the field," Polsby said. "We are abandoning altogether the conventional mold in hopes that we can come up with a first-rate and interesting book."

Deposit will be \$1, with another \$2 due on delivery. "We hope that this year's substantially lower price will prompt a few sales that last year's debacle, a \$5.00 affair, did not enjoy," Polsby said. "Questions about the yearbook will be genially entertained in the Sachem Department of the Observer Office, 109 NFH.

If, whenever you change your address, you will send a post card with your new address to Jim Morrison, Admissions, O.U., a list of current addresses can be maintained.

## MRS. WILSON'S BIRTHDAY PARTY

The founder of Oakland University, Mrs. Alfred G. Wilson, was honored at a party on the eve of her 80th birthday, October 18, in the Oakland Center. Highlight of the gift presentations was a sugar-paste replica of her 125-room mansion Meadow Brook Hall where she has entertained students since the university opened in September 1959. The sugar confection, created by the Manager of University Food Services, Ed Goodwin, measuring 64 inches long, 40 inches wide and a foot high, took 150 hours to construct. Mrs. Wilson was also presented with a 15 foot birthday card, signed by all of the students and faculty, and 35 red roses signifying her as being the average age of OU's faculty. Music for dancing was provided by Stan Kenton and his orchestra.

Subscriptions for the Oakland Observer are available to alumni for \$1.50 per semester. This price includes mailing. Send requests to The Editor, Oakland Observer.

## OAKLAND'S ALUMNI EDUCATION DEPARTMENT AN ALUMNI SERVICE

If you are wrestling with your future educational plans, remember that your Alma Mater has both the commitment and the resource to assist you.

Oakland's Alumni Education Department was established to help you identify and meet your life-long educational needs. Apart from serving as a clearing house for information on all types of educational programs available to you wherever you might be, the A.E.D. is equipped to help you design a plan of education to meet your specific objectives, whether personal, parental, professional, or civic. Should you seek a graduate degree, a short informal course of study, a reading list or affiliation with cultural and professional organizations, the department can place you in touch with the most practical available source. If you choose, the A.E.D. will work in cooperation with your employer to help you advance your education in areas essential to your career.

Whatever your educational problem, Oakland University's resources can be employed to locate or design a solution. Write, phone (338-7211) or visit the Alumni Education Department, Oakland University, Rochester, Michigan. We'll be glad to help.



WILSON PORTRAITS

The portraits of Mr. and Mrs. Wilson that we presented as a class gift to the school are prominently displayed in the reception room for the administrative offices in North Foundation Hall. Mrs. Eva Briggs, the artist, did an outstanding job on the pictures, and the school is proud of the gift.

One problem remains, however: because several graduates still have not paid their three dollars (\$3.00) for class dues, the bill for the pictures is not yet paid. If you do not remember paying a minimum of three dollars for this purpose last spring, then please do so now. There is a list of those who have paid this money, and Gloria Brischke will not demand that you pay twice! But at least pay once! Send all money to: Gloria Brischke, 2265 Petersburg, East Detroit, Michigan.

YEARBOOKS

The 1963 yearbooks have been delivered to the University. If you ordered one and have not yet received it, please contact the Book Center.

EXTRAMURAL SPORTS

Intramural Director Hollie Lepley announced that several extramural sports days have been scheduled for the winter semester. Oakland will compete with the University of Detroit, Wayne State University, University of Windsor, Lawrence Institute of Technology, and Bowling Green State University. Some of the sports days will be on the Oakland campus, and others, including the regional weekend tournament at Bowling Green, will be off campus. The weekend tourney at Bowling Green is sponsored by the Association of College Unions. Events include bowling, table tennis, chess, and billiards.

NEW RELIGIOUS CENTER

An Inter-Faith Religious Center is being established at Oakland. A house on Squirrel Road near the University entrance is being redecorated to be used as headquarters for liaison work with students and student groups and for various other related purposes, but not for actual religious services. The Pontiac Civitan Club made the first contribution to the center.

Chancellor--(continued from Page 2)

Professor Amann is in Europe on a Guggenheim Fellowship; Professor Fitzsimmons is in Japan; Professor Gertrude White is in Korea; and Professor Schwab is in the Philippines--all are expected back by next September. Professor Lewis, who was on leave with the National Science Foundation, has now resigned from the faculty to accept a permanent appointment with the National Science Foundation, and we are busy interviewing prospective leaders for the biology department.

As I said earlier, with growth there comes change. Yet some things remain unchanged. Students continue to complain; the faculty continues to complain; the administration continues to complain; and, of course, the Oakland Observer continues to criticize. This rich tradition continues, and in this knowledge, all good alumni must be comforted.

From many sources, I hear good reports about our alumni--those in graduate school, those on their jobs, and those in the community as citizens. This is the greatest reward for those of us on campus--the knowledge that you are succeeding. You may be sure that our interest in your welfare and in your development is indeed great and continuous.

All comments that may be of interest to the entire alumni association are welcomed by the News staff. Please address mail to Julie Becker, Editor, care of the Alumni Relations Office, OU.

Enclosed is payment for a one year subscription to the Alumni News. (Make checks payable to the Oakland University Alumni News.)

\_\_\_ \$2.00 single membership

\_\_\_ \$3.00 joint membership

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

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Major \_\_\_\_\_

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