



Thursday, November 1, 2001

OU hosting Woodcock Legacy Seminar Nov. 1

Oakland University is hosting the eighth annual Ambassador Leonard Woodcock Legacy Seminar on China Thursday, Nov. 1, from 1 to 5 p.m. at **Meadow Brook Hall**.

The theme of this year's seminar is "The Long March to the World Trade Organization (WTO)." He Yafei, deputy chief of mission from the Chinese Embassy, will be the keynote speaker.

The event also will feature speakers representing the governments of China and the United States as well as local and international business leaders. They will discuss the latest on relations between the world and China as the nation negotiates to become a member of the WTO, an international agency that administers multilateral trade rules.

Oakland's Ambassador Leonard Woodcock Legacy Program promotes understanding between the United States and China in areas such as trade relations, international law, politics and education. It also fosters exchanges of faculty and students between the two nations.

The Woodcock project aids Michigan's economic development by providing academic and political leaders and potential trade partners with the latest information on China. The program also has played a significant role in working to establish trade between businesses in China and Oakland County.

China is one of the world's top 10 traders of commodities and services, according to the WTO's 2000 Report on International Trade Statistics. U.S. exports to China in 2000 totaled \$16.3 billion, a 24 percent increase over 1999 levels, making China the 11th largest U.S. export market.

Oakland University named its China-related programs after Ambassador Leonard Woodcock to recognize the man who led America's efforts to re-establish normal diplomatic relations with China in the late 1970s and early 1980s. Woodcock died, at the age of 89, in January 2001 at his home in Ann Arbor.

For more information, call the Center for International Programs at (248) 370-2154.

SUMMARY

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