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**Oakland University**  
**College of Arts and Sciences**  
**NEWSLETTER**

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## From the Dean

### CAS faculty bring passion, inspiration to college

Even though we have finished celebrating Oakland University's golden anniversary, thoughts about our unique origins and how far we have come since the early days of Michigan State University at Oakland linger in the afterglow. For example, as we continue to review our curriculum in the college and position ourselves to endure tough economic realities, it's quite productive to be guided by the wisely crafted academic program our first students experienced. (Do you remember the famous course titled "Remedial Wisdom"? Or the "exploratories"?)

With the introduction of a new general education program based on student learning outcomes, we design the curriculum and teach courses in ways that recall our origins. The operative question is now, as it was then, "How can we prepare students for success?" **Full Story...** ([http://www4.oakland.edu/view\\_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5079](http://www4.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5079))



Ronald A. Sudol, Dean

## CAS News

([http://www4.oakland.edu/view\\_news.aspx?sid=182&id=4342](http://www4.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=182&id=4342))

### CAS faculty projects support global understanding

Promoting a deep understanding of world languages and cultures is a fundamental goal of the College of Arts and Sciences. Reaching this understanding means weaving the global experience throughout the CAS educational experience - programs, courses, study abroad opportunities, and of course, faculty connections and projects, and more. Faculty members



throughout CAS connect across the globe in a myriad of ways. The following three examples highlight a few of these far-reaching activities. **Full Story...** ([http://www4.oakland.edu/view\\_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5075](http://www4.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5075))

### Make a lasting impact: Support the College of Arts and Sciences today

If you want to make a difference in Oakland University's College of Arts and Sciences and the lives of students, consider making a gift a to the College Enrichment Fund or a specific CAS program. Without the help of generous donors many student enrichment programs that support undergraduate research, scholarships and activities showcasing the arts, humanities, social sciences, language and natural sciences simply wouldn't be possible. **Full Story...** ([http://www4.oakland.edu/view\\_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5078](http://www4.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5078))

## CAS Alumni - Fully Equipped

### The OU experience and persistence leads to success for GMAC VP

An Ivy League education isn't necessary to land powerful positions and lucrative careers. Just ask Toni Simonetti (CAS '79, MBA '90), vice president of global communications and chief communications officer for GMAC Financial Services. She earned her degrees from Oakland University. "I appreciate and respect the Ivy League schools. They are great institutions," Simonetti says. "At the end of the day, however, individuals are responsible for their own learning process. I acquired a great skill set from Oakland University and I enjoyed my time there. It worked for me." **Full Story...** ([http://www4.oakland.edu/view\\_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5076](http://www4.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5076))

## Spotlight on Students

### Dedicated student aims to help war veterans

Unbelievable. That's how Jamie Wright describes the experience of earning his bachelor's degree from Oakland University. "If someone would have told me a few years ago that I would be graduating from college and heading to graduate school, I wouldn't have believed it," says Wright, a sociology major, with a specialization in criminal justice, who graduated this December.

**Full Story...** ([http://www4.oakland.edu/view\\_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5077](http://www4.oakland.edu/view_news.aspx?sid=34&nid=5077))



## CAS EVENTS

**SAVE THE DATE!**

Join us **Monday, April 6, 2009, at 6:30 p.m.** for the Richard J. Burke Lecture in Philosophy, Religion and Society. This year's speaker will be prominent American philosopher **Daniel Dennett** (<http://ase.tufts.edu/cogstud/incbios/dennettd/dennettd.htm>).

**CALENDAR OF EVENTS:****January 10, 2009**

Art exhibit: "Jae Won Lee: Internal Distance(s)." Four bodies of work explore scale and the aura of multiplicity by the Korean-Michigan ceramic and installation artist. Exhibition at Oakland University Art Gallery, Wilson Hall. Opening reception, Jan. 10, 6-8 p.m. Exhibit runs through Feb. 22. See the **OUAG Web site** (<http://www4.oakland.edu/?id=3367&sid=162>) for gallery hours.

**January 15-18, 2009**

Theatre production: "How many Clowns Can You Fit in a Volkswagen," Varner Studio.

Check the **MTD Web site** (<http://www4.oakland.edu/?id=60&sid=67>) for the schedule of performances.

**January 21, 2009**

Lecture: "Nazism as a Political Religion? Sacral Symbolism and the Yearly Nazi Party Rallies," Derek Hastings, Oakland Center Oakland Room, 7 p.m.

**February 15, 2008**

Concert: Pontiac Oakland Symphony Young Artists' Concert, Varner Recital Hall, 3 p.m.

**February 18, 2009**

History Comes Alive! series  
lecture: "Kennedy, Nasser  
and the Challenge of Arab  
Neutrality," Don Matthews,  
Oakland Center Oakland  
Room, 7 p.m.

**March 18, 2009**

"History Comes Alive!"  
Series Lecture: " Dwight  
Eisenhower and the Military-  
Industrial Complex," Bruce  
Zellers, Oakland Center  
Oakland Room, 7 p.m.

**March 26 - April 5, 2009**

Theatre performance:  
"Follies," Varner Studio  
Theatre. Check the **MTD**

**Web site**

([http://www4.oakland.edu  
/?id=60&sid=67](http://www4.oakland.edu/?id=60&sid=67)) for the  
performance schedule.

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