Oakwood's Healthy Campus 2020 Initiative Featured in Adventist Review
Story written by Andrew McChesney, news editor, Adventist Review

Oakwood University kicked off the academic year with an ambitious plan to become the healthiest campus in the United States - and to become an Adventist beacon of light in sharing good health practices in the world's big cities.

The Seventh-day Adventist-owned university in Huntsville, Alabama, has revised its curriculum to incorporate the eight laws of health backed by the Adventist world church's health ministries department: sunlight, temperance, adequate rest, nutrition, drink water, outdoors, use of physical activity, and trust in God.

"This represents the restoration of holistic education, which is becoming harder and harder to implement in the modern world," university president Leslie N. Pollard said in an interview Tuesday. "We reworked the curriculum to include the principles of the eight laws of health not just in one health class but across the system." MORE

New Student Profile: Tavonne Dillon
by Naomi Coggs, student writer

Inspiration can come from a number of people and things. This time inspiration came in the form of Tavonne Dillon, a humble native of Detroit, Michigan. A freshman here at Oakwood University, he loves to read and write and is already enjoying the atmosphere here in Huntsville, calling it an "enlightenment and awakening."

However, Tavonne's journey to Oakwood University was not an easy one. Growing up in the streets of Detroit made it difficult to find a good crowd to hang around with, and stability, attending at least 15 different schools from middle school through high school.

Tavonne had not heard of the Seventh-day Adventist Church or Oakwood University, until just four months ago when he met Toson Antwan Knight, ’12, former United Student Movement President, who works for Mayor Mike Duggan in Detroit. Tavonne was presented with the opportunity to go to college, something that is unheard of in the streets of Detroit. He took the opportunity and packed up just two days before school started. Tavonne has not looked back and is working towards a degree in Social
Work so that one day he can help young kids escape the mental slavery of the streets.

A local Detroit news station has also been interested in Tavonne's journey and is airing a story this evening.

**Oakwoodite Selected as HBCU Ambassador**

Kedgereee McKenzie, a senior Broadcast Journalism major, has been accepted into the 2015-2016 HBCU All-Star cohort to serve as the White House Initiative on HBCUs student ambassador for Oakwood University.

The ambassador program exists to advance President Barack Obama's Executive Order 13532, Promoting Excellence, Innovation, and Sustainability at Historically Black Colleges and Universities.

Beginning next month, Kedgereee will serve as an ambassador of the Initiative by providing outreach and communication with his fellow students about the value of education. In addition, through social media and his relationships with community-based organizations, Kedgereee will share promising and proven practices that support opportunities for all young people to achieve their educational and career potential.

Part of his participation includes his attendance at the HBCU All-Star induction at the HBCU Week Conference, scheduled for September 20-22, in Washington DC. Click [here](#) to the entire list of HBCU Ambassadors.

**USM Hosts Back to School Block Party**

by Naomi Coggs, student writer

Oakwood University kicked off the new school year in carnival-like fashion, hosting a back to school block party this past Saturday night. The Block Party, held at the Lawrence and Sadie Jacobs Memorial Silos Plaza, served as USM Social Vice President Darren Daly’s first event of
the 2015-2016 school year. The lively event did not disappoint as it was jam-packed with music, snacks, carnival games, and a swing carousel that kept students not only entertained, but full of excitement. As students gathered underneath the draping lights to enjoy a stress-free weekend, it was apparent the Block Party kicked off the school year in a great way - full of camaraderie and jubilee. Photo by Richard Hodnett.

Employee News

Eurydice Osterman, D.M.A., professor of music, has been selected as Andrews University’s Alumna of the Year and will be honored during Andrews’ Homecoming Weekend, September 25-27. She graduated from Andrews with the Bachelor of Music and Master of Music degrees, and earned the Doctor of Musical Arts Degree from the University of Alabama, Tuscaloosa. Dr. Osterman's career contributions include the publication of music, books and articles, a Fulbright Scholarship to Turkey, seminars and presentations in Africa, Europe, South America, the Caribbean, and across the United States. Service to the Seventh-day Adventist Church includes teaching at Mt. Vernon Academy in Mt. Vernon, Ohio, and Berean Adventist Academy, in Baton Rouge, Louisiana; faculty member and chair of the Department of Music at Oakwood University and Northern Caribbean University; and serving as a member of the Music Committee of the General Conference. Dr. Osterman is the recipient of many awards and holds membership in several professional organizations, including Phi Kappa Lambda, a national honor society.

Picture of the Week
This afternoon, Student Activities sponsored Water Fit Wednesday, an activity that helped the students understand three of the letters of STAND OUT - sunshine, outdoors, and use physical activity. Once a month, Student Activities will sponsor an activity that will encourage the benefits of physical activity. Photo by Teymi Townsend.
About Oakwood

The mission of Oakwood University, a historically black, Seventh-day Adventist institution, is to transform students through biblically-based education for service to God and humanity.