Thousands show up to cast their votes on Election Day

Thanks to the Madison County Board of Voter Registration and all the voting poll workers of Precinct 27, who assisted close to 3000 voters at the Oakwood University Church polling location on Election Day, Tuesday, November 6, 2012. The last ballot was processed around 9:00 p.m. The long lines and high voter turnout at this location even made the local news! http://whnt.com/2012/11/06/polls-now-open-in-alabama-long-lines-reported/#ooid=9oMTNwNjp0N08-6yJpo5kInolrQ0wCkU.
Some would say that the long lines were worth it. The next day (November 7), to celebrate President Obama’s re-election, the Administration served refreshments at Blake Center. Although he was out of town, President Leslie Pollard sent the following message to begin the festivities:

"Last night, we witnessed the peaceful re-election of President Barack Obama to be President of the United States for the next four years. We want to thank the Oakwood University community for turning out in record numbers to vote.

"As Seventh-day Adventists, we believe that God sets up leaders according to His will. The Oakwood University community will support him with our prayers and our engagement in our local community. Forward, forward, forward! Forward for our country, forward for state, forward for our city, and forward for Oakwood University. Congratulations President and Mrs. Obama. We at Oakwood University are proud to call you our national leader."
Oakwood University celebrates today. To every student, staff, faculty, and administrator, enjoy this historic moment.”
We received the following letter from Kelly Cooper Schrimsher, Director of Communications, in the Huntsville Mayor’s Office:

“On behalf of Mayor Battle and the City of Huntsville, our deepest thanks to you, the Aeolians, and Oakwood University for participating in the 2012 Inauguration Ceremony. The Aeolians performance was beautiful, and it was the perfect addition (and a highlight!) to the event. Anytime the Aeolians sing is truly a cause for celebration.

“We are blessed to your wonderful institution, and it outstanding music program, in our community.

“Thank you again for your willingness to take time out of your busy schedules to support us in the inauguration.”

General and Mrs. Dennis Via with OU President and First Lady Drs. Leslie and Prudence Pollard, at Huntsville Mayor Tommy Battle’s Inauguration Ceremony, November 5, 2012.

Via, a Martinsville, Va. native, became the sixth African American in history to be promoted to the rank of four-star general on August 7, 2012. Then, less than a week later, he took over as commander of the U.S. Army Materiel Command (AMC), making him the highest ranking Signal Corps officer since aviation pioneer Gen. Henry “Hap” Arnold commanded the Army Air Forces during World War II.

Faculty member earns Accreditation in Public Relations

Patrice T. Conwell, APR, Assistant Professor, Department of Communication, has earned Accreditation in Public Relations (APR), the public relations profession's national post-graduate certification program. APR certifies the PR practitioner's knowledge of the practice of public relations and is administered by the Universal Accreditation Board.

http://www.bizjournals.com/birmingham/potm/2012-11-01/?ana=e_du_pub&s=article_du&ed=2012-11-01
Faculty member and students invited to Carnegie Mellon University’s Fusion Forum

Dr. Everett Roper, Associate Professor in the Business and Information Systems Department, was invited by Carnegie Mellon University (CMU) to serve as a faculty advisor at its Graduate School Fusion Forum, October 25-28, 2012. Designed primarily to improve efforts to reach out to minority students for graduate study, the forum also seeks to create a series of partnerships with undergraduate institutions such as OU for graduate study and research, and help to begin building a university-wide summer research program.

The annual Fusion Forum normally invites one professor and up to two students from Historically Black Colleges and Universities to visit the CMU campus. However, at the request of the CMU Graduate Dean, this year OU was asked to bring four students. All expenses are paid by CMU.

The four promising OU students who attended the program are all majors in science, technology, math and engineering (STEM) fields. They are: Lawrence O’Neal (junior, Mathematics); Earleen Waldron (junior, Management Information Systems); Shawn Harris (junior, Engineering); and Danielle Lewis (junior, Engineering). The students toured the university’s research facilities, met with prospective departments of interest, and discussed scholarship and fellowship opportunities. Faculty met with CMU administrators to discuss perspectives on how to support and encourage diversity on campus.

As a result of a long-standing relationship with CMU, OU alumni are well-known at CMU, by the faculty as well as the administration. Currently, eight recent graduates of OU are enrolled in graduate programs at CMU as a result of this relationship.
USM school supplies drive exceeds expectations

United Student Movement (USM) Academic Vice President Christopher Mathis reports that Project PENCIL (Providing Each Others’ Needs through Charity and In Love) was a service initiative for the Greater Huntsville community. The USM challenged OU students to participate in a back-to-school drive when they returned to the campus for the fall semester, from August 30 through September 27, 2012. The students not only accepted the challenge, but exceeded expectations, by supplying 40 book bags for the students of the Ridgecrest Elementary School in Huntsville.

USM’s goal is to not only help Oakwood University students, but to deepen OU's roots with our community as well, and create a partnership. Prayerfully, when these energetic students at Ridgecrest Elementary School grow up, they will consider OU as an option for furthering their education.

Delivery of back packs filled with school supplies took place on October 30, 2012. Pictured with Ridgecrest students (standing, l-r) are USM officers Academic VP Christopher Mathis, President James Kelly, and Public Relations Director Simone Paris.
Breath of Life (BOL) Reunion Weekend

Since relocating the Breath of Life TV ministry to Huntsville and the OU SDA Church in January 2012, Speaker-director Dr. Carlton Byrd’s BOL's ministry has yielded 306 baptisms: 166 new baptisms + 100 re-baptisms + 40 baptisms from the BOL Evangelistic Crusade in Hyattsville, MD.


http://video-embed.al.com/services/player/bcpid619268929001?bctid=1952247847001&bckey=AQ~~,AAAAQBxULTe~,n1WmUrcHbdAOFE--5-L-P7Dk0knMdjV8
Who’s your (department’s) beat reporter?

Currently on file, we have Vern Gohanna from the School of Business and Rebecca Sauls in the Office of Spiritual Life.

Let us know who we should be looking to hear from, to feed us information on what’s going on in your department.
JOIN US FOR A GROUNDBREAKING CONCERT

TEENS REACHING OUT WITH THEIR VOICES

Saturday, November 10th
5:00 pm @ Oakwood University Church

Featuring...

Textify

Music written and arranged by
Adriana Perera
Associate Professor of Music Composition @ Oakwood University

With Special Guests

Julie Foster
Joyful Noize
Voices of Triumph
911 Reporters

In Collaboration with:
Oakwood University Church & Oakwood Latino Association

OAKWOOD UNIVERSITY CHURCH
5500 Adventist Boulevard NW • Huntsville, AL 35896
History and Political Science Sponsors Field Trip to Civil Rights Museums

Fifty students boarded the bus on Friday, November 2, for the Department of History and Political Science’s field trip to Montgomery, Alabama, which was coordinated by Dr. Alfonzo Green Jr., Assistant Professor of History, and Ms. Patricia Barnes, Department Secretary. The purpose of the trip was to visit museums dedicated to preserving the legacy and memory of the civil rights movement.

In Montgomery, while visiting the Southern Poverty Law Center’s Civil Rights Memorial, they viewed the waterfall inscribed with a quotation ascribed to Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. “... until justice rolls down like waters and righteousness like a mighty stream.” Another structure at the museum is a round table engraved with the names of martyrs, as well as the dates and descriptions of major events in the civil rights movement.

Kory R. Ward, Operations Assistant at the Civil Rights Memorial Center, presented the history and work of the Southern Poverty Law Center. This was followed by a documentary film on the martyrs of the civil rights movement titled *Faces in the Water*. The group viewed the exhibits at the center and some entered their names on the “Wall of Tolerance,” a massive multicolored electronic display.
The group also toured the Rosa Parks Museum on the campus of Troy University. There, students viewed a documentary film on the Montgomery Bus Boycott, as well as historic artifacts and dioramas chronicling the contribution of Rosa Parks and the subsequent activities of the Montgomery Improvement Association. Ms. Dannielle Traylor, the Visitor Relations Specialist, conducted the tour.

In the Children’s Annex of the Rosa Parks Museum, students boarded a “time machine,” viewing reenactments of important events in African American history leading up to the 1956 Montgomery Bus Boycott. Ms. Aminta Rena Johnson, an energetic tour guide, led out in a game of African American History Bingo that everyone found to be fun and entertaining. Overall, the trip was successful. Those that participated agreed that the experience was both enjoyable and educational.

The Department of History and Political Science hopes to sponsor additional field trips in the future, to enhance the learning experience of Oakwood University’s students.
Oakwood University Literary Guild
Consecration Service

Sunday!
November 11
@ 4:30 p.m.

Carter Hall Chapel

Membership Registration for all Interested Parties