Thanks, "Oakwood Nation": we did it!

To each Oakwood student, alumni, faculty, staff, friend, and supporter:

On Friday, May 3, 2013, at approximately 4:00 p.m. (CDT), the Home Depot Corporation named Oakwood University as the First Place, Tier 1 winner of its 2013 "Retool Your School" competition.

Please accept this notice as an official and grateful "thank you," to the numerous organizations of our Seventh-day Adventist Church who supported Oakwood, by voting for Oakwood on a daily basis between the dates of February 19 to April 15.

The $50,000 first place prize will be used to build an outdoor kitchen/pavilion for our students.
Please know that Oakwood's victory would not have been possible without the steady teamwork of our local, national, and international SDA family.

Once again, thank you for all your assistance and support. You made the difference!!!

Sincerely,

Leslie Pollard, Ph.D., D.Min., MBA
President, Oakwood University

(Read more in the NAD NewsPoint NAD NewsPoints newsletter and the Oakwood website.)

Now - here's your chance to vote for Miss Oakwood

As Miss Oakwood, Miss Willicia Wright is one of several HBCU campus queens vying for a placement in EBONY's annual HBCU Campus Queens feature (September 2013 issue). Ten crowning beauties will grace the pages of the magazine.

Please vote for Miss Oakwood. (Schools are listed in alphabetical order, so Miss Oakwood is on page 5 on the website.)

Voting began at 12:01 a.m. CST on Wednesday, May 8, and will be extended until midnight, May 29, 2013.


Follow us: @EbonyMag on Twitter | EbonyMag on Facebook.
Thanks for your interest in, and dedication, to the HBCU Queens.

**Commencement 2013**

As we publish this issue of *OU? Oh, Yes!*, we're watching the arrival of family and friends for the activities of Commencement weekend. Welcome to Huntsville, family!

Congratulations
Class of 2013
"Golden Class" of 1963 to launch "new tradition"!

According to Dr. Timothy McDonald, Commencement Grand Marshall (pictured), a "new tradition" will be launched. Leading Sabbath (Saturday) morning's Baccalaureate processional will be seven members of the "Golden Class" of 1963, of which he was the class vice president 50 years ago.

"Our 50-year class' direct participation in the graduation activities - a first for Oakwood - will start a 'new tradition' - an oxymoron, of sorts! - of graduating seniors seeing firsthand their future of Oakwood
engagement, and for us alumni to see what our future alumni are looking like - and we're very pleased!” explained McDonald.

Of the original 21 "Golden Class" members, he continued:

- Five are deceased;
- Five reside in Huntsville (HSV); and
- Those scheduled to participate in the Baccalaureate processional will be:

1. Class President Dr. Harold Lee (HSV) - executive director, Bradford Cleveland Brooks Leadership Center, OU
2. Class Vice President Dr. Tim McDonald (HSV) - Provost & Senior Vice President, OU
3. Mrs. Harriett Golson (Atlanta) - retired educator
4. Harold Jacobs (HSV) - retired federal accountant
5. Fred Williams (HSV) - retired pastor/chaplain
6. Birdie Williams (HSV) - retired educator
7. Dr. Morris Wren (Illinois) - retired pastor

Spring 2013 Board of Trustees Meeting Highlights, continued...

(Note: Over the next few weekly issues, OU? Oh, Yes! will capture highlights from the reports of the various divisions; this week’s report comes from Academic Administration.)

The Office of Academic Administration made motions that the Board of Trustees accept the following recommendations:
...awarding the faculty rank of professor, effective July 1, 2013, to:

George Ashley, Ph.D.  
Academic Administration

Octavio Ramirez, Ph.D.  
Social Work

...awarding the faculty rank of associate professor effective July 1, 2013, to:

Patrice Conwell, M.A., APR  
Communications

Jason Max Ferdinand, M.M.  
Music

Alfonzo Greene, Jr., Ph.D.  
History & Political Science

...awarding new faculty appointment status effective June 1, 2013, to:

Samsun Chama, Ph.D.  
Associate Professor  
Social Work Department

...awarding a 6 month sabbatical grant, effective July 1, 2013, to December 31, 2013 to:

Derek Bowe, Ph.D.  
Professor,  
English & Foreign Languages

Tarsee Li, Ph.D.  
Professor, Religion

...terminating the Family and Consumer Science Department and transfer of majors under that department to Allied Health in the School of Nursing and Health Professions, effective July 1, 2013:

- Human and Child Development, Major  
Family and Consumer Science Department

...accepting the revised requirements for General Education, effective July 1, 2013:

- General Education Requirements - Institutional Effectiveness

...for submission of Online Prospectus for Organizational Management Degree, effective July 1, 2013:
CAMROU Convenes Student Symposium on the Qur’anic Depiction of Mary

by Dr. Keith Augustus Burton, Director, CAMROU

On April 25, 2013, the Center for Adventist-Muslim Relations (CAMROU) held its second annual student symposium on biblical themes in the Qur’an. The theme for this year was "The Qur’anic Depiction of Mary."

Seven finalists presented their research to over 30 guests and three of the four judges (the judges had evaluated the papers before the symposium). After the impressive presentations, each judge made brief comments before CAMROU director, Dr. Keith Augustus Burton, announced the results:

1st Place - $500 award: Brittany Hughes, junior, International Studies and French major.
2nd Place - $300 award: RaSean Smith, senior, Religious Education major.
3rd Place - $200 award: Jessica Malcolm, senior, Biological Sciences major.
Runners Up - $75 award each: Safiya Hudson, Kelsey Etienne, Emiliane Youte and Crishova Montijo.

The judges for the evening were Ms. Dedra Muhammad, Guidance Counselor at Sparkman High School and community activist; Dr. Ifeoma Kwesi, Associate Professor of Practical Theology at Oakwood University School of Religion; Dr. Sadik Kucuksari Professor of Electrical Engineering at Alabama A&M University; and Mr. Kenneth Anderson, recently appointed Director of Multicultural Affairs for the City of Huntsville.

The theme for the 2014 essay competition and student symposium is "The Seventh-day Sabbath in the Qur'an." The submission procedures will be announced in the fall.
OU Employees contribute over $32K, to date, to annual Oakwood-to-Oakwood campaign

Pictured here are some of the 162 campus employees who have contributed to the annual Oakwood-to-Oakwood campaign.

On Wednesday, May 8, the Advancement & Development Division hosted a sumptuous Wade Hall luncheon for all contributing employees:

1. Thanking them for their consistent financial support;
2. Welcoming new contributors to this annual campaign;
3. Encouraging each donor to inform un-committed work colleagues on the ease of contributing "no consistent amount is too small" - especially through a payroll deduction opportunity - using themselves as a role model; and, therefore,
4. Asking all to help to raise the percentage of united employee giving beyond its current 40% level.

It's not too late to end this academic/fiscal year with your brand-new commitment to support "My Oakwood."

2013-2014 "Oakwood Nation" Calendar Available

The 2013-2014 "Oakwood Nation" Calendar is available online on the...
Oakwood website.

Alternatively, stop by the Public Relations Office in East Hall to pick up your copy to hang on the wall.

Correction:

The article about the Service Learning classes in last week's *OU? Oh, Yes!* was submitted by the Service-Learning Department, not Dr. Martin Hodnett.

Thanks for keeping us on our editorial toes!