Health and Wellness Fair draws community to campus

Oakwood's radio station WJOU 90.1 FM partnered with the Good Samaritan Hospice in Madison, AL, to produce a Community Health and Wellness Fair on October 30, 2013, as promoted on WAFF TV; see story here.

Objectives included increase awareness of good health practices, and provide free health screenings to attendees from all over Greater Huntsville.

Local establishments and businesses shared information about self-care, senior care and resources, chiropractic care, physical therapy, financial management, and housing opportunities.

While welcoming attendees to the campus, President Leslie Pollard reminded everyone that one of the ways in which Oakwood University helps transform lives is promoting the principles of good health and disease prevention. This follows the spirit of what we find in 3 John 1:2 ("Beloved, I wish above all things that thou mayest prosper and be in health, (...).")
Basic chiropractic screenings were available.

Kenny Anderson, Director of Multicultural Affairs from the Huntsville Mayor's office, read a proclamation from Mayor Tommy Battle, declaring October 30, 2013, as "Oakwood University, WJOU and Good Samaritan Hospice Health and Wellness Day."

Organizers anticipate that the Community Health and Wellness Fair will be an annual event.

Oakwood nursing students conducted blood pressure, BMI and balance screenings.
"Oakwood products" win top 2013 denominational communications awards

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Oakwood University won the top honor, The Award of Excellence, for its social media/public relations The Home Depot® "Retool Your School" campaign, which it won by receiving 340,000 of the total 2.6 million votes cast for the 69 competing historically Black colleges and universities.

"The judges were very pleased with Oakwood's ability to generate media coverage among Adventist outlets;
which then generated attention from the Adventist constituency - not just Oakwood friends and alums - but it reached all Adventist campuses, thus gathering additional support from Adventists across North America and beyond," explained George Johnson, Jr., SAC executive director.

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1. (Best in Class) New Media for Use of Social Media (The Home Depot® "Retool Your School" HBCU Campus Improvement Campaign): Miss Kisha Norris, executive director, advancement & development; Mrs. Lucy Cort, proposal writer; Miss Debbe Millet, coordinator; and Tim Allston, director of public relations

2. (Best in Class) for Magazine Design Overall (Oakwood Magazine, Spring 2013): Norris, publisher; Allston, executive editor; Millet, assistant editor; and Jerry Ross, art director/designer

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4. (Best in Class and Honorable Mention) Marketing/Public Relations for Media Pitching Campaign - "OU aims to win Home Depot® contest" and "OU wins Home Depot® contest," respectively: Allston

To read the complete story, visit Oakwood's website.
The Business, Education, Schools and Technology (BEST) meeting on Oakwood’s campus on October 22, 2013, was the first visit to our campus for some of the attendees.

Area librarians visit Eva B. Dykes Library
by Paulette McLean Johnson, Director of Library Services

On October 21, three librarians from Calhoun Community College visited the Eva B. Dykes Library. The visit was prompted, in part, by their desire to learn about the library management system (LMS) used at Oakwood, and their admiration for the design, resources, and information available on the library's website.

Each librarian dialogued with his or her counterpart, sharing challenges and ideas. Oakwood librarians gained insight into Calhoun's online outreach to distance learners, demonstrated aspects of the LMS, and a few databases. The Calhoun librarians also toured the Clara Peterson-Rock Museum.

Mrs. Paulette Johnson, Oakwood's Director of Library Services, received a message from Lucinda Beddow, Library Director at Calhoun Community College: "Thank you so much -- and your staff -- for your gracious hospitality and the professional information shared. "We learned a lot and had an enjoyable afternoon. Let's stay in touch!"

Then on October 22, the Eva B. Dykes Library hosted the BEST librarians meeting, a gathering of area librarians who work in business, academic, school and technology libraries. Some came from Redstone Arsenal, Alabama A&M University, and the University of Alabama in Huntsville. Miss Michele Solomon, Director of Customer Care at Oakwood, presented informative and practical strategies on how to implement
Customer Care in the Digital Age.

Miss Kieren Bailey, Oakwood's Reference and Instruction Librarian, presented "To Click or Not to Click," regarding the use of clickers in library instruction. These local librarians also toured the library and the Clara Peterson-Rock Museum. For a few librarians, this was their first visit to Oakwood University.

The BEST Librarians meeting on October 22, 2013, lasted more than three hours, noticeably longer than similar meetings.

Social Work on the move
by Helen Fischle, Chairman of the Department of Social Work

The social work profession is populated with individuals taking action to help others. For the month of October, 2013, faculty and students in Oakwood's Social Work Department have been on the move -- advocating for issues related to social justice in the immigrant population of the south, domestic violence and breast cancer awareness.
The month began with 22 students and four faculty attending the 8th Annual Social Justice Retreat in Chattanooga, TN, on October 4th. This annual retreat is organized and supported by social work faculty and students from the University of Tennessee - Chattanooga, Chattanooga State College, Alabama A&M University, Cleveland State Community College, Georgia Northwestern Technical College, Southern Adventist University, and Oakwood University.

This year's topic was, "The New South: Welcoming the Stranger," presented by special guest speaker Anton Flores, founding member of a Christian missional community, "Alterna." The day's agenda focused on the many issues Latin American immigrants face and how social workers need to be culturally competent when working with such groups.

On October 17, the OU Social Work Department found itself busy once again working with Crisis Services of North Alabama; the Coordinated Community Response Against Domestic Violence and Sexual Assault; Asha Kiran; Morgan County Domestic Violence Task Force; Redstone Arsenal Army Community Service; Soroptimist International of Huntsville; and SOAR of Huntsville, to host the Domestic Violence Candlelight Vigil at Wade Hall. This event provides an opportunity to remember the victims and celebrate the survivors of domestic violence in Madison County, Alabama.

Dr. Howard Weems, Oakwood's Senior Chaplain and Special Assistant to the President, gave the welcome and prayer to open the evening's program, which was then followed by testimonies, poems, music and a pledge to support victims and survivors of domestic violence. WAFF TV Ch. 48 covered the annual observance.
Finally, on October 24, Oakwood’s Social Work Club’s President, Caprice Brathwaite, and the Education Club’s President, Monique Euell (both clubs are housed within the School of Education and Social Sciences), joined forces to organize a breast cancer awareness program at Wade Hall.

In a room decorated with pink balloons and pink ribbons (with pink cupcakes and pink juice to be served later), approximately 100 female and male students sat quietly as they listened to two breast cancer survivors, Joann B. Clark and Donna Green-Goodman. These two brave individuals shared their stories of how God worked miracles in their lives to save them from a cancer that has taken the lives of so many other women. Both women indicated that it was their faith in God and dramatic lifestyle change that were keys to their survival.

At the end of this inspiring evening, pink balloons were released in honor of those who have survived, or succumbed to, breast cancer.

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History and Political Science hosted Skinner Professor of Law
"An Evening with Professor Bryan Fair"

On October 24, 2013, approximately 200 interested students and staff listened to guest speaker Bryan Fair, J.D., the Thomas E. Skinner Professor of Law at the University of Alabama Tuscaloosa. The Department of History and Political Science hosted the evening in the C-100 Auditorium of the McKee Business and Technology Complex.

Miss Sesly Huerfano, a freshman Pre-Law major and Treasurer of the OU Pre-Law Society, opened the evening with prayer and welcomed the attendees. Dr. Samuel London, Chair of the Department of History and Political Science, introduced the guest speaker.

In his presentation, Professor Fair discussed the civil wrongs of modern society such as discrimination, poverty, and government corruption. He also shared a compelling and inspirational account of his personal journey toward becoming an attorney and law school professor.

In her follow-up remarks, Assistant Professor Anne Smith-Winbush, J.D., highlighted the immense value of Professor Fair’s advice to students aspiring to enter the legal professions. She also emphasized the motivational aspect of Fair’s personal testimony.

Miss Alexandra Carrington, a junior Pre-Law major and Chaplain of the OU Pre-Law Society presented the tokens of appreciation to Professor Fair. Gramond McPherson, a senior History major and President of the OU Historical Society, concluded with the
OU 2013 Teacher of the Year debuts "Simply Single Women" show on YouTube

Excerpted from feature article by Debonnaire Kovacs, Adventist Today, October 23, 2013

When Patrice Conwell was growing up in a close-knit Seventh-day Adventist family ("right smack in the middle of four brothers!") there was an underlying assumption that she never questioned: someday, she would get married and have children.

After attending Oakwood, Conwell moved to Baltimore, Maryland, and began her career. All was well until, she reports, she turned 29. She started writing, mostly for herself, about her expectations, her disappointments, her mixed feelings.

After a period of "reflective, cathartic writing," Conwell had a book manuscript called Nobody Ever Told Me I Might Not Get Married. She thought a little about publishing, but did nothing with the manuscript at that point.

A year later, a friend set her up with someone, and it clicked. Another year passed, and Conwell was married. She assumed the book she had written was now irrelevant, not just to her but to others as well. Women are getting married later, getting their careers going first. She was surprised when, in 2012, a god-sister in her mid-30s asked, "What about that book?"

Conwell took the plunge and produced the manuscript as an e-book, which is being marketed by Deon Stokes at Joint Effort PR & Marketing (http://jointeffortllc.com).

She felt let to create a YouTube show based on the chapters of the book, called "Simply Single." The show premiered Tuesday, October 15, and had 173 views in less than 48 hours.

Conwell's advice to singles is, "Look at yourself. Work on yourself. Get to a place where you can be joyful and content. If your life changes, if God sends someone, good, but if not, you can be happy. And you're a lot more likely to be happy with someone if you're happy with yourself and God first!"

Links:
Website: www.nobodyevertoldme.net
October 28, 2013, found OU's President and First Lady, Drs. Leslie and Prudence Pollard, in Simi Valley, California, at the Adventist Media Center, taping a planned broadcast entitled "Help! I'm a Parent!" This will be a valuable resource for families in the North American Division (NAD).

NAD Family Life Directors, Drs. Claudio and Pamela Consuergas, were the Pollards' "gracious and inspiring" hosts.

"This was a fun, positive experience for both of us," Dr. Leslie Pollard said. "We invited (the Consuergas) to plan to tape some live telecasts with Oakwood University students at the new OU Media Center, which will open in the Fall of 2014."
(L-R) NAD Family Life Directors Drs. Claudio and Pamela Consuergas, with Drs. Pollard.

Oakwood welcomes Adventist Women for annual conference

The Association of Adventist Women's 31st annual conference will be held on the campus of Oakwood University, October 31-November 2, 2013.

The names of several Oakwoodites (alumnae, faculty and staff) are sprinkled throughout the weekend's program: Mrs. Linda Penick, Dr. Janice Watson, Dr. Prudence Pollard, Mrs. Alicia Trusty-Jones, and Miss Linda Anderson.

For more information, visit the AAW website.
Women's game  7:00 p.m.
Men's game: 9:00 p.m.
Admission:  $10
For further details, contact Oakwood alum Chris Batson (410) 979-2885
For more information, visit the PELC website: www.pelc.cc

Reminder -- Daylight Savings Time Ends at 2:00 a.m. on Sunday, November 3, 2013.
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“Also, the fact that this was a social media campaign that got a lot of people talking and they, in turn, got other people to use social media to get Oakwood tens of thousands of votes to win, made this a front-runner.”

Additionally and of the six general awards categories (Corporate Communication, New Media, Print, Broadcast, Marketing/Public Relations and Design), Oakwood received either the Best in Class and/or Honorable Mention awards in four areas, namely:

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Allston also co-presented with Mount Ellis Academy’s development/alumni relations director Kevin Emmerson the SAC workshop “The Gospel According to Social Media: When High Tech meets High Touch.” They presented case studies on how their Seventh-day Adventist schools entered and won the 2013 Home Depot ($50,000) and the 2010 Kohl’s Cares for Kids Facebook ($500,000) national contests, respectively, as faith-based witnessing opportunities.

Also, Oakwood 1999 alum Miss Frenita Buddy, Hope TV Channel production director, and her team won SAC’s The Reger Smith Jr. Cutting Edge Award for “Hopey to the Rescue,” a video prepared in response to a contest sponsored by Fast Company and Mercedes Benz, to compete for a van and a grant of $10,000.

Johnson: “The judges felt that this video presentation showed excellent animation with a clever story. It also showcased good music, good editing, and exuded great pace and energy.
‘99 alum Frenita Buddy and Hope TV team accept multiple awards.

“The creative approach, personified logo, and unique story line and polished story boarding fit the qualities of this being a cutting edge production, fit for the Reger Smith Award.”

Finally, The Young Professional of the Year Award – which “recognizes young talent in the communication field, 35 years of age or younger who have demonstrated strong communication skills and made significant contributions to the field” – was given, in absentia, to Oakwood alum David Franklin, Baltimore’s Berea SDA Temple assistant pastor and Hope TV Channel’s “Let’s Pray” co-host.

“David is a natural communicator,” offered Johnson. “He brings together vision, authenticity and passion, and when he shares ideas, people want to get on board. As co-host for Let’s Pray, he demonstrates exceptional people skills coupled with deep awareness of contemporary and spiritual issues. This is seen in his ability to respond quickly and appropriately to any kind of comment from guests or from program callers.

“He holds himself to a high standard of excellence, and constantly pushes to make the program more relevant, more innovative, and more compelling. David would be successful in any arena, but has chosen to dedicate his talents to winning people for Christ.”