



# THE ADVISOR

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS PUBLICATION

2010-2011

## RETENTION: MAJOR PRESIDENTIAL GOAL; *ACADEMIC ADVISING TO PLAY KEY ROLE*

In an extensive interview with Public Relations Director, Michele Solomon, President Leslie N. Pollard discussed several items he hopes Oakwood University will achieve during the next decade. Among them is enrollment increase (5000 by 2020). [Adventist World](#)

Increasing enrollment is not limited to the Office of Enrollment Management. All are involved. The Records Office shows 485 seniors eligible for membership in the senior class of 2011. Upon completion of degree requirements, they must be replaced along with those ineligible to return for academic and citizenship reasons. Others may not be able to re-register due to inability to obtain financial clearance while high achievers are being actively recruited by competing institutions with attractive scholarship awards.



Thus enough new students must be recruited and a high percentage of these eligible to return be retained to enhance enrollment. An old adage states that at Oakwood, both teacher and student find a common bond of unity as “companions in learning and searching for truth.” Academic Advising provides the opportunity to bind students to their advisors, to one another and to the institution. Thus at the end of the school year, they should experience sorrow in parting, but hopeful and cheerful about returning. Now is the time to work closely with advisees to find out about their plans for the immediate future. Inform Enrollment Management about those who seem undecided about re-enrolling if they are not candidates for graduation. Success in our retention efforts could result in the prestigious recognition award initiative—Advisor of the Year.

## AEWC Honors OU Professors

Each year, the week prior to Thanksgiving is celebrated as American Education Week. Teachers of the Year are given special recognition. The Huntsville chapter of this National Organization held its Annual Awards Luncheon at UAHuntsville on November 16, 2010. Among the teacher honorees of colleges and universities was our teacher of the year, Dr. Gilbert Ojwang of the Religion and Theology Department.



Dr. Mervyn A. Warren, Provost and Senior Vice President and State Department Representative, Dr. Mary Jane Caylor, received special honors for excellence in Educational Leadership. The program was presided over by Ms. Jacquelyn Gates Shipe, UAH's immediate past Associate Vice President for Advancement. The keynote speaker was Dr. Helen T. McAlpine, President of J.F. Drake State Technical College.

Mayor Tommy Battle of Huntsville and Mayor Paul Finley of Madison City gave special welcome and congratulations to the honorees. AEWC thanks Oakwood University for its excellent support.

## Keeping DEADLINES Alive!

A deadline is a date or time before which something is to be done. In many cases, there are severe penalties for failing to comply.

In an academic institution, deadlines are very important in maintaining its integrity with respect to published guidelines and policies. Our Records Office goes beyond the 2nd mile to announce such deadlines as:

- Pre-registration
- Registration
- Adding Classes
- Dropping Classes
- Graduation Application

In spite of these efforts, requests for exceptions have not decreased. The support of teachers/advisors is requested to remind student constantly of the importance of meeting institutional DEADLINES in the same manner as they are expected to meet class assignment deadlines.

Some seniors submit their graduation applications late. Often when they receive the Records Office audit report, there may be one or more courses missing. By this time, it is past the DEADLINE to add. This results in upset candidates, parents, family, etc. when we enforce institutional policy.

Here again, careful monitoring of advisees' programs will help in preventing such unfortunate situations. Keep record of interviews/conferences.

This is an appeal to you to help in KEEPING DEADLINES ALIVE in the minds of students generally, and your advisees in particular.



## INDONESIA GUESTS VISIT OUR CAMPUS

The Office of Academic Affairs on behalf of President Leslie N. Pollard, hosted a group of educators from Indonesia and their interpreters on Tuesday, February 16 from 2:00p.m. - 3:00p.m. at the request of Ms. Jacquelyn Gates Shipe, Executive Director of the International Services Council of Alabama. The visitors were invited to the United States through the Department of State's International Visitor



Leadership Program.

The guests included Mr. Hassan Rahmat Abdurrahman, Mr. Royhan Benasetya, Ms. Miska Gewasari and Mr. Rogger Mitchel Path. The purpose of their visit to the U.S. was to gain understanding of the American system of education—structure, administration, funding and networking. They also explored management approaches and implementation of diverse education systems including private, public elementary high, vocational, charger and alternative education programs.

They enjoyed their meal in the Student Dining Hall and were impressed with campus courtesy. Dr. Roy Malcolm presented them with gifts of Oakwood "goodies."