

From the Office of the
President

Points of Pride

Colleagues,

One hundred years ago, President Woodrow Wilson used his Memorial Day address in part to speak to European allies engulfed in war. During this speech, he said:

“We did not set this government up in order that we might have a separate and selfish liberty, for we are now ready to come to your assistance and fight out upon the field of the world the cause of human liberty.”

I believe the American spirit of service to humankind lives on and that this spirit is abundantly evident within our campus community.

Ora Hirsch Pescovitz, M.D.

President

OUR APPRECIATION

Men and women serving in the U.S. military sacrifice a great deal to protect the security and freedoms that we enjoy as Americans. We may never be able to fully repay our veterans for all they give, but I am proud to be part of an institution that continuously strives to do just that.



For the third year in a row, [Oakland University](#) has been recognized as a

Michigan Veteran Friendly School. This year and last, the Michigan Veterans Affairs Agency recognized the services we provide with its Gold Level honor. This signifies that support provided by the Office of the Registrar, Student Business Services, Student Financial Services and Veteran Support Services to our military connected students is delivered at the highest level possible. Our veterans deserve nothing less.

To all in the University community who have served, please know that your colleagues, peers and friends have a simple message to relay:

Thank You

OUR ADMIRATION



An OU alumnus and 2005 Wilson Award Winner is focusing his burgeoning academic career on helping to address the human health challenge of increasing bacterial resistance to antibiotics.

Dr. Steven D. Townsend, now an assistant professor of chemistry at Vanderbilt University, recently directed a research study on antimicrobial activity of carbohydrates in human breast milk. Results of the study were presented at the annual meeting of the American Chemical Society in

August.

As this [Vanderbilt University news article](#) reveals, more than 23,000 people die in this country each year as a result of bacterial resistance. Kudos to Dr. Townsend for working to stem this loss of life and to prevent what could otherwise become an even larger problem in the future.

OUR AFFIRMATION

Although the white coat ceremony that many medical schools and other health profession educational institutions conduct each year has a history of less than 30 years, it is becoming more widely regarded as a student rite of passage from general college studies to clinical education.



Master's level students admitted to the School of Nursing take part in the 2017 AACNC-Gold White Coat Nursing Ceremony

The ceremony represents much more than this, however, as in most cases it marks the first time that students accept and embrace an oath to serve patients with care and compassion. In my view, it is this oath that raises human health care from a profession to a calling.

Each year, both **Oakland University William Beaumont School of Medicine** students and **School of Nursing** masters level students take part in moving white coat ceremonies. Congratulations to all of these students not only for taking the next step in their education and careers, but also for vowing to spend their lives working to preserve and improve the lives of others.

*Is there a point of pride you feel is worth sharing with the campus community?
If so, please [submit your idea](#) for consideration.*

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Office of the President**

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