Recently, Oakland University William Beaumont (OUWB) leadership and friends of the school celebrated the achievements of the medical students and OUWB faculty at the 2014 Honors Convocation at Meadow Brook Hall. The student honorees received accolades for attaining outstanding levels of academic excellence in their coursework and the faculty members were recognized for their superior work as instructors of the school of medicine.

Prior to the presentations, keynote speaker Wiley Souba, M.D., and Dean of Dartmouth College's Geisel School of Medicine addressed the group and spoke directly to the students, inspiring them to be bold, set the bar high and make a stand.

"Your stand comes from the inside and is an expression of your most cherished and valued commitments. Your stand in action is your most fundamental expression of your true self," said Souba.

The following OUWB students received awards for the 2013-14 school year.

Kerolos Shenouda, class of 2016, received the prestigious Michele D. Raible award in memory of OUWB Founding Associate Dean Michele D. Raible, M.D. whose legacy continues to shape the culture of the school. Shenouda’s peers nominated him for having the compassionate qualities that Dr. Raible brought to the school of medicine. William Miles, M.D., professor of psychiatry and Michele D. Raible’s widow, said the nominations describe Shenouda as always "willing to spend valuable time being a helpful and supportive classmate."

Another member of the class of 2016, Ray Yeow, accepted the 2014 Excellence in Public Health Award from the Department of Health and Human Services for his involvement and leadership in community-led projects. Lieutenant Commander Jevon McFadden, M.D. and U.S. Public Health Service Physician, presented the award to Yeow, who was the first OUWB medical student to ever receive this honor.
Keynote speaker Souba reminded students that their teachers are committed to providing them with the best education possible, and therefore, they are taking a stand for them. On that note, the following faculty members accepted awards at convocation for their excellence in instruction: Mark Hankin, Ph.D. (outstanding faculty in Basic Science Educator), Nelia Afonso, M.D. (outstanding faculty in Clinical Science Educator) David Rodenbaugh, Ph.D. (outstanding faculty in Educational Innovation/Research and Richard Sabina, Ph.D. (outstanding faculty in Service).

A Homecoming Celebration

The assembled guests welcomed home OUWB faculty member, Edward (Skip) Walton, M.D. and Professor of Pediatrics and Emergency Medicine, who returned after one year of serving in a multinational medical unit at Kandahar Airfield in Afghanistan. Walton presented Dean Folberg with the National Ensign flag that flew over the unit on Veterans Day (November 11, 2013) in honor of the school of medicine faculty, staff and students who had served in the armed forces.

Walton spoke of the courageous men and women he met in Afghanistan. He saw the sacrifices they made for their country and was in awe of the compassion they displayed.

"It humbled me," said Walton of his experience treating wounded soldiers whom he called our hometown heroes.

The flag will hang in O'Dowd Hall across from the lecture rooms.

The convocation ceremony is an indicator that the school of medicine is flourishing; that OUWB medical students are on the road to becoming holistic, ethical and compassionate doctors; and that strong faculty are in place to help them navigate their way and ultimately make their stand.

As Souba said to the students, "Stands are what make real leadership happen, the kind that moves the world forward ... Excellence doesn't just happen. We make it happen through the choices we make and the stand we take."

OUWB School of Medicine Recognizes Student and Faculty Ac...