

## **Exemplary Awards**

1-2:30 p.m. Thursday, August 25

Annual Awards Celebration for outstanding employees

President Ora Hirsch Pescovitz Remarks

- Next week, we begin fall semester.
  - Students return to campus.
  - Classrooms will be filled.
  - And over the next several weeks as autumn settles in, we will return to a campus that will once again feel and look like a community....
  
- When Oakland University is truly being all that it can be.... It is because of the strength of our community – a place that values learning, dignity, hard work and compassion.
  
- Today, we celebrate the work of exemplary employees because of their outstanding work ethic, the quality of their work, their leadership... and because these are the employees who are the pillars upon which our community rests... and thrives.

- In spring of 2020, we embarked on “Reimagining OU,” an initiative to consider the many ways we can further develop our community....
  - In the days ahead, we will indeed imagine our future and will succeed because of the commitment and leadership of the exemplary employees gathered here.
  
- These employees not only show up....
  - They distinguish themselves.
  - They don’t say my job ends at five o’clock because they don’t see their time at Oakland as a job, but more of a calling...
  
- What I find so inspiring is that all of you have committed to making OU the best it can be as you are committed to being the best you can be.
  
- This group we honor today rises to meet challenges, stays focused and sets the standard of professionalism for the entire university.

- If I'm facing a difficult situation or a crisis, this is the group that I would want standing alongside me....
  
- And this is the group that I know we can count to show up and make a difference.
  
- Congratulations, I look forward to keeping up with each of you, and keeping track of your success as you reach higher for yourself and aim higher for Oakland University.