Oakton Dedicates Art, Science, and Technology Pavilion

With the recent opening of the Art, Science, and Technology Pavilion at the Ray Hartstein Campus, Oakton students will find even more learning and advanced training opportunities.

Dedicated on Tuesday, April 18, with a public ceremony that included demonstrations, tours, and music by the Oakton Jazz Ensemble, the 59,000-square-foot addition houses the College’s programs in architecture and construction management, art and graphic design, computer networking and systems, computer technology and information systems, electronics, engineering, and manufacturing. The Pavilion also quarters the only community college radio frequency identification (RFID) lab in the country.

The expansion features 22 classrooms; five instructional computer labs; a multi-purpose room with seating for 250 and an integrated media sound system; eight faculty and staff offices, and new outdoor sculptures. The addition also increased parking by 350 spaces, bringing the total capacity to 924.

Designed by Ross Barney + Jankowski Architects, the $15 million addition was built using $7.9 million from the state, $7 million from Oakton, and a $75,000 grant from the Illinois Clean Energy Fuel Foundation.

“Our new environmentally friendly facility enables us to expand many programs that will be vital to the workforce of the 21st century,” Margaret Lee, Oakton president, told a crowd of students, staff, faculty, and invited guests at the dedication.
In Memoriam
Irving M. Footlik, 1918-2006

Oakton Community College’s most generous benefactor, Irving M. Footlik, passed away suddenly on June 5, following complications from surgery. He was 88.

Footlik, along with Sylvia, his wife of 66 years, is perhaps best known for major contributions toward the renovation of the Des Plaines campus’ Performing Arts Center. In 2000, the Footlik’s lead gift launched a $1 million capital campaign that included construction of a new theater lobby and entrances, updated lighting and sound systems, comfortable seating, and more. Previously, the Footliks had established the Footlik Endowed Chair in Technology, and an Oakton scholarship to support students studying mechanical engineering, a field in which Footlik boasted an international reputation.

In recent months, the Winnetka couple also contributed to major enhancements at Oakton’s Art, Science, and Technology Pavilion in Skokie. The Sylvia and Irving M. Footlik Manufacturing and Engineering Center at Oakton’s Ray Hartstein Campus will enable students to study and earn certificates in RFID (radio frequency identification), supply chain management, and other emerging areas of manufacturing and industry.

The Footlik’s monetary gifts always have been rooted in a strong dedication to education and training, according to Margaret Lee, president of Oakton.

“ Irving and Sylvia’s generosity to the College has been accompanied by a tremendous affection for and commitment to Oakton’s mission and the people who do the work of the College. The high quality of education at Oakton would not be possible without public-private partnerships with friends such as the Footliks.”

In 2001, the Footliks were honored as Benefactors of the Year by the Council for Resource Development (CRD), a major organization of the American Association of Community Colleges. The previous year, Footlik was elected to the first Hall of Fame class established by Modern Materials Handling magazine. His career in materials handling spanned more than 50 years and included professional activities that laid the groundwork for the American Materials Handling Society.

A member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, Footlik served from 1995 to 1997 as president of the Chicago chapter of American ORT (Organization for Rehabilitation and Training). An international organization that has benefitted more than 250,000 students in 60 countries, ORT provides instruction in agriculture, road maintenance, health care, and science and technology development.

Footlik’s consulting practice assisted in the development of thousands of buildings throughout the U.S., Canada, and Europe. His designs have been utilized by major companies including Wal-Mart, Sara Lee, Quill, and Service Merchandise.

In addition to Oakton, the Footliks have supported a wide range of institutions including Illinois Institute of Technology (from which Irving graduated in 1939 with a master’s degree in engineering), Centre East, and Rush North Shore Medical Center in Skokie. Their philanthropic efforts led to being honored as “Super Seniors” by the North Shore Senior Center, Irving in 1994 – and Sylvia five years later.
Habit-Forming Fun

A capacity crowd laughed their sins off during the May 6 production of *Late Nite Catechism*. This special event for the Oakton Educational Foundation raised almost $19,000, with proceeds supporting scholarships and educational programs at the College.

Created in 1993 by Vicki Quade and Maripat Donovan, graduates of the Chicago Catholic school system, *Late Nite Catechism* is the longest-running one-woman show in the city’s history. Regardless of religious persuasion, each audience member becomes a “student” in Sister’s hilarious interactive adult catechism class. The event was underwritten in part by gifts from CHASE, Horwitz and Associates, Inc., Daniel N. Luber, and Wheels, Inc.

Following the performance, guests enjoyed a reception, which included a raffle for several fabulous prizes. Foundation director, Brian K. Little, HSBC-North America, and his wife Anise, took home the grand prize, a $500 Nordstrom gift card, donated by Alisa and Howard Singer. Glenview residents Marvin and Mary Ellen Johnson won a Cutter & Buck travel bag along with a one-night hotel stay at the Crowne Plaza Chicago O’Hare in Rosemont provided by Lawson Products and the Crowne Plaza Chicago O’Hare. Oakton student Leana Colletta of Park Ridge and her mother, Seana Niederpruem, were the winners of 10 lawn passes to the 2006 Ravina Festival, donated by Ravina Festival.

1. Allen Kravis, Foundation director (left); Sue Kravis, Oakton Development Council member; Karen Wickman and Dan Luber, Foundation director, enjoy the reception.

2. Robert Goldberg of Glenview (left), Dodie Weinstein of Glenview, and Barbara and Steven Blonz of Morton Grove share their favorite moments from *Late Nite Catechism*.

3. Bunty Hanna (left) of Chestnut Square at the Glen enjoyed the show with daughter Mary Seve of Northfield. Richard Morris, former Foundation president, sponsored 20 seniors from the Glenview retirement community to attend.

4. Fresh out of Sister’s “class,” Robert Whitman of Glenview; State Rep. Elaine Nekritz (D-Northbrook); Margaret Lee, Oakton president; and Linda Korbel, Dean of Languages, Humanities and the Arts, are in high spirits.

5. Seana Niederpruem (left) and daughter Leana Colletta, an Oakton student from Park Ridge, are planning which concerts to attend after winning passes to the 2006 Ravina Festival.

6. Marvin and Mary Ellen Johnson (left) of Glenview are all smiles after winning a Cutter & Buck travel bag, along with a one-night hotel stay at the Crowne Plaza Chicago O’Hare in Rosemont. They are joined at the benefit by Glenview residents Bob and Becky McLenman, Louise Curry, Graham and Susan Jackson, and Barbara Kucera.

7. Foundation director, Brian K. Little, HSBC – North America, and his wife Anise (right) can look forward to a shopping spree after winning a $500 Nordstrom gift card at the raffle following *Late Nite Catechism*. Ken and Rima Daubenspeck of Chicago hope to go along.

Help us celebrate!
The Educational Foundation is making plans for its 30th anniversary and is looking for former Oakton students to take part in the festivities. For more information, call 847-635-1893.
Gifts Reveal ‘Family’ Ties

Thanks to the generosity of faculty members, along with the friends and family of many College employees, four new scholarship endowments recently were established for Oakton students seeking financial assistance to pursue academic goals.

Scholarship donors and recipients will be honored at the annual Scholarship Recognition Dinner on Wednesday, September 27, 2006.

The Dr. J. Dawn Mercedes Memorial Scholarship benefits students who major in graphic design or photography. Mercedes was an associate professor of art and graphic design from 2000 to 2005. Mercedes’ partner, Dr. Lauren Vitek, created the scholarship.

Established by the Division of Science and Health Careers faculty, the Dr. Mark Walter Memorial Scholarship provides financial assistance for students majoring in biology or chemistry. Walter was an associate chemistry professor at Oakton since 1995. The recipient of the Ray Hartstein Award for Outstanding and Professional Excellence in Teaching in 1999, Walter inaugurated the College’s prestigious Science Research Lab Experience.

The Joyce Kernan Memorial Scholarship in Nursing supports female nursing or Basic Nursing Assistance Training students, with a preference toward single mothers. Named for Joyce Kernan, a former BNAT program advisory board member and founder of A-Abiding CARE, Inc., a home health care provider in Park Ridge, the endowment was established by Kernan’s daughter, Valerie Trausch.

Sponsored by retired mathematics faculty member Adele LeGere, the Mary and Paul LeGere Scholarship provides for altruistic students who have at least a 3.5 GPA and demonstrate a commitment to academics. Preference is given to a returning female student. This endowment, in honor of LeGere’s children, may also be used to purchase textbooks and supplies.