OCC ponders quitting college association

Concern over the Michigan Community College Association's legislative power has its largest member wondering whether to stay in the group.

Oakland Community College (OCC) trustees recently discussed pulling out of the statewide organization.

Of Michigan's 29 community college, 28 belong to the MCCA. Not members are Lansing Community college, 28 belong to the MCCA. Not members are Lansing Community College, Macomb Community College and Wayne County Community College and Wayne County Community College and the second of the secon

ROELOFS SAID he believes MCCA intrudes upon individual institutions. But he is particularly concerned about its role in influencing legislation which has an impact on community

colleges.

As examples of what he considers the MCCA's failures, he cited the loss of a financing formula based on enrollment and legislation on downtown development authorities and exempting recreation property from taxes.

"More importantly, I don't believe the organization has been at all effective in influencing legislation for com-

Culinary open house at OCC

Oakland Community College bospitality department will present its fourth annual Cullnary Arts Open House 7-9 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 8 at the Orehard Ridge Campus, 1-698 at Orehard Lake Road, Farmington Hills. Designed to provide information about the hospitality department and careers in the field, the open house will feature food service demonstrations.

feature food service demonstrations.

Cake decorating, tableside cooking,

into the association after it had avoided the grup for years.

The OCC president also told the board MCCA is geared toward smaller colleges. Osition that was a college of the colleges of the

SANDRA RITTER, board vice-chalperson who is also active with the commanity college association, added her discontent. The Waterford resident said sie and Roelofs have been discussing their concerns for a while legislation, notting is going to be done. We have to toot care own horn," explained Ritter, adding she would like to "hang on, but my lint responsibility is here."

"If we can't serve the community first we're not doing the job we're given responsibility to do. We're just serving community colleges," shesad.

TRISTEE EDWARD H. Pappas urged fellow board members to consider the matter carefully before dropping at of the organization. The Farmington Hills lawyer asked for a format repartoutlining concerns about the as-

repar outlining concerns about the association.
"I so believe first in working from withit. What have we done to make them nore effective?" he asked.

veteble carvings and napkin folding wil le among demonstrations present-edly students. dvanced culinary arts students will pattipate in a culinary arts salon and conetition. Judges for the salon will indide some of the Detroit area's top chit.

limission is free. Refreshments will

"I'd like to see us work from within.
As well as an obligation to the community, we have an obligation to other
community colleges. I see dropping out
as a last resort."

Suzanne Roynolds, board chairperson, also expressed concern over small
community colleges which don't have
OCC's resources.

COMMUNITY CONGRES WHICH OUT I HAVE OCC'S rESOURCES.

"We're the blg guys in the state and doing well. But what about those Upper Peninsula schools which need help?" asked the West Bloomfield resident.

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"I feel like we're taking our marbles and going borne."

THOMAS BERNTHAL, director of governmental relations, for MCCA, sald members discuss pulling out of the organization from time to time. But usually, they end up staying.

Wayne County Community College was a member of the 17-year-old group for just a short time. Macromb and Lansing withdrew in the fall 1978.

Bernthal said the diversity of the membership — ranging from OCC's

"If you get into controvernial legisla-tion, you can't always solve it in a short time." Bernishal said.
"It the association addressing con-cerns? The answer is yes. But are we going to solve all the problems over-night? The answer is no."
But the director is hopeful OCC will stay with the organization.
"We've had discussions like this be-fore, and the colleges usually stay, We need them and they're very important to us," he said.



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To pre-register (required), pease call the Department of Health Promotion and Develement at 471-8091, on Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.Mto 5 P.M. Class size is limited, so please register early, Essford General Hospital is located at 28050 Grand River Ae., Farmington Hills 48024. (North of Grand River, behindhe Botsford Inn).



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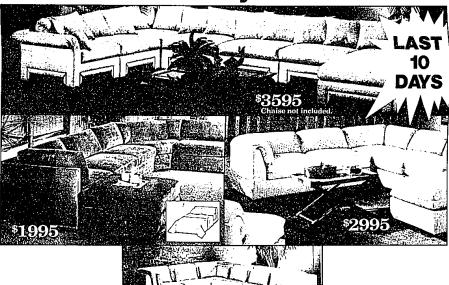
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