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"The past two years have been a time of great change in the Michigan arts community," Engler said.

"The arts can no longer rely on a business-as-usual approach," and "the key is the development of arts partnerships," he said.

"Let us also look ahead to the new year with a spirit of cooperation and understanding."

In accepting the award, Reynolds referred to Pat Buchanan's

OCC bands set concert

The Oakland Community College Percussion Ensemble and the OCC Jazz Ensemble will give a concert at the Orchard Ridge campus' Smith Theatre 8 p.m. Thursday, Dec. 10.

The Percussion Ensemble is also performing at a number of schools in the Farmington area. It was one of just two groups invited to play at the Michigan Art Educators' state conference Nov. 13.

The cost of the Orchard Ridge concert is \$3, students and seniors \$2. For ticket information, call 471-7700.

The Orchard Ridge campus is located on Orchard Lake Road just south of I-696 in Farmington Hills.

comments at the Republican National Convention about a "cultural war."

"(If there is a war) I am on the side of tolerance, diversity and artistic freedom," Reynolds said to a burst of applause from the audience. "We must fight every attempt to censor what we say and do."

He went on to quote former Czechoslovakian president Vaclav Havel: "We know first hand how essential is a fierce, independent spirit in the attainment of freedom."

Jacomo drew laughs from the crowd when he described the reaction of some people to the arts: "I feel like the Avon Lady among the Mennonites — 'Who needs it?'"

"Far from being welfare for the rich, (the arts are) indeed well fare."

The following are excerpts from a speech given by Oakland University President Sandra Packard at her inauguration ceremony Friday, Nov. 13.

Thirty-five years ago, in January of 1957, through the generous donation of the Meadow Brook Farms Estate and funds by Matilda and Alfred Wilson, and the visionary leadership of Oakland's first chancellor, Woody Varner, Michigan State University-Oakland was chartered by the state of Michigan. Its purpose was to liberally educate all students who enter its classes.

Although we have changed in some ways from this original vision, we can take pride in the fact that Oakland has fulfilled our founders' aspiration for educational excellence. Oakland is nationally recognized for excellence

in teaching and research, and our community is strengthened by our presence and service.

Yet what future shall we chart? Like most universities in America, we find ourselves in what might have been called in the 1960s an existential dilemma. Aware that the course we will chart for the decade will shape not just a new generation, but a new century, we have yet to reach consensus on which course to chart.

Nor is Oakland unique in this dilemma. Members of the academy all across the nation are debating issues of purpose in higher education; teaching versus research, political correctness (and) cultural literacy, to name just a few.

Societal changes impact

What has caused this unease? Is the failing ours in the academy, or do the roots of our dilemma lie elsewhere? Since World War II, profound societal changes and global interdependence have occurred which have had a major impact on higher education.

As in society in general, the degree and rate of change has scarcely left us time to respond, let alone to plan. Knowledge bases in our academic disciplines are growing exponentially. The technology with which we teach and do research is changing rapidly. There are more nontraditional than traditional students on our campuses.

American universities are the best in the world and, college-bashing best sellers aside, we are

prepared to meet the needs of each of our constituencies. Yet we also recognize that we must do so with shrinking resources.

Our uncertainty about the future comes not from a belief that the academy has failed, but from our aspiration for its continued success. We may appear to lack focus, not because we do not have a clear mission, but because we have a more complex mission; not because we lack direction, but because we have more directions than resources to support them.

Thirty-five years ago Oakland was founded, with a single educational mission. Today it has a four-fold mission: to provide excellent and relevant instruction, high quality basic and applied research and scholarship; responsive and effective public and com-

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