

OCC Will Offer Bait To Students

By JAN WILLIAMS

FARMINGTON
Oakland Community College is offering the bait, and dangling at the end of the line are prospective OCC students.

Orchard Ridge Campus Provost S. James Manilla and other OCC officials met recently to discuss ideas on how to make the campus in Farmington better known to the surrounding communities.

It's an over-all program to recruit more students and retain the ones already enrolled.

"We have intensified our recruitment program," Manilla said, "and we have

plans to make direct contacts in places we haven't previously tried, such as apartment complexes."

With spring semester coming up next month, OCC officials are seriously exploring ways to form better relationships with the students and the community. This hopefully will bring an increase in enrollments.

One initiated last fall was the Orchard Ridge Campus Child Play Center. Parents may leave their children at the center from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. each day while they attend classes, and there is no charge.

"Students have been very responsive toward the program," Dean of Students

Don Nichols said. "Many formerly could not attend classes because they had no place to leave their children. Therefore, this program has contributed to an increase in enrollment."

Another project still in the planning stages that might work in favor of student recruitment is the offering of scholarships that honor academic achievement.

"We have an older, smarter, more sophisticated student population," Manilla

said. "We have to begin thinking of offering things along this line."

Oakland was one of many community colleges which suffered enrollment drops last fall. But according to Manilla, OCC retained more students between the fall and winter semester than usual, with only a 6 per cent drop.

On the Orchard Ridge Campus, enrollments dropped four per cent from last winter. Student enrollment was 5,633 in 1972

and 5,412 for the 1973 winter semester.

Credit hours are 4.2 per cent below the projected number of 32,000. Credit hours for this semester totaled 37,411 indicating that students are taking an estimated 10 credits rather than the former 10.5 each.

If the college meets its spring projection of 40,000 credit hours, it will meet its goal for the year.

The college had predicted 250,000 credit hours for all

four campuses, but the State Legislature cut the projection back to 279,000 credit hours.

Since college appropriations are based on the number of credit hours taken, OCC could lose funds by failing to meet projections.

It might be questioned which is the bait and which is the fisherman - the student or the college. But you definitely can't have one without the other.

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Short Courses Offered At OCC

FARMINGTON
A variety of non-credit courses in areas of general community interest will be offered in the Orchard Ridge Campus of Oakland Community College beginning the first week in April.

Registration for these courses is now available on campus. Fees range from \$15 to \$35 for the four to 10-week courses.

Beginning May 1 from 7 p.m. to 9 p.m., is a class on "Planning Your Time," a four week course to be taught by Donald Starr in Room A-203.

A 10-week course in gymnastics begins April 10 in the campus' N building mezzanine. Taught by Sharon Keim, it will concentrate on visual poise and posture, diet and exercise.

Yoga will be taught by Mark Singh in a 10 week course beginning April 4. It will meet in Westchester Elementary School gym, Birmingham.

Astronomy buffs can join a class taught by Jacqui Kimler to begin May 6 and running for six weeks. It will be taught in Orchard Ridge Campus Room A-212.

The Art of Officiating Football, taught by Louis Pacioni, will begin April 2 in Troy High School. Upon completion of the course, students' names will be submitted as qualified officials to all recreation and athletic directors in the metropolitan Detroit area.

A human relations course will be taught by Dr. J. Harold Ellens, pastor of University Hills Church, Farmington, beginning April

3 in the Seaholm High School, Birmingham.

For further information regarding these non-credit courses, contact Prentice Ryan, Orchard Ridge Campus director of community services.

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