OCC's Matthews Passes at Age 63

The president of Oakland Community College's Auburn Hills Campus, David L. Mathews, died Feb. 28, less than two months after his appointment.

Pending selection of a replacement, Highland Lakes Campus President Gordon May will again step in to serve as interim Auburn Hills president.

"David Mathews' passing is a profound loss, not only for his family, but the entire college community, where he was highly respected," said OCC Chancellor Tim Meyer.

Mathews was 63. George Cartsonis, director of college communications for OCC, said Mathews would have been 64 on his birthday in April. Death was due to a recurrence of cancer.

"He had beaten it for a long time, but it came back with a vengeance ... It was very sad," Cartsonis said.

Mathews leaves his wife, Carla, who is OCC's executive director of enrollment management, six children, three grandchildren and six siblings. Meyer named him as president of the Auburn Hills Campus Jan. 2.

"He was very well-respected, and we all liked him. We are all very saddened by the loss, particularly as it was so unexpected," Cartsonis said, adding that Mathews was just embarking on a new phase of his life and career as president of OCC's largest campus, which has enrolled 9,000 students this winter.



David L. Mathews

Mathews joined OCC in 2002 as dean of academic and student affairs at the Southfield Campus. In 2012, he was appointed collegewide dean of business information/technology. Mathews also served as liaison to the Galileo Project, which encourages faculty members to take leadership roles in the introduction of innovative teaching methods.

Mathews earned a double major bachelor's degree in economics and business from Marygrove College. He also held a master's degree in public policy from the University of Michigan.

Before coming to OCC, Mathews was in the U.S. armed services during the Vietnam era. He then spent 13 years at Marygrove College, where he occupied various positions, including grant writer, associate director of admissions and faculty member. He also taught various courses, including statistics, economics and business.



Chrysler Lauds TRW for Its Lane-Centering System

by Irena Granaas

Fresh from receiving recognition for its role in garnering 2013 Insurance Institute for Highway Safety (IIHS) Top Safety Pick+ status for seven of the 13 vehicles so named, TRW Automotive has added another safety-related award to its collection, this time from Chrysler.

The global automotive supplier earned a 2012 Innovation Award for User Experience and Driver Assistance in the development of Lane Centering Assist systems from Chrysler's Innovation group.

TRW's work with Chrysler on Lane Centering Assist technology was recognized as one of the top supplier partnership projects at Chrysler's inaugural Supplier Innovation Awards Ceremony March 1 at the automaker's Auburn Hills headquarters.

Chrysler thanked TRW for its work in achieving the innovation award for Lane Centering.

"TRW is honored to accept this award and particularly pleased to be one of only 13 suppliers selected," said Ken Kaiser, vice president, TRW Global Electronics Engineering.

TRW's Lane Centering Assist is an integrated system that uses a front-facing camera and an electrically powered steering system in the vehicle. The camera looks ahead to detect lane markings, calculates the virtual lane center, and continuously sends torque commands to the electric steering system to keep the vehicle centered in the lane.

"You're going to see more cameras and radar systems, more driver assistance (technologies), and TRW is looking to launch more of those systems in North America right now."

State-of-the-art safety technology is definitely an element taken into consideration by today's buyer when looking at a new vehicle purchase.

The seven vehicles featuring TRW safety technology to earn an IIHS Top Safety Pick+ Award are the Chrysler 200 four-door, Dodge Avenger, Ford Fusion (built after Dec. 2012), Honda Accord twodoor and four-door, Kia Optima, Acura TL and VW Passat.



THE ESSENTIAL AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY EVENT

Math Competition Finalists Honored

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The top students are so adept that they often buzz in with an answer before the moderator can even finish reading the question.

The highest-scoring four individuals in the Countdown Round win an paid trip to the 2013 MATH-COUNTS national championship to represent Michigan. The championship will take place on May 10 in Washington, D.C.

This year, the Countdown Round was moderated by Dr. Gary McDonald, former MATH-COUNTS director/officer and retired GM R&D executive.

In addition, Gary Smyth, executive director, GM Global R&D Laboratories, gave a welcome address to the crowd of more than 400 students, parents, teachers, and volunteers.

Smyth highlighted why math is

important for future careers in the auto industry as well as to the nation's economic prosperity in the future.

He illustrated his points by describing how GM uses math to develop its products.

At the March 9 event, the Countdown Round was won by Ankan Bhattacharya from Achieve Charter Academy in Canton. Spencer Liu and Freddie Zhao from Boulan Park Middle School in Troy finished second and third. Kuvam Shahane from Van Hoosen Middle School in Rochester finished fourth.

These four will represent Michigan at the national finals in May.

Boulan Park Middle School, coached by Mark Martin, was also the top-scoring team on Saturday, so Martin will coach the state team at the MATHCOUNTS national championship.

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