Jeanne Towar (Friday Night)

Good Evening

I'm Jeanne Towar, Chairperson of the Oakland Community College Board of Trustees.

On behalf of the board it is my pleasure to welcome you to Future Search – a crucial project that will set the college's direction for the years 2002 – 2007...and beyond.

Before we begin, I would like to express our deep appreciation to each of you for your interest, your concern and your willingness to share your insights and expertise with us.

Most of all, we thank you for granting us that most valuable commodity of all – your time.

We hope that you will see the hours spent here as an investment – one that provides dividends not only in the college's ability to transform lives, but in your own understanding of OCC's mission and operations.

And now, I would like to introduce my colleague, Board Vice Chair Judith Wiser.

Judith Wiser (Friday Night)

Thank you Jeanne...

I would like to echo Chairperson Towar's welcome and thank you all for joining us in this vital enterprise.

Let me add only one thing...the assurance that we will listen attentively to your inputs over the next two days, and that we will make the best possible use of your contributions so that Oakland Community College may better fulfill its mission – making our community an even better place in which to learn, live and work.

Thank you.

Sandy Ritter (Saturday Morning)

We hope that you enjoyed last evening's proceedings, and return this morning refreshed and ready for the second half of our journey together.

Once again on behalf of the board of trustees let me express our deepest appreciation for the time and effort that you are contributing to help Oakland Community College better fulfill its mission.

We've done a lot of work so far – we've generated some heat, a lot of light, and, I hope, had some fun.

Now, let's move on, and do a little more of each.

Thank you.