

# Taiwan Week comes to OU

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Staff Reporter

Many students want the thrill of immersing themselves in another culture without the cost. Now, they have the opportunity thanks to the China Club, which has brought Taiwan Week to Oakland University, which goes through Oct. 6.

Taiwan Week first came to OU in 2015, thanks to Computer Facilities Administrator Peggy Chiu. Her involvement in the local Taiwanese community through various volunteer projects eventually helped her develop connections with the Taiwanese government, allowing her to put together a proposal that would, figuratively speaking, bring Taiwan to OU.

The success of the event allowed Chiu to bring it back in 2017, this time enlisting the help of Dr. Melanie Chang and Dr. Chiaoning Su as co-organizers of the weeklong celebration.

"We see ourselves as doing a public diplomacy, like we are branding our country," Su said. "Hopefully that will create a positive image for our country, and to start an engaging and interesting conversation with whoever might be interested in knowing more about Taiwan."

The events planned for the week include a three-day showcase at the Detroit Institute of Arts on a traditional form of art in Taiwanese culture known as shadow puppetry, as well as a panel discussion and film screening.

The shadow puppetry showcase was coordinated with the Michigan Taiwanese American Association, who, according to Chiu, chose the DIA because it holds the largest collection of shadow puppets outside of China and Taiwan.

Thursday, Oct. 5, will feature a panel from noon to 1 p.m. in 156 North Foundation Hall. Titled "Taiwan at the Crossroads," the presentation will help familiarize students with Taiwan. Chang will begin the panel with a basic introduction to the country, followed by Dr. Alan Epstein, who will discuss the political situation and international relations involving Taiwan, China, and the U.S. Su will speak about the



Courtesy of OU China Club

Dr. Chiaoning Su, Peggy Chiu, and Dr. Melanie Chang are working as the co-organizers of the 2017 Taiwan Week at Oakland University.

Taiwanese cultural industry, specifically in regards to film and television, "and how they sort of open up a way for Taiwan to introduce itself to the world, to the international society." Dr. Yan Li will be present as a discussant during the panel.

The festivities will conclude on Friday with a film screening of "Beyond Beauty: Taiwan from Above," a film that Su describes as immersive and unique. Directed by Chi Po-Lin, the film was chosen to pay homage to the late director, who passed away in a helicopter accident earlier this year, and also to expose students to "the multiple aspects of Taiwan." Su says that the film demonstrates the natural beauty of Taiwan, while also acknowledging the human ex-

ploitation of the landscape.

"I'm excited for the event," said sophomore Melinda Movius. "Taiwan is a very unique place that people don't focus on very often, so I'm glad we have the opportunity to learn more about and appreciate the country."

As rewarding as it will be for students, the co-organizers also feel a sense of pride in putting the event together.

"I just feel like as a Taiwanese myself, it's just a good feeling to be able to give back to my country, to make my small contribution," Su said. "And that makes you feel, just... You know, I'm doing my job."

For more information about Taiwan Week, check out the event's flyer.

# Students venture to Quicken Loans

OU students, alumni gather to tour Detroit-based company

Ariel Themm  
Staff Intern

Oct. 26 and a speed networking event for health sciences majors on Nov. 9.

On Friday, Oct. 20, the Oakland University School of Engineering and Computer Sciences is having a Career Trek, where students can meet employers and Oakland University alumni who currently work at Quicken Loans. The event will begin at 10 a.m. and end at 1 p.m. The School of Engineering and Computer Sciences will provide transportation as well as lunch for students attending. Interested students must sign up on Handshake to experience the opportunity.

Quicken Loans is offering jobs and internships such as mortgage bankers, data analysts and software engineers. The two areas of employment they need to fill are in IT and mortgage banking. Aside from that, Quicken is also known for hiring student of any major for different internships.

Quicken Loans is presenting students with mediators and OU alumni as well as a tour of the business. Kelli Foskic, a career consultant at OU, details the purpose of this activity.

"The mission to get OU students to experience the industries that will be hiring them. They will explore more about their future careers, while creating networking connections," Foskic said. "I think students aren't sure what to expect from these companies and this event will show them their future jobs or what they could be working for."

To get ready for this event, Oakland University Career Services offers a variety of tools for students to prepare for career opportunities. For instance, the office offers resume critiques and mock interviews by appointment. The office is also hosting an etiquette dinner on

But, student experiences shows that attending career trek events is beneficial in its own way.

In the article, "Networking Skills, Resources Benefit Students Now, Later," by Kelly Newburg, students from Penn State University discussed the benefits of attending programs such as the one OU is offering this month.

One student, Carolyn Harpster, talk about how, as an underclassman, she learned from these programs and is beginning to create a larger source of connections that will aid her success through school as well as her career. Penn State has created multiple online sources as well as hosting their own recruitment activities to ensure the success of its students.

Quicken Loans is a mortgage lender company. But as a company it does so much more. For example, Quicken Loans moved all of its team from Michigan to be stationed in Detroit for economic stimulation for the city. The company has also donated about \$16 million to charities as well as put in more than 100,000 volunteer hours. To learn more, interested students can access the company's website at [www.quickenloans.com](http://www.quickenloans.com)

Quicken Loans, among other companies, has been a stable and consistent employer for OU students to have internships as well as full time positions.

This program is aimed to help students find their success, to motivate them in their studies. Their career won't be just a distant achievement they get at the end of school. Students will be immersed in the career and the companies that will be offering them jobs.