

## **Gary D. Russi**

---

Gary D. Russi has been president of Oakland University since 1996 and was interim president from 1995 to 1996. Prior to joining Oakland, he served Drake University in key leadership positions.

Russi has received numerous honors and awards for his many achievements, including the George Wibby Athletic Award from Oakland University (2002), Distinguished Alumni Award from Southwestern Oklahoma State University (1998), and Honorary Member of Golden Key National Honor Society at Oakland University (1993).

Russi currently chairs the Presidents Council, State Universities of Michigan and the board of directors, Rochester Hills Strategic Planning Process; and is chair and president of the Mid-Continent Athletics Conference Presidents Council. He is vice chair of the Automation Alley Executive Board and the Oakland County Business Roundtable. Russi also serves on the boards of directors of Michigan Virtual University and cyberstate.org and on the board of trustees of Crittenton Hospital.

Russi earned his BS in pharmacology from Southwestern Oklahoma State University and his PhD in pharmacology and toxicology from University of Kansas.