

Raya Hollis

Above all, Raya Hollis considers herself a member of the human race. The health sciences major seeks to exemplify the spirit of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. through a life of leadership and service. Along with her membership in the Pre-Medical Society at Oakland University, Raya is president and co-founder of the OU Minority Association of Pre-medical Students, an organization dedicated to increasing diversity in the medical profession. She aims for a career in health care and has volunteered at Crittenton Hospital and also participated in Young Physicians workshops at Beaumont Hospital.

Dr. Patricia Wren, director of OU's health sciences program, is among many who have taken note of Raya's work ethic and initiative.

"Raya has crafted an ambitious academic schedule for herself and has reflected on what she is learning through in-class and out-of-class experiences," Dr. Wren says. "I can say with certainty that Raya is excelling in a rigorous, science-based curriculum and is a tremendous ambassador for our program."

A familiar face on campus, Raya has served as an orientation group leader, peer mentor, success coach and Nightwatch staffer. In these roles, she has helped shape numerous lives while guiding students on the path to academic and personal success.

Echoing the words of Dr. King, she says, "Making an impact on improving race relations on Oakland's campus has everything to do with the content of your character. I taught my mentees to have an open perspective and know that OU is the place where they could take steps to empower themselves and their lives."