The Importance of Culture: What a Career in Indian Health Has Taught Me

Captain Thomas Weiser, M.D., M.P.H.
Portland Area Indian Health Service
Thursday, November 21, 2013
Noon to 1pm
OHSU Old Library Auditorium

OHSU’s Native American Employee Resource Group (ERG) and the Center for Diversity & Inclusion invite the community to a cultural competency lecture by Captain Thomas Weiser, M.D., M.P.H., a medical epidemiologist for the Portland Area Indian Health Service assigned to the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board and Northwest Tribal Epidemiology Center.

Captain Weiser’s presentation will highlight his experiences in working with American Indian and Alaska Native people and the importance of cultural sensitivity and relevance when working in two worlds of Indian health care delivery and service: Western medicine and traditional healing.

The Native American ERG is a resource throughout OHSU and to community members interested in Native American culture, issues, and health. The Native American ERG provides educational outreach, spread awareness, and promote thoughtful discussion between its members and allies. The group supports American Indians and Alaska Natives to improve and maintain physical, mental, emotional, social and spiritual well-being with respect for all cultural traditions and to advocate for all Indian people. To learn more or to connect with the Native American ERG, email singerm@ohsu.edu or call 503 494-5657.

More About Captain Thomas Weiser

Captain Weiser has been with Portland Area Indian Health Service since 1998, initially serving as an IHS Medical Officer in Whiteriver, Arizona from 1998-2005. He completed the CDC Epidemiology Intelligence Service from 2005-2007, assigned to the Missouri Dept. of Health and Senior Services. In 2007, he began his current position. He is passionate about improving the quality of healthcare services, data access and data quality for American Indian and Alaska Native populations, human subjects protection, infectious disease epidemiology and surveillance.