



February 2014

Aspiring Health and Science Professionals Converge at OHSU



More than 350 college and high school students attended the Health and Science Career Conference, hosted by the Center for Diversity and Inclusion, in collaboration with OHSU academic units and departments. The event featured presentations from OHSU admissions teams, and provided information about requirements and prerequisites for academic programs. In addition to medicine, nursing and dentistry, students learned about other career options in science and healthcare, including graduate studies, biomedical research, physician assistant, surgical technician, hospital administration, dietetics, and more. Many thanks to all volunteers and presenters who helped make the event a success. [View photos](#) from the event, [read the convos](#) on Twitter, or [get links](#) to the Powerpoint presentations.

All-Hill Film Festival (multiple dates in March and April). The Student Diversity Committee and the Center for Diversity and Inclusion are among the sponsors of the [All-Hill Film Festival](#). Films were selected by students from the Medical Students for Life, American Medical Student Association, Nursing Students for Reproductive Health and Justice, and more. All films will be shown in the Student Center Media Room. Snacks and refreshments will be provided.

Creating Dialogue About Inclusion

To celebrate Black History Month, OHSU's African American Employee Resource Group and the Center for Diversity and Inclusion hosted a talk by Dr. Alisha Moreland-Capuia, a fellow in addictions at OHSU. The event brought together about 150 people from both the OHSU and greater Portland communities, including an impressive roster of African American leaders. In her keynote "I, Too, Am America," Dr. Moreland-Capuia explored the concept of inclusion through the works of Harlem Renaissance poet, Langston Hughes. Dr. Moreland-Capuia leads "Healing Hurt People Portland," a trauma-informed violence prevention program helping to heal young males of color. [read more](#).



March 7: César E. Chávez Leadership Conference, Western Oregon University. CDI is proud to participate in the [24th annual event](#), which is the largest Latino high school student leadership conference in the state of Oregon. The conference, open to Latino high school students, provides information, motivation and opportunities for Latino students to gain skills for college and the workforce.

Tribal Gathering Builds Partnerships, Collaboration



With a focus on building and strengthening community partnerships, Oregon Health and Science University convened the 2014 Tribal Gathering that brought together OHSU faculty and staff, and members of the 43 federally recognized tribes in Oregon, Washington and Idaho. OHSU was pleased to welcome leaders and members of the Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (NPAIHB), who engaged in strategic and constructive dialogue toward collaboration and opportunity. Many OHSU leaders, faculty and staff learned more about NPAIHB's work in directing legislative and policy analysis, providing training and technical assistance, and research. [read more](#)

March 11: Tax Session for International Employees. The International Employee Resource Group (IERG) will host an informational session about filing taxes in the United States from 2-3pm on March 11 at the Marquam Room in MacKenzie Hall. Specific tax info will be provided for visiting scholars and researchers. For more information, contact [Riikka Salonen](#).

Impact of Diabetes on the Latino Community

Diabetes disproportionately affects Latinos, who are twice as likely to develop diabetes as non-Hispanic whites. A higher percentage of Mexican Americans are diagnosed with diabetes than other ethnic groups. In a talk hosted by the Latinos Unidos Organization Employee Resource Group, Dr. Andrew Ahmann, Director of the Harold Schnitzer Diabetes Health Center, presented facts about diabetes and trends for the future, the impact on Latinos, and information about prevention. Dr. Ahmann's presentation showed how this epidemic is happening and what we can do to stop it. [read more](#)



March 18: NW Youth Careers Expo The Center for Diversity and Inclusion and other OHSU departments are taking part in the full-day [NW Youth Careers Expo](#), which will be held at the Oregon Convention Center. The annual event is hosted by Portland Workforce Alliance. Students get the opportunity to meet with employers, learn about companies and careers, as well as get interviewing and resumé assistance.

Center for Diversity & Inclusion is Hiring!

OHSU's Center for Diversity and Inclusion (CDI) leads, develops and implements diversity and inclusion initiatives across the university. Over the years, CDI has made significant strides in increasing recruitment, strengthening retention, improving the climate of inclusion and building community partnerships. We continue to improve upon resources and tools to ensure that diversity and inclusion are a critical part of all processes across all OHSU departments and units. CDI is currently looking for exceptional candidates for the roles of Assistant Director ([IRC42400](#)); Manager for Student Recruitment and Retention ([IRC42389](#)); and Administrative Coordinator ([IRC42370](#)). If you have issues with the links, go to www.ohsujobs.com, and enter the job numbers listed above. All candidates must [apply online](#) – no phone calls or emails please.

April 9: OHSU Vendor Fair. Interested in doing business with OHSU? The Contracting Services department is hosting a Vendor Fair from 3:30-6:30pm on Wednesday, April 9. Meet representatives from OHSU departments seeking to partner with diverse local businesses. [learn more](#)

May 17: 2014 Heart and Stroke Walk Heart disease and stroke continue to disproportionately affect [communities of color](#). To help raise awareness about cardiovascular health, join OHSU's "Team Heartlandia" in the American Heart Association annual walk. We also welcome you to [join the CDI team](#).

Mentors Needed for Diverse Researchers

The Oregon Clinical & Translational Research Institute (OCTRI) is participating in two collaborative NIH planning grants to increase diversity in the scientific workforce. OCTRI is actively seeking mentors for both proposals. In partnership with Portland State University, the institute is developing an innovative program for undergraduate students to increase the diversity pipeline into STEM careers in research. OHSU faculty mentors are needed to work with diverse students in early scientific inquiry, sponsor short research rotations, or summer mentorship. Mentors are not required to have funded research. In addition, the National Research Mentoring Network initiative seeks to develop a highly networked set of motivated and skilled mentors from a variety of biomedical research disciplines linked to mentees from the undergraduate to early career faculty level across the country. Research mentors must have NIH funding; career mentors must have experience mentoring across diversity. If you are interested in either of these opportunities, please connect with [Colleen Beretta](#) or [Cindy Morris](#).

Celebrating the Lunar New Year of the Wooden Horse



Thanks to more than 50 members of the OHSU community who joined the Lunar New Year potluck, welcoming the Year of the Horse. The lunch event, held at the BICC (Library) Gallery provided an opportunity for faculty, staff and students from across campus to come together, share a meal, and listen to traditional Chinese music. Bi Hai, an instrument instructor from Portland-based Wisdom Arts Academy, played several selections on the *guzheng*, a traditional Chinese instrument that is similar to a harp. The event was organized by the emerging Asian Pacific Islander (API) Employee Resource Group and the Center for Diversity and Inclusion.

Looking ahead, the API ERG is hosting a planning meeting on March 13, and looking for volunteers who can help out with the Asian Pacific American (APA) Heritage Month celebration at OHSU. APA Heritage Month will be celebrated in May. [Email us](#) to learn more or to get involved.

Welcome School of Nursing Diversity Coordinators



The [School of Nursing's](#) program on "Advancing Health Equity through Student Empowerment & Professional Success" ([HealthE STEPS](#)) seeks to attract and advance a diverse nursing student body within the Oregon public education system, from pre-nursing through graduate education. As part of the HealthE Steps scholarship program, awarded by the Health Resources and Services Administration, two diversity coordinators have been hired to focus on the key objectives of the scholarship. The scholarship program is funded by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services. [David Cortez](#) serves as the Diversity

Coordinator for OHSU School of Nursing located on the Monmouth Campus. As one of two Diversity Coordinators for the Nursing Workforce Diversity grant, David's projects include student recruitment, student support, and coordinating a mentoring program for the HealthE STEPS scholarship recipients. [Leela DaCosta](#) is the Diversity Coordinator for the HealthE Steps Scholarship program at the Ashland campus. In her role, she is working to recruit and retain a more diverse student body to the Ashland campus, and provides advising and support for scholarship awardees. Connect with the School of Nursing diversity initiatives on [Twitter](#) and [Facebook](#).

Supporting Women in Leadership

OHSU was a sponsor of the [Vision 2020](#) Northwest Regional Conference, held last fall. The event is part of a national initiative to advance women's economic and social equality, and support the development of diverse women in business, politics, academia, and community leadership. Two former women governors, Hon. Barbara Roberts of Oregon and Hon. Christine Gregoire of Washington, served as keynote speakers. [The event](#) also featured Oregon Secretary of State Kate Brown and Washington Secretary of State Kim Wyman. Topics discussed ranged from executive leadership, voter mobilization and women's participation in politics. Pictured with Gov. Roberts are OHSU volunteers from Employee Resource Groups and the Center for Diversity and Inclusion team.



Diversity Climate Survey Launches This Spring

Consistent and sustained improvement is required in creating lasting change. To illustrate the institution's commitment to further enhancing OHSU's community of inclusion, we are interested in learning about what is going well, and what can be improved in our ongoing work toward developing a respectful and inclusive environment that embraces diversity. In the coming weeks, please watch your inbox for a link to a "Diversity Climate Survey" which will help identify gaps and opportunities in furthering our commitment toward diversity, equity and inclusion. Contact the [Center for Diversity and Inclusion](#) for more information.

RESOURCES

African American Pioneers in Healthcare (*Office of Minority Health*) African American doctors are great contributors to the medical field. They practice in all fields, and have made significant contributions in the areas of cancer, cardiology, HIV-AIDS, neurology, pathology, and radiology—just to name a few. In honor of Black History Month, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services salutes those African American pioneers in medicine—both past and present—who tirelessly work to improve the health status of all Americans. [read more](#)

Diversity's Next Frontier: Careers in Academic Medicine (*Wing of Zock*) Although students are introduced to various careers in medical school in the form of specialties, academic medicine as a career is rarely formally included. Encouraging diverse medical students, including women; members of racial and ethnic minorities; lesbian, gay, bisexual, or transgender students; and members of other underrepresented groups is especially important due to the lack of diversity in the academic workforce. [read more](#)

New Medicaid Enrollees In Oregon Report Health Care Successes And Challenges (*Health Affairs*) Medicaid expansions will soon cover millions of new enrollees, but insurance alone may not ensure that they receive high-quality care. This study examines health care interactions and the health perceptions of an Oregon cohort three years after they gained Medicaid coverage. [read more](#)

Why Diversity in the Nursing Workforce Matters (*Robert Wood Johnson Foundation*) The positive impact of promoting diversity in the nursing workforce transcends clinical care, and is evident in all areas of nursing, including nursing education and research. The importance of promoting diversity in the nursing workforce is acknowledged by various nursing agencies and health organizations, including the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Diversity in the nursing workforce provides opportunities to deliver quality care which promotes patient satisfaction and emotional well-being. [read more](#)

Diversity Digest is distributed every month. [Email us](#) with story ideas and resource submissions, and invite your friends to [subscribe](#).

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