



“Hope and Liberty Award” Honors Commitment to Equity



The Oregon League of Minority Voters (OLMV) honored OHSU President Dr Joseph E. Robertson, Jr. with the 2013 Hope and Liberty Award, recognizing his leadership and commitment to advancing diversity and inclusion across the university.

Under Dr. Robertson’s leadership, OHSU enhanced its infrastructure and allocated resources systemwide to support efforts in diversity, inclusion and equity. OHSU adopted new institutional policies for diversity and articulated OHSU’s business case for diversity, and implemented a budget to recruit and retain diverse students and faculty. To support the pipeline of diverse health professionals, OHSU granted scholarships to diverse students across all academic units. Scholars are committed to practicing in underserved communities upon graduating from OHSU.

Dr. Robertson was recognized by OLMV at an awards banquet at the Oregon Convention Center, along with honorees University of Oregon President Michael Gottfredson and Oregon State University President Dr. Edward J. Ray. View more event [photos](#).

Summer Equity and CURE Interns Off to a Great Start



Each year, OHSU offers internship opportunities for college and high school students who are interested in furthering their studies in research, medicine, or dentistry. The OHSU Equity Summer Research, Dental and Medicine Internship Program matches students with faculty mentors in a research and/or clinical setting. In collaboration with OHSU Knight Cancer Institute, CDI provides an opportunity for high school students to work on cutting-edge research through the Ted R. Lilley Cancer Continuing Umbrella of Research Education (CURE) Program. Twenty-two interns were selected from a highly competitive pool of over 200 applicants. The average cumulative GPA for the research cohort is 3.65.

“These programs wouldn’t be possible without the partnership of OHSU research and clinical mentors who are providing hands-on learning opportunities for students,” says Leslie D. Garcia, OHSU’s Assistant Chief Diversity Officer. Interns work full-time at OHSU for eight weeks. Each intern will present a poster of their research project in early August. Click on the links to view profiles of [Equity](#) and [CURE](#) interns.

Lead Mentor Program

The School of Medicine Office of the Dean provides events and resources to support the ongoing professional development of OHSU faculty. Applications are now open for the Lead Mentor Program, designed to build a community of outstanding mentors in our institution, and to assist OHSU units in creating effective mentoring programs for their faculty. The program will train 15-20 “lead mentors” who will gain an enhanced set of mentoring skills and take their own mentoring to the next level. The program consists of 10 workshop sessions over a six-month period. The sessions, taught by a team of multidisciplinary experts, include content presentations, facilitated group discussions, peer support and practice opportunities. Applications are due on July 31. [read more](#)

COMING UP

July 20: Latino Medical Students Association Western Regional Conference 9am-5pm 4th floor of Richard Jones Hall. Learn about the Affordable Care Act, the medical school admissions process and community service opportunities.

August 1: State Addictions and Mental Health Director to Speak at OHSU 7pm, OHSU Auditorium. Pamela A. Martin, Ph.D., director, Oregon’s Addiction and Mental Health Division, will speak about Oregon’s public mental health system. Hosted by the OHSU Department of Psychiatry and the Mental Health Association of Portland.

August 10: Casey Eye Institute Outreach 9am-3pm: Support low income, unemployed community members in Columbia County’s St. Helens, Oregon in partnership with WorkSource Northwest. Lunch provided. Email [Katie Coughlin](#) to volunteer

August 21: OHSU Hosts Say Hey! 5-8:30pm at Center for Health & Healing, South Waterfront. OHSU is co-hosting the event with Partners in Diversity, to welcome professionals of color who are new to Portland and Oregon. Join us for this great networking opportunity.

Welcome Michelle Singer!



CDI is pleased to welcome [Michelle Singer](#), Diversity Community Outreach Specialist. In her role, Michelle will facilitate, establish and strengthen relationships with Native American and other diverse communities. With more than 20 years of experience in community outreach to tribal communities and Indian country, Michelle will foster partnerships with federal, state and tribal government, health, human services, and educational organizations. A native of Salem, Oregon, Michelle is a citizen of the Navajo Nation. Her professional and personal background are strongly rooted in Indian education, Indian health, and Indian affairs. [read more](#)

Sam Jackson Accessible Pathway Project



Those familiar with Sam Jackson Hall and the main hospital roundabout may have recently noticed a dramatic facelift and improvement to the area. In response to the steep slope and narrow sidewalks outside Sam Jackson Hall between Physicians Pavilion and the main hospital, OHSU Design & Construction, Healthcare Facilities, the Physical Access Committee (PAC) and Risk Management combined their efforts to improve campus accessibility with the Sam Jackson Accessible Pathway Project. The PAC identified the steep sidewalk over five years ago as an accessibility barrier for individuals with mobility challenges.

Completion of the raised pathway exemplifies that accessibility improvements benefit everyone who visits and uses OHSU's campus. The main features of the new construction include a raised, level pathway that minimizes the steep slope, widens the path, and adds a new handrail to protect those using the pathway from stepping into automobile traffic. This busy route better serves our workforce, patients and visitors who travel between the Physicians Pavilion, Sam Jackson Hall and the main hospital. OHSU is committed to creating a community of inclusion and improving universal accessibility on our campus. If you know of other challenging areas on our campus, please visit the [PAC's website](#) to report accessibility barriers.

Sustaining Leadership in Healthcare Equality

For the third year in a row, OHSU has been recognized as a "Leader in LGBT Healthcare Equality" in the Healthcare Equality Index 2013, an annual survey conducted by the Human Rights Campaign (HRC) Foundation, the educational arm of the country's largest lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender (LGBT) organization.

OHSU earned top marks for its commitment to equitable, inclusive care for LGBT patients and their families, who can face significant challenges in securing adequate healthcare. It was one of a select group of 464 healthcare facilities nationwide to be named Leaders in LGBT Healthcare Equality. Facilities awarded this title meet key criteria for equitable care, including non-discrimination policies for LGBT patients and employees, a guarantee of equal visitation for same-sex partners and parents, and LGBT health education for key staff members. For more information about the Healthcare Equality Index 2013, or to download a free copy of the report, visit www.hrc.org/hej.



Wanted: Positive, Creative, and Forward-Thinking Volunteers

The OHSU/AFSCME Labor Management Committee (LMC) is charged with identifying initiatives that serve the mutual interests of employees and the leadership of OHSU. There are several vacant positions on the LMC. Supervisors of AFSCME-represented employees and AFSCME union members are encouraged to apply. The committee is made up of 12 members (six supervisors and six members of the AFSCME bargaining unit representing each of the mission areas at OHSU) who meet monthly to identify priorities and set direction for labor management activities. [learn more about serving on the LMC](#)

Celebrating Portland's Diverse Communities



Leaders of the African American employee resource group partnered with colleagues across the campus to organize an OHSU presence at the annual "Good in the 'Hood'" multicultural music and food festival in north Portland. The event drew hundreds of people for a weekend of live music, interactive exhibits, and ethnic food and crafts vendors. The event celebrated the cultural diversity of the King neighborhood, the historic heart of Portland's African-American community.

Enhancing Access to Economic Opportunities

Latinos Unidos Organization (LUO), OHSU's employee resource group for Latino students, faculty and staff, hosted a talk by Gale Castillo, founder and president of the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber of Commerce. Ms. Castillo talked about her personal journey as a business and community leader, and how the Hispanic Chamber is working to ensure that people have access to education, jobs, and business development opportunities. To learn more about LUO or to join the mailing list, email [Gabriel Flores](mailto:Gabriel.Flores@ohsu.edu) or [Daisy Alva](mailto:Daisy.Alva@ohsu.edu).



NOTABLE LINKS

Understanding the Health Needs of LGBT People: An Introduction

This [webinar](#) provides an overview of associated terminology and concepts, describe social issues that impact the health and well-being of LGBT people and discuss specific clinical considerations for LGBT people.

AMA Classifies Obesity as a Disease

The new policy calls for expanded research, treatment options and insurance coverage to treat patients who are already or closely at risk of being classified as obese. [read more](#)

Oregon Faces Critical Dentist Shortage, Report Shows

A Pew Charitable Trusts report reveals that approximately 17 percent of Oregonians live in a dentist shortage area and therefore likely won't receive adequate dental care. Oregon ranks 10th worst in the nation for dentist shortages. [read more](#)

Layoff Inspires Car Salesman to Follow Lifelong Aspiration

[Nicholas Robbins](#), incoming medical student, was featured in an [Oregonian](#) article detailing his path to medical school. [read more](#)

OHSU Partners with Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare to Open New Family Medicine Clinic

The [partnership](#) between Oregon Health & Science University and Cascadia Behavioral Healthcare expands health care access in Southeast Portland. The clinic improves access to mental health care. All services are open and available for all, whether insured or uninsured. [read more](#)

OHSU Braces for Less Research Funding, Flattened Spending, Levelled-Off Tuition

The Lund Report: OHSU's fiscal year 2013 budget calls for a 2.5 percent tuition hike – down from 4 percent in recent years – and promises incoming students their tuition rates will stay the same throughout their education at OHSU. [read more](#)

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