Dear OHSU School of Medicine Community:

I hope that you are enjoying the summer and taking time for yourself. Our August edition includes multiple events; we encourage your attendance, partnership and ongoing collaborations.

On June 29, the U.S. Supreme Court (SCOTUS) ruled on two cases concerning the consideration of applicants’ racial or ethnic background in the higher education admission process. Here, at OHSU's School of Medicine, we remain committed to strengthening the diversity of our student body and physician workforce. You can find some resources in the school's DEI website.

We believe that supporting racial and ethnic diversity in the medical professions is essential to improving the health of our nation. The school has a Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Anti-racism Action Plan (2021-2025) that charts three goals, nine objectives and 79 tactics on how we'll achieve the culture and climate that we seek. I invite you to explore it and to reach out to me with questions.

Sincerely,

Leslie Garcia, M.P.A., Ed.D.
Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity and Inclusion
OHSU School of Medicine
August Health Observances

Volunteers from OHSU's Casey Eye Institute, OHSU's Knight Cancer Institute and Hillsboro Medical Center's Salud! Program provided free vision screenings to patients, including pediatric patients. The 8-hour clinic took place in Dayton, OR.

Children's Eye Health and Safety Month

Let's highlight the importance of protecting children's vision and eye health. Here are some resources from the OHSU Casey Eye Institute Community Outreach Program to help keep children's eyes healthy and ensure that children are ready to learn and succeed.

- The National Center for Children's Vision and Eye Health at Prevent Blindness (NCCVEH) has an extensive library of free informational resources about vision health for children from infants to teens.
- The Elks Children's Eye Clinic is the Division of Pediatric Ophthalmology at OHSU Casey Eye Institute. The Elks also provide preschool vision screening throughout Oregon.
- The Oregon Lions Sight & Hearing Foundation offers school vision screenings, and administers the KEX Kids Fund that provides students with free eye exams, eyeglasses and/or hearing aids.
- 20 Things to Know About Children's Eyes and Vision, an article from the American Academy of Ophthalmology provides a detailed timeline on what age and what conditions to look for to promote children's vision health. Their site has many other insightful resources and tips for children's eye health.

National Immunization Awareness Month

This annual observance highlights the importance of routine vaccination for people of all ages.
**National Minority Donor Awareness Month**

This observance is a collaborative initiative of the National (Organ, Eye and Tissue donation) Multicultural Action Group NMAG to save and improve the quality of life of multicultural communities.

**National Breastfeeding Month**

Breastfeeding has life-long benefits for babies and for maternal health. The 2023 theme is *This is Our Why*, meant to shine a light on why the promotional work of breastfeeding is so important - focusing on good nutrition, poverty reduction and food security.

**EARN 15 POINTS**

**National dialogue on racial and ethnic health care inequities**

Jennifer DeVoe, M.D., professor and chair of family medicine, is co-chairing the Committee on Unequal Treatment Revisited at the National Academies to highlight the drivers of health care disparities, provide insight into interventions, identify evidence gaps and propose strategies.

Posted Wednesday, July 19, 2023 PDT
Enrichment

All events are listed in Pacific Time, even those hosted in other time zones.

**Sunday, Aug. 6, 11 a.m. | The Celebration of India Festival**

The India Cultural Association hosts this festival each year to celebrate India's Independence Day with live music, dance, food and other entertainment. Held in Portland's Pioneer Courthouse Square.

**Sunday, Aug. 6, noon | Guelaguetza en Oregon**

La Guelaguetza is an annual indigenous cultural event that centers on traditional dancing, parades, bands, foods and crafts. OHSU is a sponsor for this event, held in Hillsboro's Shute Park.

**Tuesday, Aug. 8, 11 a.m. | AAMC IDEAS: Culturally-Responsive Support for Medical Student Mental Health**

Learn from a panel of mental health practitioners who will describe common barriers to holistically addressing the mental health needs of students and emphasize the significance of engaging in early interventions, diagnoses and ongoing support to address these issues that can impact academic success. All faculty, staff and students are welcome. Please use your AAMC ID number to register.

**Tuesday, Aug. 8, 11 a.m. | National Health Equity Grand Rounds: Breaking Down the Ivory Tower - Building the Health Care Workforce America Needs**

Within the context of historical and contemporary forces that have shaped the current medical workforce in the U.S., the speakers will discuss strategies for addressing the long-standing underrepresentation of historically excluded populations in clinical programs.

**Wednesday, Aug. 16, noon | Family Medicine Grand Rounds: Building Highly Reliable Anti-Racist Health Systems**

Lou Hart, M.D., assistant professor of pediatrics, Yale School of Medicine, will discuss a framework of structural racism to understand the multi-sector approach that will be necessary to end racial inequity in the U.S. We will identify race-based medicine as a vestige and proof of concept of ingrained racism in modern medicine. Concrete examples of structural solutions will be shared.

**Wednesday-Thursday, Aug. 16-17 | Unequal Treatment Revisited: A Workshop Series - Part 2**

The National Academies' ad hoc Committee on Unequal Treatment Revisited will host the second of three virtual workshops to discuss racial and ethnic health care disparities in the U.S.
Thursday, Aug. 17, 5 p.m. | Women in Science Portland’s Oregon Bio Women CONNECT 2023

The Portland area Oregon Bio Women (OBW) returns for its annual CONNECT event, hosted by the Oregon Bioscience Association. This year's theme will focus on negotiation and related business skills.

Monday, Aug. 21, 11:45 a.m. | The Post-Dobbs impact on medical education - UME, GME and beyond

This webinar will focus on the impact the Dobbs decision has had on learners' curricular experience, as well as medical education leaders and program directors. Speakers will discuss how institutions are addressing training requirements in the context of reproductive health restrictions.

Sunday, Aug. 27, noon | Portland Middle East Festival

Portland's annual, family-friendly Middle East Festival showcases traditional Middle Eastern dance, food and children's activities, a bookstore and a silent auction.

Thursday-Sunday, Sept. 7-10 | Association of American Indian Physicians 51st Annual Meeting and Health Conference

This year's theme is 'Nation Building for the Next 50 years: Empowering and Transforming Native Health and Healers.' The conference will take place in San Diego, CA and reservations must be made on or before Aug. 16th.

Thursday-Friday, Sept. 14-15 | 2023 HRSA Region 10 Health Equity Conference

The Health Resources and Services Administration (HRSA) Region 10, in collaboration with Familias En Accion, Micronesian Islander Community, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board, Northwest Regional Primary Care Association, OHSU, Oregon Primary Care Association, Oregon Public Health Association, and Washington Association for Community Health, seeks to ignite the spirit of partnership to unify our communities and achieve health equity.

Tuesday, Sept. 26 | Partners in Diversity's NW Equity Summit

The conference focuses on helping employees and managers at all levels, as well as diversity influencers, be bold and uncompromising when it comes to advancing and advocating for equity and inclusion.
Register for GME Diversity in Recruitment Summit by Sept. 1

On Sept 8, the GME Diversity and Inclusion subcommittee is holding a half-day summit for recruitment teams to share best practices for recruitment strategies across the institution.

Posted Monday, July 31, 2023 PDT
The 2023 Research Internship Poster Symposium and Ceremony is almost here!
You're invited to the 2023 Research Internship Poster Symposium and Ceremony, college and high school students will present their summer research projects to the OHSU community.

2 Files
Posted Monday, July 24, 2023 PDT

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On the pulse

- OHSU-led study seeks to better support transgender patients before surgery
- Mobile health care is a step in the right direction
- DEI advocate receives Walter C. Reynolds, M.D. '49, Community Service Alumni Award
- Internalized racism and racial self identity formation in Black children
- New cohorts: Trauma Informed Care Training
- Fewer than 5% of Latino cancer patients try clinical trials. OHSU wants to change that
- Pronouns on Teams and Webex: Select your personal identifiers across platforms
- Acculturation level and change in cigarette consumption behaviors among diverse Hispanics/Latinos

Funding opportunities

- Two separate funding opportunities (notice 1, notice 2) for investigator-Initiated Research in Genomics and Health Equity to open on Oct. 8

Recommended read: Using AI in Peer Review is a Breach of Confidentiality
Viewpoint: Poor communication deepens health inequities, systemic racism

OHSU authors say medical education, hospital accreditation should include health literacy standards.

Posted Wednesday, June 28, 2023 PDT
Spotlight: Khashayar Farsad, M.D., Ph.D.

Pictured above is Dr. Farsad visiting his son at college.

"I am a first-generation American, having moved from Iran to the United States as a child during a disruptive revolution. The impact of that on my family was a formative one that taught me the value of opportunity and the privilege of freedom.

Growing up as a child in a new country, there were commonalities I shared with other immigrants as well as with my American friends, but in many ways, I did not feel quite a part of any community. While difficult to understand at times, this feeling of 'othering' was a regular part of my experience.

Despite this, I believe we are all much more similar than not in our shared human experience - our joys, traumas, loves and losses. The synergy of our similarities with our individual unique perspectives is why our diversity is our strength, and the key to our success.

I am proud to be part of the Dotter Institute, and look forward to growing the diverse pool of talented individuals entering our exciting field."

Khashayar Farsad, M.D., Ph.D., was appointed interim chair of Interventional Radiology and director of the Dotter Interventional Institute. Dr. Farsad’s areas of clinical and academic interest include interventional management of portal hypertension, image-guided treatment of solid organ malignancies, and endovascular venous reconstruction. Dr. Farsad also oversees the research activities of the Department of Interventional Radiology, including clinical trials and translational research programs.
The SoM "Belong, Include, Empower" e-newsletter is sent monthly to members of the OHSU School of Medicine. This space is dedicated to the valuable role of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Anti-racism (DEI&A) practices in promoting trust, engagement and well being. Have an idea, resource or an event to share? Questions and comments? somdiversity@ohsu.edu.