



School of
MEDICINE

BELONG | INCLUDE | EMPOWER

School of Medicine's "Belong, Include, Empower" - September 2023

Dear OHSU School of Medicine Community:

I hope that you had an enjoyable summer, now that back-to-school season is upon us once again.

Our September issue includes updates, resources and upcoming events to support our commitment to pursuing diversity, equity, inclusion and a sense of belonging.

We also welcome all students, staff, and faculty who are new to the School of Medicine this fall. Building community is central to our success. By leading with warmth, respect and humility, we foster unity.

Sincerely,

Leslie Garcia, M.P.A., Ed.D.

Associate Dean for Diversity, Equity & Inclusion
OHSU School of Medicine

2023 OHSU Poster Symposium



The [2023 Research Internship Poster Symposium and Ceremony](#) took place Friday, Aug. 11. College and high school students presented their summer research projects to the OHSU community. Interns represented the following programs and departments: Equity Research Program, Ted R. Lilley CURE Program, Cell, Development and Cancer Biology Department, The Vollum/NGP Summer Undergraduate Program, Chemical Physiology and Biochemistry Summer Undergraduate Research Program and STEMPrep Internship Program.

The programs offer an opportunity for undergraduate college students to spend 8-10 weeks during the summer working with faculty and graduate students in a research setting where students learn new skills and gain hands-on experience.

The program opens pathways for learners in STEM at OHSU, including mentorship opportunities. Thank you to all faculty members, staff, and graduate students who inspired, challenged and mentored students this summer.

David Jacoby, M.D., dean, School of Medicine, served as a poster judge and Leslie Garcia, MPA, Ed.D., associate dean of diversity, equity and inclusion, School of Medicine delivered the keynote address.

September Health Observances



This video explains how statins, medicine that helps to lower cholesterol levels, prevent heart attacks and strokes. Watch the video in [English](#) and [Spanish](#).

[National Cholesterol Education Month](#)

Heart disease is the number one leading cause of death in the U.S. and more than 1 million Americans have a heart attack each year. High blood cholesterol is one of the major risk factors for heart disease and [ethnicity is a risk](#) factor under new guidelines.

[Sepsis Awareness Month](#)

Sepsis is the body's life-threatening response to affecting adults and children. Each year, approximately 75,000 children develop sepsis in the U.S. That is more than 200 children per day. [Read](#) about equity issues associated with diagnosis and treatment.

[Blood Cancer Awareness Month](#)

September is a time to raise awareness about the efforts to fight blood cancers including leukemia, lymphoma and Hodgkin's disease. More than 1.3 million Americans are living with or in remission from a blood cancer.

[Childhood Cancer Awareness Month](#)

The average age of a child diagnosed with cancer is eight years old. One in 285 children in the U.S. are diagnosed with cancer before their 20th birthday. Childhood cancer is the number one cause of death by disease among children in the U.S.; 20% of children with cancer will not survive it.

[Gynecologic Cancer Awareness Month](#)

Gynecologic cancers encompass all cancers of the female reproductive system and all women are at risk. Every five minutes a woman is diagnosed with one of five gynecological cancers. Risk increases with age.

[National Sickle Cell Awareness](#)

Sickle cell disease is a genetic condition that affects the body's red blood cells. It occurs when a child receives two sickle cell genes - one from each parent. While the disease is most common among Black or African Americans, other racial and ethnic groups are affected too including Latinos, Middle Easterners, Asians and people with Mediterranean backgrounds.

National Hispanic Heritage Month



Latino Americans Foreigners In Their Own Land

Survey the history of Latinos from 1565-1880, as the first Spanish explorers enter North America.
Season 1 Episode 101

Explore the history and people from 1565-1880, as the first Spanish explorers enter North America, and the U.S. expands into territories in the Southwest, and as the Mexican-American War strips Mexico of half its territories by 1848. [Watch this](#) and more [episodes](#).

National Hispanic Heritage Month (Sept. 15 - Oct. 15) honors the cultures, contributions and achievements of Hispanic and Latino Americans. Observation of Hispanic Heritage Week started in 1968 under President Lyndon B. Johnson and was later extended to a 30-day celebration by President Ronald Reagan. It was enacted into law via approval of Public Law 100-402 on Aug. 17, 1988. Hispanic/Latinos have been integral to the prosperity of the U.S. Their contributions to the nation are immeasurable, and have an indelible mark on the U.S. culture and economy.

Read "[Latinos in Oregon](#)," an essay by Dr. Jerry Garcia.

Enrichment

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

[Friday, Sept. 8, 9 a.m. | GME Diversity in Recruitment Summit](#)

The Graduate Medical Education Diversity and Inclusion subcommittee is holding a half-day summit for recruitment teams to share best practices for recruitment strategies across the institution. It is designed for program directors, program coordinators, residents and fellows to attend together and receive technical expertise on ways to improve recruitment practices. Registration is now open.

Monday, Sept. 11, 10:45 a.m. | Advocacy and Activism in Academic Medicine for Reproductive Health Post-Dobbs

This AAMC webinar will provide advocacy strategies to equip physician leaders to be at the forefront of reproductive justice and rights. This session will highlight the activities as a promising advocacy model of collaboration that other institutions and organizations can employ.

Monday, Sept. 11, 1 p.m. | Perinatal Mental Health Hotlines & Resources

Postpartum Support International (PSI) in coordination with HRSA launched a National Maternal Mental Health Hotline last year, which provides 24/7 free and confidential support through the entire perinatal period. In addition, the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services introduced the 988 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline. This webinar brings awareness about the hotlines and discuss how help is provided after calling a hotline.

Monday, Sept. 11, 1 p.m. | Addressing Health-Related Social Needs Using a Social Justice Lens to Advance Health Equity

Join this webinar to learn practical approaches to supporting collaboration among health and non-health care organizations to address social drivers of health across diverse contexts, how confronting structural racism through payment reform can address social drivers of health, and how philanthropic investments can advance policy to promote greater health equity.

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 11:30 a.m. | Coming Face to Face With Suicide in American Farming

This webinar will explore which hypotheses about agricultural suicide are more likely and less likely in the context of the current epidemiological research; what is needed to make telehealth successful with this community; the impact of farming stress hotlines; and clinical opportunities and challenges in addressing suicide in the agriculture community.

Tuesday, Sept. 12, 9 a.m. | Addressing LGBTQIA+ Health in Academic Medicine

During this webinar, experts will discuss the impact of this discriminatory legislation on the health and safety of LGBTQ+ individuals and communities. These experts will then provide an analysis of the opportunities and strategies academic medicine can utilize to oppose harmful legislation and continue to be a national leader in advancing LGBTQ+ health equity.

Tuesday, Sept. 12, noon | Timely Topics: The Role of Healthcare Organizations in Responding to Disasters

Join this webinar to learn about the role of a southern Oregon health organization, AllCare Health, in the local response to the 2020 wildfires. Explore how AllCare Health leveraged relationships, technology, and knowledge of social determinant of health to be a catalyst in their community. Hosted by the OHSU School of Medicine Alumni Association.

Thursday, Sept. 14, noon | Understanding the effects of the sociopolitical environment on immigrants' health in the U.S.

Immigrants who have resided in the U.S. for a longer time experience a worsening of their cardiometabolic health and have lower rates of preventive and disease management care compared to people born in the U.S. Dr. Danielle Crookes will present her research on how access to social safety net benefits have an effect on cardiovascular health.

Thursday, Sept. 14, 2 p.m. | Disparities in the Care of Women of Color

Join a virtual event hosted by the Office for Health Equity and Inclusion at the University of Michigan. Attendees will be informed of pain management in chronic diseases among women of color, cardiovascular disease in women of color, challenges in well-being for women of color, disparities in diagnosis and management of breast cancer in women of color.

Friday, Sept. 15, noon | Faculty Development Fridays: Lunch with Leaders

Join a conversation with Hector Olvera Alvarez, Ph.D., professor and senior associate dean for research, OHSU school of nursing. This is a recurring series where you will be able to hear from and speak directly with OHSU leaders from across the institution where you can learn about the many diverse pathways to leadership and some of their challenges and opportunities faced during their journeys.

Wednesday, Sept. 20, 5 p.m. | Transgender Health Program Community Meeting

Community meetings are now resuming in a virtual format. Please send questions, community needs and priorities, or ideas in advance. Participants will also be given the chance to ask questions and bring up topics during the meeting.

Tuesday, Sept. 26 | NW Equity Summit

The summit features national experts and 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.

Thursday, Sept. 28, 3:30 p.m. | The role of Medicaid policy in driving disparities in maternal health

In this talk, Maria I. Rodriguez, M.D., M.P.H., professor of OB/GYN, OHSU School of Medicine, will describe the effect that restricting access to care during pregnancy by citizenship status has on immigrant maternal and newborn health. She will identify the role that Oregon's progressive policies have played in mitigating maternal health disparities among immigrant families. This is part of OHSU's Health Equity and Anti-racism Talks (HEART) lecture series.

Saturday, Sept. 30 | Oregon Medical Association Annual Conference

The in-person conference's theme is "What next?" The health care industry is facing changes and challenges that require immediate attention and new solutions. As leaders in health care, we are charged with driving innovation and committing to the improvement of health care outcomes and health equity that drive a positive change. Virtual sessions will take place in October.

Sunday, Oct. 1, 10 a.m. | Health Care Equity Fair

Every fall, interprofessional students from OHSU, OSU and Pacific University provide free services to the Portland community during this event. Services are provided free of charge.

Friday, Oct. 6, noon | Faculty Development Fridays: Celebration of Hispanic Heritage Month

Join us for a discussion focused on the achievements and contributions of Hispanics in academic health and sciences. The discussion will be moderated by Leslie Garcia, MPA, Ed.D., associate dean for diversity, equity and inclusion, OHSU School of Medicine. Hispanic Heritage Month is celebrated annually from September 15 through October 15 in the U.S. to recognize and celebrate the contributions of Hispanic Americans.

Thursday-Saturday, Oct. 26-28 | SACNAS National Diversity in STEM Conference

Over the course of the event, college-level through professional attendees are immersed in cutting-edge STEM research, professional development sessions, motivational keynote speakers, as well as multicultural celebrations and traditions and an inclusive community of peers, mentors and role models. Registration is now open. OHSU is a sponsor of the conference and OHSU's School of Medicine and partners will serve as exhibitors.

On the pulse

- [Our hearts are with Maui](#)
 - [Join the Multilingual ERG](#)
 - [Applications close on Friday, Sept. 15 at 11:59 p.m. for Doernbecher Diverse Resident Inclusive Visiting Experience \(DRIVE\) Award](#)
 - [Research team emphasizes diversity, representation as key recruitment priorities](#)
 - [Save the date: The Symposium on Educational Excellence Planning Committee](#)
 - [Recorded presentation: Weaving diversity, equity and inclusivity in ambulatory education](#)
 - Diversity and inclusion in clinical trials benefit scientific discovery. Search on our [website](#).
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A roadmap to more equitable graduate school admissions



OHSU School of Medicine Neuroscience Graduate Program doctoral candidate Yessica Santana Agreda joined graduate students and post-docs nationally in launching a [multi-faceted initiative](#) to make graduate school admissions more equitable. The journal Cell published their strategies Aug. 17.

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