



School of
MEDICINE

BELONG | INCLUDE | EMPOWER

School of Medicine's "Belong, Include, Empower" - January 2024

Dear OHSU School of Medicine Community:

The conversation and our actions regarding diversity, equity and inclusion will continue to advance and evolve in 2024. Our monthly editions will continue to highlight SOM community members, holidays, observances, cultural events and create opportunities to learn from each other.

Please feel free to contact us directly for support and co-creation to increase belonging and inclusion.

Wishing you all good health, peace and success in all your endeavors to bring positive change.

Sincerely,

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

January Observances



**"WE'VE GOT TO STAY TOGETHER
AND MAINTAIN UNITY." -
MARTIN LUTHER KING JR.**

**Extracted from from "I've Been to the
Mountaintop," Dr. King's last speech delivered in
memphis, TN. (1968)**

[Martin Luther King Jr. Day | Jan. 15](#)

Honor the life, legacy and impact of civil rights icon, the Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. The theme for 2024 is *"It Starts with Me: Shifting the Cultural Climate through the Study and Practice of Kingian Nonviolence."* Dr. King's work showed that nonviolence is a sustainable solution to injustice and violence in the world.

[National Blood Donor Month](#)

This observance is intended to honor voluntary blood donors and to encourage people to give blood at a time when more of this critical resource is needed.

[Glaucoma Awareness Month](#)

Glaucoma is the leading cause of irreversible blindness. Glaucoma is more prevalent among Black/African American and Latino populations. Glaucoma is called "the sneak thief of sight" since there are no symptoms and once vision is lost it is permanent.

[Cervical Health Awareness Month](#)

The cervix is part of the female reproductive system located at the lower part of the uterus. The best way to prevent cervical cancer in women is through HPV vaccination for youth and regular Pap and HVP screening tests for women. [Watch how to protect your children](#) from HPV-related cancer.

January is Braille Literacy Month



Louis Braille, a Frenchman who lost his sight during childhood developed the Braille code - a tactile writing system based on the French alphabet. He published the first Braille book in 1829.

Enrichment

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

[Wednesday, Jan. 10, noon | Qualitative Research 101](#)

This workshop will describe appropriate methodologies specific to community engagement. Spanish and ASL interpretation are available. Community-Campus Partnerships for Health hosts short, interactive workshops to improve community-academic partnerships with real-world examples and opportunities to practice.

[Thursday, Jan. 11, noon | Understanding the Unequal Burden of Cervical Cancer Among Middle to Older Age Latinas in the PNW](#)

Join this session led by Cirila Estela Vasquez Guzman, Ph.D., assistant professor of family medicine, OHSU School of Medicine. Latinas are disproportionately burdened with cervical cancer mortality rates at 50% higher than non-Hispanic white women often due to late diagnoses. This session focuses on understanding cervical cancer screening, diagnosis and treatment among Latinas over 45 years of age. Sponsored by the Latino Health Services Research Seminar Series PRIMER lab.

Friday, Jan. 12, 6 p.m. | Rev. Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Shabbat Service

Reverend Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Shabbat Service honors Dr. King's memory, work and enduring legacy. The Congregation Beth Israel and greater Portland communities come together for a service with a sermon from lifelong activist Hezekiah Watkins.

Thursday, Jan. 18, 9 a.m. | Lessons, Challenges and Opportunities When Working With Health Equity Storytellers

Working across disciplines and collaboratively with community partners helps health equity storytellers craft empowering stories. Facilitators will guide participants through robust conversations about storytelling and narrative as a valuable interdisciplinary methodology for justice and health equity.

Wednesday, Jan. 24, noon | Fertility, Pregnancy and Birthing: Decision Making and Considerations in Care for TGD Communities Across the Lifespan

Join OHSU's Transgender Health Program Grand Rounds for its quarterly series on issues generated by and important to the transgender and gender-diverse community. These learning opportunities aim to eliminate disparities in health care and promote equity, healing and visibility.

Thursday, Jan. 25, 10 a.m. | Intervention Research to Improve Native American Health

Native American populations are exposed to considerable risk factors that significantly increase their likelihood of chronic disease, substance abuse, mental illness, oral disease and HIV infection. The long-term goal of this informational webinar is to reduce mortality and morbidity in Native American communities.

Thursday, Jan. 25, noon | Diverse Voices: Graphic Medicine

This session will feature presentations on the use of comics to tell personal stories of illness and health. Presenters will discuss the role that comics can play in research and the application of comics to health education, public health and women's health. Presenters will provide examples of methodology, interventions and outcomes.

Tuesday, Feb. 6, 11 a.m. | Annual GEAHM Leadership Conference and Awards

Join an afternoon filled with conversation, inspiration and networking hosted by the Gender Equity in Academic Health and Medicine (GEAHM) committee. Lunch will be provided. Register now.

Nominate for an award

- MENTORING
- DISCOVERY IN SCIENCE
- CLINICAL EXCELLENCE
- EMERGING LEADER
- PROFESSIONAL IN TRAINING

The [Gender Equity in Academic Health and Medicine Committee](#) seeks to recognize individuals who support the success of women and gender-diverse individuals in academic health and medicine. The committee also works to create a culture change in recognizing the important roles of cisgender/transgender women and gender-diverse individuals at OHSU through five awards. Nomination deadline: Friday, Jan. 5.

ADDRESS POTENTIAL BIAS RESULTING FROM ALGORITHMS

A new paper published in *JAMA Network Open* addresses the use of algorithms in health care, their impact on racial/ethnic disparities in care, and approaches to identify and mitigate biases. A diverse panel of experts developed a conceptual framework to [apply five guiding principles](#) across an algorithm's life cycle to address the problems of structural racism and discrimination, centering on healthcare equity for patients and communities.

The paper, 'Guiding Principles to Address the Impact of Algorithm Bias on Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health and Health Care,' is available [here](#). The final report 'Impact of Healthcare Algorithms on Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Health and Healthcare,' is available [here](#).

On the pulse

- [Teens, Social Media and Technology 2023: A New Pew Research Center study shows how the use of online platforms differs across gender, race and ethnicity, age and household income](#)

Funding Opportunities

- [2024 Circle of Giving Women's Health Research Funding Opportunity, apply by Jan. 12](#)
- [National Medical Fellowships Diversity in Clinical Trials Research Program, apply by Jan. 12](#)
- [Comprehensive Partnerships to Advance Cancer Health Equity, apply by Jan. 16](#)
- [OHSU Foundation The Valerie Palmer Global Health Neurology Diversity Research Award, apply by Jan. 31](#)
- [Unveiling Health and Healthcare Disparities in Non-Communicable and Chronic Diseases in Latin America: Setting the Stage for Better Health Outcomes Across the Hemisphere, apply by Feb. 5](#)
- [Interventions on Health and Healthcare Disparities on Non-Communicable and Chronic Diseases in Latin America: Improving Health Outcomes Across the Hemisphere, apply by Feb. 5](#)
- [Addressing Health and Health Care Disparities Among Sexual and Gender Minority Populations, apply by Feb. 5](#)
- [The Hope Foundation for Cancer Research Dr. Charles A. Coltman Jr. Fellowship, apply by March 15](#)

"There's a cure for That: Historic Medicines and Cure-alls in America"



Take a glimpse into America's health history with the latest exhibit by OHSU Library's Historical Collections and Archives, on display through February 2024.

Spotlight



BIRCWH Leadership and Scholars (Left to Right): Drs. Leslie Garcia, Quin Denfeld, Mary Roberts Davis, Bethany Samuelson Bannow, C. Estela Vasquez Guzman, Deanne Tibbitts, and Leslie Myatt, with Susan Rosenkranz (Program Coordinator).

The [Building Interdisciplinary Research Careers in Women's Health](#) (BIRCWH) program at OHSU provides mentored scholarly research experiences - including salary support and protected time - for junior faculty. The program brings together investigators from collaborative research areas and encourages interactions across scientific areas. The expected outcome cannot be achieved solely by interactions among researchers in any domain. Innovative research ideas and new scientific collaboration address women's changing health needs from childhood to the end of life.

The program is important for three reasons:

- There is a critical need to increase the number of scientists trained both in sex and gender differences in disease who use a lifespan approach
- The emphasis on an integrated and collaborative pattern sets the stage for life-long research across specialties and approaches that our interdisciplinary centers at OHSU provide.
- Identified differences and new insights from a sex and gender-based approach will define new target research areas as well as increase collaboration.

The BIRCWH and the OHSU Center for Women's Health invite investigators working in collaborative groups in women's health or sex/gender-based research to submit their presentations to whru@ohsu.edu before Feb. 1. Selected groups will present at the Northwest Women's Health and Sex/Gender Differences Research Conference on Wednesday, May 8. The conference will occur during OHSU Research Week (May 6-10).

[Religious Holiday Calendar](#) | [AAEO Religious Accommodations and Disability Accommodations](#)

The School of Medicine's "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 and Inclusion (DEI) practices in promoting trust, engagement and well-being. Have an idea, resource or event to share? Questions and comments? somdiversity@ohsu.edu

[School of Medicine](#)

Jan 3, 2024