Dear OHSU School of Medicine Community:

Our August newsletter offers professional development opportunities and enrichment events. All are invited to join as we create more spaces of inclusion.

Congratulations to OHSU medical students Mollie Marr, M.D., Ph.D., Mizan Gaillard, Simone Woodruff and Hanna Fuson, who were instrumental in the development of four pivotal LGBTQ+ Health Equity recommendations that have been recently adopted as Oregon Medical Association policy by the Board of Trustees. These policies were created in collaboration with other clinicians and student members of OMA's Justice, Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee.
August Health Observances

**National Minority Donor Awareness Month**

August is National Minority Donor Awareness Month, a collaborative initiative of the National Organ, Eye and Tissue Donation Multicultural Action Group aimed at creating a positive culture for organ, eye and tissue donation to improve the quality of life of diverse communities. The national transplant waiting list currently stands at more than 100,000 people with 60% of those waiting representing racial and ethnic minorities.

Shared ethnicity is not a requirement for matching organ donors and recipients. However, having a more diverse donor registry gives racial and ethnic minorities on the transplant waiting list a better chance of finding a good donor match since people with rare immune system markers are more likely to match someone from a similar ethnic background.

**National Breastfeeding Month**

This year’s theme ‘Nourish, Sustain, Thrive’ shines a light on why protecting, promoting and supporting lactation is so important for the human life cycle. It also honors the work organizations are doing to make the world more accessible for new parents and families who choose to breastfeed. According to the CDC, fewer non-Hispanic Black infants (77.3%) are ever breastfed compared to Asian infants (87.1%), non-Hispanic white infants (85.3%), and Hispanic infants (81.9%). OHSU has designated lactation rooms throughout campus, [learn more here](#).
National Immunization Awareness Month

This annual observance highlights the importance of routine vaccination for people of all ages. As people prepare for back-to-school season in August, it is vital to remind everyone that receiving all recommended vaccines is the best defense against severe illness. Many factors contribute to low vaccination rates, including limited access to vaccines, concerns about vaccine safety and health insurance coverage. Visit the CDC’s Vaccines and Immunization website for more information.

Children's Eye Health and Safety Month

Children are susceptible to a host of vision and eye problems such as injury, infection and increased nearsightedness. In support of Children’s Eye Health and Safety Month in August, the American Academy of Ophthalmology provides information to the public that can help protect and preserve a child’s eye health for life.

Women's Equality Day

Women's Equality Day, also known as Women's Suffrage, is celebrated in the United States on Aug. 26. It commemorates the adoption of the Nineteenth Amendment to the U.S. Constitution, which prohibits the states and the federal government from denying the right to vote to citizens on the basis of sex. We honor the struggles of women to be heard, as fierce advocates who gained the statutory right to vote.

Women gained the right to vote nationally on August 18, 1920, so why is Women's Equality Day on Aug. 26 each year? The simple answer is that even when a constitutional amendment has been ratified it’s not official until it has been certified by the correct government official. Read more.

Medical schools and teaching hospitals can support an inclusive democracy by encouraging civic engagement among learners, staff and patients. Nonpartisan voter registration is a simple and effective way for institutions to advance their commitment to health equity and is allowable under federal law. The AAMC has developed a fact
in collaboration with Vot-ER, a nonpartisan organization that works to integrate voter education and registration into health care settings.

In a previously recorded webinar, a representative from the AAMC’s Group on Women in Medicine and Science (GWIMS) and the AAMC’s Government Relations Representatives (GRR) discussed voting as a social determinant of health and the use of this legal, nonpartisan initiative to increase awareness of current issues relevant to academic medicine.

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**International Day of the World's Indigenous People**

On Aug. 9, cultures of indigenous people are celebrated worldwide. This day was created by the United Nations in 1994.

In 2017, the Oregon Legislature enacted Senate Bill 13, now known as Tribal History/Shared History. This law directs the Oregon Department of Education (ODE) to create K-12 Native American Curriculum for inclusion in Oregon public schools and to provide professional development to educators. The law also directs the ODE to provide funds to each of the nine federally recognized tribes in Oregon to create individual place-based curricula.

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**DEIB Enrichment**

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

**Thursday, Aug. 15, 4:30 p.m. | SoM DEIB Community Event**

All school members are cordially invited to attend the School of Medicine Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Community Event. The purpose of this event is to make in-person connections. The event will take place at the BICC Gallery, 1st floor. To ensure an accurate count for activities and refreshments, RSVP here.
Friday, Aug. 16, 1 p.m. | 2024 Research Internship Poster Symposium and Ceremony

You are invited to the symposium and ceremony where college and high school students will present their summer research projects to the OHSU community. We appreciate all of our learners, staff and faculty who mentored this year’s participants.

Saturday, Aug. 24, noon | Soul 2 Soul: "Ask the Doctor"

OHSU Health Equity Organization will provide an “Ask the Doctor” service where Black physicians will respond to community members' questions about their health, provide general information on health screening and serve as health care resource at a cultural event.

Tuesday, Aug. 27, 4 p.m. | School of Medicine Peer Support Program

The next Peer Support Training will be in person in Marquam Hill. Peer support is an evidence-based way to support physicians after an adverse event or a professional difficulty. It is also a way to strive for excellence with self-compassion and a growth mindset. Please RSVP, soller@ohsu.edu.

Join the GME Resident to Diversity Faculty Pathway

The School of Medicine's Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging Office invites residents and fellows interested in joining a community of support focused on careers in academic medicine. Our gatherings provide a meal, social time and an opportunity to meet with diverse residents or residents interested in careers in academic medicine. To receive more information, please submit your name here.

UME Admissions Team seeks interviewers for the M.D. Program
The School of Medicine UME Admissions Team is recruiting OHSU faculty members to interview applicants for the M.D. Program. Interviewing for the school is an excellent and enjoyable way to serve the university, meet colleagues, work towards promotion and contribute to the future of medicine. Interviews are virtual. In the first two years, interviewers will interview a minimum of eight applicants with a goal of 10-12 throughout each cycle (August-February). Serving as an interviewer is a prerequisite to being considered for an appointment to the School of Medicine Admissions Committee. Interviewers must be faculty and have a doctoral degree to participate. Please, contact Kari Kriedberg at mdinterviews@ohsu.edu.

Well-being resources for SoM residents, fellows, GME program leadership

This is a new School of Medicine resource that serves as a place where program directors and coordinators can gather ideas about curricular offerings around well-being for their program residents and/or faculty. This resource was developed in collaboration with SoM members Megan Furnari, M.D., M.S., associate professor of pediatrics, Marie Soller, M.D., associate professor of psychiatry, and Sydney Ey, Ph.D., professor of psychiatry.

New Resource: CDC Health Equity Video Series

The U.S. Department of Health and Human Services Office of Minority Health has been focusing on improving health outcomes for racial and ethnic minority and American Indian/Alaska Native communities through its 2024 theme: "Be the Source For Better Health: Improving Health Outcomes Through Our Cultures, Communities and Connections."
Understanding and communicating about health equity concepts can be challenging but is important if we want to create a world where everyone has the same opportunity to be healthy. The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention’s Office of Health Equity developed this Health Equity Video Series to help people learn more about health equity and related concepts. This series of short videos provides brief, illustrative introductions to complex issues, like the social determinants of health.

On the pulse

- Building Strong Foundations: Children’s Mental Health Infographic
- Analysis: Key Data on Health and Health Care by Race and Ethnicity
- Brief: Leveraging Medicaid to Support Community Health Workers
- AAMC launches Black Women in Scientific Research project
- New polling data from the AAMC Center for Health Justice explores perspectives on climate change
- New AAMC data snapshots examine medical school operations
- National Medical Fellowships Diversity in Clinical Trials Research Program, deadline Aug. 30

Thank you!

OHSU partnered with Mano a Mano, a socio-cultural agency, to provide health screenings and other community resources in the Salem-Kaizer area.

Thank you to our volunteers and the organizations in attendance: ANDARES, Casey Eye Institute, Center for Hope and Safety, Centro de Servicios para Campesinos-PCUN, Community Lending Works, Country Financial, Energy Trust of Oregon, La Jarochita, La Zeta, Mano a Mano, Marion County EISO Program, Marion County Health and Human Services, Marion County Health and Human Services- Immunization Services, Medical International Team
Sponsors: Pacific Source Community Solutions, Willamette Health Council, Energy Trust of Oregon, OHSU Knight Cancer Research Institute, Casey Eye Institute and OHSU School of Medicine.

Need a DEIB consultation?
Let us know how we can assist. Please, email us at somdiversity@ohsu.edu.

Religious Holiday Calendar | OHSU Office of Civil Rights Investigations and Compliance

This monthly newsletter is sent to members of the OHSU School of Medicine. This space is dedicated to the valuable role of Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Belonging (DEIB) practices in promoting resources and information.

School of Medicine
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