A Community of Inclusion: Focus on Diversity at OHSU

We are pleased to share with you a report on our collective accomplishments in advancing diversity and inclusion at Oregon Health and Science University.

The report draws attention to our institution’s priorities and opportunities in further advancing our commitment to diversity, as we work toward Goal 1 in OHSU’s Vision 2020 Strategic Plan: “Be a great organization, diverse in people and ideas.”

Highlights of our “Community of Inclusion” report include: the launch of the 2013 OHSU Diversity Action Plan, providing vision and leadership for annual goals, strategies and objectives; establishment of new employee resource groups for OHSU students, staff and faculty; implementation of the $2 million President’s Fund for Diversity; diversity training to OHSU leaders, managers and staff; and more. Click www.ohsu.edu/diversity-annual-report to read more.

October 10: Latino Americans Free Screening

Latinos Unidos Organization, OHSU’s employee resource group for Latino employees, invites the OHSU community to a special screening of the acclaimed PBS documentary Latino Americans. The screening is scheduled from noon to 1pm on Thursday, Oct. 10 at the 8th floor conference room at the OHSU Main Hospital. Latino Americans, the first major documentary film on Latin Americans, chronicles the rich and varied history and experiences of Latinx in the United States. As the largest minority group in the U.S., Latinos are more than 50 million strong. The changing context of American history provides a compelling backdrop to the story of immigration and redemption, of anguish and celebration, and the gradual construction of a new American identity. Contact Gabe Flores or Daisy Alva to learn more.

October 10: Native Professionals and Friends Night

Did you know that Portland is home to the ninth-largest urban Native American community in the country? CDI is delighted to host an outstanding opportunity to get to know the local Native community through Native Professionals and Friends Night, to be held from 5:30-7:30pm on Thursday, Oct. 10 at the Portland Art Museum, 1219 SW Park Ave. All are welcome to build connections with Native professionals working in a variety of industries throughout the region. To learn more about Native Professionals and Friends Night, email Shawn Fleek or call 503-288-8177 x 206.

October 22: Night for Networking

OHSU invites the community for the fourth annual “Night for Networking,” a free event that provides community members the chance to discuss and explore employment, recruitment, workplaces, markets, and diversity. Organized by OHSU’s Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity (AAEO) department, the event will be held from 6-9pm at the Center for Health and Healing atrium. Night for Networking highlights people with disabilities who provide a skilled and talented pool of professionals, customers, entrepreneurs, and valuable employees. For more information, email AAEO or call 503-494-5148.

October 26: Volunteers Needed for Gay and Grey Expo

OHSU Pride is teaming up with OHSU Students for LGBTQ Health to volunteer in the community at the Gay and Grey Expo on Saturday, Oct. 26. This year’s event will feature an interactive vendor hall and provide a variety of important services, including housing providers, legal advisors, pet adoption services and health screenings to LGBT seniors. Volunteers are needed for a wide-range of duties including setup, clean-up and assisting with medical screenings for this underserved population. OHSU’s ability to provide these services at this event will depend on volunteer participation, so please fill out this interest form ASAP if you’re able to help out. Contact pride@ohsu.edu or visit www.ohsu.edu/pride for more info.

October 31: Steve Hanamura, Diversity & Productivity

In observance of Disability Awareness Month in October, the Disability Employee Resource Group (DERG) will host a lecture by diversity expert and consultant Steve Hanamura from 12-1pm on Thursday, Oct. 31, at the Vey Conference Room, located on the 11th floor of Doernbecher Children’s Hospital. A Japanese American, Steve was born totally blind during the World War II era. With his own brand of vision, Steve has become a sought-after consultant and public speaker in the areas of leadership development, managing and valuing diversity, team building, managing personal and organizational change, and cultural oneness. To learn more about the event, or get involved in the DERG, contact co-chairs Lina Reiss or Matthew Millard.

October 2013

COMING UP

October 10: Global Health Fair

12-2pm at OHSU Auditorium. Interested in serving overseas? Connect with local and global nonprofits and earn about volunteer opportunities www.ohsu.edu/ghc

October 11: AAPI Appreciation Awards & Banquet

5:30-9:30pm at Portland Hilton Hotel. Honoring organizations and individuals who have made significant contributions to the Asian Pacific American community.

October 11: African American Health Coalition Health Disparities Luncheon

11:30 am. The ninth annual Health Disparities Luncheon brings together health professionals, community leaders, organizations, and community members to bring awareness to health disparities among African Americans.

October 11: Basic Rights Oregon Ignite!

7:30pm at the Portland Art Museum. Basic Rights’ annual gala to recognize community leaders, business executives, lawmakers, supporters, and activists who are committed to furthering equality.

October 17: Asian Health & Service Center Annual Conference

6-8pm at HK Café. Annual conference celebrates the work of the only culturally-specific social services agency intended for Asian immigrants.

October 19: Light the Night

5-8pm at the Oregon Convention Center. Join OHSU’s efforts to end cancer by registering to walk or make a donation. Contact Alena Lam, 503-494-5293.

October 25: Colored Pencils Art and Culture Night

5:30-8pm, Portland Art Museum. Basic Rights’ annual gala to recognize community leaders, business executives, lawmakers, supporters, and activists who are committed to furthering equality.

November 4: New International Employee Orientation

Join the Office for International Affairs for a full day of activities at the Center for Health & Healing. Room 3070. The workshop will help you get settled into your new life in Portland and navigate the OHSU system. Email laen Nylund to learn more.

November 12: Fall Diversity Welcome

5:30-8pm at Center for Health and Healing Atrium. Join us for food, music and networking at the annual fall diversity welcome.
OHSU Honored with “Warrior of the Year” Award

The Oregon Native American Chamber (ONAC) recently honored OHSU with the “Warrior of the Year” award, recognizing a business organization that has made significant business contributions to the Native American community. To support Native American students who want to pursue undergraduate degrees, OHSU funded scholarship grants in partnership with the chamber. The Chamber hosts Native leaders from various industries to develop management skills and foster networking with community leaders. Over the years, OHSU employees (including AAEO’s Michael Tom and Bianca Kednay, pictured right) have taken part in offering technical assistance, to serve as ONAC Board and Advisory Members, to lend community partnership support, and to continue sponsorship of ONAC activities as it strives to promote and support the education, training and cultural understanding of Native Americans. read more

Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber Recognizes OHSU

OHSU was honored with the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber’s 2013 ¡BRAVO! Award, lauding the university’s contributions to the economic and social advancement of Latinos in Oregon. OHSU is a long-time partner of the Hispanic Chamber, which provides college scholarships, supports small businesses, and develops Latino civic and business leadership in the region. From its inception 20 years ago, the Hispanic Chamber has sponsored scholarships for Latinos to pursue both undergraduate and graduate degrees, and OHSU this year sponsored five $1,000 grants. OHSU Contracting Services and Human Resources participate in the Hispanic Chamber’s annual trade show, which brings together entrepreneurs, small business owners, employers and job seekers for a one-day exposition of contracting and employment opportunities. read more

School of Nursing Offers Application Success Workshop

OHSU School of Nursing is hosting a free workshop to provide strategies and tips for prospective applicants who are planning to apply for the bachelor and accelerated bachelor programs. The workshop is scheduled from 1 to 4:30pm on Thursday, Oct. 17 at Room 116, OHSU School of Nursing, 3455 SW US Veterans Hospital Rd. Learn about common pitfalls in the application process, and how to avoid them. An essay writing and application preparation workshop will be offered. Hear about financial aid and scholarship opportunities. Seating is limited, and registration is required. RSVP to proginfo@ohsu.edu.

Internships at Institute of Environmental Health

The Institute of Environmental Health (IEH) offers paid undergraduate internships with the Center for Coastal Margin Observation & Prediction (CMOP) and Division of Environmental and Biomolecular Systems. IEH is advancing the understanding of contemporary ecosystems, anticipating their evolution under climate change and increasing human stresses, and exploring strategies to mitigate impacts of environmental change on public health. For more information, visit www.stccmop.org or contact 503 748-1609 and greenv@stccmop.org.

Mentors Needed for Disadvantaged Youth

Minds Matter is an academic mentoring program for high achieving, low-income high school students who aspire to a college education. This past summer, OHSU welcomed two Minds Matter program graduates: Raeshell Duru and Iyesha Rosser as interns in OHSU departments. Moreover, a number of OHSU employees and students volunteer as mentors and tutors with the program. “Our OHSU volunteers are an impressive group and great role models for our mentees. They show commitment to their studies while giving back to the community,” says Melissa Swenson, Director of Volunteers. Minds Matter is looking for mentors who can commit to two hours on Saturdays during the school year helping low-income and high-potential mentees achieve their dreams of attending college. 100% of students in the program have been admitted to a four-year college with significant financial aid. For more information, contact portland@mindsmatter.org or visit http://mindsmatterportland.org.

Save the Date: OHSU Health and Science Career Conference

Each year, the Center for Diversity & Inclusion collaborates with the Schools of Dentistry, Medicine, and Nursing and the College of Pharmacy to host a one-day conference for high school and college students interested in pursuing a career in the health care and science professions. The next conference will be held on Friday, February 21, 2014. Students from the Portland metro area come to OHSU for the one-day conference to learn about OHSU academic offerings, internship and career opportunities, scholarships, and more. Staff and faculty members from various research disciplines and academic units deliver presentations on academic and research opportunities at OHSU. Last year, almost 400 students attended the conference. read more

RESOURCES

NIH Honors OHSU Scientists

Isabelle Bacongquis, Ph.D., is one of four scientists at OHSU’s Vollum Institute who were recognized through the National Institutes of Health “High Risk-High Reward Research Awards.” The award is given to a handful of scientists in the United States who are doing exceptionally innovative work in biomedical research. read more

Latina Health and a Return to Traditional Food Culture

Many studies show that the nutrition the embryo receives even before implantation – that is, before a woman is officially pregnant – determines the maturation of the embryo throughout pregnancy. Its growth trajectory is already being set at that early stage of development. read more

New Partnerships to Improve Health Care for the Disadvantaged

In southern Oregon, OHSU’s interprofessional student care teams will partner with La Clinica West Medford Health Center, the Family Nurturing Center and St. Vincent de Paul and the clients they serve in southern Oregon. Students will work with community service providers to help clients navigate the health system and address barriers that may prevent clients from achieving a healthy lifestyle or accessing health care. read more

Summer Interns Sample the Research life, Improve Professional Skills

Research interns for the Summer Equity and Knight Cancer CURE internship programs were featured in a story posted in OHSU’s Research Voice blog read more

Help Develop an Asian Pacific Islander Resource Group

Did you know that 1 in 10 students, faculty and staff at OHSU identify as Asian Pacific Islander? CDI is seeking members of OHSU’s API community who are interested in starting an employee resource group (ERG) dedicated to advocating for the needs of employees and patients of API descent. ERGs are OHSU-sponsored and employee-managed affinity groups that create opportunities for career development, social support, networking, mentoring and community participation. Email us if you have an interest in establishing an API ERG.

Diversity Digest is distributed every month. Email us with story ideas and resource submissions, and invite your friends to subscribe.

Center for Diversity & Inclusion

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