Thank You for Coming to Say Hey!

Much appreciation to the OHSU community for making the first OHSU-sponsored Say Hey! networking event a huge success! We set a record number of attendees and honorees at the August event, which brought professionals from across the region to OHSU’s Center for Health and Healing lawn. Hosted quarterly by Partners in Diversity, Say Hey! introduces professionals of color who are new to Oregon to diverse multicultural communities. Photos here and here. Hope to see you at the next Say Hey!

September 12: Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber Honors OHSU
As Hispanic Heritage Month kicks off, OHSU is humbled to be recognized with the Hispanic Metropolitan Chamber’s 2013 BRAVO! Award. The recognition applauds the university’s contributions to the economic and social advancement of Latinos in Oregon. OHSU has been a long-time partner of the Portland Hispanic Chamber, which provides college scholarships, supports small businesses, and develops Latino civic and business leadership in the region. A number of OHSU employees have participated in the Latino Leadership Program since its inception, and OHSU funds multiple scholarships for college-bound students.

September 25: 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 5-7:30pm on Wednesday, Sept. 25 at the Vey Conference Center, Doernbecher Children’s Hospital. Latino Americans, the first major documentary film on Latin Americans, chronicles the rich and varied history and experiences of Latinos in the United States. 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.

September 27: Dancing in the Square
The Center for Diversity and Inclusion, the Native American employee resource group, the School of Dentistry, Casey Eye Institute, and other OHSU units will represent OHSU at the annual Dancing in the Square Powwow, hosted by the Native Portland Area Indian Health Board. The event will be held from noon to 7pm on Friday, Sept. 27 at Pioneer Courthouse Square in downtown Portland. If you are interested in volunteering at the OHSU booth, email Michelle Singer or call 503-494-2821.

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 31: Disability Employee Resource Group Hosts Lecture
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 OHSU Main Hospital 8th Floor Conference Room. The DERG serves as a resource to bring individuals with disabilities together with their allies to create a safe place to voice concerns and to provide peer support. The group seeks to continuously improve accessibility at OHSU and to create a culture of inclusion. It is committed to advocating for the rights of individuals with disabilities and to educate and nurture awareness of the strengths they bring to the OHSU community. To get involved, contact DERG co-chairs Lisa Reiss or Matthew Millard.

September 15: Gay Fair on the Square 1-5:30pm at Pioneer Courthouse Square. Visit the OHSU resource booth at the event hosted by the Portland Gay Men’s Chorus.

September 22: AIDS Walk Join the OHSU/Partnership Project to raise funds for services to people living with HIV/AIDS. Sign up to join the walk.

October 4: Oregon Native American Chamber Annual Gathering 6-10pm at the Oregon Zoo Cascade Banquet Center. Celebrate the local Native business community, recognize outstanding business leaders, and award scholarships to the next generation of leaders.

October 10: 5:30-7pm, Lloyd Center Doubletree Hotel. Join the Connecting Communities Coalition in celebrating Portland’s vibrant disability community.

October 11: 5:30-9:30pm at Portland Hilton Hotel. Honoring organizations and individuals who have made significant contributions to the Asian Pacific American community.

October 18: 5:30-7pm, Lloyd Center Doubletree Hotel. Join the OHSU Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity (AAEO) for people with disabilities. Hosted by OHSU’s Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity (AAEO)


October 26: Gay and Grey Expo OHSU Pride is teaming up with LGBTQ Health to host a resource table at Portland’s only resource fair for LGBTQ elders. This year’s expo will be held at The Colony, 7507 N Richmond Ave. in St. Johns. To learn more or to volunteer, contact OHSU Pride.
Advancing Diversity in the Dental Health Profession

OHSU School of Dentistry is among 10 dental schools chosen to participate in the 2013 Dental Pipeline National Learning Institute. With support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, the School of Dentistry will work toward increasing recruitment and retention of the next generation of oral health professionals among socially disadvantaged and underrepresented student communities. As part of the Institute, OHSU will receive $12,000 and additional resources, including a three-day training course about dental pipeline best practices, advocacy, and leadership; peer mentor match-ups; access to various online courses; and fundraising and development tutorials. Project director Dr. Jay Anderson, chairman of the School of Dentistry Diversity Committee, will work with the Black United Fund of Oregon to implement a yearlong recruitment and retention campaign.

Creating a Diverse Pipeline of Nurses

In the U.S., people of color represent 37 percent of the population but only 17 percent of registered nurses. Getting more diverse students into nursing school and supporting them during their educational program is the goal of a $1.05 million grant to the OHSU School of Nursing. Awarded by the Health Resources and Services Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the funding began July 1, 2013 and runs for three years. The OHSU program, Advancing Health Equity through Services Administration, a division of the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, the funding focuses on strengthening nursing programs in states with the greatest disparities, including Oregon. The grant provides financial help to 44 students each year. read more

Focus on Faculty Recruitment and Retention

Sustaining a diverse faculty workforce begins with attracting people who reflect the changing demographics throughout Oregon and in the United States. As Oregon’s only academic health center, OHSU trains the next generation of doctors, dentists, nurses and health care professionals. To address the healthcare needs of rapidly diversifying communities and to eliminate disparities in health care, it’s important to recruit professionals who are committed to addressing access, language, as well as myriad cultural differences and barriers. Learn more about OHSU resources that support universitywide efforts to increase diversity recruitment and strengthen retention.

Gaining Ground in Accessibility Improvements

The Physical Access Committee celebrated the Sam Jackson Accessibility Project, the latest accessibility improvement to OHSU’s campus with a ribbon-cutting event held at the Sam Jackson Roundabout, located between Sam Jackson Hall and the OHSU Hospital. Speakers include executive sponsors Jeanette Miadenovic, M.D., M.B.A., M.A.C.P., OHSU Provost; Dr. Norwood Knight-Richardson, M.D., M.A., M.B.A., Senior Vice President, Chief Administrative Officer, and Chief Diversity Officer; Michael Tom, J.D., Director, Office of Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity; and Kyle Majchrowski, Interim Director, University & Research Design & Construction. They underscored OHSU’s commitment to providing meaningful use of and universally accessible facilities, and lauded the contributions of the PAC in identifying barriers to access by people with disabilities at OHSU. Read the PAC annual report and/or get involved.

On Track OHSU! Seeks Mentors

The Office of Science Education Opportunities presents On Track OHSU!, a new science and health outreach program that seeks to increase the number of diverse and disadvantaged students in the health sciences, and in OHSU’s schools and programs. This year, On Track OHSU! is working with students in grades 6 through 12 from Woodburn and Jefferson high schools, along with both schools’ feeder middle schools. On Track OHSU! is looking for OHSU students to volunteer and act as role models for the younger students through a variety of activities, both on OHSU’s campus and at the different school sites. If you are interested, join us from information sessions that will be held from 12-1pm on October 8 and 11 in the Marquam Room, next to Mac Hall Café. To learn more, email Katie Lanahan or call 503-494-3999.

Volunteers Needed for Transgender Clinic

Outside In, a nonprofit that helps homeless youth and other marginalized people move towards improved health and self-sufficiency, is looking for medical professionals interested in volunteering with its Transgender Health Services. Outside In’s Trans Clinic is open one to two Tuesday evenings each month, and provides hormone replacement therapy to transgender people who are homeless, low-income, uninsured, or otherwise unable to afford gender-affirming treatment. To learn more, visit the Outside In website, view the volunteer application, or attend a presentation, scheduled from 6-7pm on Tuesday, Sept. 24, at the Outside In office, 1132 SW 13th Ave.

New Rules in Hiring Veterans, People with Disabilities

New federal rules aim to improve and strengthen efforts to recruit, hire, train, and promote qualified veterans and people with disabilities in all job classifications. In anticipation of the new rule, OHSU’s Affirmative Action and Equal Opportunity department (AAEO) has been working with leadership and management to establish programs to enhance outreach and connections with veterans and the disability community. In partnership with CDI, the Physical Access Committee, and other stakeholders, AAEO has hosted Night for Networking, disability awareness training for staff, and other activities. AAEO will continue to build upon programs to strengthen OHSU’s community ties and employment of veterans and individuals with disabilities. Learn more about the new rules or connect with AAEO.

RESOURCES

Want to Start 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 ofAPI. 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.

Share Your Comments on LGBT Research and Health Needs

The National Institutes of Health (NIH) now has a permanent trans-NIH research coordinating committee specifically tasked with supporting health research in the lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender and intersex communities with the aim of continuing its extensive outreach to identify research priorities, gaps, and opportunities within the field. The NIH seeks comments about research opportunities involving LGBTI health, as well as feedback on how to engage the LGBTI populations in this work, and training in the research and clinical settings. See details in the NIH Guide. Deadline is Oct. 28.

Study reveals multiple barriers to autism screening, diagnosis in Latino children A new study published online in the journal Pediatrics reveals that multiple factors in the primary care setting may contribute to delayed autism spectrum diagnosis for Latinos, including the perception that Latino parents are less knowledgeable about ASDs than white parents. read more

Oregon minority, immigrant rights groups shape legislative agenda (Oregonian) Among the issues that minority and immigrant rights groups want to tackle next include: closing achievement gaps in education; improving access to health care; reducing racial profiling; improving the reporting of and response to hate crimes; improving job and economic development opportunities; and beefing up re-entry programs for former inmates. read more

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

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