CELEBRATING BLACK HISTORY MONTH

On behalf of the Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, please join the WUSM community in honoring Black History Month (BHM) by registering for events below and checking out the attached Black History in Medicine Newsletter by WUSM’s Students National Medical Association! It includes information about BHM events they are hosting as well. All event details and registration information can be found on our events page and calendar.

- Wednesday, February 23rd | 11:00a – 12:30p
  HeLa 100 – Race and Eugenics
  Join School of Medicine’s Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and the Division of Biology and Biomedical Science’s Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and Student and Alumni Affairs for a discussion regarding race and eugenics in relation to Henrietta Lacks.

- Friday, February 25th | 11:30-1pm
  Black Excellence: Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCU’s)
  Join the School of Medicine’s Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion and BJIC HealthCare Office of Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion for a discussion of Black Excellence: Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs)! This session will begin with a presentation about the history of HBCUs, busting myths/biases, and their significant contributions to our society, and specifically, health care.

In this newsletter, we celebrate Black Excellence and highlight important contributions made by Black individuals in medicine and science.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. FAY FEARS

Dr. Fay Fears will be Chief Resident for the general psychiatry training program for the 2022-2023 academic year.

CONGRATULATIONS TO DR. TASHALEE BROWN

Dr. Tashalee Brown was announced as the recipient of the American Academy of Child and Adolescent Psychiatry’s (AACAP’s) Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) Emerging Leaders Fellowship.

RECENT PRESENTATIONS FROM OUR FACULTY

On January 18th, Dr. Cynthia Rogers, as part of the NIMH Director’s Innovation Speakers Series, gave a talk titled, "Addressing Social Determinants to Optimize Infant Brain Development." In this talk, she provided an overview of adverse exposures and their influence on child development and neonatal brain development, discussing exposure to poverty, crime, and pre-and postnatal exposures to psychopathology and substance use. Click HERE to view the talk.

On January 19th, Dr. Patty Cavazos-Rehg and Dr. Neha Navsaria presented the department DEI survey results along with DEI updates occurring in our department and across the medical school. Information about a new WUSM-wide curriculum “Understanding Systemic Racism” was also presented. If you missed the presentation, you can access it HERE.

Individuals with disabilities are encouraged to attend all Washington University School of Medicine sponsored events. If you are a person with a disability who requires a reasonable accommodation in order to participate in this event, at least one week before the event, please contact the Washington University School of Medicine Office of Diversity, Equity and Inclusion in advance at 314-273-2809 or MedDEI@wustl.edu
EVENTS TO CONSIDER ATTENDING...

• Navigating Conversations about Race, Racism, and Social Justice with Children and Adolescents in a Therapeutic Setting
  Thursday, February 17th 2022 7:00 pm-8:00 pm EST.
  Presenter: Dr. Tasha Brown, child psychologist, New York-Presbyterian Hospital/Columbia University Medical Center
  Throughout the presentation, attendees will learn how to practice anti-racist behavior and the skills needed to start meaningful and effective conversations with children and their families. This presentation is part of the Connecticut Psychological Association monthly social justice seminar series. This is a free virtual event.
  https://us02web.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_J5igCv6FSnKHzUATdPez4g

• Avoiding the DSM-5 Trap: Identifying Cultural Norms versus Diagnostic Systems for Black Males
  Friday, February 18th 2022 9:00-11:00am
  Presenter: Harold Neighbors, PhD, University of Michigan
  This seminar will focus on attending to cultural norms when considering a DSM-5 diagnosis for Black males. The following areas will be explored:
  • Identifying the presentation of cultural factors and survival strategies (i.e., paranoia, mistrust, flat affect, lack of interest) for Black males
  • Differentiating between cultural norms versus mental health symptoms for Black males
  • Validating normalized patterns of behavior for Black males that are not diagnostic in nature
  • The ethics of over diagnosis of Black males to gain access to services
  Click here to register. This presentation is sponsored by HomeGrown StL (@WashU), an initiative dedicated to improving the well-being of Black boys and young men and reimagining the ways in which our communities support their health, academic attainment, employment, developmental opportunity, and transition into adulthood.

• Understanding Behavioral Health Needs in Refugee and Immigrant Communities—Virtual Roundtable
  Wednesday, February 23, 2022 1:00pm EST
  The SAMHSA National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health will offer a virtual roundtable to discuss trauma, culture, and culturally responsive approaches to addressing behavioral health needs of refugees, immigrants, and asylees.
  https://nned.net/10023/. The National Network to Eliminate Disparities in Behavioral Health (NNED) is a network of community-based organizations focused on the mental health and substance use issues of diverse racial and ethnic communities. The NNED supports information sharing, training, and technical assistance toward the goal of promoting behavioral health equity.

We now have a DEI email address for you to communicate with us about any of your DEI questions, ideas, or concerns.
We encourage you to reach out to us at DEIpsych@email.wustl.edu

We are also looking for your input on content that helps to elevate Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion to include in our newsletter. Please do email us at DEIpsych@email.wustl.edu with any recommendations on events, books, movies, podcasts, other popular media, etc.