

Social Justice Week examines next steps for diversity and inclusion

by News Bureau - Monday, March 22, 2010

<http://www.uwosh.edu/today/2583/social-justice-week-examines-next-steps-for-diversity-and-inclusion/>

The University of Wisconsin Oshkosh will host a dozen events in support of inclusive excellence and diversity March 29 to April 1 during University's second-annual Social Justice Week.

In recognition of UW Oshkosh's commitment to championing social justice and providing a fair, inclusive and welcoming environment for the entire campus community, Social Justice Week 2010 will build upon the success of last year's events through presentations and workshops tackling such topics as interracial relationships, learning disabilities, veterans' returning from combat and post-traumatic stress disorder, and the prevention of hate crimes.

"UW Oshkosh is devoted to increasing diversity on campus so that all community members can grow together and learn from one another," Chancellor Richard H. Wells said. "Social Justice Week's array of events is aligned with the University's and UW System's ongoing inclusive excellence strategy."

Social Justice Week is sponsored by the Office of Equity and Affirmative Action and the Alliance for Equity and Diversity, with support from the New North, the Wisconsin State Council Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM) and the Oshkosh Chapter of SHRM.

"As with the inaugural program in 2009, this year's Social Justice Week will continue to build upon the framework of a campus community that is comfortable talking about these types of issues and proactively providing an inclusive and supportive environment for students, faculty and staff from diverse backgrounds," said Pamela Lassiter, Director of Equity and Affirmative Action at UW Oshkosh.

Social Justice Week will conclude April 1 with a diversity conference focusing on hot topics in employment law and organizational diversity. Pre-registration is required at www.wishrm.org.

Free parking for all events will be available in lots 13, 15 and 32 and in the lower level of the parking ramp. Visit www.tts.uwosh.edu/parking for a parking map. For more information or to make special accommodations, call (920) 424-2296 or (920) 424-0330. All events will be held at Reeve Memorial Union, 748 Algoma Blvd., and are free, except for Thursday's conference.

Monday, March 29

- Seeding Inclusive Excellence — Damon Williams, Vice Provost and Chief Diversity Officer at UW-Madison, will demonstrate how to incorporate inclusive excellence into core aspects of higher education institutions; 9 a.m. to noon, Reeve 202.
- Interracial Love After the Modern Civil Rights Movement in America: Freedom or Façade — The panel discussion, facilitated by Norlisha Crawford, Director of the African American Studies

program at UW Oshkosh, will feature members of the University's African American studies minor; 1 to 2 p.m., Reeve 215.

Tuesday, March 30

- **Inclusive Excellence: A Business Model** — Algernon Felice, Education Consultant for Disproportionality and Diverse Issues, will present; 10 a.m. to noon, Reeve 213.
- **STOP THE HATE Training** — Participants will learn ways to prevent bias incidents and hate crimes on their campuses from Kim Charniak, UW Oshkosh Counseling Center, and Laura England, University Police; noon to 1:30 p.m., Reeve 307.
- **Students of Color Retention in America's Colleges** — The panel discussion, facilitated by UW Oshkosh sociology professor Paul Van Auken, will feature UW Oshkosh sociology students; 3 to 4 p.m., Reeve 215.
- **Beyond the Down Low: Intersection of Race and Sexuality** — Gay activist/author Keith Boykin presents. Sponsored by the UW System Institute on Race and Ethnicity, Rainbow Alliance for HOPE, Black Student Union, Women's Advocacy Council, LGBTQ Resource Center, African American Studies, Women's Studies, Sociology Department, Residence Life, Dean of Students Office, Academic Affairs Office and Student Affairs Office; 7 to 9 p.m., Reeve 227.

Wednesday, March 31

- **Learning Disabilities and Employment** — Ashley Hesse, Program Director of Arc-Winnebago County Disability Association, and Teri Wagner, Director of Project Success at UW Oshkosh, will present; 9 to 10:30 a.m., Reeve 215.
- **Returning Veterans and Stress: PTSD and Related Issues** — Robert Stone and Scott Katzka of the Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs and Joseph Abhold, Director of UW Oshkosh's Counseling Center, will present; 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m., Reeve 213.
- **STOP THE HATE Training** — Participants will learn ways to prevent bias incidents and hate crimes on their campuses from Kelly Melvin, UW Oshkosh Residence Life, and Elena Petrova, Director of the University's Employee Assistance Program; 3 to 4:30 p.m., Reeve 307.

Thursday, April 1

- **Hot Topics in Employment Law** — Chancellor Wells will make opening remarks, followed by a presentation by Jim Macy, Tony Renning, Geoffrey Trotier and Chad Wade, attorneys with Davis & Kuelthau, S.C.; 9 a.m. to noon, Reeve 227; lunch from noon to 1 p.m. Pre-register at www.wishrm.org.
- **Organizational Diversity: Building Inclusion in the Global-American Workforce** — Sharif Mansur, a human capital strategist, will present; 1 to 4 p.m., Reeve 227. Pre-register at www.wishrm.org.

- Organizing for Social Change — The student panel discussion will be facilitated by UW Oshkosh social work professor Donna Altepeter and Liz Cannon, Director of the Social Justice Program at UW Oshkosh; 3 to 4 p.m., Reeve 215.