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Research Affairs: EDI Newsletter

Spring 2022 | Issue IIII

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EDI Committee Updates

Earlier this year, VCR Cori Peek-Asa joined UC San Diego and quickly met with the Research Affairs EDI Committee to learn about the efforts and objectives that the committee has planned for the coming year. With VCR Peek-Asa's support, the committee finalized the recommendations document as well as the EDI mission statement and shared it with all of Research Affairs. The committee will continue to meet and assess EDI-related issues and make ongoing suggestions to leadership.

In addition to welcoming the new VCR, the Research Affairs committee received the Inclusive Excellence Award for Research. To learn more about the award, visit the **Inclusive Excellence Awards Blink Page** as well as the **Campus HR YouTube** page which contain videos of current and past recipients. To watch the Research Affairs Equity, Diversity and Inclusion Committee receive the award, visit **https://youtu.be/oqFIJHwAk-Y**.

We are recruiting new committee members!
We are looking to increase participation on the committee and would like to have representatives from each of the VCR units to help us shape the committee's initiates. If you are interested in joining or learning more about the committee, please email **vcr-edi@ucsd.edu.**

Women's History Month

Join the RA EDI Committee in celebrating Women's History Month this March, and honoring World Day of Social Justice, which occurs every year on February 20th.

The History and Importance of Women's History Month

By Madeleine Paley
Madeleine Paley is a Senior Analyst in the Conflict of Interest Office and co-chair of the Research Affairs EDI Committee.

Women's History Month began as "Women's History Week" in 1981 and was first celebrated beginning March 7, 1982. In 1987, after a petition by the National Women's History Project, Congress passed a bill that designated the month of March as Women's History Month. Since 1995, presidents have issued a series of proclamations designating March as Women's History Month to celebrate the contributions women have made to the United States and to recognize the important achievements of women over the course of American history. Visit the Women's History Month government **website** for videos, art exhibits and collections, and more.
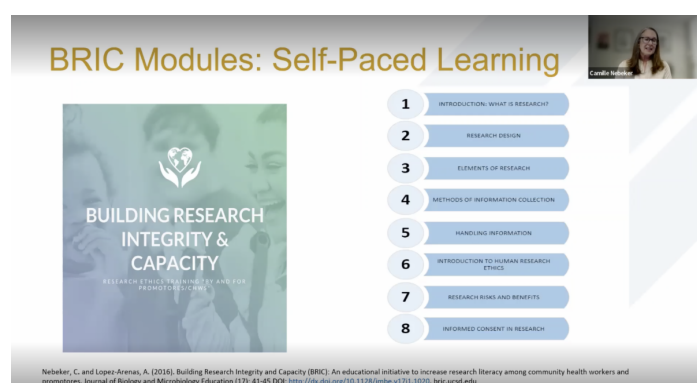
International Women's Day occurs within Women's History Month, falling on March 8th annually. International Women's Day is a global day celebrating the achievements of women, and serves as a call to action to accelerate women's equality. International Women's Day started in 1911 as a result of labor movements across the world. To learn more about International Women's Day, and the 2022 theme, #BreakTheBias, visit the International Women's Day **website**.

This month also marks the 25th anniversary of UC San Diego's Women's Center. The Center will be celebrating this month with a series of free events with the theme of "Our Stories Are Our Strength: Past, Present and Future." Events range from a feminist bingo night and a women in law panel to a conversation with author and cultural critic Roxane Gay. For more information about the events, visit the **Women's Center**.

Honoring World Day of Social Justice

The RA-EDI Committee honored World Day of Social Justice through a event on February 16th, 2022.

"The Role of Research in Social Justice" Webinar

By Madeleine Paley

In collaboration with Research Compliance and Integrity's (RCI) Hot Topics Training Program, the Research Affairs Equity, Diversity and Inclusion (EDI) Committee hosted a webinar in honor of World Day of Social Justice. The event, "The Role of Research in Social Justice," featured presentations by Camille Nebeker, EdD, MS, and Blanca Meléndrez, MA. **Camille Nebeker** is an Associate Professor in the Herbert Wertheim School of Public Health and Human Longevity Science, Director of the UC San Diego Research Ethics Program, and Founding Director of UC San Diego ReCODE Health. **Blanca Meléndrez** is the Executive Director of the Center for Community Health at the Altman Clinical and Translational Research Institute (ACTRI). Camille Nebeker's presentation focused on responsible practices in the evolving research landscape and Blanca Meléndrez's presentation focused on the important work of the Center for Community Health. Following both presentations was an engaging Question & Answer portion with both presenters. The Research Affairs EDI Committee is grateful for the participation of both Camille Nebeker and Blanca Meléndrez in this important event, and thanks RCI for co-hosting the webinar.

Madeleine Paley is a Senior Analyst in the Conflict of Interest Office and co-chair of the Research Affairs EDI Committee.

RA EDI Spring Event

Conversation Roadblocks Training and Discussion with Etta

Ward - April 19th

Our current state of affairs nationally continues to make plain that while some actions and gestures toward change have been quickly made, perpetuation of racial injustices continue and our country continues to suffer. Despite exhaustion, many Black Americans remain forefront in bearing the burden of change agency; we must encourage/implore White colleagues, friends, and family members to not just join in, but take up the mantle and lead the effort to tear down and uproot the insidious systems and structures of institutional racism.
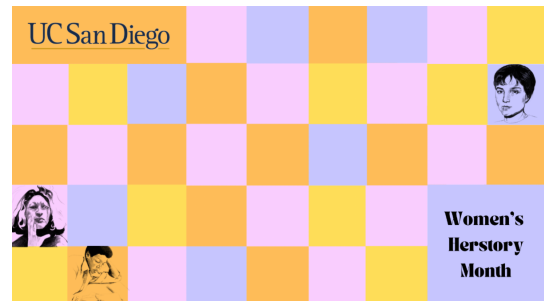
As many of us move deeper into this space of social justice awareness, we are encouraging our networks to get the open conversations going now and figure out a way to keep the conversations alive. Having inclusive uncomfortable conversations is the first ACTION needed to affect long-lasting change.

Join us on April 19 from 12:30 – 2:00 p.m. for this important event. Register at https://ucsd.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJIvceCurTIoE9yTpksJAUVTL6vG0KrRwWvg to attend!

Resources

Professional Development Opportunity

The UC Women's Initiative (UC WI) is a professional development program designed to help woman-identified professionals advance in their UC careers. The participation fee will be paid by the Vice Chancellor for Research for any of those selected from VCR/ORA units to participate. The program is committed to enabling the full participation, success, and advancement of woman-identified professionals at the University, and is open to all who support this mission. Participants represent faculty, academic personnel and staff, people managers and non-people managers. More information about the program can be found on the **UC Office of the President website.**

UC San Diego Campus will have 12 spaces in total to fill for the 2022-23 virtual cohorts, along with 6 alternates. **Applications are accepted online now through 12 noon on Friday, March 25, 2022**. Information about our **UC San Diego campus application process is available on Blink** including participant criteria, program cost, application requirements, selection process and timelines.

Preview the application form

Submit an application

If you have additional questions about the UC San Diego Campus UC WI application please contact Kim Greene, **kgreene@ucsd.edu**.

UC San Diego Staff Education & Development (SED)

Equitable access to professional development and training is a priority for the RA EDI Committee. The UC San Diego Staff Education & Development (SED) newsletter is a great resource to receive updates on upcoming classes, trainings, and professional development events. To subscribe to the Staff Education & Development mailing list, visit: **https://signup.e2ma.net/signup/1937268/1922886/**
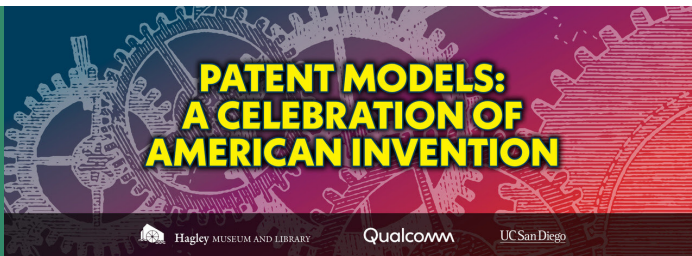

Upcoming Events

"Talking about Race: Learning, Leveraging and Leading with Cultural Competency"

The Learning Boost Series is a year-long series of twice-monthly virtual talks sponsored by UC San Diego Human Resources. It is held every 1st Friday and 4th Wednesday of the month at 11am-12pm. One of UC San Diego's Campus Diversity Officers & Director of the LGBT Resource Center **Shaun Travers, Ed.D.** will guide how your knowledge of your own racial identity can impact your success and leadership skills can be informed by cultural competency around race and ethnicity.

Come to this Boost Series to meet leaders, dreamers, innovators, and change champions - one talk at a time!

Join the Learning Boost Series **here.**

Research Affairs- Office of Innovation & Commercialization (OIC)

UC San Diego's design and Innovation Building is hosting a historic exhibition of 19th century patent models. The exhibition, "Patent Models: A Celebration of American Invention" will be presented in partnership between **Hagley Museum and Library** and the University of California, San Diego, sponsored by Qualcomm. Christine Trimble, vice president of Public Affairs at Qualcomm Incorporated says the UC San Diego exhibit will showcase the way patents stimulate creativity and economic growth; moreover, "a reminder of how the patent system continues to be a catalyst of innovation for anyone who wants to bring to the world something new,"

Schedule a Self-guided Tour Here!

If you have a question or would like to share a story, event or cultural celebration, please contact us at **vcr-edi@ucsd.edu** or submit anonymously via the **feedback form** on our website.

Visit our Website

Research Affairs Equity, Diversity and Inclusion