



The Research Institute

Research to Practice • Practice to Research



Project Spotlight: Increasing Minority Participation in STEM

by Stephanie Blair

Funded by a grant obtained through TRI, the Oregon Alliance for Minority Participation (OR AMP) STEM Scholars Program works on Western's campus to support traditionally underrepresented minority students in STEM programs; that is, science, technology, engineering, and mathematics programs. I sat down with Dr. Flatt to learn more and discovered the wealth of opportunities that the program has to offer.

"Traditionally, minority participation in STEM programs is very low compared to the standard minority population on our campus," said Dr. Patricia Flatt, one of the project managers for Western's STEM Scholars Program. "It's really not representative of our student population, student body as a whole, or the diversity that is present in Oregon at this time."

[Read more . . .](#)

Project Spotlight: Developing Open Education Resources for Chemistry

by Stephanie Blair

Oregon's Higher Education Coordinating Commission is funding the "Open Source Learning Materials for Introductory Chemistry Coursework" initiative to develop free online course materials to take the place of traditional textbooks for introductory chemistry courses covering general and organic chemistry concepts, as well as bio-chemistry concepts being taught at the collegiate level.



Dr. Patricia Flatt, professor of Chemistry at Western Oregon University, is spearheading the effort as one of the professors the state of Oregon asked to create open education resources.

“This really is designed to help reduce costs for students,” said Flatt.

“Textbooks can be outrageously expensive—especially in the science field.”

[Read more . . .](#)

Lauren Peterson and Nate Winegardner Presented at Southern Oregon OAEYC Winter Conference

On February 25, 2017, Lauren Peterson and Nate Winegardner from the Center on Early Learning presented at the Southern Oregon Chapter of the Oregon Association for the Education of Young Children (SOC-OAEYC)'s Winter Conference, "Together for Children."

The Winter Conference is an exciting annual event which provides a training opportunities for early childhood professionals in both English and Spanish as well as a full-day track for parents.

Lauren and Nate agreed to share a little about their experiences.

[Read more . . .](#)

Jobs at TRI

- Preschool Teacher - Pool
(Child Development Center)

Upcoming Events

- Spark Community Input Sessions: Klamath Falls (May 10, 2017)
- Webinar: Project Core: An Implementation Model for Building Early Symbolic Communication (May 20, 2017)

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