

News from the Office for Diversity and Inclusion

The Office for Diversity and Inclusion has had a bustling spring – read all about it below!

FAU-HCOP Student Helps Save a Man's Life

Ms. Sarah Van Roekel, a senior at Boynton Beach High School and a FAU Health Careers Outreach Program (HCOP) student, has been participating in educational enrichment activities since 2015, including the simulation, anatomy lab, and college access activities. On April 11, Sarah was credited for helping to save a man's life. Her FAU Trauma Day interview was included in a local television news piece, and she was highlighted in the 2015 Palm Beach Post which focused on CPR training at an FAU HCOP CSSC event.



Click [here](#) to view the news piece from the Palm Beach County School District.

T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society of Palm Beach County Hosts 2nd Annual Awards Luncheon

On March 16, the T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society of Palm Beach County hosted its 2nd Annual Awards Luncheon at the PGA National Resort & Spa in Palm Beach Gardens. The ceremony celebrated and recognized community service in healthcare with 5 awards: Health Educator of Excellence of the Year; Unsung Hero of the Year; Community Partner of the Year; TLJMS Physician of the Year; and the TLJMS PBC Healthcare Professional of the Year.



Dr. Michael J.L. Smith served as the Schmidt College of Medicine's representative at the ceremony. Guests of Dr. Smith included third year medical students, Javed **Khanni** and **Alphonso Wilson**, first year medical student and Student National Medical Association (SNMA) President, **Christopher Galvin**. Members of the Minority Association of Premedical Students at FAU also attended, including **Amari Radden** (president), **Samuel Ricks** (secretary), **Joseph Ramsey**, and **Claude Gassant**.

Special congratulations to Dr. Roger L. Duncan, III on receiving the 2019 TLJMS Legacy Award and the 2019 Outstanding Community Samaritan Award from the Schmidt College of Medicine, SNMA chapter. The college's Office for Diversity and Inclusion was nominated for the Community Partner of the Year Award.



T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society of Palm Beach County hosts 7th Annual Health & Science Career Symposium

On April 13, the T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society of Palm Beach County hosted the 7th Annual Health & Science Career Symposium at Inlet Grove Community High School in Riviera Beach, FL. The event, coordinated by Chairperson, Dr. Roger L. Duncan, III, was a great success with many excited young people attending from as far away as Melbourne, FL.

Throughout the day, **Dr. Michael J.L. Smith**, assistant professor of integrated medical science and director of the FAMU-FAU Medical Scholars program, along with first year medical student, **Sa'Rah McNeely**, second year medical students, **Emmanuel McNeely** and **Michelle N. Wilson**, and third year medical student, **Javed Khanni** held multiple information sessions sharing advice and tips on getting into college and medical school.



The T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society is committed to serving and uplifting the communities of Palm Beach and surrounding counties. This is one of many events hosted by the medical society throughout the year. The event was a palpable demonstration of love for the community and a driven purpose to inspire, educate and mentor the next generation of healthcare professionals.

Dr. Michael J.L. Smith, was recently appointed the newest member to the Board of Directors of the T. Leroy Jefferson Medical Society. Dr. Smith's work at FAU and service in the community with the medical society on behalf of the Schmidt College of Medicine, Office for Diversity and Inclusion, has been well regarded and admired by colleagues.

Office for Diversity and Inclusion hosts Racial Equity Institute's Groundwater Presentation

Providing access to equitable, high-quality, patient-centered care is central to our mission as a community-based medical school. To raise awareness about the racial inequities that exist in our healthcare system, our communities, and other institutions, the Office for Diversity and Inclusion hosted the Racial Equity Institute's (REI) Groundwater Presentation on April 23 at the Schmidt College of Medicine. The presentation was led by Deena Hayes-Greene, managing director of REI, and Jennifer Schaal, M.D., trainer.

Faculty, students, staff and community engagement council members gathered to learn about the origins of structural racism and modern-day racial inequities. Participants agreed that the ideas, discussions, and lessons learned regarding the social detriments of health are essential to our individual and collective work in our local community.

Dr. Julie Servoss was invited by **Dr. Michael T.B. Dennis**, chair of the Schmidt College of Medicine Advisory Board, to provide an overview of the college's diversity and inclusion efforts for the Palm Beach County Medical Society (PBCMS) Medical Services Dinner, held on April 15.