Nominations Sought for Presidential Diversity Award

Nominations are now being accepted for this year’s Presidential Diversity Awards. The awards recognize faculty, staff, students, alumni, units, departments, or teams who have demonstrated leadership in recruitment and retention efforts, teaching, research, multicultural programming, cultural competency, community outreach activities, or other initiatives that promote diversity or inclusion. Nomination materials are available online. The deadline for nominations is 5 p.m., Friday, Nov. 15. www.rochester.edu/working/hr/awards/diversity

Program Supports Effort to Expand and Diversify the Nursing Workforce

For the sixth consecutive year, the University of Rochester School of Nursing has been selected as a grant recipient of the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation New Careers in Nursing Scholarship Program, which is cosponsored by the American Association of Colleges of Nursing. Rochester’s School of Nursing is the only nursing school in the country to receive all six rounds of funding for both its bachelor’s and master’s accelerated programs. To read more, please click www.son.rochester.edu/rwjf/.

University of Rochester Promotes Access through Scholarships

For the Rochester City School District high school classes of 2014 and beyond we aim to make it possible for most high-performing public school students in Rochester to attend the University tuition free. Under the Rochester Promise, students receive tuition assistance that—when added to government, University, or other

Faculty Spotlight

Maya Sen

Maya Sen joined the Department of Political Science in the fall of 2012 as assistant professor. Sen’s research and teaching cuts across various fields, bringing together law, American politics, race and ethnic politics, and statistical methods. She is now working with two of her colleagues here at Rochester on a project demonstrating the relationship between the historical institution of slavery and modern-day political attitudes in the American South. Prior to coming to Rochester, she earned her AM and PhD from Harvard University and, before that, her JD from Stanford Law School. Before making her transition to academia, Sen clerked for a federal appeals court judge in Elvis’s home, Memphis; spent time in New York City working as a legal fellow for a national nonprofit; and, before that, spent a year backpacking around the world. Since coming to Rochester, Sen has been learning how to play tennis and is pleased to have progressed from “beginner” to “lower intermediate.” She’s also enjoying exploring Rochester’s culinary scene and hanging out at home and watching reality TV with her cat, Mac.

Mitchell J. Wharton (’13)

Mitchell J. Wharton, assistant professor of clinical nursing, joined the nursing faculty in the summer of 2013. There he teaches in the Accelerated Program for Non-Nurses (APNN), the BS completion program for RNs, and the Master’s Nurse Practitioner Programs. In addition to teaching, Wharton maintains active clinical practice as a family nurse practitioner in the Center for Peri-Operative Medicine at Strong Memorial Hospital. He completed his PhD in health practice research from the University of Rochester in 2013, where his dissertation focused on HIV prevention among young black men who have sex with men (YBMSM). His continuing research is directed towards identifying and describing asset-based modalities of HIV prevention and health maintenance within this vulnerable population. In addition to conducting research among YBMSM, Wharton serves as a member of the Board of Directors for the Men of Color Health Awareness Center in Rochester, N.Y., and as a faculty mentor for the Creating Responsible Intelligent Black Brothers Fellowship through National AIDS Education and Services for Minorities, Inc., in Atlanta. Outside of work, he enjoys domestic and international travel, long-distance cycling, photography, and nostalgic radio broadcasts.
grants for which they are eligible—equals full tuition for up to four years of enrollment. In fall 2014, the University of Rochester will also partner with the Posse Foundation, a renowned college access and youth leadership development program, to provide full-tuition, merit scholarships to 50 qualified freshmen from the Washington, D.C., area. Posse scholars will arrive in 10-student cohorts each year between fall 2014 and fall 2018. Click here to learn more about some of our scholarship programs: www.rochester.edu/news/printable.php?id=7022.

Research Conference
The Fall Research Conference was held on September 24. The theme of this year’s conference was recruiting and preparing a diverse group of students for academic careers in science and health care. Our speaker, Margarita Dubocovich, shared best practices from her successful Collaborative Learning and Integrated Mentoring in the Biosciences (CLIMB) programs at SUNY University at Buffalo, which are devoted to helping students and junior scientists develop into leaders in the sciences. Talks were devoted to faculty, staff, and students and examined recruitment, regional opportunities, and the importance of research/professional development programs. Tentative plans were made for a joint University of Buffalo and University of Rochester summer research collaboration, more details forthcoming.

Spotlight on Diversity: Medical Center a Leader in Health Care Equality
The Medical Center has received national recognition for its commitment to equal care for LGBT patients and their families. Learn more about how Strong Memorial Hospital met or exceeded the four key criteria set by the Human Rights Campaign foundation. Learn more about diversity at the University in future installments of Spotlight on Diversity in @Rochester.

Upcoming Events

Wednesday, October 30, 2013, Noon
Faculty Research Seminar: “Queer Intimacies in Hip-Hop,” Elliott Powell, Post-doctoral Fellow, Frederick Douglass Institute
540 Lattimore Hall

Thursday, November 7, 2013, 5 p.m.
Frederick Douglass Institute Speaker: Ngugi Wa Thiong’o, writer and scholar, will give a talk titled “Language as Battlefield: My Journey in the Minefield.”
For more information, visit www.rochester.edu/diversity/eventscalendar/?event&id=859160&from=07November2013&to=07November2013.
Rush Rhees Library, Welles-Brown Room

Friday, March 28, 2014
Save the Date. Annual Diversity Conference with keynote speaker Lee Bollinger, President of Columbia University. Look for updates here: www.rochester.edu/diversity/annualconference/2014/index.html.

Shoulders to Stand On
Rochester takes center stage in a much-anticipated documentary about a city that has always been at the forefront of social change and justice. The film celebrates the brave men and women who had the courage to step out of the closet, allowing their voices to be heard, in the tradition of a city whose history is firmly grounded in freedom and equality for all. The University of Rochester was a primary sponsor of the documentary Shoulders to Stand On, which premiered at the Image Out festival in October and was shown at the Little Theatre as well.

COACHE: Faculty Satisfaction Survey
The Offices of the Provost and Faculty Development and Diversity would like to thank the faculty who completed the survey. The overall response rate from eligible faculty was 54 percent. The results have been shared with the deans and will be discussed with the Faculty Senate, Faculty Diversity Officers, and other faculty groups throughout the fall.

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