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ence to remember that King himself sometimes felt despair and kept fighting anyway.

Moore was introduced by Portland veterinarian and *The Skanner News* columnist Dr. Jasmine Streeter, and his remarks were preceded by brief speeches by Portland Mayor Ted Wheeler, Gov.

offer wheelchair access and usually didn't. King himself was not permitted to stay in hotels while he traveled.

"We know peril. We know things can be hard. That doesn't stop us from struggling, from fighting," Moore said.

On the media:

We can't depend on

“We know things can be hard. That doesn't stop us from struggling, from fighting”

Kate Brown and U.S. Senators Ron Wyden and Jeff Merkley.

Wyden, Merkley and Wheeler — who spent the day before at a Northeast Portland rally to save the Affordable Care Act — were in rally mode, with Wheeler and Merkley both leading the crowd in chants for justice and against building a wall or registering Muslims.

Those in attendance also had the opportunity to sign a petition asking Portland Parks and Recreation to change Delta Park's name back to Vanport, and 375 people did. To sign an online petition, click here.

For a play-by-play of the event, including a full list of scholarship winners announced, go to TheSkanner.com.

Reflecting on progress:

"This is a tough time. This is a time of peril. But there have been times of peril before. Martin Luther King had fewer rights than we have today."

Lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people were largely in the closet during the civil rights struggle of the 1950s and the 1960s, he said, and people with disabilities had no rights. Public buildings didn't have to

the so-called "fourth branch," the media, anymore, as mass, corporate-owned media have increasingly trended conservative and often fail to fund deep reporting or robust analysis, Moore said. While social media holds promises, audiences must remain skeptical of the new medium.

"Social media is an unproven source. The speed with which it can reach a mass audience on millions of mobile devices is unmatched in history, but social media is yet to establish whether it can sustain critical thought and deep analysis."

On accusations of Russian tampering in the election:

"No Russian voted in the election unless they were citizens of the United States," Moore said, and allegations of Russian tampering are a distraction from discussing the racism that led to Trump's ascendancy. He pointed out that 51 percent of college-educated White women cast their votes for Trump. "What were they thinking — or were they thinking?"

Read the full story at TheSkanner.com

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the president's alleged policies and racist rhetoric could take the United States back in time — to an era when people of color had to struggle from under White oppression.

"(Trump is) a leader who has clearly suggested certain things that would be very anti-African American," said Plaza.

He cites the 1989 full-page ad that the business tycoon published in all four major New York daily newspapers, calling on the state to kill five Black and Latino schoolchildren who were accused of attacking and raping a white female jogger in Central Park. Though the five boys were found to be innocent, Trump has never retracted or apologized for his call for their execution.

Plaza also chastises Trump's tendency to blindly back law enforcement without questioning the number of African Americans fatally shot by the police since the summer of 2014.

Some 40 miles south of OSU, The

University of Oregon (UO) is currently teaching *The Rhetoric of Racial Reconciliation*: Barack Obama, Donald Trump, and the Promise of Intersec-

“That's what universities are about — we're about conversations and talking about ideas, not squelching them”

tionality, which dissects the exchanges between the two men on the issue of race. The primary texts include dozens of race-focused speeches that Obama gave during his two terms as president and the discourse of Trump's White identity movement.

Yet Oregon's academic institutions are not alone in tackling the quagmire that is the Trump presidency.

At Penn State University, The McCourtney Institute for Democracy offered a seminar last semester candidly called *The Trump Course*. Led by six different professors, the class un-

packed Trump's unorthodox campaign from various reference points, including feminism, the media, and race.

"In political science and elsewhere, students were coming into this election with this feeling of being overwhelmed and literally, like, 'What is going on? Is this normal, and how do I, as a voter, see my way through this?'" said Christopher Beem, managing director of the McCourtney Institute. "We felt like we needed to offer a resource for what is, I would argue, a new phenomenon in American politics at this level."

Loyola University Chicago will offer



Hidden Figures

Students and teachers involved with the Dreaming of Potential Excellence program encouraging girls in science, technology, engineering and math held a Hidden Figures event from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. Monday. The event included speakers talking about their careers in STEM fields and kicked off with a screening of the movie "Hidden Figures," which tells the story of the female African American mathematicians who calculated flight trajectories for Project Mercury.

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announcing it had withdrawn its prior endorsement of the event.

"We have eight days to get this going, and we've just been working nonstop, like 24-7," Jacobsen told *The Skanner* Friday. There are two main organizers, she said, and about 50 people who are volunteering to make the event happen. "We're just trying to make sure that what was handed to us, that we do the best with it."

The NAACP's release acknowledges the transition in leadership, quoting chapter president Jo Ann Hardesty saying, "Monday I learned that the original organizers have all resigned and now several Portland women have stepped up to continue this effort. We applaud this recent development and wish the new organizers much success."

Hardesty told *The Skanner* she is not personally discouraging anyone from participating in Saturday's march — but she stands by her decision to withdraw and feels the damage done by the original organizers cannot be undone. Constance Van Flandern, a state administrator coordinating communication among the organizers of the national Women's

March on Washington, helping facilitate travel to the national event and certifying the social media presence for local marches in the state of Oregon, said she started hearing concerns about the original organizers' inclusivity in November.

She received messages from

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several women of color who were blocked from posting on a private Facebook group dedicated to discussing the event created right after the election, after posting articles about intersectional feminism or questions about whether the voices of immigrants and women of color, as well as lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people would be included in the march.

That group's administrator, Dara Glass, spoke briefly with *The Skanner* earlier in January, saying she was organizing the march with the help of friends of hers in eastern Oregon, who she described as "dots of blue in a sea

of red."

Van Flandern and Hardesty both said they had difficult interactions with Glass. Van Flandern was concerned that, coming from eastern Oregon, she was out of touch with Portland's activist communities, which didn't pair well with her seeming lack of in-

terest in organizing with communities of color.

The latter was the larger concern for Hardesty.

"It's not about being in Eastern Oregon. It's about an unwillingness to highlight the women who would be the most harmed under this incoming administration," Hardesty said.

The Skanner contacted Glass by phone Friday, and she confirmed that leadership of the march had changed hands but had no further comment. According to Van Flandern, Glass stepped down from the organizing role.

Read the full story at TheSkanner.com



African American Resistance in the Era of Donald Trump is being held at the Lonnie B Harris Black Culture Center at OSU. BCC peer facilitators Osenat Quadri, left, and Justeen Quartey, right.

Slavery and Abolition Then and Now this spring.

Read the full story at TheSkanner.com