

Events & Announcements

Community Calendar 2021

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pollinated by a variety of insects that help flowers set seed and help fruit & vegetable plants produce an edible harvest. You will learn about the different kinds of pollinators, discover a plant palette to help attract and support pollinators, and go beyond the bloom to consider ways to provide shelter, water, nesting, and overwintering sites. <http://emswcd.org/workshops-and-events/upcoming-workshops/>

TUESDAY, MAY 4, 1:30 - 2:30 PM

BEHAVIORAL INTERVIEWING: Every interview includes at least a few behavioral interview questions - in this virtual workshop you will find out which are most common and get tips on how to answer them. Presented by Mollie Grider, Talent Acquisition at Verizon. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/behavioral-interviewing-tickets-137833643137?aff=ebdssbonlinesearch>

MONDAY, MAY 5, 12, 19, 26

CASCADIA'S HEART EVENT: a month-long virtual celebration illuminating the intersection of women, mental health, taking place the entire month of May in celebration of Mental Health Awareness Month. This year's month-long virtual art gallery will explore challenges unique to women in our community while empowering women to live their best lives. Proceeds from this event are critical to Cascadia being able to serve over 6,000 women of all ages every year. Visit <https://bit.ly/3wEITZi> for the first event, or search HEART on Eventbrite to see all events.



PHOTO BY SUSAN FRIED

Seattle Marches for Children

Members of Super Familia, an organization that supports undocumented and unaccompanied youth in Seattle marched on Saturday April 17, outside one of the homes run by Youth Care, an organization Super Familia accuses of abusing immigrant children and collaborating with ICE. Super Familia says Youth Care which contracts with the Federal Government to take care of unaccompanied minors, mistreats the young people and turns them over to ICE as soon as they turn 18.

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of Representatives after someone in the building tested positive for COVID-19.

Oregon Gov. Kate Brown has warned businesses will be shut down again if hospitals become inundated with patients.

On Monday, the governor announced that 10 counties are moving into the 'high risk' category, which implements more COVID-19 restrictions, including decreased capacity in restaurants and gyms.

Lewis & Clark College to Require COVID Student Vaccinations

PORTLAND, Ore. (AP) — Lewis & Clark College has announced that it will require proof of COVID-19 vaccination for all students this fall.

According to a database maintained by the Chronicle of Higher Education, it's the first institution in Oregon to announce that requirement, Oregon Public Broadcasting reported.

In an email to students sent Wednesday, the private college in Portland said all students must be fully vaccinated or have an approved exemption by Oct. 15. The policy doesn't apply to online programs.

"We are eager to return to what we do best: in-person classes in a close-knit environment on one of the nation's most beautiful campuses," wrote Robin Holmes-Sullivan, Lewis & Clark vice president of Student Life and dean of students.

The policy only applies to students, but Holmes-Sullivan wrote that the college has "strongly urged" all staff and faculty to be vaccinated. Of the 58 colleges and universities the Chronicle listed in its database as requiring student vaccinations, just six are requiring that employees show proof of having been vaccinated.

The college also anticipates having vaccinations available through their health service, Holmes-Sullivan said.

According to the college website, students will be able to register for the fall term if they do not have proof of vaccination or an exemption by the deadline, but they "may be subject to disciplinary action, registration holds for future semesters, or other requirements or restrictions necessary to support community health."

Seattle University said last week it will require students to prove they've received a COVID-19 vaccine.

Western Oregon University Board of Trustees Approves 2.17% Tuition Increase, Diversity Statement, New Certificates

MONMOUTH, Ore. - The Western Oregon University (WOU) Board of Trustees on Wednesday approved a 2.17% increase in resident undergraduate tuition for the 2021-22 academic year, a decision that confirms WOU's commitment to affordability for Oregon students.

The 2.17% increase is the smallest among all seven public Oregon universities with the exception of Eastern Oregon University. The increase will mean an additional \$180 for a resident undergraduate taking 45 credits per academic year at WOU's Monmouth and Salem campuses.

Also at the meeting, trustees approved its Board Statement on Diversity, Equity, Inclusion and Accessibility, a project the group has been working on since 2019 and that constitutes the highest policy authority for the university. The statement outlines expectations and priorities for the university's climate, recruitment and retention of employees and students, curriculum, community partnerships, business practices, and more.

Seattle News Briefs

Faculty Vote Slams Christian University's Hiring Policy

SEATTLE (AP) — Seattle Pacific University faculty members have cast a vote of "no confidence" in the leadership of the school's Board of Trustees after it announced it would retain a hiring policy that discriminates based on sexual orientation.

The Seattle Times reports that many at the private Christian school have voiced concerns about the policy for years. Students say some were particularly upset in January, when adjunct nursing professor Jéaux Rinedahl sued the university, saying it did not hire him for a full-time position because he's gay.

In a Monday evening statement, the school's Faculty Senate wrote: "The Board's decision to maintain SPU's discriminatory hiring policy related to human sexuality, as well as its manner of delivering that decision, have regrettably compelled the faculty of SPU to pass a vote of no confidence in the SPU Board of Trustees."

The Faculty Senate received responses from about 90% of faculty, with 72% in favor of the no-confidence vote and 22% against.

The Board declined to comment on the vote.

The hiring policy is in the school's employee handbook and says employees "are expected to refrain from ... sexually immoral behavior that is inconsistent with Biblical standards, including cohabitation and extramarital sexual activity."

The handbook then directs employees to the school's lengthy statement on human sexuality, which says the "sexual experience is intended between a man and a woman."

Employees who engage in those activities may face disciplinary action, including termination, the handbook says.

WA Legislature OKs Open Carry Ban at Capitol

By RACHEL LA CORTE Associated Press

OLYMPIA, Wash. (AP) — People would be prohibited from openly carrying guns and other weapons at the Capitol and surrounding grounds and at or near permitted public demonstrations across the state under a measure approved Tuesday by the Washington Legislature.

On a 28-21 vote, the Democratic-led Senate concurred with changes made in the House, which passed the bill last month. The Senate initially passed the measure in February, so it now heads to Democratic Gov. Jay Inslee, who is expected to sign it.

"This bill will help ensure the safe exercise of our First Amendment rights by extending current law restricting where someone may carry a weapon to demonstrations and the Capitol campus," said Democratic Sen. Patty Kuderer, the measure's sponsor.

Because there is an emergency clause on the bill, the law would take effect immediately upon Inslee's signature, instead of the usual 90 days after the end of session, something Republicans opposed to the bill noted blocks a potential voter referendum on the measure.

"There's no emergency," said Republican Sen. Mike Padden, who joined others in his caucus in voting no.

In addition to prohibiting openly carried weapons in the state Capitol or on the western part of the Capitol campus, the measure bars people from carrying weapons, either on their person or in their vehicle, while attending a permitted demonstration at a public place or while being within 250 feet of the perimeter of a permitted demonstration.

The bill adds permitted demonstrations and Capitol grounds surrounding the legislative building to the list of designated places where firearms are already prohibited statewide, including restricted areas of jails, courtrooms, taverns and commercial airports.

While openly carried guns have been banned in both the public galleries of the Senate and House chambers and in public hearing rooms at the Capitol's legislative office buildings since 2015, people can still openly carry weapons in the main public areas of the Washington Capitol and on the grounds of the Capitol campus.

Under the measure, a person must knowingly be in violation of the law in order for the criminal penalty to apply, and the prohibition does not apply to concealed carry of a firearm by someone with a valid concealed pistol license.

Violation of the law would be a gross misdemeanor, punishable by up to one year in jail and a fine of up to \$5,000, or both.