

Abstract: 2020 Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Showcase

Initiative for Maximizing Student Development, Graduate School of Biomedical Sciences

Speakers: Bethany Taylor and Marlyd Mejia

"The Association for Graduate School Diversity (AGSD) is an organization funded by the Initiative for Maximizing Student Development to serve and celebrate underrepresented groups and international graduate students. AGSD's hallmark event has been the Multicultural Festival held in April. This year, we are focusing on supporting diverse student groups including Black Student Collective, Hispanic Women in Science, Hispanic Men in Science, Got Spoons?, Society for Advancement of Chicanos/Hispanics and Native Americans in Science (SACNAS), Spectrum, and international student groups such as Chinese Students & Scholars Association and Taiwanese Student and Scholar Association. We also are focusing our efforts on C.O.R.E: celebration, outreach, retention and recruitment, and education initiatives. This includes starting a new mentorship program and partnering with student groups to support their initiatives.

Our planned events for the next year include celebrating Hispanic Heritage Month (September 15-October 15) with SACNAS by sending out daily emails to celebrate and educate others on Hispanic and Latinx heritage, International Day of Persons with Disabilities (December 3) with Got Spoons? by supporting their panel event planned to educate others on being a scientist with a disability, Black History Month (February) with Black Student Collective, Women's History Month (March), Multicultural Festival (April), and Pride Month (June) with Spectrum. Overall, we serve as a unifying group to help amplify and create community among other diverse student groups' initiatives and work to educate the BCM community (such as putting together email blasts for the Americans with Disabilities Act anniversary and Indigenous People's Day)."