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National Library of Medicine®

Environmental Health Information Partnership

Overview

The National Library of Medicine (NLM) Environmental Health Information Partnership (EnHIP) is collaboration between NLM and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), a Predominately Black Institution (PBI), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities, and an Alaska Native-Serving Institution.

Mission

The mission of the EnHIP is to enhance the capacity of minority-serving academic institutions to reduce health disparities through the access, use and delivery of environmental health information on their campuses and in their communities.

History

This Partnership began as a pilot project in 1991 as the Toxicology Information Outreach Project (TIOP). During the late 1980s, and early 1990s there were a number of published articles and books that highlighted the adverse effects of environmental hazards on minority and socioeconomically deprived communities. There was a clear need for toxicology and environmental health information to be more readily accessible to health professionals serving these communities. Recognizing this need, NLM launched TIOP to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to train medical and other health professionals in the use of toxicology, environmental, occupational and hazardous wastes information resources. This project was implemented to determine if NLM could provide information related to toxicology and environmental health to a network of HBCUs.

The value and success of the project later led to the longest-standing outreach program of NLM. The name was changed to the Environmental Health Information Outreach Program (EnHIOP) as more schools were added to the program in order to reflect more

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Objectives

- **Institutionalize** the NLM resources through curriculum incorporation, seminars, and special events at each institution with high-level administrative and academic involvement;
- **Strengthen** institutional partnerships with libraries and other entities such as environmental justice centers, poison control centers, drug information centers, and centers of excellence;
- **Develop** and strengthen relations with local agencies, community-based and faith-based organizations to extend health-related outreach to communities surrounding the participating institutions;
- **Increase** participation in professional meetings and public forums through presentations of papers, posters, panel discussions, as well as to seek opportunities for publications in major journals;
- **Serve** as NLM local and regional resources for training, exhibiting, and community outreach in order to promote the awareness and utilization of NLM resources; and
- **Implement** a Strategic Plan that aligns with the *NLM Long Range Plan for 2006-2016*.

National Library of Medicine Environmental Health Information Partnership

History *(continued)*

diversity in the participating institutions. In 2008, the name changed to Environmental Health Information Partnership (EnHIP) to reflect a true partnership with NLM. This Partnership reflects a broader focus on the multiple dimensions of environmental health, the environmental health sciences, and health disparities.

Accomplishments

EnHIP accomplishments include the creation of Ph.D. programs in environmental toxicology and environmental sciences, and Doctor of Public Health and master of public health programs at a number of the HBCUs such as Florida A&M University, Morehouse School of Medicine, Texas Southern University, Jackson State University and Morgan State University. In addition, accomplishments include increased technology enhancement at participating schools and curricular technology development in information. Students and faculty have been trained to access health information, and faculty have increased the publication of articles, papers, and books in the scientific literature.

Partnership Outlook

Future plans for EnHIP include networking with more minority-serving institutions, incorporating disaster preparedness and emergency planning, exploring the role of climate change, and implementing a strategic plan that aligns with the *NLM Long Range Plan for 2006–2016*.

Learn more about EnHIP:
sis.nlm.nih.gov/outreach/enhip.html

E-mail:
tehip@tehip.nlm.nih.gov

Phone:
301.496.1131

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Participating Institutions

Benedict College
Columbia, SC

**California State University,
Northridge**
Northridge, CA

**Charles Drew University
of Medicine and Science**
Los Angeles, CA

Diné College
Tsaile, AZ

Florida A&M University
Tallahassee, FL

Florida Memorial College
Miami Gardens, FL

Hampton University
Hampton, VA

**Haskell Indian Nations
University**
Lawrence, KS

Howard University
Washington, DC

Jackson State University
Jackson, MS

Medgar Evers College, CUNY
Brooklyn, NY

Meharry Medical College
Nashville, TN

**Morehouse School of
Medicine**
Atlanta, GA

Morgan State University
Baltimore, MD

Oglala Lakota College
Pine Ridge, SD

**Southern University
at Baton Rouge**
Baton Rouge, LA

Texas Southern University
Houston, TX

Tuskegee University
Tuskegee, AL

**University of Alaska
Anchorage**
Anchorage, AK

**University of Puerto Rico,
Medical Sciences Campus**
San Juan, PR

**The University of Texas at
El Paso**
El Paso, TX

**Xavier University
of New Orleans**
New Orleans, LA

