Here is this week's *Inside OISE @ Home Edition*. As the COVID-19 situation has progressed, many at OISE find themselves working, studying and interacting from various remote locations as they stay home. For example, the above photo was taken at a recent *OISE Friday Morning Coffee Chat*. Join every Friday on https://us04web.zoom.us/j/480249072.

*Please continue to share your updates with us!* We want to know what's happening with you and the OISE community. Be well and stay well, everyone.

"Ensure that we continue to meet student needs"

LHAE Chair Nina Bascia notes that during the COVID-19 situation, OISE staff and faculty continue to work, from home, to ensure that we continue to meet student needs.

Nina reflects that: "It may seem strange, but let's remember the importance of student needs and the impact that we have on the student experience."

"Appreciate the depth of talented and committed staff and faculty"

APHD Chair Earl Woodruff says the department is operating fully online. Faculty and staff have been conducting drop-in Zoom meetings for students and early feedback suggests they are grateful to have a way to stay in touch.
but I find that during this time we are in very good touch with people. We are able to discuss issues and problems as they arise – maybe even more effectively than before.

The department is currently focusing our attention on making sure the intersession and summer terms are successful, that our regular processes continue to run smoothly, and that we can provide interesting and helpful new opportunities for student learning while we adjust to the current reality.

The OISE Psychology Clinic faculty, staff, and students have been actively compiling resources to assist students, who are feeling stressed and challenged by physical isolation. APHD is also supporting its faculty while they move their courses online.

Earl says that "considering the drastic changes we have all endured, people are doing a stellar job in adapting and accommodating to this unique environment. These times allow us to readily appreciate the depth of talented and committed staff and faculty we have at OISE." Earl extends a deep thanks to everyone for their patience and flexibility.

Understanding Xenophobia: What it is? How do we address it

Thursday, April 9, 2020
11:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Online

With the many concerns of rising anti-Asian racism across societies we must deepen our understanding of xenophobia and its impacts. Join the HR Equity Team as we explore the concept of xenophobia, the range of behaviours and attitudes that perpetuate xenophobia and the steps we can all take to disrupt biases and stereotypes in order to advance inclusion. Learn more.

OISE Central Services

OISE Library on the phone and online

The OISE Library team is working remotely, ordering e-resources, providing online consultations and instruction, and responding to your questions.

"We’ve heard from many students and faculty over the past week and are inspired by the way everyone is caring for and supporting each other during this time," said Jenaya Webb, Acting Director of the OISE Library. "We look forward to being back at the library, but for now, we’re here to support you online or over the phone."

If you need support, please contact our librarians:

Main OISE Library phone line: 416-978-1850
Emily Hector, Instruction and Public Services Librarian: 416-978-7964
Nailisa Tanner, Collections and Outreach Librarian: 416-978-1921
Desmond Wong, Outreach Librarian: 416-978-1945
EC Team presents series of live online learning sessions

This past Monday, the Education Commons launched a series of live online training sessions and drop-in periods where experts talk about the best ways to work effectively with Zoom, Microsoft Teams, SharePoint, email, Communicator 7 and more.

Dean Glen Jones participated this week in the Advanced Zoom session on Tuesday with Neil Tinker and the Outlook Teams session with Derek McCabe on Wednesday and said "both were fabulous, really well done and I learned a lot".

All are welcome to join! Come learn to improve your remote communication and collaboration skills. Education Commons’ Virtual Learn about upcoming sessions here.

OISE Student Spotlight

First all virtual Final Oral Exam

Congratulations to APHD doctoral student Claire Barnes on completing their Final Oral Exam (FOE)!

With the onslaught of COVID-19, though, the worries about having to postpone loomed. Yet, Claire’s FOE went as scheduled but definitely not as originally planned and not how they visualized it. Thanks to SGS, EC and the ORSS as well as quick changes to policy, infusion of technology, responsive staff and flexible faculty, Claire attended OISE’s first virtual FOE.

Claire defended their dissertation successfully and can now add PhD to their title.

Heartfelt thanks to OISE Graduate Student Research Conference organizers

The co-chairs of the 20th Graduate Student Research Conference, in consultation with the Office of the Associate Dean, Programs, has postponed the conference, originally to be held in April.

Proposals were submitted for more than 100 paper presentations, 12 posters, and 11 workshops. An excellent lineup of speakers, keynotes and panelists from diverse backgrounds had been organized, and the committee was looking forward to sharing critical conversations and discussions.

The co-chairs give their heartfelt thanks to the amazing team of volunteers who reviewed proposals and were developing the conference program, and to committee coordinators for all the time and labour they put into the conference. The co-chairs look forward to resuming this work and reconnecting.

In the meantime, please feel free to get in touch with any questions.

Check out APHD's latest Student Spotlight to learn about Francis Wall, a 3rd year doctoral student in the School and Clinical Child Psychology program.
Resources

Equity minded practices in virtual space

Professor Lance McCready attended an excellent webinar on Employing Equity-Minded and Culturally-Affirming Teaching and Learning Practices in Virtual Learning Communities that can be watched online here.

In the webinar, Drs. Frank Harris III and J. Luke Wood presented salient trends and issues that complicate the experiences of diverse community college learners in online courses. They also propose equity-minded teaching and learning strategies for faculty teaching online courses.

Thinking about Ergonomics and Digital Wellness @ Home with Greg Baross

OISE CAO Business Officer Greg Baross has pulled together Resources for OISE Staff and Faculty to help in these challenging times.

Greg has been working at home to support the transition of so many operations to remote locations. Greg reflects that "many of us are working from home now, and there are added challenges with that. It's not as easy as logging into your computer; we have gone through social conditioning to 'go to work, to work', and now we are at home trying to do many of the same tasks. Having a good set up, comfortable chair, and mentally putting yourself in work mode are essential to be able to focus on what we have to work on."

Associate Dean shares info for free online course for mental health during COVID-19

OISE Associate Dean Michele Peterson-Badali shared the following from U of T Scarborough Campus:

A professor at the University of Toronto Scarborough has launched a free online course to help participants manage their mental health during the COVID-19 crisis. "Mind Control: Managing Your Mental Health During COIVD-19" is available on the Coursera platform and aims to provide the tools necessary to deal with increased isolation and the loss of normal professional interactions. The course walks participants through understanding and managing the effects of anxiety and isolation. “To really feel better and to really manage your anxiety, I think it’s really important to really understand what it is, how it comes about,” said course creator Steven Joordens.

Have a story you would like featured Inside OISE @ Home? Share it with us!

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