

Environmental Health Information Partnership

Overview

The National Library of Medicine's Environmental Health Information Partnership (EnHIP) is a collaboration between NLM and Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs), a Predominately Black Institution (PBI), Hispanic-Serving Institutions (HSIs), Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs), an Alaska Native-Serving Institution, and a community college. EnHIP evolved from the Toxicology Information Outreach Panel (TIOP) which was established in 1991 in response to the pressing issue of toxic waste and the exposure to toxic chemicals in minority communities.

Mission

The mission of the Environmental Health Information Partnership is to enhance the capacity of minority-serving academic institutions to acquire, use, and disseminate environmental health information and to promote and expand data driven science to facilitate health equities in all communities.

History

This partnership began as a pilot project in 1991 as the Toxicology Information Outreach Panel (TIOP). During the late '80s, and early '90s, a number of published articles and books highlighted the adverse effects of environmental hazards on minority and socioeconomically deprived communities.

A clear need existed for toxicology and environmental health information to be more readily accessible to health professionals serving these communities. Recognizing this need, the National Library of Medicine launched TIOP to strengthen the capacity of HBCUs to train medical and other health professionals in the use of toxicology, environmental, occupational, and hazardous waste information resources.

The value and success of the project later led to the Library's longest-standing outreach program. The name was changed to the Environmental Health Information Outreach Program (EnHIOP) to reflect the diversity of the participating institutions.

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

Objectives

- **Institutionalize** the NLM resources through incorporation of resources in the curriculum, 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 and 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, posters, and panel discussions, and seek opportunities for publication 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
- **Capacity** building for data driven science on minority-serving institution campuses and in their communities with new partners

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Accomplishments

Accomplishments of EnHIP include the creation of doctorate degree programs in environmental toxicology and environmental sciences, and doctorate and master of public health programs at a number of HBCUs. In addition, accomplishments include increased technology enhancement at participating schools and curricular technology development in information. Every year, students and faculty are trained to access health information, and faculty members have increased the publication of articles, papers, and books in the scientific literature.

Partnership Outlook

Future plans for EnHIP include

- Building collaboration among minority-serving institutions
- Incorporating disaster preparedness and emergency planning
- Explore ways to meet the challenges of climate science
- Finding solutions to environmental and social injustice
- Implementing a strategic plan that aligns with the vision and strategic plan of NLM

Contact Us

Learn more about EnHIP at:
www.nlm.nih.gov/oet/partnerships/enhip.html

Toll Free:

1.888.FIND.NLM (1-888-346-3656)

www.nlm.nih.gov

Participating Institutions

Benedict College, Columbia, SC

Charles R. Drew University of Medicine and Science,
Los Angeles, CA

Colorado Mountain College, Glenwood Springs, CO

Florida A&M University, Tallahassee, 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

Navajo Technical University, Crownpoint, NM (main campus)

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 Colorado Anschutz Medical Campus,
Aurora, CO

University of Hawai'i at Mānoa, Honolulu, HI

University of New Mexico, Albuquerque, NM

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

University of Texas at El Paso, El Paso, TX

Xavier University of Louisiana, New Orleans, LA

