

# NIOT Weekly Digest: March 13, 2015

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Inbox

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## NIOT Weekly Digest – March 13, 2015

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### **SOLIDARITY WITH THE UNIVERSITY OF OKLAHOMA COMMUNITY**

This weekend, which was the 50th anniversary of the March on Selma, news came out surrounding the racist chants by members of the Sigma Alpha Epsilon (SAE) chapter at the University of Oklahoma. Our hearts and spirit are with the University of Oklahoma community as they deal with this situation. The National NIOT movement has reached out to the University of Oklahoma community and has showcased the model developed here at Bowling Green. We are ready to provide whatever support is needed by our friends/colleagues at the University of Oklahoma.

The situation is a powerful reminder that we cannot be mere bystanders when it comes to issues of diversity and inclusion. We also need to be authentic when it comes to addressing issues of racism, discrimination and harassment both inside and outside of our organizations & institutions.

### **INTERFAITH BREAKFAST THANK YOU**

Special thank you to those attended the Inaugural Interfaith Community Breakfast. Photos from the Breakfast are available on the NIOT BG Facebook site. NIOT BG will be following up with those that have expressed interest in being involved with NIOT and future Interfaith opportunities.

### **MARCH IS WOMEN'S HISTORY MONTH**

The month of March is Women's History Month throughout the country. The BGSU Women's Center and the Women's Gender & Sexuality Studies program has planned a variety of events throughout the month for the BGSU and BG community. A listing of the different programs can be found at: <http://www.bgsu.edu/womens-center/events-and-programs/womens-history-month.html>.

### **19TH STATE OF THE STATE CONFERENCE**

The 19th annual State-of-the-State Conference will take place at Owens Community College on March 19, 2015 from 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. This year's conference theme is "Breaking Barriers, Building Bridges: Connecting Communities:", and features a keynote by Dr. Richard Pimentel, a disability rights activist who developed significant training materials aimed to help employers integrate persons with disabilities into the workplace, and was a strong advocate for the passage of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). 2015 marks the 25th anniversary of the passage of the ADA.

To learn more about the conference, please visit: <https://www.owens.edu/sosconference/>. Registrations are still being accepted.

### **SAVE THE DATE: "The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace" Performance on April 1st**

"The Armed Man: A Mass for Peace" by Karl Jenkins will be presented on April 1 at 8 p.m. in Kobacker Hall at the College of Musical Arts of Bowling Green State University. This multimedia production involves singers, instrumentalists and film footage, both historic and contemporary, in a one-hour event that will stir the emotions of anyone who hopes for or prays for peace in the world. College of Musical Arts voice faculty, the University Choral Society, members of the Wind Symphony, string players, and a student from the Muslim Student Association will perform this work, which is said to be one of the most frequently performed pieces written by a composer living today. Tickets are available at <https://itkt.choicecrm.net/templates/BGSU/index.php>.

### **BG4Unity: LET'S MAKE A DIFFERENCE**

We invite YOU to take a stand against hate by supporting BG4Unity! BG4Unity is a community-based project that encourages people to use social media more responsibly to advocate against hate AND offer messages of hope to those affected by discrimination. Every day, thousands of hurtful and careless messages are shared on sites like Twitter, Yik Yak, and Facebook. BG4Unity strives to provide a contrast to this sea of negativity by spreading more positive, thoughtful, and constructive social media messages.

YOU can make a difference! Getting involved is FREE and easy:

1. Like them on Facebook: [www.facebook.com/BG4Unity](http://www.facebook.com/BG4Unity)
2. Follow them on Twitter (@BG4Unity)
3. Share YOUR Message by posting a BG4Snapshot:
  - Write a message that challenges a stereotype or takes a stand against hate

- Take a selfie with the photo.
- Post it on their Facebook page and/or share it on Twitter with the hashtag #BG4Unity

### **NIOT BG ON FACEBOOK**

NIOT BG is on Facebook. Follow us (by liking the page) at Not In Our Town Bowling Green for photos, latest news, and updates. Here is the direct link: <https://www.facebook.com/pages/Not-In-Our-Town-Bowling-Green/411179839042009>

### **iStand ADVOCACY TRAINING**

The iSTAND Advocacy Training program was created by the Office of Multicultural Affairs and the Center for Leadership to help teach participants practical skills for addressing micro aggressions in our society and to stand up and advocate for others. Upcoming iSTAND Advocacy Training dates include March 19th, March 31st, and April 9th. Register here: <https://orgsync.com/8315/forms/127550>. For more information, please contact Claire Austin at [clairea@bgsu.edu](mailto:clairea@bgsu.edu).

### **INCLUSIVE LEADERSHIP CERTIFICATE**

The Center for Leadership is continuing with the Inclusive Leadership Certificate (ILC) that was first done in Fall 2014. It is now a partnership with the Office of Multicultural Affairs. The ILC is six-part program that will help you develop the attitudes, knowledge, and skills for inclusive leadership in an increasingly diverse world. Employers are looking for leaders who value and develop inclusive leadership skills. The ILC is the perfect way to incorporate that competency into your leadership toolkit, meet people who share your interests, and contribute to making BGSU a more inclusive community. The first session started on Monday, February 23rd. Register at <https://orgsync.com/8315/forms/127305>. For more information, please contact Claire Austin at [clairea@bgsu.edu](mailto:clairea@bgsu.edu).

### **LGBTQ+ LEADERSHIP SERIES**

The LGBTQ+ Leadership Series is a semester-long curriculum of six sessions, each detailing a different aspect of the intersection of leadership and the LGBTQ+ community. Sessions range from focusing on leadership styles, the history of the queer sexualities and gender identities, identification of racism within the LGBTQ+ community, fostering allyship, and more. For more information, please contact Vern Cooper at [cooperv@bgsu.edu](mailto:cooperv@bgsu.edu) on attending.

### **GIVING TO NIOT BG**

As NIOT BG prepares to mark its second anniversary this April 2015, one of our goals is to ensure that this effort remains sustainable and viable. In order to ensure this, we need to develop more steady streams of funding. NIOT BG does not get any formal funding from the University and the City. Nonetheless, we have been able to make things happen through the generous donations and contributions of different university/city offices and individuals, as well as the in-kind efforts of many campus and community volunteers.

We are pleased to announce that we can now accept tax-deductible donations and contributions. We have been able to open a formal account through the BGSU Foundation. This will allow individuals and others to donate and contribute funds specifically for NIOT BG initiatives. We also understand that some members of the community may feel uncomfortable in donating funds to a BGSU account. We are working on finalizing an account with the BG Community Foundation and hope to have those details available in the next few weeks.

Information about Giving to NIOT BG is now available on the website: [www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown](http://www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown). Please consider making a gift today.

## **#LIVENIOTBG**

NIOT has introduced a new hashtag #LIVENIOTBG as a way to highlight strategies and other ways that individuals are living by the NIOT pledge. Join us in spreading the positive message of NIOT through this new hashtag.

## **INVOLVEMENT OPPORTUNITIES**

NIOT has three working groups – Outreach Initiatives, Education & Programs and Marketing & Public Relations. We are looking for interested individuals to help with these efforts. If interested, please sign-up via this link: <http://tinyurl.com/lvexb9k>. The respective heads of the working groups on the next steps will contact you.

## **VIDEO LIBRARY**

BGSU and BG now have a video library of NIOT films. A full listing can be found here:

<http://www.bgsu.edu/not-in-our-town/video-library.html> These DVDs are available for check out and can be reserved by emailing [rplaza@bgsu.edu](mailto:rplaza@bgsu.edu).

## **UPCOMING DIVERSITY EVENTS**

An added feature to the NIOT Weekly Digest will be a listing of diversity-related events in the BGSU & BG community for the upcoming week. If you have events that you would like listed, please contact Gary or myself (emails listed below).

Note: BTSU = The Bowen Thompson Student Union

### **Monday, March 16, 2015**

#### **Inclusive Excellence Certificate**

*Session 3: Intercultural Communication*

5:30 p.m. - 7:00 p.m.

BTSU 315

### **Wednesday, March 18, 2015**

#### **Women's Center Discussion Series: "International Girls Take on Northwest Ohio"**

12:00 p.m. - 1:00 p.m.,

The Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall

#### **Ethnic Student Center Discussion Series:**

5:00 p.m. – 6:00 p.m., 318 B Math Sciences

#### **PBG Presents: Phenomenal Women**

6:00 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

The Women's Center, 107 Hanna Hall

### **Thursday, March 19, 2015**

19th State of the State Conference

8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m.

Owens Community College

For more information: <https://www.owens.edu/sosconference/>

## **I.N.T.E.R.S.E.C.T.I.O.N.S.**

5:30 p.m. – 7:00 p.m., 318 B Math Sciences

### **iStand Training**

5:30 p.m. – 6:45 p.m.

315 BTSU

\*\* Please feel free to share this Weekly Digest with interested colleagues and friends. If individuals and groups want to receive the emails, they can sign-up at the NIOT website at [www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown](http://www.bgsu.edu/notinourtown) or contact Gary or myself. \*\*

If you have items that you wish to be included for future editions of the NIOT Weekly Digest, you can submit to: [niot@bgsu.edu](mailto:niot@bgsu.edu).  
You can also contact the NIOT Co-Chairs, Ray Plaza ([rplaza@bgsu.edu](mailto:rplaza@bgsu.edu)) or Rev. Gary Saunders ([pastorgary@bgpresb.org](mailto:pastorgary@bgpresb.org))