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Contact: Beth Howlett, Director of Communications, bhowlett@ocom.edu, 503-253-3443 x196

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OCOM Selected as Advanced Training Site for AIHM Interprofessional Fellowship Program

The Oregon Collaborative for Integrative Medicine (OCIM), a nonprofit with members National College of Natural Medicine, Oregon College of Oriental Medicine, Oregon Health & Science University, Pacific University and University of Western States, is partnering with the Academy of Integrative Health & Medicine (AIHM) on the first truly interprofessional advanced training fellowship in integrative health and medicine. This is the first graduate-level, two-year training program of its kind for interprofessional advanced health clinicians. Portland, Oregon is the only city in the United States to house the combination and breadth of teaching institutions needed for the program as envisioned by Dr. Low Dog and is made further distinct by the long history of collaboration among OCIM member institutions.

The two-year program is a hybrid model that includes 1,000 hours in the virtual classroom with media-rich training, discussion groups, streamed videos and interactive web-based curriculum. Additionally, the program incorporates clinical rotations, three in-person retreats and elective specialty modules. The AIHM Fellowship will deliver the program according to the standards of the Accreditation Council for Graduate Medical Education (ACGME) and Accreditation Council for Continuing Medical Education (ACCME) through its academic partner, OCIM.

OCIM, which represents a group of prominent accredited health and medicine educational institutions, emerged as the ideal partner in AIHM’s search for an academic partner. “The defining characteristic of the AIHM fellowship program is that it is interprofessional, meaning that you have medical and osteopathic physicians, pharmacists, licensed acupuncturists, dentists, and many others all training together,” said AIHM President, Mimi Guarneri, MD, FACC, ABIHM. “OCIM brings more than 25 years of exactly that type of collaboration. We are extraordinarily well-suited for partnership.”

According to OCOM representative to the OCIM Board of Directors, Deborah Howe, PhD, FAICP, “OCOM is thrilled to join OCIM in partnering with AIHM to create a new generation of interprofessional healthcare...
providers better trained understand and cooperate among each other’s disciplines. Patients benefit when practitioners know how to provide truly integrated care.”

Dr. Low Dog has expressed her excitement over the emerging partnership with OCIM. “The AIHM Fellowship is the culmination of over 35 years of my life’s work. Our academic partner, OCIM and its members will infuse the fellowship with distinction while providing the infrastructure for its clinical component. The Fellowship curriculum is expertly crafted by a diverse group by professionals. Applications for our first class, which launches February 2016, are rolling in now.”

The AIHM and OCIM expect to finalize the details of the partnership in late 2015. Those interested in the program can stay up-to-date with the latest developments at aihm.org/fellowship. Questions about registration and application can be directed to Fellowship Program Coordinator, Kristen Gates at 218-525-5651.

About OCIM
The Oregon Collaborative for Integrative Medicine (OCIM) is a nonprofit organization with membership comprised of National College of Natural Medicine, Oregon College of Oriental Medicine, Oregon Health & Science University, Pacific University and University of Western States. OCIM works to transform health care and improve the health of the public by creating integrative educational opportunities for students, residents, fellows, practitioners and patients by collaborating on integrative health research and patient care and by providing a collective voice for affecting change. OCIM believes that optimal health is not attainable within any single health discipline or profession, but rather is best achieved through an evidence-informed, integrative approach. Go to www.o-cim.org.

About AIHM
The Academy of Integrative Health & Medicine (AIHM) is an international, interprofessional, member-centric organization that educates and trains clinicians in integrative health and medicine to assure exemplary health care. The AIHM’s training incorporates evidence-informed research, emphasizes person-centered care and embraces global healing traditions. By combining science and compassion, the AIHM is transforming health care. Go to www.aihm.org.

About Oregon College of Oriental Medicine (OCOM)
Founded in 1983, OCOM is a single-purpose nonprofit graduate school that offers two specialized degree programs: Master of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (MAcOM) and Doctor of Acupuncture and Oriental Medicine (DAOM). OCOM’s mission is to transform health care by educating highly skilled and compassionate practitioners, providing exemplary patient care, and engaging in innovative research within a community of service and healing. Our 1,300 graduates practice, teach and research Chinese medicine in 43 states and across the globe, and have provided an estimated 10 million treatments during the past 32 years. In 2012, OCOM relocated its campus and clinic to a LEED Gold certified academic, clinic and research facility in Old Town Chinatown. Additional information about the college is available on our website.

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