**Greater Portland Regional Center of Expertise (RCE)**

**on Education for Sustainable Development**

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***Welcome to our December RCE Newsletter!  Sustainability educators and supporters in the region continue to do amazing things and there are many new opportunities. Check out the details below for news, events, and workshops.***

**RCE News**

Big news! While we are waiting on the formal paperwork, we were informed that Greater Portland’s application was reviewed by the United Nation University’s Ubuntu Committee and accepted, with high praise. This good news was shared with RCE Coordinator Kim Smith at the Global RCE Conference, in Nairobi, Kenya, last week. We were welcomed, with much encouragement, from [RCEs](https://www.ias.unu.edu/sub_page.aspx?catID=1849&ddlID=183) around the world. The conference offered many examples of sustainability projects and best practices that will help us further shape and support our network. We hope you will join us in celebrating this great news and we look forward to sharing more information with you soon.

**Events**

**Breaking Chains: Dismantling Racism in Higher Education**

**Thursday, December 5, 2013**

**4:30 pm to 6:30 pm**

**Blanchard Education Service Center (BESC)**

**501 N. Dixon St., 97227**

The 2013-14 Portland Public Schools Focus on Diversity Film & Lecture Series, now in its fourth year, focuses on “Staying the Course.” The series is a free film and lecture series offering PPS staff and community members an opportunity to learn about and discuss the history and current issues around race in Oregon and in our schools.

Staff and community members are invited.

“Breaking Chains” focuses on the development and organization of a group of students, faculty, staff, alumni, and community members at Macalester College (St. Paul, Minnesota) who are attempting to undo racism on an institutional level. Jacqueline B. Temple, PhD, Professor, Portland State University, Graduate School of Education will facilitate a discussion after the film.

**RCE Coordinating Committee Meeting**

**Thursday, December 12, 2013**

**10:00 am - 12:00 pm**

**PCC CLIMB Center Rm. 300**

**1626 SE Water Avenue, Portland, OR 97214**

Members of the coordinating committee volunteer their time to attend monthly meetings, serve as liaisons between the RCE and member organizations, provide input on RCE activities, coordinate quarterly RCE stakeholder meetings, help with RCE outreach, and conduct the overall business of the RCE. All stakeholders are welcome to join the coordinating committee.

**Workshops and Conferences**

**Mapping Equity in Portland**

**Friday, December 6, 2013**

**10:30 am to 12:00 pm**

**Portland Community College Sylvania SS 122**

**12000 SW 49th Ave. Portland, OR 97219**

Join Portland Community College Sylvania’s Social Sciences Division for a presentation by the Coalition for a Livable Future on their newly released Regional Equity Atlas 2.0. Based on current, regional data, the Regional Equity Atlas project uses maps, policy analysis, community based research, and other tools to assess how well different populations across the four-county Portland-Vancouver metro region can access resources necessary for meeting their basic needs and advancing their health and well-being. This presentation will provide an overview of the Equity Atlas project, a summary of key maps and findings, and an advanced demonstration of how to use the online mapping tool. All PCC staff and students and community members are welcome.

For more information on the Equity Atlas project, please visit [www.equityatlas.org](http://www.equityatlas.org/).

**PSU Social Sustainability Colloquium: Make an Impact! The Many Faces of Service in the Greater Portland Area - Hands On Portland**

**Friday, December 6, 2013**

**2:00 pm - 4:00 pm**

**Portland State University**

**ASRC (Rec Center bldg), Room 660**

**1800 SW 6th Ave. Portland, OR 97201**

**FREE and open to the public**

How are you making an impact in our community? How would you like to make an impact in the future? Whether you're new to the world of volunteerism or interested in exploring new ways to get engaged, Hands On Greater Portland's mission is to help connect you with opportunities to do good across the greater metro area. During this session, you'll learn more about what's out there in the world of service -- from done-in-a-day work parties, to service learning teams, to longer-term opportunities to use or hone your skills while making an impact. We'll discuss what makes a good volunteer opportunity -- what to look for, what questions to ask, and how to find your niche. And we'll explore the larger conversation of what motivates us to volunteer and how we can continue to cultivate that inspiration in our communities not just around the holiday season, but all year long.

**Presenter:** After serving two terms as an AmeriCorps member with Hands On Greater Portland**, Melia Tichenor**joined the permanent staff as Eastside Program Manager in 2009. Through her support of nonprofit partners, she has helped organizations develop a wide array of episodic volunteer projects, both for the Hands On Project Calendar and for various national days of service. In addition to her work with Hands On's nonprofit partners, Melia runs the Hands On Greater Portland TeamWorks program, which brings together teams of 10-12 volunteers to explore specific issue area or neighborhood through the lens of service learning and experiential education.

**Resources**

The United Nations University- Institute of Advanced Studies has various [publications](https://www.ias.unu.edu/sub_page.aspx?catID=7&ddlID=58) that are available for the public. From biodiversity curriculum to traditional knowledge, be sure to check out resources that are being developed around the world.

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***Do you have sustainability education news, events, resources, funding opportunities or ideas for collaborating that you would like to share with others in the network?  Send them to***[***kdsmith@pcc.edu***](mailto:kdsmith@pcc.edu)***.***

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