

April 17, 2009

*Dear OLIO Supporter:*

*In 1998, the Affirmative Action Program (AAP) created a four-day orientation for minority law students with the goal of providing those students with a community who cared about their goals, while enticing them to stay in Oregon. That orientation, with approximately 44 students, became Opportunities for Law in Oregon (OLIO), a nationally recognized and American Bar Association sanctioned program providing incoming minority law students with the opportunity to meet each other, upper division students, judges, bar association leaders, and other lawyers who would later serve those students as mentors and role models.*

Today, OLIO focuses not only on work-life balance: it includes study skills workshops; networking through BOWLIO, a social fundraising event for OLIO; an annual employment retreat; and summer clerkship luncheons with an emphasis on Oregon Bar Exam preparation. AAP data indicates that OLIO participants are more likely to pass the Oregon Bar Exam. In July 2008, 15 out of 27 minority bar applicants who attended OLIO passed the Oregon Bar Exam. The program remains attuned to the sensitive issue that many students are the first in their families to attend law school, or even college; this orientation represents for many, their first experience with the legal community and the culture of law.

By remaining sensitive to such issues, OLIO has become a fundamental tool to retaining ethnic minority law students in Oregon; however, it cannot stand alone. In these difficult financial times, OLIO needs supporters like you more than ever. Each year, the Oregon Law Foundation (OLF) typically makes a generous grant to the AAP for OLIO Orientation. The recent economic downturn has severely impacted the OLF's 2009 funds. The OLF's priority is to fund organizations that provide civil legal services to low-income Oregonians. The OLF made the difficult policy decision to divert funds away from the AAP to fulfill this important function. As a result, the AAP's 2009 grant is down by more than 62% from 2008's level. OLIO Orientation typically costs about \$80,000 and it is to supporters like you that we must turn to make up the shortfall.

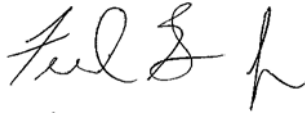
Financial support from you is crucial to ensuring that our OSB supports the efforts of those minority law students who want to remain here and serve the people of Oregon as minority attorneys. Please find enclosed a donation form to support OLIO and the OSB, by increasing diversity.

Friends of OLIO (FrOLIO) is a registered 501(c)(3) organization that will accept your in-kind and cash donations to OLIO, which are tax deductible. Your donation will help to ensure that

our bar remains strong and committed to making the legal community of Oregon a positive environment where people of all colors, races, and ethnic backgrounds can excel academically, professionally, and personally.

Please direct any questions to Emily Yip at (503) 431-6338 or eyip@osbar.org.

Sincerely yours,



Frank Garcia, Jr.  
Diversity Administrator  
Oregon State Bar



David F. Bartz, Jr.  
Former Chair, Affirmative  
Action Committee



Richard J. Brownstein  
Chair, Friends of OLIO and  
Former AAC Member