

### **“Ohio State Wins Major Diversity Awards”**

Ohio State is earning major accolades for its diversity efforts. Recently, the university was honored both locally and nationally for its strides towards making the university more and more inclusive of diverse populations and perspectives.

The Columbus Chapter of the National Association for the Advancement of Colored People (NAACP) held its inaugural Champions of Diversity luncheon on September 28, 2011. During the program, the NAACP, the oldest civil rights organization in the country, honored The Ohio State University with the Leadership Award for its diversity efforts. The Chapter also honored the late, great Dr. Frank W. Hale, Jr. for his contributions to increasing academic access for students from underrepresented groups.

On hand to accept Ohio State’s award were Dr. Valerie B. Lee, Vice Provost for Diversity and Inclusion, and Chief Diversity Officer; Dr. Javaune Adams-Gaston, Vice President for Student Life; M. Dolan Evanovich, Vice President for Strategic Enrollment Planning; and Robert L. Solomon II, Assistant Dean for Admission and Financial Aid and the Director of Minority Affairs for the Moritz College of Law, as well as other university representatives.

Other institutions who also received Champions of Diversity awards included Wal-Mart, honored with the Development Award; Time Warner Cable, honored with the Outreach Award; Penn National Gaming, Inc., honored with the Supplier Award; and Cardinal Health, honored with the Workforce Award.

On the heels of the NAACP award, Ohio State was honored at the Minority Access, Inc. Twelfth National Role Models Conference in Washington D.C on October 1, 2011. The annual conference is an opportunity for institutions who have established diversity as a bedrock principle to share best practices and celebrate their accomplishments.

At their annual Diversity Awards Luncheon, Minority Access, Inc. presented Dr. Tayo Clyburn, Director for Diversity and Inclusion, with a certificate of recognition of Ohio State’s broad range of diversity initiatives.

Minority Access, Inc. is a non-profit educational organization that supports individuals, academic institutions, federal, state, and local government agencies, and various corporations to diversify campuses and work sites by improving the recruitment, retention and enhancement of minorities.

For both awards, the Office of Diversity and Inclusion prepared the nomination packet.