

September 30, 2017

Dear Team,

Since it's still relatively early in the new semester and academic year, it's perfect timing for a reminder regarding Career Services. I encourage ALL our students to meet with Ms. Brenda Nickol, Director of Career Services. The earlier, the better! Brenda can discuss career options and give tips for how to explore those options, which helps inform students what to do during their time here (coursework, choice of topics for assignments, networking strategies, developing their SL/CE and more). She can also help students with resumes/CVs and interview prep. One of my epi fellows is convinced she got her awesome position at California EIS thanks to mock interviews with Brenda!

The annual United Way campaign is underway! We've had 100% participation amongst the College faculty and staff for the last couple of years and don't want to break the streak! You have the opportunity to make a pledge online, which is very easy. Even if you don't choose to make a pledge, still log on and select that option. All you have to do is to log onto Employee Services and click on the United Way link to get started.

Tragically, Hurricane Maria in the Caribbean and an earthquake in Mexico brought more devastation to our world on the heels of Hurricane Harvey. The College deployed Elayne Saejung to Texas as part of a Field Innovation Team. She helped develop a Public Health Digital Dashboard and is in discussion to use it in Puerto Rico. I also wrote an editorial in Fortune online about the need for better information use and technology during disasters. Prof. Medcalf activated our Student Outbreak and Response Team to help triage social media messages and refer them to responders. We are also consulting with a local Omaha company to provide solar power refrigeration units to store medications such as insulin in Puerto Rico.

The Chancellor has generously offered the University as home for displaced students and faculty. We have also reached out to the Dean of the School of Public Health in Puerto Rico. There are many ways to assist those in need including supporting the University of Nebraska Foundation's Disaster Relief Fund to provide for some of these deployment activities and support any students who relocate to Nebraska.

The College had the honor of hosting a delegation from the Ministry of Health in Qatar this month. They visited to learn about our biopreparedness and biosecurity training programs and capabilities as they prepare to host the world at the 2022 FIFA World Cup. Thank you to Drs. John Lowe, Sharon Medcalf, and Wael ElRayes for organizing this visit. We hope this visit showed the delegation that we are up for the challenge to assist in this national level training effort.

These global activities are a reminder to all of our students that Prof. and Mrs. Chambers have generously granted scholarship for students, especially those with no international experience, to do a project abroad this summer. Please follow up with Prof Goedert or Dean Meza for details.

Many thanks to our awesome Student Association for organizing a Dean's Forum this month. We had a good turnout and there were some excellent suggestions made by students in regards to how we can make our programs, services and their experience even better. Dean Arcari and Prof. Grimm are already working on an idea for short skills workshops.

Please keep the ideas coming in!

Always listening,
Ask

Ali S. Khan, MD, MPH

Retired Assistant Surgeon General, USPHS

Dean and Professor

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