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This inaugural report reflects a sampling of UNMC’s international activities, which span the globe from China and India to Nigeria and Oman. UNMC faculty and staff partner with researchers and clinicians around the world to advance science, strengthen patient care and improve public health. They share their expertise at international conferences, collaborate on clinical and research projects and host visitors, who come to UNMC for training. Such collaborations and shared knowledge strengthen UNMC and all of the people served, both here and abroad.
UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER

UNMC has developed truly remarkable global partnerships. We are honored that our presence in China, for example, is one of the most significant among American academic health science centers. But what is most important is what we accomplish with those partnerships and how we use that presence. At UNMC, and our primary clinical partner, Nebraska Medicine, we have made it our mission to create a healthy future for all individuals and communities in Nebraska and throughout the world. This international biennial report is a reflection of that mission, embedded in the collaborations, research and clinical outreach that touch the lives of people living around the world. Fundamentally, this is about human beings that share a common goal and a common vision about building a better future for our planet. And in the personal relationships that allow us to forge these international partnerships, in our combined laboratories across the world, in the classrooms of our combined enterprise, we are dedicated to that mission every single day.

Jeffrey P. Gold, M.D.
Chancellor, University of Nebraska Medical Center

VICE CHANCELLOR FOR ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

As the world increasingly becomes a global village with worldwide access to educational tools, travel, and commerce, global competence has become a necessity and critical enabling tool for every major academic institution. Increasingly, our students are not only from Nebraska, but also from many nations around the world. There are more than 300 international students from 29 countries among the 3,682 students currently attending UNMC. Our local economy is more dependent on our global partners, and our reputation is partly determined by where we fit on the global stage. Similarly, after we have finished training them, our students will be competing with students across the globe for jobs and will be called upon to be actors in the global theater of educational and vocational opportunities. For UNMC, it is imperative that we enhance our global competence including our capacity, knowledge, skills, and ability to understand, analyze, and act on opportunities and challenges that emerge on the global platform. This is a challenge we take seriously. This report demonstrates some of the ways in which we have been engaging globally.

H. Dele Davies, M.D., MSc, MHCM
Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs
Dean for Graduate Studies
Over the past decade, UNMC has quietly become a leader in International Health & Medical Education. We also are now actively becoming involved in economic development internationally. In addition to the more than 800 international students and visitors each year to our campus, increasing numbers of faculty and students are traveling to international destinations. Last year about 100 students traveled to more than 15 countries. Our student interest group, “Student Alliance for Global Health,” had 136 students at its first meeting this year. Our international research is growing, and we are committed to increasing the number of funded projects and expand the countries we are in. The state of Nebraska has more than 600 companies that export more than $7 billion. UNMC has recently opened UNeMED China in the Free Trade Zone in Shanghai, China. We will use this to conduct business in China for UNMC and in co-operation with state companies. We also are expanding our program for UNMC to be a destination health care facility for international patients. As Tom Friedman’s book, “The World is Flat” vividly illustrates, we truly are becoming one world. UNMC is taking the lead in that challenge.

Ward Chambers, M.D.
Director of International Programs
COLLEGE OF DENTISTRY

The UNMC College of Dentistry (COD) has made significant strides in international collaborative activities over the past biennium. COD faculty and postgraduate students have participated in international research meetings, symposia, and as invited presenters or guests at meetings across the globe. Numerous international faculty and graduate students have accepted opportunities to visit and engage in research or advance their clinical knowledge at the COD.

Exit surveys determined that those visitors felt their time at UNMC was extremely positive, both in professional development and personal growth/satisfaction. Most recently, the COD enrolled its first international student supported by the China Scholarship Council into the Dental Class of 2018. In addition to this student the COD annually receives visiting scholars, faculty and researchers through the Asia Pacific Rim Development Program at UNMC.

DEPARTMENT OF ADULT RESTORATIVE DENTISTRY

James Jenkins, D.D.S., assistant professor and assistant dean for advanced clinical Practice, annually organizes and leads a week-long dental and medical mission trip to Hinche, Haiti, most recently in March 2014, with 10 people.
COLLEGE OF NURSING

Janet Cuddigan, is a working member of the International Guideline Development Group for Pressure Ulcer Prevention and Treatment, a group of international inter-professional experts in pressure ulcer care overseeing revision of an internationally-developed evidence-based guideline.

Mary Filipi, is board treasurer of the International Organization of Multiple Sclerosis Nurses and a member of the editorial board for the International Journal of MS Care.

Jami Fulwider served on a medical relief trip to Haiti in March 2013, along with seven nurses, two doctors, one nurse practitioner, physician assistant, a pharmacist and several eye doctors.

Sandy Leaders served with the organization Operation Walk of Chicago on a medical relief trip that provided total hip replacements for patients in Vietnam in November 2013. The surgical experiences were then used as a teaching opportunity for the hospital doctors and nurses.

Cheryl Thompson, assistant vice chancellor for academic affairs-chief student affairs officer at UNMC, planned a health informatics course co-taught with Ann Fruhling, and two faculty from Norway and took six nursing students to see how health information is managed in Norway, August 2013 and March 2014.

CON INTERNATIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGES

Undergraduate BSN students are selected to participate in a senior level exchange program where they shadow nurses in another country. Initially the program began with students from China through the Asian Pacific Rim Development Program, but in the past few years additional universities have been added, including: Sweden, Norway, Oman and Jordan. Dozens of students have participated in the past two years.
PHARMACY PRACTICE SCHOLAR EXCHANGE PROGRAM

While clinical pharmacy is a well-established profession in the United States, it is just emerging as a new discipline in the developing world. The UNMC College of Pharmacy envisions its global leadership in pharmacy practice by educating the future clinical pharmacy leaders in Peru and China.

Through collaboration with the Chinese Scholarship Council, several students have been admitted into the professional degree program, Pharm.D., with the first student graduating in 2015. As they graduate and return to China, it is anticipated that these students will gradually take up leadership positions in higher education, major hospital pharmacy, the pharmaceutical industry, and regulatory agency. Their U.S. Pharm.D. educational background will enable them to lead the transformation of pharmacy practice and improve health care in the world’s most populated country. To complement the Pharm.D. program and address the shortage of qualified educators in China, short-term professional training is provided to two Chinese junior faculty and a Chinese hospital pharmacy director.

The benefits of international collaboration are never unilateral. Through partnerships in Peru and China, two international clinical rotation sites have been established. This will help students to develop a global vision, which will better prepare them to enter their practice to serve an increasingly diverse demographic.
The Center for Global Health and Development in the UNMC College of Public Health has developed a partner institution in India, the Asian Institute of Public Health that allows UNMC faculty and students of diverse expertise and interest to learn and teach public health in the international setting. The Asian Institute of Public Health is the first of its kind center for public health research and training in the state of Odisha, a state in the east coast of India.

Several research projects have flourished through this partnership and include:

- A population based study examining neonatal and infant infections and the use of probiotics to prevent the occurrence of infection.
- A study looking at the impact of maternal, environmental and socio-economic factors in child health and development.
- Microbial source tracking and water, sanitation and hygiene practices in eastern rural India.
- A study looking at the impact of sanitation access and menstrual hygiene management on psychosocial stress, behavior and health among girls and women.
- Establishment of local cancer registries with the aim of identifying the factors leading to the changing epidemiology of different cancers in the Indian subcontinent.

Developed a partner institution in India, the Asian Institute of Public Health that allows UNMC faculty and students of diverse expertise and interest to learn and teach public health in the international setting. The Asian Institute of Public Health is the first of its kind center for public health research and training in the state of Odisha, a state in the east coast of India.

Facilitated the development of MOU’s and partnership agreements between the College of Public Health and collaborating academic institutions in Taiwan, Brazil, Colombia, Uruguay and Turkey.

Pinaki Panigrahi, M.D., Maternal and child health research, funded by the NIH at more than $6 million. Dr. Panigrahi has conducted large scale surveillance of morbidity in neonates and children in India.

**IMMENSE Study:** In large mother-baby cohorts, Dr. Panigrahi launched a new study called IMMENSE (IMpact of Maternal ENvironmental and Socio Economic factors in child health and development) utilizing CGHAD partner sites in India.

Microbial Source Tracking and Water, Sanitation and Hygiene (WASH) practice in India, with collaborators at U.C. Davis, completed a project in eastern rural India identifying the source of fecal contamination.

The Center for Global Health and Development in the UNMC College of Public Health has developed a partner institution in India, the Asian Institute of Public Health that allows UNMC faculty and students of diverse expertise and interest to learn and teach public health in the international setting. The Asian Institute of Public Health is the first of its kind center for public health research and training in the state of Odisha, a state on the east coast of India.

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- A study looking at the impact of sanitation access and menstrual hygiene management on psychosocial stress, behavior and health among girls and women.
- Establishment of local cancer registries with the aim of identifying the factors leading to the changing epidemiology of different cancers in the Indian subcontinent.
These studies were supported by the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine with funding from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

**Bijaya Padhi:** Impact of sanitation access and menstrual hygiene management on psychosocial stress, behavior, and health among girls and women in Odisha, India.

**Martha H. Goedert, Ph.D., WASH initiative in Haiti:** In collaboration with Durham School of Architectural Engineering and Construction at University of Nebraska-Lincoln, Dr. Goedert is spearheading a project that started with a WASH (Water, Sanitation and Hygiene) platform, and now is helping in the design and implementation to help address Haitian community-led projects on health promotion, disease prevention, water/education, and food security initiatives.

**Dinesh Chandel, Ph.D., Antimicrobial Drug Resistance a Worldwide Concern:** This ongoing research study examines the possible impact of early probiotics intervention in changing the gut flora in developing infants and subsequent change in the acquisition of antibiotic-resistant organisms.

**Sharmila Chatterjee, M.D., Infection and Epidemiology of Cancer in South Asia:** Utilizing the ongoing collaboration with faculty members at the Asian Institute of Public Health and the Acharya Harihar Regional Cancer Center in Cuttack, resident CGHAD scientists work on establishing local cancer registries with the aim of identifying the factors leading to the changing epidemiology of different cancers in the Indian subcontinent.

**INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT (REPRESENTATIVE) BY COPH FACULTY**

Li-Wu Chen, Ph.D., professor and chair of the department of health services research and administration. Dr. Chen has been serving as the key liaison and coordinator for the education and research collaboration between UNMC College of Public Health and National Taiwan University (NTU) College of Public Health that has led to student and faculty exchanges, as well as two jointly funded pilot research projects.

Alan Kolok, Ph.D., professor, department of environmental, agricultural and occupational health, interim director, Center for Environmental Health and Toxicology.

**EBOLA**

Years of preparation and training paid off in the fall of 2014 when UNMC and its primary clinical partner, Nebraska Medicine, set the standard of care for treating patients with the Ebola virus. Having one of only three highly specialized biocontainment units in the country, the medical center worked closely with the U.S. Department of State and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention to treat Americans stricken ill by Ebola.

In doing so, UNMC and Nebraska Medicine became recognized as the “gold standard” for the treatment of individuals with highly infectious diseases. The campus also became a destination for training and education in highly infectious disease safety protocols.

After treating several patients, the medical center team shared its expertise by creating a free online Ebola information course on iTunes University and Moodle for health care providers and the general public. The team continues to provide on-site training to health care workers from across the country.
• Collaborative research program among the Daugherty Water for Food Institute, the UNMC Center for Environmental Health and Toxicology and Monterrey Institute of Technology, Monterrey, Mexico
• Collaborative teaching and research programs with the Center for Advanced Studies in Arid Zones, University of La Serena, Chile. Funds provided by the National Science Foundation.
• Collaborative teaching through the Kazakhstan National University “Attraction of foreign scholars” program.

Rosa Gofin, M.D., professor and director- maternal and child health, department of health promotion, social and behavioral health.
• Joint research projects with colleagues in Israel on: (1) Reproductive health among Ethiopian Young Adults in Israel: Culture, Knowledge and Behavior; (2) Determinants of buster seat use among kindergarten and first grade children.

Tricia D. LeVan, Ph.D., associate professor, department of epidemiology, department of internal medicine/pulmonary, director of mutation and methylation facility.

Amr Soliman, M.D., Ph.D., professor and chair, department of epidemiology.
• Cancer Epidemiology Education in Special Populations program. This NCI-funded program provides research training and education for masters and doctoral students in public health in the field of cancer epidemiology in international and minority settings in the United States. The program is in its ninth year and over the past 8 years, 83 students have been trained.

Ozgur Araz, Ph.D., assistant professor, department of health promotion, social, & behavioral health.
• Co-principal investigator on the The Ankara Family Health and Weight Study done in collaboration with the Institute of Public Health at Hacettepe University in Ankara, Turkey.
• Principal Investigator on “Childhood Obesity Prevention in China” project.
The Fred & Pamela Buffett Cancer Center pursues international activities that help make biomedical advancements available to the entire world, that include scientists and clinicians in developing countries as equal partners whose knowledge and expertise are critical to addressing the important medical and scientific challenges facing our world, and that extend our reach and advance our brand globally.

Gloria Borgstahl, Ph.D., professor collaborates with Garib Murshudov, Modification of REFMAC for incommensurately modulated protein crystals, University of York, York, U.K.; and Dr. Václav Petříček; Modulated Profilin: Actin, Czechoslovakia Academy of Science, Czech Republic.

Jenny Wang, Ph.D., associate professor collaborative mentoring and research program with Dalian Central Hospital, Anhui Medical University and Third Military Medical University in China. Faculty members and physician scientists from these institutions spend one year doing cancer-related research in Dr. Wang’s lab. Collaborative research projects with scientists from Queen Mary University of London, UK.

Kay-Uwe Wagner, Ph.D., professor studies the role of cytokine signaling in breast cancer. He has ongoing collaborations with various teams of researchers in Korea, Austria, Germany, and Spain.

Tadayoshi Bessho, Ph.D., associate professor studies the mechanisms of DNA repair/mutagenesis/cytotoxicity induced by oxidative stress in collaboration with Dr. Tano at Kyoto University in Japan.

Jixin Dong, Ph.D., assistant professor studies the function of Hippo tumor suppressor pathway in prostate and pancreatic cancer in collaboration with scientists in Germany and China.

Pankaj K Singh, Ph.D., associate professor studies the role of metabolic alterations in the progression and therapy resistance of pancreatic cancer with partners from Malaga, Spain and Delhi, India.

Oksana Lockridge, Ph.D., professor conducts collaborative research programs with the Institut de Recherche Biomedicale des Armees, France and with Hacettepe University, Ankara, Turkey.

Anna Dunaevsky, Ph.D., associate professor, developmental neuroscience, is sponsoring two international post-doctoral students in her lab, one from India and the other from Italy and also two international graduate students from India.

Hamid Band, M.D., Ph.D., Elizabeth Bruce Professor of Cancer Research studies tyrosine kinase coupled receptor regulation in physiology and disease including stem cell homeostasis and cancer. Active collaborations with researchers at: Tianjin Medical University
and Sun Yat-sen University Cancer Center in China; University of Nottingham and University of Bristol in UK; Institute of Science and Technology, Austria; University of British Columbia, Canada. Oversees three CSC-supported graduate students and two undergraduate students from China; one non-CSC visiting Ph.D. student from China; four graduate students from India, and one from Pakistan.

Youri Pavlov, Ph.D., associate professor, he has collaborative research studies with partners in St-Petersburg University, Russia and the University of Perugia, Italy. He also oversees foreign students and professors who spend two to three months training in his lab.
Anna Dunaevsky, Ph.D., associated professor, developmental neuroscience, is sponsoring two international post-doctoral students in her lab, one from India and the other from Italy and also two international graduate students from India.

Woo-Yang Kim, Ph.D., assistant professor, Developmental Neuroscience, serves as a coordinator and faculty advisor for the UNMC Asia Pacific Rim Development Program, has run a student exchange program between China institutions and UNMC. Last year, UNMC APRDP and Dr. Kim expanded the student exchange program by establishing a new exchange program between UNMC and Seoul National University, a top university in Korea. He has hosted three international students for summer rotation the past two years. Dr Kim’s lab has collaborated with two international investigators (James Woodgett in Canada and Gianluigi Condorelli in Italy).

Max Kurz, Ph.D., associate professor, Physical Therapy, is the graduate supervisor of Swati Surkar, a Ph.D. graduate student from India.

The genetics department at MMI has sponsored a number of faculty from Universities around the world including:

- Singapore: Dr. Alvin Lim, Deputy Head of Cytogenetics at the Dept. of Pathology, Singapore General Hospital, and colleagues, Dr Tse Hu Lim and Dr. Li Min Teng.
- Philippines: Dr. Alejandro Arevalo was a visiting Hematopathologist, St. Luke’s Medical Center, Global City, Metro Manila who studied in our lab for two months in 2012 and we continue working with him to establish a genetics lab in the Philippines.
- China: Drs. Sha Zhao and Wenyan Zhang, visiting professors in our lab for one month in 2013 from West China Hospital, Chengdu, China.
- Russia: Russian medical professionals visited our lab in June 2013 and April 2014 as part of the Open World Leadership Center Tours. The professionals were Nataliya Sergeyevna Anisimova, Department of Molecular Diagnostics & Epidemiology, National Epidemiological Research Institute (Central Research Institute of Epidemiology of the Federal Service for Supervision of Consumer Right Protection & Human Welfare), Nadezhda Mikhaylovna Kolyasnikova, Research Associate, Biology, Landscape Epidemiology Laboratory, National Epidemiological Research institute, Aleksey, Eduardovich Lopatukhin, Research Associate, HIV & VHC Laboratory, National Epidemiological Research Institute, Pavel Gennadyevich Ryzhikh, Research Associate, Molecular Diagnostics & Epidemiology of Reproductive System Disease Laboratory, National Epidemiological Research Institute, Anna Petrovna Safonova, Chief Specialist, Jr. Research Associate, Dept. of Molecular Diagnostics & Epidemiology, Molecular Diagnostics Lab, National Epidemiological Research Institute and Ilya Viktorovich Vorozhko, Research Associate, Russian Academy of Med Sciences – Nutrition Research Institute.

The Genetics Lab also has on-going collaborations with Singapore General Hospital doing an epidemiological study on geographical and ethnic differences in genetic aspects of Chronic Lymphocytic Leukemia.

Shelly Smith, Ph.D., professor, Developmental Neuroscience, has worked to coordinate an international genetic study of reading and language along with our colleagues at the University of Colorado and University of Denver which is an NIH-funded Learning Disabilities Research Center. European collaborators include the Max Planck Institute in Nijmegen, Netherlands; Oxford University, University of Bristol, Aston University, University of Edinburgh and University of St. Andrews from England, and Queensland Institute of Medical Research in Australia. The group has produced a genome-wide association meta-analysis of reading and language traits and identified two novel genes.

Wayne Stuberg, P.T., Ph.D., professor, physical therapy and associate director, administration, traveled to Oman in 2013 as part of a delegation from UNMC International Studies Office to develop collaborative programming between the Ministries of Education and Medicine in Oman and the Munroe-Meyer Institute. He is an honorary member of the Pediatric Spanish Physical Therapy Association having sponsored a number of physical therapy interns from Spain and serving on a dissertation committee of a graduate student at the University of Catalunya in Barcelona, Spain.
VISITING PROFESSORS FROM RUSSIA 2013
Marina Goliusova-National Epidemiological Research Institute, Moscow
Ulyana Kuimova-National Epidemiological Research Institute, Moscow
Ilya Lapovok-Ivanovsky Virology Research Institute, Moscow
Yuliya Molozinova-Altai Regional Center for Prevention of AIDS and Infectious Diseases, Altai Krai
Dmitriy Neshumayev-Krasnoyarsk Regional Center for AIDS Prevention, Krasnoyarsk Krai
Olga Trofimova-Federal Central Epidemiology Research Institute at the Federal Service for Supervision of Consumer Rights, Protection and Human Well-Being, Moscow
The College of Allied Health Professions has seen a dramatic expansion in international activities in recent years. As international engagement at UNMC has increased in general, opportunities have increased for the CAHP to deliver its outstanding educational programming to promote the preparation of health professionals in other countries. An exploratory trip to Oman, students from Saudi Arabia enrolled in our cytotechnology program, and vastly increased engagement in China have highlighted this expansion. Central to the growth of the CAHP’s international efforts has been the creation of a partnership with Tongji University and Sunshine Rehabilitation Hospital in Shanghai, China, the primary purpose of which is to develop physical therapy education in China. This groundbreaking initiative places UNMC in a formative role with these highly regarded institutions to advance rehabilitation science in China. As these global partnerships and initiatives continue to evolve, they promise to offer exciting new opportunities for the faculty and students of the CAHP to engage the international community in education and research to promote the significant contributions of the allied health professions.

**PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION**

Ka-Chun (Joseph) Siu, Ph.D., assistant professor, Physical Therapy Education, director of the Shanghai Sino-US Health Science Initiative (SSUHSI) master’s/doctor of physical therapy program. Supported by the Chinese Scholarship Council (CSC), the program enables Chinese students interested in pursuing faculty roles in physical therapy education in China to pursue both Master of Science and Doctor of Physical Therapy degrees. Five students are currently enrolled in this program with the first graduate in May 2015. In spring 2014
an extension of this program was formalized, creating a partnership between UNMC and Tongji University to develop a bachelor physical therapy education program at Tongji University. First graduates from this program are expected in spring 2018. These graduates will be eligible to apply to continue their studies in physical therapy at the UNMC DPT program.

In June 2014 the CAHP Physical Therapy hosted its first visiting scholar, Ms. Jia (Regina) Hu, director of research and education at Shanghai Sunshine Rehabilitation Center, the Affiliated Rehabilitation Hospital of Tongji University. The visit, her first to the US and UNMC, exposed her to aspects of curriculum development and strategies for integrating clinical education into academic coursework.

**CYTOTECHNOLOGY EDUCATION**

Dr. Amber Donnelly, director, CAHP Cytotechnology program was invited to meet with Dr. Xiaorong Sun, director, Wuhan Landing Cervical Cancer Screening Center in China to examine opportunities to offer advanced cytotechnology education programming to employees of the center. The CAHP hosted a visit by Dr. Sun to UNMC in August 2014.
Chandrakanth Are, M.D., vice chair, education; associate professor, surgical oncology; program director, general surgery, developed partnerships with the Directorate of Medical Education at Andhra Pradesh in India in surgical oncology. This partnership provides access to 36 medical schools around the country, two six-month general surgery rotations for residents and research collaborations.

Samuel Cohen, M.D., Ph.D., professor, department of pathology/microbiology. Conducts collaborative teaching and research programs with Sao Paulo State University, Botucatu, Brazil. Students from Brazil spend some of their research time in his lab.

Robert Cusik, M.D., department of surgery, repairs hernias in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. Teaches surgeons optimal techniques of hernia repair and provides surgical intervention for the poor.

Kaustubh Datta, Ph.D., associate professor, biochemistry and molecular biology. Studies the function of a specific angiogenic axis (VEGF-C/NRP-2 axis) in the progression and therapy resistance of prostate and pancreatic cancer with partners from Dresden, Germany, and Kolkata, India.

Michael Feilmeier, M.D., medical director of the Division of Global Blindness Prevention and Community Outreach at the Truhlsen Eye Institute, is the program director of two Global Blindness Fellowships available through the institute. They are:

- A one-year fellowship that allows fellows to spend time working at partner institutions in Nepal, Haiti, Ethiopia and Ghana, among others, where the focus is learning about different eye care delivery systems while simultaneously enhancing and mastering a unique surgical experience. The final month of the one-year fellowship is spent working on community outreach programs delivering eye care to local Native Americans in the United States.
- A two-year fellowship designed in partnership with Orbis International serves as the most comprehensive program available to any ophthalmologist in the world who has a significant interest in global blindness prevention. It features a strong emphasis on public health and program development, requiring the fellow to split their time working at the same international partner institutions and developing a country specific program for Orbis’ flying eye hospital.

Michael Feilmeier, M.D., medical director, Jessica Feilmeier, development director, department of ophthalmology & visual sciences,
AFRICA

Recent studies from sub-Saharan Africa show that invasive bacterial disease, such as pneumonia, meningitis and sepsis – not malaria – is the leading cause of childhood mortality. Stephen Obaro, M.D., director of pediatric international research at UNMC is determined to find ways to fight this staggering statistic.

The epicenter of his research is focused on Nigeria, which has a high infant and under-five mortality rate.

Through a grant from the National Institutes of Health Dr. Obaro is studying the genomic profiles of young children with typhoid fever in Nigeria with the goal of identifying antigens that could be developed into rapid diagnostic test kits.

He also is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to establish surveillance at two sites in Nigeria for childhood pneumonia and invasive bacterial infections to gather locally relevant epidemiological data.

Finally, with funding from the University of Minnesota, Dr. Obaro is working to develop molecular diagnostics for pneumococcal bacteremia using dried blood spots from children with acute febrile illness.
Ming-Fong Lin, Ph.D., professor, biochemistry and molecular biology. Has four prostate cancer research projects with partners in India, Taiwan and China.

James McClay, M.D., associate professor, emergency medicine. Was co-chair of Health Level Seven (HL7) emergency care workshop, with HL7 members from Australia, England and Canada.

Kaushik Patel, Ph.D., professor, physiology, department of cellular & integrative physiology. “Building the foundation for education, research and clinical treatment of cardiovascular diseases in Zambia,” a five-year NIH funded study with the goal of training clinicians, educators and researchers in cardiovascular diseases to better address the needs of the population.

Stephen Obaro, M.D. Dr. Obaro is currently funded by the National Institutes of Health to study the genomic profiles in young children with typhoid fever in Nigeria. Dr. Obaro also is funded by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation to establish surveillance at two sites in Nigeria for childhood pneumonia and invasive bacterial infections.
ACADEMIC AFFAIRS AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Dr. Dele Davies and Dr. Julianne Sebastian visited Oman with Dr. Ward Chambers and Danielle Dohrman to help negotiate opportunities for Omani students and fellows at UNMC. In addition, Academic Affairs has helped oversee the signing of several MOUs between UNMC and our overseas partners in the past two years.

SINO-US Centers for Training General Practitioners – UNMC
SINO-US CENTER FOR TRAINING GENERAL PRACTITIONERS—UNMC

Delegates from UNMC Family Medicine travel to China for annual Family Medicine Symposia in Shanghai and X’ian, China. Annually, the UNMC Department of Family Medicine hosts physician leaders for the SINO-US Primary Care Conference and physician exchange program in Omaha. Faculty involved include the following:

Mike Sitorius, M.D., Waldbaum Professor of Family Practice Professor and chair, department of family medicine.

Jeff Harrison, M.D., director, department of family medicine and assistant dean of admissions.

Paul Paulman, M.D., professor, department of family medicine and assistant dean for clinical skills & quality.

Audrey Paulman, M.D., clinical associate professor, department of family medicine.

Kim Jarzynka, M.D., associate resident program director and associate professor, department of family medicine.

Nathan Falk, M.D., adjunct assistant professor/clinician, department of family medicine.

Asia Pacific Rim Development Program (APRDP)
ASIA PACIFIC RIM DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM

The Asia Pacific Rim Development Program (APRDP) celebrated 10 years of collaboration between UNMC and its Chinese partners in 2014. The UNMC-Chinese Scholarship Council program has had 120 students participate by pursuing a Ph.D., a health professional degree, or working in UNMC laboratories as a joint research student or visiting scholar. More than 300 students and faculty members have participated in medical, nursing, pharmacy, research or faculty exchange programs. APRDP supported 10 UNMC students’ participation in both the ninth and tenth annual International Student Research Forums held in Australia and Denmark respectively. UNMC faculty continue to annually train hundreds of Chinese practitioners in family medicine and physical therapy, developing fields in China. In October 2014, UNMC-China opened its satellite office in the Shanghai Free Trade Zone.

APRDP has 12 institutional partnerships.

New Agreements in 2013-2014:

- Joint Research Symposia were held in China (2013) and at UNMC (2014). Joint research: Ophthalmology with People’s Tenth Hospital, Shanghai; joint research grant on stem cell therapy with Jialin Zheng, M.D., and Jianqing Ding of Ruijin Hospital, Shanghai Jiao Tong University School of Medicine; David Oupicky, Ph.D., UNMC College of Pharmacy named Changjiang scholar at China Pharmaceutical University

CHINA

The University of Nebraska Medical Center has worked for years to develop significant partnerships in China. The result includes research collaborations, faculty and student exchanges and enhanced education in both countries. As part of this effort the Asia Pacific Rim Development Program was developed in 2004.

Since then the APRDP has made significant strides including:

- Numerous health science conferences and exchanges involving faculty, professional and graduate students from both sides of the partnership.
- Approximately 100 China Scholarship Council Students from premier institutions in China obtaining advanced degrees at UNMC.
- Numerous leadership visits for promotion of scientific and economic ties between China and UNMC/Nebraska Medicine, as well as the state of Nebraska.
- Plans on training the first generation of family medicine and physical therapy practitioners who will be the pioneers of these newly emerging fields in China.
- The opening of the UNeMED China office in the free trade zone of Shanghai.
• Joint family medicine and physical therapy projects with Tongji University and Sunshine Rehabilitation Hospital; student exchange with Seoul University; a health science initiative with Hainan Medical University; faculty and student exchange with Shanghai Institute of Health Sciences; a new amendment with the China Scholarship Council. Agreements with Tianjin Medical University Cancer Institute and Hospital and Shanghai Cancer Center for telemedicine and patient referral are in development.
EMERGENCY MEDICINE

Michael Wadman, M.D., professor, department of emergency medicine and associate dean, department of graduate medical education, conducted a two month long Introduction to Clinical Emergency Medicine course in Thai Binh, Vietnam. Dr. Wadman and his team of faculty scholars that included Robert Muelleman, M.D., Wesley Zeger, D.O., and Thanh Nguyen, APRN, FNP-C, introduced the concept of a U.S. graduate medical education model and high-fidelity simulation training to Thai Binh Medical University (TBMU), a rural medical university in the northern region of Vietnam.

Wesley Zeger, D.O., associate professor, department of emergency medicine. Awarded a grant from the Vietnamese Education Foundation (VEF) to expand on UNMC’s existing relationship with Vietnam. Dr. Zeger and his team of faculty scholars including members from the college of medicine and the college of nursing will conduct a two-month long Team Dynamics in Emergency Medicine course in Thai Binh, Vietnam. Thanh Nguyen, APRN, FNP-C, will conduct a concurrent course with Thai Binh Medical University College of Nursing. Chad Branecki, M.D., assistant professor, department of emergency medicine, was invited to lecture on advanced airway management at Hanoi Medical University. Dr. Branecki, Dr. Wadman, and Ben Boedeker, M.D., also will conduct a pilot study addressing the feasibility of telemedicine technology in teaching procedures at remote international sites.
INTERNAL MEDICINE

INFECTIOUS DISEASES

Susan Swindells, M.B.B.S., professor of internal medicine, division of infectious diseases.

Swindells has many years’ experience in translational and clinical research in the field of HIV/AIDS, with a special interest in tuberculosis co-infection. She is on the leadership of the AIDS Clinical Trials Group of the National Institutes of Health, and works with international sites in Africa, Asia, South America and Haiti. These include:

• “ACTG A5279: Phase III Clinical Trial of Short-Course Rifapentine/ Isoniazid for the Prevention of Active Tuberculosis in HIV-Infected Adults with Latent Tuberculosis Infection”, National Institute of Allergy & Infectious Diseases (NIAID), Division of AIDS (DAIDS), African Data and Safety Monitoring Board, London, United Kingdom (March 2014)

• Annual International Consortium for Trials of Chemotherapeutic Agents in Tuberculosis (INTERTB), “Two Months or Not Two Months – That is the Question,” St. George’s, University of London, United Kingdom (October 2014)