

# Global Connections

Quarterly Newsletter from the Office of Global Engagement  
April 2023



## A message from the Office of Global Engagement



The Office of Global Engagement has been making great strides in our UNMC's partnerships.

UNMC is co-sponsoring an international conference Feb. 5-8, 2024, in Casablanca, Morocco. Submissions are now being accepted.

Four visitors from Japan visited UNMC March 16. The delegation toured iEXCEL in the Global Davis Center and

met with leadership regarding Nebraska's health care system and remote learning in Nebraska.

I invite you to join us for Holi, the Festival of Colors, which will be held April 8 from 11:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m. in the Ruth & Bill Scott Student Plaza. It will be a fun-filled event celebrating the Hindu culture.

This issue of Global Connections includes features about the call for submissions and events mentioned above.

Please follow our [website](#) and [Twitter](#) to stay in touch with us. As always, please don't hesitate to contact us if you have any questions about our programs.

Jane Meza, PhD, associate vice chancellor for global engagement

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**Call for submissions for UNMC co-sponsored international conference**



Submissions now are being accepted for the Interdisciplinary World Health Congress on Post Pandemic Readiness, which is being co-sponsored by UNMC.

The international conference Feb. 5-8, 2024, in Casablanca, Morocco, follows the COVID-19 in the Middle East/North Africa Region conference held in May 2022. Researchers and experts in multiple health disciplines from around the globe are invited to share their vision and experiences in addressing post-pandemic challenges and explore methods to transform health care and community health through education and innovation reform.

Submissions are being accepted online by Sept. 1.

[Read more here](#)

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## Japanese Delegation visits UNMC





A four-member Japanese delegation from the Japan Council for Quality Health Care was on campus March 16. The purpose of their trip was to learn about Nebraska's health care system, remote learning in Nebraska, the differences in health care delivery systems in urban and rural Nebraska and the role of the University of Nebraska in them, and how to share roles and collaborate with doctors, nurses and other healthcare professionals in the network between primary care and hospitals.

While the delegation was here, they met with Chancellor Jeffrey Gold, MD, who had met with a member of this delegation, Hirobumi Kawakita, MD, MBA, PhD, while he was in Japan a few years ago. Other leadership they met with included Pamela Boyers, PhD, associate vice chancellor, clinical simulation, iEXCEL; Kelly Caverzagie, MD, associate dean of education strategy & associate dean of continuing education; and Harris Frankel, MD, chief medical officer, Nebraska Medicine.

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## Holi, Festival of Colors, planned for April 8

A vibrant poster for the Holi Festival. The background is a bright yellow-orange with colorful powder splashes in pink, blue, and green. On the left, there is a stylized white and orange geometric design. The text "Holi Festival" is written in a large, white, cursive font. Below it, in a smaller, white, sans-serif font, is "April 8 | 11 am – 2 pm" and "Ruth & Bill Scott Student Plaza". Further down, it says "Free food provided. Music by DJ Raj." and "RSVP by scanning the QR code." A QR code is located in the bottom right corner. At the bottom left, the UNMC logo is displayed. At the bottom center, there is a line of text: "Presented by UNMC's International Student Association and the Office of Global Engagement." data-bbox="143 282 850 590"/>

**Holi Festival**

April 8 | 11 am – 2 pm

Ruth & Bill Scott Student Plaza

Free food provided. Music by DJ Raj.

RSVP by scanning the QR code.



 **UNMC**

Presented by UNMC's International Student Association  
and the Office of Global Engagement.

Holi, the Festival of Colors, will be held Saturday, April 8 in the Ruth & Bill Scott Student Plaza. Food will be provided. Music will be provided by DJ Raj. Be sure to wear or bring a white shirt.

RSVPs are required. Use the QR code above to RSVP. Reservations will not be accepted the day of the event.

Holi is sponsored by the International Student Association and the UNMC Office of Global Engagement.

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## Campus celebrates Lunar New Year at Celebrate Culture event



More than two hundred UNMC and Nebraska Medicine community members celebrated the Lunar New Year at Celebrate Culture, which was held Feb. 10.

The first 200 attendees received satin gift bags filled with snacks from East Asian countries. Asian dishes from China Buffet were provided. Interactive tables from Asian countries included calligraphy, knot making, origami and red envelope making.

Celebrate Culture was coordinated by the Asia and American Pacific Islander Student Association, Asia and American Pacific Islander Employee Resource Group, UNMC Chinese Students and Scholars Association and the UNMC Office of Global Engagement.

## International Student Association holds book drive

The International Student Association (ISA) sponsored a book drive collecting 40 books for the non-profit organization Completely Kids. Completely KIDS' mission is to educate and empower children and families to create a safe, healthy, successful, and connected community. The organization serves more than 2,000 youth in 16 locations in Omaha, including public and parochial schools, homeless shelters, and the Ronald McDonald House.



## Recent achievements by UNMC faculty & staff

### As Match Day nears, India rotation proves valuable

Natasha Hongsermeier-Graves did her final residency interview in the company of a giant da Vinci robot. Hongsermeier-Graves, who will match into her residency with her UNMC College of Medicine classmates on March 17, conducted the interview in a hospital in Hyderabad, India, where she was taking part in a monthlong rotation in global surgery.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)

### **UNMC student presents public health ideas to Lesotho prime minister**

UNMC College of Public Health student Mamello Makhele recently presented on public health issues to the newly elected prime minister of Lesotho, her native country where her past work as a nurse-midwife earned international praise.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)

### **Dr. Semin to lead nursing's international program**

Jessica Semin, DNP, assistant professor in the UNMC College of Nursing, has been named the inaugural director of the college's global health program.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)

### **UNMC hosts Bangladeshi health delegation**

Seven delegates led by the Honorable Minister Zahid Maleque of the Bangladesh Ministry of Health and Family Welfare visited UNMC on Dec. 19 and 20.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)



### **Request for ideas**

Have an idea for a story or want to discuss an international program or event?

Have a suggestion for our newsletter?

Please contact us at [global@unmc.edu](mailto:global@unmc.edu) with your ideas and suggestions/comments.

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