



UNIVERSITY OF NEBRASKA MEDICAL CENTER

**Office of Global Engagement**

# Annual Report

2019 – 2020





Friends and colleagues,

It is my pleasure to share the Office of Global Engagement's inaugural annual report with you. The report provides a snapshot of our activities this year and reflects important changes in UNMC's international presence.

The Office of Global Engagement (OGE) was established to bring together three units – Asia Pacific Rim Development Program (APRDP), International Health and Medical Education (IHME), and International Business (formerly UNeMed's international arm) – after a two-year strategic planning process for campus internationalization.

Global awareness and cultural competence are essential skills in today's interconnected world. An enhanced global strategic vision will position us to address complex issues of our time and to engage in meaningful and impactful partnerships. The OGE aims to create resources that offer opportunities for faculty, staff, and students to embrace global perspectives.

As we look ahead, the OGE is delighted to continue to serve the campus with an innovative outlook and unified set of skills for global partnerships, programs, and services. Thank you for your support in furthering global engagement at UNMC.

Sincerely,  
Jane Meza, PhD  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Global Engagement



## Mission and Vision



### Mission

The Office of Global Engagement (OGE) promotes international diversity, fosters global understanding and awareness, and advances internationalization efforts throughout the UNMC community.

### Vision

Our vision is comprehensive global engagement for Nebraska and beyond, advancing UNMC's world-class education, cutting-edge research, and renowned public service to meet the complex challenges of today's interconnected world.

### What we do:

The OGE is committed to providing the UNMC community with high-quality opportunities to enrich and expand its experiences with the people, cultures, and contemporary concerns with all regions of the world. The Office of Global Engagement is responsible for:

- Providing support to and advocating for the university's international community including students, faculty, staff, and scholars;
- Facilitating and coordinating diverse opportunities for global learning experiences;
- Coordinating bilateral exchange programs for health science rotations and research with UNMC global partners;
- Developing and managing observership and training programs;
- Managing the U.S. immigration and visa sponsorships of international students, faculty, staff, and visitors on behalf of UNMC;
- Collaborating with UNMC departments to ensure compliance with UNMC policies including compliance training, immunizations, and export control;
- Developing and maintaining academic collaborations and business partnerships;
- Developing capacity in the healthcare sector;
- Bolstering economic development in Nebraska and the world;
- Coordinating various international and cultural engagement opportunities.

# 2019 ACTIVITY HIGHLIGHTS

## International Students

UNMC welcomed 374 international students and medical residents in 2019. These students represented 43 countries and participated in 14 different academic and graduate medical education programs across all colleges. Two-thirds of UNMC's international students and residents came from China and India in 2019, and the Office of Graduate Studies enrolled 60% of the international students.

In 2019, the OGE provided visa services to international students and medical residents, organized UNMC's annual International Student Orientation, and supported activities of the International Student Association (ISA).

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ORIENTATION

For the seventh consecutive year, UNMC offered International Student Orientation (ISO), pairing international students with ambassador student volunteers. The three-day orientation featured 20 guest presentations and field trips to Target and the Durham Museum. Group activities offered throughout the fall semester included a shopping trip and smaller group activities organized around outdoor concerts and a football game.

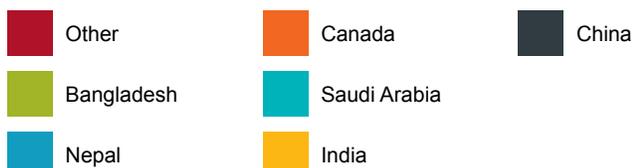
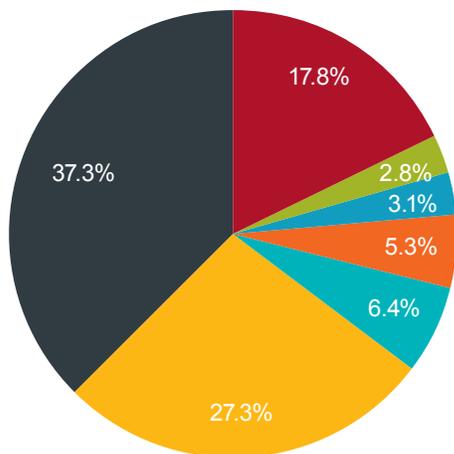


Participants at the annual spring UNMC Holi Festival

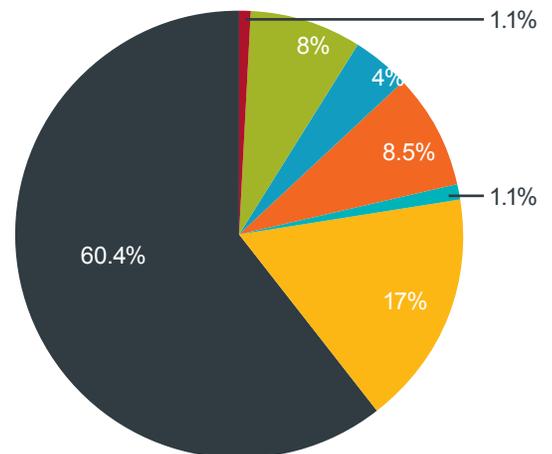
### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT ASSOCIATION

The OGE continues to support the International Student Association (ISA) which organizes the annual April Holi event and the annual International Week activities that took place in December 2019. This campus-wide event features customs, foods, and attire from a variety of ethnicities and cultures represented at UNMC.

International Students & Residents by Country, 2019



International Students & Residents Enrollment by College, 2019

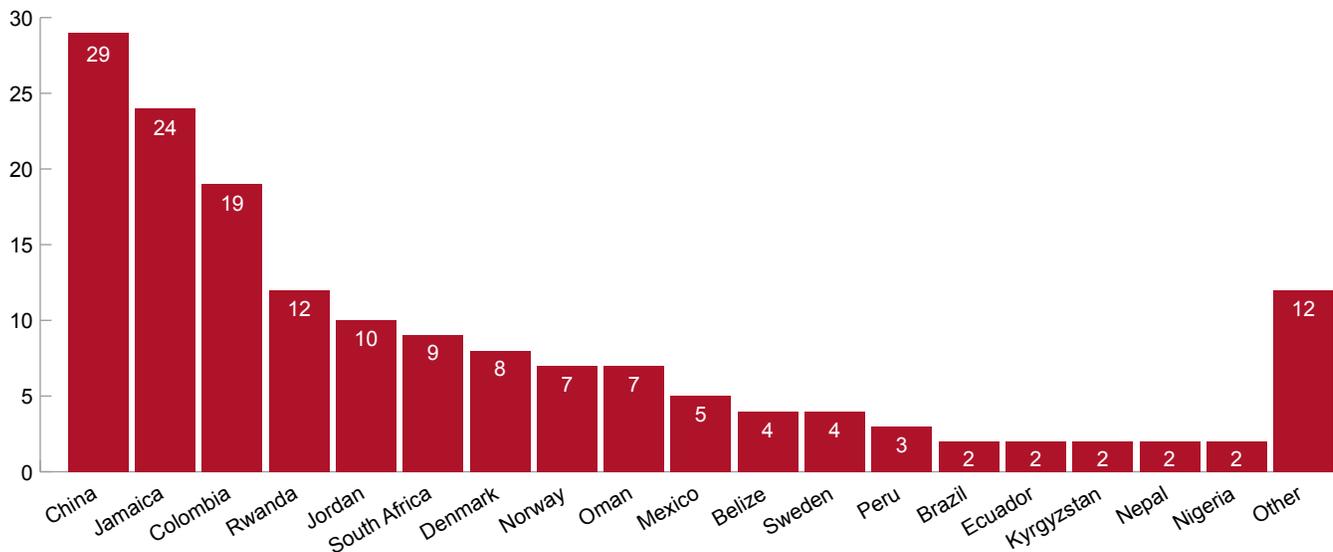


## Education Abroad

The OGE supported 164 education abroad experiences in 29 countries in 2019. The top three destinations for education abroad were China (29 students), Jamaica (24), and Colombia (19).

Approximately one-third of education abroad experiences were medical service activities, a quarter were nursing education, and another quarter were clinical electives or graduate medical education. The OGE supported 11 of these programs ranging in length from one to four weeks.

**Education Abroad Participants by Country, 2019**

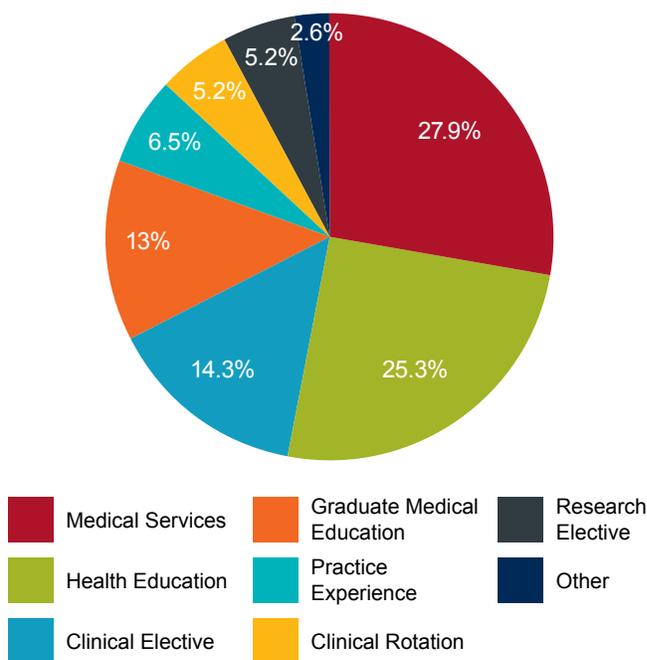


## Health & Medical Education Abroad

The OGE supported several short-term medical and health education study programs for students in the Colleges of Medicine, Nursing, and Pharmacy. In February 2019, six fourth-year medical students completed clinical rotations in Rwanda, and fifteen medical students completed clinical rotations in China. In June 2019, the OGE supported four pharmacy students to complete a week-long Advanced Pharmacy Practice Experience (APPE) in Belize. Four pharmacy students also took part in health education activities in Rwanda.

The College of Nursing sent a total of 39 students abroad for health education programs in 2019. These students each took part in one month of clinical training in March at partner universities in China, Jordan, Norway, Oman, or Sweden. UNMC's partners in the Nursing Exchange Program include Al-Zaytoonah University, Capital Medical University, Kristianstad University, Shanghai Jiao Tong University, Sultan Qaboos University, Tongji University, and University of Adger.

**All Education Abroad Participants by Type of Program, 2019**  
(including independently organized college programs)





UNMC students of the Medical Spanish/Global Health four-week course in Xalapa, Mexico, June 2019.

### MEDICAL SPANISH/GLOBAL HEALTH COURSE

The OGE launched a new location for its well-known Medical Spanish/Global Health course in Xalapa, Mexico, in June 2019. Five first-year medical students completed this course. UNMC implemented this course with its partner Universidad Anáhuac Xalapa.

### SAGH MEDICAL SERVICE TRIPS

The OGE supported the Student Alliance for Global Health (SAGH) in organizing four medical service trips during the 2019 spring break to Jamaica and Colombia. The 43 participating students represented all colleges at UNMC.

## Programs

### BEN NELSON FELLOWS

In September, the OGE sponsored six Ben Nelson Fellows. Funded by Open World Leadership Center, the Nelson Fellows program honors Senator Nelson's contribution to Open World and works to improve ties between the United States and Russia. UNMC partnered with the Council Bluffs Sister City Association to host six Russian medical doctors to meet with multidisciplinary research teams at UNMC and to explore future collaborations with UNMC.

### CHINA SCHOLARSHIP COUNCIL

The OGE welcomed 15 new students to UNMC with China Scholarship Council (CSC) support, and 13 CSC students graduated in 2019. There are currently 75 CSC-sponsored students on campus. On May 29, 2019, UNMC hosted a CSC delegation led by Secretary-General Jianxue Sheng. A new program was also initiated in 2019 between UNMC and Shandong University that will allow students from Shandong to pursue a PhD degree at UNMC with CSC support.



Attendees at the 2019 International Student Research Forum pose at the University of Southern Denmark in Odense, Denmark.

### INTERNATIONAL STUDENT RESEARCH FORUM

The International Student Research Forum is an annual opportunity for graduate research students to collaborate beyond the boundaries of disciplines and nationalities. Eight UNMC students and two University of Nebraska at Omaha (UNO) students attended the 15th Annual International Student Research Forum (ISRF) hosted by the University of Southern Denmark in Odense, Denmark, in June 2019. Participating students in the 2019 ISRF represented five universities and five countries.



UNMC Chancellor Jeffrey P. Gold, MD, met with the visiting Ben Nelson Fellows.

### SUMMER PHYSICAL THERAPY EDUCATION FOR CHINESE STUDENTS PROGRAM (SPECS)

In July 2019, 12 physical therapy undergraduate students from Beijing, Shanghai, and Sichuan completed a three-week SPECS Program at UNMC.



Several UNMC faculty and staff were joined in Shanghai by a group of Chinese physicians who had come through UNMC for a training course in family medicine.

**FAMILY MEDICINE TRAINING**

In June 2019, UNMC hosted the Annual Family Medicine Leadership Course, attended by ten trainees from China.

In October 2019, five UNMC faculty from the Department of Family Medicine presented at the Annual Sino-U.S. Family Medicine Symposium that was co-coordinated by OGE. A celebration for the ten-year collaboration was held in Shanghai and hundreds of trainees attended. UNMC also provided training sessions at four different community health centers and hospitals in Shanghai.

**INTERNATIONAL OBSERVERSHIPS**

The OGE works with partner universities and hospitals around the world to provide opportunities for international physicians to experience the U.S. medical system and observe clinical practice at UNMC and its affiliated partners in Omaha. The OGE welcomed 37 physicians representing nine countries in 2019. The OGE also arranges for international medical students to do clinical rotations at UNMC. In 2019, 14 medical and ten nursing students completed rotations at UNMC.

**FACULTY TRAINING**

UNMC also provided educational training to 29 faculty members from China in 2019. The OGE arranges training for faculty from universities and hospitals to introduce them to the U.S. medical education system and to demonstrate the U.S. teaching theories and practice in medicine.

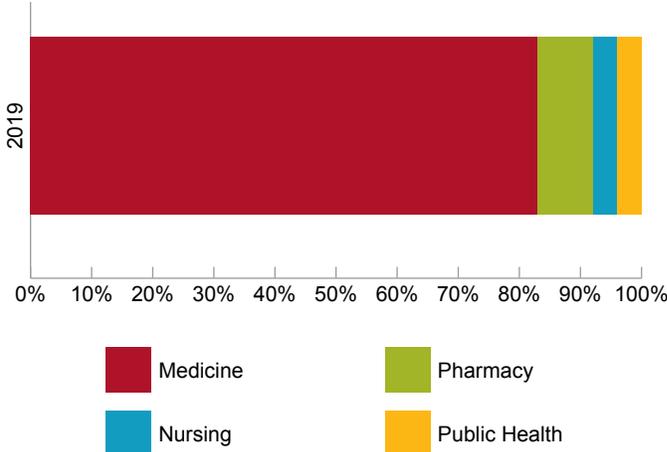
**STUDENT EXCHANGE**

The OGE supported 14 medical and ten nursing students from China who came to UNMC for a short-term student exchange. The Research Exchange Program hosted 16 students from four Chinese universities for short-term research experiences.



Visiting Physicians from the Hunan Province in China complete their three-month clinical observation training program at UNMC, December 2019.

**International Faculty Observers by College**



## Support Services

### VISA SPONSORSHIP

The OGE prepared and filed government petitions on behalf of UNMC to sponsor 1006 international employees, students, and visitors representing 75 countries, to work, study or visit UNMC. The OGE staff advised faculty, staff, sponsored employees, and students on all visa- and immigration-related issues. The majority of UNMC's international participants come from India and China. The OGE also provided advice to departments and international employees regarding the process and regulations for sponsorship of permanent residence.

Services were also provided to UNO for preparation of government petitions to sponsor international employees to work at UNO.

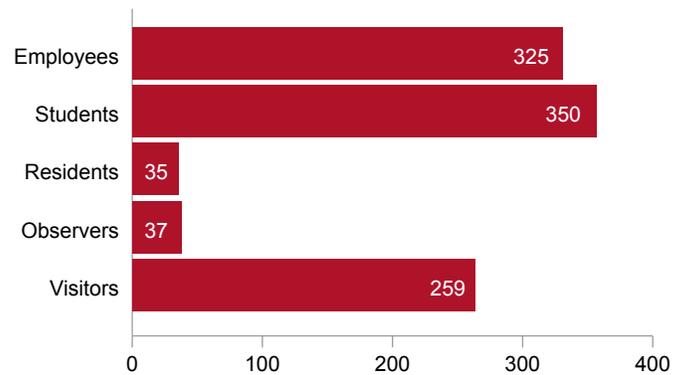
### INTERNATIONAL VISITORS

The International Visitor Program, initiated in 2013, is highly utilized by campus units to bring visitors to UNMC for engagements ranging from a few hours up to one year. Visitors must meet immunization requirements and complete compliance training modules in addition to UNMC Export Control requirements. In 2019, the OGE registered 259 international visitors representing 28 countries.

## Partnerships

The OGE's partnership activities include review and documentation of past international agreements, strengthening of relationships with existing partners, and development of new strategic partnerships. A process for the signing and tracking of international Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) and Agreements was instituted in April 2019 with the Office of the Senior Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs.

## International Participants Utilizing OGE Support Services, 2019



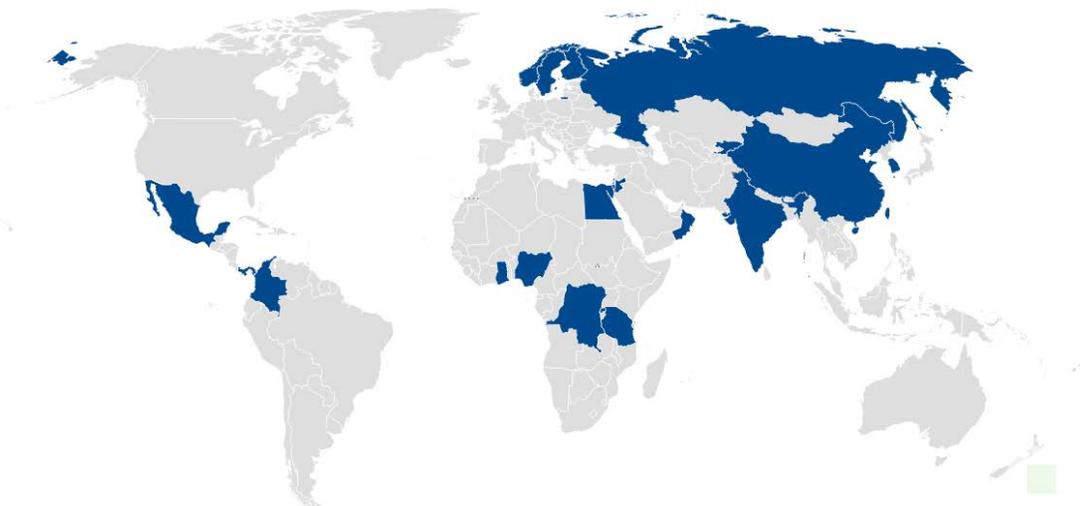
Visitors from China comprised 67% of the International Visitor Program population; Japan comprised 8% and the Netherlands comprised 5%.

### TAX PREPARATION ASSISTANCE

UNMC offered free tax preparation assistance to the international participant population in 2019, with 222 individuals participating.

UNMC currently has more than 50 active or pending international agreements for education, research, and business collaborations in 26 countries. In 2019 alone, 12 agreements were signed with partners in China, Colombia, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Oman, Panama, Rwanda, and South Korea.

## Map of Active or Pending Partnership Agreements by Country, 2019



## Other Activities

### ACE LAB

In 2019, UNMC completed a two-year strategic planning process for global engagement as a member of the American Council on Education (ACE) Internationalization Lab. UNMC joined the 15th cohort of this invitational learning community in 2017. Supported by ACE through the Center for Internationalization and Global Engagement (CIGE), the Laboratory program assists participating institutions to develop capacity, capability, and strategy for comprehensive internationalization. The UNMC Internationalization Lab formed four subcommittees in January 2018 to collect data about the current extent and future needs of internationalization at UNMC. In spring 2019, the Lab produced a report summarizing UNMC's internationalization assets and recommendations for global engagement.

### CHINESE CULTURE FAIR

In February 2019, the OGE coordinated the Seventh Annual Chinese Cultural Fair. More than 300 people attended and more than 50 volunteered at the event. The Fair was co-sponsored by UNMC Human Resources-Employee Relations, Organizational Development & Diversity, and the UNMC Chinese Scholars and Students Association.

### STUDENT ALLIANCE FOR GLOBAL HEALTH (SAGH)

The OGE continues to support the student organization SAGH. For 25 years, SAGH's mission has been to help educate and involve UNMC students and faculty and the greater Omaha community in global health efforts. SAGH arranges monthly speakers and informative presentations on global health and medicine. Their 2018-2019 philanthropy project focused on raising awareness and fundraising for the Fistula Foundation. In 2019-2020, SAGH's philanthropy project supports Aqua-Africa, a non-profit headquartered in Omaha. SAGH also helps to arrange short-term Medical Spanish courses, from beginner to intermediate level, on the UNMC campus.



Members of UNMC's Internationalization Lab planning team.



Visitors at the annual Chinese Cultural Fair enjoy some food.



UNMC™

GLOBAL  
ENGAGEMENT



## 2019 RECAP

**1006**

Visa-Sponsored  
International  
Participants



**75**  
Countries



**14%**

Increase  
from 2018



UNMC established nine new international partnerships in China, Colombia, Jordan, Kyrgyzstan, Oman, Panama, & Rwanda



**374**

International  
Students

**43**

Countries

**60%**

Enrolled in  
Graduate  
Studies

164 UNMC students participated in education abroad activities in 29 countries



43 UNMC students volunteered for the annual Spring Break SAGH Medical Services Trips



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