

Global Connections

Quarterly Newsletter from the Office of Global Engagement
July 2021



A message from the Office of Global Engagement leadership



We hope you are enjoying your summer and are spending much needed time with family and friends.

With the start of the 2021-2022 semester approximately six weeks away, the Office of Global Engagement (OGE) has been preparing for the arrival of the next class of international students. Pre-arrival Zoom presentations have been arranged to help incoming students transition smoothly. A two-day, in-person International Student Orientation is being planned for August 12-13. We look forward to welcoming these students in August.

It is encouraging to see the easing of COVID-19 restrictions so that more of international partners may visit our campus. However, we continue to collaborate with our partners virtually so that we move forward our initiatives as you will read about.

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

The OGE welcomes six Fulbright scholars from Jordan



Included in the photo are: Anas, MD, PhD; Wael Elrayes, MBBCh, PhD, Fulbright Scholar Program principal investigator; Amani, BSc, MSc, PhD; Alla, BSc, MSc, PhD; Zeinab, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFHEA; Nasar, BSc (MD), Msc/M.Phil, PhD; and Mohammed, BSc, MSc, PhD.

UNMC was proud to welcome six Fulbright scholars from Jordan last month who are here for the UNMC Fulbright Faculty Development Program. All are assistant professors with backgrounds in medicine, pharmacy, nursing, and marine biology from five universities around Jordan.

The six scholars include Anas, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, University of Jordan, Amman; Amani, BSc, MSc, PhD, Assistant Professor, Al-Zaytoonah University of Jordan; Alla, BSc, MSc, PhD, Assistant Professor, Yarmouk University, Irbid; Zeinab, BSc, MSc, PhD, AFHEA, Assistant Professor and Head of Department of Marine Biology and Department of Coastal Environment, University of Jordan, Aqaba; Nasar, BSc (MD), Msc/M.Phil, PhD, Associate Professor, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid; and Mohammed, BSc, MSc, PhD, Associate Professor, Jordan University of Science and Technology, Irbid.

This UNMC Fulbright Faculty Development Program focuses on One Health and will last for 10 weeks from June 20 through August 31. This program has three goals:

1. Expand the scholars' capacity to help advance higher education in their home country.
2. Improve cross-cultural understanding between the U.S. and Jordan.
3. Foster institutional linkages between their home institutions and UNMC.

This specially designed program was made possible through strong collaboration between the UNMC College of Public Health and the Office of Global Engagement. "This is an excellent chance to inform our faculty, students, and staff about the Fulbright program and the great opportunities it offers. It is also a great opportunity to build sustainable relationships between UNMC and the Jordanian universities," said Fulbright Scholar

[Read More Here](#)

New immersion Spanish course launched spring 2021

As part of a multi-campus initiative, the UNMC College of Medicine and the UNMC Office of Global Engagement joined forces with the linguistics department at the University of Anáhuac Veracruz (UAV) in Xalapa, Mexico to create a new Immersion Spanish M4 elective held in Omaha in February 2021. The course featured 1:1 virtual individualized instruction (determined by the student's level of Spanish language skills) for six hours per day, five days per week, for three weeks. Instruction was provided by the UAX linguistics faculty, under the direction of Rocío Ríos Rojas. In addition to the intensive Spanish language instruction, the participants received six virtual lectures, given in English, including a lecture about the health care system in Mexico.

Five fourth-year medical students participated in the Immersion Spanish course, directed by Shirley Delair, MD, associate dean for diversity, equity, and inclusion; director of pediatric global health; and chief, division of pediatric infectious diseases; and Melanie Menning, MD, associate program director family medicine residency-urban underserved program and assistant medical director, OneWorld Community Health Center. Lectures and discussions during the fourth week were led by Dr. Delair, Dr. Menning, and Armando de Alba, MD, assistant dean for diversity, equity, and inclusion student programs, and assistant professor, family medicine.

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UNMC SEED program goes virtual

The UNMC Global Health Opportunity Program (GHOP) for Summer Experiential Education (SEED) in Physical Therapy is a three-week online summer program. It is designed for international physical therapy and rehabilitation students who are interested in developing a global perspective on rehabilitation, to learn physical therapy education, research, and practice in the United States. This program is led by Ka-Chun "Joseph" Siu, PhD, director of GHOP and associate professor, physical therapy education.

The SEED virtual program will take place July 12-30, 2021, and will include self-study

sessions, online lectures, live discussions, virtual student roundtables, and campus and program presentations.

UNMC is pleased to welcome 24 physical therapy students this month!

UNMC CON partnership with UNO IPD

UNMC's College of Nursing has been working with [UNO's International Professional Development \(IPD\) Program](#) to develop some specialized language modules to support international nurses in their new certificate program. For nurses educated outside the U.S., this new program helps them receive licensure as a Registered Nurse.

IPD's modules include help with pronunciation, slang, and everyday language for patient communication, and challenging conversations requiring empathy or negotiation skills (alcohol or drug abuse, domestic abuse, terminal illness, etc.).

UNMC is proud to work with UNO's IPD program in support of our faculty, students, and global outreach programs.

To learn more about nursing in the U.S. Context, [please read more here.](#)

OGE releases 2020 annual report

The OGE is proud to announce the release of its 2020 annual report.

[View the full report here.](#)



2020 RECAP



615
Visa-Sponsored
International
Participants

65
Countries



 UNMC established four new international agreements in Brazil, Japan, Rwanda, and South Korea and renewed one agreement with our partners in Oman.



261
International
Students

29
Countries

63%
Enrolled in
Graduate
Studies

 UNMC welcomed 43 new international students to campus in 2020.

12 UNMC students participated in education abroad activities in 4 countries (an additional 60 students had their trips cancelled due to COVID-19). 



Inaugural international photo contest winners announced

The Office of Global Engagement would like to thank those who participated in our first annual photo contest. [Please visit our website](#) to see the winners and all the amazing entries.

Left: Grand Prize Winner Alison Bauer, "Feeling the Glacial Blues", Jökulsárlón glacier lagoon, Iceland

Recent achievements by UNMC faculty & staff

The Long Walk Home

UNMC is at the precipice of earth-shattering developments in the fight against HIV. We are at that place thanks in large part to a brilliant chemist, whose impact may yet reach back to where he took his journey's first steps.

[Read More Here](#)

UNMC's Dr. Fadul part of effort to aid Sudan

Nada Fadul, MD, associate professor in the UNMC Division of Infectious Diseases, is working with the Coalition of Sudanese Organizations Against COVID-19, a group of Sudanese-American physicians and organizations, to help mitigate the devastating effects of COVID-19 in Sudan.

[Read More Here](#)

AAPI panelists share experiences, perspectives

On May 5, the UNMC and Nebraska Medicine communities gathered online to learn about the experiences and perspectives of the Asian American Pacific Islander (AAPI) community. In celebration of AAPI Heritage Month, Bo Chao and the other panelists shared information, resources, and personal experiences of kindness and discrimination.

[Read More Here](#)

Indian sub-continent working group available for assistance

In light of the recent surge of COVID-19 in the Indian sub-continent and the number of students, post-docs, residents, and faculty from India and surrounding countries who have family there, the "Indian Sub-Continent COVID-19 Working Group" has been established in conjunction with campus leadership to offer support and help to those affected.

[Read More 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 with your ideas and suggestions/comments.

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