

December 30, 2019

Dear Team,

Wishing you a Happy New Year from the future (aka past the international dateline in Tonga)!

While some might think I purposely agreed to deploy during the holidays to assist WHO with the Pacific Island measles outbreak to avoid the weather back home, you'll be surprised to know I've been experiencing Cyclone Saria and a tornado.

As I reflect on all of the accomplishments made by our faculty, staff, and students in 2019, I am truly humbled at all of the good work you are doing to make our world a better and healthier place. I get the pleasure of hearing firsthand about your increasing reputation for innovation & excellence and the impact you have in our communities as scientists, students, and alums. I remain amazed when a community partner specifically asks for our faculty and staff to collaborate on research or community practice or when we get an unsolicited donation to expand our science or provide student scholarships.

I'm excited to see what the future holds for the University of Nebraska system, our campus, and our college. Walter 'Ted' Carter, VADM (ret.) has been confirmed as the next NU president, campus leaders announced plans for a large campus transformation, and we continue to work toward addressing the health challenges of the next decade through our robust research, teaching, and service mission to make a lasting positive impact in our communities.

May you and your loved ones have a happy, healthy start to the new year. I can't wait to see what it brings!

Always listening,

ASK

Ali S. Khan, MD, MPH

Retired Assistant Surgeon General, USPHS

Dean and Professor

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