

April 28, 2017

Dear Team,

You can tell it is nearing the end of the academic year, as April was full of great activities and events, especially the fruit and berry social with a side of ice cream.

The month started with National Public Health Week and our Student Association, once again, outdid themselves organizing and scheduling events. One of my favorite events is the Student Research Fair, where there were over 25 students displaying their work. Congratulations to all of our students who participated in this event. Several events, including Grand Rounds, were made possible by the generous gift of the Berggren Lectureship and the presence of prominent global public health leaders Dr. Gretchen Berggren, Dr. David Newberry, Dr. Carol Swarts and Dr. Henry Perry. A big thank you to Becky Anderson who took the lead in coordinating this fantastic experience for all of us.

Thank you to Dr. Renaisa Anthony who brought esteemed colleague, Dr. David Acosta, Associate Vice Chancellor of Diversity and Inclusion at UC Davis Health, to our College for an incredible Grand Rounds. Dr. Acosta gave an eloquent and provocative talk that equity is a function of both diversity and inclusion. This was a great lesson for all of us.

Another highlight was hosting Nebraska's First Lady, Susanne Shore. She was happy to learn more about the College and to meet with some of our students regarding the work they are doing in Nebraska and beyond. She was also gracious enough to pose for some photos with me promoting the Nebraska 150 Challenge. A reminder to join the College of Public Health team. It is quick and easy and I assure you there are activities for everyone and I refuse to concede defeat to MMI!

A friend of the College, Dr. Anne Hubbard, along with her friend, Jess Pate, organized a gathering for a group of approximately 30 community members that were interested in learning more about the college and specifically, information on sex trafficking. Thank you to Shinobu Watanabe-Galloway, Shireen Rajaram and Melissa Tibbits for providing information to this group and fielding questions about the vast types of education, research and service we provide. Many in the group were not aware the college was such a great resource for all things public health and social justice in our community, throughout the state and country and around the world.

Congratulations to two of our employees who successfully defended their dissertations. Drissa Toure and Athena Ramos have earned their PhD!



By now, many of you have received an email I sent today regarding a Lincoln Journal Star article. The University may be subject to additional cuts by the Legislature that could total 15% of our state budget support! Frankly, cuts this deep will require considering shuttering whole programs and maybe even Colleges. Please consider an individual note to your state senator from a non-UNMC email today.

I would like to close on a positive note. We have amazing students who are approaching an important milestone. Please make sure you come support them at convocation and graduation next week. I know they appreciate it and it can be an uplifting experience for all.

Always listening,
Ask

Ali S. Khan, MD, MPH

Retired Assistant Surgeon General, USPHS

Dean and Professor

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