

# Global Connections

Quarterly Newsletter from the Office of Global Engagement  
October 2023



## A message from the Office of Global Engagement



I am pleased to announce that UNMC will host an event for the Nebraska Ambassadors Forum on Monday, Oct. 23. Please keep reading to find all the details and how to register.

Ninety-five new international students from 23 countries were welcomed to UNMC in August. An in-person, two-day International Student Orientation was organized by the office of global engagement (OGE) staff. We are very pleased to have these

students on campus and look forward to learning more about them. The OGE staff is here to help the students have a successful career at UNMC. Please contact us if we can ever be of assistance.

Also, several activities such as a trip to the Omaha's Henry Doorly Zoo and Nebraska Crossing Outlet Mall are being planned this fall for our new international students.

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 L. Meza  
Associate Vice Chancellor for Academic Affairs/Global Engagement/Strategic Planning

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## Nebraska Ambassador Forum set for October 23

# Diplomacy & Development

UNMC Ambassadors Forum & Breakfast

Truhlsen Events Center \* Omaha, NE

NEBRASKA  
AMBASSADORS  
FORUM



Oct. 23, 2023  
8:00 a.m - 10:00 a.m



**AMB. RONALD E. NEUMANN**  
Former U.S. Ambassador to  
Algeria, Bahrain, & Afghanistan



**ALONZO L. FULGHAM**  
Former Acting Administrator  
of USAID



**AMB. DAWN M. LIBERI**  
Former U.S. Ambassador  
to Burundi



**AMB. J. PETER PHAM**  
Former U.S. Special Envoy for  
the Sahel Region of Africa



NEAMBASSADORSFORUM.COM

UNMC students, faculty and staff are invited to attend the 2023 Nebraska Ambassador Forum, which will be held Monday, Oct. 23, from 8:00 - 10:00 a.m. in the Truhlsen Events Center, first floor of the Sorrell Center. A continental breakfast will be available at 8:00 a.m. Ambassador talks will begin at 8:30 a.m. [Register here.](#)

Problems from refugee flows through famine to the attractiveness of criminal gangs demand sustainable development for solution. In many cases, development and diplomacy are intertwined in the policy response. The challenge is large as are the demands on leaders and policy. The 2023 Ambassadors Forum will consider the problems of diplomacy and sustainable development from several perspectives.

The policy perspective: Sustainable development requires the right policies from donors and recipients. Development is often an essential part of accomplishing policy goals from counter-terrorism to decreasing migrant flows. Former Acting Administrator of USAID **The Honorable Alonzo L. Fulgham** will reflect on ways in which the policy perspective is central to the issue of development.

Public-Private Partnerships: Foreign assistance is no longer the exclusive preserve of governmental aid. Private investment is a huge driver of development. Non-governmental organizations influence policy and private sector investment has an impact on development. Further, new approaches by the U.S. Government leverage the private sector as well as serve as contractors for government funding. **Ambassador J. Peter Pham** will offer insights into the complex intertwining of the public and private sectors.

Does Aid Succeed: All too often there is a perception that foreign aid is an endless black hole, ever gaping and bottomless, absorbing public money without result. In fact, there are success stories. They reflect the right mix of policy, assistance, and leadership at the national level. **Ambassador Dawn Liberi** will look back at some of these episodes and their lessons.

**Ambassador Ronald Neumann**, President of the American Academy of Diplomacy will moderate the discussion.

[For a complete schedule and more information about the Ambassadors, go here.](#)

If you have questions, email [global@unmc.edu](mailto:global@unmc.edu).

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Registration open for 2024 World Health Congress conference

# CALL FOR SUBMISSIONS

Interdisciplinary

## World Health Congress

On Post-Pandemic Readiness

Transformation – Innovation – Education

Mohammed VI University Of Health And Sciences

Casablanca, Morocco

Feb. 5-8, 2024

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

The international conference, to be held Feb. 5-8, 2024, in Casablanca, Morocco, follows the COVID-19 in the Middle East/North Africa Region conference held in May 2022.

Visit [here](#) for more information.

### Students attend welcome lunch and ambassador appreciation



More than 70 students attended the international student welcome lunch and ambassador appreciation, which was hosted by the office of global engagement on Sept. 21. Jane

Meza, PhD, associate vice chancellor for global engagement, welcomed the students. To show appreciation for the global ambassadors for their time and dedication given to helping the incoming students, they were gifted with a gold letter opener.

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## UNMC welcomes 95 international students



UNMC welcomed 95 students from 23 countries for the fall 2023 semester. A two-day orientation was held August 10-11.

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## UNMC students volunteer at Omaha pantry

Approximately 20 UNMC students volunteered Sat., August 19, at the Clair Memorial Methodist Church drive-up food pantry. Volunteers worked in the garden prior to the start of the pantry drive-up. More than 200 families received the donated food.

This volunteer project is coordinated several times a year by the Student Association of Global Health.

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## Recent achievements by UNMC faculty & staff

### College of Public Health visits partners in Rwanda

Representatives of the UNMC College of Public Health traveled to Rwanda from August 4-10 to work on building educational programs and international collaborations.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)

### **UNMC researchers guide strategy for next public health emergencies**

Two UNMC researchers were part of a team that helped create a comprehensive plan designed to improve global health security and increase preparedness in the wake of public health emergencies.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)

### **Global Center group visits counterparts in Japan**

A contingency from the UNMC Global Center for Health Security visited Tokyo, Japan, and its National Center for Global Health and Medicine earlier this summer to strengthen collaboration between NCGM and the National Emerging Special Pathogens Training and Education Center.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)

### **Dr. Are named first CEO of global cancer forum**

Chandra Are, MBBS, the Jerald L. andCarolynn J. Varner Professor of Surgical Oncology & Global Health and dean for graduate medical education, has been named the first chief executive officer of the Global Forum of Cancer Surgeons.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)

### **Psychiatry secures research funding from South Korea**

The UNMC Department of Psychiatry Research Division announced \$141,000 in funding from the South Korea Ministry of Science, Information and Technology. Soonjo Hwang, MD, research director for the UNMC Department of Psychiatry, said the funding will be used to conduct a clinical study of virtual reality assessments of ADHD.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)

### **Global medical simulation conference coming to UNMC**

In early August, the cutting-edge capabilities of iEXCEL will be on full display when UNMC hosts the SimGHOSTS 2023 USA conference.

[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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