

# Global Connections

Quarterly Newsletter from the Office of Global Engagement  
January 2022



## A message from the Office of Global Engagement leadership



We wish you a Happy New Year! We, along with the Office of Global Engagement staff, look to 2022 with hope. We are working together through our global partnerships to address the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. We continue to develop our international partnerships and look forward to the return of our international exchange and observation programs.

We stand ready to grow these programs and expand the international footprint of the UNMC community. Even today, in the face of continuing global constraints imposed by the pandemic, we continue to assume leadership in the all-important international arena. Our partnerships in the Middle East, North Africa, and Mexico have built upon earlier successes and will continue to generate new opportunities for UNMC colleagues to forge innovative partnerships in teaching, research, and community service.

Earlier this month, we welcomed six new international students to campus for the spring semester and hosted them at our in-person orientation. We may be doing things differently, but we have not slowed down!

We thank all of you for your continued support and look forward to working with you in this

new year. As we look to this new year with hope, we wish you health, happiness, and better things to come in 2022.

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  
Bruce Grogan, MPH, director of the office of global engagement

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## International visitors resume with new iGlobal system



The Office of Global Engagement (OGE) is continuing to roll out iGlobal to UNMC. iGlobal is the University of Nebraska's international participant management system. It is utilized by all four NU campuses to track and maintain the records for all international students, scholars, and employees. This system will allow the OGE to be in compliance with Federal regulations while expanding

services to UNMC. International students are already utilizing iGlobal for immigration services, including completing pre-arrival and onboarding requirements.

In mid-December, the OGE also unveiled a revamped International Visitor Registration for department administrators that streamlines the visitor registration process. Future enhancements will include applications H1-B and Permanent Residency sponsorships for new international faculty and staff, more online services for international students, and more.

The OGE will offer training on these dates on the new international visitor registration process through iGlobal. Click on a date to register. More trainings will be offered in the coming months.

[Tuesday, January 18](#)

[Tuesday, January 25](#)

[Read More Here. Please note: some of the trainings have already occurred.](#)

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### Rev. Ben McIntire sets goals as UNMC Student Senate Global Engagement Liaison

Rev. Ben McIntire, a third-year medical student, is the current UNMC Student Senate Global Engagement Liaison. McIntire, from Harlan, Iowa, has a bachelor of science degree in marketing from Iowa State University and a masters of divinity from Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minn. He was ordained in the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA) in 2009 and has served in Lutheran congregations around Western Iowa for the past ten years. His career goals are to work in emergency medicine and medical ministries in Tanzania.

Rev. Benjamin McIntire

[Read More Here](#)

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## Students experience US tradition



Twenty-five UNMC international students boarded Ollie the Trolley for the annual holiday lights tour to view some of the largest light displays in Omaha. Hosted by the Office of Global Engagement, the Nov. 30 tour provided an opportunity to experience a US tradition that many had not ever seen before and to have a study break before finals week.

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## UNMC celebrates International Week



In November 2021, UNMC celebrated International Week, a showcase of the diverse international population on our campuses. This collaborative event between the Office of Global Engagement and the International Student Association featured intercultural workshops and classes, the celebration of Diwali, and a ping-pong tournament. The week also brought different groups together for the Culture Expo and a movie at Film Streams Dundee.

“International Week featured the incredible diversity of our international population here at UNMC,” said Jane Meza, PhD, associate vice chancellor for global engagement. “We are grateful to ISA and other students, faculty, and staff who made this week a success.”

[Read More Here](#)

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## Student Alliance for Global Health (SAGH) students extend outreach



Many of UNMC's SAGH members have volunteered at the Clair United Methodist Church on monthly Saturday mornings from Sept. to Dec. for their pantry food pickup. Volunteers picked produce from the garden, sorted produce donations, packed boxes of food, and loaded boxes into cars.

At the September event, there was also a flu clinic for the local community. In addition to the SAGH students, there were two College of Nursing faculty members to administer the flu shots and two UNO public health students who assisted with the initial check-in.

This past year, SAGH members have also volunteered for food distribution activities with OneWorld. With these two organizations SAGH supports through their volunteer efforts during these challenging times, they are extending their outreach to communities in both North and South Omaha.

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## Dr. Davies speaks at international forum

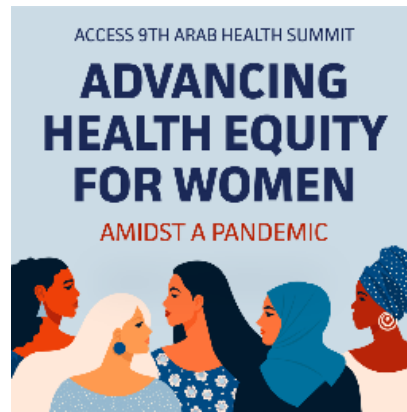


On Oct. 12, 2021, Dele Davies, MD, senior vice chancellor for academic affairs, spoke on transforming healthcare education with emerging technologies at the World University Presidents' Forum on Medical Sciences hosted by Shandong University in China. The Shandong University Cheeloo College of Medicine is celebrating the 120th anniversary of Shandong University and the 110th anniversary of the Medical School. The forum's focus was the free exchange of ideas on international partnerships and cooperation in medicine, medical education, and strategies for addressing the global public health crisis. Dr. Davies was joined by other leaders from universities in Canada, China, Japan, Norway, Russia, Sweden, and the United Kingdom.

[Read More Here](#)

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## UNMC students attend Arab Women's Health Summit



The summit was held virtually on Oct. 19-21, 2021, and was hosted by ACCESS, the nation's largest Arab American community nonprofit. The conference focused on promoting discussions on health rights, public health research, and community engagement among speakers and attendees representing the United States and several Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) countries.

The summit featured a presentation by Jane Meza, PhD, UNMC's associate vice chancellor for global engagement and interim executive director for the office of health security, as well as presentations by other international experts in many different areas.

[Read UNMC Today Article Here](#)

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## UNMC co-sponsors international conference



UNMC is a co-sponsor of this upcoming international conference. This scientific forum reaffirms our strong commitment to building global health bridges between scientists and researchers in North America, Europe, and the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. This strategically designed scientific forum will gather distinguished researchers and international scientific groups to share COVID-19 lessons learned from the MENA region and around the globe. The aim is to establish and promote partnerships and affiliations with health organizations and universities from around the globe.

**Abstract submissions are now being accepted via an online submission form until Jan. 15, 2022.**

[Read more here](#) about UNMC's involvement as a co-sponsor of this conference.

[Full conference details and abstract submission details here.](#)

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## Recent achievements by UNMC faculty & staff

### Rwanda-Nebraska workshop explores partnerships

The Rwanda-Nebraska One Health Virtual Workshop was held Oct. 21-22, 2021. This virtual workshop introduced the Rwanda-Nebraska One Health Network. The network was designed to highlight existing Rwanda-Nebraska partnerships, as well as facilitate multidisciplinary research and academic collaborations between the University of Nebraska and partners in Rwanda.

[Read UNMC Today article here](#)

### Pediatric cardiology conference part of global effort

A virtual education effort offered in April was the latest successful effort from the [UNMC Pediatric Residency Global Health Track](#), which was founded in 2014 with a mission to develop partnerships aimed at addressing global health equity in children in the U.S. and abroad. The program, which has multiple partners, recently worked with Benjamin Acheampong, MD, an assistant professor in the UNMC Division of Pediatric Cardiology, to create a three-day virtual conference that offered discussion and instructions on pediatric cardiological interventions for non-cardiologists working in low-resource international settings.

[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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HERE'S WISHING YOU GOOD CHEER IN THE



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