

Global Engagement Newsletter

uvu.edu/global

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Welcome

Happy end of the school year! The Office for Global Engagement would like to congratulate everyone for working hard this year, and especially to the class of 2024 for graduating! We are excited for the next stages of your lives.

This year has been full of wonderful international experiences, including nine Global Spotlight events, a celebration of the Declaration of Human Rights, the Academic Freedom Symposium, and many other events featuring countries and people from all around the world. We have been honored to work with students, faculty, and staff from different parts of campus to bring the world to UVU and provide international experiences, awareness, and perspectives to build a strong, sustainable world. While there will be fewer events over the summer, we look forward to bringing more of the world to campus over the 2024–2025 school year!



Table of Contents:

Events—2

Global Spotlight Fellows—4

75th Anniversary of the Declaration for Human Rights—5

Wolverines Around the World—6



Events

Greek Architectural Engineering

On April 17, the Office for Global Engagement hosted Dr. Vassilis Gkaniatsas, a renowned research and professor of Architectural Synthesis and Theory / Philosophy of Architectural Design in the School of Architectural Engineering at National Technical University in Athens, Greece. He presented to engineering design students on the topic of “Traditional, Classical, and Modern Paradigms in Architectural Design.” He raised many philosophical questions about the purpose, motivation, and implementation of architecture. His presentation was interwoven with theory, philosophy, and an occasional reference to Greek mythology into the more practical understanding of architectural design.



Global Student Leadership Council Scholarship Opportunity!

This is an opportunity for students to become a part of the Office for Global Engagement's Global Student Leadership Council and receive a \$1000 scholarship per semester. Applications are due on May 24. More information can be found on our website, uvu.edu/global, under Global Student Leadership Council.

Global Spotlight Luncheon

On April 23, the Office for Global Engagement hosted a luncheon to honor our Global Spotlight Fellows and Global Student Leadership Program participants from this past school year. We had the opportunity to honor the Global Spotlight Fellows, as highlighted on page 4. We also recognized our Global Student Leadership Program participants from the 2023–2024 school year. It was a delight to meet with so many people who worked with us over the past year.



Stephan Atkinson

Anna Lesa

Allison Herrera



Events

Gentrification, Poverty, and Homelessness: Global Issues, Local Solutions

On April 9, the Office for Global Engagement hosted an event that focused on gentrification, poverty, and homelessness. Two groups of students presented on these issues, highlighting five different countries and their efforts in addressing these issues, as well as local efforts being made in our own community.



Really Really Free Market

We had another successful really really free market on April 17! The students enjoy the opportunity they have each month to donate things they don't need and take ones they do. Our next free market will be on May 15.



Peruvian Delegation

On April 5, a Peruvian delegation visited UVU! This delegation included Mr. Czubor Omar Chicata-Sutmöller Sagenschnier, the Consul General of Peru to Utah, and Ana Maria Gutierrez Valdivia, the Vice Governor of Arequipa. Several staff and business faculty at UVU had the chance to meet with them and talk about potential future collaborations with Peru.



International Faculty and Staff Social

On April 11, we hosted the international faculty and staff for the last social of the school year! Everyone had a delightful time talking and enjoying refreshments. We look forward to continuing these events in the fall!



Global Spotlight Fellows

We'd like to recognize our 2024 Global Spotlight Fellows! These individuals participated in our Global Spotlight Initiative this school year to provide a global experience for their students.



Violeta Vasilevska
College of Science
Mathematics for Human
Flourishing with Dr.
Francis Edward Su

Yasuko Saito
Languages and Cultures
Japanese New Year



Heath Ogden
College of Science
Darwin Day keynote
speaker Dr. Joseph L.
Graves

Anne Arendt
*College of Engineering &
Technology*
Kyrgyz Republic – Utah IT
Forum



Mari de Dios
Languages and Cultures
Utah's Hispanic Chamber
of Commerce, with Execu-
tive Director Juan Pascua

Alex Yuan
Languages and Cultures
Chinese New Year



David Ssejinja
*College of Humanities and
Social Science*
Rescuing Children in
Uganda from Human Traf-
ficking, Peter Sewakiryanga

Sayed Sajal
*College of Engineering &
Technology*
International Mother
Language Day



Tammy Christensen
Languages and Cultures
France and Human
Rights, Anne Lair, Hon.
Consul of France in Utah

Maritza Sotomayor
Woodbury School of Business
Special Recognition for con-
tinuous support of global spot-
light program



75th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights

This past year marks the 75th Anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. This document was written by representatives from all over the world and was adopted by the UN General Assembly in Paris on December 10th, 1948. To honor the 75th year of this first document of fundamental human rights, we are highlighting a few articles each month.

25



Everyone has the right to an adequate standard of living for themselves and their family.

Everyone has the right to a standard of living adequate for the health and well-being of himself and of his family, including food, clothing, housing and medical care and necessary social services, and the right to security in the event of unemployment, sickness, disability, widowhood, old age or other lack of livelihood in circumstances beyond his control.

Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least in the elementary and fundamental stages. Elementary education shall be compulsory.

26



Everyone has the right to an education, including free and compulsory elementary education.

27



Everyone has the right to freely participate in the culture and scientific advancement of their community, and their intellectual property as artist or scientist should be protected.

Everyone has the right freely to participate in the cultural life of the community, to enjoy the arts and to share in scientific advancement and its benefits.

Wolverines Around the World



Morocco



Professor Kevin McCarthy, along with Professors Rick Howard, Ben Williams, and Steve Allred, recently were able to return to Morocco to continue teaching emergency medical training to the Moroccan fire department and future EMTs, as well as helping teach some pre-hospital courses. Through the State Partnership Program, the Utah National Guard has been aiding Morocco in training EMTs for several years now. Professor McCarthy had the opportunity to go for this purpose three times last year, but specifically to teach instructor material. The skills they are teaching have been very useful, and many people they taught got to use what they learned in the earthquake Morocco experienced last September. One particularly international aspect of this experience for Dr. McCarthy was watching those they'd taught teach others—they'd borrow the English slides, use Arabic as a reference to the slides, and also utilize French as needed. It has been a wonderful experience thus far, and they are still in contact with friends from there. They are creating communication pathways with a country that is different and welcoming and maintaining good country relationships through these trips.



Germany



Professor Troy Wilson recently had the opportunity to go with other culinary arts faculty to Germany for the IKA World Culinary Olympics! The event had teams representing twenty-three countries from around the world. This gave them the opportunity to try foods from all over the world, including Spain, Germany, and Norway, and see what the rest of the world is doing food-wise. The faculty got to see entire halls dedicated to specific foods, such as an entire hall for coffee, one for furnishings, and one for gelato. It was the biggest show Professor Wilson had ever seen in his life—and the epitome of culinary competition is about. While it certainly showed the final product, they also got to see what the process is like, because it takes so much to get to that point. In addition to the competition, the group was able to experience some authentic German food. Professor Wilson noted that the European feel is distinctly different in smaller German towns, where they got to experience the real non-touristy side of Germany. The trip proved to be a fantastic scholarship and learning opportunity for the faculty to experience the fine-tuned German culture and cutting-edge competition-style food that they can bring back to their students at UVU.

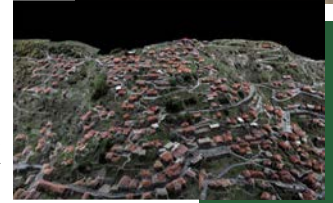
Wolverines Around the World



Greece



Professor Emily Hedrick had the opportunity travel to Greece in March to do drone research! She was able to travel with a UVU student, Elizabeth, and work with Dr. Aliko Milioti, another UVU professor. They spent the first few days in Athens, where they were able to go and see classical Greek architecture. Then they traveled to Lagadia, which is a historic town known for their stone carvers and artisans of classical Greek architecture. Professor Hedrick and Elizabeth captured high resolution photos from drones and map them all out to make a 3D rendering of the historic town. Eventually, this can be used to create a 3D digital replica and walk through the city in virtual reality and for classical architects to use as a reference. It was a wonderful, epic experience that was all about sharing knowledge. Professor Hedrick is excited to teach drone work to architecture and digital media students back at UVU, as well as apply what they've learned in other places around the world soon.



Oxford, United Kingdom



Cassie Bingham, Director of the UVU Center for Social Impact, recently returned from the Oxford University Map the System Educators Convention. Cassie leads the UVU Map the System program through the Center for Social Impact, where students can learn to research social problems using systems thinking and then create data visualizations in the form of infographics and systems maps. This help to visually convey the complexity of systems and where they can be disrupted or altered to help improve social outcomes. The Map the System Competition has expanded so quickly internationally that Oxford University invited involved educators to convene at the Saïd Business School to discuss the future of the program, share successes and concerns, and give presentations and facilitate round table discussions. Cassie presented an integrated social impact strategies model she developed at the Center for Social Impact that builds on the skills of systems thinking by adding design thinking, theory of change, and impact measurement. Educators in attendance at Cassie's presentation came from the UK, Canada, New Zealand, Israel, and more. Cassie has also now been invited to attend and speak at another Systems Thinking Summit in Banff, Canada, at the end of May.



Wolverines Around the World



Norway



Professor Ezgi Sertler spent part of her spring break in Bergen, Norway in March 2024. She was able to attend a conference at the University of Bergen titled “Political Theory of LGBTQ+ Refuge and Migration.” She presented her paper titled “Making Sense of Persecution and Its Consequences: “Social Group” in U.S. Asylum.” The conference also included a book workshop where Dr. Sertler was invited to comment on an upcoming book chapter (written by Buxton and Ritholtz) discussing the concepts of persecution, protection, and sanctuary in displacement. This was a great opportunity to have meaningful exchanges with political theorists and philosophers from Norway, U.S., U.K, Canada, and Germany. She is grateful for all the feedback she has received on her paper and looking forward to working on her project over the summer. While in Bergen, she took some time off to enjoy the fjords as well!



How many airplane flights depart and land each day?

Approximately 100,000!



Approximately how much money is thrown into Rome's Trevi Fountain each day?

3000 euros!



World Trivia!

Which country doesn't have a rectangular or square flag?

Nepal!

