

Global Engagement Newsletter

uvu.edu/global

December 2023, vol. 16

Upcoming Events:

- December 5:** Permanent Representative of Kyrgyzstan to the UN
- December 5:** International Mountain Day
- December 6:** Really Really Free Market
- December 6:** 75th Declaration of Human Rights Celebration



*Happy Holidays and Best Wishes
for a New Year of Happiness
in a World of Peace!*



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Global Spotlight

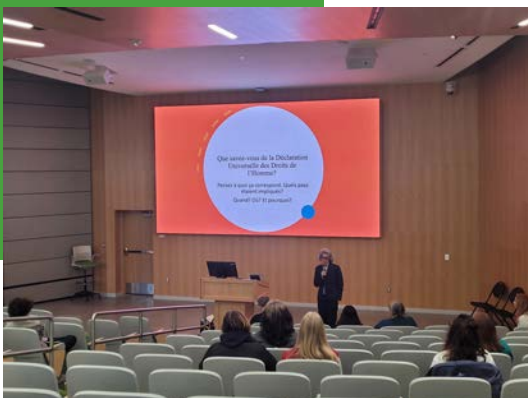
Rescuing Children from Human Trafficking in Uganda

On November 1, the Office for Global Engagement hosted a Global Spotlight event featuring Peter Sewakiryanga, the founder and executive director of Kyampisi Childcare Ministers. He spoke on the horrors of child sacrifice that happen in his home country of Uganda and the care his organization gives children who have been victims of trafficking. While the topic was a difficult one to discuss, the presentation was beautifully done and worked to raise awareness of these serious issues.



France and Human Rights

On November 14, the Office for Global Engagement hosted Dr. Anne Lair, the Honorary Consul of France, to speak to French classes at UVU. She discussed the United Nations Declaration of Human Rights and France's role in supporting the UDHR at the time of its creation, as well as today. Dr. Lair compared the declaration with the Declaration of the Rights of Man and of the Citizen—the human rights document that emerged from the French Revolution. Overall, it was an excellent presentation, and it was a good opportunity for the students to learn from the highest ranking government official from France in the state of Utah.



Events

Really Really Free Market

This month's really really free market was yet another success! We had more stuff than ever moved to new hands. Our next one will be on December 6. Bring any items you'd like to donate to LA210.



Education in Finland

On November 15, Dr. Sari Kojkander, Counselor for Science and Higher Education for the Consulate General of Finland, Los Angeles, spoke at UVU about the education system in Finland. She addressed our education faculty, and then she spoke to students. Both faculty and students found it a great experience and enjoyed learning about how education works in a country known for its renowned system.



Ukrainian Culture Night

On November 28, there was a Ukrainian culture night, where Ukrainian refugees and host families came together and celebrated Ukrainian culture with food, song, and dance. It was a delight to be able to celebrate the culture of the beautiful country of Ukraine.



International Staff & Faculty

On November 14, the Office for Global Engagement hosted another networking event for our international faculty and staff! We had a great turnout and had a lovely time getting to know each other better by sharing stories. While there is not an international faculty and staff networking event in December, there will be one on January 17, 2024, at 2pm.



Upcoming in 2024

Thursday, March 28:

Academic Freedom Symposium

Academic freedom is the ability to choose what to study, teach, and discuss—a freedom we may take for granted sometimes. Without that freedom, scholars can be put in danger, and many have to leave their home countries to seek safety. This symposium will highlight the importance of academic freedom both globally and domestically.

Friday, March 8:

Inspire Inclusion



75th Anniversary of the Declaration of Human Rights

This 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.

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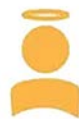


You have a right to a fair, public trial.

Everyone is entitled in full equality to a fair and public hearing by an independent and impartial tribunal, in the determination of his rights and obligations and of any criminal charge against him.

Everyone charged with a penal offence has the right to be presumed innocent until proved guilty according to law in a public trial at which he has had all the guarantees necessary for his defence.

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Everyone is innocent until proven guilty.

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You have the right to privacy. No one can interfere with your reputation, family, home, or correspondence.

No one shall be subjected to arbitrary interference with his privacy, family, home or correspondence, nor to attacks upon his honour and reputation. Everyone has the right to the protection of the law against such interference or attacks.

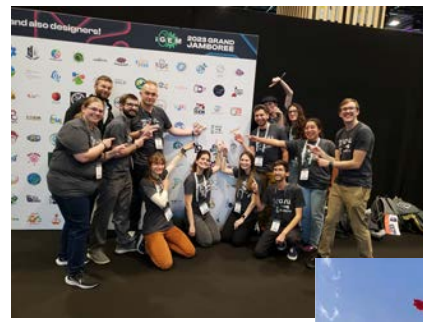
Wolverines Around the World



Paris, France



Professors Eric Domyan and **Colleen Hough** recently had the opportunity to take a group of students to Paris for the International Genetically Engineered Machine 2023 Grand Jamboree, where 6000 students in over 400 teams from 66 different countries presented and participated in panels on a variety of different topics. The UVU team had been working hard on a project to genetically engineer a harmless species of algae to suck up nitrogen and phosphorus to try and prevent toxic algae blooms from sprouting in Utah Lake. It was an intensive project, but a rewarding one, and the students also got to learn how to do things they may not have anticipated, like design a website and a brochure. In addition to the competition, the group was able to tour Paris and explore the city. The competition proved to be a fantastic opportunity to talk to people from other countries and see their perspectives and the problems that they were working on through synthetic biology—things we may not experience here. It was a wonderful experience for the students to see a global perspective on the work that they do.



Daegu, South Korea



Professor Cyrill Slezak recently had the opportunity to travel to Daegu, South Korea, for an International Society for Medical Shockwave Treatment (ISMST) Congress. This conference occurs yearly, in different countries each year, and is a great place for shockwave scientists to mingle and collaborate. It is the largest conference of its kind and is unique in that it invites people involved in the field in any way—whether it be basic researchers or end users. Cyrill had the opportunity to present a poster while there, as well as participate as a panelist for the “Shockwaves in Different Specialties I: Urology and Sexual Medicine” panel. Having been to several of these conferences, Cyrill found that having one in an Asian country enabled more Asian input in the conference, where previously, there had been more European input when the assemblies were hosted in Europe. Cyrill found it to be a great opportunity and particularly enjoyed the food of South Korea.



Belgium, France, and Italy



Each year, the ROTC seniors have the opportunity to participate in a staff ride event, where the students do in-depth analysis on a particular battle or campaign and examine its impact on people, the respective wars, and even history as a whole. This year, **Major Spencer Randle** had the opportunity to take the cadets to Belgium, France, and Italy. In France and Belgium, they studied WWI and WWII in places like the Château de Salm, Verdun, Passchendaele, Belleau Wood, and of course, Normandy, where they got to see preserved trench complexes. In Italy, many of the sites were torn down, but the cadets did have the opportunity to experience the cultural side of the history by visiting Salerno Beaches, Montecassino Abbey, and the Florence American Cemetery. On one particular day in Ypres, the cadets were standing in the rain and mud, learning about the soldiers standing in the rain and mud in that same spot, and that drove home some of the reality of these historical battles. The trip emphasized how the decisions and responsibilities of soldiers have lasting consequences as the cadets learned from past leaders' mistakes and successes. This was their opportunity to stand on the shoulders of giants and learn from them.



Toronto, Canada



Professor Pierre Lamarche had the opportunity to travel to Toronto, Canada, for two conferences. In June, he was able to attend the seventh annual meeting of the Society for Italian Philosophy—an international philosophical organization dedicated to the study of Italian philosophy in the English language. Professor Lamarche was able to attend eight panels over the course of the conference, as well as moderate several and help organize the event as a whole. The conference

featured presentations of lots of interesting scholarship, and it also enabled many connections to be made between scholars of different backgrounds who would not have met otherwise. Professor Lamarche reported that it was great to participate and facilitate the further development of a productive and interesting organization. In October, he returned to Toronto for the 61st annual meeting of the Society for Phenomenology and Existential Philosophy, where he had the opportunity to organize and moderate the session entitled “Crisis and Power in Contemporary Italian Thought.” It was another successful conference, and it was a great experience for him to visit Toronto again.