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⁵<https://sway.office.com/on7V8JkYgcOGBvX>

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Welcome from the Vice Provost

On behalf of the Office of Global Engagement, welcome to the first issue of The Global Gazette!

The goal of this newsletter is to widely disseminate our events, programs, and opportunities for the Drexel community, while also showcasing the global engagement accomplishments of our faculty, students, and partners. In each issue, you can expect to learn more about the ways in which our office supports faculty in global research, partnership development, and innovative pedagogy to support global learning.

Despite the impact of Covid-19 on our international mobility programs, OGE has worked diligently to increase our ever-growing OGE community through virtual events, trainings, study appointments, and local partnership building. We are thrilled by the level of participation, not just from the Drexel community, but from students and faculty from our international partners across the globe. For example, our Virtual Global Exchange Series events have brought together Drexel students with students from Italy, United Kingdom, Korea, South Africa, Chile, Peru, France, Germany, among others, to engage in dialogue about our world's most pressing problems. In many ways, this time has shown how resilient the field of international education can be against modern challenges.

We hope you enjoy reading our inaugural edition. If you have comments and suggestions, or if you'd like to recommend a featured faculty, student, or global partner accomplishment, please let us know.

Warm regards,

Jake Marini

⁶<https://sway.office.com/wTp5ix1tOCrYSjwB>

⁷<https://sway.office.com/zbrIR6NH7SJIuCBp>

⁸<https://sway.office.com/dubc5VbBwU4in4OL>

⁹<https://sway.office.com/d9YsMXUkVNn4cmKA>

¹⁰<https://sway.office.com/7HWsN9qU7AICAtix>



Navigating Study Abroad During Uncertain Times

As education abroad professionals, our goal is to help students internationalize their Drexel career through direct experience. While the COVID-19 pandemic has caused cancellations to international program and global travel, OGE's Education Abroad team is carefully navigating this unpredictable landscape by focusing on student support and working with our international partners, with an emphasis on adaptability and optimism.

Students plan months or even years in advance for study abroad by making adjustments to their academic and co-op plans. During the pandemic, our primary focus has been to support the 700+ students impacted by program cancellations, which include exchange, program providers, and faculty-led intensives. Through this process, education abroad advisors mapped out various pathways to enable as many students to defer study abroad as possible. For many, this has required making exceptional arrangements to their plans of study. Education Abroad advisors have also identified alternative program options based on the intricacies of students' individual academic needs and timeline. Students in turn, have been flexible and dedicated to finding solutions. Some have chosen to defer to summer or fall term 2021. OGE is accepting program applications for summer and fall with deadlines this term, while we continue to assess international travel viability as time unfolds.

Approaching program development within the context of a global pandemic has required creative thinking as we work closely with Drexel faculty and our international partners. Faculty leaders for Intensive Courses Abroad have been significantly impacted, having to choose between either postponing or reimagining their programs. Three such faculty adapted their ICA courses to teach them remotely, with creative ways to incorporate virtual "study abroad" experiences for their students. Rachel Schade, Architecture Professor, reshaped her ICA into a 10-week summer course called "Virtually Venice," by integrating live chats and "tours" with local experts, as well as new design software and projects that allowed students to experience Venice from afar. This term, several Drexel students are taking virtual "study abroad" courses with OGE's partner in Costa Rica, where students would have studied on-site. Those courses include virtual site visits and group discussions with Costa Rican community organizations.

There has never been a more uniquely challenging time for international education, yet we know that it is not a matter of “if” but “when” international travel will resume. In the meantime, we are committed to supporting students and faculty in planning toward future opportunities, finding creative approaches to global engagement, and deepening relationships with our trusted partners around the globe.

Virtual Global Exchange Series



In response to COVID-19's impact on Drexel's international mobility experiences, the Office of Global Engagement launched a virtual exchange series for students, faculty, and staff to foster cross-cultural conversation and debate around some of the world's most pressing challenges. Co-moderated by Drexel faculty and experts from our global partners, this monthly series provides a space for global dialogue, mutual understanding, and collaborative research.

To register and join our VGES Community Classroom, students and faculty can email Casey Devine¹¹, Coordinator for the Office of Global Engagement.

Previous topics...

1. Virtual Auditing and Health Disparities –Universidade Federal de Minas Gerais, Brazil

2. COVID & Sports – Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences, the Netherlands

3. Corrections Culture and Change –University of Oslo, Norway

4. Consequences of COVID-19 through the lens of #cancelled culture – Tel Aviv University, Israel

¹¹<mailto:md3683@drexel.edu>

5. Global Entrepreneurship – University of Strathclyde, UK

6. Cities and Responsive Strategies for Climate Change- Politecnico di Milano, Italy

7. Economic Impact of Covid-19: A Cross-Cultural Comparison – with a panel of Drexel alumni

14th Annual Student Conference on Global Challenges: *Disaster!*



The Office of Global Engagement invites you to mark your calendars for the **14th Annual Student Conference on Global Challenges: *Disaster!*** This conference will be held during the Week of Undergraduate Excellence ¹²on **Tuesday, May 18, 2021**.

The Student Conference on Global Challenges gives undergraduate and graduate students the opportunity to present their research and engage in critical dialogue regarding the multitude of threats that impact society's well-being. These perils range from climate and natural disasters to pandemic and economic threats.

We ask faculty to include the conference in your Spring syllabi, and encourage students to submit proposals for presentation topics. In addition, we are happy to visit your class to share details about the conference.

Students may join some or all conference activities throughout the day to:

- Apply¹³ to present their research on one of six student panels (open to undergraduate and graduate students)

¹²<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/news-events/events/week-undergraduate-excellence/>

¹³<https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdrexel.qualtrics.com%2Fjfe%2Fform%2F%2F0ixp0T6dz9HXbs9&data=04|01|alz26%40drexel.edu|3cb3387249b742cc015108d89b82121d|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637430330297383155|Unknown|TWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoIjoiMC4wLjAwMDAiLCJQIjoIjV2lu>

- Submit an abstract ¹⁴to present a poster
- Join us¹⁵ as attendees for all or part of the conference activities

Every year faculty members act as moderators for the six student panels. If you are interested in moderating, or would like our office to speak to your class about conference opportunities, please contact Casey Devine at md3683@drexel.edu¹⁶.

We anticipate a virtual conference offering but will add in-person opportunities if University guidelines allow.

Special thanks to Pennoni Honors College and Undergraduate Research & Enrichment Programs for their collaboration on this event.

Office of Global Engagement Supports Drexel's Climate Year Initiative



Since 2015, at the ratification of the Paris Agreement, Drexel's Office of Global Engagement has supported the University's participation in the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC), which holds the annual global climate change conference called the Conference of Parties (COP).

By successfully securing its Permanent Observer status as a Research Institute and Non-governmental Organization (RINGO), Drexel receives annual credentials for a select number of students, faculty and staff to participate in the event. COP brings together policymakers, government officials, academics,

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¹⁴<https://drexel.edu/pennoni/news-events/events/week-undergraduate-excellence/>

¹⁵https://nam10.safelinks.protection.outlook.com/?url=https%3A%2F%2Fdrexel.qualtrics.com%2Fife%2Fform%2FSV_cC8cbR6RGMCOHPv&data=04|01|alz26%40drexel.edu|3cb3387249b742cc015108d89b82121d|3664e6fa47bd45a696708c4f080f8ca6|0|0|637430330297393147|Unknown|TWfPbGZsb3d8eyJWljoimc4wLjAwMDAiLCJQljoiv2luMzliLCJBTiI6lk1haWwiLCJXVCI6Mn0%3D|1000&sdata=yo5ErYzs%2FjzzQYEA365U91XeWPWKyEmLeTZV317%2FyFs%3D&reserved=0

¹⁶<mailto:md3683@drexel.edu>

researchers, activists, students and young professionals who serve as representatives from their respective countries and organizations in support of the 1992 UNFCCC, which serves to solve the world's most pressing challenges related to climate change. Upon return from COP, Office of Global Engagement sponsors a public event for the Drexel community to learn about its participation. The hope is that Drexel will use its credentials at COP to spotlight its impactful research, advocacy and teaching on climate change. Calls for Participants are announced every summer for the forthcoming COP.

Faculty and staff are also eligible to apply for Office of Global Engagement's Global Climate Action Funds, small seed grants (between \$500-\$2,500) to jump start or leverage new or existing climate-related research projects with a global collaborator, host a visiting scholar, or develop opportunities for students, among other high-impact global engagements. To learn more about these grants, please click [here](#)¹⁷

As official Observers to the United Nations Framework Convention for Climate Change (UNFCCC) process, and host of the North American Hub of the Urban Climate Change Research Network, Drexel student and faculty researchers can also find opportunities to partner with international practitioners in need of climate-focused solutions. Join the Hub today!

Finally, the Office of Global Engagement is offering an honors course this Winter Quarter, "Great Works: Climate Action," to examine the development and influence of the UNFCCC Conference of Parties and Drexel's participation in the annual conference.

¹⁷<https://drexel.edu/global/funding/climate-action-funds/>

Faculty Profile: Usama Bilal, MD, MPH, PhD, Dornsife School of Public Health



1 - Usama Bilal, MD, MPH, PhD: Assistant Professor in the Urban Health Collaborative and the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics in the Dornsife School of Public Health

Usama Bilal, Assistant Professor in the Urban Health Collaborative and the Department of Epidemiology & Biostatistics at Drexel's Dornsife School of Public Health, has focused his career on researching health, equality, and mortality in Latin American countries through the Salud Urbana en America Latina (SALURBAL) project. In meeting with Teresa Puthiyamadam, Office of Global Engagement's global marketing co-op, he discussed his uncommon path to becoming a researcher, and the impact of epidemiology on fostering global health equity.

"There is a lot of serendipity in my story," Dr. Bilal said. As an undergraduate student raised in Spain, he was initially told that his grades were not strong enough to obtain a summer internship. After a faculty member encouraged him to continue pursuing research, Bilal was able to secure a position researching health inequality in cardiovascular disease. Next, he attended medical school at the University of Oviedo with the hope of becoming a scientific researcher, which was an uncommon goal compared with his peers who were more focused on careers as medical doctors. His coursework in epidemiology propelled him to receive his MPH at the University of Alcalá, before being accepted to Johns Hopkins University for his PhD.

Dr. Bilal encourages all students to pursue their interests even if they do not see others carving out that same path for themselves. He hopes that his story and research can help inspire students to find whatever it is that ignites excitement within them.

The SALURBAL project works, among other aspects, to evaluate the impacts of transportation, housing, health promotion, and emissions control policies on the health and sustainability of cities. Fifteen institutions across eleven different countries are represented within SALURBAL. Dr. Bilal reports that he feels a strong cultural connection between his home country of Spain and the many Latin American countries involved in the project.

Dr. Bilal's research analyzes mortality rates in specific Latin American cities as indicators of health and well-being of the community. Once data is transmitted to Drexel, Dr. Bilal and his colleagues review, clean, and harmonize the information. When the analysis is complete, Bilal collaborates with members of the writing team to submit their findings to a variety of public health journals.

One of the major challenges of this line of work is data quality. In SALURBAL's case, it can be exceedingly difficult to know whether all deaths were properly registered in their home countries, an issue prevalent to lower income areas. This can result in undercounting.



To Bilal, "mortality encompasses the entire lived experience of life. Looking at the reason why people died can also show us how they lived."

After obtaining all the required data, Dr. Bilal and his team prepare materials for each country so that governments can go to policy makers and make effective change. The goal is to put health at the center of many discussions.

While many people have redefined their priorities during the COVID-19 pandemic, Dr. Bilal urges everyone to care about the health of our neighbors around the world. It is Dr. Bilal's hope that as we continue to fight against the pandemic, and that we "don't look inwards too much and remember to help the people around us in whatever ways we can."

Spotlight On...Series



Office of Global of Engagement

Spotlight on...

The Office of Global Engagement's quarterly *Spotlight on...Series* provides a forum for faculty to share their international research and global activities with the Drexel community, receive feedback on ways to strengthen or leverage their partnerships, and raise awareness of the importance of international research.

Our office received a record number of proposals from across the university. We are excited to offer Spotlight events in the months of January, March, May, and July.

Our January 28th event will feature:

Christina Devereaux, PhD | College of Nursing and Health Professions

“Global Dancing in the Covid-19 crisis: Drexel Dance/Movement Therapy Program Hosts First Ever Global Student Day”

Dana D’Angelo, MBA & Jodi Cataline, MBA | LeBow College of Business

"Global out of the Gate: Impact at the Finish Line"

Lindsay Shea, DrPH & Dylan Cooper | Dornsife School of Public Health

"Global Autism and Criminal Justice Consortium: An International Effort to Address Equitable Justice"

Registration for this series is located here¹⁸

Global Program Leader Certificate



The Global Program Leader (GPL) certificate program is designed to provide training and learning opportunities to Drexel faculty and staff who serve as program leaders for Intensive Courses Abroad (ICAs) or Non-Credit Experiences Abroad (NCEA). The Office of Global Engagement is committed to

¹⁸<https://drexel.edu/global/news-events/series/Spotlight-On/Jan-28-2021-Spotlight-On/>

offering a baseline level of skills, as well as opportunities for good international leaders to become great ones.

This program will strengthen an international program leader's ability to:

- Provide thoughtful and innovative content learning for students
- Increase the global competency of students through purposeful programming decisions
- Prepare effectively for leading an international program
- Make informed decisions about the safety and security of participants while travelling abroad

OGE offers a series of training workshops over the course of the academic year. Faculty and staff who lead an international program during the year **must attend at least one session related to health and safety**. Program participants who complete five or more trainings and complete a GPL action plan - new approaches to be implemented as a result of the trainings - will receive a Certificate of Completion for the program and be recognized at an end of the year reception. Participants can take up to two years to complete the program. For dates, topics, and contacts: please see the Office of Global Engagement website¹⁹

Partner Highlight: Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences



The Office of Global Engagement is proud to highlight Drexel University's partnership with Amsterdam University of Applied Sciences (AUAS) in the Netherlands. This partnership provides the opportunity for LeBow College of Business and Close School of Entrepreneurship students to spend a term in the vibrant, historic city of Amsterdam, a hub for international business. Students can also participate in a short-term Intensive Course Abroad to AUAS on multiple topics related to business and leadership, led by Prof. Jodi Cataline (LeBow College of Business) and Prof. Dana D'Angelo (LeBow College of Business). Drexel also has several Global Classroom offerings with AUAS on courses including Justice in Our Community, Foundations of Business, and the Business of E-Sport.

¹⁹<https://drexel.edu/global/>

In Dr. Cyndi Rickards's *Justice in Our Community* community-engaged Global Classroom²⁰, students from Drexel and AUAS presented their findings synchronously in "policy pods." During the Fall Quarter, these students explored what makes a city (un) just. Students met in the weekly "policy pods" to discuss topics such as poverty, unemployment, racism, housing, health care and education, in order to compare and learn about one another's city and approach to agents of justice. Students were charged with synthesizing their learning and creating an evidence-based policy to create a just city.

New Exchange Partnership Garner Donor Support



OGE is excited to announce a new partnership with Trinity College Dublin (TCD), the #1 university in Ireland. TCD is Ireland's oldest operating institution of higher education, offering prestigious education for more than 400 years. This is OGE's third exchange partner in Ireland, in addition to the National University of Ireland at Galway, and University College Cork. Through this reciprocal exchange, TCD's business school has expanded global options for TCD students, while LeBow students will study at TCD business school. Along with this new partnership, LeBow students have a unique opportunity to apply for the Marilehn D. Rose (MDR) scholarship to attend TCD for the full academic year. This scholarship has been funded by a generous gift from Drexel donors, the Rose family, and will cover students' housing, flight, and other expenses in Ireland. This \$1M endowed scholarship is funded by LeBow alumnus Rick Rose '84 and his wife Virginia, a Drexel trustee, in memory of Rick's mother MariheIn D. Rose. The late Mrs. Rose had a strong affinity to her ancestry, her faith and her love of travel. The Rose's sons Ricky and Ron '15 (Westphal) each have graduate degrees from Trinity Business School. Ricky also is an elected member of the Trinity Business School board. The MDR scholarship is one of OGE's first donor funded study abroad scholarships, and will select recipients with a merit based application process. The TCD exchange program is open to all majors and is due to run for the first time in Fall 2021. Students have the option to attend during fall, winter, or both terms.

²⁰<https://drexel.edu/global/faculty-development/global-classroom/>

The Challenge of Travel During the COVID-19 Pandemic



Drexel faculty conduct research and collaborate with partners all over the world in pursuit of new knowledge and discoveries. That is, until the COVID-19 pandemic struck and international flights were grounded. Recognizing that travel is an essential piece to fulfilling the University's research and educational missions, in August 2020, the Return Oversight Committee commissioned a group of faculty and administrators to create guidelines for the resumption of limited essential university-related travel. Led by Vice Provost for Global Engagement Janice K. Marini and Vice Provost for Research and Innovation, Dr. Maria Schultheis, the University Travel Task Force (UTTF) developed the Essential Travel Review process for any travel requests and guidance to support university travelers. Senior Director of International Health, Safety and Security Marcia Henisz serves as the Chair of the Essential Travel Review Committee (ETRC).

The current Essential Travel review process²¹ prioritizes the safety of Drexel travelers while providing an avenue for necessary travel for academic, research or university business operations. Critical considerations in the review process include: the determination of the travel as essential by the appropriate senior administrator; time-sensitivity of the proposed travel; review of the travel logistics including precautions to be taken and contingency plans; and an assessment of the current level of COVID-19 infection in the travel destination. For more information on the Essential Travel Review process, please see the dedicated website²².

The vast majority of University travelers have found creative ways to continue their research, studies or work virtually during the COVID-19 pandemic. In some areas, the limitations on travel has inspired new ways to collaborate and maintain global perspectives that will certainly continue even after the world fully re-opens. But we all look forward to the day when University travel restrictions can be eased, and Drexel travelers can pursue their research and educational passions across the globe, and safely bring that knowledge back to the Drexel campus in Philadelphia. Until then, the Office of Global Engagement encourages our frequent travelers to be creative, cautious and hopeful. If you have questions or concerns about upcoming domestic or international travel, please contact covid19travel@drexel.edu²³.

²¹<https://drexel.edu/procurement/about/covid-19-operations/travel-guidance/>

²²<https://drexel.edu/procurement/about/covid-19-operations/travel-guidance/>

²³<mailto:covid91travel@drexel.edu>

Upcoming Events & Deadlines!

Creative Technologies for Virtual Study Abroad

Wed. March 3rd, 2021 via Zoom

3:30 pm – 4:30 pm

Zoom link sent prior to event

Learn how three professors from Architecture, Business, and Environmental Sciences redesigned their Intensive Courses Abroad into remote global learning courses. Using a variety of teaching tools and activities, these reimagined courses (originally designed to take place abroad) bring a unique and interactive way to learn about Italy, the Czech Republic, and Ecuador. This session is for faculty who would like to incorporate virtual “study abroad” experiences into their curriculum, which could even serve as a step toward developing a Global Classroom. This session is part of OGE’s Global Program Leader certificate program, which provides international program leaders with opportunities to enhance their skills as they work with students abroad.

Intensive Course Abroad Proposal Deadlines:

Winter Break ICAs Due: May 15th

Spring Break ICAs Due: July 15th

Summer Break ICAs Due: November 1st

Contact Us

The Office of Global Engagement is always happy to partner with faculty interested in developing an Intensive Course Abroad²⁴ or Global Classroom²⁵.

For any other inquiries, or to assist in making an appointment with our staff, you can reach Casey Devine, Program Coordinator, at md3683@drexel.edu²⁶.

²⁴<https://drexel.edu/global/faculty-development/developing-study-abroad-program/>

²⁵<https://drexel.edu/global/faculty-development/global-classroom/>

²⁶<mailto:md3683@drexel.edu>

Follow us on Instagram!²⁷



Follow us for updates on all things global!

Check out our New Website! ²⁸

²⁷<https://www.instagram.com/drexelglobal/>

²⁸<https://drexel.edu/global/>