Global Engagement

December 2021 Newsletter
Chris Hyslop, Montana World Affairs Council, talked with Donna Anderson, Senior International Officer & Executive Director of the Global Engagement Office about the Future of International Education. Check out the recorded podcast to hear the answers to the intriguing questions: What? So what? Now what?

Tune in HERE

International Education Week 2021 in Review

International Education Week is a national initiative of the U.S. Department of State and U.S. Department of Education that celebrates the benefits of international education and exchange worldwide. UM has been celebrating International Education week since its inception twenty years ago, under the auspices of the Global Engagement Office (GEO).

With events starting at 9AM on Monday, November 15th, and going through Friday the 19th, International Education Week (IEW) 2021
was a success! Events ranged from in-person interactive sessions to online zoom sessions and covered a wide range of topics. One of the many highlights from the week was an incredible welcome event hosted by Donna Anderson (Senior International Officer and Executive Director of the Global Engagement Office) and Nathan Lindsay (Vice Provost for Academic Affairs). After opening remarks, the crowd was stunned by a beautiful music performance by Kyoko Noguchi and personal story shared by ISA President, Tenzin Pelden. Read Tenzin’s story here.

During International Education Week, UM was lucky enough to host the Board of Regents for their November meeting. It was an exciting week to be able to show off what the Global Engagement Office, the university as a whole, and the Missoula community are doing to support International Education efforts. Three students spoke on the impact of international education in their lives during the public comment session on Thursday, November 18th. These students were Yulianus Kogoya, George (Jupiter) Floros, Kevin Thropp; two of UM’s international students and one student who participated in UM’s Education Abroad program.

Bummed to have missed some events during IEW? Don’t worry! Selected content is available for post-viewing through the International Education Week website.
International Students and Scholars Office no longer located in Lommasson

The International Students and Scholars office has officially joined the two other departments of the Global Engagement Office (Education Abroad and English Language Institute) in the International Center Building.

Campus Map
MINAMATA HIGH SCHOOL
VIRTUAL EXCHANGE
WINTER 2021-2022

Virtual Conversation Partners Needed!

The English Language Institute is running a virtual program this winter with students from Minamata High School in Montana's sister prefecture, Kumamoto, Japan. We are looking for conversation partners to help the students practice speaking skills and provide an opportunity for cultural exchange.

We need conversation partners who are available for one or more of the dates below:
- December 10
- December 17
- January 7
- January 21

All the sessions are on Friday evenings, from 7:00 - 8:00pm, Montana Time. Meetings are conducted via Zoom, and discussion questions are provided.

IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN VOLUNTEERING FOR ONE OR MORE SESSIONS, OR TO LEARN MORE ABOUT THE PROGRAM, PLEASE CONTACT SARA SCHROEDER AT SARA.SCHROEDER@MSO.UMT.EDU

Get Connected!
Fundraising Dinner for Lebanon

Join the event organizer, Tanya Abou-Ghazaly, for an evening of authentic Lebanese dishes to a backdrop of soul-fueled Arabic tunes. Within a framework of mutual aid, Tanya is organizing a fundraising dinner to support Lebanese families meet their basic needs. Remember that a single act of kindness can have ripple effects halfway across the globe.

Order Tickets Here

Mansfield Center

The programs succeed because of the wonderful participation of the community. Mansfield Center email announcements will help you stay informed about upcoming events, international programs, and other opportunities. When you sign up, you will receive a confirmation email that will also allow you to update your account and specify the kinds of email updates that you receive. The Mansfield Center respects your privacy and will never sell your contact information, and you can opt out of further emails at any time.
Montana World Affairs Council

Check out the calendar of events [HERE](#).

Stay in the loop; sign up for the Montana World Affairs Council Newsletter.

Don’t miss out on news or events!

Apply Now!

Study Abroad Applications Open

Fall 2022 and Academic Year 22/23 education abroad applications will open the second week of November 2021!

Deadlines can be found on our website [HERE](#)

Get started by [searching the 200+ universities available](#) to choose from or scheduling a ‘Getting Started’ appointment with the Education Abroad Coordinator.

Schedule an Appointment with Education Abroad

If you’d like to learn more about studying abroad, or if you’re an international exchange student currently at UM, you can schedule advising appointments
with the Education Abroad Coordinator, McKennah Andrews, for advising, application assistance, exchange paperwork, and more!

Schedule your appointment now by clicking the button below.

Schedule Now!

Schedule an Appointment with the International Students and Scholars Office

Book an appointment with an ISS staff member if you have questions regarding your immigration status, OPT application, orientation, or general life at UM.

Schedule Now!

Education Abroad Internship Opportunities

Our internships for Fall 2021 are open and on Handshake. These internships will have flexibility around start date, end date, and time off for vacations:

Peer Advisor Internship

Diversity Advocate Internship
Featured Partner University:

Aberystwyth University

By Carissa Luginbill

Aberystwyth (Aber) University is home to around 6,100 students; one-third of whom are from Wales, with the rest coming from all over the United Kingdom, Ireland, and over 80 other countries around the world. The campus itself has been voted #1 for student satisfaction in England and Wales, perhaps due to its various student clubs, sports, live performances, arts, films, and its prime location on the beautiful Welsh coastline. Aber is a close-knit community and once here, many of students never want to leave.

Aberystwyth, nestled between the Cambrian Mountains and Cardigan Bay, provides a rugged landscape of rolling hills, valleys, sand and sea. Even the famous national parks, of Snowdonia and Pembrokeshire, sit a short distance away. Aside from the beautiful scenery, enjoy Victorian architecture as you walk through the city streets. Aber has a lot to offer - can you picture yourself there?

Intrigued? Get connected. Enjoy the beauty.

For more information visit the University's [website](#).

Take a [virtual tour](#) now! Or, check out these [campus maps](#).

Learn more!
Updated UM International Travel Guidance

On November 29, the Biden administration implemented several travel restrictions in response to the new Omicron variant of the COVID-19 virus. You can find the full proclamation [here](#). In short, geographic travel bans exist for non-US citizens or permanent residents present in the following countries regardless of their vaccination status: Republic of Botswana, the Kingdom of Eswatini, the Kingdom of Lesotho, the Republic of Malawi, the Republic of Mozambique, the Republic of Namibia, the Republic of South Africa, and the Republic of Zimbabwe.

Based on Commissioner of Higher Education guidance for the Montana University system, UM can consider travel to countries currently rated CDC level 4 due to COVID if travel is deemed essential. Faculty, staff, and students wishing to travel to countries rated Department of State (DOS) levels 3 or 4 or CDC level 3 or 4 are required to petition permission for travel from the UM International Travel Review Committee (ITRC) by submitting a risk management plan with enhanced COVID-specific risk mitigation and contingency plans and, if applicable, a form related to essential travel, with final approval by the Provost. Every approved traveler is also required to sign a COVID-specific additional agreement and acknowledgement of risk, register their travel, and purchase a GEOBlue International Insurance Plan.

NOTE: Native students, faculty & staff who have reserves on both sides of the US/Canadian border (individuals covered under Jay’s Treaty) shall be exempt from the travel registry requirement for travel to Canada.

Please find out more information about UM International Travel Policy [here](#).

Please find out more information about UM International Travel Procedures [here](#).

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Holiday Office Closure

The Global Engagement Office will be closed December 24 and December 31 in observance of Christmas and New Year’s.

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Global Engagement Office Impact Fund

The **Global Engagement Office Impact Fund** provides student global learning experiences, faculty international engagement opportunities, and allows the Global Engagement Office to innovate as needs change.

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