



Summer is here!

July newsletter

A collage of images related to the 2020 Montana International Educators Conference. On the left is a close-up of the bronze bear statue wearing a red face mask with "MONTANA" on it. In the center is a dark red banner with the University of Montana logo and text: "2020 MONTANA INTERNATIONAL EDUCATORS CONFERENCE", "HUMAN CONNECTIONS, DIGITAL REALITIES, EMERGENT THREATS: COMING TOGETHER IN A TIME OF CRISIS", and "Donna Anderson, PhD June 18, 2020". On the right are three video call thumbnails. The top one shows a woman with glasses in a forest background with a timestamp "2020-06-18, 13:2". The middle one shows a man in a suit in a meeting interface. The bottom one shows a man with glasses and a headset in a meeting interface. A timestamp "2020-06-18 13" is visible at the bottom left of the collage.

2020 Montana International Educators Conference Recap

The first-ever virtual edition of the long-standing Montana International Educators Conference was held on June 18 and 19, 2020 via Zoom teleconferencing software. The theme for this year's conference was *'Human Connections, Digital Realities, Emergent Threats: Coming Together in a Time of Crisis'*. The event hosted over 60 international educators from 8 different public and private institutions of higher education across Montana to discuss current issues in the field, share resources and connect with colleagues. Some of the attendees were even from outside of Montana (London, Nebraska, Kansas, Oregon, New York, Wyoming) due to its online format and free registration.

University of Montana's own Global Engagement Office turned out in full force to support the different sections of the conference which included an opening address given by Donna Anderson (Senior International Officer and Executive Director of the Global Engagement Office at UM), a plenary session, a presentation on NAFSA, round table discussions, and informational sessions related to the five NAFSA knowledge communities. The event also hosted the Study Montana Consortium annual meeting, where 3 representatives from the Colorado Department of Higher Education who oversee Study Colorado joined as special guests. They graciously shared their expertise and strategies on how to advance Study Montana goals and initiatives based on their experiences working for Study Colorado.

Here are some comments from attendees:

"It was one of the best experiences and well organized event on Zoom for me to date."

"It was a great experience."

"For me it was a wonderful learning experience. I actually found it to be one of the more useful conferences I've attended."

For anyone who missed 2020 MIEC, the entire conference was recorded on Zoom and has been made available on the [2020 MIEC website](#). Just click the links in the final schedule to view the recordings for the different sections of the conference.

I would like to personally thank everyone who attended, participated and/or contributed in one way or another to make this conference successful. We have an amazing community of international educators here in Montana, and this event has clearly demonstrated that fact. A conference is only as good as the people who attend it and the energy they put into it. Everyone did an amazing job, thank you all so much!

By Kelly Yarns

Pandemic Highlights Value Of Interdisciplinary Global Public Health Program

Now, more than ever, public health and the importance of viewing it in a global context are present in everyone's daily lives. Over the past 5 months, the novel coronavirus that causes COVID-19 has highlighted why the GPH program's interdisciplinary approach to global public health is vitally important. The COVID-19 pandemic shows the depth at which all of our collegiate disciplines interconnect. This public health crisis has revealed systemic weaknesses in health care, economics, politics, and social systems. It has spurred scientific and medical innovation, and pushed computer science and data analytics into the forefront of public consciousness as thinkers across disciplines scramble to understand the coronavirus and what it means for humanity now and into the future. Today's students need to learn skills that will enable them to contribute to this critical endeavor.

UM's Global Public Health minor helps develop professionals from all disciplines who will address the long-term implications of the COVID-19 pandemic and future public-health crises. Teaching the next generation of innovators how to cross boundaries with transnational competency and to collaborate when applying environmental, economic, political, and historical public-health context to their fields will create professionals prepared to thrive in the face of tomorrow's challenges.

As many people world-wide have taken an unexpected crash course in how and why viruses spread and other global physical- and mental-health issues, GPH students already understand many of the core drivers behind the wide-spread impact of the pandemic. The GPH minor's 2 required courses, BIOM 227 Vectors and Parasites and PSCI 321 Global Health Issues, explore topics of interest and relevance for all human beings who are concerned with preparing for, and alleviating suffering caused by, the global-health crises of today and tomorrow.

The University of Montana was visionary to establish the Global Public Health minor seven years ago. The GPH minor, available to all students, fits well with majors across campus. It is an excellent option for students of any major who want to engage with timely, global issues.

GPH graduate, Reece Brandon created a video that captures GPH alumni voices speaking to the impact that the GPH minor has made in their careers and lives. Please take 4 minutes to watch Reece's video and share it widely with your friends, family, and colleagues. The video is posted on our YouTube channel: Global Public Health, University of Montana,



The Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle is launching a public art campaign to support artistic expression and cultural exchange during these challenging times. The Consulate is specifically seeking art submissions from the public that reflect US-Japan relations and themes of friendship and hope between the two countries.

Once a week we will select artwork submitted from people living in the Consulate's jurisdiction and post it on our Facebook page. To promote the project, we ask that you use the hashtag #cgjartseattle on your Facebook posts. We also encourage you to post your own submissions with the hashtag and share the selected photos after they are posted.

Even if you are not a professional artist, we welcome your drawings, paintings, photos, videos, and mixed-media. Use your imagination and let your creativity flow!

Theme:

"US-Japan relations through the theme(s) of friendship, and/or hope"

General Details:

- ☑ The submission must be an original work.
- ☑ The campaign is open to everyone including individuals and groups (families, organizations, etc.).
- ☑ We ask that only persons or groups currently residing within the jurisdiction of the Consulate-General of Japan in Seattle (Washington State, Montana and the 9 northernmost counties of Idaho) submit their art.
- ☑ All forms of artistic expressions are accepted (illustrations, pictures, photos, sculptures, music videos, culinary arts, dances, etc.). (For videos, please include a screen-cap of the video and a link to the video on YouTube.)
- ☑ Only one application per person or group please.

[Click here for more details about the campaign](#)

UM International Student Wins National Multimedia Championship



Jiakai "JK" Lou, an international student in UM's School of Journalism, was named the overall national multimedia champion of the annual Hearst Journalism Awards Program on June 5.

Often described as the college Pulitzers, the Hearst competition involves 104 accredited member universities of the Association of Schools of Journalism and Mass Communication. Lou's award comes with a \$10,000 first prize.

JK is from Zhejiang province, China, and he won the top award for a 6-minute film titled "A Quarantine Story about Jiakai Lou." The piece describes his inability to return home and struggle with isolation during the COVID-19 pandemic. It is online at <https://bit.ly/2zizHAU>.

"I do know a few things," Lou said in the video. "Through all this uncertainty, we are all the same no matter where we are from. We all have mothers and friends and want to be the best for ourselves and those that we love."

Contest judge Brian Storm, founder of MediaStorm, said, "JK's film is an intimate view of one man's coping with quarantine. His talent as a filmmaker is evident throughout the film as he shares his personal experience of being far from home and those he loves the most."

Jeremy Lurgio, a UM associate professor of photojournalism and multimedia, said he speaks for all faculty members in the journalism school when he says Lou was a joy to work and collaborate with.

"We are so incredibly proud of JK and all of the amazing work he has done during his tenure at the School of Journalism – both in class, out of class and for the Montana Kaimin [student newspaper]," Lurgio said. "Winning the national championship is a huge honor and accomplishment for him – a testament to his hard work and talent."

Lou earned a chance to compete for the Hearst multimedia championship by winning an earlier tier of the competition (and \$3,000) with his documentary "32 Below," an intimate look into the hard work, dedication and passion of one ranching family as they tend their cows and calves in Helmville during the depth of winter. The film was selected for the annual Big Sky Documentary Film Festival in Missoula this past winter, and the Kaimin has it online at <https://bit.ly/2YpVtej>.

Lou said he came to Montana for the outdoor activities and American western lifestyle. At first, he didn't know what to study at UM, but he soon rediscovered his love for documentaries.

"I gradually found my passion for visual storytelling when I was a sophomore," he said. "Then I heard the School of Journalism at UM is one of the best in the country. I decided to dive in."

Lou began his mini-doc as a project in a class taught by last spring's distinguished T. Anthony Pollner Professor Preston Gannaway. The class focused on in-depth, long-form journalism and took place during a historically cold winter.

"I was wondering what ranchers were doing in that cold weather," Lou said. "I heard from an old friend that ranchers in Montana were preparing for the upcoming calving season. It soon caught my attention and made me think of documenting it for my class project."

This was the 60th year of the Hearst Journalism Awards Program. UM School of Journalism students placed in the top 10 in four categories and in the top 20 in four more competitions. More information is online at <https://bit.ly/3cSSSig>.

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Taught by Jeanie Castillo, MA Linguistics,
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[Click here for more Information](#)



By Kimber McKay

McKay Teaches Winter Term in Abu Dhabi

Professor McKay taught a January Term course in Global Health at NYU's Abu Dhabi campus.

Entitled "Challenges in Global Health", students from all over the world came together to learn a critical medical anthropology perspective on the global health sector, in particular

challenges related to water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH).

For a week of the three-week class, students traveled to Kathmandu, Nepal, where they presented their analyses of the monitoring and evaluation data that Adara Development had collected from one of their WASH projects.

To learn more about classes in global health, monitoring and evaluation, or McKay's research in Nepal, Uganda and Montana, see her contact information and more click [here](#).

INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

Put your newly acquired skills to use in an international setting! In the Education Abroad office, we have great volunteer and internship opportunities to help boost your professional experience! These positions offer true professional growth in a real office setting, which has proven to be very advantageous for students in their future occupational roles. If you are interested in working with a team of international educators, please log in to [Handshake](#), the online jobs and internship portal supported through [UM Career Success](#).

Positions Open for Fall 2020

- ELI Teaching Intern
- Education Abroad Peer Advisor
- Education Abroad Course Facilitator Intern
- Marketing and Media Internship
- Faculty-Directed Program Assistant Internship
- Software & Database Intern
- International Partnerships Assistant Internship

I'm interested!

By Sara Schroeder



**BEST OF ELI
SUMMER**



This summer, ELL students were among the first to return to the classroom for face-to-face instruction. We have been taking many precautions to keep one another safe - lots of distancing and disinfecting. We have found a great way to keep distance and enjoy summer in Montana all while learning English and getting to know Missoula: we've been going outside! Keep reading to learn about some of the outdoor activities we have been enjoying this summer.

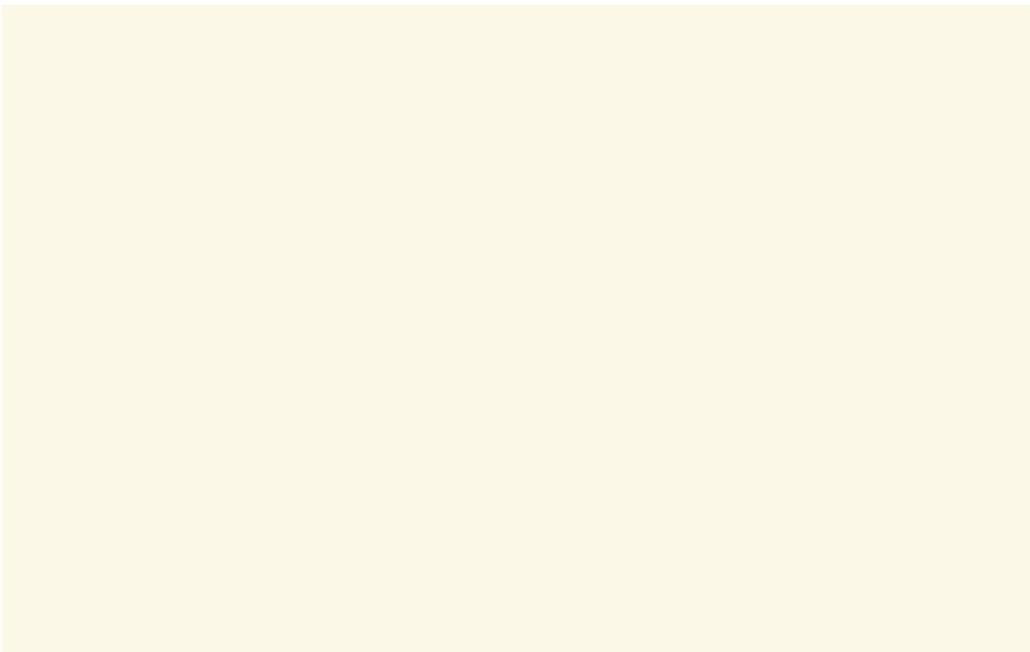
While studying lessons on figurative language, we decided to let nature inspire us, and spent a morning at nearby Greenough Park, where we sat by the creek and made observations about the sights and sounds of the forest. Students were asked to come up with figurative language to express their observations. As he sat by Rattlesnake Creek, Motoki Kato from Japan came up with the following line: "The pure sound of the creek washes my dirty soul." Yeon Joo Kim from South Korea wrote, "The stream reflected sunlight in the water. It was like a shining night sky sprinkled with glittering powder." (We have some very talented writers here at ELL!)

Another field trip we took for class was to the Historical Museum grounds of Fort Missoula. We spent the day learning about Missoula history, and since we've also been studying the effects of forest fires in Montana, we took a special interest in the new Wildfire Communications exhibit, and, of course, we climbed the fire lookout tower next to the museum. Additionally, we took guide books and spent time identifying flowers, trees, and birds in the area. Yuna Azuma from Japan was able to identify more species of flowers than anyone else, and as a prize, was awarded a free ticket to our movie night...which brings us to the next activity. On the evening of June 25, the Roxy Theater partnered with the Paddleheads baseball team to screen the movie *Mean Girls*. We grabbed blankets and sat in the outfield while we enjoyed the comedy.

Perhaps our most memorable excursion to date was our gorgeous sunset hike. Taking advantage of Missoula's extra long days, we set out late in the evening just a couple days before the summer solstice and trekked through Cherry Gulch near campus. The path led us to the top of Waterworks Hill just in time for a lovely summer sunset.

These outdoor activities have provided a safe way to socialize and learn. We're looking forward to several more adventures outside before our summer semester comes to an end!

Kyoto, Japan



Doshisha University, Japan

By Aline Guy

The Doshisha University has its campus located in Kyoto city, which used to be the capital of Japan. Kyoto's population is 1.5 million, and the city is considered the cultural capital of Japan and a major tourist destination. With its central location on Honshu Island, Kyoto is a good starting point for trips to other areas of Japan such as the International District of Osaka, the mountains of Nagano, Mt. Fuji of Shizuoka, or the city of Tokyo.

One of the biggest attractions in the city is the Kiyomizu Dera temple. With a structure that is more than 400 years old and built without using a single nail, the temple got its name in honor of the waterfall that ran there. Speaking of sacred water, you can still drink it straight from the temple fountain at the bottom. The small Otowa waterfall has three types of water and each one gives you a different benefit: long life, success in school or work and a successful love life. The Kiyomizu Dera temple has super special views of the city of Kyoto. The temple is beautiful all year round, but it becomes even more special in the spring, decorated by cherry blossoms, and in the fall, when the trees turn red and yellow.

If you like street shopping, the Nishiki Market is a five-block long shopping street with more than one hundred shops and restaurants. They have all things food-related, like fresh seafood, produce, knives and cookware, and it is a great place to find seasonal foods.

The Doshisha University has two campuses: the Imadegwa and the Kyotonabe campuses, which together host over 28,000 Japanese and international students. The language requirement is one year of Japanese prior to exchange. The Doshisha University offers Majors & Minors in Japanese and the language of instruction can be in English or Japanese.

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

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