



# March Newsletter

# Real Connection in a Virtual Classroom: The Winter 2020-2021 Minamata-Missoula Exchange

By Sara Schroeder

Did you know that Montana has a sister state in Japan? Our sister state is Kumamoto, and the two states have a lot in common. First, Kumamoto is in a very beautiful part of Japan, with hot springs, rolling hills, volcanoes, and rivers. We also know that Montana is located in a very beautiful part of the U.S., also with hot springs, mountains, and lovely rivers. Another surprising similarity is that Kumamoto and Montana are both represented by bears. Montana, of course, has Monte. Kumamoto also has a bear mascot named Kumamon. One unfortunate similarity is that both states have been affected by man-made disasters. You may know that Montana is home to a number of EPA superfund sites, from asbestos contamination in Libby, to the heavy metals that polluted the Butte/Silverbow area. The residents of Minamata, Kumamoto also suffered from the effects of a man-made disaster when a factory there polluted the water with methylmercury, leaving over 1,700 people dead, and countless others with neurological damage.



This winter, UM's English Language Institute hosted a virtual exchange with 10 high school students from Minamata. The six-week course focused on environmental issues and human impact. Minamata students heard lectures from UM professors Brian Dowdle, Michihiro Ama, and Nicky Phear. Throughout the course, the students also conducted their own research on environmental disasters and presented a comparison of the causes, effects, and clean-up of the Minamata disaster and various disasters here in the U.S., including the Flint Water Crisis and the pollution of the

Cuyahoga River. The students presented their research in their second language and did an amazing job! One of the most memorable parts of the exchange was our Conversation Partner program. ELI sent out a call for volunteers to spend Friday evenings conversing with the students from Minamata, providing English speaking practice and creating cultural exchange. So many UM students volunteered, that each week, the students from Minamata were able to meet and work with at least two partners from UM! In a time of limited mobility, it was especially meaningful to be able to connect with students from across the world and build real friendships in a virtual classroom. The students and teachers involved in the course came away with a deeper understanding of how human actions impact the environment and living organisms. We learned about ways that we can each lessen our own individual footprint. We gained an increased appreciation for one-another's cultures, and we made lasting, unforgettable connections with students and teachers from our sister state. We hope to see our Minamata students here in Montana in person someday. In the meantime, if you would like to learn more about the disaster in Minamata, coincidentally, a new movie about Minamata was released the same day as our final class.





If you would like the chance to be involved in a similar virtual exchange in the future, please contact Sara Schroeder ([sara.schroeder@mso.umt.edu](mailto:sara.schroeder@mso.umt.edu)).

Online via  
Zoom, Mondays  
at 2 pm



Free and Open  
to the Public!

University of Montana's Global Public Health Minor, School of Public & Community Health Sciences & Institute for Health and Humanities present:

# Global Public Health Spring 2021 Lecture Series

Register at GPH or SPCHS websites: <http://health.umt.edu/publichealth/seminar-schedule.php>

JAN 25

**Anna Winters, MS, PhD**  
Chief Executive Officer, AKROS, Inc.

*"Financing Global Health Work"*

FEB 1

**Brooke Magnusson**  
Global Health Partnerships Manager, Actors Development  
**Heidi Nakamura**  
Global Health Director, Actors Development

*"Hospital to Home: Caring for Vulnerable NICU Graduates in a Rural Ugandan Setting"*

FEB 8

**Glenn W. Geelhoed, MD, MPH, MPhil, EdD**  
Professor of Surgery, Int'l Medical Ed., & Immunology & Tropical Medicine, George Washington University Medical Center

*"Whatever it Takes" to Deliver Global Health Care Education to the "Furthest Peoples First"*

FEB 22

**David Citrin, PhD, MPH**  
Assoc. Professor of Global Health and Anthropology, UW; Implementation Research Advisor, Possible and Research Collaborator, MedRxiv

*"What's in a name? Public-Private Partnerships in Nepal's Health Sector"*

MAR 1

**Juthika Thaker, MHA, BDS,**  
PhD Candidate, School of Public & Community Health, UM

*"How Non-Physicians are Improving HPV Vaccination Rates in MT"*

**Md Zahid Hasan**  
PhD Candidate, School of Public & Community Health, UM  
*"How ICDDR, Bangladesh Fights Childhood Diarrheal Disease"*

MAR 8

**Catherine Sanders, PhD**  
Director & Evaluation Consultant, Expanding Opportunities, a Kenyan NGO

*"A 'Healthy' Business: Evaluation of a Program for Rural Entrepreneurs in with Social Safety Nets in East Africa"*

MAR 15

**Anne Tezak, MA, MPH, CPH**  
Clinical/Translational Research Coordinator, Genetic Research, Vanderbilt U Medical Center  
**Martin Muganga,**  
Prometra Uganda, Makerere U, Kampala, Uganda

*"Traditional Healer Organizations in Uganda: The Good, the Bad, and the Ugly"*

MAR 22

**Maja Pederson, PhD Candidate**  
School of Public & Community Health, UM

*"Using a Community-based Approach to Promote Physical Activity Among Rural American Indian Older Adults"*

MAR 29

**Helen Russette, PhD Candidate**  
School of Public & Community Health, UM

*"Measuring Family-child Engagement and Behavioral Development Among Young Children in one Tribal Nation: A Research"*

APR 5

**Michelle Grocke, PhD**  
Assistant Professor, Montana State University

*"Building Subjective Well Being Schema Among Ethnic Tibetans"*

APR 12

UM School of Public Health MPH Student Presentations

APR 19

UM School of Public Health MPH Student Presentations





## **GEO announces WorldFest Days 2021 – UM Multicultural-themed Festival on April 9-11 (Virtual)**

GEO and the International Student Association is pleased to announced that it will host a virtual festival in April, carrying on the tradition of the yearly spring WorldFest/International Festival cancelled this year due to COVID19. Our goal is to contribute to greater cross-cultural friendships and understanding through music, food, art, and activities, discussions, education, and fun!

**Please Contribute:** International students and scholars and friends – please share yourself and your culture with the festival! We welcome and need your participation to make this a success. We are looking for virtual multi-cultural and diversity-related events. Don't worry, we will manage the technical aspects!

**Who is the Festival for?** Everyone! Mirroring the WorldFest, our goal is to have a variety of events appealing to a broad audience: UM students, the wider University community, and Missoulians and Western Montanans of all ages, including kids. Events can be specific to a target audience.

**How Can I contribute?** Ideas include, but are not limited to: join the “cooking international” demo-show; volunteer for “Kids World Stories Hour”; perform, showcase or lead a “learn-how-to” for fun or traditional crafts or practices/ceremonies or dance/music traditions; volunteer to be a co-contributor on a cultural or special-topics presentation or discussion panel; host a narrated virtual tour of your country or region (“Visit Ireland with Conor and Fiona”) ; organize a mini 30-60 minute festival about your country (“This is Japan!” hosted by JSA); and more! We welcome your ideas!

**How do I join?** Please contact Mona. Mondava or Aline Guy at GEO to participate and explore your ideas! And we welcome group collaboration and participation from campus and community groups. Please email us at:

[Mona.Mondava@umontana.edu](mailto:Mona.Mondava@umontana.edu)

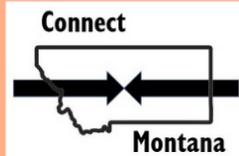
[Aline.guy@umontana.edu](mailto:Aline.guy@umontana.edu)

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# CONNECT MONTANA



## SPRING SERIES



### THE FUTURE OF AMERICA'S GLOBAL LEADERSHIP

Sec Chuck Hagel

Former US Secretary of Defense

**Tuesday, March 9th 6 - 7 PM MST**

### US MILITARY IN 21ST CENTURY

Gen Wesley Clark

former Presidential Candidate and Supreme Allied Commander Europe

**Date TBD, 6 - 7 PM MST**



### DEALING WITH A NUCLEAR NORTH KOREA

Amb. Joseph DeTrani

Former Special Envoy for Six-Party Talks

**Tues. Feb 23rd 6 - 7 PM MST**

### UNEQUAL & UNBALANCED:

#### CHINA'S CHALLENGE

Dexter Roberts  
Author and China  
Expert

**Tues. April 6 6 - 7 PM  
MST**



### DYNAMICS IN INT'L MIGRATION

Ali Noorani  
Executive Director of  
the National  
Immigration Forum

**Tues. April 13 6 - 7  
PM MST**



**For more info, visit Montana World Affairs Council FaceBook page. Zoom link to all events:  
<http://bit.ly/3pyTiAF>**



**DENNIS & PHYLLIS  
WASHINGTON  
FOUNDATION**

# INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITY

**Education Abroad is accepting  
applications for Spring 2021:**

[Faculty-Directed Programs Internship](#)

[Course Facilitator/Teaching Assistant Internship](#)

Tell me more!

## Study Abroad Applications

Spring 2022 applications will open in mid-March 2021. Check out the Education Abroad [homepage](#) announcements, which will indicate when the applications are open.

## In case you missed the Study Abroad Fair

Click in the button below to access the recordings of each event. You can also find the recordings on the EA Facebook page, as well!



### Student Spotlight

## Eiton Kogoya

**Home country:** Papua, Indonesia

**Major/degree program:** Bachelor's Degree in Business Management & Entrepreneurship

**Why did I choose UM:** I chose UM because of the beautiful UM campus and surroundings. Before I came here, I looked up many universities in the US, but most of them looked like they were in cities and crowded areas. Having grown up in a rural area, I thought big cities could be overwhelming for me, so I chose this university to be in a comfortable place to study and to enjoy the natural

environment. Like my hometown, the area around Missoula has a lot of mountains, forests, rivers, and valleys. The thing I enjoy most about UM is living with the friendliest people in a safe town.

**My Future Plans:** I got an associate's degree in summer 2020, and now I am continuing to try get a bachelor's degree in Business Management and Entrepreneurship. My plan after graduating is to apply for OPT to experience work in the USA. After that, I want to go back in my hometown in Papua to find a job there and help my people. This semester, I will also be working as a language consultant for a linguistics field methods course, in which students will get to learn about my native language, Lani. I have also created a podcast series to help preserve my native language, which you can listen to on Spotify:

[Lani Wone podcast](#)

## Need help with note taking? We've got your back.

UM has two software packages, [Sonocent and Glean](#), to help you capture and organize lecture notes.

Sonocent is an audio note-taker software that makes it easy to capture everything on a topic in one workspace. It will allow you to:

- Edit and record lectures.
- Sync lecture audio to slides, diagrams, photos, written notes and reference materials.
- Read and notate accessible textbooks and PDFs.

Lectures can be recorded on a cell phone and easily transferred to PC or Mac.

Glean recordings are cloud-based and available across all computer platforms that can run on the Chrome browser, including Chromebooks. Glean can provide the majority of benefits of an audio notetaker but without the ability to read and notate accessible PDFs. Additionally, Glean has an iPhone and Android app allowing note taking and online access on smartphones and tablets.

\* Both software are available to students, faculty and staff.

For more information or personal instruction, please contact:

**Timothy M<sup>c</sup> Henry,**

Assistive Technology Specialist

Accessible Technology Services, IT Social Sciences 120

Zoom Waiting Room <https://umontana.zoom.us/j/4062434461>

Phone: **406.243.4461**



**Featured Partner University with the University of Montana:**

**Bangkok University, Thailand**

By Aline Guy

The Bangkok University is one of the oldest and most prestigious private higher education institutions in Thailand. The Bangkok University is an educational institution of creativity, quality and leadership with focus on teaching and learning design that combines creativity and technology with a curriculum that meets the future. The University has a creative environment including school buildings that are outstanding in architecture, modern laboratories, and equipment to enhance the learning skills of students to their full potential.

The Bangkok University was founded on 1962 and has two campuses: the main campus located on Khlong Luang District and the city campus in Bangkok.

Thailand is a place with a lot of diversity. One of the most famous place to visit is the Khao San Road. This "anything goes" street is a hot spot for buying clothes and souvenirs, people-watch or party all night. Food is as abundant and multicultural as the crowds that pack the street. You'll find pad thai (thick noodles), Indian curries and banana pancakes. Just don't forget to say "mai pet" if you don't like spicy food.

While in Bangkok, you must visit the Grand Palace. This majestic European/Asian-style complex was at once the home of the kings of Siam. The gilded roofs of the Grand Palace are Bangkok's most famous landmark. This not-to-be missed sight offers many photo opportunities outside, and more than 200 years of royal and sacred history inside the palace's white walls.

The Bangkok University offers Majors & Minors in Business Administration, Communication Studies, Management, Marketing, Media Arts and the language of instruction is English.

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

Apply now!

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## **Socially Responsive Leadership for Post-Pandemic International Higher Education:**

Theoretical Considerations  
and Practical Implications

Tim Jansa, Ed.D.

Donna L. Anderson, Ph.D.



Donna Anderson, senior international officer and executive director of UM's Global Engagement Office, recently co-authored a white paper [Socially Responsive Leadership for Post-Pandemic International Higher Education: Theoretical Considerations and Practical Implications](#) for the Institute of International Education.

Join the authors for further discussion of the paper on March 11 at 10:00am MST.

[Click here to register](#)

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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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## Global Engagement Office at the University of Montana

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Missoula  
United States

[global.engagement@mso.umt.edu](mailto:global.engagement@mso.umt.edu)

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