An interdisciplinary approach to the complex factors influencing health and disease locally and around the world
Director's Statement

The 2020-21 academic year marks the fifth year that the Global Health Studies Program has offered the major. And, even more so than the previous year, the pandemic has continued to present us with unprecedented challenges. COVID-19 continues to drive home the crucial importance of engaging with Global Health in its most expansive definition. Our students, faculty and staff have not only persevered but indeed have succeeded in the face of this challenge, even as the pandemic continues to disrupt and destabilize many aspects of higher education. I am excited to share highlights of the accomplishments of our Global Health Studies Program community in the past year.

Sokhieng Au, PhD, MPH

Lecturer & Interim Director
Global Health Studies Program
The University of Iowa
2020-21
GHS STUDENT STATS

96
GHS MAJORS

53
GHS MINORS

38%
OF GHS MAJORS
IDENTIFY AS
STUDENTS OF COLOR

6
GHS CERTIFICATES
GHS major Sarah Luke received a Stanley Award for her research project, “Analysis of the Palliative Care Models of NGOs in India.”

For her Global Health Certificate Project, Latham Science Engagement Fellow Shelby Andersen created a free online course called “Pandemic-ology” to dispel misunderstandings about health and disease.

GHS students completed honors theses in 2020-21.
GHS STUDENT RECOGNITION

GHS majors won prestigious scholarships:
Nishimwe Esther (L) = Carver Scholarship;
Leena Taha = Gilman Scholarship.

GHS senior Hallie Lartius received the 2021 Center for Diversity & Enrichment’s “Student Leadership Award” and the Hawkeye Student Organization Leadership & Service Award for “Outstanding Sustainability Leader.”

GHS senior Charlotte Lenkaitis was recognized for her “deep commitment to civic responsibility and leadership” with a 2021 Presidents’ Student Leadership Award from Campus Compact.
GHS STUDENT LOCAL/GLOBAL ENGAGEMENT

Dr. Carly Nichols (C) served as faculty mentor for the 7th cohort of GHS students completing summer (virtual) internships with the Swami Vivekananda Youth Movement in Mysuru, India.

GHS senior Anjelica Kamradt (L) worked as a Health Promotion Assistant for U Iowa Student Wellness and as a Contact Tracer for Johnson County Public Health.

GHS senior Sydney Evans interned with the World Food Prize in Des Moines and participated in the University of Iowa Public Policy Center’s Summer Policy Research Institute.

GHS majors Diana Vera and Emily LaGrange are two of the many GHS students and alumni who have worked with local non-profit Proteus to provide healthcare for migrant farmworkers in Iowa.
Dr. Sokhieng Au (GHS Lecturer/Interim Director) organized a CLAS Theme Year Event, "Barriers to Health Equity in Iowa City," and published a guest editorial in the Iowa City Press-Citizen. She was also a panelist for the International Programs webinar, "Pandemic, State & Society."

Dr. Alberto Ortiz Díaz (GHS/HIST) was named a 2020-21 Ford Foundation Postdoctoral Fellow.


Dr. Carly Nichols (GHS/GSS) received Interdisciplinary, Scalable Solutions for a Sustainable Future project funding for her food systems research. She is also part of the faculty group that received CLAS funding for their Strategic Initiative Proposal, "Advancing Environmental Justice at Iowa."
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