

UNIVERSITY OF CALIFORNIA **HEALTH** Global Health Institute

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# Annual Report

2025-2026



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# Director's Message

Every year, I try to think of a word that encapsulates the work and the impact of the University of California Global Health Institute (UCGHI) community. In the past, those words have included compassion and commitment. This year, the word is **resilience**.

While there have always been challenges in the world of global health, these challenges intensified over this past academic year. Many of us faced drastic funding cuts, restructuring, and the need to reframe priorities. Sometimes challenges can force us to turn inwards. And we did exactly that. We reflected as individuals, as a team, and as a field. Our reflection reminded us that our goal is to still persevere through extreme challenges.

You will see our collective **resilience** throughout this year's annual report. Our UCGHI Centers and Programs were hit hard and continue to apply for funding, pursue critical research, and train the next generation of changemakers. Our foundational education & training programs, online courses, and UCGHI student ambassadors are thriving, in spite of the loss of resources. Our UCGHI advisory council comprised of UC faculty leaders, UC student leaders, and global leaders continues to advocate for and guide us through difficult decisions. For instance, we are launching a revised virtual learning opportunity that is open to all high school students interested in global health this summer and seeks to include students from every region in California. These rising seniors will learn from our systemwide community of experts and carry forward their learning to their college careers and beyond.

As you read this report, you will see our ongoing commitment to our strategic priorities. We remain committed to being a resource for the UC system as well as our local and global community and academic partners. We are focused on increasing resources to make our educational opportunities available globally. We continue to seek interdisciplinary partnerships and have worked towards launching an affiliation program. We are striving to enhance connections within our community.

While I hope that you read every part of this report, some highlights include:

- Expansion of our programs in scope and reach. For example, the Latinxs and the Environment program has expanded and is open to all students at UC Davis and UC Merced, complementing its established presence at UC Berkeley and UC Riverside.
- Launch of a new R25 training program supporting the development of innovative online coursework.
- Expansion of health workforce training programs in California via the HEAL Initiative/Center for Health Workforce.
- Launch of a new grand rounds series in tandem with our ongoing robust systemwide Student Ambassador Program.
- More than 200 research scholars have now been trained through our GloCal Health Fellowship program, a testament to the program's enduring impact.

The Institute remains committed to education, research, collaborations, and programs to advance health equity in California and beyond. Your partnership with the Institute is especially meaningful during this time of change—and for that, we are truly grateful.

*Madhavi Dandu*

Madhavi Dandu, MD, MPH  
Professor of Medicine  
Director, UC Global Health Institute  
Division of Hospital Medicine, UCSF





The UC Global Health Institute (UCGHI) advances local and global health equity so our people and planet thrive.

UCGHI via its Centers and Programs leverage the research, teaching expertise and power of all ten University of California campuses by fostering relationships across institutions and communities, locally and internationally. The relationships built through the Institute lead to meaningful partnerships which enable creative approaches and successful grantsmanship built on mutual trust and learning.

- [UCGHI Center for Planetary Health](#)
- [UCGHI Center for Gender and Health Justice](#)
- [UCGHI Center for Health Workforce](#)
- [UCGHI Global Health Education Program](#)
- [UCGHI GloCal Health Fellowship](#)

## COMMUNITY-ENGAGED RESEARCH

We support health equity and advance health justice using cross-disciplinary, transcultural, and community-based research to impact change.

### Health Equity:

- \* **Climate:** Climate Action Grant to equip CA farmworkers with tools to address impacts of climate change on their health
- \* **Access to Safe Water:** Disparities in safe drinking water in CA and globally
- \* **COVID-19:** Impact of COVID-19 on historically marginalized communities
- \* **HIV/AIDS:** HIV/AIDS prevention research with sexual and gender minority communities
- \* **Agriculture:** Environmental drivers impacting wellbeing and labor of farmworkers in California and Mexico to inform policy

### Campus Violence Prevention:

- \* **University of California Campuses:** UC Speaks Up initiative to address research, advocacy, and service efforts focused on sexual violence prevention at UC.
- \* **Global College Campuses:** Global College Campus Violence Prevention Network to prevent sexual violence on university campuses globally.

### Increasing Abortion Access:

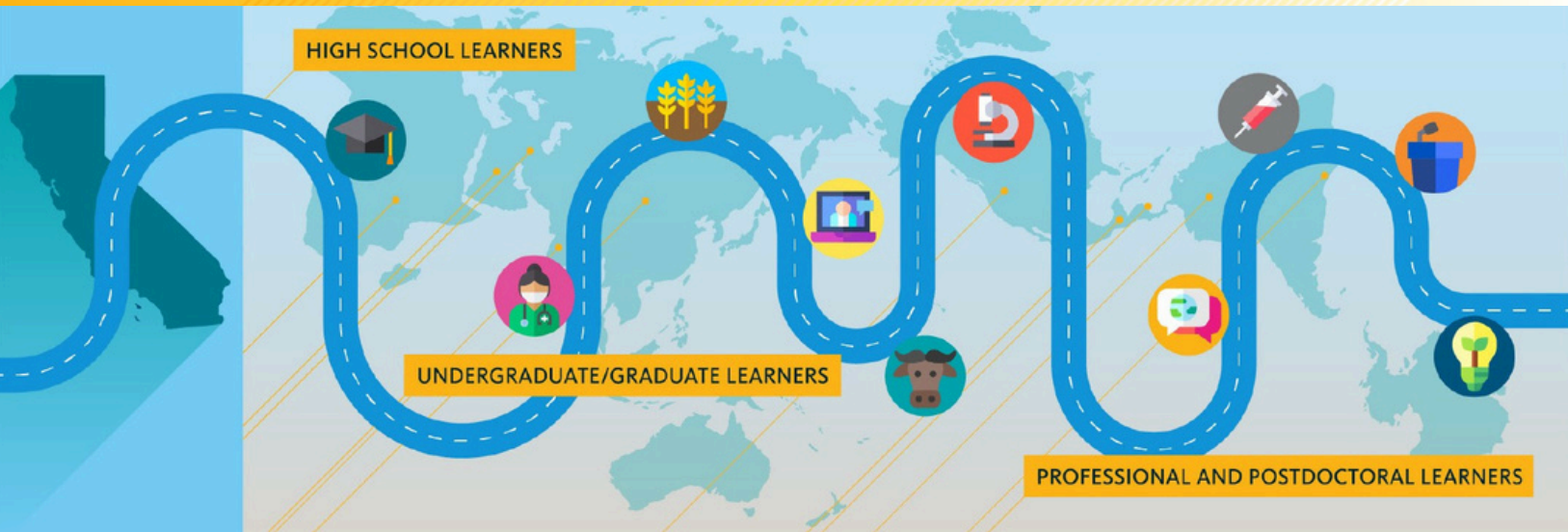
- \* **California Home Abortion by Telehealth,** a patient-centered study to assess safety, effectiveness, and acceptability of medication abortions by telehealth.

## ADVOCATING FOR POLICY ACTION

We are lifelong learners working collaboratively to disrupt power structures that perpetuate health inequities and disparities in California and globally.

- \* UCGHI Student Advocacy Program to train UC students in political advocacy for federal funding for global health issues
- \* UC Global Health Day 2024 focus on making change through advocacy and policy
- \* Student advocacy for SB 24 to expand access to medication abortion for California university students

MORE →



## GLOBAL HEALTH PATHWAY FOR LEARNERS

We train the next generation of diverse leaders through our global health career opportunities pathway.

### High School Learners:

#### \* UCGHI Summer Researchers in Global Health:

UCGHI hosted a multi-campus global health opportunity for **31** high school seniors in Northern California matched with **45** mentors across UCSF, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC Merced, and UC Santa Cruz. To date, there are nearly **80** alumni.

### Undergraduate/Graduate Learners:

\* **Increasing access to Global Health Education:** UCGHI has created and delivered **18** online courses related to topics in global health since 2014 reaching nearly **12,000** students across the UC system.

#### \* Expanding Global Health Education across UC:

UCGHI supports UC campuses interested in expanding global health coursework and degree programs, such as UC Santa Cruz and UC Santa Barbara.

\* **Global Health Leadership Program:** UCGHI Student Ambassadors across all UC campuses and Charles R. Drew University (nearly **500** Student Ambassadors to date)

\* **Global Health Student Stipend Program:** UCGHI provided \$5,000 research awards to 20 multidisciplinary master's students across six UC campuses and Charles Drew University.

\* **Training in One Health:** The Rx One Health Field Institute inspires ecosystem health stewardship of future leaders.

\* **Internship Opportunities:** The Summer Immersion Program and the Internship Opportunities Program provide undergraduate and graduate students opportunities in field-based research.

\* **Latinxs and the Environment:** L&E provides mentorship and creates new environmental research opportunities for Latinx students across the UC.

## Professional & Postdoctoral Learners in California and Globally:

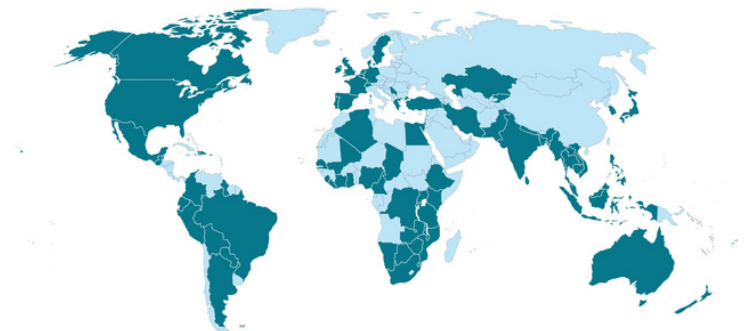
\* **UCGHI GloCal Health Fellowship:** GloCal provides year-long mentored research experiences with our low-and-middle-income country (LMIC) sites. The program is for U.S. and LMIC partner postdoctoral fellows as well as doctoral and professional students at UC. Support is provided by the NIH with core funding from UCGHI. To date, there have been **208** GloCal trainees, **24** countries, **41** of **95** U.S. GloCal alumni in faculty positions, **15** at UC.

\* **UCGHI Center for Health Workforce Equity / HEAL Initiative:** HEAL is the largest transnational global health fellowship in the U.S. with over **250** fellows and alumni from **19** sites across **10** countries and Navajo Nation to serve the under-served to strengthen care delivery.

\* **One Health Workforce – Next Generation:** This USAID-funded initiative worked across **100** partnering universities from 17 countries to bring a One Health lens to capacity building in Africa and Southeast Asia.

## REACHING ACROSS BORDERS – UCGHI HAS REACHED 79 COUNTRIES

In the past year, UCGHI has positively impacted 36 countries. Since 2010, UCGHI has hosted **ten UC Global Health Days** at 8 UC campuses (2 virtual) and has reached 2,715 participants in-person, 1,533 virtually, and more than 4,800 total registrants across 56 countries.



# Power of 10 Campuses - Global Impact Multiplied

The University of California Global Health Institute harnesses the power of all 10 University of California campuses to advance research, train the next generation of global health leaders, and expand the UC's global reach. In the last year:

## Education (Including Online Curricula)

UCGHI trains students at all academic levels with global experiences, mentorship and research pathways.

- 1,013 UC students enrolled in 6 online courses
- 31 Student Ambassadors across 9 UC campuses
- 17 UC students in field-based internships (UCB, UCD, UCI, UCR, UCSC)
- Advocated for Health Justice and Community major (UCSB)
- 18 doctoral and postdoctoral research fellows
- 109 students learning about Latinxs and the Environment (UCB, UCR, UCD)
- 60 high school students across all 10 UC campuses through UCGHI Summer Global Health Bootcamp

## Research Engine

Highlighted research projects include:

- Telehealth abortion access (UCSF, student researchers from UCI and UCLA)
- Violence prevention (UCLA, UCSB, UCSD)
  - Climate Action Grant for CA farmworkers (UCSC, UCB, UCR)
- Drinking water in CA (UCSD, UCR)
- COVID-19's impact on communities (UCLA, UCSB)
- HIV/AIDS prevention (UCLA, UCI)
- 50 student researchers on the environment (UCB, UCR)
- 40+ publications from UCGHI leadership



**By linking the power of 10, UCGHI amplifies the UC system's role as a domestic and global health leader – accelerating solutions for the world's most pressing health issues.**

## International Leader in Improving Health Worldwide

- Impacted **36 countries** through our projects and fellowships
- **10,000+ email subscribers** across 10 UC campuses and our local and global partners
- **100,000+ website visits**
- **3 international Advisory Council members**
  - **17 countries** in Africa and Southeast Asia for USAID One Health Workforce-Next Generation Project

# UCGHI Visit to UC Santa Cruz

In December 2025, the UCGHI Director, Dr. Madhavi Dandu, UCGHI Deputy Director, Sun Yu Cotter, and the Associate Vice President of Academic Health Sciences at UCOP, Dr. Deena Shin McRae, visited UC Santa Cruz. Chancellor Larive and UCSC's Global and Community Health faculty hosted UCGHI. Our discussions highlighted UCGHI's support in establishing UCSC's Global and Community Health program and a special opportunity to brainstorm ideas for further collaboration. Since 2022, the Global and Community Health major has continued to grow exponentially among UCSC undergraduate students.



UCGHI CENTERS



# UCGHI Center for Planetary Health

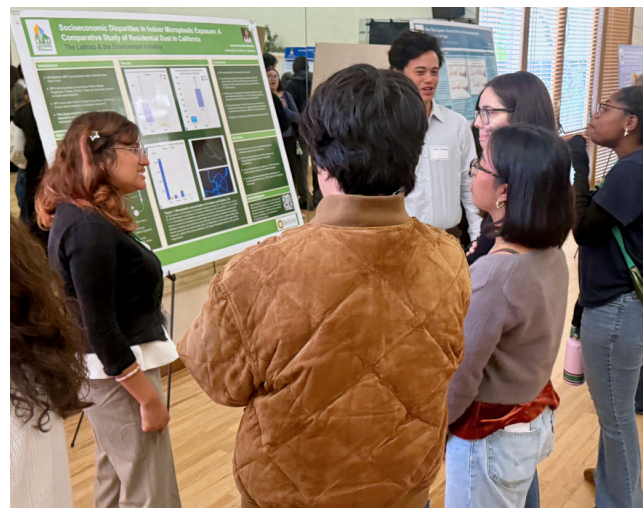


## **THE UCGHI CENTER FOR PLANETARY HEALTH**

(CPH) strives to promote the health of people, animals, and their shared environments so communities in California and globally can survive and thrive. Latinxs and the Environment (L&E) has expanded to include UC Riverside, UC Davis, and UC Merced. At the founding campus UCB, the “UC-Mexico Farm Labor Research Cluster” and the UC-Mexico Binational Agriculture Working Group have been growing Planetary Health engagement in Latin America. A UCR and UCB collaboration secured funding from UC Alianza MX Mobilities program to take undergraduate and graduate students from both campuses to Mexico City to learn about water equity and governance. At the L&E Systemwide Conferences (UCB Spring 2026 and UCR Fall 2025), participants from across UC, policy makers, and community-based organizations presented research and panel discussions.

For the past few years, through the CPH Summer Immersion Program, UC ANR has provided \$50,000 per year in leveraged stipend support for 20 UC students each year to conduct summer projects. Students partner with faculty and specialists in UC Cooperative Extension working with farmers, schools, and communities to address food and health issues in California. Additionally, CPH awarded three students in 2025 and four students in 2026 with Water and Health research seed grants mentored by faculty from multiple UC campuses.

With a focus on training the next generation, the Rx One Health Field Institute brings together 30 UC graduate students as well as early career professionals from around the world. They innovate together to find locally actionable solutions for issues such as the climate crisis, population growth, and emerging infectious diseases. In 2025, the field course was based at UC Santa Cruz, UC Davis, and a Sierra Nevada field site. In 2026, the field course is based in Ireland in collaboration with University College, Dublin.



# UCGHI Center for Gender and Health Justice



**THE UCGHI CENTER FOR GENDER AND HEALTH JUSTICE** (CGHJ) continues to advance its mission to reduce gender and health inequities through interdisciplinary research, education, and community-engaged programming. This year, CGHJ focused on expanding mentorship, including individualized one-on-one lab engagement, faculty advising, and sustained professional development opportunities for UC students. CGHJ continued to mentor more than 30 student mentees and interns from UCLA, UC Berkeley, UC Davis, UC San Diego, and UC Irvine, supporting these emerging leaders pursuing careers in public health, medicine, research, and community advocacy.

CGHJ made significant progress on its National Institutes of Health (NIH)-funded R25 Training Program. CGHJ leadership worked extensively to develop, record, and refine a series of online educational courses focused on HIV and gender-based violence, sexual and reproductive health, digital and mobile health innovations, and community-engaged research. In parallel, CGHJ established the operational infrastructure for the forthcoming Gender and Health Justice Fellowship Program, which will support two cohorts of fellows: 1) UC students and 2) California community health workers. CGHJ will welcome the first cohort of 30 UC fellows in the summer of 2026.

Additionally, CGHJ launched its new webinar series. In April, the first webinar featured Dr. Steven W. Thrasher presenting, “The United States of America’s Global Assault on HIV/AIDS & LGBTQ Labor,” examining the global impacts of U.S. policy changes on LGBTQ health, HIV/AIDS, and labor conditions. In May, the second webinar features Survivors + Allies and the UC Lavender Research Team presenting research and policy strategies to address sexual violence and harassment among gender minoritized communities and methods to address harm from digital platforms.

Finally, CGHJ launched its Academic Paper Award Program for UC Master of Public Health students, PhD students, post-doctoral fellows, and early-career faculty. As CGHJ continues to prioritize the recognition of outstanding scholars, five selected papers will each receive a \$500 award.

# UCGHI Center for Health Workforce



**THIS YEAR**, the UCGHI Center for Health Workforce (HEAL Initiative) continued its pivotal evolution towards locally led, alumni-driven cohort models—advancing its core mission to connect, train, and mentor healthcare workers committed to resource-denied areas while building a lifelong community of leaders transforming health systems from within.

## Key highlights include:

- The launch of the California HEAL Program, addressing health workforce shortages in underserved regions across the state.
- Welcoming the second cohort of the Indigenous-led Southwest Leadership Program, supporting nurses in Native communities
- Welcoming the second cohort of our Mexico Leadership Program (all in Spanish), making HEAL accessible to non-English-speaking healthcare workers
- The launch of the Malawi Leadership Program in partnership with the Ministry of Health and Partners in Health to strengthen public sector capacity.

In the last year, HEAL connected, trained, and mentored 75 fellows and collectively served approximately 84,000 patients, while participating in 373 hours of leadership, advocacy, and structural competency training.

HEAL's interprofessional cohorts are comprised of 80% of California HEAL Fellows speaking Spanish and 82% of Southwest fellows identifying as Indigenous. Overall, 92% of fellows reported a meaningful shift in their approach to healthcare, and 85% of fellows reported increased confidence in their positions as HEAL alumni.

In this past year, HEAL's model demonstrates its powerful strategy to build resilient health systems, improve the quality and access of healthcare in underserved communities in California and globally by investing in locally rooted leaders and a global community of practice.

**UCGHI PROGRAMS  
AND INITIATIVES**



# UCGHI Global Health Education: The Next Generation of Global Health Leaders



**UCGHI'S GLOBAL HEALTH EDUCATION (UCGHI GHE)** program, led by the UCGHI GHE Director Dr. Oladele Ogunseitan, plays a vital role in building the foundation of global health concepts for learners. The systemwide program actively engages UC students and faculty and collaborates with international institutions to offer competency-based global health education. Key highlights include:

**Launching additional UCGHI UC Online global health courses:** Three new courses are now offered via UC Online, two courses taught at UC Santa Cruz and one course taught at UC Irvine. The UCSC courses are housed in the Global & Community Health program, which UCGHI supported in its creation, and the courses are: GCH 1 – Foundations for Global and Community Health and GCH 195 – Global and Community Health Communication. The UC Irvine course is PUBHLTH 5 – Foundations of One Health, which is housed at the UCI Wen School of Population & Public Health.

**Expanding access to global health education:** In collaboration with UC partners, UCGHI GHE is in the process of exploring the feasibility of establishing a Global Health Certificate program, utilizing the UCGHI Suite of UC Online courses as a foundation.

**Connecting with international global health institutions:** UCGHI GHE leadership continues to engage with international institutions such as Universiti Putra Malaysia, University of Global Health Equity in Rwanda, and Graphic Era University in India to collaborate on global health curriculum development. Additionally, UCGHI's presence at the Africa Interdisciplinary Health Conference helped to further strengthen the institute's relationships with international partners.

**Advancing global health education efforts internationally:** The Education Director continues to serve on the steering committee for the World Health Organization's Health Workforce Office roadmap to strengthen the public health workforce capacity in response to ongoing and emerging global pandemics.

# UCGHI Student Ambassador Program



## **THE UCGHI STUDENT AMBASSADOR PROGRAM**

is a systemwide virtual leadership and learning program that provides professional growth opportunities for undergraduate, graduate, and professional students from across the 10 University of California (UC) campuses, UC Law San Francisco, and partnering Historically Black College and University Charles R. Drew University (CDU). To date, UCGHI and its Centers have nearly 500 student ambassador alumni across UC and CDU.

This year, the program welcomed its seventh cohort with 31 students from 9 UC campuses. UCGHI selected two Lead Student Ambassadors, a leadership opportunity for alumni to support the program: [Jasmine Cisneros](#) (UCLA) as the Southern CA Lead and [Varsha Vijayakartik](#) (UC Davis) as the Northern CA Lead.

Student Ambassadors participated in three Grand Rounds featuring UCGHI's multidisciplinary local and global health partners. Student Ambassadors hosted watch parties for UCGHI Grand Rounds on their respective campuses and networked with the speakers following each session.



*Watch party at UC Irvine for UCGHI Grand Rounds #1*

# UCGHI Student Ambassador Program (cont'd)

Student Ambassadors also participated in virtual community building sessions and a networking event with panelists sharing their unique pathways to global health. They expanded their professional networks further by connecting with UCGHI-affiliated faculty in-person. Lastly, Student Ambassadors were connected to summer internships and student engagement opportunities with UCGHI Centers.

The Student Ambassadors virtually presented their final projects on global health topics ranging from infectious disease to global food systems to UCGHI faculty, staff and students across the 10 UC campuses. Through this program, UCGHI continues to cultivate the next generation of the global health workforce.



Watch party at UC Berkeley for UCGHI Grand Rounds #1



Watch party at UC Riverside for UCGHI Grand Rounds #2

## UCGHI Grand Rounds

### 1. California Farmworker Health Vulnerabilities and Responses Amid Climate Change



**Matt Sparke, PhD, MA**

Distinguished Professor of Politics, UC Santa Cruz, UCSC Global and Community Health Program

### 2. Human Rights and Refugee Health



**Alden Blair, PhD, MS**

Director of Research, UCSF Global Alliance in Nursing (GAIN), Associate Director, Institute for UCSF Global Health Sciences (IGHS) Masters of Science Program

### 3. Global Nutrition and Food Security



**Isabel Madzorera, ScD, MS**

Assistant Professor in Food, Nutrition & Population Health, UC Berkeley



**Carrie Waterman, PhD**

Food Access Statewide Lead for the California Department of Food and Agriculture



**Sheri Weiser, MD, MPH**

Professor of Medicine and Internist, UCSF's Division of HIV, Infectious Disease, and Global Medicine

➔ [MEET THE 2025-2026 STUDENT AMBASSADORS!](#)

# UCGHI Summer Researchers in Global Health & WomenLift Health



**UCGHI DEPUTY DIRECTOR, SUN YU COTTER**, was selected as a WomenLift Health Fellow, a competitive 12-month fellowship for mid-career women in global health funded by the Gates Foundation. Through her fellowship, she developed a leadership project focused on a development strategy for the UCGHI Summer Researchers in Global Health Program (SRGH) for high school students.

In 2018, UCSF first launched the in-person SRGH program for rising high school seniors in the San Francisco Bay Area supported by private donors. Building on the program's success, UCGHI expanded SRGH to the five Northern California UC campuses in 2025 offering this unique opportunity to high schoolers in Northern California. UCGHI envisions expanding SRGH to all ten UC campuses to increase access for high schoolers throughout California.

In efforts to advance this vision, Sun collaborated with eight Northern California alumni who served on the Development Committee. Since the global health fundraising landscape continued to face tremendous challenges, the team did not raise enough funds to launch the originally envisioned 10-campus SRGH program for summer 2026. However, the team did secure sufficient support through private donors to launch an alternative offering to California high schoolers: a two-week virtual UCGHI Summer Global Health Bootcamp program.

UCGHI will continue its development efforts to support future expansion of the UCGHI SRGH program in future years. In February 2026, Sun presented her leadership project at the Gates Foundation in Seattle, Washington.

[➔ LEARN MORE ABOUT THE SRGH PROGRAM!](#)

# UCGHI Summer Researchers in Global Health (cont'd)

Members of the UCGHI SRGH Development Committee shared their reasons for joining. Each member expressed how transformative their internship experience was last summer, which solidified their commitment to pay it forward to future high school interns and ultimately scale the program to 10 UC campuses.

## UCGHI Summer Researchers in Global Health Development Committee

- Sophia Guan
- Asha Spitzer
- Deetya Potakamuri
- Marikit Flores
- Jason Nishio
- April Zhang
- Tanisha Reehal
- Anushka Kabra



I want to help ensure the program is able to expand across all UC campuses while maintaining its accessibility, especially now, at a time when we need students to feel inspired and encouraged to pursue public and global health, and I truly believe that no program can do that better than this one.

**TANISHA REEHAL**



I'm interested in serving on the UCGHI SRGH Development Committee because I believe in and want to support SRGH's mission to provide passionate high schoolers like myself across California the opportunity to conduct high-level mentored research... Having experienced the valuable benefits and educational growth from the program and mentored research experience, I firmly believe that the expansion of this program could uplift high schoolers with genuine passion and nurture a successful new generation of scholars.

**JASON NISHIO**



As an alumna of the program, I've gained invaluable experiences, learned from many global health professionals, and connected with like-minded peers who have supported me through my learning journey. I hope to help ensure that there will be a next cohort of high schoolers who can benefit from the same opportunities and lasting connections that will not only enrich their own futures, but also strengthen the global health community.

**APRIL ZHANG**



The UCGHI Summer Research in Global Health program was a truly life-changing experience; I had the opportunity to learn about the field as a whole, conduct research under the mentorship of global health professionals, and find a career I am interested in pursuing. I hope that by serving on the UCGHI SRGH Development Committee, I can help expand this program and give more students the chance to explore this subject.

**ASHA SPITZTER**



I was interested in global health before I started this program, but my plan to major in global health during college has solidified... I believe this program is a valuable experience no matter what you plan to do in college as the communication, teamwork and critical analysis skills you learn are important wherever you decide to go. I want other students to also have this fantastic opportunity so I've decided to join the development committee to ensure that happens!

**SOPHIA GUAN**

# UCGHI GloCal Health Fellowship



**SINCE 2012**, the UCGHI GloCal Health Fellowship, supported by the National Institutes of Health's Fogarty International Center, has helped launch careers of 208 fellows across the UC system and at low- and middle-income (LMIC) partner institutions. During the 12-month fellowship, trainees receive interdisciplinary education and training in global health and mentored research experiences that foster scientific and career development to advance research. Additionally, GloCal aims to develop research capacity at the LMIC partner institutions and strengthen a sustainable model of collaboration between UC and these partners.

This year, GloCal supported a group of 15 trainees including five U.S. postdoctoral fellows at UC Davis, UCSF, and UCLA, two U.S. predoctoral fellows at UC Berkeley and UC San Diego, and eight LMIC postdoctoral fellows, including trainees from Cameroon, Kenya, Mozambique, Uganda, India, and Peru. The fellows represent a variety of disciplines, including pediatrics, general and vascular surgery, internal medicine, public health, epidemiology, infectious diseases, neurocritical care, psycho-oncology, clinical psychology, and microbiology.

➔ [MEET THE 2025-2026 GLOCAL FELLOWS!](#)

## Key highlights include:

- Supporting GloCal alumni to attend LAUNCHing Leaders for Future U.S. Investments in Global Health Research reciprocal innovation workshop to contextualize, adapt, and evaluate evidence-based interventions from LMIC contexts to achieve sustainable health outcomes in the U.S.
- Coordinating one to three months of U.S. training and mentoring time for each 2025-2026 GloCal LMIC fellow to receive specialized onsite training and foster strong, meaningful connections with their UC mentors and collaborators.
- Convening the GloCal Training Advisory Committee (TAC) to review the program's structure, components, achievements, and challenges; brainstorm strategies to strengthen existing and cultivate new partnerships; incorporate reciprocal innovation into the fellowship; and ensure that the program continues to be relevant to the current global health landscape.

# Fellowship in Sustainable Development for HIV Health (SD4H)



**THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT FOR HIV HEALTH (SD4H) Fellowship** is a career development fellowship sponsored by the National Institutes of Health (NIH) Fogarty International Center (FIC) and co-funded by the National Institutes of Mental Health. The fellowship provides aspiring researchers at Maseno University in Kenya with additional education, mentorship, and research training on sustainable development and health. The fellowship includes five doctoral, four master's, and two post-doctoral SD4H fellows. In the final year of the fellowship, all fellows have completed data collection or are continuing their research and publishing their findings.

Next, the team will submit a grant to FIC with Maseno University and KEMRI colleagues for a new training program. The goal of this program is to build the LMIC-led research capacity at Maseno University in reproductive infectious diseases and embed PhD and postdoctoral training within KEMRI's existing research infrastructure while supported by UCSF.

## Highlights from fellows include:

- Dr. Jackline Odhiambo graduated with her PhD from Maseno University in 2025. Her dissertation was on aging and widowhood stigma affecting people living with HIV. She completed an additional research project on this topic with an NIH supplement. As a 2025-2026 UCGHI GloCal Health fellow, she continues to develop interventions that address stigma among widowed women aging with HIV. She presented her research at the 2026 Consortium of Universities for Global Health Conference.
- Jacquelyne Odak presented her mock thesis defense at Maseno University School of Public Health. As a 2026-2027 UCGHI GloCal Health fellow, she will continue her research on the impacts of water insecurity among people living with HIV.
- Elly Weke's doctoral dissertation research involves managing the Mama Shamba and Vijana Shamba research studies which demonstrates SD4H's transdisciplinary training goal.

**ABOUT UCGHI**



# About the UC Global Health Institute



## \*\*\*2008

Chancellor Emeritus and UCGHI Director Emeritus Haile T. Debas, MD, conceived the idea of a cross-campus institute focused on global health and received \$4 million in start-up funds from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation.

## \*\*\*2013

UCGHI received an additional \$4 million from the Los Angeles-based Chan-Soon Shiong Foundation.

## \*\*\*2015

The UC Council of Chancellors pledged \$1 million per year (\$100,000 per campus) for five years to support UCGHI and provided core administrative and operational funding, as well as seed funding for core research and education initiatives.

## \*\*\*2017

Haile T. Debas, MD, stepped down as Director, and Thomas J. Coates, PhD (UCLA) was named as Director with Patricia Conrad, DVM, PhD (UC Davis) and Craig Cohen, MD, MPH (UCSF) named UCGHI Co-Directors.

## \*\*\*2019

Sun Yu Cotter, MPH was named UCGHI Deputy Director.

## \*\*\*2020

UCGHI became part of the University of California Office of the President (UCOP) in the UC Health Division. UCGHI is grateful for the leadership of President Michael V. Drake, MD, Executive Vice President for UC Health, Carrie Byington, MD, and Vice President for Health Sciences, Cathryn L. Nation, MD.

## \*\*\*2021

Ndola Prata, MD, MSc (UC Berkeley) was named UCGHI Associate Director.

## \*\*\*2022

Madhavi Dandu, MD, MPH (UCSF) was named UCGHI Director. The HEAL Initiative was formally integrated into UCGHI.

## \*\*\*2015-2022

UCGHI has leveraged more than \$135 million in funding from a range of sources. Funders include NIH, NSF, USAID, UCOP, Conservation International, Beneventures Foundation, Society of Family Planning, U.S. Department of the Interior, California Department of Public Health, the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Lisa & Douglas Goldman Fund, private individuals, and others.

## \*\*\*2023

At UCOP, Deena Shin McRae, MD was named Associate Vice President of Academic Health Sciences, and David Rubin, MD, MSCE was named Executive Vice President of UC Health. UCGHI formally launched a new strategic planning process to define the next stage of the Institute.

## \*\*\*CURRENT

UCGHI continues to support solutions that advance local and global health so our people and planet thrive. We remain committed to cultivating the next generation of global health leaders and expanding partnerships across the UC and beyond.

# Our People - UC Global Health Institute

## EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

left to right, by row

### **MADHAVI DANDU, MD, MPH**

(UCGHI Director; Professor of Medicine, Division of Hospital Medicine, UC San Francisco)



### **NDOLA PRATA, MD, MSC**

(UCGHI Associate Director; Professor In-Residence, Maternal, Child, and Adolescent Health, UC Berkeley; Director, Bixby Center for Population, Health and Sustainability)



### **DEENA SHIN MCRAE, MD**

(Chair, UCGHI Executive Committee; Associate Vice President of Academic Health Sciences in University of California Health Division, UC Office of the President)



### **LARA STEMPEL, JD**

(Co-Vice Chair, UCGHI Executive Committee; Assistant Dean, Graduate Studies and International Student Programs, UCLA School of Law; Director, Southern California Legal Alliance for Reproductive Justice)

### **SUN YU COTTER, MPH**

(UCGHI Deputy Director, UC Office of the President)

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# Thank You and Acknowledgements



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# Photo Captions and Credits



Page 1 Cover Stock photography from UC Agriculture and Natural Resources (ANR)

Page 7 Group photo of Matt Sparke, Laura Beth Bugg, Madhavi Dandu, Chancellor Larive, Sun Yu Cotter, and Grant Hartzog at UC Santa Cruz.

Page 8 Stock photography from UC Davis

Page 9 (Top) Rx One Health Field Institute 2025 student, Latiffah Naki, during her 2-week field course putting the One Health approach into action for local communities. (Bottom Right) Poster presentations during the Latinxs and the Environment 2026 research conference at UC Berkeley.

Page 10 Dr. Jennifer Wagman with UCGHI Student Ambassadors at the Center for Gender and Health Justice Retreat.

Page 11 Group photo of the second cohort of HEAL Mexico Leadership Fellowship.

Page 12 Stock photography from UC Berkeley

Page 13 Group photo of Dr. Oladele Ogunseitan with students at Graphic Era University in India.

Page 14 (Top) UCGHI Student Ambassador, Jeannie Vongfungfoo, with MPH students at UC Irvine for a UCGHI Grand Rounds watch party. (Bottom Right) UCGHI Student Ambassadors, Varsha Vijayakartik and Zafreen Shaik, with UCGHI Center for Planetary Health Co-Director, Dr. Woutrina Smith, at UC Davis.

Page 15 (Top Left) UCGHI Student Ambassadors, Ananya Vittaladevuni, Saranya Anandakumar, Joselen Contreras, and Julianne Tenorio, at UC Berkeley watching a UCGHI Grand Rounds together. (Bottom Left) UCGHI Student Ambassador, Ariba Baig, hosting a UCGHI Grand Rounds watch party for UC Riverside students.

Page 16 Group photo of the 2025-2026 WomenLift Health cohort.

Page 18 Dr. Annie Alexander conducting resilience-based intervention session with study participant in India.

Page 19 Dr. Jackie Odhiambo (SD4H Fellow), Dr. Louisa Ndunyu (SD4H MPI and mentor), Dr. Argwings Miruka (Maseno University PhD graduate), and Prof. Patrick Onyango (Dean for the School of Graduate Studies) at the first SD4H Fellow graduation.

Page 20 Stock photography for UC Santa Cruz

Page 21 (Left) Dr. Oladele Ogunseitan at the World Health Organization headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland. (Middle) Dr. Madhavi Dandu with UCGHI Director Emeritus, Dr. Haile Debas. (Right) Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH) Director, Dr. Keith Martin, and Dr. Woutrina Smith as Dr. Smith received the 2026 CUGH Distinguished Leadership in Global Health Award.

Page 26 (Left) GloCal fellow Dr. Serge Ngekeng with mentor Dr. Catherine Julliard preenting at UCLA. (Middle) Sun Yu Cotter at the Gates Foundation for her WomenLift Health Fellowship. (Right) SD4H Scholars with Rachel Burger, Pam Murnane, and Louisa Ndunyu in Kenya.

Page 27 (Left) HEAL Fellows and Alum from California, Navajo & Zuni Nations, Rwanda at Global Health Training (Photo credit: Kialani Mackey). (Middle) Felix Opoku during his UC Water and Health Research Fellowship. (Right) GloCal fellow Dr. Evelyn Munayco Pantoja and her trachoma research team visiting communities in the Peruvian Amazon.

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