A Global University

The Ohio State University is committed to becoming a preeminent global university — one which prepares its students and faculty to actively participate in knowledge-based collaborations around the world.

As one of America’s finest public universities, ranked in the top 20 best public research universities in the U.S. by U.S. News & World Report, we strive to build a foundation that will integrate international dimensions within every facet of the institution, to pursue international partnerships, as well as collaborate on the solution of local and global issues based on Ohio State’s expertise.

To solidify Ohio State’s commitment to enhancing its global interactions, the university has developed the following international strategies: increase the percentage of international faculty and students; promote scholarship on the major global issues; create international dual degree programs; promote collaboration with Ohio’s international business ventures; develop an international physical presence; and increase the international experience for undergraduate, graduate and professional students.

Global One Health Initiative

The Global One Health Initiative aims to establish sustainable research, training and outreach projects focusing on cross-cutting issues that impact humans, animals and their environment. One Health builds Ohio State’s and its global partners’ capacity to address complex health issues while making a grassroots impact. Since 2011, interdisciplinary activities have had proven positive impact for the Ohio State community, as well as local, national and international partners.

One Health is the university’s largest, interdisciplinary example of institutional teamwork operating on a global scale. The scope of One Health projects includes:

- Prevention and control of (re)-emerging zoonotic infectious diseases
- Collaborative approaches to prevent, detect and respond to antimicrobial resistance
- Development and testing of rapid, point-of-care, field-deployable detection systems
- Evaluation of environmental risk factors that impact agricultural food systems, chronic diseases (such as cancer) and other economic and health outcomes
- Development of efficient digital and virtual systems for high impact translational research, training and outreach

The overall activities of One Health align with Ohio State’s Discovery Themes of Energy and Environment, Food Production and Security, Health and Wellness and the Humanities and the Arts, which were identified as long-term targets of university-wide teaching, research, and engagement.

Visit oia.osu.edu/global-one-health
Examples of Current Projects

The Centers for Disease Control (CDC) Global Health Security Cooperative Agreement — A cooperative agreement between Ohio State and the CDC for Disease and CDC. It is a five-year program focused on three major areas for the first year including: 1) Zoonotic diseases – Rabies; 2) Zoonotic diseases – Brucellosis and 3) Antimicrobial resistance. Project start date is April 1, 2016, and end date is expected to be March 31, 2021. **Funding: $4.65 million**

NIH R25 eCapacity Building Project — Funded by the NIH Fogarty International Center in 2015 as a three-year project with the goal of strengthening electronic capacity in east Africa for research and training in areas of tracking, prevention and control of infectious diseases. **Funding: $325,000**

NIH D43 Global Infectious Diseases Project — This project has been in place since 2011. It complements the R25 eCapacity Building Project and a proposal for an additional five years of funding has been submitted. **Funding: $1.293 million**

OIE Veterinary Curriculum Twinning Project — A two-year project funded in 2015 by the U.S. Department of State that focuses on antimicrobial resistance with emphasis in the United States, Brazil and the United Kingdom. **Funding: $200,000**

International Corporate Partnership Program — The three-year twinning project is funded by the World Organization for Animal Health (OIE). The partnership aims to develop and strengthen current veterinary curricula in Ethiopia and eastern Africa.

Nursing PhD Sandwich Twinning Program — A new initiative that aims to strengthen the nursing curriculum in targeted areas using curriculum sharing and sandwich PhD approach. Currently, the Ohio State College of Nursing and University of Gondar are partnering a new PhD program established at the University of Gondar. Two PhD scholars are hosted at Ohio State UoN.

Ohio State Ethiopia One Health Summer Institute — The institute is an annual training, service learning and outreach program run among three partners – Ohio State, Addis Ababa University and University of Gondar. Now in its fifth year, more than 100 Ohio State students from six colleges have participated.

Leadership

Wondwossen Gebreyes, PhD, DVM is a professor of molecular epidemiology, Director of Global Health Programs at the College of Veterinary Medicine and Executive Director of the Global One Health Initiative. He grew up in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, completed his Doctor of Veterinary Medicine at Addis Ababa University and his PhD at North Carolina State University. Gebreyes is the principal investigator of the National Institute of Health Fogarty International Center, Global Infectious Diseases, research and training program on molecular epidemiology of foodborne pathogens for eastern Africa including Ethiopia, Kenya and Tanzania. He is engaged in global capacity building efforts including teaching courses on global health opportunities to U.S. students and also molecular epidemiology of infectious diseases. This course has been offered in the United States and globally in Brazil, Bulgaria, Ethiopia, Kenya, Mexico, Sudan, Tanzania and Thailand.

Gebreyes and the consortium he leads is a recipient of several awards including the Battelle Endowment for Technology and Human Affairs (BETHA); Pfizer Award for Veterinary Research Excellence; American Society of Microbiology (ASM) International professorship award and most recently three awards related to the Global One Health Initiative he leads including the Andrew Heiskell Award (honorable mention) by the Institute of International Education (IIE); APLU International Leadership Award, Emerging International Engagement Award; and the Universitas 21 international award.

For more information

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