



UNIVERSITY OF WYOMING

CENTER FOR GLOBAL STUDIES

FALL 2025 NEWSLETTER

Every year we look back and realize WOW! We've come a long way! The past twelve months have brought remarkable successes for the Center for Global Studies, and significantly expanded our reach and commitment. The leadership of faculty and friends who have helped us get this far, and the world-wide, life-changing experiences of our students, are something to celebrate.

All of us who are globally engaged know that those gains can be hard won against the current in any year. Nothing is ever straightforward, but the goals are well worth the effort. So that is our mantra going into the 2025-2026 academic year:

"Our goals are well worth the effort!"

We hope that as you read these pages, you will share our delight in UW's international achievements so far.

If you would like to help the Center for Global Studies achieve its goals, please contact me at cmf@uwyo.edu, or find an opportunity that speaks to your international soul among our [Giving Day campaigns](#).



Caroline McCracken-Flesher

Director, Center for Global Studies



STUDENT VENTURES & AWARDS

The primary purpose of the Center for Global Studies is to open doors worldwide for UW students. We know that students who travel early will meet the world with confidence and impact through their lives. This year, we sent 32 students to pursue independent research in 19 countries, ALL borne along by donor support.

Centennial Awards

The Centennial Award was founded by friends in the town of Centennial. Year by year they send four or five students overseas to pursue their research. Centennial has greater goals, too. Please see our dedicated page below to learn how you can join their community to build the Centennial Endowment for CGS.

Olivia Poore, Centennial Award Recipient

A BS student in Environmental Systems and Environment and Natural Resources, Olivia traveled to Laikipia County in Central Kenya to study the human influence on wildlife behavior at nutrient hotspots. She writes:

*This project focuses on creating an accurate population estimate for *Crocuta* (spotted hyena) in central Kenya by partnering with private conservancies. The project significantly advanced my studies because it allowed me to formulate a research question and follow the scientific process through to completion, all while networking with local managers to achieve a specific goal.*



We also congratulate Centennial Scholars:

- **Marcus Anderson** (Environment & Natural Resources BA): “Do tropical ant-following birds respond to acoustic cues of predators?” Panama.
- **Erin Brorsen-Duncan** (International Studies MA): “China in the *tianguis* markets of Mexico.” Mexico.
- **Indira Khera** (Creative Writing MFA): “‘Rawalpindi,’ a novel about British medical experiments on colonial soldiers (in now Pakistan).” England.
- **Ernest Ewalefoh Osemobho** (American Studies MA): “The Role of Fashion in Shaping Afropolitan Identity Among the African Diaspora.” Nigeria.

Learn more about the impact of internationalization on the [Centennial community](#) and [student research](#). 

To support Centennial’s goals for global engagement at UW and across Wyoming, visit our [Giving Day](#) page.



A Centennial Success Story

Once in a while, a beautiful alignment evolves between an international student, their new home in Wyoming, and the home they once knew. In this challenging moment for international travel and research, one such case stands out. We share this sincere thanks from Ernest Ewalefih Osembho for the town of Centennial:

I applied for a teaching job at a local school in Nigeria. When I showed up for the interview in a traditional African outfit, I was criticized for not wearing a shirt and tie, or, better yet, a full suit. As I made my way home, I saw a white man dressed in a traditional African outfit, complete with a matching cap. I don't know what country he was from, but what mattered was the visual: a non-African confidently wearing the very attire I had just been shamed for.

That moment raised a question: Why is African fashion celebrated when worn by foreigners but questioned when embraced by Africans themselves—especially in professional settings? That personal experience gave rise to my research topic on the intersection of fashion and Afropolitan identity in the diaspora.

My study examines how fashion enables Africans living in the diaspora, especially in the U.S., to express their identity. Many Africans in the diaspora try to hold on to their culture while adjusting to life in new countries. One of the easiest ways they do this is through fashion. African fabrics like Ankara, Aso Oke, and Kente help Africans stay connected to their roots. These clothes carry history, culture, and pride. The study also explains the idea of Afropolitanism, which means being proudly African and also part of the global world. Afropolitans mix African and Western styles to create something new.

This research journey, rooted in personal experience, cultural observation, and academic exploration, has been deeply transformative. I'm grateful for the challenges, the support, and the unexpected moments of insight that shaped it.



CENTENNIAL FOR THE FUTURE

One person can do a lot. A town can do even more! We are grateful to the town of Centennial for their commitment to student international research abroad.



CGS awardees share how far the Centennial community's generosity has taken them in the world.

A core group of UW friends in Centennial is determined to go yet further. Thomas Risse and Tanja Börzel share their goals for the new “Centennial Endowment,” that seeks to ensure the Centennial Fellows keep traveling, learning, sharing and leading well into the future. Five key donors are aiming to give \$25,000 per year for five years. They are hoping to find some partners to meet even larger goals.



Thomas and Tanja have spent decades as international relations researchers, university administrators, and Centennial transplants. Their vision for long-term, sustainable financial support for student international research comes from lessons they've learned not just through their work, but as Centennial community members.

[Watch Thomas and Tanja](#)
discuss the importance of
supporting international
research.



Our Centennial programs thrive thanks to committed support from our local community.

To ensure students can travel over the next year, contribute to our Centennial Fellowship Fund on our **[Giving Day](#)** page.

To grow the Centennial Endowment Fund to its \$250,000 goal, select it from the dropdown menu on our **[Giving Day](#)** page.

Ellbogen Awards

The Ellbogen family has long supported UW, and with a vision typical of Jack Ellbogen and his successors, this fund works to generate internationalization at UW, particularly through student research and fieldwork elsewhere.

Yuki Ayukawa, Ellbogen and Harris Award Recipient

A student in International Studies (MA), Yuki explored young children's access to education in Ghana. Yuki came to UW as a Japan Outreach Initiative fellow. We are delighted to see her expand her international reach as a student in one of UW's headline programs. Yuki gives a real sense of her international experience in her report.



Thanks to her Ellbogen award she not only achieved her research objectives, but interviewed teachers and local stakeholders. She writes:

I traveled using shared transportation such as trotros (minibuses), motorbike taxis, and shared taxis. I also spent time exploring the local markets, which are not only key hubs of community life but also places where many students' families work. Experiencing these aspects of daily life firsthand allowed me to gain deeper insight into the local context and enriched my understanding of the interviews and the challenges discussed.

We also congratulate Ellbogen awardees:

- **Abdul Ansari** (Ecology & Evolution PhD): "Impacts to tigers, prey and its habitats in Chitwan-Parsa Complex of Nepal's Terai Arc Landscape." Nepal.
- **Jessica Balderson** (Curriculum & Instruction PhD): "Bridging Language Gaps: Culturally Responsive Oral Language Interventions for Australian Schools." Australia.
- **Austin Barth** (Zoology BS): "First evaluation of competition assessment strategies in territorial tropical birds." Panama.
- **Logan Heard** (International Studies MA): "In the Shadow of Peace: Structural Violence and Queer (In)Visibility in Northern Ireland." Northern Ireland.
- **Mary Rocha** (International Studies MA): "The effects of PREVENT, the UK's antiradicalization policy, on state-funded high schools." England.
- **Gwendolyn Stout** (Curriculum & Instruction PhD): "Enhancing Reading Comprehension and Writing Skills Through Structured Literacy for Language with Japanese School-Aged Students." Japan.
- **Jessica Waldron** (Curriculum & Instruction PhD): "Implementing MTSS for Language in Australia." Australia.

Adrianna Guerrero, Ellbogen Award Recipient

An undergraduate studying speech language and hearing, Adriana worked with a UW team on reading comprehension and writing skills for Japanese schoolchildren. She writes:

At Da Vinci International School, Okinawa, I had the privilege of working alongside professionals in my field. This firsthand experience has been incredibly enriching and irreplaceable. A huge thank you to the Ellbogen Fund for making this opportunity possible.

Harris Awards

The Harris Endowment supports students working on environmental and sustainability challenges. Generously endowed by Martha Harris, it has now been making awards for ten years. The total achieved is over \$82,000 between 39 students. In 2024-25, the Harris scholarship supported the largest number of students ever: eight. We will work hard to make it ten for 2026—a fitting goal for the tenth year of this special fund.

Howard Maimbo, Harris Award Recipient

For Howard, a PhD candidate in Ecology & Evolution, it's all about the research, the results, and the difference they make for a community. He writes:



The trip provided opportunities for direct engagement with partners, including the Department of National Parks and Wildlife, African Parks, and the Zambia Carnivore Program. I delivered presentations to collaborators, conservation NGOs, and research organizations active in the Kafue landscape. My talks covered the objectives, methodology, and preliminary findings of my dissertation project. These sessions encouraged valuable dialogue on monitoring design, conservation challenges, and how my research can support applied management decisions.

Congratulations to all Harris Awardees:

- **Kathan Bandyopadhyay** (Zoology & Physiology PhD): “Mesocarnivore in dark: deciphering India’s small carnivore guild.” India.
- **Ivy Doe Kwashie** (Geospatial Information Science & Technology MS) “Geovisualizing coastline changes within a digital twin environment in Anloga, Ghana.” Ghana.
- **Joel Ogwang** (Ecology & Evolutionary Biology PhD) “Using modern genetic tools to explore the impact of overfishing, prey depletion and habitat disturbances on the long-term survival of Nile perch species in East Africa.” Tanzania and Uganda.
- **Andrew Suchomel** (Ecology & Evolution PhD): “How elemental ratios and profiles vary across fish species and habitats in Lake Tanganyika.” Tanzania.
- **Ransford Tege** (International Studies MA): “Oil and gas development and local livelihoods: a critical analysis of the national petroleum hub project in Ghana.” Ghana.
- See also **Yuki Ayukawa** above, a joint Ellbogen/Harris Awardee.

Michael Castano, Harris Award Recipient

Michael, a Zoology & Physiology MS student, traveled to Panama to study how army ants can be tracked to their nests by their smell. Who knew? Along the way, he listened in on the birds as they sniffed out swarms of ants—with dinner in mind.



Center for Global Studies Excellence Awards

We are grateful to the many donors who contribute to the CGS Excellence Fund. This fund supports students (first) and faculty (second) in their international work, and it brings international speakers to UW and the state. Donors, you know who you are. And as you'll see below, our students are glad to know you!

Beatrice Bugos, CGS Excellence Award Recipient

For this Geology PhD student, Excellence funding made a difference at just the right time:

Through my fieldwork experience, I had the opportunity to develop international collaborations, immerse myself in a new culture and forest-type, and build my confidence as a researcher. The Excellence Fund matched my tight timeline of conducting fieldwork in my second semester of grad school, and will continue to benefit me in the future. Thank you to CGS and donors for providing the funds to kickstart my dissertation research!



Reagan Paris, CGS Excellence Award Recipient

A History MA studying "Sub-elite women, agency, and literacy in 14th-Century England," Reagan explains how her awareness and opportunities shifted as she traveled:

At the British National Archives I found knights advocating for their daughters to receive educations, allowing them to read chivalric literature, and saw courtly artifacts including rings, broaches, and tapestries. These household goods confirmed that chivalric and courtly culture was disseminated to the growing middle class thanks to their new wealth, and that has led me to turn my research toward economic history.

Congratulations to all CGS Excellence Awardees:

- **Hannah Haber** (English MA): "Sonic Palimpsests: Language, Music, and National Identity in Joyce's *Finnegans Wake*." Ireland.
- **Ajay Karki** (Ecology and Evolution PhD): "Human/Big Carnivore Co-existence in Nepal." Nepal.
- **Lindsey Mitchell** (Zoology & Physiology MS): "Assessing niche partitioning of squirrels and their potential as indicators of rainforest condition in Malaysian Borneo." Malaysia.
- **Alisa Konishi-Therkildsen** (Curriculum & Instruction PhD): "Enhancing Reading Comprehension and Writing Skills through Structured Literacy for Language with Japanese School-Aged Students." Japan. (see also Ellbogen Awardees above)

Anne Fish Fund

The Anne Fish Fund focuses on student enrichment in Spanish-speaking countries. Anne graduated from UW (Criminal Justice), and is the author of *Riskformation*, a book that encourages others to step outside their comfort zones.

Escritora Lena Newlin tras
las huellas de sus ancestros

Más allá de
la historia
familiar

Lena Newlin, Anne Fish Fund Awardee

Lena's Public Humanities PhD research in Peru, "Assimilation, Incarceration, and Identity: Stories of Japanese Immigrants in the Americas," was featured in *Kaikan*, a Peruvian Japanese community magazine. Full article available at [Kaikan issue 139](#).

To help UW students achieve their international research, please donate to one of our funds. We receive many more applications than we can support.

On Giving Day, go to the [Center for Global Studies campaign page](#), in the [Global Engagement Office Giving Day campaign tier](#). Select the fund you would like to support in the dropdown menu. Funds include:

- Centennial Endowment Fund (tomorrow's students)
- Centennial Fellowship Fund (students today)
- Center for Global Studies Excellence Fund
- UW in Scotland Student Engagement Fund
- UW in MENA Discretionary Fund

(additional funds are listed on our Giving Day page)



NOTE: The dropdown menu with our featured funds will appear on our Giving Day page at 12:00 pm on October 23, when all the campaigns go live.



**Can't wait
until Giving
Day to donate?**

[CLICK HERE](#)

Additional opportunities to support Global Engagement on Giving Day:

- [International Students Emergency Fund](#)
- [Education Abroad Passport Fund](#)

All featured funds are visible on the Global Engagement Giving Day page.

YSEALI: YOUNG SOUTHEAST ASIAN LEADERS INITIATIVE

For four weeks each fall semester, the Center for Global Studies hosts Southeast Asian colleagues and rising professionals at UW. This State Department program cultivates leaders from Southeast Asia, builds partnerships between UW faculty and staff and their mentees, and supports our goals in the region. Last year we hosted Siriwai Kuwei and Suci Armand from Indonesia, and Win Thinzar Kyaw from Myanmar.



YSEALI Community: UW Faculty and Friends on the Move

Kem Krueger: Mentoring in Malaysia

The School of Pharmacy has hosted seven fellows from Myanmar, Malaysia, Indonesia, the Philippines, and Laos, with faculty members Reshmi Singh, Nervana Elkhadragey, Sheba David, Michelle Blakely, Kem Krueger, and Canyon Hardesty serving as mentors. Dr. Krueger was chosen to participate in a reciprocal exchange to Malaysia, supporting Janice See to implement her award-winning “Kesihatan Saya” health literacy toolkit.

This project, which translates complex health information into accessible, culturally sensitive resources, was one of only five Civic Engagement initiatives selected by the U.S. Department of State. Through these mentorships and exchanges, Krueger says he has witnessed the power of cross-cultural collaboration to strengthen health systems, expand medication management strategies, and inspire innovative approaches to patient-centered care. As a result of participating in the YSEALI program, the School of Pharmacy has also forged collaborations with Monash University of Malaysia and Alpro Pharmacies of Malaysia.



Amy Roberts: Partnering in Thailand

Amy Roberts (Education) is probably UW's scholar most recognized by Fulbright—we think she breaks records! Seeing her work with her mentee, we know why. After mentoring Thinzar (2024, Myanmar), Dr. Roberts set off for Thailand to follow up.



Thinzar and Amy brought curiosity, heart, and a whole lot of enthusiasm to the YSEALI Participatory Action Research (PAR) Workshop, connecting with changemakers and teachers from Thailand and Myanmar. The August 2025 face-to-face workshop focused on equipping participants with research tools to better understand and tackle local challenges. With 25 participants diving into the process, nearly half are now applying PAR methods in real life—including Amy and Thinzar, who inspire others to do the same. Their follow-up includes a Zoom session with high school students, sharing insights about higher education opportunities in the U.S. and sparking ideas for the future.

Danny Dale: Finding institutional partners in Vietnam

Professor of Astronomy and interim Dean of Engineering and Physical Sciences, Danny Dale, traveled to Vietnam to develop Southeast Asia connections in the sciences. The Institute of International Education, through its Academic Partnership Program, introduced US faculty to 31 STEM-focused universities. Dr. Dale was particularly struck by the US Ambassador's story of how USAID funding has been used to help recover the remains of deceased soldiers on both sides of the war, as well as to help rehabilitate forests and jungles that were contaminated by Agent Orange. Dr. Dale recalls:

The variety of universities was very interesting, as were the differences between Hanoi in the north and Ho Chi Minh City in the south. In one meeting, a STEM university had a stuffed panda bear on the table. To them, it represented engineering students who work hard all night long and get bags under their eyes, like panda bears. This anecdote shows the energy I experienced throughout the country and in every interaction I had with the citizens and students of Vietnam. (Funded by UW's work with YSEALI)



Andy Wheelock: Culture and communication in South Korea

Andy Wheelock (Music) traveled to South Korea supported by CGS's work with YSEALI. He delved into the evolution of jazz, focusing on the cultural exchange between American jazz and Korean folk music. The project documented this exchange as the WHEE3Trio taught and performed around Seoul. Wheelock aimed to enhance jazz practices and education in the US and South Korea through an exchange of pedagogy, performance, and tradition.

Experience the tour for yourself!

Christy Bidstrup: The host becomes the guest!

Christy Bidstrup belongs to a team of devoted homestay hosts who have made our YSEALI fellows welcome in Laramie. For Christy:

Becoming a YSEALI Homestay Host has been one of the most rewarding and growth-provoking experiences of my retirement life. Although I have travelled extensively, there is no substitute for having an extended period of time to get to know a person from another country well. I have reveled in learning about each of my fellow's culture, family, government, career, opinions and aspirations. So much of who we all are is common ground. And yet so much more is a fertile field for friendships that delight in our many differences. After Sinet (Cambodia), Bret (Philippines) and Siri (Papua New Guinea), Amirah (Malaysia) will be my fourth fellow of the YSEALI Program. I hope there will be many more!



Christy even had the chance to reconnect with Bret, during her own travels in Melbourne!



As of 2026, YSEALI federal funding is under reconsideration. We in CGS hope to continue fellows' programs where possible. They are uniquely valuable to UW and to our Wyoming community. If you would like to support international fellows at UW, please contact Caroline McCracken-Flesher at cmf@uwyo.edu.



SCOTLAND

UW in Scotland continues to evolve.

Faith Breads: UW in Scotland Internship Award

Faith (Creative Writing MFA) spent a month as a communications intern with Play Scotland. Faith's report is drenched in Scottish mist, but you can hear the laughter of children as they leap out in Glasgow or run kites against the wind in Aberdeen. Enjoy!



When I started my MFA (Fall 2024), I wanted to prioritize play—both as a subject to study and as an activity to pursue. I spent most of last year studying play as it relates to place and climate. It became clear to me early on that play needed to be protected and promoted, but I still had no firm grasp of what that looked like in practice. That changed this summer, when I had the opportunity to spend four weeks volunteering with Play Scotland through the UW in Scotland Program.

The Play Scotland team welcomed me with warmth and took time to help me understand what exactly they do to make children's play a reality. Jenny Lester, Engagement, Participation & Events Officer, identified projects in which I could contribute my communications skills and be creative. These projects included two booklets on low-cost play ideas, one for when it rains (which I learned is often in Scotland!) and one for games using just pen and paper. The mere act of creating these booklets—brainstorming, writing, designing—felt like play itself.

I also worked with Jenny to create an educational video on Benefit Risk (see [YouTube channel](#)). The Play Scotland team made sure I saw Benefit Risk in action, taking me to an adventure playground in Glasgow. Even though I'd read about Benefit Risk, it was shocking to see children jumping off wooden platforms onto mattresses, swinging on ropes, and using hammers. In America, we seldom have playgrounds that let children play with such risk. We also seldom have playgrounds that prepare food or invest in relationships with families and neighbors. By the time we finished our tour, the space was alive with play, buzzing with people of all ages. That is Benefit Risk in action!

On my final day, we conducted a focus group at a Dunbar community playground which had recently been renovated with more accessible play equipment. Jenny and I played with a group of children with disabilities to understand their reactions to the new equipment. While most of the children enjoyed the equipment, some of them could not use it as intended, highlighting why Play Scotland's work is so important. There is still work that needs to be done to make play a reality for all children. But I left my last day confident that Play Scotland is working tirelessly to fulfill that mission.



A huge thank you to Jenny Lester, Cherie Morgan, and the entire team at Play Scotland for taking me in this summer. And thank you to the University of Wyoming and the UW in Scotland Program for supporting the opportunity with funding.

Sophia Glennie: UW in Scotland Internship Award

Sophia (Molecular Biology and Honors BS) pursued her internship at the University of Aberdeen. It is very difficult to snag an internship or volunteer opportunity in healthcare—but Sophia did it. She is intrepid, persistent, and bound to succeed:

I interned at the University of Aberdeen Centre for Healthcare Education Research and Innovation, researching the medical education system in remote and rural areas—how and where medical students in Scotland are sent on their placements to learn and become doctors. I got to meet doctors and learn about their specialties and the things they went through as a student. I also learned new ways of analyzing and conducting research in qualitative data, something I've never worked with before.



I learned how to code to frameworks and analyze interviews and language in a more nuanced way to understand some of the interactions happening between students, medical programs, health boards, practices, and the government. Most important to me in this research were the connections to Wyoming, and to my own path towards medical school. There are unique challenges in remote and rural medical education in Scotland that reflect what medical students and practitioners in Wyoming face—things that I will have to face. Not only can I use the frameworks I've learned in Scotland to analyze the Wyoming provision system, I have a new perspective on becoming a doctor and on rural and remote healthcare.



To support student internships in Scotland, visit our [Giving Day](#) page and donate to the UW in Scotland Student Engagement Fund.

Seize THE Day
OCTOBER 23-24, NOON TO NOON

Faculty Research in Scotland

UW in Scotland invests in faculty, too. We know that where faculty go, students follow. We also know that once UW faculty are in the world, they are pied pipers for Wyoming. Professor Tara Righetti (Law and Environment and Natural Resources) traveled to Scotland to build out our community of scholarship in the direction of energy and sustainability.

Dr. Righetti pursued a bruising schedule over ten days last spring, meeting colleagues across Scotland and in many fields. To give an idea of her itinerary, she:

- Met with the CEO of the National Trust for Scotland to learn about their plan for nature-based carbon storage—by culling deer to protect forage and restoring peat bogs.
- Met with curators at the National Coal Mining Museum in Newtongrange, where mining heritage is honored and the local economy aims to develop in new ways.
- Visited the Just Transitions Lab at the University of Aberdeen. Part of the School of Geosciences, the lab includes legal scholars, social scientists, and earth scientists.
- Toured Aberdeen with an artist working on how extractives influence art and culture. The tour included the Saint Nicholas Church, dedicated to oil workers lost at sea.
- Met with colleagues at the Center for Energy Transition—some of whom have visited Laramie.
- Visited the Acorn Storage project to discuss challenges to commercial Carbon Capture, Utilization and Storage projects, and to learn about public finance mechanisms.

And that was just her first three days!

Back in Laramie, Dr. Righetti is planning an October 2025 conference that will feature colleagues from Scotland, and aiming to host additional Scottish scholars working on energy issues in 2026. Once you get us started in Scotland...there's no stopping Wyoming!



Energy Then: The Five Sisters bings (slag heaps) in West Calder. The shale oil industry got its start here in Scotland under James “Paraffin” Young in 1851. The bings are now a protected heritage monument. **Energy Now:** Mobile oil rigs and renewables off the coast.

UW in Scotland Global Seminars

Three courses traveled to Scotland this summer. All three were led by faculty who participated in the 2022 UW in Scotland cohort, learning about the country, meeting their colleagues, and building research and teaching opportunities.

Brent Pickett and **Eric Krszjanek** matched Enlightenment, modern thought, and today's marketing. Visiting Walter Scott's home at Abbotsford, David Hume sites in Edinburgh, Jacobite locations in Inverness, and the industrial and intellectual hub that was Glasgow, students learned how different places and aspects of Scotland co-existed to produce a rich, sometimes conflicted mix of philosophy and economics, science, literature, and national identity.



Jamie Snyder led a course focused on Criminal Justice. Twelve students explored the intersection between criminal justice and substance use. Highlights included touring Parliament and sitting in on a criminal justice committee meeting, exploring a historic prison, and meeting with faculty at the University of Stirling's substance use program.

Scott Tedmon-Jones and **Maggie Bourque** led a course focused on place and the theatrics of space—in Edinburgh, in Festival time! Students started at Walter Scott's uniquely theatrical space, and then dove into all the excitement of Edinburgh events. For eleven lucky students, CGS dug deep into our pockets to make this great idea into an achievable reality.



One student tells us how much the time at Abbotsford has impacted her life as a writer:

As a writer and author who studies other authors and writers, it was remarkable to see how Scott used place and the space around him to inspire his work. He fostered creativity by curating spaces that were meaningful to him and allowed him to write impressively. This impacted me because I realized how much I don't pay attention to the space around me while I'm writing and creating. After experiencing what I did at Abbotsford, I became interested to see how I could use place and different spaces to better foster my own creativity and writing skills. I'm excited to try it in the coming months.

UW at the Edinburgh Festival

Scott Tedmon-Jones shares his insights on how his and Maggie's students benefited from experiential study in Scotland, and gives us a good sense of how UW faculty build from their own opportunities toward courses and long-term curricula.

Sir Walter Scott's home provided an opportunity to build community within the cohort, a place to settle and get grounded in a new country, a means to introduce students to Scott and Scotland, and a lab to focus on specific concepts and theories that would be used during our time in Edinburgh. The students appreciated and were inspired by learning about Scott's home, the sense of place there, and his varied interests that he pursued during his life. The theatricality and stagecraft of Scott's home provided an excellent bridge to Edinburgh and its August festivals.



For the course on Crafting Creative Identities, we aimed to have students develop an individual creative identity statement. During our two weeks, students traveled to Culross, Stirling, Falkirk, Melrose, Dumfries, Roslin, Perth and Edinburgh, visited nine historic sites and four museums/art galleries, and attended six performances at the Edinburgh Festival and its Fringe. Students engaged with history, literature, architecture, dance, theatre, opera, music and art. For their final project, they created a portfolio of their experience, highlighting and reflecting on important moments and discoveries, sharing curated journal entries, their creative identity statement, and a photo essay. Students also developed an assemblage / collage representing the synthesis of their experience.

We had eleven students with a range of interests and travel experiences, and each student was able to explore, think about, and reflect on what place means to them, what they find important about place and their individual sense of place. Students made many discoveries about who they are and what inspires them.

Maggie and I are now focusing on refining details and assignments, building more connections with folks in Scotland, and thinking about future iterations of the program.



Students joined Lebanese-French dance company Maqamat for interactive dance in the University of Edinburgh's Old College Quad.

What's New for Scotland?

UW in Scotland is one of CGS's signature programs. It got its start in a partnership between Walter Scott's remarkable home, UW researchers, and generous supporters and donors. Since the first faculty cohort visited Scotland, we have generated courses, research and university partnerships, and student internships.

Our next goal is to send a group of faculty focused on Wyoming's core interests in energy, geology and related sciences to a Scotland famed for its landscape and in these fields. Participants will visit Siccar Point, where James Hutton saw vertical rocks overlain by younger, horizontal rocks in what he dubbed "the Great Unconformity"—beginning the modern study of Geology; they will meet colleagues and professionals in the energy industries, and build new partnerships and potentials for UW.



To help send our research scientists to Scotland: Contact Caroline McCracken-Flesher at cmf@uwyo.edu, or go to the Center for Global Studies [Giving Day](#) campaign page and donate to UW in Scotland Discretionary Fund, with a note marked "Scientists."



UW IN TUNISIA

There's always more world to discover.

For twenty years, the State of Wyoming has partnered with Tunisia through the Wyoming National Guard. In 2024, the partnership celebrated by extending into the state, beginning with the University of Wyoming. We are deeply grateful for the assistance of the US Embassy in Tunisia. The story so far:



October 2024: UW faculty met with Tunisian colleagues at an agricultural research institute; learned about milk production and marketing out in the Tunisian countryside; studied the water system at the Water Temple, Zaghouan; signed MOUs with sister universities and research institutes.

January 2025: Ambassador Joey Hood met with President Seidel and UW deans, the Tunisian community at UW, and UW students and faculty.

Governor Gordon extended the partnership, signing Memos of Understanding on future State-to-State collaborations with the Tunisian Ambassador to the US.



March 2025: UW students competing in National Model Arab League met the ambassador in Washington, DC.

May 2025: UW specialists met their Tunisian colleagues to discuss regional development through best practices in Tourism—whether heritage, agricultural, outdoor or, in the case of Tunisia on the Mediterranean, on the beach.

Summer 2025: UW students worked at a language school, serving as conversation partners and learning Tunisian Arabic. UW Study Abroad courses are in development.

What's Next?

Colleagues in Agriculture, Water Resource Management, Soil Science, and Sustainability soon will travel to meet their colleagues to discuss shared challenges of food security and agricultural sustainability. Tunisia and Wyoming are meeting the moment through their commitment to agricultural heritage, environmental health, and twenty-first-century opportunity.

If you would like to help us develop the Tunisia partnership, contact Caroline McCracken-Flesher at cmf@uwyo.edu. Or you could join us in Tunisia! Watch this space to learn about a future UW Alumni & Community Tour.



FUNDED FACULTY RESEARCH

CGS proudly supports the international research of UW faculty. We thank the Research and Economic Development Division for its support through the past academic year, and also visionary donors such as Naoma Tate (UW in Scotland) and Patrick Ivers (Program Development). Our faculty repay the investment in spades!

Here is a sampling of their ground-breaking work—coming soon to a classroom near you.

Farida Begum (History) studied archives of the India Office in the British Library to understand women's social connections and friendships in Bengal. She aims to bring a conference on the History of Emotions to UW in a couple of years. This is a field in which the US lags, but Dr. Begum is putting Wyoming on the map.



Brad Carr (Geology and Geophysics) researched Digital Twin technologies as applied to Geosciences and Geohazards (earthquakes, landslides, volcanic eruptions, tsunamis, etc.) in Barcelona. Dr. Carr worked with the subject's leading researcher at the GEO3BCN facility of the Consejo Superior de Investigaciones Científicas, and aims to implement the technology at UW using Wyoming's High-Power Computing facilities.

Anna Chalfoun (Zoology and Physiology) investigated the downstream influence of puma activity on nesting birds in steppe habitats of Patagonia. Support from CGS facilitated her field work, and sustained connections with an Argentinian scientist who obtained his PhD at UW, an Argentinian postdoctoral researcher, and UW faculty and graduate students. Spoiler: Turns out, pumas may be good for the bird population!





Curt Davidson (Haub) explored outdoor recreation in Chamonix—actually on the Mer de Glace glacier, one of the most visibly impacted glacial environments in the Alps. His work will contribute to our understanding of how immersive experiences in vulnerable spaces can shape individuals' attitudes, beliefs and behaviors related to climate change solutions.

Adam Blackler (History) worked in Germany and Namibia on German settlement in Africa. He visited archives including the Geheimes Staatsarchiv Preußischer Kulturbesitz, Politisches Archiv des Auswärtiges Amts in Germany, and the Namibia Wissenschaftliche Gesellschaft. He even found a minute to visit antique bookstores, acquiring thirty-seven German settler memoirs from the 1920s/1930s.



Michael Dillon (Zoology and Physiology) traveled to São Paulo, Brazil, to study how pollinators from across the Americas may respond to increasingly intense and frequent heat. Researchers assembled for the mini-symposium "65 degrees of bee thermal biology," a nod to the latitudinal extent of the effort (from Laramie, Wyoming to São Paulo, Brazil) and the extreme temperatures pollinators must often withstand. The work has expanded to Bogotá, Colombia and will continue in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

We also congratulate Morteza Dejam (Petroleum Engineering), Brandon Gellis (Art), Carmela Guadagno (Science Initiative), Sonia Rodriguez Hicks (Spanish), Patrick Kelley (Zoology and Physiology), Ricki Klages (Visual Art), Eric Krszjaniek (Marketing), Marisa Macy (Education), Neely Mahapatra (Social Work), Tracy Mahvan (Pharmacy), Doug Petersen (Communication Disorders), Brent Pickett (Political Science), Janel Seeley (Ellbogen Center), Rammohan Shukla (Zoology and Physiology), Kelly Simonton (Kinesiology and Health), Scott Tedmon-Jones (Theatre) and Chase Thiel (Marketing).

Help to fund faculty research by donating to the Patrick Ivers Fund on our [Giving Day](#) campaign page, on October 23-24!

Where faculty go, student opportunity follows!



UW FULBRIGHTS

The Center for Global Studies works hard to encourage Fulbright applications from and to UW. 2023-24 was a year of exceptional success for this headline program. For 2025-26, unfortunately, the national program is offering fewer awards. So we are delighted to announce that UW faculty won two Fulbright awards in this very tough climate. Indeed, we have two Fulbright scholars outgoing, and two incoming!



Dr. Zoe Pearson will extend her UW in Scotland research on haaf-net fishing during a Fulbright semester at the University of Durham. Professor Theresa Bogard will take her music (if not her actual piano) to Brazil.

We are also hosting:

- **Dr. Sondos Bannouri** (Fulbright Scholar, Tunisia), who joins the College of Business and will enliven UW through her unique **blend of math and art**.
- **Safa Gallala** (Fulbright Foreign Language Teaching Assistant, Tunisia), who will teach Arabic in the Middle East and North Africa program.

FACULTY ENRICHMENT WITH UZBEKISTAN

We also welcome three colleagues from Uzbekistan. Brought to Wyoming by the American Councils through the International Education Faculty Enrichment Program, Bobur Sobirov, Bekzot Janzakov, and Sarvar Abdullaev are collaborating with UW faculty in Computing, Tourism, and Business.

If you haven't yet met our new arrivals, please introduce yourself. They are keen to meet UW friends and the Wyoming community.



OUR BUSY YEAR: SNAPSHOTs



UW in Cardiff February Showcase: Under UW's strategic partnership with Cardiff University, in Wales, numerous faculty pursue important collaborations. Rob Monger, Tracey Mahvan, Janelle Krueger and Kem Krueger have established a multi-layer partnership that introduces students on both sides of the Atlantic to UK and US rural healthcare.



Fireside Chats

What better way to share best practices in international education than conversation around a glowing (virtual) fireplace?

This year, Yan Zhang (Chinese) and Michael Griffith (Music) shared their expertise on building successful student experiences—by immersion in a foreign language abroad, or traveling with an entire symphony. Salah-Eddine Oukhssane (International Studies MA) shared his research on how Fulbright supports international scholarship, benefits academic institutions, and influences global relations.



Student Research Showcase: During International Education Week, CGS hosted a student international research poster session. CGS awardees shared their adventurous studies with the campus, and practiced how to engage an external audience. Great work around the world needs to go public to make a difference in that world!



Jólabókaflóðið: CGS is all about community—here, there, and wherever in the world! This year, we celebrated the Winter Solstice with a literal “yule book flood.” We added a book swap to our annual Lego challenge (two times is a tradition, right?) Puzzles, crafts, hot chocolate, and book donations to the Albany County Library helped faculty, international students and staff feel comfy and cozy no matter the weather.



CGS ENCOURAGES INTERNATIONAL SERVICE

The Journeys of Career Diplomats

Joey Hood, US ambassador to Tunisia, shared his experiences with students at a Lunch-and-Learn.



Ambassador Marc Wall visited campus during International Education Week. Now (mostly) retired, he sat with Tom Dougherty, Anne Alexander and Jean Garrison to discuss navigating foreign relations in a constantly changing world. He also visited with international students and checked in on a few classes.



Teaching how to Forge your Own Path

Americans work in NGOs around the globe. **Katharina Dechert** of the Tahirih Justice Center explored opportunities with David Mukai (UW Engineering) and Callie Berman (UW grad and Research Scientist in UW's Haub School). **Laurie Marker**, Cheetah Conservation Fund founder and executive director, shared the excitement of her research, education and conservation work in Namibia. Through the generosity of Christy Bidstrup, UW students regularly intern with this organization.



We're looking forward to seeing where this generation of UW students goes, and how they change the world.

JOIN US FOR OUR UPCOMING EVENTS

Global Goosebumps

Spooky Stories, Activities, and More
UW American Heritage Center / Art Museum
October 30 from 4-6 pm

November 18: Heart Mountain with Director Aura Newlin and Haruka Takaku (*details TBD*).

November 19: Student Research Posters: Research highlights from CGS-funded students.

February 6 (snow date 7): UW in Scotland Fundraiser: Scottish food, drink, and frolics. Ticketed only, contact doctorcmf@gmail.com for details.

February 26: Tunisia Showcase: Featuring speaker Mohamed Malouche, Public Sector Lead Partner at Deloitte Afrique, and members of UW in Tunisia (*details TBD*).

TRAVEL WITH UW

Did you miss visiting Germany with Ed Seidel, Iceland with Anne Alexander or Scotland with Caroline McCracken-Flesher?

Join a Faculty-Led Alumni Tour!



Upcoming Tours:

British Rock Stars with Kent Drummond,
July 16-25, 2026

Mongolia Panoramas with John Koprowski,
September 7-16, 2026

Enjoy the world with your favorite UW professor! Visit the [UW Alumni Association](#) for details.



THIS GIVING DAY

Help Widen the World for UW

All student research abroad is donor funded. Programs like UW in Scotland rise through visionary gifts from friends like Naoma Tate and Patrick Ivers. From little seeds, Naoma, Patrick, and YOU help forests to grow!

Is there a region of the world you especially want to encourage for UW? Do you want to see faculty travel, so students can go further? Let us know.

We enthusiastically encourage others - YOU reading this especially - to join us in supporting Global Studies signature programs and related faculty research travel through our fund. This fund recognizes the relation between faculty work, international signature programs, and longer-term, sustainable opportunities for UW as a whole. Where faculty go, students follow. Help us open new pathways through faculty work to build long-lasting partnerships that allow for robust international research and teaching communities.

-Patrick and Nora Ivers



Join Patrick and Nora!
[CGS Giving Day Campaign Page](#)



This year's Giving Day theme is "Seize the Day"—we celebrate the power of coming together to support UW students, faculty, and programs.

To maximize the size of your gift, see [Giving Day Matches and Challenges](#), on the following page.

To qualify for a match, gifts must be made through the [Giving Day](#) website and are subject to the availability of matching funds.

Seize the Future, too!

Leave a Legacy with the Center for Global Studies

Have you considered including the Center for Global Studies in your estate plans? The UW Foundation is pleased to offer a special Legacy Match opportunity.

When you make a planned gift commitment—such as through your will, trust, or retirement account—the **Foundation will provide up to 10% of the value of that future gift TODAY**. This immediate match goes directly to the Center for Global Studies, creating an impact for students and programs right now, while your legacy gift ensures long-term support for the future.

This is a unique way to see the benefits of your generosity during your lifetime, while also leaving a lasting mark for generations to come. For more information, contact **Caroline McCracken-Flesher** or **Lucus Hansen** at the UW Foundation.

This **Giving Day**, you will be able to guide our future in the Center for Global Studies. If you believe in a global university, you can boost us on our way.

Go to the [Global Engagement Tier](#)

- Click [Center for Global Studies](#)
- Find your favorite cause
- Then find your favorite fund



And we will say “THANK YOU” in any language you want!

MATCHES & CHALLENGES



GIVING DAY
OCT. 23-24, NOON TO NOON

Matches

OCTOBER 23

12:00 PM \$250,000 UW Trustee Student Success Match

1:1, \$1,000 cap. Designations related to student support opportunities including scholarships. Does not include RSOs, Club Sports, FSL, or Athletics. Provided by the UW Trustees.

12:00 PM \$150,000 UW Foundation Board Kick Off Match

1:1, \$1,000 cap. All Designations. Provided by the UW Foundation Board.

12:00 PM \$30,000 President Seidel's UW Faculty/Staff Match

1:1, \$1,000 cap. Applies to faculty or staff donations only. All Designations. Provided by the President's Office.

7:22 PM \$7,220 UWF Board Seize the Day Student Match

1:1, \$1,000 cap. Applies to student donations only. All Designations. Provided by the UW Foundation Board.

12:00 AM \$12,000 UWF Board Midnight Match

1:1, \$1,000 cap. All Designations. Provided by the UW Foundation Board.

OCTOBER 24

10:00 AM \$50,000 UWF Board's Light the Way Match

1:1, \$1,000 cap. All Designations.

NOTE: Throughout Giving Day, donors whose gifts qualify for an overall Giving Day match will automatically receive an email notification confirming that their contribution has been matched.

Challenges

OCTOBER 23 | NOON

\$20,000 The Big Giving Day Challenge

Campaigns with the highest donor counts when Giving Day ends will receive monetary prizes in 1st through 10th places. Tier 3 + Standalone Tier 2's are eligible. Provided by the UW Foundation Board.

\$15,000 Student Organizations Challenge

Student Organizations with the highest donors count at the end of giving day will receive monetary prizes in 1st through 10th places. Provided by the UW Foundation Board.

\$7,500 Club Sports Challenge

Teams with the highest donors count at the end of giving day will receive monetary prizes in 1st through 5th places. Provided by the UW Foundation Board.

\$7,500 Fraternity and Sorority Life Challenge

Fraternities and sororities with the highest donors counts at the end of giving day will receive monetary prizes in 1st through 5th places. Provided by the UW Foundation Board.

\$7,500 Athletics Challenge

Teams with the highest donors counts at the end of giving day will receive monetary prizes in 1st through 5th places. Provided by the UW Foundation Board.

**If NEW exceptional overall match or challenge opportunities arise before Giving Day, the current structure of matches and challenges will remain the same, but a new match and/or challenge could be added. If this occurs it will be messaged via Teams Giving Day 2025 channel and listserv.*

HELP US FILL IN THE MAP!



CONTACT US

Contact the Center for Global Studies:

Director, Caroline McCracken-Flesher: cmf@uwyo.edu

Assistant Director, Gregory Ronco: gronco@uwyo.edu

Program contact: cgs@uwyo.edu

Visit our website: uwyo.edu/globalcenter

To discuss your long-term goals to support global studies:

Director of Development, Lucas Hansen: lhansen13@uwyo.edu

Program contact: foundation@uwyo.edu



Global Engagement Office
Center for
Global Studies

FALL 2025
NEWSLETTER