



# MUSC Center for Global Health

May 2023 Newsletter

## Message from the Executive Director

With graduation right around the corner, I'd like to take a moment to thank our students for their dedication to building and strengthening the global community at MUSC. We often hear that our university's commitment to global health was a key factor in decisions by students and residents to choose MUSC. The center is always looking for new ways to support and foster that passion, and this Spring is a perfect example.

We launched our inaugural Global Health Student Advisory Council with representation across the colleges; sponsored a top-notch student team that led MUSC to the finals of the Emory global health case competition; and through our travel grant program, supported 20 students and residents in fieldwork projects across 10 countries. It's been a pleasure to see so many students and faculty returning from their fieldwork overseas to share their stories of success. Be on the lookout in the coming weeks and months for a number of reflections to be published as those individuals highlight their experience working in those international communities on behalf of MUSC.

After a few years of having virtual-only gatherings for our annual Global Health Week, this year we were energized to bring back in-person programming. Led by a keynote presentation from Edgar B. Rodas, M.D., FACS, of the Virginia Commonwealth University – who detailed his working in providing a mobile surgery program in remote communities within Ecuador – the 2023 MUSC Global Health Week is the latest iteration of our center's commitment to

bringing greater awareness to a number of researchers and clinicians who are bringing innovative research, care and training to the global health community. We recorded every program from this year's Global Health Week, with them available for your on-demand viewing at your own leisure. [Please click here to access those recordings.](#)

Please join us in congratulating the MUSC International Student Association (ISA) for receiving the Organization Award for Excellence in Service for the second year in a row. It's impressive to see the passion, dedication and commitment ISA brings to not only engaging, but leading, in local service and outreach at MUSC and around the globe.

Finally, I would like to thank the staff, volunteers, ISA and those who attended to help make the 2023 International Bazaar one of our best yet. It's one of our favorite ways to celebrate cultures and diversity on our campus and truly bring the world to MUSC.

Best,  
Kathleen Ellis  
Executive Director  
MUSC Center for Global Health

## 2023 MUSC Global Health Week Recap



Edgar B. Rodas, M.D., FACS, delivers the keynote presentation during the 2023 MUSC Global Health Week on Thursday, April 20. Photo credit: Zheng Chia

### Another Successful Year

The MUSC Center for Global Health was pleased to welcome participating faculty, students, and attendees to this year's Global Health Week. Celebrated April 17–21, 2023, the center's week of programs covered a range of thought-provoking topics affecting health care across the globe.

Thank you to all of those who helped make this year another success, and we look forward to welcoming you to future programs presented by the Center for Global Health!



Patrick Flume, M.D., and Paula Traktman, Ph.D., take questions from the audience at their discussion about gain-of-function research during the 2023 MUSC Global Health Week on Wednesday, April 19. Photo credit: Zheng Chia

## Gain-of-function talk helps audience gain new understanding of research

A [discussion during Global Health Week](#) at the Medical University of South Carolina about gain-of-function research showed how difficult that research is to define. Moderator Michael Sweat, Ph.D., faculty director of MUSC's Center for Global Health, began by summarizing many people's understandings of it. His description would soon be politely challenged by a virologist.

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## View On-Demand Recordings

Missed a Global Health Week program? Click the session titles below to view recordings of these past events.

- [Implementing Telemental Health Programs in Low Resourced Contexts in Latin America and the Caribbean](#)
- [Reducing Premature Deaths from Smoking: International Tobacco Control Interventions](#)
- [Global Health Debate: Should Gain of Function Research on Potential Pathogens be Allowed?](#)
- [Palliative Care for Cancer Patients in India](#)
- [Keynote: A Surgeon's Journey from Community Health to Global Health](#)
- [Advancing Equity for Vulnerable Populations Roundtable Discussion](#)

To view the entire Global Health Week schedule, [please click here](#).

## Global Health Week Photo Gallery



Haven't gotten enough Global Health Week content? [Click here to view photos](#), taken by Zheng Chia, from programs during the week in our photo gallery.

## Global Health Headlines and Highlights



From left to right: Mohamed Faisal Kassir, Shipra Bethi, Tammy Mahaney (Halladay), Savannah Skidmore, Kaylee Simon, and Adegboyega 'Tim' Adewale. Photo credit: GlobalHealth.Emory.edu

### MUSC Center for Global Health team achieves best finish for University at Emory Case Competition

A [team of six Medical University of South Carolina \(MUSC\) students](#) representing four colleges achieved an honorable mention at the Emory Morningside Global Health Case Competition, essentially earning fifth place and MUSC's best showing in its nine years of sending teams to compete in the annual case contest.

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## 2023 MUSC International Bazaar





The Center for Global Health celebrated the 2023 MUSC International Bazaar, the annual celebration of cultures and diversity on our campus, on Thursday, April 13. The annual bazaar featured a host of musical and art performances, food vendors and merchandise for sale highlighting cultures representing Ghana, Philippines, Tibet, and much more.

To view photos from the event, taken by Jonathan Coultas, [please click here](#).

## ISA Receives Student Organization Award for Second Consecutive Year



Center for Global Health staff join ISA leaders during the student award reception hosted on Wednesday, April 26, 2023.

The Center for Global Health congratulates the MUSC International Student Association (ISA) on being awarded the Student Organization Award for Excellence in Service (university-wide) for the second year in a row! The center is honored to support our student leaders every year and are so proud of this award.

[Click here to learn more about the MUSC International Student Association.](#)

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