



UNIVERSITY OF
Global Health
EQUITY

IMPACT REPORT | 2021

IMPACT REPORT 2021

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List of acronyms

BMS:	Basic Medical Sciences
CBE:	Community-Based Education
CBHI:	Community-Based Health Insurance
CDC:	Centres for Disease Control and Prevention
CEO:	Chief Executive Officer
CHW:	Community Health Worker
CoP:	Community of Practice
COVID-19:	Coronavirus Disease 2019
CPHIA:	Conference on Public Health in Africa
CSO:	Civil Society Organizations
CUGH:	Consortium of Universities for Global Health
EAC:	East African Community
EBI:	Evidence-Based Intervention
EE:	Executive Education
GLNM:	Global Leadership in Nursing and Midwifery
GSRH:	Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health
ISIG:	Intare Surgery Interest Group
MBBS:	Bachelor of Medicine Bachelor of Surgery
MGHD:	Master of Science in Global Health Delivery
NGO:	Non-Governmental Organization
NTD:	Neglected Tropical Diseases
PIH:	Partners In Health
RBC:	Rwanda Biomedical Center
U5M:	Under-5 Mortality
UGHE:	University of Global Health Equity
UNESCO:	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
VC:	Vice Chancellor
WLGH19:	Women Leaders in Global Health Conference 2019

VISION

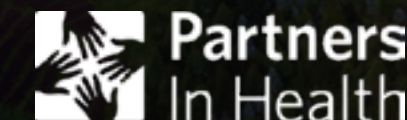
Our vision is to be a leading university that strives to train the next generation of global health leaders, with an emphasis of transforming them into change makers equipped with the skills to protect the most vulnerable and improve health outcomes and social systems.

MISSION

To radically transform global health education and health care delivery around the world by training generations of health professionals who strive to deliver equitable, quality and holistic health services for all.

VALUES

- ▶ Equity
 - ⌚ Inclusion and Diversity
 - ⌚ Respect
 - ⌚ Social Justice
- ▶ Community Based Education and Health Care
- ▶ Sustainability
- ▶ Cultural Humility
- ▶ Integrity
- ▶ Innovation





Board Chair Message:

The University of Global Health Equity (UGHE) is an example of Dr. Paul Farmer’s vision of building comprehensive health care systems, integrating an educational model to train the next generation of global health leaders from the communities they live in and serve. UGHE has continued to educate students working towards health care equity with classroom learning, clinical practice, and quality patient care. With the first class of health care providers prepared to respond to health crises and serve as mentors to future generations, it is evident that UGHE is an example of global health systems strengthening.” - Dr. Sheila Davis, CEO, Partners In Health



- **Building on 30 years of experience** - over three decades, Partners In Health (PIH) has delivered high-quality health care and social services across 10 countries and in some of the world’s most underserved communities. An initiative of PIH, we are building on these lessons learned to train the next generation of global health professionals— including doctors, nurses, researchers, and public health and policy experts—into leaders and changemakers. PIH has further solidified their belief and investment in this next step through their recent Strategic Plan, specifically Pathway 2 which calls for advancing the field of global health delivery through integrating teaching, training, mentorship, and research at UGHE and beyond.



Tribute to Dr. Paul Farmer

Dr. Paul Farmer, the Founder and Chancellor of the University of Global Health Equity (UGHE), had dedicated his life to vulnerable people especially those with limited access to quality health care through implementing equity and social justice approaches across the world. As he used to say that “the essence of global health equity is the idea that something so precious as health might be viewed as a right”. He loved and enjoyed being a physician for the poor, with a holistic approach to tackle all the social determinants of health, as well as training global health leaders who are ready to redesign health systems and deliver quality equitable health services across the world. UGHE’s current achievements are the result of his tireless efforts. The UGHE family will always pay tribute to Dr. Paul and expand on his vision of working for quality and equitable health for everyone.



A MESSAGE FROM THE VICE CHANCELLOR

A year after the emergence of the novel coronavirus in late 2019, safe and effective COVID-19 vaccines were discovered, providing hope in what was proving to be a disastrous global health threat. But in 2021, this optimism was dimmed as the COVID-19 vaccines were inequitably distributed across the globe. As an organization committed to training the next generation of health professionals to deliver quality care and lead equitable health systems, our mandate at UGHE becomes even more critical during such a period of blatant inequity and disregard for human lives.

With this in mind and despite the many COVID-19 related challenges, we continued to provide state-of-the-art education on health sector management and human-centered pandemic response through a holistic learning experience that reflects all levels of health service delivery and social protection. We graduated our sixth cohort of students in our Masters in Global Health Delivery (MGHD) program who are equipped with the knowledge, leadership, communication and management skills critical to health emergency response. This year, our medical students took their physician-in-training oath during UGHE's first White Coat Ceremony, and are now embarking on their clinical rotations at the Butaro District Hospital whose expansion we just broke ground on. We have maintained progress in developing UGHE. We have opened up our medical education program to the East African Community and the Democratic Republic of Congo. We have also implemented new planned programs such as the Executive Education program in Global Leadership in Nursing and Midwifery (GLNM). Undeniably, we are well on our way to establishing UGHE as a world reference center for health science education, as recognized by the UNESCO report.[1]

At UGHE, we have coupled our mandate of health science education with active global advocacy for health equity. Students, faculty and staff continue to participate in and lead research projects and webinars, write op-eds and scientific peer-reviewed articles and help provide advice to national and global institutions. We have especially supported Africa's leadership during this pandemic. A highlight this year has been our contribution to the African Union Commission on COVID-19 and the Inaugural Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA) hosted by Africa CDC. Additionally, it is with the persistent belief that health is a powerful tool for development and that local contextual know-how and knowledge have to be integrated into health system building that the African Advisory Board for UGHE was established.

At UGHE we study and revisit power dynamics within the health sector. The primary question driving our policies, strategies, and activities is "What is most beneficial to the health and wellbeing of the most vulnerable?" Accordingly, we train health professionals to always account for the social determinants of health that can create or exacerbate illness. We also teach by "walking the talk" within the UGHE and the larger OnePIH family, exemplifying how we can turn up-side-down traditional power dynamics through the implementation of equitable policies and strategies within our own institutions and our Butaro community.

The UGHE family has risen to the challenge and achieved the goals we set forth at the beginning of the year. And with the unwavering support of our friends and partners, we end this year with a very positive outlook. More than ever, we are committed to our mission 'to radically change the way health care is delivered around the world by training generations of global health professionals who strive to deliver more equitable, quality services for all'.

I wish you all the best in the coming months as we continue to grow, to fight new COVID-19 variants and to protect the most vulnerable.

It is an honor to work with you all. Please stay safe.

Professor Agnes Binagwaho,
Vice Chancellor, UGHE



UGHE's School of Medicine Hosted the First Cohort of Medical Students' White Coat Ceremony, December 2021



COVID-19 Mass testing at Butaro Campus, June 2021



UGHE's One Health Students in the field investigating the links between animal, environment, and human health, April 2021



Academic Excellence

Global Health Leaders of Tomorrow



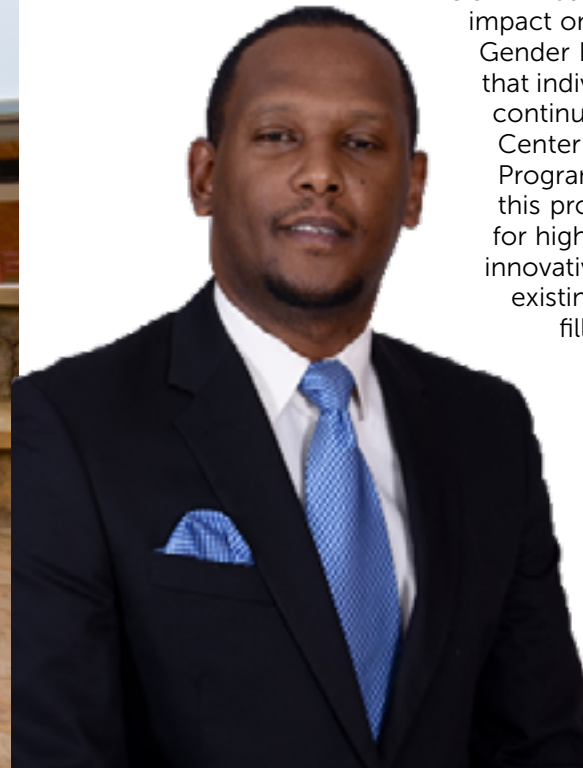
A MESSAGE FROM THE DEAN

UGHE has weathered the global health crisis for the academic year, which began in July 2020. This pandemic has triggered us to reflect and learn from our collective issues and move forward with a revitalized sense of global solidarity and dedication to health equity. The pandemic threw our personal and professional lives into disarray and confronted us with the greatest challenge humanity has ever faced. COVID-19 has shown to be a formidable foe, forcing us to adapt and develop at breakneck speed in order to meet the needs of our students, staff, partners, and the broader community.

In a time where the vulnerable are facing increased risks due to the pandemic, UGHE's mission has never been more vital: developing innovative medical education to train our future global health leaders to think holistically. I am proud of the way our institution has responded to continue operations and allow students to continue to learn, research to persist, and global conversations to thrive. When almost all medical schools on the continent were shut down, UGHE stood out in our ability to adapt to e-learning, influencing other universities in the region to follow suit.

In particular, I am proud of our students, who proved their resilience and educational commitment at a time when their skills are needed most. This was the third full academic year for our inaugural medical school cohort (MBBS/MGHD '25), 30 bright students, 67% of whom are female and all hailing from Rwanda, who will be the first medical doctors to graduate from UGHE and to join the global health workforce four years from now. They have met the new virtual world of teaching and learning during the pandemic period with enthusiasm and dedication, using the lessons from the current global health crisis to inform their studies. These future leaders are needed more now than ever.

This year also saw us graduate our seventh cohort of Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD) students, and the second to live the entire academic year on Butaro campus. Twenty-three students completed their masters and entered a new professional chapter at a critical time. Our students are already making their mark on the global health field, contributing to frontline COVID-19 response, government consultancy, and research to name a few.



UGHE was not only able to continue operating during this past academic year, but expand on its programs and research to elevate our impact on the global health community. During the last two years, UGHE established the Center for Nursing and Midwifery, the Center for Gender Equity, the Institute of Global Health Equity Research, and the Department of Community Health and Social Medicine, initiatives that individually train specialists in critical global health fields, and collectively, shift the dial towards a more equitable world. Our institution continues to train high-level health professionals with leadership skills and global health equity know-how through our ever-growing Center of Executive Education. This was realized through the first-French language iteration of the Global Health Delivery Leadership Program, which united groups from seven Francophone African Countries to address contextual health care challenges. Moving forward, this program will help other universities across the world build capacity in their medical education, by providing learning opportunities for higher-ed leadership to develop and lead a 21st century equity-driven medical university. UGHE prides itself on establishing new and innovative academic programs that will, in time, radically change the way we provide quality healthcare and global health and address existing and emerging global health needs across the world. Our forthcoming PhD program in Basic Medical Sciences (BMS) will help fill a critical capacity gap in BMS practitioners within the East African region. This program will also change the way basic medical sciences is taught to develop practitioners who are educators, researchers, equity advocates, and community-based thinkers. UGHE continues to learn from the realities of the world around us, adapting and innovating our institution as we grow. Our plan to have campuses on Partners In Health sites across the world will be the next chapter of our commitment to provide education with a local, community context, and substantially increase our student intake. As we have faced the challenges of this year, we will always keep our focus firmly on the vulnerable and in achieving global health equity. I thank you for your support in our mission and look forward to what we will achieve together moving forward. Best Regards, Professor Abebe Bekele Deputy Vice Chancellor of Academic and Research Affairs & Dean of the School of Medicine.

Prof. Abebe Bekele,

Deputy Vice Chancellor, Academic & Research Affairs, Dean of the School of Medicine

Equity-Centered Education

UGHE provides high-quality, affordable or education for all students as a way to build health systems ensuring access to quality health services for every human across the world. As one of the strategies to achieve this, the tuition for our MGHD students is alleviated through scholarship opportunities and equity payment plans. Also all MBBS/MGHD students sign the Umusanzu agreement, a contract between the students, UGHE, and the Rwandan Ministry of Health, guaranteeing free tuition, room, and board for every MBBS/MGHD student in exchange for an agreed upon period of employment with full salary in the public sector, enabling them to serve the most vulnerable as global health leaders.



As a One Health Scholar, Yeukai Chikwenhere from Zimbabwe calls for everyone delivering health services to approach it with an equity lens while ensuring that health systems are strengthened.

"I believe that we must wear equity lenses in everything we do. I'm eager to work on community health organizing via a single health lens, ensuring that health systems are strengthened. As a One Health scholar, I learned about a paradigm for understanding global health systems and how it values the interconnectedness of people, animals, and the common environment." Yeukai Chikwenhere, MGHD One Health '21"

Scholarship Support provided to students:

100%

of students receiving a full or partial scholarship to study

95%

average financial aid coverage



"In my childhood, I was fascinated by science. The sufferings and illnesses I witnessed in my village among vulnerable people and their inability to access quality health services, compelled me to pursue medicine. I wanted to be a doctor to address these health issues in my community. I had lost hope when no institutions abroad could offer me a scholarship in medicine. UGHE's MBBS/MGHD program provided a solution." Alima Uwimana, MBBS'25 student.



Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD)

Enrollment of MGHD'21

25 Students

from 13 Countries

68%

of enrolled students had at least 3 years of work experience



23 Graduates

7

MGHD One Health graduates

16

MGHD Health Management graduates

Education Background



Medicine

32%



Public Health

4%



Health Management

36%

Others

28%

The Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD) at UGHE equips a generation of global health professionals with the tools and knowledge to deliver effective and equitable quality health services for all. In 2021, UGHE graduated 23 students from the program, who are ready to address a wide range of global health needs through delivering equitable and quality healthcare services across the world.

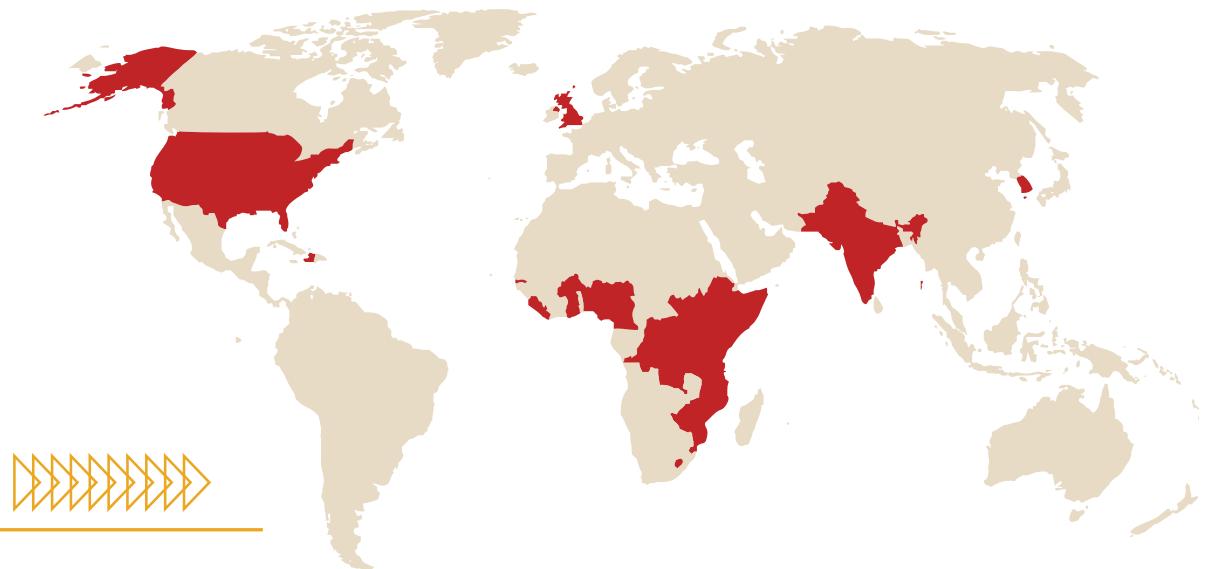
ADMISSION CYCLE FOR MGHD'21

435

Total Applications Received

5.75%

Acceptance rate





Our MGHD '20 Alumni

MGHD '20 alumni are equipped with a wide range of global health skills required for management of health issues across the world. The alumni are currently contributing to strengthening national health systems in at least 18 countries globally, and in various global health areas including program management, research, and clinical services.

- **84%** of MGHD '20 went into full time employment within one year of graduating
- **65%** are working in mid-level roles and above
- **96%** of MGHD '20 alumni said the MGHD supports them in their current role.

Key settings where MGHD '20 alumni are working

 **23%**
rural communities

 **26%**
women & girls

 **23%**
youth

 **38%**
education

Countries of Employment

Rwanda | USA | Liberia | Burundi | Canada | Uganda | Malawi |
Afghanistan | Sierra Leone | Kenya | Mumbai | Iceland | Ethiopia | Nigeria
| Pakistan | UK | Zimbabwe.



- "In truth, the entire MGHD program gives such a unique blend of knowledge and skills that will give you a foot in the door anywhere and will create a good foundation for continuous learning and improvement." Hawa Obaje, Impact Evaluation Manager at Last Mile Health Liberia.
- "As someone trained to be a global health leader through the MGHD program, I contribute directly to the mission of health equity and social justice by producing evidence-based information to sustain investment in community health initiatives, improve program implementation and advance knowledge generation for improved health outcomes." Hawa Obaje, Impact Evaluation Manager at Last Mile Health Liberia.
- "Throughout the processes and research, every step of the way, I was reassured of a unique transformational program, UGHE's MGHD program is, grounded in the basic principle of an equitable world and truly ready to make you an outstanding global health professional."

Hawa Iye Obaje, MGHD'20
Impact Evaluation Manager at Last Mile Health, Liberia





Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery / Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MBBS / MGHD)



UGHE Medical Students Class of 2026



MBBS/MGHD Class of 2026

In 2021, 36 bright students, all from Rwanda, were enrolled after being selected through a rigorous admission process, prioritizing marginalized and underserved groups. The students will spend the next six and a half years at our Butaro campus to complete the MBBS/MGHD dual degree program. In addition, every student receives philanthropically-supported scholarships covering 100% of their tuition, room, board, and school needs, reflecting UGHE's commitment to equity in health education to ensure that our students have no financial barrier to accessing quality medical education.

CLASS OF 2026

36 students

100% from Rwanda

24 female

66% of the cohort

STUDENT PROFILE: Sabrina Gwiza

Sabrina Gwiza is one of UGHE's Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery/ Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MBBS/MGHD) program class of 2026. Sabrina's passion in providing health care to the most vulnerable stems from an experience she witnessed when she was a child: her aunt's mental health illness, which she was unable to treat. Sabrina aspires to work in psychiatry to help close the gap in healthcare delivery in Rwanda and beyond.

"Since I was a child, I aspired to be a medical doctor, specifically in the psychiatric field. I've often wondered why some communities have few or no mental health facilities, since I had an aunt who had mental health difficulties that were not addressed early on, and I couldn't do much about it. My choice as a kid who wanted to assist my aunt and individuals suffering from mental problems was to become a medical doctor. I was relieved to discover about UGHE just as I



Sabrina Gwiza, MBBS student Class of 2026

was ending high school, I truly wanted to be a part of it. Now that I'm being trained to be a physician by the best faculty at UGHE, I'll not only be doing the MBBS program but I'll also be trained to be a global health leader in the MGHD program on a full scholarship, which is a fantastic opportunity that will help me achieve my dream of supporting my community through a medical career. I applaud UGHE's commitment to equity in all its initiatives. I witness individuals in suffering and unable to seek treatment because they do not have the money to pay their bills. As a future doctor, I want to help alleviate the social-economic determinants of health that prevent some people from accessing quality health care simply because they don't have enough money, and I want to ensure that everyone has an equal opportunity."

She will start working at the community level after completing the MBBS program to deliver healthcare solutions to them rather than exporting them to other nations. She says, "As taught at UGHE, I will treat individuals and provide healthcare services with equity in mind, treating people not based on their socioeconomic situation but with the understanding that everyone has the right to quality healthcare. Because UGHE has taught the importance of diversity inclusion if we want to eradicate health disparities, I intend to appreciate and consider diversity in all of my approaches, and I will propose collaboration with diverse people to bring technologies and solutions that are critical to achieving the mission of global health equity.", Sabrina Gwiza, MBBS/MGHD'26



Tangible examples of things MBBS students have done

Quote by an ISIG member

- **Intare Surgery Interest Group (ISIG)**, an association of medical students at UGHE who are aspiring to pursue a career in global surgery and different surgical subspecialties conducted the following activities:
 - Organized a webinar uniting diverse leading global health experts from across the globe, who shared evidence of the importance of blood donation on strengthening delivery of healthcare.
 - Held a Blood Donation Project in June 2021 to collect blood from members of the UGHE community with support from UGHE and the Rwanda Biomedical Center (RBC).
 - Organized a fundraising activity in April 2021 and collected 401,000 Rwandan Francs from the UGHE community to help Butaro District Hospital surgical patients get access to basic hygiene needs.
- UGHE student-led Research Society, a group of students who want to cultivate the culture of challenging the status quo by applying a scientific research approach to solving existing health problems in our communities,
- Held their **First UGHE Research Society Symposium** in October 2021

By starting this initiative, ISIG wants to make its contribution to the world of surgery and the Rwandan health system in general which, like anywhere else in the world, needs a constant supply of blood products. Blood donation is a simple gesture that saves lives, but unfortunately, many people do not donate blood because of a lack of information and sometimes false beliefs that surround it. Our goal is to not only supply blood products regularly but to also raise awareness in the community about the importance of blood donation which will help Rwanda get closer to meeting 100% of its blood demand" – Clovis Gatete Nkeramihigo, ISIG Communications Officer, MBBS/MGHD'25



One of the MBBS students donating blood on Butaro campus, June 2021

Executive Education



Alongside its flagship MGHD, UGHE offers executive education training programs for global health professionals. The programs and short courses are designed for executive global health learners who want to deliver health care more effectively and equitably. Our trainings catalyze change at the individual, organizational, and systems levels and ensure learners return to their workplaces and health systems prepared to more effectively deliver value-based programs.

Cumulative Impact Figures

39 | countries represented

248 | trainees

169 | days in-person/ virtual programming

A testimonial quote from one of the Executive Education (EE) leaders/ learners who have experienced EE programming firsthand.

Global Leadership in Nursing and Midwifery Executive Education Program helped develop my leadership in that it taught me to look more widely at all of the factors that would go into the initiative such as needed resources, financial implications, and key stakeholders which is important and critical to the success of the project” - Teresa Ann Graves, Global Leadership in Nursing and Midwifery Executive Education Program Class of 2021.

Impact Figures for 2021

12 | countries represented

50 | trainees

42 | days in-person/ virtual programming





The Center for Nursing and Midwifery:

- The Center for Nursing and Midwifery worked with the Center for Executive Education to launch the Inaugural Global Leadership in Nursing and Midwifery (GLNM) Executive Education Program which has 26 students from 6 countries both within and outside Africa.
- The center also secured partnership with the University of Washington, African Forum for Research and Education in Health (AFREhealth), and Consortium of Universities for Global Health (CUGH).



The Center for Gender Equity:

- The Center for Gender Equity launched a mentorship program and provided follow up and support for the first cohort of MGHD20 students and selected WLGH19 leadership trainees. It also welcomed a second cohort of 30 mentors and 30 mentees.

The UGHE's Mentorship Program is a pioneering two-year program hosted by the Center of Gender Equity that provides formal frameworks for a transformative mentorship experience in Africa that centers early-career, female, global health professionals.

Initiated in May 2020, with two cohorts of 25 and 30 pairs of mentors and mentees respectively, participants in the two-year

long mentorship program hail from 27 countries across the globe, including 19 African countries, and make up 71% female and 29% male mentors and mentees.

In August 2021, the Center for Gender Equity welcomed the first cohort of 18 Gender & Sexual and Reproductive (GSRH) track students from 9 countries under UGHE's MGHD program.

The Center also partnered with 7 civil society organizations working on Gender and SRH issues for students practicum projects.



Second Cohort of the GHE's Mentorship Program, Center for Gender Equity, October 2021



Excellence in Research and Quality

The Institute of Global Health Equity Research



To become the epicenter of the creation and dissemination of global health knowledge, focused on the eradication of global health inequities.



To focus on the development of collaborative, pioneering global health research, as well as the development and delivery of innovative and engaging research training for global health researchers and health professionals. Leveraging our internal expertise and know-how, UGHE research examines a wide spectrum of global health fields, including pedagogical and clinical practices, policy changes, interventions and technologies, and organization of health services and systems, with the ultimate aim of eliminating global health inequities.

KEY RESEARCH ACHIEVEMENTS OF 2021:

48 | research papers **26** | commentaries, editorials, and op-eds **3** | reviews **3** | podcasts

Exemplars in Global Health: UGHE partnered with Gates Ventures and the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation on the Exemplars in Global Health project to understand if and how Rwanda and Bangladesh, two of the Exemplar countries that successfully reduced under-5 mortality (U5M) through implementation of evidence-based interventions (EBIs) between 2000-2015, were able to maintain the delivery of the EBIs to children under-5 during the COVID-19 pandemic.

With the use of an implementation research framework, the project helped to identify key transferable lessons for policymakers and decision-making leaders in countries struggling to implement child health EBIs during COVID-19 and future pandemics. The partners also supported the work on 10 supplement articles developed based on the completed case studies on Exemplars in U5M reduction for Peru, Senegal, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Nepal, and Bangladesh.



Maximizing Community Engagement



ADDRESS FROM DEPUTY VICE-CHANCELLOR IN CHARGE OF ADMINISTRATIVE & FINANCIAL AFFAIRS

Since its outbreak in 2019, the global pandemic has forced the closure of many academic institutions around the world, UGHE's early, and robust adherence to government response efforts ensured near-continuity in every area of university output.

At the beginning of 2021 we successfully launched the interim campus expansion project that provided thousands of jobs to the local community and by the end of the year the project that includes classrooms and three student and staff housing blocks were completed and ready for occupancy.

The same year we saw the implementation of several collaborative projects at UGHE to further ongoing commitment to the communities we serve and partner with. The key projects UGHE staff engaged in was the contribution to 1000 Community Based Health Insurance, which is a solidarity health insurance system in which persons (families) come together and pay contributions for the purpose of protection and receiving medical care in case of sickness. As part of our economic empowerment efforts, we partnered with a local pig farming cooperative of people with visual impairments who are given leftover pig feed from our main campus kitchen. In addition, UGHE in partnership with Inkomoko, a business development service provider have trained 36 small businesses in Butaro. UGHE also signed an MOU with Image Rwanda on a project called "Her Story" to train 10 girls from Butaro who didn't manage to continue their studies, they underwent intense photography and storytelling training.

As the financial year came to a close, a rigorous FY21 financial audit was successfully completed with a 5th consecutive clean audit report with matters identified in management override of controls.

To regulate our relations with the Government and UGHE, in September we signed a Host Country Agreement.

November also saw the 3rd edition of the annual Hamwe festival which is a platform that brings the health sector together with creative industries. The fascinating five days in-person and virtual gathering brought together global health practitioners, researchers, performers and artists with the theme 'Pandemics, Confinement and Social Changes'.

UGHE continues its unwavering commitment to fight the pandemic by partnering with the Rwanda Biomedical center, Rwanda National Police and the Ministry of Health by always providing any logistical and staff support. Rogers Muragije, Deputy Vice Chancellor of Administrative and Financial Affairs.



Rogers Muragije,

Deputy Vice Chancellor, Administrative & Financial Affairs



The Department of Community Health and Social Medicine

Background: Set up high in the hills of Butaro Sector, Burera District, UGHE's campus has been deliberately positioned to facilitate meaningful partnership with the surrounding community, and give students a holistic understanding of the unique challenges faced by vulnerable communities living in rural and remote settings.

Mission: UGHE is committed to community and social medicine through education, advocacy, research, and action which, combined, aims to address the social, economic, and political determinants of health through a community lens, and advancing community health across the globe.

Community-Based Education:

After a long pause due to COVID, our Community-Based Education (CBE) course for MBBS students was held in May and June of 2021 and offered 2-weeks of dynamic, thoughtful, and engaging work in the classroom and in the community.

Medical students at UGHE are introduced to Community Based Education (CBE) from the first year of their program, where they receive a combination of in-class and field-based learning to understand the health system as well as the social determinants of health. Community faculty (health center nurses and community health workers) expose students to their work and introduce them to primary care delivery competencies. As part of the CBE program,

students engage in community activities such as non-communicable diseases (NCD) and nutrition screening, where they practice their learning and contribute to the wellbeing of the community.



MBBS 25' student Axel Shimwa visiting a household in Butaro, May 2021



MBBS 25' student Tesi Lara learning Kangaroo mother care with CHW Jeanne Mukarurangwa, May 2021

Student quote on the CBE course:

CBE has been such an eye-opening course that makes me realize why medical knowledge matters. I mean, it exposes me to the real suffering in the community and encourages me to get the most out of what I learn so that I can be best equipped to address the challenges.", Kevin Shimwa Gakuba from MBBS26



Community Faculty Capacity Building: Through its Community Health and Social Medicine Department, UGHE trained 72 community health workers (CHWs) on community-based education (CBE) teaching methodology, their role in community students learning and how to partner with students. UGHE community faculty received an introductory training on teaching methodology (lesson plan, teaching and evaluation) to facilitate them while teaching UGHE students during the CBE.



The Center for One Health:

Community Engagement

- Responding to increasing zoonotic diseases and pressing threats like climate change, the Center for One Health launched an MGH option in One Health, equipping students with a trans-disciplinary, multi-sectoral and holistic lens to improve animal, environmental and human health. This includes a 9-day field school to various sites across Rwanda."
- **Kikundi**, a Community of Practice (CoP) for Neglected Tropical Diseases (NTDs) Program Managers, was developed in collaboration with the University of Washington (UW) to create a strong, digitally-supported community for African NTD Program Managers, a platform through which participants can learn from one another in-person or online and collaborate in the pursuit of reaching national and global NTDs benchmarks.



NTD Program Managers visited one of the lymph-edema management centers, November 2021



UGHE's MGH One Health students visited different places as part of their field school, April 2021

Socioeconomic impact, Community Engagement



Diane Niyotwagira, Campus Cleaner, November 2021

Keeping Campus Safe: Diane Niyotwagira on Fighting Virus Transmission

Born in Kigali just one year after the widespread devastation of the 1994 Genocide against the Tutsi, it would be fifteen years until Diane Niyotwagira and her siblings travelled to remote and rural Butaro, UGHE's future home in Northern Province, Rwanda, to settle. In 2015, just before the completion of her secondary school education, she got news that a new university was planning on building a campus nearby. 'I was very excited to hear that such a globally-facing university was going to put its campus in our rural area', she reflects. Diane herself was keen to further her studies, but unable to pay the tuition fees, she invested her time in looking for valuable professional opportunities instead. In 2018, hearing from her mother that there were opportunities at UGHE's Campus, she applied, succeeded, and now works as a full-time member of the UGHE team, supporting cleaning operations. COVID-19's rapid transmission has made the roles of cleaners like Diane critical to the protection of everyone on campus. 'I understand very well that my

role is key to keeping the campus, and those living here, safe.' 'I have improved the way I do my daily work. I used to clean campus chairs, door handles, and desks – objects people touch frequently – once a day. Now I do these twice with soap, water and sanitizer. I make sure all washing stations are clean and have soaps.' She explains. 'It keeps me going to know that myself and others in my profession are critical in curbing the spread of the virus'. Reflecting on how she is treated at UGHE, she explains, 'UGHE has already become my family. I like how every staff member in their respective positions respect each other without discrimination. I freely talk to senior leadership just as I speak to my colleagues. I appreciate UGHE's efforts in making sure we did not lose our jobs as is happening in different institutions due to the pandemic, and I am therefore able to continue financially supporting my parents and siblings.'

Diane Niyotwagira,
Campus Cleaner



Contributing to Socio-Economic Impact

- CBHI (Community-Based Health Insurance), locally known as "mutuelle de santé"
- UGHE mobilized **one million two hundred and twenty eight thousand (1,228,000)** Rwandan francs. These contributions will pay for the medical insurance for 410 community members who cannot afford it.
- **Job creation**
 - 3000 new jobs created in campus development during construction
 - Guarantee that 70% of these positions, both skilled and unskilled will be women, creating long term employment opportunities as well as fighting gender discrimination and equity in a critical and well-paid element of the economy.



François Nzayisenga, UGHE's Butaro Campus Landscape, October 2021

Building an Enduring Institution



- Phase II Butaro Campus expansion
- Butaro District Hospital expansion
- Institutional Development and Online Learning
- Leveraging New Innovations in the Virtual Classroom
- Supporting the Government of Rwanda in the response to COVID-19
- University Campus Expansion

UGHE completed the Butaro Campus Master plan and detailed design. Once fully implemented, this will allow UGHE Butaro Campus growth to accommodate up to 1,000 residents. The overall construction timeline for the project is set at one and a half years broken into 5 phases. These include overlapping stages beginning with 3 months of site prep, excavation, civil works, and backfilling. The site prep is followed by 6 months of structural works, construction of the skeleton of the building and concrete works, and 6 months of installation of electrical, mechanical, and ventilation, with 3 months of this phase overlapping with the structural construction. This work is followed by architectural and finishing work, including plastering, the installation of windows, doors, tiles, and painting. Finally, there are 3 months of external works, the building of retaining walls, landscaping, the installation of livable spaces such as benches, and the opening of the building for use by faculty, staff, and students. This project is estimated to employ 60 skilled workers, 90 semi-skilled local manual laborers, and 20 consultants including engineers, project managers, architects, and surveyors.



UGHE Butaro Campus Master Plan, December 2021

Butaro District Hospital Expansion

In December 2021, Partners In Health (PIH), the University of Global Health Equity (UGHE), and the Rwandan government broke ground on the next phase of growth for PIH-supported Butaro District Hospital.

The ambitious, multi-year construction project is set to expand the hospital, located in Burera, from 140 to 240 beds and further establish it as a leading medical institution and teaching hospital in the region. The construction will take place in two phases and is expected to be completed in August 2023.

These changes will improve the quality of care and, as a result, will save lives. Additionally, the project aims to further establish the hospital as a leading medical and scientific institution in the region, paving the way for its accreditation as a teaching hospital and providing a fertile training ground for students from the University of Global Health Equity (UGHE), which sits just across the valley.

COVID-19 and E-Learning

UGHE remained vigilant and committed to the safety of our students and staff as COVID continues to be a threat to the health of many.

With the COVID-19 regulations such as lockdowns and social distancing, UGHE successfully shifted from office-based to home-based working approach. The employees were given internet facilities and were able work from home without interruption of regular organizational activities. Due to the tireless work and cautiousness of everyone at UGHE, our campus never shutdown, instead utilizing social distancing, a rigorous testing and vaccinating system, and remaining isolated until the Ministry of Health deemed it safe to allow visitors again, who must meet permission and testing standards before admittance. All our students and staff are fully vaccinated, have returned to campus, and are in the midst of regular teaching and studying.

As COVID continues to significantly impact the health of so many throughout Africa and the world, we are reminded of the importance of leadership in the face of crisis, of the meaning of placing science as a priority, and of how the most marginalized are often those most affected by health disasters.



Butaro Hospital Expansion Groundbreaking, December 2021



Hamwe Festival 2021

Arts and Culture in Global Health Public Engagement

UGHE believes that building bridges across sectors is a necessity to sustainably transform global health education and delivery. Hamwe Festival was therefore created to serve as an enabling environment for a strong collaboration between the health and creative sectors, and a platform to generate critical insights into global health challenges, leveraging the unique and complementary vantage points of creative and global health professionals.

UGHE's Department of Arts & Culture in Global Health Public Engagement represents a critical next step in Hamwe's mission to engage, sensitize, and increase understanding amongst global audiences around pressing global health issues through the lens of arts and culture.

- In June 2021, UGHE appointed the first Hamwe Festival Board of Advisors, who supports the festival's growth, reach, and contribution to identifying innovative perspectives and creative solutions in global health.

- Hamwe Festival 2021: Pandemics, Confinement, and Social Changes

UGHE's third annual Hamwe Festival held in November 2021 gathered global health practitioners, researchers, performers and artists, and featured UGHE and PIH leadership, the Honorable State Minister of Youth and Culture, and Director General of the Rwanda Biomedical Center (RBC).

- Short films produced by Rwandan filmmakers, part of the "Visualizing the Virus" project, an interactive international project with an aim to explore how the Covid-19, how its consequences are visualized, imagined, and the inequities it reveals were screened.
- A short story contest about life in the era of COVID-19 was organized in collaboration with Kigali Public Library. A diverse expert jury selected 14 stories – in both English and French – from 479 submissions, demonstrating how the current pandemic has impacted people's lives and how health equity and other inequities of social justice have been exacerbated.
- The festival featured riveting performances including live music and poetry performance by different known artists.



63

performers

30

countries represented by speakers and artists

16

panels



Thanking our Donors and Partners

Everything we do at UGHE is due to the generous support of our donors, supporters, and thought leaders. Over the six years since our inception, global health systems have been tested in ways they haven't been in generations, and the case for a university focused on equity, social justice, and global health leadership has never been clearer. We are deeply grateful to all of you for your continued belief and investment in our students, staff, and alumni network around the world.

We would also like to personally thank our founding and key donors including the Cummings Foundation, Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation, CRI Foundation, St. Goar and Godley Families, Ben and Julia Kahrl, the Moskovitz Family, and the Segal Family Foundation





Ben and Julia Kahrl

St. Goar and Godley Families

the Moskovitz Family

Thought Leadership & Global Advocacy

Leveraging UGHE's expertise, we have lent our voice to global conversations on a wide range of critical subjects through op-eds, articles, profiles, interviews, webinars, and social media. UGHE's thought-leadership challenges the status quo, offers innovative perspectives on global health challenges, gives voice to the historically unvoiced and contributes to a vital shift in the center of gravity for expertise and know-how, from the Global North, to Global South.

Additionally we would like to express our gratitude for the thought leadership and support of our various boards, including the Vice Chancellor's Advisory Board, Dean's Advisory Council, Africa Advisory Board, and the UGHE Board itself.

Conferences/ webinars

104 | Webinars

22 | UGHE hosted

82 | UGHE contributed

Social Media



33.5K Followers across UGHE Social Channels including Twitter, LinkedIn, Facebook, Instagram, as well as YouTube subscribers.

Newsletters

30.4K Subscribers to UGHE Newsletters



L'Oréal-UNESCO For Women in Science Award

In 2021, UGHE's Vice Chancellor Professor Agnes Binagwaho was among the 5 prominent scientists who were awarded the 2021 L'Oréal - UNESCO Awards for Women in Science - Laureate for Africa and Arab states.



100 Most Influential African Women

UGHE's Vice Chancellor Professor Agnes Binagwaho was recognized, for the second time, in Avance Media 2021 list of 100 Most Influential African Women who inspire the next generation of women across the globe.

Global Health Leadership Award

UGHE's Vice Chancellor Professor Agnes Binagwaho received the International Conference on Public Health in Africa (CPHIA 2021) Award for Global Health Leadership.



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