



UNIVERSITY OF
Global Health
EQUITY



Master of Science in Global Health Delivery
Class of 2023 Yearbook

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A message from your

INTERIM VICE CHANCELLOR, JOEL M. MUBILIGI

Dear Class of 2023,
Congratulations on completing the Master of Science in Global Health Delivery program and accomplishing this significant milestone. It is an honor for us to commemorate this outstanding achievement as you graduate from the MGHHD program to join our global network of health equity leaders and join the UGHE alumni today.

I am overwhelmed with joy and pride as I think about your journey during your stay at UGHE. You have shown dedication, resilience, and a deep commitment to your learning journey. You embraced the UGHE values of health equity, social justice, and excellence from the start, and you have continuously implemented these values in your work, both in the classroom and in the field.

You have spent your whole time at UGHE in an atmosphere that encourages both academic brilliance and a thorough comprehension of the intricacies of global health. You have been asked to exercise critical thinking, to challenge the status quo, and to value variety in all of its manifestations.

However, your stay at UGHE has involved more than just gaining new knowledge. Additionally, it has been about developing a clarity of vision, and developing values like honoring human lives dignity, humility, compassion, and teamwork, that will direct you as you navigate through the dynamic world of global health.

Most importantly, it is your passion, your determination, and your unwavering belief in the power of health to transform lives that truly set you apart. The same passion that brought you to this stage will also carry you through your professions as you challenge the existing systemic barriers and work to make health a basic human right rather than a privilege.



Keep in mind that your work involves more than just numbers, data, and charts. It is about the people whose lives you will affect, the communities you will help, and the changes you will motivate. Every choice you make, every action you do, has the potential to have impact that goes much beyond what you can possibly fathom.

You are now joining a global network of UGHE alumni who are influencing health policies, developing novel solutions, and changes that you will carry out throughout Africa and the rest of the world. I have great hope for your future and no doubt that you will have a lasting impact on the field of global health.

On behalf of the entire UGHE community, I wish you boundless success, fulfillment, and joy in all your future endeavors. Take pride in your achievements, and always remember that you are not alone, you will always be part of a larger network of change agents, and Guardians of global health equity. MGHHD 2023 alumni, go forth and be the change that the world needs.

Once again, congratulations!

A handwritten signature in blue ink, which appears to read "Joel M. Mubiligi".

Your Interim Vice Chancellor

MGHD '23

Cohort 8 Breakdown



46

GRADUATES

Comprised of 14 Health Management, 19 Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health, and 13 One Health students all dedicated to advancing global health equity.

13

COUNTRIES REPRESENTED

UGHE is proud to be a global institution, welcoming students from diverse geographies to help solve global health challenges.

GENDER SPLIT

The graduating class of this year comprises **22** talented and dedicated females and **24** equally passionate males, all united in their commitment to advancing the global health equity agenda.

MGHD '23

A message from the

MGHD '23 LEADERS



Abeba Aleka Kebede
Health Management

It is with great pride that I extend my congratulations to everyone for successfully navigating this chapter of your lives. Today, we stand at the edge of new beginnings, armed with the knowledge and skills to address global health disparities and combat injustices. Let us exemplify our roles as future Global Health Leaders, demonstrating unwavering courage and determination. Embrace the future with a blend of resilience and a dash of adventure.



Anthony C. Kwarbo
Health Management

Dear fellow classmates, as we close this chapter of our academic journey, I am honored to say these few words. Together we have embarked on a remarkable voyage filled with growth, challenges, and countless memories. Let us cherish the friendships forged, the knowledge gained, and the experiences shared. May our future be as bright and promising as our time spent here. Congratulations, MGHD Class of 2023, on a job well done!



Angel Ukwishaka Uwimbabazi
Gender, Sexual &
Reproductive Health

To my fellow classmates in the Masters of Global Health Delivery program, specializing in the Gender and Sexual Reproductive Health track, I want to express my deepest gratitude for your unwavering support and dedication. Your courage and resilience have inspired me throughout this journey. As we bid farewell to this chapter, let us treasure the memories we have shared, the friendships we have formed, and the impact we have had on one another's lives. Together, we have laid the groundwork for a brighter future—one where gender and sexual reproductive health are recognized as vital components of overall well-being. Let us continue to stand tall, proud of who we are, and optimistic about the possibilities that lie ahead.



Evans Mchesia Khayati
Gender, Sexual &
Reproductive Health

As we prepare to step out into the world as advocates, researchers, policymakers, and practitioners, let us carry with us the lessons we've learned and the skills we've acquired. Let us be agents of change, challenge inequalities, promote access to comprehensive healthcare, and amplify the voices of the marginalized. You have been a source of inspiration. Your passion, resilience, and unwavering determination have pushed the boundaries of what we thought was impossible. As we step out, let us celebrate not only our accomplishments but also the impact we will have on the world.



Vivianne Umuhire Niyonkuru
One Health

As we stand on the cusp of a new chapter in our lives, let us carry the spirit of compassion, innovation, and collaboration that has been nurtured within Us by UGHE. Let's keep up with our aspiration and commitment towards health equity, advocate for marginalized populations, and address the pressing challenges our world faces. We have been instilled with the knowledge, skill and values that should help us to embark on this path with determination, empathy, and a steadfast commitment to our shared vision of global health equity. Your contribution was remarkable, and we excelled together. Congratulations!!!!



Ulysse Uwayo
One Health

Dear OH Students, as we venture into our respective communities to apply the knowledge we have gained in our countries, I would like to take this moment to extend my heartfelt wishes to every one of you. May you find success and fulfillment in your lives as we serve our communities, particularly those most in need. Let us remain connected and keep in touch, regardless of where our paths may lead us. Let us always embrace challenges with courage and determination, reaching new heights of excellence.



African Tree
Planted by MCHD Equine Class of 2023
On January 19th, 2023



Health Management Option

Abeba Aleka Kebede

ETHIOPIA

Abeba Aleka Kebede is an aspiring Global Health/ Global Surgery leader and a medical doctor who is a graduate of Addis Ababa University. She has been serving in various positions at ALERT Comprehensive Specialized Hospital in Ethiopia's capital, including a role as the Quality Director for six months. Abeba is committed to transforming her country's health sector by implementing innovative policies to address challenges of healthcare access, equity, and quality of care. Abeba actively engages in various volunteering activities consistently embodying her unwavering commitment to serving her community. With her academic achievements, leadership skills, and compassionate approach, Abeba is poised to make a significant impact in revolutionizing healthcare in Ethiopia.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The MGH program has been an extraordinary journey of networking and collaboration, connecting me with students from diverse settings and backgrounds. It has been instrumental in broadening my perspective and enriching my understanding of global health challenges. Interacting with classmates, who have now turned to lifelong friends, with different perspectives and experiences has allowed me to critically analyze the complexities of healthcare issues and recognize the importance of context in finding effective solutions. Through many meaningful discussions and sharing of ideas, I have come to appreciate the value of contextualized approaches in addressing health disparities. This experience has empowered me to think beyond generic solutions and tailor interventions to the specific needs and circumstances of different communities. I believe I am now equipped with the ability to navigate the intricate landscape of global health and make meaningful contributions towards positive change, by leveraging the collective wisdom of my fellow future Global Health Leaders.



Health Management Option

Anne Agoe

UGANDA

Anne Agoe is a Healthcare Manager from Uganda. She has been instrumental in various community health management initiatives. She has worked with various community-based NGOs over the past 7 years in HIV/AIDS, Reproductive, Maternal, Neonatal, Child & Adolescent (RMNCAH) programming, in addition to M-Health in Integrated Community Case Management (ICCM) implementation in rural Ugandan communities while leading a diverse team. Her goal is to ensure the adoption of strategic policies that will drive equitable strengthening of healthcare systems and access to healthcare for all in Uganda.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The MGH (Health Management option) program has equipped me with invaluable skills, tools, and knowledge to navigate and lead the complex landscapes of global health programs. I have had the chance to learn, unlearn, and relearn various ways to strengthen healthcare systems, having had the privilege to engage with a diverse community of local inhabitants, students, faculty, visitors, and their varying healthcare systems. I am confident that this will enable me, in real-life, to apply data-driven decision making and evidence-based program management skills in creating people-centered health policy reforms in Uganda. These reforms will be aimed at the strengthening of the Ugandan healthcare system and improved access to equitable healthcare for all.



Health Management Option

Anthony C. Kwarbo

LIBERIA

Anthony is a 2020 graduate with BSc in Public Health from William VS. Tubman University, Liberia. He's a health professional with over seven (7) years of experience in the Liberian Health Care Delivery Sector. Before UGHE, he was into procurement and supply chain management of pharmaceutical products, working at Partners In Health, Liberia (PIH-L). Mr. Kwarbo is an impact-driven and result-oriented person who frowns on dependency syndrome. His passion is geared towards worldwide health improvement with more emphasis on prevention against global disease burdens and reduction of inequalities among populations void of discrimination.

Describe an example that demonstrates your major achievements during the MGHD program.

1. Project Kirambo: Recognizing the long waiting times (averaging 5 hours) at the ANC clinic in Kirambo Health Center, my colleagues and I developed a comprehensive appointment scheduling system aimed at addressing this issue. Although our solution was not ultimately implemented, the project showcased our ability to identify and analyze healthcare challenges, propose practical solutions, and engage in collaborative problem-solving.

2. UGHE Open Day: As part of our Project Management class, we were tasked with designing a project that could be potentially implemented by the school. Our project focused on creating an open day event that would strengthen the connection between UGHE and the local community. The project included interactive games and a campus tour to showcase UGHE's facilities and programs. This endeavor demonstrated our ability to plan and execute initiatives that foster community engagement and promote the visibility of educational institutions.

These examples reflect my academic growth, problem-solving skills, and the application of project management principles within the context of global health. By showcasing these achievements, I believe I would be able to fulfill the requirements for graduation from the MGHD program.



Health Management Option

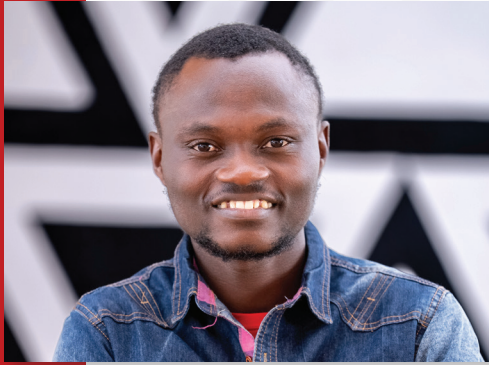
Ayuba Nuhu Tarfa

NIGERIA

As a Pharmacist and Global Health enthusiast, my passion lies in ensuring the availability of safe and efficacious drugs to vulnerable populations. I advocate for equitable access to healthcare services, regardless of race, gender, or religion. With a keen interest in Health Policy and Financing, I strive to contribute to the development and implementation of policies that promote affordable and sustainable healthcare solutions. Through my work, I aim to make a positive impact on the lives of individuals and communities, promoting health equity and improving health outcomes for all.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

During my transformative journey in the MGH program, I have embraced valuable lessons and acquired indispensable skills that have shaped my personal and professional growth. I have come to realize that every opinion holds significance, fostering an inclusive environment where diverse perspectives thrive. Cultural tolerance has become ingrained in my mindset, igniting a deep appreciation for the richness of different cultures and traditions. Moreover, I have unlocked the power of networking, a key driver of professional advancement and collaborative breakthroughs. The program has equipped me with vital skills such as proficient project management, masterful communication, seamless teamwork, effective people management, and the art of strategic networking. With these skills as my arsenal, I am poised to tackle complex global health challenges and make a meaningful impact in the field. My MGH experience has been a catalyst for personal and professional growth, fueling my passion for equitable healthcare access and empowering me to shape a brighter future.



Health Management Option

Gabriel Ilerioluwa Oke

NIGERIA

I am a health journalist and data analyst interested in strengthening health systems, health communications, and thought leadership. I have 5 years of working experience in project management, journalism and health communications, and research. I have co-authored peer-reviewed articles and opinion articles in peer review journals, The Communication Initiative, AllAfrica, Nigeria Health Watch, Peoples Gazette, and Boston Congress of Public health Journal. I am skilled in research writing, technical writing, data analysis, M and E, health advocacy, project management, and program planning.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

Going on short and long trips with friends and colleagues and learning from them has been exciting. Also learning from Rex and getting feedback from Rex Wong has been immensely helpful.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

These days I get amazing pictures of the campus on my phone and camera because anytime I miss my time on campus I can always go back to the pictures and savor the moments again.



Health Management Option

Happy Kachigwada Jaji

MALAWI

Happy Kachigwada Jaji is a dedicated and experienced male nurse specializing in maternal and neonatal health. He obtained a Bachelor of Science degree in Midwifery from the University of Malawi and has served as a public servant in the Ministry of Health for 14 years. With a deep passion for sexual and reproductive health, particularly preconception care, Happy established the Merica Preconception Health Care Centre. This center provides free comprehensive preconception healthcare services, offering vital information and related support. Happy's expertise extends to mentoring midwifery students in clinical settings, contributing to the development of future healthcare professionals. His commitment to improving reproductive health outcomes is evident in his selfless endeavors and educational initiatives.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

During my time in the MGH program, I have gained valuable lessons and skills that have significantly shaped both my personal and professional development. Firstly, I have acquired the ability to meaningfully contribute to the delivery of improved quality healthcare services. Through rigorous coursework and practical experiences, I have gained comprehensive knowledge and skills in healthcare management, equipping me with the capacity to identify project areas and utilize management tools to develop equitable and high-quality health programs. Additionally, the program has instilled in me the proficiency to utilize data and evidence in decision-making processes, enabling me to make informed choices that enhance healthcare outcomes. Overall, the MGH program has empowered me to become a competent and impactful healthcare professional capable of driving positive change in healthcare delivery.



Health Management Option

Jamilu Wa'alamu Yunusa

NIGERIA

Dr. Jamilu, a compassionate medical doctor and a distinguished graduate of the MGH program from Northern Nigeria, fearlessly challenges the status quo of the African health system. With unwavering determination, he aims to eliminate health disparities and ensure equitable access for all. Through effective health leadership and meaningful partnerships, he strives to break the chains of donor dependency within the healthcare system, empowering communities to take ownership of their well-being. Driven by the aspirations and dreams of marginalized communities, he advocates for their voices to be heard, recognizing their inherent worth. With each step forward, Dr. Jamilu envisions a future where every individual has equal access to exceptional healthcare services, regardless of their circumstances.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

During my time in the MGH program as a medical professional from Nigeria, a developing country in Africa, I have acquired invaluable skills that have shaped my personal and professional growth. I have gained a profound understanding of the healthcare challenges specific to developing nations, characterized by limited resources, infrastructure gaps, and disparities in access to care. The program has equipped me with innovative strategies to address these challenges effectively, including leveraging technology and fostering collaborative partnerships to optimize resource utilization. I have also honed practical skills in leadership, project management, and evidence-based decision-making. Engaging in real-world projects and community-based initiatives has deepened my empathy, cultural sensitivity, and comprehension of the social determinants of health. With this comprehensive skill set, I am well-prepared to navigate the intricate healthcare landscape in Nigeria and Africa, making sustainable contributions to improve the health outcomes of marginalized communities.



Health Management Option

Jean Alanic Mugenzi

RWANDA

Jean Alanic is a Burundi-Rwandan who holds a bachelor's degree in healthcare management. During his academic and professional journey, Alanic has developed knowledge in the management and leadership of health organizations, human resources for health, health promotion and community health advocacy, monitoring and evaluation, and healthcare budgeting. He is passionate about healthcare delivery, community development, and has a strong desire to improve healthcare access for all. Alanic is a dynamic individual who uses his hardworking attitude to achieve success in his endeavors. In his free time, he enjoys listening to music and relaxing.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

Firstly, the program has provided me with a deep understanding of global health issues, equipping me with the knowledge to address complex challenges in diverse healthcare settings. Additionally, I have honed my skills in health management, including strategic planning, resource allocation, and leadership, which are essential for effective decision-making in the field. Moreover, the emphasis on interdisciplinary collaboration and cultural competency has fostered my ability to work effectively with diverse teams and communities. Overall, the MGH program has empowered me to make a meaningful impact in improving health outcomes globally while promoting equity and social justice.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

The Culture Day event. It was a vibrant celebration of diversity and cultural exchange, where students and faculty showcased their rich cultural heritage through music, dance, traditional attire, and culinary delights. The event created a sense of unity and fostered an atmosphere of appreciation for different cultures. It was truly remarkable to witness the joy and pride displayed by individuals from various backgrounds, and it left a lasting impression on me. Culture Day not only enriched our understanding of global diversity but also strengthened the bonds within the UGHE community, creating cherished memories that will be cherished for a lifetime.



Health Management Option

Prince Christian Murindwa

RWANDA

Prince Christian is an aspiring healthcare enthusiast who is eager to fight against healthcare inequalities and pave the way for everyone to have equal access to healthcare services. Having graduated from Southern New Hampshire University with a bachelor's degree in healthcare management, Prince was able to comprehend how the healthcare field can play a big role in saving people's lives. Prince developed his interest mostly in the healthcare research field where he conducted a summer internship in University of New York about COVID-19 Vaccine perceptions. Prince always has the appetite to learn something new and it never gets full.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The academic program has given me a thorough awareness of global health dynamics, giving me the information and perspective, I need to negotiate the complexity of this sector. My analytical and research abilities have improved because of the MGH program. I have obtained experience in data analysis and research methods via coursework and research projects. These abilities have given me the ability to critically evaluate health-related data, form evidence-based conclusions, and contribute to the production of new knowledge in the field of global health.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

It is when I embarked on a field visit to a rural community to conduct a comprehensive analysis of the health issues faced by the residents. My group's primary objective was to understand the specific challenges residents faced and collaboratively devise sustainable solutions. Upon arrival in the community, my group-initiated dialogue with the residents to gain insights into factors impacting health.



Health Management Option

Theodora Tess Khofi

MALAWI

Theodora Khofi is a Psychology graduate from the University of Warwick, where she became interested in developmental psychopathology and global mental health. To learn more from the global mental health sector, she interned in clinical settings in Rwanda and Malawi. Theodora also has experience in strengthening health systems and health financing from her work at GIZ, where she supported partners in the implementation of Global Fund programming. She aspires to combine her various work experiences to explore how mental health can better be integrated in primary healthcare.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

UGHE taught me so much about working with and collaborating with others (in the professional and personal sense). I learnt to become dependent on other people and not necessarily relying on my own strength in every situation but acknowledged my vulnerabilities and using teamwork so that we could collectively grow. I might not remember all the aspects of my program, but I will definitely take the skills I learnt in working and interacting with others. UGHE has taught me so much about people that I am sure will influence how I work for the rest of my life.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

Walking across the Butaro hills, it was so nice to see the community, cows and unplug from everything else by being on this campus.



Health Management Option

Tinsae Abera Worku

ETHIOPIA

I am a medical doctor and global health leader with four years of experience in clinical setup, humanitarian sector, and policy making. After graduating from St. Paul's Hospital Millennium Medical College in Medicine, Tinsae worked in emergency healthcare service provision in various positions, from direct patient care to leadership roles. She was engaged in the coordination of various complex humanitarian responses at the Ethiopian Federal Ministry of Health to deliver timely emergency service provision for disaster-affected populations. She is aspiring to make meaningful contributions to the realm of Global surgery and Global health at large through impactful research, policymaking, and advocacy.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The Global Surgery course I completed as part of the MGH program proved to be highly insightful, and it played a pivotal role in deepening my interest in the field. Not only did the course provide me with valuable knowledge, but it also allowed me to learn from esteemed experts whose guidance and insights have profoundly influenced my perspective on global surgery. One particularly remarkable experience was the opportunity to work on a National Surgical Obstetric Anesthesia Planning (NSOAP) class project, which provided me with a practical understanding of the subject matter. Since completing the course, I have developed effective advocacy skills and gained the confidence to drive positive change in the field of global surgery.



Health Management Option

Yonas Gebregiorgis Hagos

ETHIOPIA

Yonas G. Hagos, MD, MA, MSc, is a compassionate medical doctor with a profound desire to achieve equitable global health delivery, making healthcare services accessible to all, with the end goal of alleviating human suffering. His four years of multidisciplinary involvement have encompassed designing, implementing, and evaluating healthcare programs in low-resource settings. With a healthcare-oriented mission propelling him forward, Dr. Hagos aspires to acquire and contribute to a body of knowledge and skills in healthcare leadership, healthcare policy and finance, and health economics. With these areas empowering him to adopt a holistic approach in proactively and effectively addressing global health challenges, nipping potential issues in the bud.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

One crucial lesson I have learned is the importance of viewing health as a universal human necessity and right, transcending boundaries and social classes. This program has provided me with evidence-based knowledge that has solidified my beliefs and eliminated any uncertainties, enabling me to discern between urgent and important health matters. Additionally, I have acquired a range of skills, including effective value-based health system design, human resource management for health, supply chain management, presentation skills, networking abilities, and personal branding. Moreover, I have developed vital skills such as communication, teamwork, conflict resolution, and embracing diversity.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

One of my most memorable moments at UGHE was the day I met two big names in global health, Dr. Joia Mukherjee and Dr. Jim Kim, of whom I had been a huge fan. I was so excited to have the opportunity to talk to them about global health and life in general. Another memorable moment was the trip to Gisenyi, on Lake Kivu. The scenery was stunning, and I felt so peaceful and relaxed. I also ate a lot of fish. Of course, no experience at UGHE would be complete without mentioning the peaceful and relaxing morning walks on campus, with the surreal views of Mount Muhabura playing hide-and-seek among the clouds all day, simply breathtaking.



Health Management Option

Zacharia Ndegwa Muriuki

KENYA

Zacharia is a health manager, worked at the Universal Health Coverage secretariat, Ministry of Health. He holds a BSc degree in Foods, Nutrition and Dietetics of Egerton University. He has undertaken training in Monitoring and Evaluation, Project Cycle Management, and Senior Management Course at the Kenya school of Government among others. He believes in universal and equitable healthcare for all and that this cannot be achieved without capacity building of policy makers and health managers. Zacharia's passion is in helping people with diabetes to manage themselves through self-care, fighting stigma, and joining hands together through peer-to-peer support groups.

During your time in the MGHD program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The most interesting part of my stay in UGHE was during the project management and proposal development assignment. I improved my skills in developing the project charter, work breakdown structure and quality assurance in project management. I also gained skills working as a team, which involves a lot of give and take. I believe that I have become a well-trained health delivery manager.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

My most memorable moment at UGHE is the community spirit here. Where everyone is given the respect, they deserve. Everyone is treated with respect and dignity, from the junior workers, students to non UGHE staff. The term Equity in UGHE is exemplified in words and actions.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Alice Nsengiyumva

RWANDA

A passionate and dedicated female junior medical doctor. I obtained my Bachelor of Medicine and Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) from the University of South China. During the challenging times of the Covid-19 outbreak, I served as a frontline health worker for the Rwanda Covid-19 joint task force, demonstrating unwavering commitment. Additionally, I have worked as a general practitioner at Nyamata District Hospital. My aspiration is to become a global health leader, advocating for equitable sexual and reproductive health for all individuals. I am determined to challenge harmful gender and sexual stereotypes and create a more inclusive and empowered society.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

My experience in the MGH program has been transformative. Through the program, I have gained a deep understanding of the importance of gender integration and analysis in health programs, enabling me to apply gender transformative approaches in my work. I have acquired skills to mentor others in the field of gender and sexual reproductive health, allowing me to share my expertise and contribute to the growth of future leaders. Critiquing health policies, analyzing data, and addressing challenges in global health have sharpened my problem-solving abilities. I have cultivated the capacity to develop and lead innovative approaches for promoting global health, fostering creative solutions to complex health issues.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Angel Ukwishaka Uwimbabazi

RWANDA

Angel Ukwishaka Uwimbabazi is a laboratory scientist her background is in Biomedical laboratory sciences, she is a passionate advocate for the rights of girls and women, driven by a deep commitment to improving their well-being. With a strong background in health practice and a dedication to lifelong learning, she actively engages in conferences, training, and meetings to broaden her expertise. As a natural leader and creative thinker, Angel strives to create positive change in communities. Her exceptional skills in event planning, love for reading, connecting with diverse individuals, and exploring new perspectives. Currently pursuing a master's degree in Global Health Delivery, specializing in Gender and Sexual

Reproductive Health, Angel is dedicated to advocating for the sexual reproductive health and rights of adolescents and young women. Join her as she uses her expertise and compassion to make a meaningful impact, promoting gender equality and justice.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

One of the key lessons I learned in the field of Gender and Sexual Reproductive Health (SRH) was the importance of promoting gender equality and addressing gender-based disparities in healthcare. I developed a deep understanding of the social, cultural, and economic factors that influence SRH outcomes and how they intersect with gender. Additionally, I gained knowledge and skills in designing and implementing comprehensive SRH programs that are sensitive to gender issues and promote sexual and reproductive rights. This has shaped my personal and professional development by fostering a commitment to promoting gender equity and empowering individuals to make informed choices about their sexual and reproductive health.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Arlette Bizimana

BURUNDI

Arlette Bizimana is a dedicated medical doctor, passionate about providing high-quality healthcare services to underserved communities. Arlette is pursuing her Masters in Global Health Delivery at the University of Global Health Delivery, specializing in Gender, Sexual, and Reproductive Health. With a deep commitment to advancing healthcare equity, she aims to address the unique challenges faced by marginalized populations, particularly in the areas of gender, sexuality, and reproductive health. Arlette's multifaceted background and unwavering drive make her a promising advocate for improving health outcomes on a global scale.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The Masters in Global Health Delivery Program at the University of Global Health Equity equipped me with invaluable lessons and skills. Firstly, the program emphasized the importance of a holistic and multidisciplinary approach to addressing global health challenges. It taught me to consider the social, economic, and cultural factors that influence health outcomes and the importance of collaboration with diverse stakeholders for effective solutions. Secondly, the program instilled a deep understanding of health systems strengthening, highlighting the need for sustainable and equitable delivery of healthcare. It taught me to identify systemic barriers and develop innovative strategies to improve access and quality of care. Lastly, the program emphasized the significance of leadership in global health. It honed my leadership skills and inspired me to advocate for health equity and social justice. Overall, this program has been transformative, empowering me to make a meaningful impact in the field of global health delivery.



Benjamin David Habikigeni

RWANDA

Benjamin David Habikigeni, MD, is an accomplished medical professional and passionate advocate for gender equality. With a strong belief in equitable access to healthcare, Benjamin demonstrated exceptional leadership, critical thinking, and multitasking skills. His expertise in monitoring and evaluation has played a significant role in enhancing HIV/AIDS and TB care programs. Fluent in English, French, and Kinyarwanda, Benjamin actively champions women's rights and empowerment. Committed to delivering exceptional healthcare, he has excelled in promoting maternal and child health. Benjamin's unwavering dedication to improving health care and advancing gender equality is inspiring.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

Firstly, I have learned the importance of a multidisciplinary approach in addressing global health challenges. Collaborating with colleagues from diverse backgrounds has broadened my perspectives and enhanced my problem-solving abilities. The program has honed my skills in critical analysis, strategic thinking, and evidence-based decision-making. I have also developed strong project management and leadership skills, equipping me to effectively lead teams and navigate complex healthcare systems. The program has instilled in me a deep understanding of social determinants of health and the need for equitable and inclusive healthcare solutions.

Describe an example that demonstrates your major achievements during the MGH program.

I would highlight two significant achievements. Firstly, my research project focused on evaluating the mentorship effect on healthcare providers' adherence to postpartum hemorrhage clinical guidelines and its impact on maternal outcomes within the catchment area of Muhima District Hospital. Through meticulous data collection and analysis, my partner and I discovered the positive influence of mentorship programs in improving guideline adherence and ultimately enhancing maternal health outcomes. Secondly, I undertook a career fair project that aimed to provide valuable opportunities for aspiring healthcare professionals. As a team we recognized the importance of career guidance and networking in the healthcare sector, as we took the initiative to organize a comprehensive event.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Beth Wangui Mbogo

KENYA

Beth is a Process and Performance Improvement Specialist with a deep commitment to creating positive change within the non-profit sector. With extensive experience in strategy development, systems improvement, and guiding quality improvements and quality assurance functions for programs. Beth's reputation is firmly grounded in her distinguished track record of success. Her noteworthy contributions extend to organizations such as VSO Kenya, the Ministry of Culture & Social Services, the Ministry of Health Kenya, and Population Services Kenya. Furthermore, she has made significant contributions as a Program Consultant and subsequently as a Quality Assurance Specialist for Tiny Totos Kenya—a preeminent childcare network operating in East and Central Africa.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The MGH Program has profoundly shaped my personal and professional growth, imparting vital lessons and skills in promoting gender equity. With a keen focus on critical analysis of program interventions, embracing interdisciplinary approaches and integrating data-driven insights, I can make more informed decisions in program design and execution. The program has also provided me with a deep understanding of the underlying causes and consequences of gender disparities in global health development. It has equipped me with tools to integrate gender perspectives into policies, interventions, ensuring inclusivity and empowering of the marginalized groups.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

The mode of class delivery during my time at UGHE was truly different. Engaging in interactive class discussions within small groups, we immersed ourselves in the intricacies of health delivery systems and explored innovative solutions. The intensity of these discussions, the exchange of ideas, and the collective commitment challenge harmful social norms created an environment that was incredibly inspiring. This transformative experience not only expanded my knowledge but also forged lifelong connections with fellow leaders and change-makers.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Bezawit Workneh Afessa

ETHIOPIA

Dr. Bezawit Workneh is a compassionate medical doctor with a strong dedication to global health and gender equity. With experience as a general practitioner, I have witnessed the challenges faced by marginalized populations. Pursuing a Masters in Global Health Delivery with a focus on Gender, Sexual, and Reproductive Health, I have developed expertise in addressing gender-based disparities. Driven by a commitment to improving health outcomes, I strive to make a positive impact in healthcare, particularly for vulnerable populations.

During your time in the MGH D program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

Through the program, I have learned the significance of adopting a holistic approach to healthcare, considering not

only the physical aspects but also the psychological, social, and cultural dimensions. I have gained insights into the importance of providing comprehensive and integrated care that addresses the unique needs and experiences of individuals and communities. I have gained expertise in analyzing health policies and identifying gaps and areas for improvement. I can critically assess policy implications and propose evidence-based recommendations to address gender, sexual, and reproductive health challenges. This skill enables me to contribute to policy development and advocate for the rights and well-being of marginalized populations.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

One of the most memorable and rewarding moments of my experience at UGHE was Karaoke Night and meeting with the university's chancellor, Dr. Jim Yong Kim. During Karaoke Night, students and staff came together and showcased their talent by performing different songs. It was a fun-filled evening filled with laughter and entertainment, creating a strong sense of community. The following day, as MGH D students, we had the privilege of meeting with Dr. Jim Yong Kim. He shared his life story, offering valuable insights and inspiration. His speech was truly captivating, leaving a lasting impression on all of us. It was an incredible opportunity to connect with such an accomplished individual and hear firsthand about his journey and experiences.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Claude Nsabimana

RWANDA

I have been an advocate and SRHR activist for more than 9 years. I hold a bachelor's degree in general medicine and surgery earned from the university of Rwanda. I am the founding member and Executive Director at Medical Doctors for Choice (MDFC), a national organization working to advance women's rights to sexual reproductive rights. I am the current secretary general at Rwanda Medical Association (RMA) and I have held multiple leadership roles with different local and international organizations. I am the alumni at the Medical Students Association of Rwanda (MEDSAR) and International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA).

During your time in the MGDH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

Being a student at UGHE as part of the MGDH program has given me a unique opportunity to reflect on my work in the field of gender sexual and reproductive health and rights. I have been fortunate to understand how gender dynamics and the obstacles faced by marginalized communities intersect. This knowledge has allowed me to create programs at my organization that consider gender issues and go beyond the traditional approach to planning and implementing projects. Witnessing how UGHE empower women and promote leadership roles has been an eye-opening experience, highlighting the significance of embracing diverse perspectives. Consequently, my organization recently enacted a policy for gender inclusion, effective two weeks ago.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

During a memorable social evening at UGHE, the Chancellor's surprising karaoke performance left a lasting impression. Witnessing his talent, I realized that being accomplished in one area should never hinder the exploration of other talents. It served as a powerful reminder to me that amidst our professional pursuits, we must make time for people, dance, and meaningful connections. Life's mysteries unfold when we blend ambition with joy and companionship. This cherished moment taught me that success shouldn't overshadow the beauty of shared laughter and genuine bonds, this will always be my story to tell when I leave UGHE.



Ekram Hussien Ahmed

ETHIOPIA

A committed medical doctor and global health professional, devoted to serving marginalized communities. Known for leading frontline initiatives during critical pandemics like COVID-19, TB, and malaria outbreaks. I am an impassioned advocate for social justice, gender equality, and inclusive healthcare access. Aspiring to cultivate an environment where healthcare professionals recognize and address gender-specific health needs, ensuring every patient feels seen, respected, and heard. The goal is to foster a healthcare landscape where gender equality becomes a tangible reality, empowering all individuals to access equitable care they deserve.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

One memorable moment of my experience at UGHE, which I will excitedly share for years, is the talk Joia Mukherjee had about the Gender, Sexual, and Reproductive Track. One crucial lesson I took from the meeting was the importance of perseverance and the belief that even small actions can create a ripple effect of positive change. This taught me that I don't have to wait for grand plans to make a difference; instead, I can start by taking small steps towards my goals. This realization compelled me to acknowledge and fully embrace my own potential to make meaningful contributions in global health delivery.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Elvis Benimana

RWANDA

Elvis is a dynamic public health professional with a passion for improving health equity for vulnerable populations. With more than 5 years of experience in community health, program implementation, and community empowerment initiatives, He has developed a strong skill set in community integration, health assessments, health planning, and leadership. Elvis has a proven track record of successfully supervising teams in complex programs, including HIV prevention and working with historically marginalized populations. With a career aspiration to become a Global Health leader, Elvis is dedicated to making a positive impact on health outcomes globally.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

I have developed strong advocacy skills that enable me to effectively advocate for the most vulnerable. Additionally, I've learned how to connect with people from diverse cultures, fostering an appreciation for the beauty of diversity. Furthermore, the program provided me with a comprehensive understanding of global health challenges and their interconnectedness, allowing me to approach complex issues with a holistic perspective. Through engaging coursework and practical experiences, I honed my analytical and problem-solving abilities, equipping me to address real-world health disparities and promote sustainable solutions. Overall, the MGH program has been instrumental in shaping me into a compassionate, culturally aware, and determined advocate, ready to contribute meaningfully to global health initiatives and make a difference in the lives of marginalized populations.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

The friendships and joy we all shared throughout the MGH program. Celebrating each step of our journey together, from the early days of orientation to the momentous milestones achieved, created unforgettable bonds. The spirited discussions and debates in our GSRH class enriched our learning experience, and the intriguing and challenging discussions often made us lose track of time, leading to late lunches filled with laughter and insights. These cherished moments of friendship and learning made the UGHE experience truly exceptional and unforgettable.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Evans Mchesia Khayati

KENYA

Evans is a Biomedical Field Officer in the DREAMS Program implemented by LVCT Health, in Kiambu County of central Kenya. He is an HIV testing services provider, a trainer of Evidence based Behavioral Interventions and a mentor at Mpesa Foundation Academy. Evans holds an undergraduate degree in Public Health from Kenyatta University, Nairobi and professional certification in Project Management, M&E and HIV Testing and Counselling. He has been involved in adolescents' health programs for more than 10 years, and values integrity, quality, and professionalism.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

In the MGH Program, I learned how to think critically, time management, priority setting, working in a team, being culturally sensitive, presentation skills, writing skills, data analysis skills, research skills, how to communicate effectively, and emotional intelligence among others.

Describe an example that demonstrates your major achievements during the MGH program.

Academically, I have achieved a lot. Notably, I could say that the research skills, including data analysis, stand to be my main achievement. I had not undergone such vigorous research training before, let alone going to the field for primary data collection. It was my first time going to the field and collecting primary data. I had previously used secondary data during my undergraduate studies.

Personally, I had never had an interaction with people from more than 17 nationalities in one sitting. The program enabled me to interact with individuals from different countries where I also got an opportunity to learn about their culture. Adding on that, learning Kinyarwanda for basic communication was an achievement, keeping in mind that this language is only spoken in Rwanda and or some parts of Burundi.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Elyse Ihirwe

RWANDA

Elyse is a Rwandan pharmacist (a bachelor's degree from Mount Kenya University in Kenya) passionate about quality and equity in healthcare delivery. Elyse has gained skills in quality control and continuous improvement from working for Algorithm Inc (Ishyiga Software) and Zipline International Inc. Along with her personal experience, Elyse also draws on her leadership abilities to actively stand for justice of all genders and advocate for mental health to break stigma and discrimination. Furthermore, Elyse adores art-work, music, reading, photography, traveling, and acquiring new skills, and she is currently sharpening her data analyst skills through the Girl-LEAD Project.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

I have gained invaluable lessons and skills that have shaped both my personal and professional development. Firstly, I have developed a deep understanding of global health challenges, including the socio-economic determinants of health, health systems, and the role of policy in addressing health inequities. This knowledge has enabled me to analyze complex health issues from a holistic perspective and propose evidence-based solutions. Additionally, I have honed my skills in critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication, which are essential for navigating the intricacies of the global health landscape. The program has also emphasized the importance of cultural competency, collaboration, and ethical decision-making, fostering my ability to work effectively with diverse teams and navigate ethical dilemmas.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

One memorable moment I would likely share for years is the flexibility of UGHE when it comes to people with chronic diseases. There was a time that I was at my worst and could not actively participate in class activities. This time the faculty was understanding and supportive and made some changes to the program to accommodate my disease. This was rewarding as I didn't feel left alone and was able to pursue my studies like everyone else. This flexibility and caring are remarkable.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Lily Ange Kaze

BURUNDI

Lily graduated with a Bachelor of Science in Biology from Lubbock Christian University in Texas, USA. She has experience in content creation and online communities' management which she obtained through working in an organization of young people which informs, sensitizes, advocates and trains on various subjects that concern the youth using digital approaches. Her dream is to be part of teams that work in the betterment of health systems in low income and middle countries, especially in Africa.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The biggest was the practicum package: research proposal, presentation, PowerPoint presentation, budgeting and keeping track of our expenses, relationships management with our supervisor and preceptor, connecting with people during data collection, navigating a new area while doing data collection in a short time. It provided me with a sneak peek into the realm of project management, offering a valuable glimpse of what it entails.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

Going to Nyagatare for data collection and connecting with people (motorcyclists, those who work at the hotel, restaurant and research participants) to the point they were sad when we left. I was also moved every time a participant thanked us for talking with them because they do not get it often. Finally, I enjoyed the discussions right after our interviews and focus group discussion; they were full of jokes, laughter, heartfelt thanks and getting to know each other.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Michelle Che Yan Lam

CANADA

Michelle is a medical student from the University of Hong Kong. She is currently intercalating her master's degree at UGHE through the Gender, Sexual and Reproductive Health track and has interests in health and gender equity. Eager to explore the topics of medical education and global health, she is also currently serving as the Standing Committee of Medical Education External Affairs Assistant for the International Federation of Medical Students Associations (IFMSA).

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The MGH program has been an eye-opening experience filled with self-discovery, skills development, and friendships. The campus's diversity made it an optimal opportunity for knowledge and cultural exchange. I enjoyed learning about feminist research methods,

gender equity, advocacy, project management, and community-based education. My practicum research with BVGH on the implementation of transport stipend in cervical and breast cancer services investigated the experiences of women beneficiaries and perspectives of program personnel in Bugesera district related to cancer care access. Additional highlights of the year include being part of the IFMSA delegation to the Youth preWHA & 76th World Health Assembly and putting my learned advocacy skills to use as part of the SRHR, Women and Adolescents Health Advocacy Working Group.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

During my time at UGHE, it was very memorable for me to be able to work on a research project with BIO Ventures for Global Health in learning about the experiences and perspectives of women beneficiaries and program personnel respectively on the provision of transport stipend for cervical and breast cancer care services in the Bugesera District. Through the research, I had the opportunity to interact with the women in Nyamata and understand their patient journey. It was meaningful to gain a bigger picture of the socioeconomic factors that impact their access to health whether related to cultural, social, or even infrastructural influences such as the state of the road that patients use to travel to health facilities. Overall, it was an eye-opening experience which gave many important insights in the importance of having empathy especially as a future healthcare professional.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Nomzamo Thembelihle Siyaya Ncube

ZIMBABWE

Nomzamo is a Zimbabwe-born Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) expert with over 5 years of experience in programming on SRH, HIV, GBV prevention and response, and women's economic empowerment among adolescents and young women. She holds a BSc in Development Studies from Lupane State University and an MSc in Gender and Policy Studies from Great Zimbabwe University. Nomzamo strongly advocates for the prioritization of comprehensive sexuality education and the provision of SRH services to adolescent girls and young women. She firmly believes that this approach is crucial in addressing unintended health consequences such as teenage pregnancies and high HIV incidence rates.

During your time in the MGHD program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The program provided me with opportunities to lead and collaborate with diverse teams, enhancing my ability to effectively communicate. I have gained a strong foundation in ethical principles, which guides my decision-making and ensures a patient-centered and socially responsible approach. I have learned to approach global health challenges holistically, understanding the interconnectedness of various factors and their impact on health outcomes. Through coursework and research projects, I have honed my ability to critically analyze complex health issues, interpret data, and apply evidence-based approaches to problem-solving. These lessons and skills acquired throughout the MGHD program have not only enhanced my theoretical knowledge but also equipped me with practical tools to tackle complex global health challenges and make a meaningful impact in the field.

Describe an example that demonstrates your major achievements during the MGHD program.

My major achievement was excelling in my coursework including EBGHD demonstrating a high level of knowledge and understanding in the field of global health delivery. The program provided me with a practical hands on experience of the real world global health setting. Through working with the local communities and my practicum under Empower Rwanda I gained knowledge on health system effectiveness and it triggered me to be solutions oriented.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Peace Iraguha

RWANDA

Peace Ndoli Iraguha is a passionate advocate for gender equity and sexual and reproductive health rights in sub-Saharan Africa. As the Co-founder of Lifesten Health, she addresses health challenges through innovative approaches and strategic partnerships. Active in prominent health organizations like the Healthtech Hub and Novartis Foundation, Peace leverages her expertise to advance health equity. Graduating with a master's degree in Gender, Sexual, and Reproductive Health at the University of Global Health Delivery, her unwavering dedication to improving lives makes her a catalyst for positive change in the region.

During your time in the MGHD program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

One area of significant growth has been in interpersonal skills, especially through working in diverse groups. Collaborating with individuals from different backgrounds and cultures has taught me effective communication and active listening. These skills have not only improved my ability to work effectively in teams but also enriched my understanding of different perspectives on global health. Moreover, the program's emphasis on community engagement has exposed me to various communities through field visits. Interacting with local populations and witnessing their healthcare challenges has been eye-opening, and it has strengthened my commitment to global health equity. Meeting passionate individuals who share this dedication has been inspiring and has further fueled my drive to make a meaningful impact in the field.

Describe an example that demonstrates your major achievements during the MGHD program.

To obtain my diploma, I would highlight two major achievements. Firstly, I would showcase my research project on the utilization and accessibility of youth corners, from adolescent girls and young women point of view. This project gave me the ability to demonstrate my ability to critically analyze complex global health issues and propose evidence-based solutions. Secondly, I would highlight the significant relationships I have built with people from across the globe in the MGHD class of 2023. Through collaborative projects, discussions, and networking opportunities, I have had the privilege of connecting with individuals who share a passion for global health equity.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Sam M. Livingstone

LIBERIA

Sam is a Public Health enthusiast from Liberia. He holds a Master's in Global Health Delivery from UGHE and a Bachelor of Science in Public Health from the CEPRES International University, Liberia. Sam is the Data Manager on the Lassa Fever Study at University of North Carolina, Phebe Hospital Liberia. Sam worked on the Sepsis research project before joining the UNC Team as Data Manager.

During your time in the MGHD program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

I have gained multitudes of skill sets that have significantly shaped both my personal and professional development. These experiences have been instrumental in preparing me to tackle the complexities and ever-evolving challenges in the field of global health delivery in developing nations. The MGHD program delivery emphasized the interconnectedness of various components within healthcare delivery systems and how they influence health outcomes for the populations. MGHD program enhanced my skills in project management and implementation. I gained practical experience in designing, planning, and executing health interventions in resource-constrained environments. Through case studies, presentations, and fieldwork, I developed skills in need assessment, resource allocation, monitoring and evaluation, and stakeholder engagement. Furthermore, the MGHD program stressed the significance of ethical considerations in global health practices across different regions of the world. I gained a deep understanding of ethical challenges faced in the field, such as equity, informed consent for human-related subjects in the language they frequently communicate, and community engagement. These lessons and skills have prepared me to make a meaningful impact on global health setting.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

Samuel Gad Habarurema

RWANDA

Samuel Gad Habarurema is a dedicated and accomplished social scientist, medical doctor, public health practitioner, and researcher with expertise in medicine, public health, and development. With a Doctorate in Public Health, a master's in development studies and public health, and a bachelor's in general medicine and social sciences, he possesses a strong educational foundation. Gad's work experience spans human resource planning, editorial roles, curriculum development, and lecturing. He excels in research and has published extensively. Proficient in English, French, and Kinyarwanda, he demonstrates exceptional leadership, critical thinking, and grant writing abilities. Gad is driven by his passion for creating positive social change and improving healthcare and development outcomes.

During your time in the MGHD program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD) program has significantly shaped my personal and professional development because I gained specialized knowledge in gender and sexual reproductive health and Rights, One Health, Epidemiology, Ethical Issues in SRH, SHR program analysis, Health Systems and Health Inequity, Health Policy, Management, and Leadership. The program also enhanced my research skills, allowing me to conduct assessments and contribute to the field of global health. Additionally, the MGHD program likely fostered my interdisciplinary approach, leadership abilities, interpersonal skills, language proficiency acceptance of diversity and networking with other professionals in the field of medicine and global health around the globe. These skills, combined with my previous medical, public health, and development studies background, have prepared me to make a meaningful impact in influencing social change in medicine, public health, and development.



Sara Michele Della Ripa

**UNITED STATES
OF AMERICA**

Sara bridges global health approaches and engineering solutions to prevent deaths around the time of childbirth. Since 2016 she has studied and worked to address maternal mortality and morbidity due to postpartum hemorrhage. Sara holds a B.S. and an M.S. in Biomedical Engineering from California Polytechnic State University. Sara believes in the impact that educating our world's problem solvers can have on improving health outcomes. In 2019 she began teaching a university Women's Health course that she designed to be equity-based and interdisciplinary. These same principles are what drew her to UGHE.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

My time at UGHE has reinforced my belief that building communities is the key to transformational change. Our small yet mighty MGH community of such diverse backgrounds has shown me that mutual support is integral to our personal and professional lives. It is the mutual support within our communities that makes the world go 'round and creates a collaborative and contextual approach to the fight for human rights.



Gender, Sexual & Reproductive Health Option

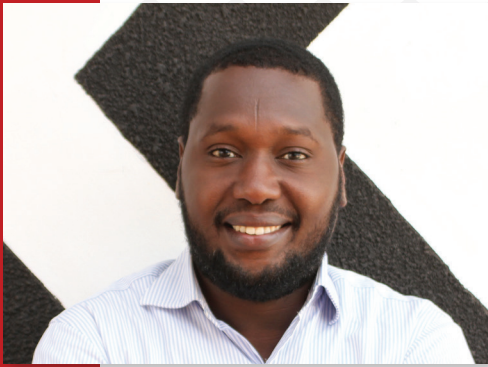
Wongani Patricia Kawonga

MALAWI

Wongani is a well-seasoned humanitarian and development professional with expertise in Disaster risk reduction and management, Gender equality, and Natural resource management. With over 6 years of diverse and multi-disciplinary experience in resilience, livelihood, Health emergencies and advocacy. Currently working as a flood measurement project Lead, but has also worked as GESI Advisor, Covid-19 response, and vaccination Manager. I have a proven track record in partnership development, project design, implementation, and management. My fulfillment is in serving the vulnerable, marginalized and minority populations, addressing poverty, inequalities, and social determinant of health with a personal commitment to diversity, inclusion, and equality.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

The major achievement is being endowed with comprehensive in-depth knowledge and understanding of the key issues, challenges, and best practices in the field of Global health on national, regional, and global scales. The importance of contextualizing global policies, programs, and innovations to effectively address major global health challenges in the developing context. Secondly, I have been equipped with expertise that is relevant for my professional growth. This has now made me a well-equipped Gender advocate and humanitarian leader, it has provided me with a cross-disciplinary perspective, the complex intersectionality and systems thinking, which is highly valuable in the complex and interconnected field of humanitarian and disaster risk reduction. and advocating for inclusive and equitable health services in humanitarian settings. Lastly, I am finally now a Feminists researcher and advocate.



One Health Option

Abdulrazaq Ibrahim Garba

NIGERIA

I am a health professional with a passion for humanity. He has a strong zeal to learn and face new challenges. Earned a Bachelor of Medicine and a Bachelor of Surgery from the University of Ibadan, Nigeria. He focuses on Global Health and has participated in disease prevention initiatives in underprivileged communities. His experience in the public health sector exposed him to inequities faced by vulnerable populations, fueling his desire to make a difference globally, especially in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). His unwavering belief and desire in changing Africa's health situation drives his pursuit of becoming a global health champion. Abdulrazaq seeks opportunities to work with like-minded individuals, organizations, and policymakers.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The MGH program broadened my understanding of the intricate interplay between health and socioeconomic factors globally. Through in-depth coursework, engaging discussions, and fieldwork experiences, I gained a comprehensive perspective on community challenges and the importance of addressing health disparities. This knowledge reshaped my values, fostering empathy and a commitment to social justice. The program helped me develop practical skills for professional pursuits, including research and evidence-based interventions. My specialization in the One Health track has enlightened me on the need for a new strategy to address the complex health issues faced by humanity, one that involves collaboration and knowledge sharing at all levels of society—a strategy that is typically overlooked by us doctors. I am confident that the lessons learned, and skills gained during this program will continue to guide my journey toward making a meaningful impact in the field of global health.



One Health Option

Eric Uwizeyimana

RWANDA

Eric is a registered junior medical officer in Rwanda, as a trained medical Doctor. He has been serving as a general practitioner in Rwanda for past 3 years, especially in treating newborn and child illnesses. As an aspiring global health leader, he enjoys working with the community, and he has been serving as a supervisor of the community, especially in nutrition-related interventions. He is interested in health equity, social justice, and research. He is a visionary, a quick learner, a good listener, critical thinker and with this clinical background, he has experience working with multidisciplinary teams.

During your time in the MGH D program, what lessons/ skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

While pursuing the MGH D degree, I learned many invaluable insights and skills that have impacted both my personal and professional abilities. Among them are the capacity for effective design and implementation of health delivery strategies, the capacity for thinking critically and complex problem-solving, cross-cultural competency, project management skills, leadership abilities, and the capacity for collaboration with a variety of stakeholders. These knowledge and abilities are essential for solving complicated global health concerns and improving healthcare delivery systems globally.



One Health Option

Innocent Karekezi

DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF THE CONGO

Innocent Karekezi, a dedicated community-help professional, has undergone remarkable personal growth and transformation over time. With an unwavering commitment to education, he has dedicated his life to making a positive impact on the lives of others. Having spent the past two years working in the humanitarian sector, Innocent has honed his skills and expertise in healthcare management, his primary profession. However, his true purpose lies in inspiring and motivating people to reach their full potential. His passion for teaching and sharing knowledge stems from a deep-rooted curiosity and love for learning, which he ardently imparts to those around him. Notably, Innocent's shadowing experiences have played a pivotal role in stimulating

his inquisitiveness and fueling his desire to explore and understand the intricacies of the world.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

Throughout my journey in the MGH program, specializing in One Health, I have acquired transformative lessons and skills that have greatly influenced both my personal and professional growth. One of the most impactful lessons I have learned is the interconnectedness of human, animal, and environmental health. This holistic perspective has shaped my understanding of complex health challenges and reinforced the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration. The program has equipped me with practical skills in risk assessment, disease surveillance, and outbreak response, preparing me to address emerging infectious diseases and promote preventive measures. Moreover, the program's emphasis on teamwork and collaboration has honed my ability to work effectively in diverse and interdisciplinary teams, fostering my leadership and interpersonal skills.



One Health Option

Marie Josee Dukuzimana

RWANDA

Marie Josee was a health Interventions manager at a local NGO for 5yrs. Since 2021 she worked for Rwanda Biomedical center as a supporting staff in NTDs unity in charge of coordinating activities related to podoconiosis elimination in Rwanda. Marie Josee holds a bachelor's degree in Physiotherapy and did several trainings in public health activities targeting to eliminate Neglected Tropical Diseases. She is dedicated to enhancing community health for sustainable development.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

During the time in the MGH program, I learnt a lot. Here I am going to list a couple of skills that I strongly developed all along. I learnt how health related problems should be solved with evidence-based interventions that are responding to the community needs. I learned how to advocate for the community and respond to social determinants of health. I upgraded my team working skills, through connecting with different people with different cultural and professional contexts, we learnt, we exchanged knowledge from different courses. Time management skills: Given the loads of activities with tight deadlines, being weak in time management was not tolerable. So, through this, my time management and prioritization skills were clearly improved.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

During my stay at UGHE, I have had many memorable moments, but the learning environment and the way students are supported will always be in my memory. The support in any situation was wow and super for any case a student may face. The course instructors were very supportive. Life on Campus is enjoyable and field schools were wonderful, learning at community.



One Health Option

Mohammad Orfali

SYRIA

Mohammad Orfali is a Syrian doctor who graduated from Zhengzhou University, China in 2022. He has experience with the Rwandan healthcare system because of a one-year medical internship he completed at CHUK, Kigali. He is an expert in ECG and has a primary interest in cardiology. Given his creativity, leadership skills, and analytical ability, he finds it simple to identify solutions to problems in his daily life. He works effectively with people of diverse backgrounds and adapts well to new situations.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The MGH program has shaped my personal and professional development by equipping me with invaluable skills and knowledge. Through the program, I have embraced the One Health approach and gained expertise in grant writing, op-ed writing, GIS, and much more. Additionally, the program has cultivated critical thinking, problem-solving, and effective communication skills, emphasizing the importance of interdisciplinary collaboration. It has instilled in me a strong sense of social responsibility and deep understanding of the interconnectedness of health, environment, and society. As a result, I possess a comprehensive skill set and a broad perspective, empowering me to contribute meaningfully to the global health field.



One Health Option

Momo Tegli

LIBERIA

Momo Tegli is a medical doctor and public health practitioner, currently serving as the Deputy Director of Infectious Diseases and Epidemiology at the National Public Health Institute of Liberia. His role entails preventing, detecting, and responding to public health emergencies. Before this, Dr. Tegli worked as a clinician in various rural and urban health facilities in Liberia. With a strong passion for addressing global health challenges, particularly emerging infectious diseases, he pursued studies in One Health at UGHE. Dr. Tegli holds a BSc in Biology from Cuttington University, Liberia, an MBBS from Zhengzhou University, China, and an MSc in Infectious Diseases from the University of Kent, UK.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The MGH program has greatly shaped my personal and professional growth. It fostered an interdisciplinary approach, enabling effective collaboration across diverse fields to tackle global health challenges. I acquired leadership and management skills to navigate complex healthcare systems and make informed decisions. The program emphasized strategies for delivering healthcare in resource-limited settings, focusing on community engagement, health system strengthening, and technology integration. I developed cross-cultural competence, enhancing communication and collaboration with diverse communities. Problem-solving and critical thinking abilities were nurtured, empowering me to analyze complex health issues and develop evidence-based solutions. The program also emphasized ethics, social justice, and equity in healthcare. Overall, the MGH program transformed me into a well-rounded global health professional prepared to make a positive impact on health outcomes worldwide.



One Health Option

Pierrette Ngutete Mukundwa

RWANDA

Pierrette is a medical doctor worked as a general practitioner at Nyamata district Hospital in Rwanda. She strives to improve her patient's health by considering their different social determinants of health while providing care such as access to clean water, food, shelter, and healthcare services among others. She is interested in evidence-based research and believes that it is the best tool to develop evidence based homegrown solutions. She is also highly passionate about multisectoral and transdisciplinary collaboration at all levels to improve human, animal's and plant's health within their shared environment.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

During my time in the MGH program, I learned that with effort and dedication,

anything is achievable. I developed practical skills such as policy memo writing, research paper writing, and toolkit development. Interacting with colleagues from diverse backgrounds exposed me to how to address different One Health-related challenges like climate change, neglected tropical diseases, infectious diseases management, etc. Additionally, forming friendships with people from different cultures broadened my perspective and enhanced my ability to work in diverse teams. Overall, the program shaped my personal and professional growth, providing me with the tools and mindset necessary for a successful career in global health.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

The most memorable and rewarding moment is the immersive field school we embarked on. During this extraordinary opportunity, we had the privilege of visiting diverse locations that vividly portrayed the concept of one's health, illustrating the interconnectedness of humans, animals, and the environment. Our itinerary included visits to a mining center, the volcano national park, and a podoconiosis clinic, among other remarkable sites. This experience broadened my perspective and served as a powerful reminder that while focusing on improving human health through policies and strategies, we must also consider the well-being of animals and the environment. It highlighted the importance of holistic approaches to health, as neglecting these interconnected factors can have significant implications for human well-being.



One Health Option

Prince Rwagasore

RWANDA

Prince is a practicing Medical Officer with extensive experience in patient care and community engagement in Rwanda. Prince is passionate about preventive medicine and is very interested in research and policy analysis. Prince is a grant winner, an educator, a motivator, and a powerful force in the workplace and uses his positive attitude and tireless energy to encourage others to work hard and succeed. In his free time, Prince likes to hike, visit his friends, and enjoy a walk or night out with his beautiful wife.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

The MGH program has helped me to deepen my understanding of the interconnectedness between human, animal, and environmental health. I have learned that addressing complex health challenges requires collaborative and interdisciplinary approaches. Through my studies, I have recognized the critical importance of early disease detection, surveillance systems, and effective communication strategies. I have acquired valuable insights into the significance of promoting sustainable practices, preserving biodiversity, and advocating for equitable access to healthcare worldwide. I have gained friends from across the world and have learned to thrive in a diverse community.



One Health Option

Rene Ngaboyisonga

RWANDA

Passionate about improving global health outcomes through innovative solutions - seeking opportunities to make a difference. Innovative and creative global health leader with expertise in pharmaceutical quality assurance and online healthcare delivery. With years of experience in the pharmaceutical industry, I have a proven track record of implementing innovative solutions that have improved efficiency and reduced costs while maintaining high levels of quality. I am well-versed in health technologies and regulatory frameworks and committed to fostering collaboration and building partnerships to address the most pressing health challenges facing the world today.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

First and foremost, I have gained a profound understanding of the intricate interdependence between animal and human health within their shared environment. Recognizing this interconnection enables us to proactively prevent the transmission of diseases between animals and humans, establishing a basis for the application of One Health principles. Secondly, I have come to appreciate the paramount importance of research in addressing global health challenges. It is essential that interventions aimed at combating such challenges are firmly grounded in evidence-based research to ensure their effectiveness. By relying on empirical data and rigorous scientific inquiry, we can develop and implement strategies that yield positive and tangible outcomes. Lastly, leadership. I have acquired the skills necessary to drive policy change, advocacy, prioritize interventions, secure funding, and track and monitor outcomes.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

The snail collection activity during our field visit to the swamps of Musanze. This experience was entirely new to me and filled with excitement and enjoyment. I was amazed to discover that the snails we were collecting were incredibly tiny and quite challenging to find. Despite the difficulty, I dedicated a two hours to the task and successfully gathered five snails, albeit accompanied by a considerable amount of mud. The adventure took place in the rain, adding to the thrill, but it also resulted in a few slips and falls along the way.



One Health Option

Ruth Zihiga Uwase

RWANDA

Ruth is a public health professional who has a background in environmental health and experience in monitoring, evaluation, social policy and research specifically in health projects that aim at improving the lives of the less privileged. She is interested in global development and tackling issues that affect minority populations. She is a quick problem solver, easily adapts to new environments, and works excellently with others. She has a passion for social justice and equity and hopes to work to serve communities, especially the marginalized, to provide quality healthcare services.

During your time in the MGH D program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

Firstly, I have learned the importance of effective teamwork. Collaborating with

diverse individuals from different backgrounds and expertise has taught me the significance of active listening, empathy, and effective communication in achieving common goals. Secondly, I have improved my time management skills through juggling multiple assignments and coursework. This experience has allowed me to prioritize tasks based on their importance and urgency and meet deadlines effectively. Overall, I believe these lessons and skills have equipped me with a strong foundation for success in the field of global health.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

One memorable and rewarding experience at UGHE was a field trip the One Health class took in Musanze where we had the opportunity to interact with patients and nurses, learning about the health problems they faced and witnessing their collective effort to break the stigma around podoconiosis. It was inspiring to see how they were working together to raise awareness, provide care, and empower affected individuals. Witnessing their resilience, determination, and the impact they were making in challenging long-standing misconceptions was truly inspiring. This experience highlighted the power of community engagement, grassroots initiatives, and the importance of addressing social and cultural factors in achieving sustainable health outcomes. This experience also reaffirmed my commitment to addressing health disparities in underserved communities.



One Health Option

Ulysse Uwayo

RWANDA

Uwayo is a dedicated professional completing his Master of Global Health Equity with One Health Specialization at UGHE. He has training in Biomedical laboratory sciences, Human Centered Design, and Assets Based Community Development. Uwayo is knowledgeable in project management, monitoring and evaluation, and has experience as a passionate facilitator, capacity builder advocate, and community development educator in various areas such as Universal health Coverage, Environment Protection and Gender-Based Violence, Social Protection and Food Security, Infectious diseases, and Disaster Management. His interests lie in social justice and integral human development. Uwayo excels both as an independent worker and a team leader, with problem-solving, creative, logical,

and critical thinking skills. He embraces diversity, collaborates effectively with individuals from different backgrounds, and prioritizes listening and understanding other perspectives. Uwayo's adaptability and commitment to serving his community make him an asset in addressing complex global challenges.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

One memorable and rewarding moment from my experience at UGHE that I will excitedly share with others for years is the exceptional teaching methodology and the unwavering support provided to students through office hours. This aspect has had a profound impact on my academic journey and personal growth. It has allowed me to connect with the most supportive faculty members and mentors who have played a significant role in shaping my future career development. Through these interactions, I gained a clear understanding of the university's expectations and received guidance on how to meet and exceed them as a future global health leader. The availability of support whenever I needed it empowered me to work diligently towards achieving my program objectives. I will always cherish and enthusiastically recount the warm hospitality I experienced from all departments at UGHE, as it created an inclusive and supportive environment that further enhanced my learning and overall experience.



One Health Option

Valens Rutagengwa

RWANDA

Valens is a compassionate healthcare professional and researcher. Trained in delivering holistic care, managing health resources, the health system, and care providers, and ensuring coordination. Possess leadership and management skills in addition to competency in healthcare. I am an organized person with a great passion for community transformational projects. I am interested in unlocking individual potential and empowering the vulnerable to improve health standards. Striving to boost global health for all.

During your time in the MGHD program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

I have learned more skills than expected during my time in the MGHD program.

Mainly, I learned the inevitable interconnectedness between humans, animals, and their shared environment. The program has opened my eyes and I see what I didn't see and think the way I didn't think before about One Health. Now I understand the reason we care about global health concerns including diseases, climate change, food insecurity, etc. and innovative solutions to overcome them. Besides, I got to learn research intensively in the real world. In the program, I developed more interpersonal and intrapersonal management skills to collaborate with my colleagues successfully – at the end of the day, success is achieved through collaboration.

What is one memorable or rewarding moment of your experience at UGHE that you will be excitedly telling people about for years?

I will always, generations and generations, tell people about the conducive environment I enjoyed at UGHE Butaro campus. All staff, MGHD students, MBBS students, chefs, cleaners, security guards, literally everyone at campus is humble, welcoming, and supportive; I mean even those with bigger profiles. I won't forget the spirit and desire of all people who are always there for us at campus in our studies and aside life. Also, the campus facilities make me really feel at home (I wish I stay for years). All these are foundation pillars behind enjoying my studies in MGHD despite being the intensive program.



One Health Option

Vivianne Umuhire Niyonkuru

RWANDA

Ms. Vivianne is a result-driven Global Health Leader, believes Local is Global and every community health intervention should be evidence-based and contextualized. She is an Eco-Health Alliance Fellowship Alumnus, Research Focal position at Rwanda Biomedical Centre, and served Research and Education officer to Rwanda NCD Alliance. She has authored research papers and data manager of cohort study on NCDs and HIV. Vivianne holds a bachelor's degree in environmental health sciences, MSc in International Health Management and pursued MSc in Global Health at UGHE. She aspires to ensure a healthy environment for both people and animals while working towards controlling and preventing NCDs.

During your time in the MGH program, what lessons/skills have you gained that have shaped your personal and professional development?

MGHD program has greatly shaped my personal and professional development. I have learned the importance of evidence-based decision-making in global health interventions. This has helped me become more proficient in analyzing data and research findings to inform effective strategies. Additionally, it enhanced my leadership abilities through group projects, allowing me to effectively lead teams and achieve shared goals.

Moreover, the program has fostered my understanding of One Health approach through field school and practicum, which applies for tackling the most pressing global health challenges. Personally, I learnt work life balance as key to successful career. Overall, the MGH program has been instrumental in honing my knowledge, skills, and perspectives to make a meaningful impact in the field of global health.



A message from

DEAN ABEBE BEKELE

Dear Class of 2023,
On behalf of the UGHE academic community, I would like to express my sincere congratulations to the graduands of the MGHD track options in One Health (OH), Health Management (HM), and Gender, Sexual, and Reproductive Health (GSRH).

As we successfully come to your graduation, I am extremely proud of each of you for your resilience and hard work in undertaking this course to its completion. I am certain that when you look back, you will realize that a long and winding path brought you to this point. We are aware that our graduating class overcame extraordinary obstacles to arrive at this point and graduate.

You have now embarked on a journey to become ambassadors of global health equity and have been empowered to be leaders in responding to complex health challenges not only in your communities, but worldwide.

We are confident that your time at UGHE has equipped each of you with the skills and experience necessary to serve underserved and vulnerable communities in order to ensure that everyone has access to quality, equitable healthcare.

As you leave UGHE, please remember to honor the words of the late Dr. Paul Farmer that "equity is the only acceptable goal." Take advantage of the comradeship and leverage the diverse networks of your colleagues around the world to build partnerships that will help advance health equity and address structural and social obstacles to social justice.

Remember Graduates, you are forever part of our UGHE community. Congratulations class of 2023!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Abebe Bekele". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly stylized font.

Dean, School of Medicine and Health Sciences

MGHD Cohort 8 **Photos of the Year**

activities, events, learning and fun

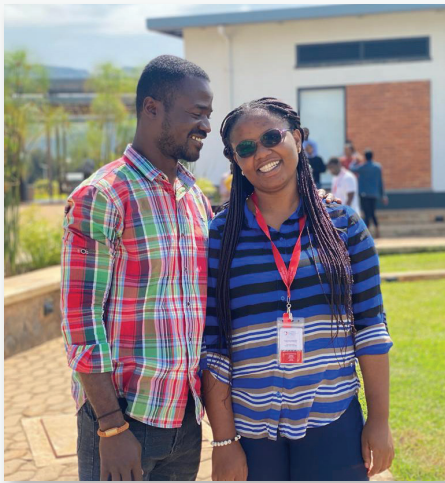


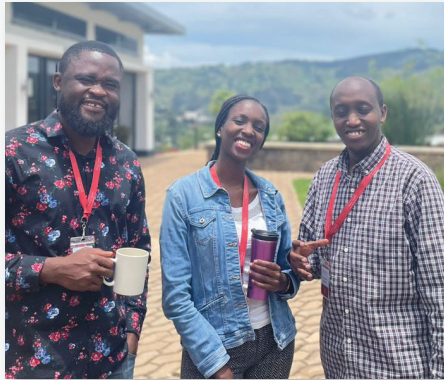
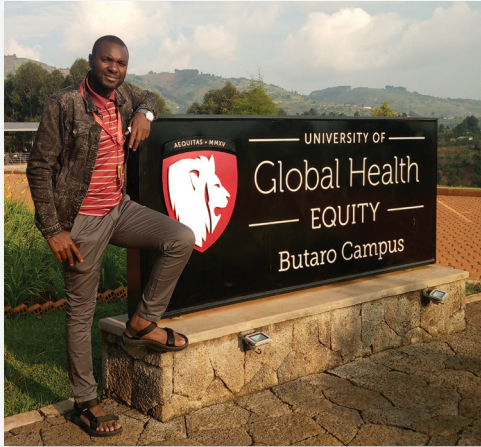












Write a message to your classmates...



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