

October 24, 2025

RE: Letter of introduction to the Global Health Travel Awards Program Fundraising Campaign

Dear colleague,

We are delighted that you are interested in learning more about our fundraising efforts at the UAB School of Medicine's Mary Heersink Institute of Global Health (MHIGH) to support Global Health Travel Awards Program.

Now more than ever, we have to double down on efforts to create a generation of "global" citizens, who recognize that the health and wellbeing of one community is linked to that of another halfway across the world, that pathogens do not recognize country borders, that uplifting communities elsewhere benefits us back at home.

At MHIGH, we have heard time and time again, there is no better way to get UAB students, staff, and faculty interested in global health than having opportunities to visit and learn directly from our partners and their communities in low- and middle-income countries (LMICs). Similarly, collaborations are built on trusting relationships, and our LMIC partners indicate that travel to meet students, faculty, and our local communities is what drives their collaborations with UAB.

Thus, in spite of the challenging times, we are embarking on a fundraising campaign to signal that global health is here to stay, and that UAB is committed to our students, faculty, and LMIC partners interested in global health.

Your support reduces financial barriers, fosters innovation, strengthens international partnerships, and supports the training of the next generation of global health leaders. Help us advance global equity in health.

We are accepting contributions from \$25 and above, with naming opportunities for contributions starting at \$25,000. To learn more about the purpose and objectives of the MHIGH Global Health Travel Awards Program, visit our [website](#). You will also find more information about MHIGH [here](#).

We sincerely hope this endeavor resonates with you and you will contribute now to this important effort.

With gratitude,



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Global Health Travel Awards Program Fundraising Campaign Regional Champions:

- Region 1: Latin and Central America
Martin Rodriguez, MD, Professor of Medicine, Infectious Diseases
- Region 2: Africa
Wally Carlo, MD, Professor of Medicine, Pediatrics
Stephen Obaro, MD, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Pediatrics
- Region 3: South Asia
Tapan Mehta, PhD, Professor of Medicine, Family & Community Medicine
Ashutosh Tamhane, MD, PhD, Assistant Professor, Nephrology
- Region 4: Southeast and East Asia
Shuko Harada, MD, Professor, Genomic Diagnostics, & Bioinformatics