

VolSphere

A monthly newsletter by the Center for Global Engagement

April 2021

CGE Celebrates International Students Graduation



OAE Hosts Virtual Conversation with Helen Zia

In celebration of Asian American and Pacific Islander (AAPI) Cultural Heritage Month in May, the Office of Asia Engagement in collaboration with the Chinese Cultural Heritage Working Group

is hosting a virtual conversation with author, activist, and former journalist, Helen Zia.

The virtual webinar is happening on **Wednesday, April 28 at 1:00 p.m.-2:00 p.m. EST** and is open to UT students, staff, faculty, and the general public. Attendees can register in advance at tiny.utk.edu/HelenZia



Impact Rankings Demonstrate Strengths Around UN Sustainable Development

The University of Tennessee, Knoxville, has demonstrated

strengths in several core areas based on rankings released today by the *Times Higher Education* Impact Rankings for 2021.

These rankings measure universities' engagement across research, stewardship, outreach, and teaching on the 17 UN [Sustainable Development Goals](#), or SDGs.

In the US, UT placed in the top five on SDG 15: Life on Land, which measures activities addressing protection, restoration, and promotion of sustainable use of terrestrial ecosystems. UT ranked in the top 10 in the US in addressing SDG 1: No Poverty, ending poverty in all its forms everywhere. Globally, more than 1,100 universities from 94 countries participated in the rankings in 2021.

[Read more about UT's impact ranking.](#)



PAO Announces First-of-its-Kind Opportunity for Students to Participate in Global Tech Programs

The University of Tennessee has partnered with Podium Education to provide students with a high impact learning experience to gain in-demand technical skills and intercultural competence.

These courses are available to students of all majors and backgrounds and there are no prerequisites for students to participate in a program. The curriculum for global tech programs includes world class instructors, hands-on projects with international students, Hollywood-level production, and real-world case studies that cover global organizations in the US, Europe and Asia with the most recognized brands in the world including: Airbnb, Netflix, Spotify, Target, Zillow, American Red Cross, Shopify, and more.

[Learn more and apply here.](#)



I-House Hosts 2021 International Dance Competition

On Wednesday, April 7, the International House hosted the international dance competition! The event was covered by the Daily Beacon. Check it out [here!](#)

In case you missed it, the full length recording of the 2021 Dance Competition is now on [YouTube!](#)



Announcing May's Global Engagement Champion

This month's Global Engagement Champion is Dr. Joe Zhuang, Professor of Biosystems Engineering and Soil Science and Program Coordinator of the China Scholars

Program.

Zhuang co-founded the China-UT EcoPartnership Scholars Program for PhD students with the support of multi-level UT leaders, one of the largest programs for students between UT and China. Zhuang currently serves as the project leader of the international research coordination network for "Creating Transdisciplinary Nodes of Food-Energy-Water to Support Sustainable Urban Systems" (FEWSUS). Zhuang's work has been recognized and funded by the US National Science Foundation for his efforts in urban sustainability.

[Read more about Dr. Zhuang's global impact.](#)

ELI Offers Customizable English Courses

The English Language Institute offers customizable English classes for professionals. Course options include:

- Speaking for Business
- Writing for Business
- American Business Culture
- Teaching English for ESL Volunteers
- Advanced Speaking: Pronunciation, Grammar, & Conversation

Visit eli.utk.edu for more information regarding course costs



The [Center for Global Engagement](#) provides leadership to strengthen the university's global reach and impact, foster international and intercultural awareness and understanding, assist faculty to internationalize their research and scholarship, and prepare students to become globally engaged citizens.

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