

VolSphere

A monthly newsletter by the Center for Global Engagement

November 2023



Forging Unity Through History

Lessons from South Africa's Constitutional Negotiators

Last month the Center for Global Engagement [hosted Roelf Meyer and Mohammed Bhabha](#), two South African constitutional negotiators instrumental in dismantling apartheid. From immersive sessions with student leaders to dynamic discussions on conflict resolution and constitutional building, their visit was a powerful demonstration of how global leaders can help UT students find solutions to challenges faced in the U.S. and abroad.

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Center for Global Engagement News...

- **Economic Impact:** According to NAFSA, [UT international students contributed](#) \$42.8 million and 462 jobs to Tennessee's second congressional district in academic year 2022–23. For every three international students, one U.S. job is created and supported by spending occurring in sectors such as higher education, retail and health insurance.
- **Aberystwyth University:** CGE [celebrated a new collaborative relationship](#) between UT and Aberystwyth by signing a letter of intent and hosting a delegation from the Welsh university.
- **First-Generation Support:** Thanks to a matching gift from Kelly ('00) and Justin Arnold, CGE raised more than \$3,600 on Big Orange Give to support the [Academy for Global Scholars](#), a program that provides global engagement opportunities to first-year, first-generation students.
- **45 Years at ELI:** The English Language Institute is hosting a 45th anniversary celebration and ceremony on December 14 at the UT Conference Center. Stay tuned for more information and contact eli@utk.edu if interested in attending.
- **CGE Global Gallery:** Open now through December 8, the [global gallery showcases 20 photos](#) captured by our talented students, faculty and staff, bringing their experiences from around the world to UT.



Global Catalyst Grant Stories

CGE Helps Faculty Build Connections with International Colleagues

Global Catalyst Grant Stories...

Through funding known as Global Catalyst Grants, CGE offers opportunities for students, faculty and staff to build global connections with international

colleagues and institutional partners. See how these grants have supported UT faculty this year.

- **Faculty Research:** From healthcare robotics to the study of medieval civilization, [see how these grants supported UT faculty](#).
- **International Programming:** Sometimes the best way to engage globally is right here on campus. From African literature to performing arts, these faculty used these grants [to bring the world to Rocky Top](#).

News from Campus...

- **Farmer-to-Farmer Grant:** Funded by a five-year grant from USAID, members of the Smith Center for International Sustainable Agriculture will [lead a program to prepare youth](#) to build more resilient and inclusive food systems in Cambodia, the Philippines and Vietnam.
- **Caffè Culturale:** Weaving cultural immersion with career exploration, [the Italian Program hosted Caffè Culturale](#), an immersive educational experience for students' academic and professional growth within the realm of Italian studies.
- **Finding Home:** Discover the heartwarming journey of Samara Mattiello and Saulo Zoca, [two Brazilians finding a place to call home](#) in rural Tennessee, their story weaving through love, academia and the unyielding support of the UT System.
- **Military Service Students Study Abroad:** Haslam students in military service pursue study abroad for similar reasons as many of their peers, but have [additional incentives for choosing](#) an education abroad experience.

Global Events...

- **Nov 30:** [Haitian Documentary Screening "Madan Sara"](#)
- **Dec 6:** [International Coffeehouse \(the Arab world\)](#)
- **Now–Dec 8:** [Global Gallery Exhibition](#)

[Find all UT global events here](#). Tag 'Center for Global Engagement' under 'Department' to have your event show up on this calendar.

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