



UNIVERSITY OF
Global Health
EQUITY

Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD)

Class of 2021

A Letter from the Dean



It is my pleasure to introduce you to the Master of Science in Global Health Delivery (MGHD) Class of 2021. These students have successfully passed a rigorous and holistic admissions process and are now beginning a one-year, full-time program based at UGHE's Butaro Campus.

Learning will take place both inside and outside of the classroom, with a focus on real-world scenarios in the community. MGHD students will be trained as leaders and advocates, not only as individuals but also for entire health systems. From their first day at UGHE, faculty and staff will provide them with support and mentorship as they progress through the engaging and rigorous curriculum.

The academic program at UGHE will transform students into changemakers. It will equip them with the skills to investigate complex problems with a fresh lens, one that is multidisciplinary, open-minded, and empathetic yet critical. This will be key to addressing global health issues and concerns in a productive, effective and sustainable manner. I would also like to reaffirm our commitment to equity in education and health care, which our students will exemplify throughout the program and take into their careers.

We are confident that this class of Lions will serve as global health leaders for Africa and beyond, and we are here to support and accompany them through this exciting journey.

Warm Regards,

Abebe Bekele, MD, FCS, FACS
Dean of the School of Medicine
Deputy Vice Chancellor of Academic &
Research Affairs



QUICK STATS ABOUT MGHD CLASS OF 2020

- ▶ 435 Applicants
- ▶ 5.75% Acceptance Rate
- ▶ 25 Students
- ▶ 14 Female
- ▶ 11 Male
- ▶ 12 Countries Represented
- ▶ 92% 2+ years work experience

Bashar Abubakar

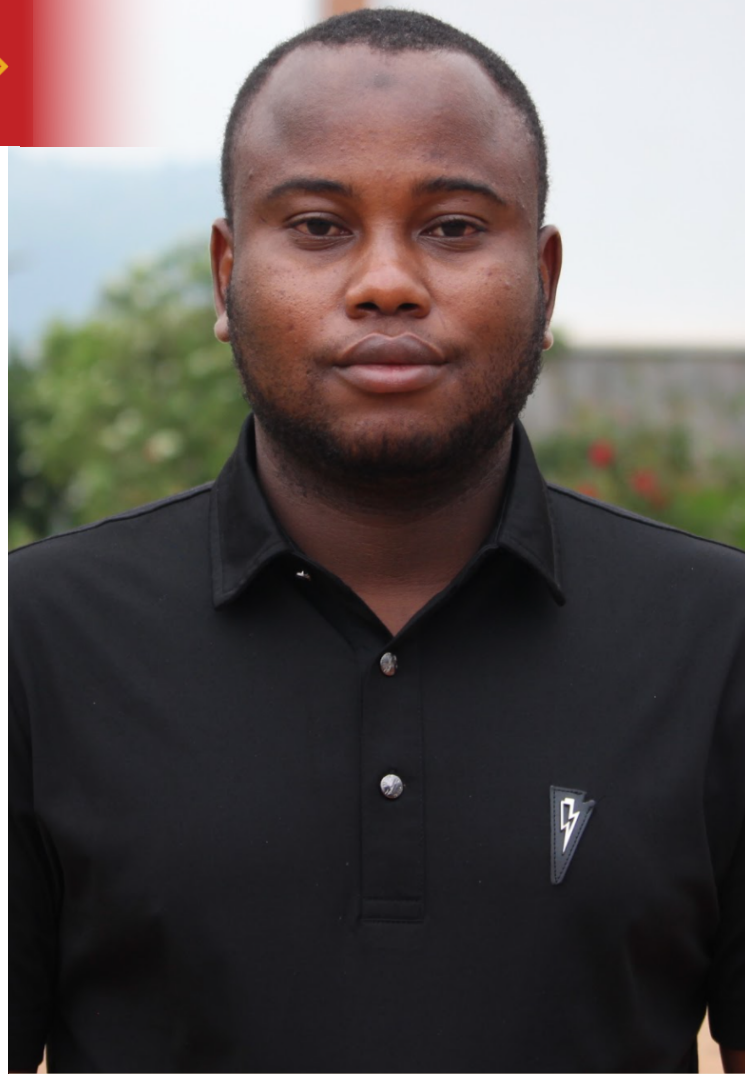


Why do you want to become a global health leader?

There is no better opportunity to make a positive impact on the lives of the people than being in global health practice. I believe the work I will do as a global health leader could help prevent the deaths and sufferings of thousands of people, thousands of miles away from me.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to meeting and sharing experiences with students and faculty members from diverse backgrounds and cultures, building skills and alliances.



Bashar Abubakar is from Nigeria and holds a Doctor of Pharmacy (Pharm.D) from the Gulf Medical University Ajman, United Arab Emirates. Bashar has over five years experience in clinical and public health practice in Nigeria. He has worked as a clinical pharmacist in various healthcare settings in Nigeria and earned substantive experience of healthcare delivery at different levels. Bashar is presently a health journalist and public health analyst with Nigeria Health Watch.

Carolyn Aling



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I am looking forward to transitioning into policy and global health especially in preventive healthcare to empower adolescents and women with knowledge on their own reproductive health through equitable interventions.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am really looking forward to interacting with people from different parts of the world who have a similar passion as I do in regards to global health but with distinctive opinions to share.



Dr. Carolyn Aling is from Kenya and holds a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery and a postgraduate degree in Obstetrics and Gynecology from the University of Nairobi. Dr. Carolyn has over 10-years experience in clinical care with a deep knowledge of medical staff organization as well as an understanding of diverse lifestyles and family structures. She has the ability to provide effective interdisciplinary health care services.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

As a global health leader, I aspire to make meaningful changes to healthcare in underdeveloped nations. I strive to reach out to the most vulnerable communities and ensure equitable access to good quality healthcare.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am looking forward to networking and forging relationships with my colleagues personally and professionally. There is just so much to learn from each other.



Yeukai Chikwenhere is a licensed pharmacist from Zimbabwe. She has had over 5 years experience as a Community Pharmacist, a Quality Assurance manager and recently a District Pharmacist with the Ministry of Health stationed at a rural hospital. She has a huge interest in social justice in healthcare. Yeukai reimagines African healthcare systems that can effectively harness indigenous knowledge, and bolster strategic partnerships to provide the highest form of equitable healthcare.

Elissa Dushime



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to become a global health leader because it is my passion to address global health issues around the world. In my undergraduate studies, I pursued Healthcare Management because I wanted to know more about global health issues and the strategies needed to address them.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

As I begin the MGHD program at UGHE, I look forward to joining a team of passionate global health leaders from different countries whom I will work with to find out ways for addressing health issues.



Elissa Dushime is from Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) and holds a Bachelor's in Healthcare Management with a concentration in Global Perspectives from Southern New Hampshire University. Elissa has previously served as a Refugee Admissions Assistant in Rwanda, where he focused on the role of education in promoting health literacy.

Wilfred B. Geninyan



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

The challenges I saw in my country have given me the passion and desire to help improve the health system in my country by contributing to providing better healthcare to people in my country and in other countries facing similar situations.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to the interactions with other students from different countries with diverse backgrounds, who are coming with different skills and ideas.



Wilfred is from Liberia and recently graduated with a Bachelor degree in Public Health from William V.S Tubman University, Liberia. Wilfred volunteered with Partners In Health in Monitoring and Evaluation of programs. He most recently worked as Clinical Operations Assistant at PIH, Liberia, where he provided support in strengthening the county's pharmaceutical management system to ensure availability and access of medications and other health commodities.

Bilquees Idrees



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to upgrade myself with the recent knowledge and practices that can help me understand and analyze health issues, conduct research, and develop adequate and appropriate responses in a local context for improving the lives and enhancing access to quality healthcare for the communities

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am really impressed by the international faculty and diversity of the program participants who have done miracles in real life settings. Moreover, MGHD is a unique program which will give me skills to improve my leadership and management skills.



Bilquees Idrees is from Pakistan and holds a Bachelor's degree in International Relations from Karachi University. She holds over 9 years of experience in the Development Sector including experience in project implementation across Pakistan. Bilquees holds expertise in adolescents sexual and reproductive health, violence against women and girls and life skills trainer. Currently, she is associated with the Global Health Directorate – Indus Health Network, as the Outreach Coordinator.

Leandre Ishema



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

Growing up in a country like Rwanda after the 1994 Genocide against Tutsis, there was a need for medical professionals but also infrastructure and materials. Studying medicine and working in a healthcare environment opened my eyes to the specific medical needs of our societies.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to an amazing program where I will be learning from people that have always inspired me in this field.



Dr. Ishema Leandre is from Rwanda and holds a Bachelor degree in Medicine and a Surgery specialized in Clinical Medicine from Tongji Medical College of Huazhong University of Science and Technology in Wuhan, China. Dr. Ishema has had clinical experience in Tongji Hospital, and Union Hospital in Wuhan-China, and also Rwanda Military Hospital in Rwanda. After his studies in China Dr. Ishema moved back to Rwanda to work with the Rwanda Biomedical Center, Rwanda Covid-19 Joint Task Force.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to aid in moving developing countries towards self-sustenance in the area of health financing, in order to ensure universal health coverage.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to interacting with people from different national, and professional backgrounds, as it will provide such variety and diversity in enriching insights regarding global health delivery.



Oveka Jana is from Malawi and holds a Bachelor's degree in Nursing and Midwifery from the University of Malawi-Kamuzu College of Nursing. Oveka has a cumulative of 7.5 years work experience as a Direct Health Practitioner, District Safemotherhood Coordinator and Midwife Mentor in both the government and non-governmental sectors. She is very passionate about ensuring that every woman, newborn and family receives comprehensive, quality and dignified maternity care.

Happy Tahirih Kampire



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I strongly believe that everybody's well being is community business. I see myself as a person that can drive these changes by leading by example, and helping others grow by empowering them, and leading change globally. In a world that wants women to whisper, I choose to yell.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am most excited about the knowledge and experience that the program offers and connecting with students from all around the world to learn from each other on how to create a more equitable world.



Happy Tahirih is from Rwanda and recently completed a bachelor's in Public Health at Mount Kenya University, Rwanda. Happy holds experience in supply chain & SME financing in the Rwandan context and is also a long-term advocate for Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights & Education among youth. She is passionate about building vibrant healthy communities, designing interventions that contribute to the emancipation of women & youth and saving the planet.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

As a global health leader with knowledge from UGHE, I want to strengthen the health systems through policies, capacity building of human resources, community engagement and stakeholders ownership to bridge the professional gaps and increase health awareness for health system transformation.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am excited to meet my new colleagues and tutors. Above all, I am looking forward to starting this journey of getting the MGHD knowledge and qualification.



Ahamed Flagbata Kallon is a pharmacist from Sierra Leone and most recently worked for the Ministry of Health as the district pharmacist in the Kailahun district Health Management team.

Ahamed has experience in supply chain management, and public health interventions. He has also served as a study site manager and study pharmacist in clinical trials that investigated vaccines against ebola.

Samuel Kidane



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

Global health leaders play an invaluable role in paving the path for alliance and building global consensus on prioritizing interventions in an equitable manner. It's not easy to imagine what lies at the horizon of global health, but surely enough I want to contribute my level best for the well-being of the world.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to so many things when joining this exciting endeavor. What I look forward to the most will be sharing experiences with different classmates from all across the world.



Dr. Samuel Kidane is from Ethiopia and holds a medical degree from Haramaya University, Ethiopia. He is a young and upcoming public health leader who holds over five years of experience in clinical medicine, as well as in public health at different levels of the health sector. He is currently working as the Deputy Head of Addis Ababa Health Bureau and the Incident Manager for Covid-19 response emergency operation center.

Lea Kilenga Masamo



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I am a global health leader, however I feel there is a need for more representation of patient voices in global health. As a patient advocate, I want to create spaces for meaningful involvement of patients in Global Health conversations and decisions that affect them.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to learning from a world class faculty, a global community of students and understanding how to better communities I work with while delivering equitable care.



Lea Kilenga Masamo is from Kenya and holds a Bachelor of Science in International Business. Lea has 8 years of experience working as a project manager and patient advocate for patients/(persons living with) sickle cell to create person-centred health and care strategies that align organizations, institutions & government policies to improve health and well-being for sickle cell patients. She is the founder of Africa Sickle Cell Organization.

Madalitso Ireen Mkata



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I would like to be part of the technocrats responsible for providing technical leadership and governance on thematic health issues which includes improving access to priority health services for everyone's health, and playing an advocacy role in tackling social determinants of health using Equity.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to interacting with a group of like-minded faculty members and students from different backgrounds who are committed and passionate about finding practical solutions.



Madalitso Mkata is from Malawi and holds a Bachelor's degree in Health Systems Management from Exploits University and a Diploma in Nursing and Midwifery from St Josephs' College of Nursing and Midwifery. Madalitso has 11 years of progressive professional experience, as seen through her work as a Nurse-Midwife in a government hospital, as a research nurse at College of Medicine University of Malawi and as a Public Health Officer in different International NGOs.

George Mkondo

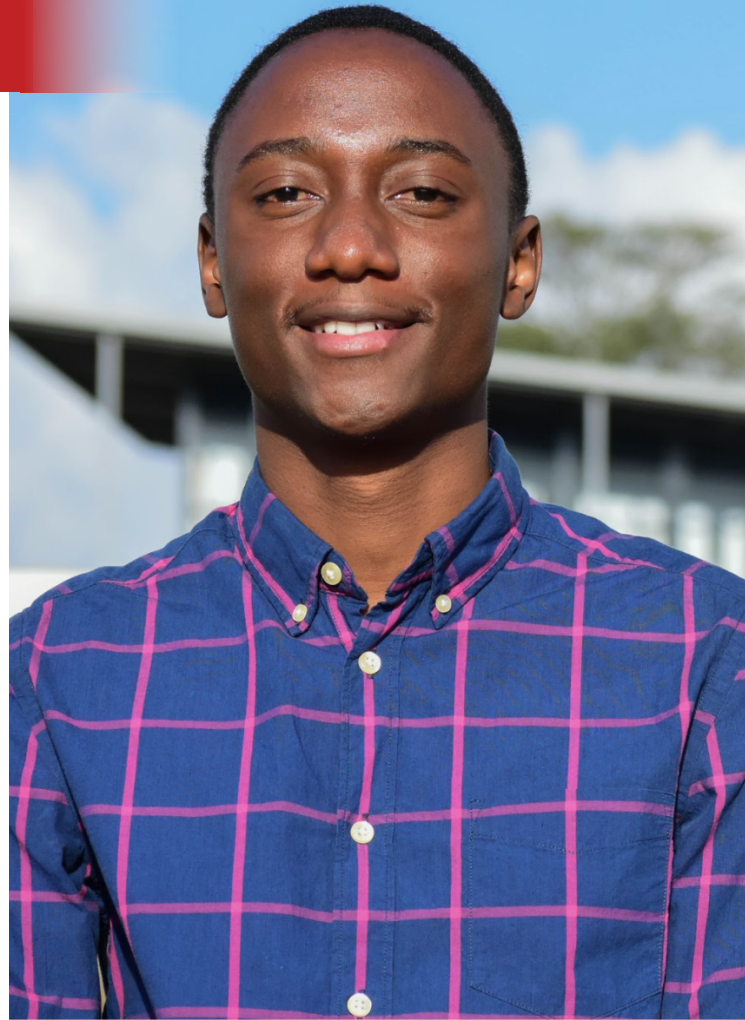


Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to have a long-lasting impact in the battle against health inequities that are faced daily, especially on the African continent. It is my belief that the University of Global Health Equity will equip me with the necessary weaponry to aid in this fight.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am very excited about the invaluable lessons and experience that stands to be gained from interactions with the UGHE faculty, my MGHD peers as well as the local Butaro community.



Dr. George Tavonga Mkondo is from Zimbabwe and recently graduated with a Bachelor of Medicine, Bachelor of Surgery (MBBS) degree from Zhejiang University in China.

Dr. George has developed a special interest in pediatrics, oncology, and public health awareness. Outside of medicine, he also is an avid football lover!

Dorothy Mkwezalamba



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to be part of the team that prioritizes health equity and is working towards improving health for people from all walks of life. I want to be a global health leader so that I can have a chance to influence policies that are put in place to achieve health equity through my research and advocacy work.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am excited to learn new skills and knowledge with regard to Global Health Delivery. I am looking forward to perfecting my research skills and meeting diverse kinds of people.



Dorothy Mkwezalamba is from Malawi and holds a Bachelor's of Science in Health Management from the University of Malawi, College of Medicine and a Diploma in Clinical Medicine from the Malawi College of Health Sciences. Most recently, she is working with Jhpiego as Facility Linkage coordinator for an HIV Testing Services project called Gateway. She has also served as a clinician at Baylor College of medicine Children's Foundation and Malawi government, Ministry of Health.

Rashidah Nambaziira



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to become a global health leader because I know that with the right training, skills, tools and mindset, I can influence and advocate for the development and implementation of equitable and sustainable health systems and policies in my country and other low resource regions in the world.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am most looking forward to open learning dialogue and interaction with the diverse and multi-disciplinary body of faculty and students in the MGHD program, and the UGHE institution at large.



Rashidah Nambaziira is from Uganda and holds a Bachelor's of Arts in Cell Biology and Biochemistry, however her 8-year professional career has been in coordination and management of healthcare projects. Rashidah has managed health professionals training and research programs in both government and private institutions in Uganda. She is passionate about health care advocacy and development of equitable, sustainable and pragmatic health care systems and programs.

Valentine Ndacyayisenga



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I would like to use my position as global health leader to ensure health equity through advocacy as well as evidence based interventions. This could be achieved by simply starting with educating the community and eventually inspire the nation to drive changes that work best for the citizens. There is a lot to do!

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am really looking forward to a practical and interactive learning that goes beyond books and computers. I can not wait to see what it is the MDHD program has for me, a global health leader.



Valentine holds a bachelor's degree in Biology from the University of Rwanda, College of Science and Technology. She has previously worked with international mission driven organizations that aim to improve the lives of many in Rwanda. Valentine has also attended leadership training in Nairobi under the Young African Leaders Initiative program. In addition to that, she has attended One Health Fellowship in the US where she learned about health leadership and delivery.

Iliza Grace Ndatinya



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to become a global health leader because health is the foundation of any advancement we can think of. With good health, communities are able to strive and reach their goals. Therefore, I wish to be an active contributor in improving health conditions for my country, my continent, as well as the world at large.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

As I begin the MGHD program, I look forward to engaging, working and learning from health professionals from all different backgrounds throughout the program.



Iliza Ndatinya Grace is from Rwanda and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Healthcare Management with a concentration in Global Perspectives from Southern New Hampshire University with the Kepler program, in Rwanda. Iliza has worked in hospital administration throughout her undergraduate studies and has a passion for finding solutions to the most pressing needs in the community and being the voice of those who are not in position to advocate for themselves.

Lysa Carolle Niteka



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to become a global health leader who will advocate for policy change for equity in the health system. I have witnessed that vulnerable and underserved communities struggle to get access to appropriate healthcare services, hindering their right to healthcare. I want to be part of the changemakers that will challenge the status quo and make health a human right for all.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to learning and interacting with UGHE faculty and MGHD students that will be coming from different backgrounds caring for various and rich experiences.



Dr Lysa Carolle Niteka is from Burundi and holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery from the University of Rwanda. She has been working within public and private hospitals, national and international organization both in Rwanda and Burundi. Dr Lysa is passionate about attaining the agenda of universal health coverage in Africa.

Gloria Rukomeza



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

Working closely with the community is one of the most powerful ways to contribute to positive health outcomes. As a global health leader, I will use my knowledge and skills to train and coach the most marginalized communities like refugee camps about good health care practices.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

As I begin the MGHD program at UGHE, I am looking forward to meeting and working with other global health leaders and adapting to the UGHE's diverse community.



Gloria Rukomeza is from the Democratic Republic of Congo and holds a Bachelor of Arts in Communications from Southern New Hampshire University. Gloria is certified in "Civic Leadership" through the Young African Leadership Initiative program in Nairobi. Since her certification in 2017, she has founded the Kepler Leadership Club which has the aim of helping Kepler students acquire and practice leadership skills within the community.

Fernand Rwamwejo



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

Through my years of experience as a clinician in resource-constrained countries such as Rwanda and South Sudan, I experienced firsthand inequalities and struggle to access healthcare. This experience motivated me to serve communities through global health practice and induce change.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am eager to meet people from various backgrounds and experiences that we will get to share. I am also excited to get top notch lectures that will broaden my horizons.



Dr. Fernand Rwamwejo is from Rwanda and holds a Bachelor of Medicine and Surgery University of Rwanda. Dr. Fernand has had 5 years of experience in a variety of areas within health care delivery including public and private hospitals, refugee camps and most recently digital health. He is passionate about addressing infectious diseases that are affecting low-income countries. He enjoys sports, non-fiction books and working on his communication skills notably through Toastmasters.

Joseph Bangalie Sesay



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

Seeing men, women, and children die just because they cannot afford quality health service or as a result of access to health facilities makes me push harder in trying to speak on their behalf to see that quality health service is universal and not just for those who can afford it.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I hope to engage in research and global health equity focus group discussions at different levels that will richly inform decision making. Also, I cannot wait to discover more about Rwanda.



Joseph Bangalie Sesay is from Sierra Leone and holds a Bachelor of Science in Information Technology. Joseph holds over 5 years' experience in both government and non-government organizations, with experience that cuts across health, team building, professional development, strategic implementation and M&E. He has managed the District Health Management Team as Monitoring and Evaluation officer.

Semay Desta Shamebo



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I want to become a global health leader so that I can make a lasting impact on the healthcare system. Obtaining the necessary knowledge and skills to address global health issues is paramount in order to address the current situation of the world.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I look forward to learning from teachers who are the best in their respective fields, gaining knowledge that is directly applicable to the situations of our world, collaborating and interacting with them.



Dr. Semay Desta Shamebo is a general medical doctor from Ethiopia where she earned her medical degree at Tikur Anbessa Specialized Hospital, Addis Ababa University. Dr. Semay worked for two years at Dubti General Hospital in the rural region of Afar, Ethiopia and she has served as the Inpatient Focal Person, Head of Multidisciplinary Team and Performance Monitoring Team, Antiretroviral Therapy Program Head and as the the Quality Improvement Officer at Dubti General Hospital.



Why do you want to become a global health leader?

I have been a strong believer of equity since I saw my first patient in my clinical attachments, but witnessing this stark contrast of inequality has strengthened my resolve to dedicate my career to making a difference to gap the difference.

What do you look forward to the most as you begin the MGHD program at UGHE?

I am excited to share a classroom with young and energetic peers, who share a similar vision as mine. To share experiences, learn and grow together.



Dr. Natnael Shimelash is from Ethiopia and holds a medical degree from Addis Ababa University, Ethiopia. Dr. Natnael served 2 years of national service as a clinical practitioner, Quality Officer and deputy medical director in rural areas. More recently, he is employed as a general practitioner at Nordic Medical Centre. Aside from his professional endeavour, Dr. Natnael follows a passion in visual arts, more specifically photography.