



The University
of Vermont

Division of Faculty Affairs

August 3, 2022

Dear Colleagues,

We write to invite you to a faculty event to take place on **August 22, 2022**, from 8:30 AM to 10:45 AM, with optional breakfast beginning at 7:45 AM. The event, held in conjunction with New Faculty Orientation, launches the sixth annual *UVM Faculty Development Series* and provides an opportunity for returning faculty to welcome new colleagues. The *Faculty Development Series* is a year-long program designed to assist faculty in acquiring the knowledge and skills to succeed as 21st century educators and maintain excellence in teaching, research and scholarly activities.

The theme for AY22-23 series is *Vermont in the World: Global Engagement through a Sustainability and Social Justice Lens*. Recent events from the pandemic to the war in Ukraine, the reverberation of the US withdrawal from Afghanistan, Somali drought, gun violence, climate change, to economic uncertainty in housing and inflation show that we are deeply shaped by global and national events. Our mission as a public university invites us to expand our focus on addressing issues in Vermont and the US to the world, as well as to enable faculty and students to expand their knowledge and understanding of these complex issues and develop skills to contribute to emerging equitable solutions and interventions with global and domestic concerns. This is as much about the need to develop self-awareness and cultural competencies as it is with interpersonal, technical, and intercultural communication skills.

We anticipate lectures, discussions, book groups, panel presentations and workshops throughout the year to further develop the conference theme. Please stay tuned for these events.

We are pleased that Pablo S. Bose, Ph.D., Professor, Department of Geography and Geosciences, College of Arts and Sciences, will be the keynote speaker for the faculty event. The title for the keynote address is *A New Home in the Green Mountains: Refugee Resettlement in Vermont*. Professor Bose has worked extensively with refugee communities that have been settled in Vermont. He also serves as the Director of the Global and Regional Studies Program and helps to oversee the General Education curriculum at UVM. He is a migration scholar and urban geographer. His research is interdisciplinary in nature and focuses primarily on refugees and resettlement in North America and Europe, on cities of the global south, the politics of food access, and on environmental displacements across the world.

Both New Faculty Orientation and the Campus Wide Faculty Event will be held solely in-person in the Grand Maple Ballroom on the fourth floor of the Davis Center. A preliminary agenda of the day's event is posted [here](#). We kindly request registration by **Monday, August 15, 2022**, for the Campus Wide Faculty Event by clicking [here](#).

You may address any questions to Jane.Okech@uvm.edu.

Jane Okech, Vice Provost for Faculty Affairs

Thomas Borchert, President, Faculty Senate