



UFMG releases new promotional videos



On June 18th, 2021 the UFMG released three new promotional videos in English, Spanish and Portuguese, created by the UFMG Office of International Affairs in partnership with

UFMG's Communication Center. These videos present cultural and historical data about Belo Horizonte and Minas Gerais, besides showing facts and figures that indicate the excellent level of our University – if compared to others in Brazil and abroad. With this, foreign students can now have a better understanding of the environment in which the University is inserted, as well as to get an idea of the role UFMG plays for the development of the state of Minas Gerais and the country. Videos also include brief testimonials by foreign students who are enrolled in UFMG and the opportunities offered by the University for students who do not speak Portuguese as a mother language, such as regular courses taught in English and Spanish. These promotional videos can be watched at the Office of International Affairs channel on [YouTube](#).

Sandra Almeida becomes the President of AUGM

The rector of UFMG, Prof Sandra Goulart Almeida, became on June, 29 the first female leader of the Asociación de Universidades Grupo Montevideo (Montevideo Group), a league created in 1991 to bring together South American publicly-funded universities. "I was the first female vice president of AUGM, and now I am the first president in this condition. Having a woman at the head of AUGM is very important, especially in a moment like this", emphasizes Prof Almeida. "We have been discussing a lot the issue of gender balance, even inside the Association. In Latin America this space [the rectorship of public universities] is mostly a male space," she affirms. Still on this topic, UFMG's rector recalls that gender equity in positions of power is one of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) established by the United Nations (UN) that must be globally achieved by 2030.



UFMG Summer School on Brazilian Studies 2021



The fourth edition of the UFMG Summer School on Brazilian Studies (SSBS) happened this year from July 5 to July 16, 2021. The keynote speaker on the opening event was the Brazilian federal judge Sylvia Steiner, who was a member of the International Criminal Court (ICC) from 2003 to 2016. Steiner posited – from a legal point of view – what crimes against humanity are and in which hypotheses they are legally configured. The 2-week program offered by UFMG to foreign students has undergone a transformation due to the Covid-19 pandemic and is currently being offered entirely online. Despite the change in format, the event remains an impressive success story, gathering together some 90 students born in 35 countries and affiliated to 51 partner institutions. During the two weeks, professors lecture on a host of diverse aspects such as politics, history, foreign affairs, geography, law, economy, and culture. "We welcome students from the most different national settings, with a diversity of behavioral traits, academic backgrounds, ethnic origins, and religious orientations. It is a huge international mosaic – one which always makes us very proud and confident about the prospects for the coming generations" says Professor Dawisson Belém Lopes, Deputy Dean at the UFMG Office of International Affairs.



A series of webinars on global challenges



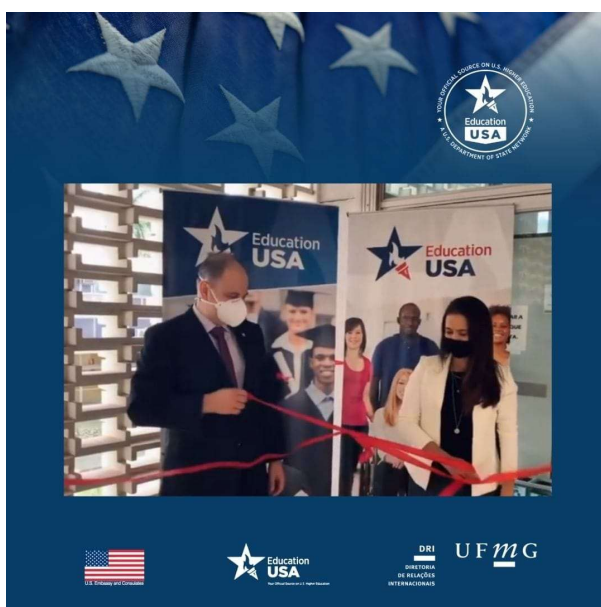
Aziz Saliba and Dawisson Lopes, Dean and Deputy Dean at the UFMG Office of International Affairs respectively, are the two hosts of the series of webinars on global challenges, which is based on the 'Global Challenges' book series, a project of the UFMG Office of International Affairs in partnership with the UFMG University Press. These panels, which take place once every 15 days, aim to discuss the main current challenges in the world according to the perspective of a particular region, and counts on the presence of researchers and experts from around the planet. All six debates were held in English and are fully available on the Office of International Affairs channel on [Youtube](#).

New scientific equipments at UFMG

Designed according to international safety standards and equipped with an exhaustion system unmatched in Minas Gerais, the new building of the Chemistry Department of the Institute of Natural Sciences of UFMG is also an example of sustainability, which is no small thing for an academic unit that produces waste that can be harmful to human health and the environment. The new building brings together the largest set of laboratory chapels built in a Brazilian university. There are 117 units of this collective protection equipment (CPE), essential for handling chemicals, toxic products, aggressive vapors, particles or liquids in dangerous quantities and concentrations, which are harmful to health. The chapels are housed in 39 laboratories, the largest set built at once by Fundep (Research Development Foundation). "The development of high skills for the construction and renovation of laboratories had continuity with other Fundep actions in the management and direct construction of laboratories, being the so-called Annex III of the Chemistry Department a corollary of this expertise, considering the peculiar and sensitive technical specificities", explains Fundep's construction planning engineer, Rogério Silva Marcondes.



Featured country: The United States of America



On June 30th, 2021 the opening ceremony of the first office of EducationUSA at a Brazilian federally-funded university took place as a result of a partnership between UFG and the U.S. Embassy to Brazil. Its missions is to offer information and guidance about study opportunities in the United States for undergraduate, master's, doctoral, post-doctoral, and other student profiles. The global network has more than 400 international offices, and 42 of them are located in Brazil. On the occasion, UFG Rector Sandra Almeida mentioned the University's work in

reaching out to societal demands in all areas of knowledge, and emphasized the efforts to extend the partnerships with international institutions, working cooperatively and in solidarity in order to overcome the challenges. The event was also attended by Mr. Douglas Koneff, Deputy Chief of the Mission of the United States to Brazil, Prof. Aziz Saliba, the UFG Dean for International Affairs, Ms. Rita Moriconi, EducationUSA Regional Coordinator for South America, Ms. Katherine Ordoñez, US Consul in Belo Horizonte, and Júlia Peres, EducationUSA advisor at UFG.

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