

2010 International Opportunities Expo Career Discussion Panel Descriptions

This year the Visiting Fellows Committee has decided to expand the International Opportunities Expo to include panels that examine career topics and interests from an international perspective. They will provide Visiting and American Fellows the chance to interact with science and technology professionals who can speak directly to the unique issues fellows must consider in pursuing international career paths. *Your* questions will drive the discussion and ensure that speakers address the content that is most important to you.

Developing and Maintaining Global Professional Networks

9:00 – 10:00 am

Main Auditorium

Networking has become the mantra for career development and the job search process. Developing those all important networking skills and establishing a functional network can be challenging for any fellow; it is even more so for fellows with thousands of miles separating them and the geographical locations where they hope to work. The objective of this panel is to address some of the unique issues that fellows interested in pursuing overseas career paths may encounter when developing their professional networks.

Panelists:

Thomas Mampilly, MPH, International Health Program Officer
Division of International Relations, Fogarty International Center, NIH
Izabella Zandberg, PhD, USA Project Manager
EURAXESS Links

Finding a Job Abroad I and II

(Panel I) 10:10 – 11:10 am, (Panel II) 11:20 am – 12:20 pm

Balcony A

Numerous factors have influenced the decision of fellows to pursue career paths outside the United States. Available opportunities and the intricacies of navigating the job process in other countries or regions pose a challenge for individuals looking to pursue career opportunities abroad. These two panels will address those issues and how they relate to selected regions around the globe; Europe and South America (panel I) and Asia and the South Pacific (panel II).

Panel I:

Marek Konarzewski, PhD, DSc, Minister Counselor, Head of Section,
Public Affairs, Science, Education and Technology Section, Embassy of Poland
Annika Thorsell, PhD, Staff Scientist
Laboratory of Clinical and Translational Studies,
Section of Molecular Pathophysiology
National Institute on Alcohol, Abuse and Alcoholism, NIH
Eric Kors Vidsiunas, PhD, Area Director for Health Sciences
São Paulo Research Foundation, FAPESP

Panel II:

Daofen Chen, PhD Program Director, External Research Program
National Institute of Neurological Disorders and Stroke, NIH
Rachel Stephen-Smith, Minister Counselor
Innovation, Industry, Science and Research, Australian Embassy

Amita Vyas, PhD, Assistant Professor,
Director of the Maternal and Child Health Program, George Washington University
President and Founder, Global India Fund

Hot Research Topics World-Wide

10:10 – 11:10 am

Balcony B

Funding for, and opportunities in, diverse areas of research are no longer limited to a few wealthy nations. This panel will look at three major areas of research: AIDS, stem cells, and cancer. Panelists from government and private organizations will lead the discussion of opportunities world-wide in these scientific areas.

Panelists:

Kenneth Bridbord, MD, MPH, Director

Division of International Training and Research, Fogarty International Center, NIH

Ben Prickril, Program Officer,

Office of International Affairs, National Cancer Institute, NIH

Mahendra Rao, MD, PhD, Vice President – Stem Cells

Invitrogen

Non-Bench Career Paths Abroad

(Panel I) 10:10 – 11:10 am, (Panel II) 11:20 am – 12:20 pm

Balcony C

Opportunities for fellows to use their scientific and professional skills are no longer limited to bench research. The demand for skilled scientists in non-bench career paths is increasing, not only here in the United States, but globally as well. As international resources and the focus on global health issues continue to grow, non-bench opportunities for fellows will increase further. The aim of these two panel discussions is to explore new non-bench overseas career paths, such as policy, finance, communications, and funding.

Panel I:

Sean Sanders, PhD, Worldwide Commercial Editor, and Program Director Outreach,
Science/AAAS

Naomi Webber, PhD, Deputy Director

Research Councils UK, Office in the USA

Panel II:

Walderez Dutra, PhD, Professor

Department of Morphology, Federal University of Minas Gerais, Brazil

NIH Alumni Association – Brazil, Regulatory Affairs

Astrid-Christina Koch, PhD, Counselor

Delegation of the European Union to the USA

Xiaoping Wang, PhD, Senior Energy Specialist

The World Bank