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Where Research Comes to Life

Families in Global Transition

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Do you have an article, opportunity or event you would like posted in FIGT emails? [Click here](#) to tell us about it.

2012 Conference Sponsors



Issue: 4

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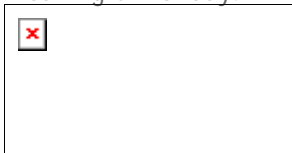
Families in Global Transition leads the worldwide community in empowering families and those who serve them in global transition. FIGT is the premier advocate and educational resource for families, organizations and service providers.

Happy Holidays from the FIGT Board of Directors!

We hope all of you are having a wonderful holiday season wherever you are, and in whatever way you celebrate. The last year has seen the FIGT global outreach and growth increase as we have added affiliate groups in Houston, TX; Seoul, South Korea; Geneva, Switzerland; and very soon Oxford, England. Those areas, along with the first affiliate in Boston MA, provide a forum that keeps the FIGT spirit alive between annual conferences. If you are anywhere near those locations, and would like to connect with one of the affiliates, please find information on the FIGT website www.figt.org.

2012 promises to be another exciting year for our organization and we invite all of you to become a part of the FIGT community. Thanks to all of you who have supported FIGT by attending the conferences in the past and we look forward to welcoming you to the March 2012 conference in Alexandria, VA.

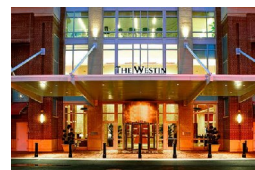
Until then, spread the word about FIGT and have a safe and meaningful holiday!



REGISTER TODAY! | 2012 FIGT CONFERENCE

March 29-31, 2012 | The Westin Alexandria, Alexandria, VA

The 2012 Families in Global Transition Conference will be held, for the second year in a row, in Washington, DC.



The 2012 FIGT Conference brings together members of internationally mobile families with those who assist them. A forum is created for presenting new research, exchanging ideas, meeting old friends and making new friends from across all sectors. Together, strategies are developed for dealing with challenges of cross-cultural living.

Please [click here](#) to register today!

FOOD! | 2012 FIGT CONFERENCE



Food is taking a frontline role at the 2012 Conference. It helps us feel at home even when we're abroad!

In conjunction with Elizabeth Vennekens-Kelly, who will be presenting "Food So Basic and Yet Sooooo Complex", our Thursday evening mix 'n' mingle will highlight the upcoming FIGT Cook book. We'll be talking about international food as well as collecting your recipes for entry in the cookbook. All proceeds from cookbooks sales will support our Pollock scholars.

HOUSTON AFFILIATE LAUNCH

The FIGT Houston Affiliate, sponsored by Moira Holden, Relocation Specialist, from Prudential Gary Greene Realtors, was launched on November 15th with a breakfast talk given by Co-chairs, Chantal Duke and Stacey Laves-Khalifa. Attendees were drawn from the relocation industry; the financial sector and members from Houston's large Oil Corridor's expatriate support groups as well as expat spouses recently arrived in the city.

Chantal Duke introduced the "iceberg" analogy to help participants look at both their immediate and subjective perceptions when meeting a foreigner for the first time, as well as their objective perceptions. It was an experiential exercise that motivated the group to think about how attitudes and cultural biases can affect relationships.

Stacey then outlined the cycles of adaptation for expats, through the honeymoon, crisis, adaptation and repatriation stages. A lively discussion followed wherein other topics were raised with regard to TCK's and trailing spouses. A list of helpful on-line resources and an article about business advantages of using transaction services in global mobility were available for attendees.

FIGT Director of Communications, Apple Gidley, congratulated the Co-Chairs on a successful program and then gave a brief outline of FIGT's history, highlighting the March 2012 conference.

REMINDER: Pollock Scholarship Applications Due December 31st, 2011

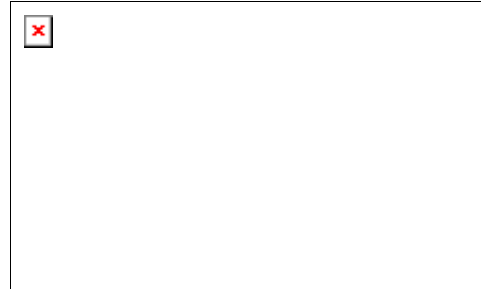
The David C. Pollock Scholarship provides highly motivated individuals working or studying in the intercultural field the opportunity to attend the FIGT conference with no registration fee. The ideal Scholarship applicant will demonstrate how attending the FIGT conference will help jumpstart a project, profession and/or entrepreneurial endeavor that contributes to others in global transition. Each Scholarship recipient will have the opportunity to establish life-long professional connections and contribute his or her unique gifts to FIGT during and beyond the conference.

To learn more or to apply for a David C. Pollock Scholarship, please [click here](#).

FIGT CONFERENCE TESTIMONIAL

Why I return again and again to the FIGT Conference...

My first Families in Global Transition conference was in 2007. I had decided to use the expertise I had gained from living abroad for 15 consecutive years and from raising three third culture kid daughters across four cultures and continents to help other families making global relocations. The only problem was I didn't know exactly what I wanted to do or how I would go about doing it. I attended the conference to pick up some new knowledge, network and get some business ideas. It was the best decision I could have possibly made. By the time I left the conference I knew exactly what I wanted to do and I had a bagful of business cards from all the new



contacts made. I was bowled over by how willing folks were to help me get launched, and I have attended the annual conference every year since then and made many good friends and business colleagues.

FIGT is the only conference I have ever attended where I feel instantly at home. I am with others who understand my life experiences and don't have to explain myself. I love the fact that the different sectors have much to share with and much to learn from other sectors. FIGT is, without a doubt, the place to go for the latest news and research on supporting global families and is the one conference that comes along each year that I cannot afford not to go to.

Tina Quick
International Family Transitions

GET INVOLVED!

Our community is so special thanks to the many volunteers who work all year round on a variety of short and long-term projects. We have 2 current vacancies, which can be easily handled from the comfort of your armchair.

Short-term project: If you enjoy intercultural topics and can navigate your way around the Internet, then you may be interested in helping us update the Resources section on the website. We have a lot of material, which needs to be reviewed, categorized and uploaded. The time commitment is flexible.

On-going project: Are you on Facebook? Our increasingly popular Fan pages need a moderator who is able to check in daily and update the content several times a week. The time required would be just a few minutes each day.

Interested? Want to learn more? Email execdirector@figt.org and we'll be in touch.