



Families in Global Transition

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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.

DISCOUNTED ROOM RATES AVAILABLE FOR THE 2014 FIGT ANNUAL CONFERENCE!



Families in Global Transition

Make your reservations now!

March 21-23, 2014

[Marriott Tysons Corner, just outside of Washington, DC](#)

Discounted Room Still Rates Available At Venue:

Don't forget to make use of the fabulous discounts on your hotel stay at the Tyson's Corner Marriott (8028 Leesburg Pike, Vienna, VA 22182), our venue for our 2014 Annual Conference. A limited number of rooms have been secured for just \$89 per night, excluding taxes and fees. The hotel has extended our discounted room rates until Thursday, March 6 at 6PM EST, so book today!

To make a hotel reservation online, please [click here](#). If you wish to make a reservation by phone please call 1-800-228-9290 and use the name "FIGT" or "Families in Global Transition."

*If you will be arriving early (prior to March 20th) to the hotel or staying additional nights after the conference is over, the hotel has extended a discounted room night rate of \$149/per night. To reserve a hotel room for the nights of March 17-20 OR March 23-26 please [click here](#).

Not yet registered for the 2014 FIGT Conference? [Click here for registration details](#).

STILL MAKING UP YOUR MIND?

Here's a glimpse of only some of the fascinating insights which our fabulous presenters bring to this year's conference!

Judy Rickatson, FIGT's Social Media Coordinator and Guru, has been speaking to them:

- Michael Pollock of [Daraja](#) and Ruth E. Van Reken, co-author of Global Nomads: Third Culture Kids, Growing up Among Worlds. They will be co-presenting a Concurrent Session entitled: [Thinking Through A Flow Of Care For All Families](#).
- Ryan Haynes is a High School Counselor at the [International School of Bangkok](#) and Becky Grappo is president of [RNG](#)

[International Educational Consultants, LLC](#). They will be panelists in a discussion on '[Cultural Complexity and Hidden Diversity: Exploring Today's TCKs](#)'. The panel also includes Ruth E. Van Reken and Alexandra Pomeroy, a young ATCK who has faced the challenges of being a TCK with a rich cultural and ethnic heritage.

Find more at FIGT's Youtube page: <https://www.youtube.com/user/FIGTorg?feature=watch>.

FRIDAY RECEPTION

Unable to join us for the full FIGT Annual Conference? Then come network with our attendees Friday night for an evening reception (appetizers and bar) and enjoy hearing from our opening keynote speaker Ray Leki.

Mr. Leki is the director of the Transition Center, Foreign Service Institute, U.S. Department of State. His keynote address will be occurring on Friday, March 21st at 6:30pm.

Tickets for his talk are being sold separately. In order to register, please [click here](#).

Meanwhile, here's an excerpt of our Board Member Mary Margaret Herman's chat with Ray Leki about his expat journey:

1. What is your expat story?

My parents were immigrants from post-WWII Europe. I grew up within ethnic enclaves in Chicago and had the luxury of lots of cross contact across ethnic groups because of playing soccer in a league that featured teams with bizarrely pure ethnic identities and socializing in clubs that supported those teams: Lithuanians, Ukrainians, Serbs, Croats, Hungarians, Italians, plenty of Germans and Poles and teams from many of the states of Mexico, among lots of others.

2. What made you choose safety/security as the topic for your book?

I had worked on the idea of a book on personal travel security in an international age for some time, but it wasn't until a publisher came to me to ask for a book on that topic that I forced myself to give birth to the book. As someone intimately involved in the expatriation experiences of huge numbers of people, the book (*Travel Wise: How to Be Safe, Savvy and Secure Abroad*) provided an opportunity to share what I had learned from their experiences as well as my own.

Read the full interview [here](#).

THE RESIDENCY SCHOLARS

Jo Parfitt has revealed the four writing scholars for next month's FIGT Conference 2014! Congratulations to Sue Mannering, Justine Ickes, Dounia Bertuccelli and Cristina Bertarelli.

For the next three weeks, they will be mentored by Jo Parfitt as preparation for the conference. Each Resident will cover and report on the content of the conference. The resulting articles will be compiled in a publication to be published by Parfitt's [Summertime Publishing](#).

Hear about this innovative project from Jo Parfitt herself. [Click here for a link to an interview](#) with her by Judy Rickatson, FIGT's Social Media Guru.

FIGT UK Update

We had a good turnout at our recent FIGT UK presentation and networking event - 'Plus One - Accompanying Support' which was partnered and hosted by [TASIS England](#) at their campus in Thorpe, Surrey.

The panel of speakers included:

- Siobhan Cummins from [Permits Foundation](#)
- Sue Pagliuca from [International Dual Career Network](#) (unable to attend on the day so Siobhan Cummins delivered an overview of her presentation)
- Evelyn Simpson of [Simpson Wiles and Associates](#).

[Lookseecity](#) filmed the presentations and have put together a short video which can be viewed on the FIGT UK web page or [here](#).

Wendy & Clare, UK Affiliate co-chairs, co-authored an overview of recently published research on the impact of a changing world of work on accompanying partner support, which Wendy presented at the event. It has great relevance to the 2014 Conference "The Global Family: Redefined", so [contact them](#) for a copy to read and share!

SEVEN GREAT REASONS TO SPONSOR THE FIGT CONFERENCE

Ellen Mahoney, from the FIGT Sponsorship Committee, has some great reasons for sponsoring the 2014 FIGT Conference:

1. Increase brand awareness - Sponsoring FIGT helps you get your name out to companies, organizations and consultants around the world.
2. Make sales - FIGT attendees are eager to learn about the latest services & products that can support international employees, spouses & children.
3. Find new employees - The FIGT conference is a perfect place to find your next skilled, knowledgeable and passionate employee.
4. Support the field - When you sponsor FIGT, you invest in the important work of providing international families the support they need.
5. Support research - New research helps to better the business of supporting global families. Sponsoring FIGT is an investment in research.
6. Show the global community that you "get it." Sponsors of FIGT get the importance of investing in practitioners and researchers.
7. Provide an opportunity for your staff to attend FIGT. Invest in your employees interest by providing them access to the conference.