



FIGT Connections

Where Research Comes to Life

Families in Global Transition

In This Issue
FIGT BLOG
VOLUNTEER
UPCOMING WEBINAR
IGNITE SESSION
WRITER'S FORUM
FIGT COOKBOOK

Quick Links
FIGT Website
2013 Conference Information
Join FIGT Membership

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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.

FIGT IS PROUD TO ANNOUNCE THE LAUNCH OF ITS NEW BLOG!

Read one of the first blog posts below by FIGT Board member, Rachel Yates. New content will be posted bi-monthly. To read more of the FIGT blog posts, [click here](#).

Women, Money and What 'Dependent Partner' really means. The Fragile Finances of the Expat Trailing Spouse..

Rachel Yates

I came to a horrible realization the other day that I was beholden to my husband. It sounds incredibly old-fashioned; even using the word 'partner' in that sentence would be wrong, because it implies an equality that I had let slip away.

The dictionary describes the term beholden as 'owing something to somebody because of something that they have done for you', so if you view being shuffled from pillar to international post as a favour, the word pretty much covers it. I realized that although I live in California, where community property and a 50/50 division applies, I did not have the independent means to pay for legal advice. And when he leaves all his dirty breakfast dishes on the counter above the dishwasher for the 5 millionth time, there is a big emotional difference between don't want to divorce my Other Half, and CAN'T..

As with the vast majority of dual career couples, when I agreed to the Other Half's first relocation, I was aware that from now on my own career would take a back seat. Global mobility research discusses the change (usually reduction) in income when couples relocate, but discussion centres around household income, rather than individual earning power. [Continue Reading Here.](#)

Become an FIGT Member Today!

In March 2012, FIGT launched a new membership program, [click here](#) to learn more or join today!

Connect with FIGT



2013 Conference Sponsors

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VOLUNTEER AT THE 2013 FIGT CONFERENCE

Become an FIGT "insider" and volunteer at this year's Conference. It's a fabulous way to meet people and raise your personal profile. Networking, anyone? We have 3 opportunities and one will be just right for you.

Raffle ticket sales: We will have "roving" ticket sales before and after meals and at other all-conference gatherings. The Raffle prizes are all high-tech gadgets and are wildly popular. Volunteers will

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wear very cool FIGT aprons with pockets, to hold tickets and money.

Videographers: We will supply you with a VERY simple point-and-shoot video camera to capture between session moments and short sound-bite interviews with speakers, sponsors and attendees.

Photographers: Bring your own camera (or phone) and snap away between sessions, during meals and while socializing. Help us capture the special vibe that is FIGT. Upload your shots to our Picasa account and we'll love you forever.

Ready to volunteer? Contact our Volunteer Coordinator Virginia Cutchin at virginia@transitionsuccess.net.

[Click here](#) for Sponsor Opportunities

FIGT TEAMS UP WITH THE INTERCULTURAL MANAGEMENT INSTITUTE (IMI) TO OFFER A JOINT CONFERENCE DISCOUNT!

Collaboration is the new competition—at least for FIGT and IMI. The 14th Annual IMI Conference is occurring only a week prior to the Annual FIGT Conference and their event will also be occurring in the Washington, D.C. area as well. The Conference Committees on both ends got together and decided to create a discount that places value in conferences as tools for practitioners.

Each organization is offering a \$75.00 discount from their conference registration price for individuals who will attend both conferences. That's \$150.00 total in savings! In order to receive a discount for one conference, you will need to provide proof of registration for the other.

Already registered for the FIGT Conference? IMI has a special registration option all set up for you. To learn more about their conference, visit: www.american.edu/sis/imi/conference. Already registered for IMI? Contact Maureen Gelwicks (mgelwicks@figt.org) to receive your FIGT Conference Discount today!

FIRST TIME ATTENDEE WEBINAR

Getting the Best Out of Your FIGT Conference: Guidelines for First Timers

Presented by Rachel Yates & Anne-Claude Lambelet

Monday, March 11, 2013 at 1 PM EST, 10 AM PST, 7 PM CET

About the Webinar

Designed for 1st time attendees, this complimentary webinar will help you make the most out of your Conference! It includes a getting ready check list, some FAQ information to facilitate logistics as well as some helpful insights and tips from past first time goers and regular attendants. Whether your aim is to get the most from the sessions, connect and build visibility, ensure you use all the conference resources, this webinar has something for you. Register online [here](#).

UNLOCK YOUR INNER ENTREPRENEUR

By Anne-Claude Lambelet

For the first time this year, FIGT is introducing [IGNITE sessions](#) in its conference program. Promoted under the slogan "Enlighten us but make it quick," these fast-paced sessions are designed to generate awareness and stimulate discussion.

Presenters are given a five-minute slot to present on a specific theme while their PowerPoint presentation automatically advances every 15 seconds, creating a truly energetic and dynamic session.

A good Ignite session - like all good presentations - should leave an audience satisfied but still hungry for more, a bit like the hara hachi bu concept of Japanese healthy eating: eat until you are 80% full and leave the table still yearning for more. An Ignite session spins out 4 to 5 key ideas, giving you just a taste; the presenter isn't stuffing you full of information.

For this reason, Ignite sessions provide a wonderful platform for further informal exchanges of ideas and networking, two central aspects FIGT conference organizers always focus on and FIGT conference participants have consistently plebiscited as a clear distinguisher for our annual event.

Sharing professional and personal passions is a central element of what FIGT conferences are all about. . Tying into the timeless tradition of story telling, a medium rightly gaining increased popularity in training situations, we are sure our Ignite sessions will get your creative juices flowing!

The theme of the sessions this year is "Unlocking Your Inner Entrepreneur." Why? Because in a challenging economy where every competitive advantage counts, our purpose is not only to connect you with best practices and latest research in your field but also to provide insights on reinforcing and further developing those business skills that will support your professional and personal growth. These sessions are targeted not only for those of you who may be considering entering our field of business but also for established providers.

WRITER'S FORUM

Please join me for an informal conversation with our conference keynote speaker, Pico Iyer, on Thursday 21st March at 8pm (room details will be posted later).

We will be discussing Mr Iyer's life as a global nomad, and his thoughts on writing. The floor will be opened to questions and with your help the evening will end with be a lively discourse. I look forward to welcoming you to an amusing and interesting start to the 2013 FIGT Conference.

Apple Gidley

A TASTE OF WHAT'S TO COME...

Been searching for an original recipe lately? The FIGT Cookbook, *Where is Home?* is currently at the press and will be ready in time for an official launch at the FIGT Conference in March. All proceeds from the cookbook will go the Pollock Scholarship Fund. The Pollock Scholars are an integral part of the annual conference and help ensure the FIGT flame is carried forward to those new to expatriation and the relocation industry.

FIGT would like to thank International Professional Relationships, Inc. for their sponsorship of the cookbook. Their generous contribution will enable FIGT to offer more scholarships to those applying for this prestigious award.

[Click here](#) for pricing details for *Where is Home?*.

Here is a teaser recipe from the cookbook to try out as you await its arrival:

HOT QUINOA

Submitted by Diana Smit

1 onion
Quinoa
Cooking oil
Vegetable broth
1 can yellow corn (or fresh from a cooked cob)

Directions: Sauté finely chopped onion, add quinoa (see package for amount instructions), add a bit of extra cooking oil. Add vegetable broth (amount according to packet). When cooked, add yellow corn, black beans, lots of chopped fresh cilantro, season with salt, pepper, and a pinch of cayenne. Toss and serve hot. Great as a side dish with any BBQ meat or fish.