

EXAMPLES

ABOUT US



Nigeria: *Prof. Olufunmilayo Olopade* met with NIH fellows from Nigeria, Ghana and Mali for an inspiring discussion about opportunities for a research career in Nigeria and her work for the Nigeria Higher Education Foundation.

Prof. Olopade encouraged the fellows to consider a scientific career back in their own country, and offered advice on how to achieve this. She told them: "I know promising young scientists like you can make a difference to your country."



Germany: *Prof. Christof Niehrs* met with NIH fellows from Germany and Italy, and told them about his own experiences returning from a postdoc in the USA. He also gave information on grants and the grant reviewing process in Germany.

Among other things, Prof. Niehrs told the fellows: "If you have the opportunity, try to stay in touch with German scientists during your postdoc, through conferences, meetings etc. This improves your chances of finding a good job on your return."

The NIH Visiting Fellow Committee (NIHVFC) is a self-governing body within NIH, composed of visiting fellows (VFs). Its goals are:

To serve the interest of VFs in their transition to life at the NIH.

To create opportunities for VFs to maintain continuity in their research upon returning to their home countries.

To encourage strong links of VFs with NIH after they complete their training and go back to their home countries

see website:

<http://felcom.nih.gov/NIHVisFC/>

SCIENCE VOICES FROM HOME

***NIH Visiting Fellows
meet scientists from their
home country***

A project of:

National Institutes of Health



Visiting Fellows Committee

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SCIENCE VOICES FROM HOME

*Stay in touch with the scientific
community in your home country*

THE FORMAT

This is very simple: we put a scientist in the same room with a limited number of visiting fellows from the same country or region for about 60-90 minutes. The fellows get the chance to ask the scientist everything they have always wanted to know but were afraid to ask about pursuing a scientific career in this country.

THE IDEA

After spending a number of years as a visiting fellow at the NIH, it is easy to lose touch with the scientific community in your own country. This can make it more difficult to find a good job after finishing training at the NIH.

To address this, the NIH Visiting Fellow Committee makes use of a very valuable existing resource: the expertise of the many international scientists and/or officials who visit NIH each year (e.g. to give a seminar, on a sabbatical or to pursue a policy initiative).

Informal, interactive meetings between such scientists and NIH visiting fellows from the same country (or region) provide a great occasion for the fellows to network, and to get current information on job and grant opportunities in their own country.

HOW TO GET INVITED

Are you a visiting fellow and do you want to make sure that you receive an invitation for the next session with a scientist from your own country (or your country of interest)?

Just send an email to one of the contacts on the back of this brochure with in the subject line “Science Voices from Home”. Also: don’t forget to include the countries you are interested in!

Other ways to learn about upcoming Science Voices from Home sessions: keep an eye on announcements on the listserves “visitingfellow-L” or “fellow-L”.

POSSIBLE CANDIDATE?

Do you know of a foreign scientist coming on a visit to the NIH who might be a good candidate for our project?

Please let us know! We are always looking for such information to organize new sessions.

We need to know about the visit at least 15 days in advance, to enable us to plan the session and send out invitations. Send an email with the information to one of the contacts at the back of this brochure.