



Families in Global Transition

FIGT Connections

Where Research Comes to Life

In This Issue

- EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION
- CONFERENCE HIGHLIGHTS
- WHY ALEXANDRIA!
- SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE
- VOLUNTEER REQUEST
- SPONSOR HIGHLIGHTS

Quick Links

- FIGT Website
- 2011 Conference Videos
- 2011 Conference Pictures
- 2011 Conference Articles
- 2012 Conference Registration

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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: 5

January 18, 2012

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.

2012 FIGT CONFERENCE | EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION ENDS FEB 10th!

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.

Less than a month to take advantage of the Early Bird registration! Early Bird registration ends February 10th!
[Click here](#) to register today!

2012 CONFERENCE | HIGHLIGHTS

Plenary Panel:

Cross-Cultural Identity, Lost in Translation
 With Paulette M. Bethel, Ardi Kuhn, Seema Lynch and Angela Mwape
 Moderated by Kilian Kröll

Many individuals and families in cross-cultural transitions find their place in a new environment through a kind of "coming out" process-choosing which stories they tell about themselves and how. In this process, some parts of their identity may get "lost in translation." What aspects of one's language, vocation, ethnicity, family history or sexual orientation are relevant to share in each new situation? To which "tribes" do we feel loyalty? The panel will discuss the risks and rewards of revealing one's chosen identity to others in a new cultural setting. We will address how to transform stressful thoughts about our stories into a sense of belonging and resilience.

A Taste of the Concurrent Sessions:

Houston we have a problem - an expatriate mother's perspective on handling mental health issues and an eating disorder in her TCK Kay Chapman, an accompanying spouse for over 25 years, discusses the difficulties of handling major depression and bulimia in TCKs whilst living in an unfamiliar country without extended family or

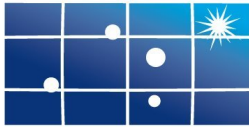


company support.



Is Online Coaching Real Coaching?

In this session Norman Viss will show, with supporting research from the University of Amsterdam, that online coaching is an effective way to treat mild to moderate forms of common psychological disorders.



MERITAS

Creating an Oasis in the Desert: Career Strategies for Expat Partners and Spouses

Join Julia Ellegood Pfaff, Cathy Lincoln, and Beth Hoban in a discussion on how today's global economy has created a growing need for business skills training to increase productivity, an area which accompanying spouses are uniquely qualified to fill.

Please visit the FIGT website [here](#) for full descriptions of all sessions!



2012 CONFERENCE | WHY ALEXANDRIA?



FIGT is excited with the venue, carefully chosen, for this year's conference. The Westin Alexandria is convenient not only to Reagan National Airport but also the nation's capital which offers some of the most iconic images of the country; from The White House to the Capitol, from the Vietnam Veteran's Memorial to the latest addition, the Martin Luther King, Jr. Memorial. Or take a wander from the hotel, or catch the free tram, down King Street in the heart of Old Town Alexandria and view the charming shops and buildings on the way down to the Potomac River, on the banks of which can be found the Torpedo Factory Art Center.

View [The Weston Alexandria](#) website for more information!

2012 CONFERENCE | SOMETHING FOR EVERYONE!

Students, Spouses and TCKs ask, "What will I get from attending the FIGT Conference?"

The answer is clear!

The immediate and tangible take-away is an increased knowledge of best practices in the relocation industry from every sector whether corporate, diplomatic, military, mission, education or the Arts. New skills are learned on how best to handle the many different aspects of a nomadic life, whether chosen or imposed.

The intangible take-away, which can be almost more important, is the lasting affect of meeting people who understand where you are coming from and networking with those who have, not only lived the life, but have chosen to share the lessons they have taken from each posting. FIGT is proud is of the tagline associated with being the friendliest conference of this kind:

A place where old and new friends meet and connect.

We look forward to meeting and welcoming you to the FIGT 2012 Conference!

2012 CONFERENCE | VOLUNTEER REQUEST

Conference Volunteers

Are you looking for a way to support FIGT and to get more involved in this dynamic organization? FIGT is a non-profit organization and we thrive on the hard work of our volunteers. There are many volunteer opportunities at the 2012 FIGT Conference. If you have already registered for the conference and would like to be part of the exciting behind-the-scenes action of the Conference please contact Dottie Byers at DByers@ipconsulting.com. We would love to have your support!

Social Media Volunteers

Do you have an interest in social media, photography or videography and are already registered for the conference? Judy Rickatson is soliciting volunteers for the 2012 FIGT Conference to assist with our social media needs. Please contact Judy Rickatson if any of the following positions interest you, ricketson@gmail.com.

Videographers: Volunteers will be loaned a VERY SIMPLE point-and-shoot video camera to take short interview clips (1-2 mins max) of participants in between sessions. No prior experience necessary, just a friendly personality! This is a great way to network and strike up conversations with people you'd like to meet. See our YouTube channel for examples: <http://www.youtube.com/user/FIGTorg>

Photographers: Bring your own camera, take still photos of the conference and upload them to a photo sharing website after the conference. A great way to meet people.

Tweeters: Tweet the conference, as yourself, using the #FIGT12 hashtag. You'll need to provide your own laptop/tablet/smartphone. In particular we will be live tweeting the plenary sessions as this created a lot of excitement online last year. Increase you online profile and your Klout score!

2012 CONFERENCE | SPONSOR HIGHLIGHTS



Dwellworks

[Dwellworks](#) provides destination services, property management and valuation services nationwide to over 800 of the Global 1000 companies via a team of engaged employees and an extensive supplier network. Our Destination Services for domestic and international transferees include: Home Finding/Rental Assistance, Settling-In, Pre-Decision Tours, School Finding, and Area Orientation, ensuring employees can settle in quickly and be productive in their new location. Additional specialty services include Career and Education Advising, Executive Support, and New York Area Real Estate Solutions -coordinated rental searches designed for the unique New York Tri-State real estate market.



Paxton Companies

Founded in 1947, [The Paxton Companies](#) have a long-term history of providing high quality moving services from household goods moving to record storage, and much more. Our experience is defined through our long-term domestic capabilities, our large and accessible warehouse facilities, our international expertise, and our superior past performance for a diverse client base. Paxton maintains offices in Kabul, Afghanistan; Baghdad, Iraq; Erbil, Iraq; Tripoli, Libya; London, United Kingdom; Peshawar Pakistan; Singapore, Republic of Singapore; and Juba, South Sudan to service the needs of our international client base. Paxton International is a leader in the specialty field of relief and development logistics with an outstanding record built upon more than 65 years of successful transportation management throughout some of the most inaccessible regions of the world. The Paxton Companies are continually using their knowledge and experience to create innovative solutions that are continually pushing the envelope in the relocation industry.

