

AAO-HNSF International Visiting Scholar Program To Take Part in Observerships and Attend The AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO

Program Overview

With the mission of *Working for the Best Ear, Nose, and Throat Care*, the Academy and Foundation's international goal is to engage in high-quality interaction around the globe to ensure meaningful, diversified contributions to the specialty.

Launched in 2008, the intent of the International Visiting Scholar Program is to bring rising academic stars to the US from developing countries to attend the AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO and take part in short-term observerships.

Funding

The International Visiting Scholars are currently funded through individual gifts. For \$2,000 per scholarship, a scholarship for one year may be named for the donor, e.g., the KJ Lee, MD International Visiting Scholar, or the Eugene N. Myers, MD International Visiting Scholar. For an endowment of \$50,000 or more, a scholarship may be named in perpetuity, e.g., the Antonio de la Cruz, MD International Visiting Scholarship.

Goals

- To train outstanding otolaryngologists in junior faculty academic positions from developing countries so they can return to teach colleagues and raise standards of patient care.
- To create relationships with sister institutions to maintain the links forged by the scholars' experiences.

The goal is ten International Visiting Scholars a year at \$2,000 each. Note: Each grant will not fully cover the expenses of the visit.

Annual Meeting Attendance

The purpose of the grant is to help pay for annual meeting registration, instruction course fees, and hotel expenses. The International Visiting Scholar must provide additional funding to cover expenses. On filing the application, candidates may request an AAO-HNSF visa invitation letter to show the US visa office.

At the Annual Meeting, the International Visiting Scholars will receive seating in the VIP section at the Opening Ceremony. At the International Dessert Reception, each scholar will receive a check for \$2,000 and a Scholarship Certificate. The Reception takes place on the Tuesday of the Annual Meeting at 8:00 pm in the headquarters hotel.

Also at the meeting, the Humanitarian Efforts Committee will recognize the International Visiting Scholars at the Humanitarian Open Forum, which takes place on the Sunday afternoon of Annual Meeting, 3:30 pm—5:30 pm, in the convention center.

Each scholar will receive a one-year complimentary subscription to our scientific journal, *Otolaryngology—Head and Neck Surgery*, starting with the January issue after the annual meeting. This subscription includes online access and print copies with any accompanying supplements. We ask for a reliable mailing address for the printed journal, such as a home address or private office, rather than a university or hospital address.

Observerships in the US

Note: Since the grant will not cover all expenses associated with an observership, the International Visiting Scholars must provide funding for these expenses.

The goal of the observership is to expand the International Visiting Scholar's knowledge and experience and improve the care available to their patients. In most academic otolaryngology programs, observers may attend conferences and lectures; observe clinics, the Operating Room, and rounds, in accordance with appropriate medical staff policy; and work with a mentor. For legal and insurance reasons, however, observers are not authorized to provide care to the patients.

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Members of the International Steering Committee and the Humanitarian Efforts, International Otolaryngology, or Panamerican Committees may assist in locating appropriate observerships for International Visiting Scholars. Applicants for a scholarship must include an invitation letter from the otolaryngology program where the observership will take place. International Visiting Scholars must finalize arrangements before they arrive in the US.

Eligibility

International Visiting Scholarships are available for outstanding international otolaryngologists primarily from developing countries, who are in full-time junior faculty academic positions, five years or less from residency training and under 40 years of age.

Criteria that determine “developing” follow the World Health Organization (WHO) designation based on the most current World Bank data on Gross National Product per capita. WHO lists developing countries under its HINARI Group A (78 countries) or Group B (29 countries). (See list below)

In addition, if a donor designates a country (e.g., India, Turkey, Czech Republic) applicants from non-HINARI designated countries are eligible for an International Visiting Scholarship, and applicants from the Spanish- and Portuguese-speaking countries of North, Central, and South America and the Caribbean are eligible for the Antonio de la Cruz Scholarship. Women otolaryngologists are eligible for the Nancy L. Snyderman, MD Scholarship.

Note: the IVS program differs from the International Travel Grants for international scholars studying in US otolaryngology programs in unpaid fellowships, to enable them to attend our annual meetings. For International Travel Grants, there is no geographic restriction other than US and Canadian citizens are not eligible.

IVS candidates must submit in electronic format (PDF or other email attachment) in this order:

1. International Visiting Scholar Application form
2. Curriculum Vitae (CV) (three pages or less)
3. Personal statement describing how the experience will help the candidates and their patients in their own country.
4. The AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting verification form signed by their Department Chair.
5. Letter of support from their Department Chair
6. Invitation letter from the US otolaryngology program where the scholar will observe.
7. Color photo (.jpg 300 DPI high resolution)

National otolaryngology societies and non-profit organizations known to the International Steering Committee and/or the Humanitarian Efforts, International Otolaryngology, and Panamerican Committees may recommend candidates.

Deadline for receipt of applications (email only)—close of business May 1.

Ineligibility

International Visiting Scholarships are NOT available to:

- Citizens of the U.S.A. or of developed countries as defined by the WHO, unless designated by a donor.
- Foreign nationals who have previously attended an AAO-HNSF Annual Meeting & OTO EXPO
- Individuals who are not fully trained otolaryngologists.
- Individuals who are in private practice or not in an academic position.
- Individuals over 40 years of age as of October 1 of the scholarship year.

Notification

Candidates will be notified by email in mid-June. Successful candidates need to respond within three weeks of notification. Candidates who withdraw after acceptance, e.g., because of visa denial or lack of additional

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funding, must notify AAO-HNSF immediately in writing by email (humanitarian@entnet.org) or fax: attention Catherine Lincoln 1-703-684-4288.

Assessment

On returning home, International Visiting Scholars submit a report on their experience, which may be published in the *Bulletin* or other Academy publications. We ask scholars to describe their experiences in the US, objectives they achieved during their stay, and how the scholarship affected their career goals. In addition, we invite them to critique the program and offer suggestions for modification and improvement.

The International Visiting Scholars program is made possible by the contributions of individuals to the President's Appeal, the Millennium Society, or the Humanitarian Restricted Fund. If you wish to support the International Visiting Scholars program, please contact humanitarian@entnet.org or send a tax-deductible check to the AAO-HNSF, 1650 Diagonal Road, Alexandria, VA 22314-2857, USA.) Thank you for your generous support of this unique program.

List of Developing Countries Eligible for International Visiting Scholar Award

WHO HINARI (2012) Band 1 (Least Developed Countries)

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|----------------------------|-------------------|---------------------------|
| 1. Afghanistan | 27. Guyana | 53. Papua New Guinea |
| 2. Angola | 28. Haiti | 54. Rwanda |
| 3. Bangladesh | 29. Honduras* | 55. Samoa (Western) |
| 4. Benin | 30. Kenya | 56. Sao Tome and Principe |
| 5. Bhutan | 31. Korea (North) | 57. Senegal |
| 6. Bolivia* | 32. Kiribati | 58. Sierra Leone |
| 7. Burkina Faso | 33. Kyrgyzstan | 59. Solomon Islands |
| 8. Burundi | 34. Laos | 60. Somalia |
| 9. Cambodia | 35. Lesotho | 61. South Sudan |
| 10. Cameroon | 36. Liberia | 62. Sudan |
| 11. Cape Verde | 37. Madagascar | 63. Swaziland |
| 12. Central African Rep. | 38. Malawi | 64. Syria |
| 13. Chad | 39. Maldives | 65. Tajikistan |
| 14. Comoros | 40. Mali | 66. Tanzania |
| 15. Congo | 41. Mauritania | 67. Timor-Leste |
| 16. Congo, Democratic Rep. | 42. Micronesia | 68. Togo |
| 17. Côte d'Ivoire | 43. Moldova | 69. Tokelau |
| 18. Djibouti | 44. Mongolia | 70. Tuvalu |
| 19. Equatorial Guinea | 45. Morocco | 71. Uganda |
| 20. Eritrea | 46. Mozambique | 72. Uzbekistan |
| 21. Ethiopia | 47. Myanmar | 73. Vanuatu |
| 22. Gambia | 48. Namibia | 74. Vietnam |
| 23. Ghana | 49. Nepal | 75. West Bank and Gaza |
| 24. Guatemala* | 50. Nicaragua* | 76. Yemen |
| 25. Guinea | 51. Niger | 77. Zambia |
| 26. Guinea-Bissau | 52. Nigeria | 78. Zimbabwe |

WHO HINARI Group 2

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| 1. Albania | 9. Dominican Rep.* | 17. Jordan | 25. Suriname |
| 2. Algeria | 10. Ecuador* | 18. Kosovo | 26. Tonga |
| 3. Armenia | 11. El Salvador | 19. Marshall Islands | 27. Tunisia |
| 4. Azerbaijan | 12. Micronesia | 20. Montenegro | 28. Turkmenistan |
| 5. Belize | 13. Fiji | 21. Nauru | 29. Ukraine |
| 6. Bosnia-Herzegovina | 14. Georgia | 22. Paraguay* | |
| 7. Colombia* | 15. Iraq | 23. Peru* | |
| 8. Cuba* | 16. Jamaica | 24. Sri Lanka | |

*Eligible to apply for Antonio de la Cruz International Visiting Scholarship.