

Society for Intercultural Education Training and Research (SIETAR) - India Inaugural Conference

More Masala for the Melting Pot: Sharing Cultures and Competence for Collaboration

**17-19 August 2006
Bangalore, India**

CALL FOR PROPOSALS

We are happy to announce the inaugural conference of SIETAR-India on the 17th, 18th and 19th of August 2006 in Bangalore, India.

SIETAR-INDIA

The Society for Intercultural Education Training and Research (SIETAR)-India is a non-profit association of educators, researchers and trainers from a wide range of practical and academic disciplines who share a common concern for intercultural relations. SIETAR-India provides an opportunity to learn from and share with colleagues in the intercultural arena and advance the body of knowledge and practice in the field.

SIETAR-India is part of the global network of SIETAR organizations. Established in 1974, SIETAR has over 3500 members world-wide with affiliates in many countries. SIETAR holds Non-Governmental Organisation (NGO) status with the United Nations and the Council of Europe.

THE CONFERENCE

The ability to communicate, collaborate and create across cultural difference is being recognized as a critical professional, personal and societal competence for the 21st century. While this phenomenon is world-wide, it is a salient feature of a changing India. The growing number of people working internationally in India, either virtually or actually, the need to enhance education that prepares Indians to be “glocal” citizens, and the reality of the regional, linguistic and communal diversity of India are only some of the areas where the impact of culture is increasingly being felt.

The theme of SIETAR-India’s inaugural conference is ***More Masala for the Melting Pot:
Sharing Cultures and Competence for Collaboration***

The purpose of the SIETAR-India conference is to provide a forum for the exchange of ideas, techniques, strategies, theories, tools and creative expression useful to fostering effective intercultural relations and thus to develop ourselves as intercultural practitioners and the intercultural field.

Professionals from any discipline that deals with intercultural issues and fields in which intercultural work is exercised and applied are encouraged to attend.

You are invited to submit proposals on topics including:

- managing people and projects in an intercultural context
- providing services to a diverse market

- training and educating in a multicultural setting
- intercultural negotiation or conflict mediation and resolution
- supporting global mobility - expats, repats and migrants
- cultural fusion in the arts or hospitality
- research in cross-cultural settings
- intercultural collaboration and virtual teams
- specialty areas in tourism, such as medical tourism

SIETAR INDIA 2006 CONFERENCE ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

The SIETAR India 2006 conference organizing committee brings together individuals with significant personal and professional experience on seven continents representing the fields of business, marketing, communications, high tech, academia, human resources, organization development, training, education and the arts.

Joy Chakrabarti, FutureNow Consulting

Stuart Forster, SIEMENS
 Author and photographer: *Kerala and Bangalore & Karnataka*

Guillaume Gevrey, TransWorks Information Services, Aditya Birla Group

Supriya Gopi, Robert Bosch India Ltd.

Nirada Harendra, Alliance Francaise

Anna Heintze, Greynium Information Technologies

Vinay Kumar, International Center for Management and Indian Studies (ICMIS)

Melanie Martinelli, Aztec Software and Technology Services Limited

Nils Nugteren, LogicaCMG

Heather Robinson, Success Across Borders
 Co-author: *Cultural Detective: Switzerland* (www.culturaldetective.com)

Brian Schroeder, Microsoft India (R&D) Private Ltd.

Petra Vogler, PhD, Robert Bosch India Ltd.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES OVERVIEW

Proposals must include all eleven elements described below to be considered by the presentation committee. These items are described in more detail below.

COVER PAGE(S)

1. Title of presentation
2. A 250 word abstract of the presentation
3. Presenter(s) information
4. Session length and format
5. A 150 word biographical note about the/each presenter
6. Target audience
7. Equipment & audio-visual requirements
8. Room size & set-up

PROPOSAL TEXT

9. Session description including theoretical and practical context.

BIOGRAPHICAL INFORMATION

10. Presenter(s) biography or curriculum vitae
11. Two references with e-mail addresses. These should be individuals qualified to speak to the presenter's professional competence as an interculturalist.

SUBMISSION GUIDELINES

Please submit your proposal via email to SIETARIndia@yahoo.co.in

Please write in the subject line of your message: SIETAR India 2006 Proposal.

Final deadline submission is June 30th, 2006.

Proposals received after this date will not be considered.

EVALUATION PROCEDURES

SIETAR-India Conference Committee is a group of SIETAR members who are volunteering their efforts to organize the conference. The quality of their work in reading and choosing proposals depends upon having sufficient amount of time. Sending your proposal in earlier rather than later will help us perform this task thoughtfully and efficiently.

After submitting the proposal, you will receive an acknowledgement of receipt. You will be notified of acceptance in time to pre-register for the conference. Notification of decisions on proposals will be sent as soon as possible.

Presenters are kindly requested to pre-register for the conference by 1 August 2006. This will allow you to take advantage of the early-bird registration fee and will signify your commitment to present at the conference.

PROPOSAL GUIDELINES IN DETAIL

Please follow the format outlined below for your proposal. Due to the logistical challenge of handling a large amount of proposals, we ask you to please make sure all the information requested is provided upon submission.

1. TITLE OF PRESENTATION:

Choose a title that accurately reflects the content of the proposed session. Clever or catchy titles are acceptable, but make sure that they are not misleading.

2. A 250 word abstract of the presentation:

These short abstracts of the chosen papers will be published in the conference program to assist participants in selecting the presentations they will attend.

3. PRESENTER(S) INFORMATION:

Please provide the following information for every presenter. If there is more than one presenter, please start with the one who is designated as a contact person for the group. All proposal-related communication will be between the conference committee and this one person.

1. First/given and last/family name
2. Primary affiliation (institution, business, government agency, etc.)
3. E-mail Address
4. Website (If available)
5. Phone(s) including Skype address if you have one (www.skype.com)
6. Mailing address (If possible, please do not provide a P.O. Box)
7. SIETAR membership (yes/no) and the name of the SIETAR to which you belong.
8. Previous SIETAR presentations. (What, when, where?)

4. SESSION LENGTH AND FORMAT:

You may choose from among the following formats:

A. Workshop: 90 minutes. A workshop features a combination of presentation/lecture and interaction with the audience. It should have a well-defined structure and include handouts and visual aids. Within this format a simulation or set of exercises is conducted to teach participants how these methodologies can be used in training and education.

B. Facilitated Discussion: 60 minutes. The presenter(s) will lead participants in discussing a proposed topic. While this format permits considerable audience participation, the presenter(s) should propose and follow an outline to permit as thorough and in-depth an examination of all aspects of the topic as permitted in the time allowed.

C. Formal Paper/Research Presentation: 60 minutes. This more formal, academic

format consists of the presenter describing the results of a research project and discussing the study. Attendees can expect a minimum 15 minute question and answer period during this session. Presenters are encouraged to provide copies of their paper.

D. Artistic Expression/Performance: 90 minutes. This format invites presentations other than the traditional style, which places a primary emphasis on the spoken word. Presentations in this format may rely more on music, visual arts, theatre or physical movement to deliver their messages.

F. Film/Video Sessions: 60 or 90 minutes. The presentation and debriefing of a video or film/film segment should include the following: an introduction which prepares participants to see how the film increases one's knowledge of another culture, a cultural concept, or some other dimension of the intercultural experience and a debrief that will enhance their ability to convey such knowledge to others. Please specify the length of film/video as total session length including introduction and debrief is scheduled as either 60 or 90 minutes.

Regardless of format, interactive sessions are encouraged.

5. A 150 WORD BIOGRAPHICAL NOTE ABOUT THE/EACH PRESENTER

These short bios of presenters will be published in the conference programme to assist participants in selecting the presentations they will attend.

6. TARGET AUDIENCE:

Please describe who will most benefit from attending your session.

Level of experience: (Check All That Apply)

- Intermediate (1-5 years of experience)
- Advanced (5+ years of experience)
- All

Areas of professional interest: (Check All That Apply)

- Education
- Higher education
- Elementary or secondary education
- Training
- Research
- Simulations
- Business/corporate
- Non-profit/NGO
- Domestic diversity
- Global diversity
- Cultural transitions
- Culture/country specific
- Peace, conflict resolution
- Communication/dialogue
- Intrapersonal dimensions
- Politics
- Religion
- Government
- Social Service
- Other (please specify):

7. EQUIPMENT & AUDIO VISUAL REQUIREMENTS

Please specify what equipment you will need for your presentation. The following will be provided if requested with the proposal:

- Flip chart
- TV/VCR/DVD
- LCD projector (please contact us if you need an LCD projector and cannot bring one.)
- Screen
- Other (please let us know now what you have in mind and we will tell you if it is possible)

PRESENTERS ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ALL MATERIALS INCLUDING PHOTOCOPYING OF HANDOUTS. We recommend wherever possible that you bring handouts with you as there are no facilities to copy on-site.

8. ROOM SIZE & SET-UP

Please specify the following:

Number of participants for your session:

- Desired number of participants
- Maximum number of participants

Your preferred room set-up:

- Classroom Style
- Theater Style
- Other (please specify):

9. SESSION DESCRIPTION

Please provide a 1000 to 1500 word description of the presentation you will be making. This should include a description of the content, methodology, sequence of activities along with the theoretical and practical context of the work, including the relationship of your work to the theme of the conference: ***More Masala for the Melting Pot: Sharing Cultures and Competence for Collaboration.***

10. PRESENTER(S) BIOGRAPHY OR CURRICULUM VITAE

Please provide a one page biography for each presenter that emphasizes the background, work or experience that makes him or her competent to make this presentation.

The conference organizing committee is looking forward to receiving your proposal in a timely fashion and enjoying your presentation and your company at the SIETAR-India Inaugural Conference ***More Masala for the Melting Pot: Sharing Cultures and Competence for Collaboration: 17-19 August 2006, Bangalore, India.***

If you have any questions or need any clarifications, please contact SIETARIndia@yahoo.co.in

Please state on the e-mail subject line: SIETAR India 2006 Proposal Question

THE CONFERENCE LOCATION

The City: Bangalore

Now synonymous with the surging IT industry, Bangalore is many things to many people. Home to countless multinational firms, famous for its pleasant weather year-round, a lively pub and disco scene, and shopping (whether on trendy Brigade Road or traditional Chickpet), Bangalore still holds much of the natural beauty and charm that has made it attractive over the ages. With a truly pan-Indian population, the highest percentage of international expats in India, not to mention a woman Muslim mayor, Bangalore is comfortable with diversity. The present-day city of Bangalore can be traced to the early 16th century, when Kempegowda, a local chief, built a small mud fort here. Bangalore gained prominence in the 18th century, when it became an important fort city, under Hyder Ali and Tipu Sultan of Mysore. In 1831, the British made it the regional administrative city and established a large cantonment. This varied historical legacy means there is much to see and do in Bangalore including the summer palace of Tipu Sultan, lovely temples, the impressive Vidhana Soudha government buildings, as well as the sprawling greenery of Lal Bagh and Cubbon Park. Within a few hours of Bangalore are the palace city of Mysore, picturesque Srirangapatna where Tipu Sultan was laid to rest, the remarkable Hoysala temples of Halebid, Belur and Somnathpur and the impressive Jain monolith at Sravanabelgola.

The Venue: International Center for Management and India Studies (ICMIS)

ICMIS is an education, research and training organization offering excellent programmes to an international audience. ICMIS creates the intellectual synergy between world-class infrastructure, faculty and offerings to create programmes that provide value to students and corporations. While based in Bangalore, ICMIS provides management and India-centric programmes to the global community.

ICMIS is located on a sprawling 8-acre campus in Kothanur, a northern suburb of Bangalore. This secluded, serene and green setting contributes to an atmosphere ideal for fostering learning. The campus is well-connected by good roads and is approximately a 45-minute drive from the centre of the city. State-of-the-art facilities include a variety of informal and formal meeting spaces both indoor and out, including an auditorium and amphitheatre. Limited internet connectivity is available onsite.

ICMIS, which until recently was known as the Centre for American Education (CAE), began operations in Bangalore in 1997. The organization is known to offer the best in international education in India. The programmes at CAE included university level courses transferable to many institutions worldwide as well as degree and short term programmes.

ICMIS (CAE) has partnerships with various academic institutions. The study India programme is part of the CCIS program offerings and the sponsoring institutions are Rockland Community College (www.sunyrockland.edu) and Truman State University (www.truman.edu). In addition, ICMIS (CAE) is also the Bangalore Branch campus of Broward Community College, Florida, as well as an academic affiliate of Excelsior College, Albany (www.excelsior.edu), and Truman State University (www.truman.edu).

Accommodation and Local Transport

Please make arrangements for accommodations before arriving at the conference.

Bangalore has accommodations in every category: from five-star hotels through international and national chains, mid-range business hotels and family-run guest houses.

Dormitory-style rooms with shared bathroom facilities are available at cost on the ICMIS campus for up to 25 SIETAR-India conference participants, single occupancy, on a first-come, first-serve basis.

Karnataka State pre-paid taxis are available at the airport. Within central Bangalore rickshaws are convenient and plentiful.

During the conferences a shuttle service will be available from a central Bangalore location to the conference site.

You will receive further accommodation and shuttle details when you register for the conference.

Conference Schedule and Meals

The SIETAR-India 2006 conference begins with an opening reception on Thursday evening the 17th of August, and ends with a closing luncheon on Sunday the 19th of August.

Your conference registration fee includes coffee/tea at breaks and all meals during the conference as follows:

Thursday 17 th	dinner
Friday 18 th	breakfast and lunch and dinner
Saturday 18 th	breakfast and lunch

How to reach Bangalore

Bangalore is very well connected by air, road, and rail.

By Air: There are a number of daily flights from Kolkata, Mumbai, Delhi, Hyderabad, Chennai, Ahmedabad, Goa, Kochi, Mangalore, Pune and Thiruvananthapuram. Bangalore has direct international flights from London, Paris, Frankfurt, Muscat, Sharjah and Singapore.

By Road and Rail: Bangalore has a large bus terminus, which is near the railway station. There are two railway stations in Bangalore. The main station is well connected to all major Indian cities. There are number of daily express trains from Bangalore to other cities of India.

Climate

August in Bangalore is very pleasant. You can expect partly cloudy, breezy weather with temperatures between 35 degrees centigrade (max.) and 25 degrees centigrade (min) and occasional rain showers.