

## **Fellowships in Drug Abuse Research Link NIDA to the World**

Scientific opportunity and public health responsibility have no borders for the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), the world's largest supporter of research on drug abuse and its health and social consequences. Through its International Program, NIDA fosters international collaborative drug abuse research, training, and scientific exchange.

As a cornerstone for building international research capacity, the NIDA International Program supports a variety of fellowships that provide research training and professional development opportunities for all levels of scientists interested in drug abuse research. This includes the following opportunities:

- Postdoctoral non-U.S. citizen researchers from any country apply to train and work with a NIDA-supported researcher in the United States for 12 months through the INVEST and INVEST/Clinical Trials Network Fellowships.
- Midcareer professionals from eligible developing countries are brought to the United States for 10 months of mentored academic study and research experience through the U.S. Department of State NIDA Hubert H. Humphrey Fellowship.
- Research exchanges between senior NIDA-supported scientists and their international senior research partners are supported for up to 3 months through the Distinguished International Scientist Collaboration Awards (DISCA) and USDISCA.
- Postdoctoral and senior researchers from any country work and train with well-established scientists who are experts in HIV-related drug use research through the NIDA–International AIDS Society Fellowships.
- Predoctoral and postdoctoral clinical fellowships in developing countries are available through the Fogarty International Center.

"The NIDA International fellowships provide drug abuse researchers with an opportunity to gain valuable experience and lend new perspectives to the field by generating knowledge on the causes, prevention, and treatment of drug abuse—an investment that benefits both the United States and the global community," said Steven W. Gust, Ph.D., director of the NIDA International Program.

Since 1990, NIDA has supported more than 300 drug abuse professionals from more than 90 countries, 74 percent of which were from low- or middle-income countries. At the conclusion of their fellowships, NIDA International Program alumni contribute to the field by conducting research, publishing scientific articles, presenting at scientific meetings, and promoting evidence-based drug abuse interventions and policies in their home countries. In past years, fellows have conducted research in every aspect of drug abuse and addiction, from basic science to epidemiology, prevention, treatment, and preclinical and clinical sciences.

By supporting research training and exchange opportunities globally, the NIDA International Program contributes to the development of research that advances U.S. public health interests related to drug abuse and addiction. The U.S. scientific community benefits from contributions by foreign scientists and students, creating opportunities to conduct research in parts of the world critical to scientific advancement.

Applications for the 2010 INVEST-CTN fellowships are being accepted through September 1. To learn more about the NIDA International Program fellowships, including details on eligibility and how to apply, visit <http://international.drugabuse.gov/research/>.