

FAIMER[®] Education Programs

Improving health professions education
fellowships • advanced degrees • workshops
to improve global health

Programs for Health Professions Educators

FAIMER's mission is improving global health by improving education. In pursuit of this goal, FAIMER offers educational opportunities to international health professions educators. These programs develop skills that allow participants to serve as resources for their colleagues, institutions, and local and regional communities. They emphasize not only methodologies for teaching and assessment, but also personal and professional development, leadership, and program planning and management, which are essential to initiate and sustain change.

FAIMER Institute

The FAIMER Institute is a two-year, part-time fellowship program for international faculty who have the potential to play key roles in improving health professions education at their schools and in their regions. The program is designed to teach education methods, management, and leadership skills, and to promote the development of a professional community among Fellows. By fostering interaction among international health professions educators and supporting the development of Regional Institutes and Education Centers, the FAIMER Institute strives for co-creation of experiences and resources that serve the needs of the international health professions education community.

The FAIMER Institute is comprised of four sessions:

- Session 1 – Foundation (residential in the United States) – 3 weeks
- Session 2 – Mentoring and Learning Web (distance learning) – 11 months
- Session 3 – Advanced topics (residential in the United States) – 2 weeks
- Session 4 – Mentoring and Learning Web (distance learning) – 11 months

The on-site sessions are held during October in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, USA.

FAIMER Regional Institutes

FAIMER has a particular focus on serving health professions educators and institutions in developing regions of Asia, Africa, and Latin America. To pursue this aim, FAIMER has established collaborative relationships with key individuals and institutions at the local level to develop Regional Institutes in India, Brazil, and Southern Africa. The Regional Institutes follow the curriculum and model of the FAIMER Institute with the design and content of the program adapted to local circumstances.

FAIMER currently has Regional Institutes at the following locations:

- GSMC-FAIMER Regional Institute – Mumbai, India
- CMCL-FAIMER Regional Institute – Ludhiana, India
- Brazil-FAIMER Regional Institute – Porto das Dunas, Ceará, Brazil
- PSG-FAIMER Regional Institute – Coimbatore, India
- Southern Africa-FAIMER Regional Institute – South Africa

FAIMER Education Centers

Like the Regional Institutes, FAIMER Education Centers follow the education model of the FAIMER Institute, but adapt the program to meet the specific needs of health professions schools. Selected faculty members from the partnering school complete the FAIMER Institute or Regional Institute fellowship program and, in turn, become the core FAIMER faculty at the school, developing the curriculum and material for the program with technical assistance from FAIMER. The customized program is then used to train other faculty at the school.



*improving
global
health by
improving health
professions
education*



*focusing on
Asia,
Africa, and
Latin America*



“The sense of being a part of a wider group of friends across the world has also helped to bring a broader perspective to medical education. All over the world, these friends are coping with equal or even greater challenges.”

“Our discussions and classes are designed to equip us to be effective agents of change.”

~ FAIMER Institute Fellows

FAIMER is currently developing the following Education Centers:

- Zim-FAIMER Education Center – Harare, Zimbabwe. Starts 2012.
- Bugando-FAIMER Education Center – Mwanza, Tanzania. Starts 2013.

Education Innovation Project

A major component of FAIMER's education programs is the completion of an education innovation project, proposed by participants before they begin the program, and implemented at their schools during the distance learning sessions. The innovation project focuses learning and emphasizes the practical application of knowledge. Project proposals that are relevant to the participant's school and region are preferred. Projects completed by Institute Fellows have involved education innovations in areas such as problem-based learning, student assessment, information technology, community-based education, program evaluation, faculty development, comprehensive curriculum revision and integration, and distance learning.

Global Professional Community Building

Each participant follows the FAIMER program for a two-year period and interacts closely with a network of other participants. Community building is fostered by a period of overlap in the residential sessions for first- and second-year participants, providing opportunities for interaction between participants who are beginning their education innovation projects and those who have completed their projects. On-line discussion provides a forum for group work on research and projects among both alumni and current participants. The results are mentoring and collaborative relationships that contribute to local, regional, and, ultimately, global networks of experts in health professions education.

Eligibility

Participants in a FAIMER education program must have a graduate or professional degree; hold an academic appointment as a faculty member in a health professions school; be in a position of leadership with respect to curriculum and educational policies or procedure. Applicants to the FAIMER Institute and Regional Institute fellowship programs must reside and work in their home countries at the time of application and at the time of acceptance of the fellowship award; have strong endorsement from the Dean of their school for the proposed educational project; have a position at the school to which they will return upon completion of the fellowship. Priority is given to education innovation proposals that are relevant and appropriate to regional health needs. Preference is given to mid-career applicants.

Applying to the FAIMER Institute and Regional Institutes

Applications for the FAIMER Institute and all FAIMER Regional Institutes are available on-line at www.faimer.org. Please visit the FAIMER website for application instructions and deadline information.

FAIMER International Fellowship in Medical Education (IFME)

The FAIMER International Fellowship in Medical Education (IFME) provides advanced educational opportunities for graduates of the FAIMER Institute and FAIMER Regional Institutes. Alumni are eligible to apply to Master's in Health Professions Education programs at selected institutions that have distance learning programs with a minimum residency requirement of one to two months.

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