Our Staff

From left to right: Maria Hunt, Sara Elias, Feza H. Remzi, Aura Lopez, Diler Bolgi

Feza H. Remzi, MD
Director

Aura Lopez
Manager - Spanish

Maria Hunt
International Program Coordinator - Spanish

Sara Elias
International Education Coordinator - Arabic

Diler Bolgi
International Program Coordinator - Turkish
Dear Colleague,

The Center for International Medical Education (CIME) continues to be a leader in generating opportunities for ongoing education and training throughout Cleveland Clinic's global network. Guided by Cleveland Clinic principles of collaboration and commitment, CIME develops and coordinates international educational programming for both Cleveland Clinic physicians as well as international colleagues. Our commitment to serving the wellbeing of our patients requires the collaborative efforts within our own system as well as outside of those borders. Providing opportunities for international physicians to visit Cleveland Clinic and see procedures or structures that may benefit the provision of healthcare in other parts of the world is one part of this commitment. In addition to welcoming record numbers of international observers to Cleveland Clinic, CIME in 2010 coordinated attendance of Cleveland Clinic physicians at more international conferences than ever before and arranged more symposia and preceptorships for our international audience.

Through these activities Cleveland Clinic continues to be very approachable and available to our international colleagues at all levels, which opens opportunities for an exchange of knowledge. We are confident that the opportunities CIME provides to international visitors will have a positive impact on their careers. With a unique structure and philosophy to act as a unit, Cleveland Clinic is an exceptional institution that sets the tone of how the group practice should be and how great care can be delivered to our patients and mankind. This has been the legacy of our founders and it is the tradition that the current generation will carry on to the next generation.

With best regards,

Feza H. Remzi, M.D.
Director, Center for International Medical Education
International Physician Observer Program

The International Physician Observer Program is open for international medical students, international medical graduates, residents, fellows and fully-trained physicians who wish to become more acquainted with Cleveland Clinic’s model of care. It allows our participants to learn firsthand, recent innovations in surgery and medicine developed by Cleveland Clinic. This program promotes the development of relationships between Cleveland Clinic and our international colleagues.

“I will definitely recommend the observership to my colleagues. The doctors and nurses were extremely friendly. They all helped me feel welcome. They answered all my questions and I have learned a lot. In addition I think that the services provided at the Cleveland Clinic are light years ahead of its time and I was extremely lucky to see it. Finally I would tell them that I was exposed to so many uncommon diseases and that’s bound to happen since people from all over the world visit the Cleveland Clinic each year.”

- Observer from Jordan, Gastroenterology and Hepatology
“An extremely fulfilling and learning experience! The education was imparted with a personalized touch. In this short period, I developed a sense of belonging in this great institute. I am indebted to Dr. Angelov and Dr. Barnett. I am extremely grateful to Dr. Rahmatullah who went out of his way to teach me not only the science of Gamma Knife, but also the art of it.”

-Observer from India, Brain Tumor & Neuro-oncology

In 2010 CIME coordinated these observerships with over 70 Cleveland Clinic departments and sections. Between 2009 and 2010, a 44% growth in the number of international physician observers was documented. CIME coordinates this program with the belief that important goals of international collaborations are to exchange knowledge and to develop and maintain relationships with colleagues from around the world. Post-departure communications with physician observers include the quarterly E-newsletter, holiday greeting cards, symposium invitations and phone outreach.

“It’s my great experience to be an observer here. I have seen the best working system, high technology and many nice people at the Cleveland Clinic.”

–Observer from Thailand, General Anesthesia
CIME organizes the participation of Cleveland Clinic staff in various conferences abroad. In 2010 Cleveland Clinic physicians attended 33 international conferences, representing a 57% growth from 2009. Over 60,000 attendees participated in these conferences becoming connected to Cleveland Clinic’s mission and vision.

**2009 & 2010 Conferences by Region**

It was clear to me that a lot of thought and planning went to ensure we had a very successful experience.”

Physician from Mexico, Spine Surgery
Department Participation in 2010 International Conferences

Cardiovascular Medicine
Colorectal Surgery
Dentistry
Endocrine Surgery
Endocrinology
Epilepsy
Gastroenterology & Hepatology
Hepato-pancreato-biliary and Transplant Surgery, General Surgery
Infectious Disease
Medical Subspecialty Pediatrics
Neonatology
Nephrology & Hypertension
Neuroanesthesia
Neurology
Neurosurgery
Obstetrics & Gynecology
Orthopedic Surgery
Plastic Surgery
Pulmonary Medicine
Thoracic & Cardiovascular Surgery
Urology
Vascular Surgery
Symposia

In 2010 Cleveland Clinic hosted symposia in Ohio and Florida. Over 150 international physicians were attracted to Cleveland Clinic's domestic campuses. These symposia highlighted a variety of specialties, including Cardiovascular Medicine, Pulmonary Medicine, Digestive Disease, Plastic Surgery, Genitourinary Cancer, and Gynecology.
The International Preceptorship is a week-long program based on specific clinical and administrative interests of participating physicians. Hosted at our main Cleveland Clinic campus, preceptorships are coordinated between individual departments and international professional organizations. In 2010 preceptorships were coordinated in Pulmonary Medicine, Cardiology, Oncology and Gastroenterology.