



FORUM NEWS

MARCH 18, 2010

Over 900 Expected at Annual Conference

Well over 900 people are expected to attend the Forum's Sixth Annual Conference next week in Charlotte, NC, making this the largest Forum conference ever. Attendees will represent over 500 institutions and organizations from 23 countries, 41 U.S. states and the District of Columbia. On Wednesday, March 24th, 125 people will be participating in the inaugural Standards of Good Practice Institute, "Beyond the Basics of Health, Safety and Security," while over 130 colleagues will take part in pre-conference workshops.

On-site check-in and registration for Standards Institute and Pre-Conference Workshop participants will begin on Tuesday, March 23rd from 4-7pm, as well as on Wednesday, March 24th beginning at 7am.

Check-in and on-site registration for all other conference participants will begin on Wednesday morning, March 24th, at 9am.

For an overview of the conference program, including session and event descriptions, please visit: <http://www.forumea.org/Charlotte2010.htm>

How Do I Get to the Conference?

Please visit the [transportation page](#) of the conference website regarding travel details. The Charlotte Douglas airport is only 4.5 miles (a 12-minute cab ride) from the conference hotel (the Westin Charlotte) and other hotels located in the uptown area. Follow the embedded links here for additional details regarding [transportation options](#) or [driving directions](#) to the Westin.

Arriving in Charlotte

We have learned that a large sporting event sponsored by the Mexican National Soccer Team at the Carolina Panthers stadium (just six blocks from the Westin Charlotte) on Wednesday evening will bring almost 60,000 people to downtown Charlotte, with some fans and players staying at the Westin Charlotte. Please keep in mind when planning your arrival at the conference that Charlotte will be more congested than usual.

If you are attending the conference and staying at the Westin Charlotte, please email the reservations team at 01383reservations@westin.com to let them know your anticipated arrival time. This will help them to be prepared with sufficient front-desk staff on hand to expedite the check-in process.

Pilot Phase of BEVI Project Completed

The Pilot Phase of the Forum BEVI Project has been completed and the results will be discussed in detail at a session at the annual conference. The Forum BEVI Project involves a collaboration between the Forum, the International Beliefs and Values Institute and the Office of International Programs at James Madison University. 11 Forum member institutions have helped to validate the BEVI for use as an instrument to document education abroad outcomes. Participating institutions will be meeting during the conference to discuss and analyze the results of the project. A special opportunity for Forum member institutions to use the BEVI will be announced shortly after the annual conference.



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