



The National Evolutionary Synthesis Center
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Abdul Hamid A. Toha
Genetics Laboratory UNIPA
Laboratory of Fishery
Fishery Department
Faculty of Animal Science, Fishery, and Marine Science
The State University of Papua
Jl. Gunung Salju Amban
Manokwari-Papua Barat 98314
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Dear Dr. Toha:

RE: Invitation for Visitors Engaged in Academic Activities

We look forward to your visit to National Evolutionary Synthesis Center (NESCent) at Duke University from March 3-8, 2012. Your activities with NESCent will include participation in our NESCent **The Molecular Ecology and Evolution of the Indo-Pacific: A Collaborative Research Network** Catalysis Meeting in Durham, North Carolina.

The United States Congress has recognized the value of short-term academic exchanges by passing a law that permits international scholars entering the U.S. in "tourist" or "visitor" status to receive reimbursement for expenses. To qualify for the benefits of this law, your status and activities must meet certain criteria.

To make it easier for you to meet the requirements for reimbursement payment, the Duke University International Center has prepared a simple assessment and declaration form. During your Duke visit, NESCent will help you complete the form and make copies of the identity and visa pages of your passport and of your Form I-94 (Arrival/Departure Record).

The basic requirements to qualify for reimbursement of expenses in visitor status are:

1. You must be present in the U.S. in visitor status as B-1, B-2, WB, or WT per the notation on your Form I-94.
2. The academic activities at Duke University for which you wish to receive reimbursement or honorarium must be no longer than 9 days.
3. During the six-month period immediately prior to your visit to Duke, you have accepted reimbursements from no more than five other institutions in the U.S. while in visitor status.

4. We strongly recommend that you bring your Social Security Card or ITIN # if you have these.
5. Please keep a copy of this invitation letter with your other travel documents. Several international guests have found it helpful to produce their NESCent invitation.
6. We will need you to provide your home address as we are required to mail any reimbursements to your home rather than your office.

If you believe that you cannot meet one or more of these requirements, please contact Stephanie Risbon (srisbon@duke.edu) or the Duke International Office (Lois Yelverton, yelve004@mc.duke.edu) *before* you come to Duke. NESCent will help you complete the Declaration by Visitors Engaged in Academic Activities form after you arrive.

Please bring this invitation with you and include it with your travel documents.

Please contact me or Stephanie Risbon (srisbon@duke.edu) if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be "Lois Yelverton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large, sweeping initial "L" and a long, horizontal stroke extending to the right.