International Faculty Fellows at the MIT Sloan School of Management are faculty from universities outside the U.S. that are collaborating with MIT Sloan to bring their graduate management programs to world-class levels. The philosophy is that by enabling faculty to learn together, knowledge grows and spreads further. These collaborations are strengthening the way management education is practiced around the world.
The International Faculty Fellows (IFF) program at MIT, now in its seventeenth year, brings faculty from universities in China, Portugal, Turkey, and Brazil to MIT Sloan for training in teaching and course development. Many IFFs also spend time at MIT identifying or continuing research projects.

The first IFFs came to Cambridge in 1996, when MIT Sloan established the MIT-China Management Education Project with Tsinghua University in Beijing and Fudan University in Shanghai. Lingnan (University) College, Sun Yat-sen University in Guangzhou joined the Project in 1999. Since 2008, IFFs have participated from two universities in Portugal that together offer The Lisbon MBA. Sabanci University, Faculty of Management (Sabanci FMAN) in Istanbul sent its first IFF to MIT Sloan for the Fall 2011 term. The newest participating institution is Instituto Tecnologico Vale (ITV) in Brazil, which is sending its first IFF in the Fall 2012.

IFFs come to MIT Sloan for training in teaching and course development. They attend MBA classes and consult with their faculty advisers on ways to adapt MIT Sloan course materials to their own environments and academic needs. They attend workshops to learn how to teach cases in participant-centered classes. IFFs also attend seminars and learn research methodologies. These opportunities strengthen their ability to initiate research that they can continue at their own universities, sometimes in cooperation with MIT Sloan faculty.

The IFF program has grown to include initiatives involving faculty, students, and staff who may not be associated directly with the IFF program. For example:

- MIT Sloan faculty visit the Chinese, Portuguese, and Sabanci FMAN campuses to give lectures and teach short courses.

- For ten years, small teams of MIT Sloan MBA students visited the Chinese campuses to teach the International MBA (IMBA) students about aspects of the workplace not included in their curricula, such as interviewing, teamwork, leadership, and networking. Since 2008, a larger number of students has participated in these exchanges through China Lab, an opportunity for deeper student collaboration that includes classroom-based education, faculty mentoring, and real business experience. Each spring term, small teams of MBA and IMBA students spend three months consulting with Chinese entrepreneurial firms on the firms’ greatest challenges. Each team includes two students from MIT Sloan and two from one of the Chinese universities. The projects kick off in January. In March, the teams conduct intensive, two-week project engagements at the host companies’ offices in China. After five weeks of remote research and data analysis, and following the IMBA students’ visit to MIT Sloan to complete their course work, the teams present their conclusions to senior management. Competition to participate in China Lab is intense. To date, 151 MIT Sloan MBA students, 161 IMBA students in China, and 63 companies in China have participated.

- Students from some of the participating schools spend from two weeks to a semester at MIT Sloan taking courses and visiting local companies.

- Administrators at participating universities visit MIT Sloan to talk with their counterparts about important non-academic functions such as marketing and communications, alumni relations, admissions, career development, resource development, finances, and technology services. MIT Sloan administrators also visit their counterparts at their own schools to share their expertise.

All of these collaborations enable participating faculty, staff, and students to further develop a global perspective. Their experiences result in lasting relationships with colleagues throughout the world.

“After I took the teaching workshops I improved myself a lot. In case teaching I used to lead 80 percent of the time. Here I learned to teach more like a coordinator, let the students take the initiative. You need to balance the two. When I go back I will give the students more freedom and ask wise questions to encourage them.”

— Zheng Xin, IFF, Lingnan (University) College
Sun-Yat-sen University, Spring 2012
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Accounting
Faculty Host: Christopher Noe

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Action Learning/Entrepreneurship and Innovation
Faculty Host: Yasheng Huang

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Communication for Leaders
Faculty Hosts: Neal Hartman and Christine Kelly

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Finance
Faculty Host: Leonid Kogan

MIT-CHINA MANAGEMENT EDUCATION PROJECT

MIT-THE LISBON MBA PROGRAM

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Finance
Faculty Host: John Carroll

Geraldo Cerqueiro
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Finance
Faculty Host: Antoinette Schoar

MIT-SABANCI UNIVERSITY FMAN PROGRAM

Jose Faias
Assistant Professor
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Universidade Católica Portuguesa
E62-415 | 617-324-4313 | jfaias@mit.edu
Asset allocation, derivatives, time series econometrics, extremes, and risk management
Faculty Host: Leonid Kogan

MIT-VALE/ ITV PROGRAM

Cleidson de Souza
Associate Researcher
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Informatics
Faculty Host: Thomas Malone

MIT-SKK GSB PROJECT

Alper Nakkas
Assistant Professor
SKK Graduate School of Business
Sungkyunkwan University
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Operations Management/Supply Chain Management
Faculty Hosts: Robert Gibbons and Stephen Graves
255 faculty from China, Lisbon, and Istanbul have spent time at MIT Sloan as IFFs

MIT Sloan faculty have made 201 visits to the Chinese, Lisbon MBA, and Sabanci FMAN campuses

MIT Sloan faculty have had 343 opportunities to host IFFs in Cambridge

148 MIT Sloan MBAs visited the Chinese schools as members of Project Team (1998-2007)

151 MIT Sloan MBAs and 161 IMBAs in China have participated in China Lab

A UNIQUE OPPORTUNITY

In March 2008, Goldman Sachs established a $100 million, five-year initiative to provide business and management education to 10,000 underserved women in developing and emerging markets. The program grew from research that says that investing in women leads to more productive workers, healthier and better educated families, and ultimately more prosperous communities. It operates through more than 80 academic and nonprofit organizations. To date it has reached 5,000 women in 42 countries.

In 2011, MIT Sloan joined the 10,000 Women project through the MIT Sloan-Yunnan University Women’s Entrepreneur Program, a collaboration with the School of Business and Tourism Management, Yunnan University in Kunming, China. Three Yunnan faculty spent five months at MIT Sloan during the 2011-2012 academic year for training in areas of entrepreneurship and action learning.

“There are overwhelming challenges,” says Yasheng Huang, MIT Sloan International Program Professor in Chinese Economy and Business and faculty director for the MIT Sloan-Yunnan program. “The women primarily start service companies with unskilled workers who are difficult to retain. They don’t know how to expand their businesses and their knowledge base is low. Interacting with government and suppliers is difficult.”

A team of MIT Sloan faculty and administrators has designed a six-course curriculum that includes marketing, leadership, and financial accounting for the Yunnan faculty to take home to teach to a cohort of 300 women entrepreneurs.
OTHER CURRENT INTERNATIONAL RELATIONSHIPS

In 2010, MIT Sloan accepted an invitation from the Indian School of Business (ISB) in Mohali to bring its expertise in manufacturing research and education to ISB’s Munjal Global Manufacturing Institute (MGMI). MIT Sloan faculty advise ISB on curriculum and course development, faculty hiring, development, and research collaboration and development. As the relationship evolves, MIT faculty may become more involved with other aspects of these programs.

In 2009, MIT Sloan and Moscow School of Management SKOLKOVO initiated joint activities designed to strengthen SKOLKOVO’s international management education programs. The collaboration includes classes and other training for SKOLKOVO EMBA and MBA students, who spend ten weeks at MIT Sloan every year, and lectures by MIT Sloan faculty at SKOLKOVO.

SCHOOLS THAT PREVIOUSLY PARTICIPATED IN THE IFF PROGRAM

In 2011-2012, Xi’an Jiaotong University in Xi’an, China, participated in a one-year pilot program focusing on faculty development and China Lab. Four Xi’an faculty spent time at MIT Sloan during the academic year.

From 2004 to 2011, Sungkyunkwan University Graduate School of Business (SKK GSB) in Seoul, Korea, and MIT Sloan worked together to develop a new, world-class MBA program at SKK GSB. SKK GSB graduated its first MBA class in 2006. Nineteen SKK GSB faculty have come to MIT Sloan as IFFs. In 2012 and 2013, four more SKK GSB faculty will visit MIT Sloan as IFFs to complete the collaboration.

In 2009, the School of Business and Finance, University of the Western Cape, South Africa, sent two faculty to the IFF program as special visitors. In spring 2011, Mbarara University of Science and Technology in Uganda sent one faculty member as a special visitor for one month.

From 2002 to 2008, the School of Business and Tourism Management at Yunnan University in Kunming, China, participated with its International Oriented MBA (IOMBA) program. Twenty-four Yunnan faculty visited MIT Sloan as IFFs and the School graduated 240 IOMBAs.

In 2004 and 2005, MIT Sloan worked with Sistema Instituto Tecnológico y de Estudios Superiores de Monterrey (ITESM) in Mexico to enhance the performance of ITESM faculty and launch a premier Mexican MBA program focused on innovation. Eleven ITESM faculty members spent terms at MIT Sloan as IFFs.

Also in 2004 and 2005, the International Finance Corporation sent three IFFs to MIT Sloan from the Graduate School of Business, Ghana Institute of Management and Public Administration (GIMPA).

“...I am associate dean at Sabanci School of Management and before that I directed the School’s MBA program. I have followed some courses here to see how the faculty teach. I am looking for fresh stuff. We are a young school. We are still shaping our future. It’s useful to know how MIT Sloan does things and why. MIT is unique.”

— Can Akkan, IFF, Faculty of Management
Sabanci University, Spring 2012

For further information about the IFF program, please contact:

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