

Postdoc Data Project 2008 Focus Groups:  
Recruitment Screener Questions

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Department / University/  
Organization Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City/State/Zip: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Fax: \_\_\_\_\_

Email address: \_\_\_\_\_

INTERVIEWER NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE RECRUITED: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE OF REMINDER  
CALL: \_\_\_\_\_

DATE CONFIRMATION  
LETTER SENT \_\_\_\_\_

**INDICATE GROUP RECRUITED FOR:**

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday, July XX (6:00 p.m.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Monday, July XX (8:00 p.m.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, July XX (6:00 p.m.)

\_\_\_\_\_ Thursday, July XX (8:00 p.m.)

## INTRODUCTION

May I please speak with [INSERT CONTACT NAME]?

### IF NOT AVAILABLE:

This is [INTERVIEWER NAME] calling from the Survey Sciences Group on behalf of the National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics. We are planning a focus group about early career scientists and would like to invite [INSERT CONTACT NAME] to participate. Is there a good time I can call back to reach [him/her]?

### IF TRANSFERRED TO A VOICEMAIL ON SECOND CALL ATTEMPT:

This is [INTERVIEWER NAME] calling from the Survey Sciences Group on behalf of the National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics. We are planning a focus group about early career scientists and would like to invite you to participate. Please return our call at (734) 213-4600, ext. 204. Thank you in advance for your participation. Good bye!

### WHEN CONNECTED TO CONTACT NAME:

Hello, I'm [INTERVIEWER NAME] calling from the Survey Sciences Group on behalf of the National Science Foundation/Division of Science Resources Statistics. We are interested in collecting feedback and input from early career scientists on their work and research experiences. I have a few questions for you that will take you approximately 5 minutes. Participation is fully voluntary and you can decline to answer any question. The OMB control number for this collection is 3145-0174.

This information is solicited under the authority of the National Science Foundation Act of 1950, as amended. The information you provide will be used for statistical purposes only and your responses will be kept confidential.

Q1. Are you currently engaged in any research activities?

- 1 Yes
  - 2 No
- 

Q2. Are you a postdoctoral researcher or postdoc, a person who has received their Ph.D. within the last 10 ten years and who is in a temporary or limited appointment?

- 1 Yes
  - 2 No
- 

**[IF Q1=1 or Q2=1, ASK Q3; OTHERWISE THANK AND TERMINATE]**

Q3. What is the official title of your position?

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Q4. What are all the degrees or levels of college you have completed? [NOTE: If currently enrolled, indicate all previously completed degrees received.]

- 1 Doctoral degree (e.g., PhD, DSc, EdD, etc.)
- 2 Professional degree (e.g., JD, LLB, MD, DDS, DVM, etc.)
- 3 Master's degree (e.g., MS, MA, MBA, MPH, MSW, etc.)
- 4 Bachelor's degree (e.g., BS, BA, AB)

5 Other degree, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

**[IF Q4= 3 or 4 ONLY, THANK AND TERMINATE,  
IF Q4= 5 ONLY, PROBE TO DETERMINE IF DEGREE IS PhD or PhD-EQUIV. DEGREE]**

Q5. What is the full name of the institution from which you received your doctoral/professional degree?

\_\_\_\_\_

Q6. In what city, state or province, and country is this institution located?

City: \_\_\_\_\_

State / Province: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_

Q7. Thinking about your doctoral/professional degree, what was the primary field of study for this degree?

1 Agricultural Sciences

2 Biological Sciences

3 Health Sciences

4 Engineering

5 Computer Sciences

**[CHECK QUOTAS – NEED MIX OF FIELDS  
IN EACH GROUP]**

6 Mathematics

7 Physical Sciences

8 Social Science

9 Humanities

10 Education

11 Other fields, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

Q8. Thinking of your doctoral/professional degree, are you currently working or conducting research...?

1 In the same field

2 In a related field

3 In a different field

Q9. In which country or countries do you hold citizenship?

\_\_\_\_\_

**[IF U.S. NOT MENTIONED IN Q9, ASK Q10, OTHERWISE GO TO Q12]**

Q10. Are you a non-U.S. citizen with a...

1 Permanent U.S. Resident Visa (green card)

2 Temporary U.S. Resident Visa

Q11. How long have you been in the U.S.?

1 Less than two years

2 Two to less than five years

3 Five to ten years

4 Over ten years

**[ CHECK QUOTAS – WANT MIX OF  
LENGTHS OF US STAYS IN FOREIGN-  
DEGREED GROUPS]**

Q12. Which one of the following best describes where you work or conduct research?

[PROBE FOR BEST DESCRIPTION]

**EDUCATION**

1. 4-year college or university other than medical school
2. Medical school (including university-affiliated hospital or medical center)
3. University-affiliated research institute
4. Community or two-year college
5. Preschool, elementary, middle, secondary school or school system

**GOVERNMENT (other than education institution)**

8. Federal government
9. State government
10. Local government

[ CHECK QUOTAS – WANT  
SOME PRIVATE  
SECTOR PARTICIPANTS]

**PRIVATE SECTOR (other than education institution)**

11. Not-for-profit organization
12. Industry or business (for-profit)

**OTHER**

13. Self-employed
14. Other, please specify \_\_\_\_\_

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**BY OBSERVATION**

CONTACT PERSON IS...

1. Male [CHECK QUOTAS – WANT MIX OF GENDER IN EACH GROUP]
2. Female [CHECK QUOTAS – WANT MIX OF GENDER IN EACH GROUP]

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**BASED ON Q6 RESPONSE [CHECK QUOTAS]**

1. Domestic degree
2. Foreign degree

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## INVITATION

### [READ TO RECRUIT]

On behalf of the National Science Foundation (NSF) Division of Science Resources Statistics (SRS), I would like to invite you to participate in a focus group. During a focus group we ask people to give feedback and share ideas on topics. The purpose of this focus group is to better understand career choices, opportunities, and experiences among early career researchers. NSF/SRS is conducting this project as part of an overall study about postdoctoral researchers (“postdocs”).

The average focus group session is about two hours. Participation is voluntary, and your choice to participate or not will not adversely affect you in any way. We expect the outcome of this project to benefit you in that the results will be used to improve NSF/SRS data about early career researchers. The information you provide will be used for research purposes only and your responses will be kept confidential.

We will be conducting a focus group in Ann Arbor and participants will receive upon completion of the session **\$50.00** as a token of our appreciation.

Would you be able to take part in a focus group on:

Monday, July XX<sup>th</sup>, at 6:00 pm/8:00 pm

**-OR-**

Thursday, July XX<sup>st</sup>, at 6:00 pm/8:00 pm

### [IF YES]

If you have paper and pencil, I'd like to give you the address of the session location. The address is...

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Again, the session will be held on [DATE/TIME]

We ask that you give us a call if you find that you are unable to attend the session. Our phone number is 734 (213-4600). Please do not send another individual in your place if you are unable to attend.

We will send you a confirmation letter that will verify the date, time and place of the meeting, and will include directions. We will also give you a reminder call a day or two before the session. May I please confirm your name, address and phone number? **NOTE: FILL OUT FRONT PAGE**

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