

**BOSTON UNIVERSITY SCHOOL OF MEDICINE  
and the CENTER FOR HUMAN GENETICS**

**Present:**

*25<sup>th</sup> Annual Conference on Obstetrics, Gynecology,  
Perinatal Medicine, Neonatology and the Law  
January 2-6, 2009*

**and**

*9<sup>th</sup> Annual Multispecialty Conference on Medical Negligence and  
Risk Management in Medicine, Surgery Emergency Medicine,  
Radiology, Psychiatry and Family Medicine  
January 5-8, 2009*



**InterContinental Playa Bonita Resort & Spa • PANAMA**

**PANAMA:** Exotic, unspoiled, fascinating and perfect climate year round. Panama is a country of thousands of colors. Internationally recognized for its canal, in recent years Panama's reputation has extended as one of the best kept secrets in the Hemisphere, offering travelers an authentic experience of natural settings, rich culture, uncrowded beaches, and world class infrastructures and services. Embrace the warmth of Panamanian people and their welcoming nature.

Enjoy the many activities and attractions such as the engineering wonder of Miraflores Locks; sport fishing and the wildlife on Gatun Lake; bird watching or hiking through Soberania National Park; an exciting ride on the aerial tram and ecological exhibits in Gamboa Rain Forest; snorkeling and diving in the Caribbean. Panama is a world-famous shopping destination; an opportunity to purchase goods from all over the world in the Colon duty free zone. In addition, the colorful handicraft markets provide beautiful hardwood products, elaborate soapstone figurines, Panama hats, colorful baskets woven by the Wounaan, and the Huna women's famous mola designs.

**HOTEL • INTERCONTINENTAL PLAYA BONITA RESORT & SPA:** Golden sands fringed by an emerald ocean, beautiful sunrises and the most stunning views of the Pacific Ocean, provide the perfect setting for The InterContinental Playa Bonita Resort and Spa. Nestled on a private beach and surrounded by lush tropical vegetation, the Resort has been designed as an enchanted enclave of infinite pools, cascades and exotic gardens with an impressive architecture inspired by a fusion of Mediterranean, Colonial and Panamanian styles offering the perfect facilities and services. Located just 25 minutes from Panama City and 40 minutes from Tocumen International Airport, the resort overlooks the sunrise and the entrance to the Panama Canal. All rooms have a private balcony overlooking the Pacific Ocean. The resort has three restaurants, 24 hour in-room dining, and a 10,000 sq. ft. Holistic Spa with 14 treatment rooms, Jacuzzi, sauna and gym.

The following **special room rates** are reserved:

	<b>2009 Meeting Rates</b>	<b>2009 Public Rates</b>
Deluxe Ocean View	\$295*	\$420

Rates are based upon single or double occupancy, Friday, January 2 to Thursday, January 8, 2009 plus 10% tax (subject to change). \*Room rate also includes daily continental breakfast for two, use of gym and spa facilities (cost of treatments not included) and the use of kayaks and non-motorized activities. **Arrivals prior to January 2, 2009, are on a request basis, subject to availability and at the full public rate in effect at that time.** Club Level and Suites subject to request. **Please note that the first conference begins at 8am on the morning of January 3 and the second conference begins at 8am on the morning of January 6.** A two night deposit is required to confirm reservations. The hotel will charge this deposit approximately 30 days prior to arrival.

**Extension to Gamboa Rain Forest Resort** can be arranged following the meeting. Guided walks through the rainforest, pontoon boat cruises to view the wildlife, botanical and zoological exhibits and Smithsonian research sites, and golf are among the many activities available to guests. Special Meeting rates: \$240 per night for deluxe river view rooms (public rate \$330); Jr. Suites, ideal for families are available at \$303 per night (public rate \$450); room rates are including daily continental breakfast for two. All rooms are on a request basis and subject to availability.

**Travel Planners, Inc. (TPI) is the appointed housing agent for this conference. The above discounted room rates are ONLY available by booking through TPI. Registration is handled directly with Boston University.**

**DOCUMENTATION**

ALL U.S. citizens of any age **MUST** have a valid Passport for travel to Panama. Additional information and forms may be found at [www.travel.state.gov](http://www.travel.state.gov).

## OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES

All optional activities below have been arranged by TPI. These activities are offered on a private basis and scheduled so as not to interfere with the conference. TPI reserves the right to cancel or change any or all activities should the minimum requirements not be met.

### ROUND TRIP AIRPORT TRANSFERS

**\$83 per person**

Round trip airport transfers may be purchased in advance. Upon arrival in Panama, you will need to present your passport, an immigration form (handed out on the airplane) and a \$5.00 Tourist card. If you did not purchase the tourist card at your point of embarkation from your Airline provider, you may purchase one from your Airline representative in Panama. After passing Immigration, Customs and Baggage Claim, proceed to outside the building where you will be met by Gamboa Tours staff holding a Boston University welcome sign. Gamboa Tours staff is dressed in blue polo shirt and khaki slacks. If you have made your own flight arrangements, you must advise TPI of your itinerary no later than December 1, 2008. Taxis are available at approximately \$45 each way plus gratuities. Includes: greeting at airport; transfer in air conditioned vehicles, bilingual staff, portage and airport assistance, and taxes.

### PANAMA CITY TOUR

**Saturday, January 3, 2009**

**1:30pm-5:30pm**

**\$81 per adult/\$40 per child (6-10 years)**

Panama's capital is a vibrant, cosmopolitan, and beautiful city with many restaurants and entertainment options. Panama City is a veritable melting pot of cultures from ancient Spain, modern America and the unique atmosphere of the Pacific Rim. Visit the city, and experience not only the banking capital of Central America but also the beauty of the colonial city of Panama. See the Causeway, a leisure paradise with shopping, restaurants and bars that offer spectacular views of the modern city and its skyscrapers. Across the bay, find a contrast in the oldest sector of the city, which was founded in 1673 and named the Casco Antiguo. This area has a charming mixture of colonial architecture, narrow, cobblestone streets and ethnic diversity. Within its boundaries are a wealth of history in its churches, museums and streets carefully restored to their former colonial beauty. It also is home to the Presidential Palace, the National Theatre, the 17th century Church of the Golden Alter, Las Bovedas, the church of San Francisco, the National Cathedral, Independence Square and much more. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, hat, sunblock, sunglasses. Bring a camera and money for souvenirs and drinks. Please note that the drive time is 30 minutes each way. Includes: air conditioned round trip transportation; bilingual guide; lunch at a local restaurant; bottled water. **Minimum 20 persons.**

### Miraflores Locks and Exhibit Halls

**Sunday, January 4, 2009**

**1:30pm-6:30pm**

**\$95.00 per adult/\$47 per child (6-10 years)**

The Panama Canal is known as the 8th wonder of the world. It is approximately 80 kilometers long between the Atlantic and Pacific Ocean. This visit to this engineering marvel, see the Canal gates of Miraflores Locks. The locks function as water lifts: they raise ships from sea level (the Pacific or the Atlantic) to the level of Gatun Lake (26 meters above sea level); ships then sail the channel through the Continental Divide. In January, 2004, The Panama Canal Authority inaugurated the Miraflores Visitors Center (MVC). The exhibitions include historical objects of Canal operations, interactive modules, video presentations, and models of the Panama Canal. Four exhibition halls, organized by themes, constitute the heart of the MVC. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, hat, sunblock, sunglasses. Bring a camera and money for souvenirs and drinks. Please note that the drive time is 30 minutes each way. Includes: air conditioned round trip transportation; water craft transportation; entrance fees and taxes; bilingual guide; lunch at Miraflores Restaurant; bottled water. **Minimum 20 persons.**

### Gamboa Rainforest Resort

**Monday, January 5, 2009**

**1:15pm-8:00pm**

**\$150.00 per adult/\$75.00 per child (6-10years)**

The drive to Gamboa Rainforest resort is approximately 45 minutes each way. Enjoy a boxed lunch along the way. Once there, experience a thrilling and spectacular 360° view above the rainforest canopy as the aerial tram ascends 280 feet over half a mile. From the shadowy forest floor, through the dense undergrowth and up into the sun drenched treetops is a life rarely seen from ground level. The tram completes its journey at the top of a hill. A short walk leads to the observation tower, with a great view of the canal, the Chagres River, Soberania National Park and Gamboa's Town. Next, board a small boat for an exhilarating speed-ride directly through the Panama Canal alongside giant vessels in transit. But not for long! After 20 minutes, slow down to enter the quiet world of wildlife that inhabits the shoreline of Gatun Lake. As you approach the forested banks of the Lake, look for wildlife such as Capuchin Monkeys, 3-toed Sloth, Howler Monkeys and various species of Toucans and other birdlife. Trained naturalist guides accompany the group to make this journey come alive with interesting information and a true sense of what life was like before settlers came in the 1500's. Upon completion of the tour, the group will dine at the Resort. Dinner will be available at either of 2 restaurants. Dinner is not included in the tour cost and is approximately \$25-40 per person plus drinks. Return to the hotel will follow dinner. Wear comfortable clothes and shoes, hat sunblock, sunglasses. Bring your camera and money for souvenirs, dinner and drinks. Includes: air conditioned round trip transportation; aerial tram ride; exhibit entrance; water craft transportation; boxed lunch; bilingual guide; nature guide; bottled water. **Minimum 20 persons.**

**Additional activities, such as Indian Village excursion, scuba diving, fishing, snorkeling, golf, and more can be arranged on site.**

**TRAVEL ARRANGEMENTS...** Save travel dollars on service to Panama. TPI discounted fares are NOT available by calling the airlines directly or through a retail travel agent. Seats are limited and early bookings are recommended. An air itinerary, fare (including a \$35 per ticket service fee) and booking policies will be faxed or emailed for approval prior to ticketing. No tickets will be issued until approval is received in writing. Benefits include: \$200,000 free flight insurance; frequent flyer enrollment; advance seat assignments. Call 800-810-2695 and ask for a BU air representative to make reservations.

## **GENERAL INFORMATION**

### ***DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS AND FINAL PAYMENT: November 18, 2008***

**Changes** to confirmed reservations - \$35.

**Cancellation Charges** - \$50 per room at any time.

**Hotel:** After November 18, 2008, cancellation fee plus full stay unless room is resold. Early checkout prior to confirmed departure date and no-shows will result in a charge for full stay. Departure date should be reconfirmed upon check in.

Documented Medical Emergencies will be considered.

**Optional Activities:** No refund after November 18, 2008.

**RESPONSIBILITY:** Travel Planners, Inc., Boston University School of Medicine, and their agents act only as agents for passengers in all matters pertaining to the purchase and use of hotel accommodations, sightseeing tours, transportation via rail, motor bus, motor car, sea and air. As agents, they contract only with independent contractors whom they reasonably believe to be competent to supply transportation, services, and accommodations offered in this brochure. Your purchase and use of the services described in the brochure shall be your binding contractual agreement that the liability and responsibility of Travel Planners, Inc., Boston University School of Medicine, and their agents and employees are limited to exercise of reasonable care in the selection of the independent contractors who provide the services described in the brochure.

Travel Planners, Inc., Boston University School of Medicine, and their respective agents and employees expressly disclaim and shall not be held responsible for any act, omission, event, damage, loss, cost, expense, or inconvenience resulting from late arrivals or departures of any mode of transportation, change of schedule or condition, oversold conditions or delays in room occupancy, or any other services provided by these independent contractors and suppliers, including the loss of payments due to supplier insolvency, nor for the loss of, or damage to, baggage or any property belonging to the passenger, nor for any bodily injury, including death, to any person from any cause whatsoever, nor for any damage, loss, responsible for any occurrence or condition beyond their control, including but not limited to acts of God, criminal acts of others, acts of government or other authorities, war, riot, civil disturbance, acts of terrorism, strikes, theft, or defects or breakdown of transportation equipment.

**AIRLINES:** Airlines concerned are not to be held responsible for any act, omission, or event during the time passengers are not on board their planes or conveyances. The passenger contract (ticket) in use by the airlines concerned, when issued, shall constitute the sole contract between the airlines and the purchaser of those tours and/or passenger.

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**DEADLINE FOR RESERVATIONS:  
 NOVEMBER 18, 2008**

INTERCONTINENTAL PLAYA BONITA RESORT AND SPA • PANAMA

**BOOK ON LINE AT:** <https://www.tpires.com/bumx/index.htm>  
 or complete below and fax to Travel Planners, Inc. at (210) 341-5252 as soon as possible.

**IMPORTANT: Name(s) as shown below must match Passport or the airlines will deny boarding.**

Last Name \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_  
 Spouse/Guest \_\_\_\_\_  
 Child \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_ Child \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_  
 Mailing Address [ ]Home [ ]Office \_\_\_\_\_  
 City/State/Zip \_\_\_\_\_  
 Home Phone( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Office Phone( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_ Fax( ) \_\_\_\_\_ - \_\_\_\_\_  
 Email \_\_\_\_\_

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**1. Conference Hotel Reservations – INTERCONTINENTAL PLAYA BONITA RESORT AND SPA  
 Deluxe Ocean View @ \$295**

Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_ # of rooms \_\_\_\_\_ # in room \_\_\_\_\_  
 ∟Comments \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Arrivals prior to January 2, 2009 are on a request basis, subject to availability and at the full public holiday rate for 2009.**

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**2. Post Extension Request – Gamboa Rainforest Resort (Please place a 1 and 2 by the category to indicate your preference.)**

\_\_\_\_\_ Deluxe River View @ \$240 \_\_\_\_\_ Junior Suite @ \$303  
 Arrival Date \_\_\_\_\_ Departure Date \_\_\_\_\_ # of rooms \_\_\_\_\_ # in room \_\_\_\_\_  
 ∟Comments \_\_\_\_\_

**Note: Room requests are subject to availability.**

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**3. Airline Reservations:**

Depart (city) \_\_\_\_\_ to arrive Panama City on (date) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Return on (date) \_\_\_\_\_ to (city) \_\_\_\_\_.  
 Airline Preference (if any) \_\_\_\_\_ Frequent Flyer # \_\_\_\_\_  
 Seating Preference: \_\_\_\_\_ Window \_\_\_\_\_ Aisle \_\_\_\_\_  
**NOTE: You may call (800) 810-2695 to speak with an airline associate.**

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**4. Summary/Method of Payment**

<b>HOTEL-</b>			
The InterContinental Playa Bonita (if not providing credit card)	# rooms _____ @ \$650 deposit		\$ _____
<b>OPTIONAL ACTIVITIES:</b>			
Round Trip Transfers	# _____ @ \$83.00 each		\$ _____
Panama City Tour - Saturday, January 3	# _____ @ \$81.00 (adult)		\$ _____
	# _____ @ \$40.00 (child 6-10)		\$ _____
Miraflores Locks – Sunday, January 4	# _____ @ \$95.00 (adult)		\$ _____
	# _____ @ \$47.00 (child 6-10)		\$ _____
Gamboa Rainforest – Monday, January 5	# _____ @ \$150.00 (adult)		\$ _____
Boxed Lunches:	# _____ @ \$75.00 (child 6-10)		\$ _____
# _____ Ham # _____ Turkey # _____ Vegetarian	<b>TOTAL DUE</b>		<b>\$ _____</b>

[ ] Check is enclosed. (Made payable to Boston University/TPI)  
 [ ] Credit Card (Circle One): \_\_\_\_\_ Visa \_\_\_\_\_ MasterCard \_\_\_\_\_ American Express \_\_\_\_\_  
 \_\_\_\_\_ Guarantee hotel(s)\* \_\_\_\_\_ Charge for Optional Activities \_\_\_\_\_ Airline Tickets \_\_\_\_\_  
 Account Number \_\_\_\_\_ Exp. Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Billing Name (Please Print) \_\_\_\_\_  
**I have read and understand the cancellation policies and penalties.**  
 Signature \_\_\_\_\_

**\*The hotel(s) will charge the required deposit to the credit card above approximately 30 days prior to arrival.**

Return to: Travel Planners, Inc. ☐ 1919 NW Loop 410, Suite 210 ☐ San Antonio, TX 78213  
 Phone: (210) 341-8131 or (800) 531-7201 Fax: (210) 341-5252 Email: [BUM@tpires.com](mailto:BUM@tpires.com)  
 Monday thru Friday, 8:30am to 5:30pm, Central Time