



## Influence of Attending Social and Cultural Events on the Life of Postdoctoral Scholars: Part I - Indian Theme

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### Abstract

*Social and cultural events are typically conducted by the Northwestern University Postdoctoral Forum (NUPF) to bring together postdocs from all disciplines to meet each other, and complain about their work to colleagues. Our previous findings suggest that postdocs have been motivated by free food and discounted liquor to attend such events. Such events have provided small epochs in their rather busy scholarly life to find joy.*

*Motivated by our previous findings, in the present study, we are conducting a novel international themed event called 'Cultures & Cuisines'. While our experiments span several different studies, one for each different culture-themed event, the current one focuses on Indian culture. Therefore, our methods include tidbits on Indian culture, followed by free Indian appetizers such as pakoras, samosas, tikkas, custom made bite-size naans with matching vegetarian and meat based sides, lassi (a sweet drink), and half priced drinks for this version of our social experiment. Our hypothesis is that attending this event will improve the state of mind of postdocs, regardless of participant discipline. Implications for future events will be discussed during the study.*

*The study will be conducted at the **Mt. Everest Restaurant** facility, 630 Church Street, Evanston between **6:30 and 9:30 PM** on the **14th May 2015**. In order to obtain sample size we request interested participants to sign-up for the study using this [link](#) before 4th May.*

**Acknowledgements:** The authors would like to thank McCormick School of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Feinberg School of Medicine, Weinberg College of Arts and Science, The Graduate School, the Office of Research, the Office of Postdoctoral Affairs, and the International Office for funding this study.

**Keywords:** NUPF, free food, discounted alcohol, cultures and cuisines, postdocs, fun evening, stop working, sign-up

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