

Annuntius

Volume XXVIII, Issue 3, August 2016

INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION
The 15th Biennial Conference in Perth, Western Australia June 25 - 29, 2017

President's Message
By Iris Drower

Dear IASE Members and Friends,

At the time of this writing, IASE is reeling off the heels of a very successful retreat and grand opening of Mwayi Trust Vocational College in Blantyre, Malawi. If you joined us in Malawi you probably will reaffirm with me in saying, "Wow! "Carpe diem." What a journey!"



IASE Board and Committee members with local dignitaries: Front Row from left: Roni Chavez, Mary Kaphwiti, Mary Gale Budzisz.

Back row from left: Karen Nave, Henry Mwambani, Marg Csapo, Iris Drower, Paul Chipanda, Zandile Nkabinde, Damiano Valaliano, Beatrice Adera.

While all of us return home to prepare our coursework, research, and classes, I hope that we also take with us a little of the excitement and renewal that we felt during this retreat. This experience reminds me of the poem written by Robert Frost entitled, 'The Road Not Taken'.... "I took the one less traveled by, and that has made all the difference." Thank you, Sandra Trevethan, the Mwayi Trust board, the local chiefs, patrons, peer educators, supporters, community members and IASE for taking that road and seizing the moment toward providing opportunities for our future generations.

Our work at the board retreat was dedicated to carrying out the vision of IASE, "to improve the quality of life and service delivery for all individuals with special needs." During this retreat we focused on the IASE organizational structure, job descriptions, and committee tasks, IASE by-Laws and began to review our strategic plan. We will be keeping members informed about the progress of our planning over the next few months. We invite you to join the process by helping us identify activities or strategies that might help increase our inclusiveness and organizational sustainability.

The Board will meet next month to plan the year's activities. We look forward to posting announcements and Biennial Conference updates as they are confirmed. Please look for these announcements in the Annuntius

Newsletter and on our website and Facebook page.

Finally, I want to encourage you to send me any ideas, concerns, or recommendations you have for the work that IASE does. Remember, our board and committees are made up of the people in our organization – members just like you who have something to say and who want to participate. Step up because we need you.



Call for IASE Board Officers Nominations 2017-2019

Nominations are being accepted from now until December 1st, 2016. The following positions are open:

1. President-Elect, 1 to be elected for two-year term
2. Secretary, 1 to be elected for two-year term
3. Treasurer, 1 to be elected for two-year term
4. Member-at-Large, 3 to be elected for two-year terms

Descriptions of the roles and responsibilities for each of the above positions are in IASE's constitution and by-laws which can be found at www/iase.org. The Constitution states that the board shall be comprised of a minimum representation of 3 countries to reflect the international focus of the organization.

Criteria for application include a valid IASE membership and prior experience with IASE (e.g., committee chair/work, volunteer service and/ or an elected position). Board members are not paid a salary and must attend meetings at their own voluntary expense.

If you are interested in volunteering your time and expertise, send a letter of intent and a short (one page) resume to Marg Csapo, IASE Nominations Chair. These documents can be emailed to margcsapo@shaw.ca or postal mailed to Marg Csapo, 3483 W. 18th Ave., Vancouver, CANADA BC V65 1A8.

The committee will review all nominations and forward their recommendations to the Board for ballot approval. The voting ballot will be included in the February newsletter sent to all paid IASE members. According to the IASE's Constitution, no board member may serve more than two consecutive two-year terms in the same office.

FUN FACT



Did you know that over 50 countries are represented on our IASE membership rolls? We have members from every continent except Antarctica!

Perth, Australia
June 25 – 29,
2017

15th Biennial
Conference
IASE

See you there!

Making Hope Happen in Vietnam

By Craig Goldsberry

It has been an inspiration to see how the professional staffs of Dean Nga at Ho Chi Minh City University, Department of Special Education, and Dr. Giang at Santa Maria Clinic are making hope happen in Vietnam. Their dreams of developing and providing an appropriate education for their children with disabilities is slowly beginning to become a reality. The passion and dedication they have shown collectively is building the foundation for an appropriate and comprehensive functional training meeting the educational needs of children with disabilities in Vietnam.



Craig Goldsberry on the right and the staff of University of Pedagogy of HCMC, Department of Special Education.

After our initial meetings in the summer of 2015, I had the privilege of being asked back to Vietnam for a training of the BASICS3 Curriculum Framework. Dean Nga and Dr. Giang were interested in a functional curriculum framework based on the training of individual levels of performance leading to greater independent skills in the community, for individuals with moderate/severe disabilities and autism.

The first training was held in December of 2015. It was a very successful training and it was a pleasure to once again work together with professionals who have so much passion and dedication in their pursuit to develop and provide the most appropriate education for children with disabilities. After the completion of the December training, the HCMC University Academic Committee discussed and decided that the BASICS3, with appropriate changes to meet the needs of the Vietnamese culture, would best meet their need for a curriculum framework and requested a follow up workshop in the summer of 2016.

This summer, IASE provided much needed books and materials which have greatly enhanced their educational resources and gave them useful educational toys not found in Vietnam. At the summer workshop, the staffs of HCMC University Special Education Department and Santa Maria Clinic both worked on putting the curriculum framework and assessment into practice, developing IEP's and culminating in lesson planning and instruction. At the completion of the workshop, Action Plans were written for the upcoming year and a follow up workshop is planned for the summer of 2017 to review, discuss and continue the development of a functional curriculum that best meets the needs of children in Vietnam.

I look forward to returning to Vietnam next summer and work together again with the dedicated and passionate professionals at HCMC University and Santa Maria Clinic. It has been through their sincere efforts and determination that much progress has been made toward the development of educational practices that will best meet the needs of their children with disabilities. Our colleagues are definitely making hope happen in Vietnam and they are moving closer toward meeting their goals.



Materials provided by IASE to University of Pedagogy of HCMC.



Summer Santa Maria Clinic Workshop 2016.

Treasurer's Report Colleen Meyer

Chase Checking Account \$ 9109.19

Volunteer Service Project Account \$52,717.20

Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund: \$11,329.45

Chase General Savings: \$156,286.37

Total: \$229,442.21

Official Opening of the Mwayi Trust Vocational College

By Mary Gale Budzisz

July 16, 2016 is a date to remember and in the words of the International Association of Special Education (IASE) Founder Marg Csapo it was "A Dream come true event! It was not long ago that we were sorting bricks and now a beautiful building stands facing the rock outcroppings in the Rift Valley, ready to receive students, including those with disabilities who might never have gone to school before! It shows that IASE's assistance was appreciated and led to a concrete example of what volunteer help at the grass roots level can do to make changes in the lives of future students. Wonderful team work!"

Pastor James Mbewe opened the celebration with a prayer and thanks to all who contributed to create the vocational college. The motto of Mwayi Trust, "Joining hands, opening doors," was in action throughout the day. Local dignitaries gave speeches and the Peer Educators entertained with their creative songs, dances and drama presentations. Food was shared with the 200 in attendance and the local music encouraged visitors to join in the celebratory dancing.

Everyone got to visit the new building and they were amazed at what they saw. A real library with books, desks and chairs was highly praised. The kitchen which is being adopted and furnished by the IASE caught all by surprise...with three new electric stoves, a new gas stove, a huge new refrigerator and a large microwave. The stainless steel counter tops are ready for students to start making bread and other goodies. An en suite will be ready with a bed, linens, and a private bathroom so that students can begin to learn skills to prepare for jobs in the housekeeping/hotel and hospitality industry. The carpentry area and the tailoring classrooms are awaiting promises from the Ministry of Labor to send equipment for teaching classes. The computer and IT classroom will also be fully equipped soon.



Karen Nave, IASE Membership.

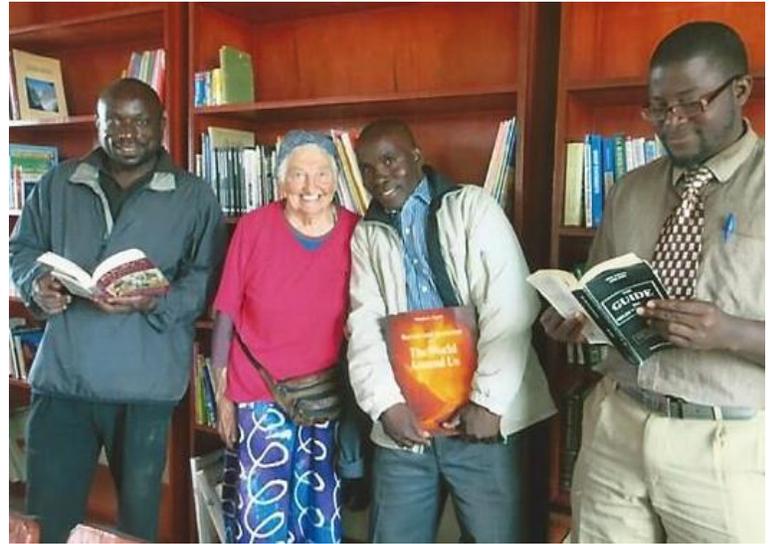


Zandile Nkabinde, National Chair
Co-Coordinator

To prepare for the Official Opening members of the IASE Board and Committees traveled to Blantyre to help with various tasks. With the help of some local members many windows were scraped and cleaned, floors were washed, tables cleaned, books shelved, and preparations for the big day were completed. Two huge marques arose from the dust on Opening Day...and the throngs of local community members filled them.

IASE Secretary Beatrice Adera stated that, "Vocational training programs offer a great alternative to young adults with or without disabilities who have preference for hands-on training or those who do not have the chance to pursue further education at the university level. It is worth noting that the graduates from the vocational training college will become resources to their local community and in turn contribute to the overall development of their country.. Malawi." Roni Chavez, IASE Member-at-Large, said that she feels that IASE members should visit our Volunteer Service Project sites even once to see what we have given and feel the soul of IASE in action.

Mwayi Trust was established in 2009 within the Traditional Area (TA) of Kunthembwe in Chileka, Blantyre Rural by a group of community members who believe in the power of the community working together to provide opportunities for the children and youth to develop skills, self-worth and improve their quality of life. The motto truly highlights the core values of collaboration, capacity development and empowerment. Those who have contributed their time and funds have enabled Mwayi Trust to assist hundreds of children. With more support and donations this vocational college endeavor will broaden the base of support for the local and neighboring communities.



Chimwenwe Nyirenda, Marg, Winna Kanchiputu and Thom Mwapeyah check out the books in the new library.

Karen Nave, IASE Membership Chair, sums up her experience: "Sandra Trevethan, Mwayi Trust CEO, is a woman with vision and a grass roots grasp of what is important and needed in the Mwayi Trust. She recognized the need for a Homework Centre Program and did it. She saw that there was a need for vocational training and did the impossible. Five years ago, when I was first in Malawi, she stopped and pointed outside her car. I saw a bare hill and a small stack of bricks that could maybe make a barbecue pit. Sandra saw the potential for a vocational center. And five years later, viola...a real live beautiful building near completion...a reality! I am very proud of the local communities for their support, Sandra for doggedly pursuing her vision and IASE for its assistance, monetarily and otherwise. I knew I had to return to Malawi to be a part of the celebration. It was truly a privilege to be a part of this mindboggling experience."



Peer Educators performing for the guests during the opening ceremony of Mwayi Trust Vocational College on July 16, 2016.

Mark Your Calendars!! By Swaleha Mohamedali

October 1, 2016 is the deadline to submit your proposals for our 15th Biennial IASE Conference. It will convene in beautiful Perth, Australia on June 25-29, 2017. Our theme is **Addressing the Exceptional Needs of the Whole Child and Young Adult: Embracing the Future**. We will celebrate the quality of life for all individuals with special needs. Sessions and presentations will focus on: research, policy/advocacy, and practice. Topical areas will be: research, inclusive practices, leadership, teacher training, emotional and behavioral methods, social skills, transition, curriculum design, mindfulness, the arts, sex education, and so much more. This year in addition to lecture and multiple panel presentation sessions, we will be offering interactive roundtable poster sessions. Delegates will be able to have an opportunity to learn from each other, network, and collaborate on the latest practices and research in the field using a more hands-on format. Dr. Fartun Mohamud and Dr. Brenda Lazarus are the Program Co-Chairs.

All proposals must be submitted on line at www.iase.org or via email to Dr. Fartun Mohamud at fartunkaafi@gmail.com. Please note that we now have accommodation and tour options posted on our website. You can explore ahead of time the variety of optional lodging choices and plan just where you would like to visit in Western Australia. More conference updates will be continually posted on our main page. Finally, some members of your IASE Conference Steering Committee will be traveling to Perth to work on the final logistics in November of 2016.



Perth's skyline and the Perth Convention Center right in middle as the crescent building.

Deadline is Approaching!

By Meghan Mulvenna

Do you know a dedicated educator who would like to attend the IASE Conference in Perth, Australia?

The application deadline is fast approaching for the Marg Csapo Scholarship: Applications must be received by October 1, 2016.

Selected candidates will receive a scholarship, which will cover the conference registration fee, ticket to the gala dinner, and five nights of lodging near the conference location.

The application process has changed! We want to know who you are, your role in special education, and how you will use what you learn at the conference in Perth. Please visit www.IASE.org, "Scholarships" tab for more information and to download an application.

Questions? Contact Meghan Mulvenna at specialtravelers@gmail.com



Phan Thieu Xuan Giang with materials.

Dear IASE members,

On the behalf of our professional group at the Santa Maria Clinic site in Ho Chi Minh City, I would like to send you a warmest greeting from Vietnam and thank all of you for your kindness. We have received your donation, the materials such as the Floor Time illustration videos and books for working with children that are really helpful. I will be able to use these tools to train students, professionals who work with children with special needs and their parents. I hope that our knowledge and practical experience for working with people with disabilities in Vietnam will be improved significantly by your support. The services for disabled people in our country will be better thanks to the activities of your volunteers and professional materials. We wish you all the best in the future.

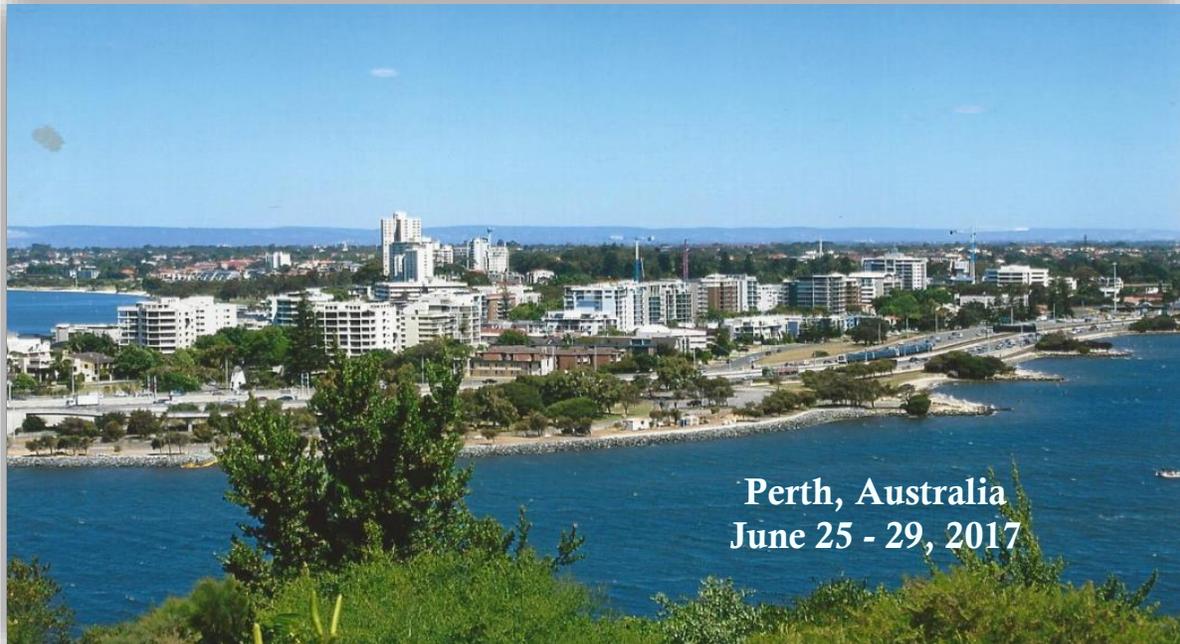
Yours sincerely,
Phan Thieu Xuan Giang, MD

DID you know that over **55%** of our members are from outside the United States?

IASE is truly international.



15th Biennial Conference of International Association of Special Education (IASE)



“Addressing the Exceptional Needs of the Whole Child and Young Adult: Embracing the Future”

In Collaboration with:



Ms. Swaleha (Sally) Mohamedali, IASE Conference Chair, and Drs. Fartun Mohamud and Brenda Lazarus, Conference Program Co-Chairs, and our collaborators: Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, and the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia, cordially invite all interested parties to submit presentation proposals.

Please review all submission criteria. Then complete and submit the proposal presentation form (on our website at: www.iase.org) by October 1, 2016. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

Proposals are to be submitted electronically to Dr. Fartun Mohamud at fartunkaafi@gmail.com
All presenters will be required to pay their registration fees by April 15, 2017 to be included in the conference program.

IMPORTANT TIMELINES

October 1, 2016
December 1, 2016
February 1, 2017
February 1, 2017
April 15, 2017
May 1, 2017

Deadline for submission of proposals
Notification of acceptance of proposals
Early Bird Conference Registration Discount
Deadline for submission of Conference Proceedings
Deadline for Presenters to be included in Conference Program
All participants must be registered for conference.

For proposal submission and further information about the conference, go to our website at www.iase.org

Roni Chavez
003 My Tu 1
Phu My Hung, District 7
Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam



Renew Your IASE Membership

Please print information clearly:

Name: Last _____ First _____

Address: _____

City: _____ State / Province: _____ Postal Code: _____

Country: _____ E-mail: _____

Membership Dues: Regular \$US 50 _____ Regular/Sponsor \$US 70 _____

Student Membership \$US 20 _____ Developing Country \$US 20 _____ Institution \$US 70 _____

Name of person sponsored: _____ E-mail of person sponsored: _____

Address of person sponsored: _____

Donation to Marg Csapo Scholarship \$US _____ Total Enclosed \$US _____

Payment Information: _____ VISA _____ Master Card _____ Cheque (Payable to IASE, US funds)

Credit Card Number: _____ Exp. Date: _____

Name of Cardholder (print): _____ Date: _____

Signature of Cardholder: _____

I would like to receive the publications () electronically or () paper

By Mail: IASE Treasurer
PO Box 170061
Milwaukee, WI. 53217 USA
By Email: cmeyer@nosd.edu

IASE membership runs from January 1 through December 31 of each calendar year.