



The 16th Biennial Conference in Magamba, Tanzania July 14 - 17, 2019

A Message from the IASE President

Greetings to all IASE members and Friends of IASE, The planning and preparation for the 2019 International Association of Special Education (IASE) conference that will be held in Magamba, Tanzania is currently underway. Our proposal review committee will continue accepting proposals until October 1st. We encourage everyone planning to submit a proposal to do so immediately so that you do not miss the deadline that is approaching very fast.

As stated in our vision, the main focus of IASE is to improve the quality of life and service delivery for all individuals with special needs. This conference will be a great opportunity to learn from different professionals from around the world as they share on topics that align with our conference theme "Empowering Persons with Disabilities: Developing Resilience and Inclusive Sustainable Development." The conference typically attracts different professionals and organizations around the world that support and work to empower individuals with disabilities. We have received proposals from presenters from different countries who will be sharing research on best practices along with stories highlighting the work they are doing to change attitudes and approaches to persons with disabilities in different parts of the world.

As many developing nations strive in their efforts to promote and push Special Needs Education to new heights, the 2019 conference will offer great opportunities to learn new ideas for developing innovative programs that will empower individuals with special needs in their efforts to become active members of society. As different professionals and providers in the field of Special Education and other related fields will be in attendance, this conference will offer opportunities for great networking and

establishing new contacts for future collaboration. Individuals from developing nations who need some support to attend the conference are encouraged to apply for the Marg Csapo Scholarship. This scholarship will cover expenses including conference registration, participation in the Gala dinner and five nights of lodging. Please review eligibility criteria before submitting your application – the deadline is October 1, 2018. In addition, I encourage everyone to visit our website

(<https://www.iase.org>) for information that will enable you to begin planning for the 2019 conference. It is important that you review the different housing options provided, travel tips, general scholarship information and also one of our latest initiatives "Sponsorship in support of Teachers from Tanzania."

Finally, I encourage all my brothers and sisters from the continent of Africa to come out and make a strong representation at the 2019 IASE Conference in Tanzania. I look forward to seeing all of you in 2019 in Magamba, Tanzania!

Dr. Beatrice Adera,
West Chester University of Pennsylvania, USA
IASE President (2018-2019)

In Memoriam

by Dr. Marg Csapo



Photo: T. Devi (Sarah) surrounding her students

There was only one Tsarahdevi (Sarah) in Vishakhapatnam, Andhra Pradesh Province, where the Telugu language and writing are used in India.

She came from a family of Brahmins, was a worshipper of Lord Ganesh, and deeply involved with a number of religious men and rituals which she always shared with us the visitors, quite willingly.

She was a spark that needed just a little fanning and it spread rapidly to include many children from the local and nearby rural scene, who otherwise were ignored.

As a young graduate of Social Sciences, Tsarahdevi gathered a handful of children with disabilities and taught them in a small hut on the location where her memorial museum stands now, on government property under the Ministry of Social Welfare.

In a country, where not all children, especially girls, had the privilege to go to school, it was a big brave step forward and 20-25 years later when the Volunteers Service Committee of the International Association of Special Education came to assist, there were 2-3 tall buildings on the same location, accommodating 250-300 children with a range of various degrees of disability.

Once the Ministry of Education accepted the idea of Inclusive Education, Sarah was again one step ahead. She travelled through the neighboring villages and found many children with severe disabilities who due to either their lack of mobility, or lack of access could not be served at their village or be accepted by the regular “inclusive” classroom. These children became the residents at “Lebenshilfe” school as the project became to be known through assistance coming from Germany. Tsarahdevi went to Germany

and visited the “Lebenshilfe” schools, learned a lot and brought back many contemporary ideas and practices to India.

She was very skilled to look for assistance everywhere in India, and around the world for obtaining funds or goods to feed and clothe the children, to pay for additional teachers, assistant teachers, to find volunteers. Assistance came from Switzerland, Japan and Tsarahdevi became a member of the International Association of Special Education.

As far as I know, she participated in every world conference of IASE, presenting, explaining, illustrating her favorite “Tiger Dance therapy”, her favorite intervention technique, where the children wore striped tiger suits, roared, and moved on fours to the rhythm of the drums to have fun and to relax.

The ultimate aim of the school was to teach as much independence and vocational skills, appropriate social behavior and try to find employment for some, and for others to grow to adulthood and old age at the school.

Tsarahdevi was very successful obtaining used school uniforms, gym shoes, special treats, necessary repairs to the buildings, obtaining night watchmen, drivers, used school buses, find sponsors for special lunches, donations of fruit, rice, vegetables, paper, used toys, books, or whatever was needed.

In her “spare time” she did a doctorate at Andhra University, conducted workshops to improve the qualification of her very dedicated group of teachers. Then the coconuts were broken and their juice was mixed with cement while a Hindu priest chanted and a few dormitories and single rooms were added to accommodate visiting teachers, students in teacher training, who in turn would provide workshop, training, for the school teachers and staff.

Those very dedicated teachers who served the children over the years, who also had to develop lots of flexibility to be ready for Tsarahdevi’s call for a sudden workshop during school hours or at the end of the day, discussions,” good ideas.”

It, probably was not the easiest thing, to work with Tsarahdevi, but deep down the teachers knew, that her dedication to the welfare of the children, the best

for the school, was one of the main goals of Tsarahdevi's life.

Her sudden departure from life leaves a tremendous vacuum at the school, but all who knew her, suspect that she is not really too far away, that she is still negotiating with her Hindu gods to secure special privileges for the children at Lebenshilfe.

No, there is no one like Tsarahdevi to step in her shoes and keep the engine running. The children do miss you Tsarahdevi, we all do... very much...

Bids for 2021 IASE Conference Sites: IASE Seeks Proposals for the 2021 Conference Site

IASE, with membership in 50 countries, is seeking proposals for the 2021 Conference site. We welcome proposals for a venue site that meet the requirements listed below:

- Be located in a city with an international airport.
- Provide adequate meeting space:
 - a. 12-15 meeting rooms that would accommodate 25-35 persons
 - b. A large meeting space (to accommodate 400 people) for general plenary sessions
 - c. Space for registration, exhibits, and poster sessions.
- Provide needed equipment (e.g., overheads, and/or LCD projectors, screens, lap tops, easels).
- Have food services available at/near the venue site.
- Be situated in a reasonably close proximity to hotels.
- Promote the conference in the region/country.
- Be willing to provide guidance to the IASE Planning Committee about tours, school visits, venue for Gala Dinner, and more.
- Be able to designate a minimum of 5-6 people to serve on a Local Planning Committee to work with the IASE Planning Committee on conference needs (e.g., printing a program).

- 9. Be able and willing to accept registrations from own country. This would include accepting the registrations and funds, and maintaining appropriate records for accounting purposes.
- Have available low cost sleeping rooms (e.g., dorms) for individuals who seek/prefer to stay on the university campus. If you are interested in hosting the 2021 IASE Conference, please submit a proposal to IASE utilizing the information above.

Please send your proposal to Dr. Beatrice Adera, IASE President at presidentias@gmail.com.

Treasurer's Report

Marg Csapo Scholarship \$ 7, 335.43

Operational Budget \$126,512.00

Checking \$6,439.39

VSP \$20,648.88

Grand Total: 160, 935.70

Conference Liaison Updates

Our slogan for the 2019 IASE Biennial Conference is:

“We will bus you up the mountain
And bus you down the mountain
And change your life in between”

The reason for this slogan is because Conference participants will arrive in Tanzania and be bussed from their entry point to Lushoto and then to Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University where the Conference will be held. This bus ride can take several hours. You will be provided with a travel guide, conversations topics, and places to stop for water and restrooms. You will be driven into the beautiful Usambara Mountains. You will go from dry brown lands to lush green forests, wild life, waterfalls, terraced gardening and winding roads. Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University (SEKOMU) is a 10 year old University located in the village of Magamba.

SEKOMU has grown dramatically with amazing results. They require all their students to **take** classes in special needs education. This focus was to ultimately improve the value of people with special needs in the country. Several of their graduates are currently working in top governmental positions and focusing on special needs. You will learn more about this University and their dramatic growth very soon.

Watch the IASE Website for more information on setting up your travel arrangements, lodging options and plan to register for this memorable Conference. Check out our conference blog too! If you have questions, please contact the Conference Liaison Susan Pursch, iasesecretary@gmail.com

WELCOME TO TANZANIA



Habari na Karibu Tanzania! Hello and welcome to Tanzania!

TRAVEL PLANS

If you are planning on attending the Conference you will want to book your travel flights. You should fly into any of the following local airports: Kilimanjaro International Airport (JRO), or Arusha local airport, or Tanga Airport. The Conference begins on Sunday, July 14th at SEKOMU with an Opening Reception in the afternoon.

If you are flying into JRO you will need to fly in on Saturday, July 13th and overnight in Arusha or Moshi. (Suggested lodging sites will be posted on the iase.org website). This cost is not covered in your registration fees.

From Arusha to SEKOMU is about a 4 hours' drive. **PLEASE UNDERSTAND THE COSTS OF THIS GROUND TRANSPORTATION – which will be provided – IS COVERED IN YOUR REGISTRATION FEES.** There are no additional costs for this ground transportation. You will be provided with a travel booklet which will acquaint

you with the areas you are traveling through and you will have several rest stops along the way – such as the Elephant Motel. You will be informed of the time of departure Sunday morning, July 14th and the designated pick up location closer to the start of the Conference. It will be important for you arrive early for the departure time as this will be your only provided transportation to the Conference. You do not



want to consider renting a vehicle and transporting yourself as you need to have an experienced driver in order to drive the switchbacks up and into the mountains. From Moshi you will also want to fly in on Saturday, July 13th and overnight there. We have suggested lodging options available. They will soon be posted on the iase.org website. You will be picked up on Sunday morning, July 14th at a specific time and at a specific location and transported to the Conference. This transportation is covered in your registration fees. From Arusha Town airport, depending on when your flight arrives and how much time you will need to get from the local airport to the designated pick up location, you could fly in early Sunday morning, but the preference is that you come in Saturday and overnight in Arusha in order to be picked up in Arusha Town. If you are coming in to the Arusha Town airport early Sunday morning, we will arrange to have you picked up and transported to the Conference.

From Tanga airport, you will need to fly into Tanga Saturday, July 13th and overnight there in order to be picked up early Sunday morning and transported to the Conference. This is about a 2-2 ½ hour drive where you will be provided with a travel booklet, have a couple rest stops and be comfortable.

SAFARI OPTIONS

Since you will be in Tanzania you might as well take the opportunity to be a part of a one, two, three or four day safari. Keep in mind safaris can be quite pricey, but worth the money and experience.

You can take advantage of a safari before the conference, as long as you arrive back at Arusha or Moshi in time to meet the transportation provided. You cannot be late for the provided transportation or you will need to find your own transportation. Or you can take advantage of a safari after the conference. For those of you who are interested, we will provide, on the iase.org website, a few safari companies for your consideration.

It is one thing to visit the facilities we build to see wild animals. It is truly another experience to be their guests.



Safari Adventures

OPTIONAL THURSDAY TOUR OPTIONS

Some of you may be interested in taking part in one of two local tours. These are not covered with your registration but are offered at an additional cost.

TOUR OPTION #1: The Irente complex.

Irente is an area just outside of Lushoto Town. On this full day tour (Thursday, July 18) you will visit the following locations: Irente Children’s Home, Irente School for the Blind, Irente Rainbow School for children with special needs, Irente Farm (for a farm fresh lunch) and Irente Viewpoint.



Irente Rainbow Students Irente School for the Blind



Irente School for the Blind

TOUR OPTION #2- Lutindi Mental Hospital and Tea Farm This full day tour will take you through the countryside and literally to the top of a mountain where the hospital and tea farm are located.

The scenery is breathtaking. This hospital was built in 1896, as a home for children of slaves. After a few years it was repurposed to be a hospital for people with mental disabilities as there was a great need for psychiatric treatment in Tanzania. It is the oldest psychiatric Hospital in East Africa and has over 120 beds. They see more than 600 inpatients a year and over 6,000 outpatients in a variety of locations. They offer psychiatric treatment, group and individual therapy as well as occupational therapy. Inpatients work with the livestock, in the kitchen, making hand crafts and assist with the Tea Farm.



Sight driving in the mountains Lutindi Mental Hospital



Lutindi Tea Farm

LOCAL OPTIONS

Lushoto is the closest significant town to Magamba. Here is a picture of the main street in Lushoto. There are local hiking and bicycling tours. You can visit the Irente Biodiversity Reserve. There are several spectacular waterfalls in the area and eco-tourism is very popular. Any of these options are available to you but are not part of the Conference.



Welcome to Lushoto



Main Street Lushoto

Meet the Leaders of our Volunteer Service Projects In Tanzania



I am Dr. Anneth Munga. I am the Director of Post graduate Studies and International Relations and Linkages at Sebastian Kolowa

Memorial University (SEKOMU) in Magamba Tanzania East Africa. I also have the privilege of chairing the Local Committee for the 2019 IASE Conference to be held on our campus. Please consider yourselves invited and you are most welcome to the Conference. We are looking forward to hosting you and sharing not only the exceptional work of IASE but the tremendous growth of our University and the beauty of the Usambara Mountains. Asante Sana! Thank you!



Photo of SEKOMU

Photo of SEKOMU

Diana Women Empowerment Organization (DIWEO) is a non-profit organization and one of IASE's VSP sites. DIWEO's major mission is to empower targeted groups such as orphans, children with disabilities, widows and women living with HIV / AIDS in Tanzania. DIWEO currently has 2 orphanage centers in Tanzania one located in the major city of Dar es Salaam and the other orphanage center in Tanga.



Farida Khakoo (L), Director and Marg Csapo, (R) IASE founder, meet at the site in Tanga.

We provide orphans, disabled children, widows and women living with HIV/aids with all the necessary humanity requirements such as shelter, food, clothing and medical care. DIWEO's primary objective is to meet the physical, mental and emotional needs by providing individuals with love, care, nourishment, guidance and education. We place a great emphasis on education. DIWEO provides funding for education from nursery to university level. Our goal is to help develop the desire to break the cycle of poverty and inspire them to become the best that they can be.

Toa Nafasi Project: Providing Chances, Promoting Children

Toa Nafasi is a *program* (not a separate center or school) and we work *within* the existing public (government) school system in Tanzania, where the majority of children are enrolled. We work exclusively with Standard One students as an Early Childhood Education platform.

Our program can be introduced into *any* public primary school in the country, and has recently expanded from one location in Moshi (the capital city of Kilimanjaro region) to three neighboring schools. Ultimately, the goal is for our services to be available in *all* public primary schools, so people will not have to travel long distances nor pay extra money.

We strive to improve learning outcomes for *all* students, but our focus is on the *most vulnerable learners* in the classroom: those with learning difficulties, slow learners, or other marginalized children. We do not deviate from the national syllabi mandated by the Ministry of Education, but rather ensure that everyone in the class has an equal opportunity to learn regardless of his or her learning style.



We work with teachers and parents to identify which children are struggling, what the cause might be, and how best to help them. If the problem is medical or psycho-social, we have developed a referral system. If it is scholastic, Toa Nafasi provides "a pull-out program" in which flagging students are removed from their regular lessons for short periods to receive one-on-one or small group tutorials from our trained staff.

Toa Nafasi teachers are generally young women from the village who have struggled to find gainful employment, but who have committed to working with the Project. They are taught a few simple yet effective teaching methodologies for slow learners by our international education consultants, and then gain their experience in the classroom. Employment opportunities like these are an additional benefit of Toa Nafasi!

www.toanafasi.org

For more information on all of our VSP sites and programs so to www.iase.org

ONE OF THE CONFIRMED KEYNOTE SPEAKERS



Dr. Edward Tinkamanyile Tibishubwamu Bagand shwa is the Deputy Vice-Chancellor for Academics, Research and Consultancy at Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University

(SEKOMU). He was appointed in 2014 by the President of Tanzania as the Chairperson for the

National Advisory Council for the services of people with disabilities, a position he continues to hold. He has a Masters Degree in Education from the University of Dar es Salaam. He earned his PhD in Special Education from the University of Manchester and has done Post-Doctoral work also at the University of Manchester. At the age of 7 he lost his eye sight and since that time has been totally blind. He has held several positions at SEKOMU since arriving there in 2014. We are looking forward to his keynote presentation and participation at the Conference.

Call for IASE Board Officers Nominations for 2019-2021

Nominations are being accepted from now until December 1st, 2018

The following positions are open:

- President-Elect, 1 to be elected for two-year terms
- Secretary, 1 to be elected for two-year terms
- Treasurer, 1 to be elected for two-year terms
- 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:

- Valid IASE membership
- 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 via email margcsapo@shaw.ca or postal mailed to Dr. Marg Csapo, 3483 W. 18th Ave., Vancouver, [CANADA BC](#) V 6S 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.

Scholarships for the 16th Biennial Conference in Magamba, Tanzania, July 14-17, 2019

The Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund was created in tribute to founding member, mentor and leader in the IASE, Dr. Marg Csapo. The goal is to provide opportunities for those in the field of Special Education worldwide to be able to access the information and networking opportunity of IASE Biennial Conference.

Approaching the Biennial Conference, members of IASE (for at least one year) are eligible to apply for a scholarship, which covers the costs of Conference registration, the Gala Dinner during the Conference, and five nights of lodging during the Conference. The application is accessible through the IASE website. Preference will be awarded to applicants from developing/ emerging nations as well as field practitioners.

The due date for applications for the next Conference in Magamba, Tanzania East Africa is October 1, 2018. Please complete the application fully to avoid any delays. An international committee will review the applications, and applicants will be notified of their acceptance by November 1, 2018.

We look forward to your scholarship applications for the 16th Biennial Conference in Magamba, Tanzania East Africa!

Meghan Mulvenna, Scholarship Committee Chair
ScholarshipIASE@gmail.com

IMPORTANT TIMELINES:

December 1, 2018
Notification of acceptance of proposals

February 1, 2019
Early Special Rates Registration Fees End

February 1, 2019
Conference Proceedings Due

After February 1, 2019
Late Conference Fees

All presenters will be required to pay their registration fees by **April 1, 2019** to be included in the conference program. For further updates go to our website at: <http://www.iasse.org>

David Hampton, Ph.D.
Bowling Green State University
443 EDHD
Bowling Green, OH 43403



Renew and Join IASE Today!

Please print information clearly:

Surname: _____ First Name : _____

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 _____ Discover

Authorized.net (Please follow link on the website @www.iase.org)

Credit Card Number: _____

Exp. Date: _____

Name of Cardholder (print): _____ Date: _____

Billing Address: _____

Cheque (Payable to IASE, US funds)

Please send your membership form to:

Mail: IASE Treasurer, PO Box 2159, Mesa, AZ 85214, USA E-mail : irisdoug@cox.net

IASE operates on a rolling membership year; you will be invited to renew your membership one year after joining. All other membership inquiries contact: iasemembership@gmail.com