



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,

It is hard to believe that we are already midway through 2018 and the IASE conference planning committee is busy planning the 2019 IASE Conference that will be held in Magamba, Tanzania. The proposal review committee is currently accepting proposals for the 2019 Conference. All proposals will be due by October 1<sup>st</sup>. I strongly encourage everyone to submit a proposal and also plan on joining us for the 2019 Biennial Conference. In addition, IASE members are encouraged to volunteer to serve on the proposal review committee. We will be sharing highlights from Tanzania and more specific Conference details in future newsletters.

One of the key missions of IASE is to “promote awareness and understanding of issues and development related to the education and welfare of individuals with special needs throughout the world.” Our IASE Board has been exploring ways to keep this mission alive by sharing different resources and highlights from our different VSP sites through our social media platforms [face book - iase... and twitter @iasetweets. We encourage all IASE members and friends of IASE to visit our social media platforms and also encourage you to share inspirational stories and/or articles with us. Feel free to tag IASE on any content that represents individuals with disability in a positive light – all tags will be reviewed by our social media page before they can be approved for posting on our Facebook newsfeed or twitter. It is important that we keep our Facebook page active. My hope is that IASE will continue to do great work around the world as we strive to reach the different organizations, professionals and families supporting individuals with disabilities around the world. Some major upcoming projects include the expansion of our volunteer base and donations for our VSP sites. In addition, the committees listed below are in need of volunteers:

- Newsletter
- Journal
- Website
- Financial review

All the best, Dr. Beatrice Adera, Pennsylvania, USA

## Call for Volunteer Proposal Reviewers

We are seeking volunteers to review Conference presentation proposals for our upcoming Conference which will be held July 14-17, 2019 in Magamba, Tanzania. All proposal reviewers are expected to:

- Be IASE Members
- Have experience with graduate level with proposal writing or review [preference - doctoral level]
- Available to review proposals between Oct. 1- Nov. 15, 2018

Anyone interested in reviewing proposals for the 2019 Conference, please send a brief statement of interest to [lazarusbb@gmail.com](mailto:lazarusbb@gmail.com) [Dr. Brenda Lazarus] no later than September 1, 2018. Your statement should include your contact details, affiliation and email. The typical number of proposals assigned to each reviewer will be 10-15. The proposal format is not lengthy. All reviews will be completed online using a standard rubric and reviewer names will be listed in the Conference Program.

## 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 bused 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](mailto:iasesecretary@gmail.com)

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### **Growing our VSP Site at Dien Ban Day School, Vietnam by Jackie Wrafter**



Children doing lessons at Dien Ban Day Centre

The Kianh Foundation is a medium sized NGO working in Central Vietnam. We have been supported by IASE since its opening in April 2012. Our Centre is housed in a semi-rural area. We currently support the development of 110 children with special needs, ranging from a few months of age up until early adulthood. We provide mainstream and special education, a wide range of therapies, dance, music and yoga therapy, basic healthcare and vocational training, behavior management and family training. We work with children with an extremely wide range of disabilities, including but not limited to Cerebral Palsy, Down Syndrome, Autism Spectrum Disorder, Microcephaly and Cognitive Delays.

As one can imagine, serving this many children, with such a wide variety of special needs across an age span of many years is not an easy thing to do well. The staff at the Centre has to develop the specialized knowledge and skills to be able to intervene at many different levels. The reason the Kianh Foundation attempts to do this is because it is the only Centre of its kind in an area.

Dien Ban, where the centre is situated, was in the top 10% of areas most heavily bombed during the Vietnam War. Dioxins are in the food chain and this area is home to one of the highest percentages of disability in the country, with third and fourth generations still suffering the consequences of the war. In addition, many individuals still live in poverty and have inadequate medical care. There are only a few places for families in the area to go to get help for their child and indeed, themselves. There is certainly no other Centre with Kianh's level of expertise that only asks the families to pay what they can afford. Desperate families arrive at the Centre weekly, begging to enroll their child in what is already a very full programme. Currently there are more than 140 children on the waiting list.

The local government, Dien Ban People's Committee, appreciates the work of the Foundation and has given them an additional 1,000 sq. metres of land behind the current building to extend on to. Plans have been drawn up to build three additional classrooms, a sensory room, a vocational training area, a training area (the Foundation also trains other organisations working in the field) and an extended garden area. Of course, there is no money as yet to make these plans a reality. It is estimated that the construction will cost around \$250,000 and staffing for the first year will cost an additional \$150,000. There is no way to remove the staff costs from the figure we need to raise. Whilst we need money to construct, the project is essentially a human impact project with the most important and ongoing costs being salaries for trained experienced and stable staff.

Without this extension, 140 children will continue to languish at home, their potential untapped; their families kept out of work and remain in the poverty cycle. For some families, the burden will eventually become too much and with heavy hearts, they will place their child in a government institution. With a sum of money that is large, but not unimaginable or extreme, the future for these 140 children and their families could be changed forever.



Current playground area at Dien Ban Day Centre

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## Playground Equipment and Resources for the Early Intervention Center, Hue City, Vietnam

By Quang Nam



Featured above are children from the Early Intervention Centre receiving IASE toys and resources.

With the support of IASE, the Early Intervention Centre and the Organic Farm in Nam Dong district have been supported with toys, equipment and reference books for farming with the aiming at creating a fun, good teaching and working environment for people with disability. We would like to express our deepest thanks to the International Association of Special Education for such wonderful gifts for our children with disabilities. With the support of IASE, the Early Intervention Center and Organic Farm in Nam Dong mountainous district were equipped with a number of toys, teaching materials and a playground for children with disabilities.



In the photo staff from OGCDC at Dien Ban Day Centre

During this visit, we would like to express our sincere thanks to the Association for connecting and providing opportunities for the Office of Genetic Counseling & Disabled Children (OGCDC) staff and special education teachers who were given an opportunity to visit at Dien Ban Day Centre.

## Greetings from our VSP site in Guatemala

By Leticia Mendoza, Director of Centro Maya Servicio Integral



Featured is one student from Centro Maya Servicio Integral who would not part with her new game.

Centro Maya is more than therapies, more than Special Education; it is a political force of change that has emerged in Guatemala. Centro Maya Servicio Integral recognizes people with disabilities. It is an important sector of the Guatemalan population that advocates for all citizens, those who do not have voice or the right to vote, not only during the electoral processes, but throughout their daily lives.

The reality faced by individuals with disabilities in Guatemala continues to be entangled, with many gaps and needs along an uncertain path for their families and community basic life needs. And this is often affected by deep and constant poverty, as well by exclusion of individuals with disabilities within their communities.

In Guatemala there are many individuals with disabilities, from different ages, who are dedicated to the sale of sweets and low-priced products to survive. In general, the social attitudes of people with disabilities who are not part of an organization such as Centro Maya respond to a paternalistic and assistance approach. Here many people wait for the government, private organizations and civil society to give them attention of any kind. We strongly believe that given enough opportunities, individuals with disabilities will thrive and live a dignified life. We are politically involved in order to change that by advocating for people with disabilities' rights.

IASE donations have been used to advance the work we do. Centro Maya's goals will continue to be recognition and respect for the human rights of people with disabilities.

## Moving Forward in Barranquilla, Colombia

### By Luz Estela Narvaez Lambrano

In Barranquilla Colombia, Prosperidad Educacion y Familia (PROSEFAM) Foundation has instituted a new program for students under five years of age. This early childhood intervention program will prepare our children for future success, with the hope of obtaining technical or university degrees. In this way the implementation of good citizens is achieved. As a contribution to the improvement of education, we base ourselves on the pedagogy of the books by Professor Eldon Lee and Mary Gale Budzisz who propose greater freedom and education based on the conviction of values and individual concepts.

Currently students attend school for a half day. This is consistent with the public schools in the area. In 2018 the class schedule will be extended from 7:00 a.m. until 3:00 p.m. It is hopeful that the local government will support food needs. IASE is currently helping with many aspects of the program. We are optimistic that the school will find assistance toward future construction needs of classrooms and a lunch room as a result of this extended day program.

PROSEFAM has established an agreement with the Latin American University Corporation CUL to implement university education courses, so that in this way young people will be more comfortable acquiring knowledge at the University level. The University is involved with the school on a daily basis including providing student teachers.



Left to right, PROSEFAM partners: Julia Maury, Teacher in the community, Luz Estela Narvaez Lambrano; Director PROSEFAM, Ernesto Steffins; Professor CUL Latin - American University, Wilson Cogollo; Professor Universidad del Norte, University Nacional de Comercio, Daniela Niela Canate; CUL University, student teacher at PROSEFAM



Students are working hard in their new classroom, thanks to the donations from IASE

There has been an onslaught of student's from our neighboring country Venezuela, as their families are in precarious conditions. PROSEFAM Foundation is helping with housing, food and a little money to send their family in Venezuela. Currently many of these students sleep in the school at night, eat with our family and attend classes to complete their graduation from the Secondary School.

The PROSEFAM Foundation is grateful to the IASE, which has been very attentive to our needs and that everything is done within the framework of respect and honesty. With the support of the IASE, two classrooms have been added as well as didactic materials, a photocopier, a table computer, children's literature, and many more items. We are hoping to complete the construction of bathrooms, classrooms along with addition items needed pending approval of IASE.

Five years ago, the school was held in our home. We all worked around this new schedule and endeavor. The rest of the area was a vacant yard full of rocks and metal fragments. Today there is a separate entrance to the school which includes two small offices, a storage room, 3 completed classrooms as well as one nearly completed and two more in progress. Also, the shells of the bathrooms as well as the septic system are now complete. The school completely surrounds the house and is a wonderful sight to see, especially when full of happy students.

For more information on all of our VSP sites and programs so to [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org)

## Treasurer's Report

As of May 21, 2018

Checking	\$6,785.60
VSP/Giving	\$20,646.81
Marg Csapo Scholarship	\$7,334.61
Operating Expenses	\$126,477.93
Total:	\$161,244.95

### CALL FOR PROPOSALS 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference of the International Association of Special Education (IASE)



*“Empowering Persons with Disabilities:  
Developing Resilience and Inclusive Sustainable  
Development.”*

**Magamba, Tanzania, East Africa  
July 14 – 17, 2019**

**A collaborative Effort by the  
International Association of Special Education  
&  
Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University (SEKOMU)**



#### PROPOSAL GUIDELINES

The IASE Board cordially invites all interested parties to submit presentation proposals. Please review all submission criteria on our website. Then complete and submit the proposal presentation form by October 1, 2018. Incomplete submissions will not be considered.

*Proposals are to be submitted electronically to Dr. Brenda Lazarus via the website [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org) Look for Call for Proposals. Any additional questions contact Dr. Lazarus at [iaseconf19@gmail.com](mailto:iaseconf19@gmail.com)*

## Scholarships for the 16<sup>th</sup> 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 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference in Magamba, Tanzania East Africa!

Meghan Mulvenna, Scholarship Committee Chair  
[ScholarshipIASE@gmail.com](mailto:ScholarshipIASE@gmail.com)

### IMPORTANT TIMELINES:

**October 1, 2018**  
**Deadline for submission of proposals**

**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**



Newsletter Editor  
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 Bowling Green, Ohio, 43402, USA



**Renew and Join IASE Today!**

Please print information clearly:

Surname: \_\_\_\_\_ First Name : \_\_\_\_\_

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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 \_\_\_\_\_ Discove

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](mailto: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](mailto:iasemembership@gmail.com)**



**We are waiting for you.....  
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