

AnnuntiatuS

Volume XXVIII, Issue 1, February 2016

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

President's Message
By Iris Drower

As president of IASE I am thrilled to be able to briefly share some of the exciting new developments in the International Association of Special Education over the past year. If you haven't been engaged in IASE for a while, NOW is the time! Membership is up with a greater percentage representing developing countries, 'Sponsor a New Member Program' continues through our membership chair, financials have remained solid, our VSP sites continue to grow, evolve and remain sustainable, IASE is on Facebook, our Website offers members a special option to learn about each other through a members only page, IASE has two new Co-editors of our Journal plus a Newsletter Editor has been approved by our board. Together, we continue to collaborate to make important and positive differences for the children and youth around the world, as researchers we discover new insights and as professionals we continue to serve. Below I have highlighted in a little more detail a few of the new developments for 2016.

Exciting Down Under Experience: 15th Biennial Conference in Perth, Australia. Swaleha (Sally) Mohamedali, Conference Chair; Sandra Trevethan, IASE Conference Liaison; Program Co-Chairs, Drs. Fartun Mohamud and Brenda Lazarus; Conference Steering Committee and the IASE Conference Planning Committee are working on a most exciting venue. This program promises to be a unique collaborative venture. So mark your calendar and SAVE THESE DATES- **June 25-29, 2017**. Check our website (www.iase.org) for the online **Call for Proposals** coming soon.

Celebrating Thirty Years: IASE will be having a birthday! Our celebration will be held during the 15th Biennial Conference. Look for updates on how we will be celebrating this joyous occasion leading up to the big day at our Gala Event on June 28, 2017.

Sponsor a New Member Program: IASE continues to reach out to members around the world as we spread the word of what IASE has to offer. Part of this comes from the generosity of our membership. Here you get an opportunity to sponsor a new member and become part of their lives. For more information, contact our Membership Chair Karen Nave at knave@mtintouch.net

Journal of the International Association of Special Education (JIASE): The board voted to establish co-editors rather than just one editor. In a unanimous vote the board approved Drs. Elizabeth M. Dalton and Renata Ticha to be our co-editors. Check out the latest research in the field!



The **AnnuntiatuS**: Roni Chavez (Vietnam) will be serving as our Newsletter Editor as well as an IASE Member at Large for 2016-2017. Check out our new feature section on members too!

Volunteer Service Projects (VSP): The GIVING Fund expended \$49,000 US dollars in 2015. We have expanded our volunteer base along with donations. We have a new site in Guatemala, we have closed our three sites in Bangladesh (due to safety factors), and will be exploring other new sites this year. Currently we serve six countries with 18 sites. Volunteers are always welcome... go to our website www.iase.org for more information

Grand Opening Mwayi Trust Vocational Center: Our Mwayi Trust VSP site in Blantyre, Malawi will have the grand opening in early July 2016. In conjunction with this event our board and extended board will be having a retreat to review and develop a New Strategic Plan, review our mission, goals and objectives, and be volunteers to participate in a landscaping project at the new center in Blantyre, Malawi.

Welcome New Officers and Committee Chairs for 2016-2017: Our President-Elect and Conference Chair is Swaleha Mohamedali (Tanzania), Past- President is Marg Csapo (Canada), Treasurer is Colleen McShane-Meyers(USA), Secretary is Beatrice Adera(USA), Members-at-Large are Ambumulire N. Phiri (Malawi), Roni Chavez (Vietnam), and Dianne Chambers (Australia). The appointed chairs are: Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund Meghan Mulvenna(USA), Volunteer Service Project Mary Gale Budzisz (USA), Membership Karen Nave (USA), Journal Co-Editors are Elizabeth M. Dalton(USA) and Dr. Renata Ticha (USA), and Newsletter Editor Roni Chavez(Vietnam).

This year we have added several new committee chairs to support our organizational growth and needs. Welcome to Dr. Ginny MacEntee (USA) as Book Publication Chair, Jayne Nadarajoo (Singapore) as Fund Raising Chair, and Dr. Fartun Mohamud (USA) and Hazel Chang (Hong Kong) as National Chair Co-coordinators. Welcome!

Kudos to our outgoing officers: THANKS to Past-President Dr. Paula Leitz; Secretary Dr. Ginny MacEntee; Member-at-Large Dr. Malgorzata (Gosia) Sekulowicz, President-Elect Dr. Jim Chapple, and Treasurer and Web Administrator Steve Leitz for their many accomplishments and long service to IASE.

Thank you all for your upcoming engagement with us and for championing IASE!

Perth, Australia
June 25 – 29, 2017

15th Biennial Conference
IASE

See you there!

The Impact of the IASE Volunteer Service Project in India

By Mary Gale Budzisz

I am the bearer of good messages! And these are for you...the members of IASE. Wherever I traveled in 2015 I have had the privilege of bringing smiles to faces..along with items that YOU have been able to provide for those who have the least and need the most. Kudos, THANKS, Hugs, and LOVE from the recipients of your IASE Volunteer Service Project (VSP).

My most recent trip was to India. Note that each volunteer (me included) always pays their own way...out of their own pockets. But we are able to pay for supplies indicated by "wish lists" provided by the specific site personnel. Each of our VSP sites is different, based on what they do and need.

My first stop was in Delhi and SANKALP Coordinator, Anupriya Chadha, had the day totally organized for me. We were welcomed at the N. P. Co-Ed. Sr. Sec. School in Bapudham, New Delhi by Principal Ashe Datt and a brilliant flute and drum band composed of boys who attend the school. From there we were escorted to the Convocation Hall and treated to a wonderful presentation. There were fifteen young ladies on the stage...each with a sewing machine purchased for them by the IASE GIVING Fund. The sewing demonstration brought tears to my eyes...with the girls showing a skill that cannot be taken from them. I was bestowed a huge bouquet and many thanks from all of them to all of YOU. Principal Datt wrote: "On behalf of our School Sewing Center, I would like to thank you for your generous gift of Philips Sewing Machines. Your commitment to help our learners (especially women) in learning sewing as a skill is sincerely appreciated and your support will actually help them get empowered in terms of self-earning of their livelihood. Through our training sessions, we have seen many lives changed for the better. With the help from our supporters such as you, we will continue to see improvements in and progress towards our goal."

Next I was whisked away to the site of the National Association for the Blind School. I had visited last year and a group of young adults explained how great it was to have a computer in their lives...but only about 1/3 of them had a computer of their own. National Association for the Blind officers, President Dipendra Manocha and Treasurer Vijay Kimar Bansal, greeted me. The presentation of a new computer complete with Braille software was prepared by Anupriya and Satnam Singh and paid for with IASE GIVING funds. Student Ali, 15 years old, was thrilled to receive this gift from all of you. Shantha Rangarajan escorted us to various classes at the center.

The next day I flew to Jaipur to visit the Vimukti Girls School. This VSP site has truly grown to now serve 500 girls from the slums of Jaipur with the initiative to overcome the vulnerability of the girl child through literacy and education. In February Marg was able to supply leggings and now I was able to fund the uniforms for all of the newest little 5-6 years old girls. Principal Shyama Mather sends many thanks for these items.

My next visit was to the SPJ Sadhana School located at Sophia College in Mumbai. Vice Principal Radhike Khanna had arranged for teacher Tejal Kothari to be my "shopper" for a day. Tejal met me and we went off with her shopping list. We did "power shopping" and were able to get a variety of recreational items for the physical education classes. Your IASE GIVING fund paid for 4 bicycles of various sizes plus helmets, cricket items (bats, balls, helmets, and shin guards), badminton gear, roller skates, playground balls and marker cones. The next day I was able to visit OM Creations where Sadhana special students are engaged in a variety of business projects which are sold in the community. I even got to hand out the "bonus checks" to the workers.



A student at Lebenshilfe School enjoying ice cream during the Diwali Celebration.

My arrival at Don Bosco in Cochin was eye opening! Last year I awoke on my last day to hear the chop, chop of hatchets and the crashing of trees during the process to clear a plot of land. Today a two story counseling center is under construction with plans to open in March 2016. Father Joe Fernandez was most grateful to receive IASE GIVING Fund to help with this building project. Therapy and counseling services will be offered because of a huge influx of drugs into this area of Kerala. Plus, a new library will be one part of this building.

My last stop was in Visakhapatnam to Lebenshilfe School. Last year I saw the catastrophic results of Cyclone Hudhud. This year I flew into a different place...a brand new airport...last year the blue tin roof was crumpled and on the ground, buckets in the building were catching rain water and it was a mess. Lebenshilfe suffered dramatic destruction, but with the help of the neighborhood and the good people of the city, much has been repaired and the tree supporting the theatre has even grown new branches and leaves. IASE GIVING has supplied gallons of paint to revive the school buildings and they look so much better...but we still need some more to polish all up. CEO Sarah Devi and her staff send many thanks to all of the IASE members for their support and funding. With the wonderful support of S. Prasanth, the General Manager of the Daspalla Hotel, the IASE GIVING Fund hosted the annual Teacher Appreciation Lunch. Plus, the gift of ice cream for all students was enjoyed during the Diwali Celebration complete with little lights and sparklers for all. During Cyclone Hudhud the six student computers were destroyed. IASE GIVING did purchase one new computer and also a Big Keys keyboard which is loved by all.

So...it is because of all of you IASE members that special students in India have the smiles on their faces..and they send lots of appreciation to all of you.

2017 Conference Progress Report

By Swaleah Mohamedali

You might feel that 2017 is far in the distant future, but we have already begun the preparation for our next IASE Conference. The destination is Perth, Australia which is nestled on the western side of the continent. It's called the most isolated city on the earth, but Western Australia's capital is now basking in the glow of major investment, ambitious development, and some glossy high-profile buildings. One of these buildings is the beautiful Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre which will be the venue for the 15th Biennial Conference of the International Association of Special Education.



The Perth Convention and Exhibition Centre is the long low building on the left...amidst ongoing construction in the harbor area.

Your IASE Conference Steering Committee visited Perth in December of 2015 to begin the coordination of the key players who will make this conference a fabulous event. Warm welcomes were extended to all of us and a lot was accomplished in the whirlwind five-day visit. At this time the local collaborators will be Curtin University, Edith Cowan University, and the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia. The local EECW will aid in conference planning. We are in the process of searching for local and international sponsors to support the conference. With such a diverse group of people and organizations working together we truly believe that this conference in Perth, Australia will be most memorable.

We are in the process of creating your Conference Planning Committees. Thanks to all of you who have volunteered to help...and if anyone else is interested in volunteering please contact me at sallymohamedali@gmail.com The Call for Proposals criteria will be included in this newsletter, plus additional information will be posted at www.iase.org. The conference registration form is being developed and the website will be updated as new information is available...so keep posted! Members...please notify your friends and colleagues about the important dates...first one being October 1, 2016 as the due date for the Call for Proposals.

Expert help provided by the Perth Convention Bureau gave us suggestions for lodging for our conference participants. We were able to visit all types of lodging including apartments, 3, 4, and 5 star hotels, plus hostels and dormitories. The expert service of Grahame Hay, owner of WA Instyle Tours, was invaluable as he shuttled us all to many destinations in and around Perth. Discussions occurred about a variety of tours that will be available pre and post the conference dates to places along the country's finest stretch of sand north and south of Perth. Also airport transfers and shuttle service will be available.

We were also able to visit Brother Olly Picket who gave us an in-depth tour of "Wheelchairs for Kids" which is a project of the Rotary Club of Scarborough supported by the Christian Brothers. Since 1998 over 35,000 wheelchairs have been built by volunteers and donated to needy children in developing countries. Another meeting was with Ryan Mossny the director of "two-feet & a heartbeat" who shared options for wonderful walking tours in the area. Another site we were lucky enough to learn about is Rocky Bay...whose motto is "optimizing the quality of life for people living with disability." You can also take an underground torchlight prison tour in Fremantle! These are just a few of the many choices and options that conference participants will have for adventure, fun and networking.

In 18 months we all hope that you will be packing your bags to fly down-under to this lovely "City of Lights" to greet old friends and make new ones, too. Please mark June 25-29, 2017 on your calendars. I look forward to learning much from all of you who will come to Perth, Australia to share your research and best practices for our special children and young adults from all over the world.



From the left: Iris Drower, Jayne Nadarajoo, Sandra Trevethan, Caitlin Craig of the Perth Convention Bureau, and Sally Mohamedali.

Treasurer's Report

By Colleen Meyer

Currently as of January 29, 2016 we have:

Chase Bank Savings – \$165,384.14

Chase Checking – \$25,429.73

Bank of America Savings – \$54,647.00

Bank of America Checking – \$7,056.00

IASE member Renata Ticha invites you to an **International Summit on Response to Intervention and Inclusive Education - A Global Perspective** that will be held from June 8th to 10th, 2016, at Avinashilingam University, Coimbatore, Tamil Nadu, India. The summit is co-sponsored by Avinashilingam University for Women in Tamil Nadu, India, and University of Minnesota's Institute on Community Integration in Minnesota, USA. The Summit is organized as part of the Obama-Singh 21st Knowledge Initiative, a collaboration between the two universities.

With its focus on Inclusive Education and Response to Intervention within an international context, this Summit will provide a unique opportunity for professionals and students from all over the world to discuss best practices for children at-risk and with disabilities.

For more information and to submit a proposal, please visit: ticonference2016.com

Centro Maya Servicio Integral: New IASE Volunteer Service Project in Guatemala!

By Elisa Paci

Centro Maya Servicio Integral is a non-profit organization that works to provide free comprehensive rehabilitation services and social inclusion for people with disabilities. It is situated in San Juan La Laguna, on Lake Atitlan, in Guatemala. Centro Maya works in a rural context where people with disabilities cannot access basic services nor achieve social inclusion because of the persistence of taboos and the idea that disability is a burden.

With poverty already a constant reality, most families cannot afford nor see as a priority the rehabilitation of people with disabilities. This is why Centro Maya works to break down all barriers between society and people with disabilities, as well as to improve people's quality of life and access to services. Understanding the importance of comprehensive work, we have developed a personalized therapy and education plan for each user with a team of Guatemalan professionals, local trained staff, and volunteers. Our work goes beyond rehabilitation and into inclusion for people with disabilities in each area of their life as well as in their communities.

OUR AREAS OF WORK:

Early Stimulation: We work with children aged 0-6, valuing the importance of early intervention to enhance and develop skills, integrating parents in the activities to ensure the follow-up of the therapies at home.

Special Education: For users with special educational needs aged 7 onwards, as well as those who need to enhance and strengthen some educational areas, such as for labor inclusion and attendance at public government schools.

Physiotherapy: Includes temporary and permanent physical rehabilitation to promote independence in daily life.

Speech Therapy: Considering the importance of communication and expression for needs and desires in daily life, we work on the rehabilitation or implementation of new communication strategies for users to allow them, if needed, to generate their own language and communication systems.

Psychology: We provide therapies in the field of disability and clinical support, as well as work with public institutions to provide support to sexual or domestic violence victims, conduct problems, and support to parents and users in their process of acceptance.

Medical Services: Open to Centro Maya's registered users and the wider community, we provide what at the departmental level is called 'therapeutic accompaniment', giving general medical evaluation and arranging visits to specialists, medical control, and required tests. When possible, medicine is provided for long-term illnesses.



Early Stimulation



Music Stimulation



Speech and Communication Therapy

Music and Theater Therapy: Giving support to the different areas through musical elements, this therapy is used to facilitate and promote communication, relationships, learning, movement, expression, organization, and other relevant therapeutic objectives in order to meet physical, emotional, mental, social, and cognitive needs.

Labor Inclusion (Alma de Colores): We train youth and adults in workshops of handicrafts, sewing, and bakery and, since 2015, in an organic vegetable garden and a coffee shop and restaurant, all dedicated to their labor and social inclusion. We are honored to be part of this great program!

For more information, please visit our [Facebook Centro Maya SI](#), www.almadecolores.org or write at centromayasi@gmail.com or centromayaguatemala@yahoo.com If any IASE members are interested in volunteering at this site in Guatemala, please contact Mary Gale at mgbudzisz@aol.com. Centro Maya requests that Spanish speaking volunteers spend three months at this VSP site.

Featured Member



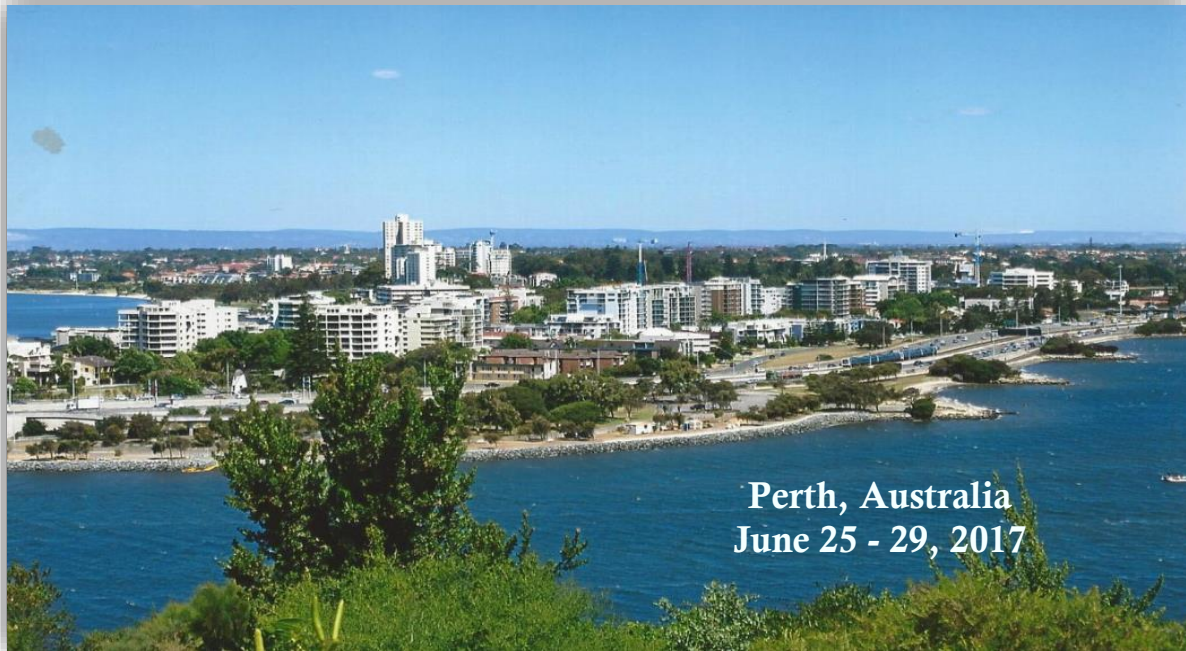
Belinda McLaughlin continues her work in Hong Kong as a Special Educator for English Schools Foundation (ESF); Asia's largest provider of English-Medium-International education.

She coordinates a Special Needs department in an inclusive Primary International Baccalaureate School working with students ranging from mild to moderate learning, social and behavioral needs.

Whilst academic support remains a focus for many of these young learners, Belinda's team also support the increasing and at times very complex needs of students with social communication challenges.



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.com

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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: _____

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If you require the journal or newsletter to be sent to you electronically, please note that on this form. IASE membership runs from January 1 through December 31 of each calendar year