

Annuntiatu

International Association of Special Education

The 14th Biennial Conference in Wroclaw, Poland, June 21-25, 2015

Message from IASE President

By Paula Leitz

It is hard to believe that the 2013 Biennial Conference in Vancouver, B.C., has come and gone. From the reception at the Museum of Anthropology to the fabulous (and I might say great fun!) gala and to the heartfelt closing session there was much to enjoy. I personally felt thankful that I could meet and talk with so many of you during the four days. To Iris Drower and Marg Csapo a huge thank you for a job well done. And to all of those who played a role in making this conference such a success, thank you.

I am coming to the end of my Presidency and know that much has been accomplished and yet there is more to do. In October the Four Year Strategic Planning Team will come together in Gig Harbor, Washington, to finalize the job descriptions for Board Members and Committee Chairs. A Board Meeting will be held in October via conference call and I will subsequently lead my last Board Meeting in December.

The growth of IASE has been remarkable over the last few years as seen in the increase of volunteer sites and volunteers at these sites, in the well-attended conferences and in the addition of National Chairs who work to promote our goals and increase membership. I envision that the IASE will continue to 'spread its wings' and do much good work.

Finally, I look forward to seeing all of you in 2015 in Poland!

All my best, Paula

IASE 13th Biennial Conference Highlights

By Iris Drower

The IASE 13th Biennial Conference was intended for all those who believe that children, youth, and young adults with special education needs deserve all the supports to develop their potential and become equal members of society. This conference truly illustrated how bridges have been built towards inclusive education through research, innovation, and best practices in order to make the world a more inclusive place for every child and young adult as well as to contribute to their own experiences.

The conference was an important event for Vancouver as well as for IASE. The first IASE conference was held in Vancouver in 1989. Our founder, Dr. Marg Csapo, claims that we have "come home again" to celebrate 28 years of achievements in the field. The Dean of the Faculty of Education at the University of British Columbia (UBC), Dr. Blye Frank, opened our welcome ceremony at the Museum of Anthropology. Dr. Frank emphasized that we all share a commitment toward the development of special education throughout the world. He further concluded that UBC is a 'place of mind' and that we need to continue to work across diverse cultural divides in order to bridge the distance between segregation and inclusion.

The Coastal Wolf Pack, First Nation Band (photo below), dazzled us with their ceremonial welcome. Conference participants were



welcomed by a diverse roster of distinguished dignitaries and speakers whose inspirational speeches addressed inclusive approaches from different angles and journeys. Some of our featured speakers included Vancouver Assistant Deputy Mayor, Adriane Carr and Assistant Deputy Minister, Ron Allen (photos below).



As emphasized by the Assistant Deputy Minister Ron Allen, "I understand the need for inclusive practices and appreciate the work.... Inclusion reflects fundamental principles in society celebrating diversity while promoting development and learning for everyone, and providing for social participation in learning and caring environments, peer relations, and interactions."



J.A. Tan, a Vancouver-based visual artist (photo on left) described his life as being "A PART OF... NOT APART" as depicted by his artwork featured on IASE conference bags. He expressed his message as follows: "Through my art I had the opportunity to break out of the silence of autism.

I believe I need to continually uninhabited this silence. I slowly unveiled the mystery of this condition for myself and others."

Dr. Liliانا Mayo (photo below), Founder and General Director of the Centro Ann Sullivan del Peru (CASP) discussed the core elements of the CASP model: "Treat me like a person, use a functional curriculum, and know that families are teaching partners." The results of using this model demonstrate that all individuals can become more independent, productive and happy. She provided real life stories and a universal message that life-long equal opportunities and equal rights should be available for everybody throughout the world.



The conference participants discussed more extensive partnerships, networked, established new connections, and learned from each other. The newly appointed IASE National Chairs in attendance were honored. Pictured from left to right: Swaleha Mohamedali, Tanzania; IASE



President Dr. Paula Leitz, Bronwen Hewitt, UK; and Dr. Girma Berhanu, Sweden.

Entertainment throughout the conference depicted unique talents. *The Tempos*, a Canadian-based visually impaired singing group helped to open the conference. *Theatre Terrific*, a local singing and acting group of varying abilities (photo on right) opened



the Gala Dinner with upbeat music that brought attendees to their feet and truly "rocked the house."



Dr. Sal Zimmerman and his Art Committee displayed and showcased artwork by children and young adults from around the world. Dr. Marcel Lebrun and his Auction Committee organized the silent and live auctions. They raised \$3,000 US for the Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund.

A closing panel presentation emphasized the importance of an individual journey as seen through the perspective of a parent, international organization, and advocates with special needs. This session explored special needs as an outcome of complex interactions and offered practical solutions. This approach toward inclusive education was reflected by each presenter's great passion and reminded participants to start at the beginning, not at the end, to strive toward the goals of educating all.



A unique speech was signed by Mr. Chen Feng from Chengdu, China (photo on left) interpreted by Dr. Kathy Johnson from St. Cloud University, and read to the

audience by Mr. Slesman, Phoenix Sister City Disability Awareness Co-Chair. The photo above right shows Conference Co-Chair Dr. Iris Drower honoring Zhao Chun Li, also known as Angel from China, after she delivered a heartfelt inspirational speech about her life and opportunity to meet President Clinton.

A New Volunteer Service Project Site

By Richard Zigler

Habari rafiki,

I would like to introduce a new IASE Voluntary Service Project site located in Arusha, Tanzania, East Africa. It is the Jaffery Academy-Intellectual Enhancement Unit that serves children and youth with special needs. Recently, I had the honor of volunteering at this site. The purpose was to work with staff that support the needs of a full spectrum of children and youth with special needs within the framework of the Jaffery Academy,

a private school of 1,000 students. The Head of Department, Swaleha Mohamedali, a highly talented and motivated special education leader explains the concept recently introduced and the goals of our 18-hour three-day workshops.

The purpose of the workshops was three-fold: (1) To introduce special education pedagogy from the perspective of cultural expectations; (2) To assist the staff in long range planning for successful implementation of Individualized Education Plans (IEPs) for students with disabilities; and (3) To give direction and develop a comprehensive plan for educators to introduce functional skills for pre-employment as well as vocational skills.



Richard Zigler, IASE volunteer, conducting a workshop

As a veteran in E. Africa, I must say that this little gem in the Kilimanjaro Region is one that will flower and bear fruit of success for children and youth with special needs in Tanzania. Be part of the action, rafiki yangu (my friend).

Richard Zigler, IASE Volunteer

IASE Treasurer's Report

August 1, 2013

<u>Bank of America</u>	
Checking	116,925.66
Savings	100,457.20
TOTAL	217,382.86
<u>Chase</u>	
Checking	72,112.50
Savings	8,108.97
TOTAL	80,221.47
GRAND TOTAL:	\$ 297,604.33

"As you might notice there have been some changes in the amounts that are reflected in our Chase savings account. This was due to expenditure of necessary funds to cover conference expenses, the publication of the last newsletter and journal, as well as the GIVING Fund. We also provided \$50,000 to the Mwayi Trust Building Fund. There will be a transfer of money from the Chase checking account back into the Chase savings account after the payment of any final conference bills."

Jim Chapple, IASE Treasurer

International Association of Special Education The 13th Biennial General Membership Meeting

Tuesday July, 9, 2013

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada

The 13th Biennial General Membership Meeting was called to order by President Paula Leitz, presiding at 8AM. There was a quorum present. Jim Chapple moved that the Minutes of the 12th Biennial General Membership meeting held at the University of Namibia in July 2011 and published in the Annunziatus Newsletter Summer 2011 be accepted. Iris Drower seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Iris Drower, Co-chairman of the 13th Biennial Conference reported that 330 people from 35 countries were registered. She expressed thanks to her co-chair Marg Csapo for her ground work in preparing for the conference and to the local committee for all their help. She asked that everyone fill out the evaluation form.

Jim Chapple, the treasurer, reported that as of June 15, 2013, IASE had a balance of \$315,437.60. Some of this money will carry over to 2014 because those who attended the conference have paid their dues for 2014. Jim and Karen Sealander, the membership chair, are working on updating the membership records. They created and issued membership cards for all IASE members. Iris Drower moved that the Treasurer's Report be accepted. Marg Csapo seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Karen Sealander, the membership chair, reported that the current IASE membership is 385 members. Each member representing developed and developing countries, regular and student memberships, institutional and lifetime memberships receives electronically a confirmation of membership and a welcome letter. Richard Freeze moved that the report be accepted. Bob Henderson seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Mary Gale Budzisz presented the Nominating Committee Report for Bill Towne. A slate was presented and published in the Annunziatus newsletter Volume XXIII, Issue 4, Spring 2013. On January 1, 2014, The newly elected officers will be: President-Elect - Jim Chapple - USA, Treasurer - Steve Leitz, USA, Secretary: Virginia MacEntee, USA, Member-at-Large - Malgorzata (Gosia) Sekulowicz - Poland: Member-at-Large - Sajjad Khan - Bangladesh, Member-at-Large - Ambumulire Phiri - Malawi. Richard Freeze moved that the Nominating Committee Report be accepted. Bob Henderson seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Lynn Alyward, Chair of GIVING, reported the expenditures of this fund since 2011. The Volunteer Service Project sites that were the 2011 recipients of \$10,412.59 were: Hope for Life, Bangladesh; Songshoptaque, Bangladesh; Vimukti Girls School, India; Sankalp, India; Lebenshilfe, India; Mwayi Trust, Malawi; Mzuzu University, Malawi. In 2012 the GIVING Fund gave \$6,501.95 to these sites: Don Bosco, India; Vimukti Girls School, India; Lebenshilfe, India; Hope for Life, Bangladesh; Songshoptaque, Bangladesh; Mwayi Trust, Malawi. In the first six months of 2013 the GIVING Fund gave \$2,631.62 to Mzuzu University, Malawi; Mwayi Trust, Malawi; and to the four new sites in Vietnam. IASE provided \$50,000 US in seed money for the Mwayi Trust Vocational Centre that is being constructed in Blantyre, Malawi. Richard Freeze moved that the GIVING Report be accepted. Ginny MacEntee seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Mary Gale Budzisz, Co-Chair of the Volunteer Service Project, reported that there are 20 volunteer sites at this time. In 2012 the two new sites added in Tanzania were: The Jaffery Academy-Intellectual Enhancement Unit (SEN) located in

Arusha and developed by IASE member Swaleha Mohamedali and the Toa Nafasi Project in Moshi organized and founded by Sarah Rosenbloom. In Vietnam the following new sites have been added: The Santa Maria Clinic coordinated by Dr. Phan Giang in Ho Chi Minh City; the Ho Chi Minh University of Education under the guidance of Dean Le Thi Minh Ha; the College of Medicine and Pharmacy located in Hue under the direction of Dr. Nguyen Viet Nhan; and the Dien Ban Day Centre managed by the Kinah Foundation under the direction of Jackie Waffer. Jim Chapple moved that the Volunteer Report be accepted and Marg Csapo seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously. Mary Gale and Marg awarded the Mary Gale Volunteer Service Project Award certificates of appreciation to the following conference attendees: Sara Devi, Lebenshilfe, India; Dr. Phan Giang, Santa Maria Clinic, Vietnam; Sandra Trevethen, Mwayi Trust, Malawi; Swaleha Mohamedali, Jaffery Academy, Tanzania; Kathy Daquilanea, Santa Maria Clinic, Vietnam; Iris Drower, Santa Maria Clinic, Vietnam; Richard Zigler, Jaffery Academy and SekuCo, Tanzania; Virginia MacEntee, Santa Maria Clinic, Vietnam; and Marg Csapo for the Santa Maria Clinic, Vietnam; Songshoptaque, Bangladesh; Lebenshilfe, India; and Mwayi Trust, Malawi. Ginny MacEntee moved that the Volunteer Service Report be accepted. Richard Freeze seconded the motion and it was carried by unanimous vote.

Rick Freeze, National Chairs Program Coordinator, announced that an initiative to have National Chairs was approved by the IASE Board in October 2012. Six National Chairs have been nominated and approved: UK - Bronwen Hewitt, Pakistan - Yousaf Masih, Tanzania - Swaleha Mohamedali, India - Anupriya Chada, Sweden - Girma Berhanu, and Zimbabwe - Darlington Changara. Iris Drower moved that the National Chairs Program Coordinator's Report be accepted. Marg Csapo seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Renáta Tichá, Newsletter Editor, reported that the newsletter is a medium of communication with IASE members around the world. The newsletter is published quarterly and a hard copy is sent to all members. In the Spring 2013 newsletters were postal mailed to 430 members. The web master posts a PDF copy of the newsletter at <http://www.iase.org/> the following quarter. Iris Drower moved that the Newsletter Report be accepted. Ginny MacEntee seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Morgan Chitiyo, the Journal Editor, reported that 430 journals at a cost of \$4360.16 were printed. Dr. Greg Prater and Dr. Malgorzata Sekulowicz continue to serve as Associate Editors. We currently have a total of 42 Consulting Editors from 16 countries. A debut topical issue will be published online in the Fall of 2014 based on the theme of the 13th Biennial conference, i.e. inclusion from around the world. We are currently receiving and processing manuscripts. With the introduction of a biennial topical issue, the consulting editors are overwhelmed with reviews. We will, therefore, be recruiting more consulting editors. Ginny MacEntee moved that the Journal Report be accepted. Iris Drower seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

Mary Gale Budzisz presented the Marg Csapo Scholarship Committee Report for Sister Mary Karen Oudeans who had resigned. Eight scholarships were offered and letters written to inform everyone about lodging and registration forms to be submitted to the treasurer. Recipients Mary Louise Mostert from Namibia, Pamela February from Namibia and Ambumulire Phiri from Malawi received their visas and were honored at the Gala Dinner. The other five recipients had visa problems. Ginny MacEntee moved that the Report be accepted. Richard Freeze seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

New Business: Announcements:

Malgorzata (Gosia) Sekulowicz announced that the 14th Biennial Conference will be held in Wroclaw, Poland. A short video presentation about Wroclaw, Poland, followed the announcement.

Adjournment:

Ginny MacEntee moved and Sarah Devi seconded the motion for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 AM.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia MacEntee, Secretary IASE

International Association of Special Education

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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: _____

By Mail: IASE Treasurer

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