



**A Message from the
IASE President
Dr. Zandile P. Nkabinde**



In this May 2021 Issue of the Annuntiatius, Newsletter, I am delighted to share new developments about the Conference planning for the 17th Biennial Conference for July 10-14, 2022. In March 20, 2021, the Conference Planning Committee met and the following items were

discussed:

- HCMUE to establish a Local Volunteer Committee as part of the LC.
- A special registration fee for those in Vietnam was adjusted from \$150.00 to \$100.00 and the amount was approved by the IASE Board.
- Vietnam Local Committee must find vendors to participate at a conference.
- Sponsorships for teachers must be promoted by the Local Committee in Vietnam and IASE Board.
- Keynote speakers will be found by the LC in Vietnam and will be negotiated between the LC and IASE Board.
- Suggested Conference strands included Early Childhood Education; Inclusion of students with autism; Universal Design for Learning; Mental Health; Employment/Vocational Training for people with disabilities etc.

Our 3rd IASE Virtual/Dialogue was held on Saturday, April 24, 2021 via Zoom. IASE members shared community activities they were engaged in across the globe. The theme was: Community Based Support for People with Disabilities with the focus on transition issues. This last Virtual Dialogue was a great success with presenters from Ghana, Kazakhstan, Malawi, Tanzania, UK, and the US. Attendance was remarkable

and many countries were represented. Co-moderators were Dr. Myrie an Assistant Professor of Special Education in the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at Bennett College, Greensboro, North Carolina. Sherwin Fraser who co-moderated is a lecturer at the University of Guyana Faculty of Education and Humanities Department of Curriculum and Instruction. These two moderators both did an outstanding job.

New members have also been able to invite their colleagues and friends to join the organization. Involving new members has also taken another form of engagement and as the organization grows so is the enthusiasm. Save the date for the IASE 17th Biennial Conference planned for July 10-14, 2022 at Ho Chi Minh City University of Education (HCMUE) in Vietnam. The university is located in District 5 and it is one of fourteen leading national universities of Vietnam and one of the two largest educational institutions in the country. Ho Chi Minh City, in Vietnam is what was once known as Saigon and is the largest city in Vietnam. This was for a long time known as part of Cambodia. It is a vibrant city of about 8.2 million residents. The language spoken in Ho Chi Minh City is Vietnamese with the largest minority of Chinese population. Ho Chi Minh City has a tropical wet and dry climate throughout the year. So be ready for the heat if you plan on attending the conference. After visiting the country in November of 2019, I found the food very good and there are numerous good restaurants by the university where the conference will be held. Accommodation also ranges from low-cost dorms and/or hostels to mid and high-end hotels some located within walking distance from the Conference venue. Transportation is also plentiful from Uber, regular taxis to commercial motorbikes e.g., Grab Ride for those adventurous enough to enjoy the ride.

IASE Seeks Proposals for the 2024 Conference Site

IASE, which consists of membership from 50 countries, is now accepting proposals for a venue site that meets the criteria listed below:

- The venue must be located in a city with an international airport.

- Adequate space for meetings must be available.
 1. 12-15 meeting rooms to accommodate 25-35 persons.
 2. A large auditorium (to accommodate 400 people) for general planetary sessions.
 3. Space for registration, exhibits, auction, and poster sessions.
- Necessary equipment (e.g., laptops, easels, and projectors).
- Cafeteria and/or food vendors near the venue site are needed.
- Be located near the conference venue with reliable mode of transportation.
- Be ready to promote the conference in the region and/or country.
- Work in collaboration with the IASE Planning Committee for guided tours, school visits, and venue for Gala Dinner, Opening and Closing events.
- Be willing to establish a Local Planning Committee consisting of 5-6 people to work with the IASE Planning Committee on conference activities such as printing of a program.
- Must accept registration funds and keep appropriate documentation for record keeping.
- Reasonable accommodation must be available from low, mid and family sleeping rooms (e.g., dorms, hostels, and hotels).

If your country/university is interested in hosting the 2024 IASE Conference, please submit a proposal to IASE using the above criteria as a guide. *Please send your proposal to Dr. Zandile Nkabinde, IASE President at presidentiase@gmail.com*

The pandemic has stolen our plans, but not our vision for the future. The 17th Biennial Conference is going to be a successful event and lets pull together to make it a reality. All IASE members are encouraged to start planning for next year. The pandemic storm must NOT prevent us from charting our course towards a better future. I encourage all IASE members to get involved in committees and be counted as we expand the organization.

Zandile Nkabinde, PhD
New Jersey City University, USA
IASE President (2020-2021)

17th Biennial Conference of the IASE “Building an Inclusive Culture Worldwide” Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam

Call for Proposals is Open. Submit Today! Go to
www.iase.org
For further inquiries contact Dr. Renata Ticha at:
tich0018@umn.edu

IASE Board Election

The IASE Board election results are now available. We are happy to announce that the following members are the newly elected Board Members and represent diverse geographic regions and areas of expertise in international special education.

- Gulnoza Yakubova - President-Elect
- Brenda Lazarus - Secretary
- Iris Drower – Treasurer

Members-at-Large:

- Charles Omoke [Kenya]
- Josue Niyokwizigirwa [Burundi]
- Pavan Kumar [India]

IASE MENTORING PROGRAM

IASE is working on launching a new project:
Mentoring.

Do you need a mentor to help you navigate academic, career exploration, and other facets of your professional development? Would you be interested in participating as a mentee?

Please fill out a brief survey to indicate your potential interest: [Survey link](#)

Proposed Format:

One-to-one virtual mentoring

Possible Areas of Assistance:

Teaching tips and support

Academic support or advice

Academic opportunities abroad

Career exploration or advancement

How to Apply:

Application information and details are coming soon.

Check the IASE website www.IASE.org and upcoming issues of the newsletter.

Membership is Growing



IASE continues to promote awareness and understanding of issues and developments related to the education and welfare of individuals with special needs throughout the world.

Join us in continuing these efforts by joining IASE as a new member or making sure that you renew your membership. If you are a member, we ask you to consider sponsoring a fellow special educator from a developing economy nation to become members of IASE.

Complete an IASE membership form by going to <https://www.iase.org/membership>

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at IASEMembership@gmail.com

IASE Virtual Dialogue

Organizers: Zandile Nkabinde (IASE President); Renata Ticha (President Elect); Brenda Lazarus (Secretary).

Co-moderators: Dr. Beatrice Adera and Manuk Kachatryan

The IASE hosted its second virtual dialogue on February 27, 2021. The virtual dialogue centered on discussions about the inclusive education around the world during pandemic. The panelists from UK, Kenya, Tanzania, and the US discussed ways the education of children with disabilities has been impacted by the pandemic and how schools implemented their approaches to provide continued education for children. The panel featured: Dr. Sakui W. G. Malakpa (USA), Bronwell Hewitt (UK), Esther Wanjiku Karanja (Kenya), Lightness Mbila (Tanzania), Dr. Doreen Myrie (USA), and Dr. Charles Omoke (Kenya).

Here are some of the highlights from the virtual dialogue. Dr. Malakpa's presentation was focused on innovative teaching during COVID-19 pandemic. He discussed how he implemented his teaching approach using technology and found innovative ways to address individual student's learning needs. Originally from Liberia, he engaged in discussions on how academic institutions in developing countries, especially in Africa, adapted and improvised the instruction of students during pandemic using available local resources.

Esther Wanjiku Karanja discussed how teachers in Nuu Special School in Kitui County, Kenya have been working to prepare the school per the Ministry of Health protocols in order to be ready for the return of students to classrooms.



Nuu Special School offers special education and training to learners and young adults with cognitive challenges and autism spectrum disorders. Teachers formed committees to set the hand washing stations, create physical distance measures, promote awareness, and ensure the use of face masks.

Dr. Omoke discussed the work that he and his team were undertaking through the action research project, titled as *Promoting Awareness and Participation of Persons with Disabilities (PWDs) in Education and Other Community Based Programmes in Siaya County, Kenya (PAPPS)*. He discussed how individuals with disabilities are excluded from the mainstream education and socio-economic activities in Kenya. He engaged in the conversation about the ways he and his research team were working to address this issue and empower individuals with disabilities in education and society both in Siaya county and across Kenya.



The Kintsugi Project
6 Jan · 🌐
Did you know that Lewys and Eric do a weekly... See more



The PAPPS research team meets with various leadership groups to establish a united leadership forum.

Bronwen Hewitt discussed the work being conducted in the United Kingdom to address the needs of individuals with disabilities through various project. One such project, Kitsugi Project, is a unique enterprise to benefit the community as a whole but in particular, people with disabilities. Through Kitsugi Project, a dynamic and exciting hub is created for people with a range of disabilities and mental health challenges to connect, learn and have purpose.



The Leadworks is another project focused on creating an inclusive environment and foster sense of belonging for the whole community.



The Leadworks is a space with multiple purposes. It provides a space for grassroots community organisations, artists, and the whole community to come together. Various venues, such as art studios,

galleries, music and performance areas, cafés and many others are established to create a welcoming place to bring the community together.



SPJ SADHANA SCHOOL
GRADUATION 2020
Admin Office for Principal
SPJ Sadhana School
Sophia College Campus, Mumbai, India

Counting Colours in the Rainbow Graduation – 2020

We, the teachers would like to congratulate the class of 2020 for their unbelievable achievement. We would like to thank the parents, the siblings, grandmas, grandpas and all those who have helped these extraordinary young people arrive at this moment. Let's us link with the thoughts of Principal Ms. Fionka Sanghvi.

Graduation - it is the most important event in the lives of every student. An event to earmark all that is good about our students, teachers and the school. Abundance of positive energy comes at a graduation event.



*To our beloved students,
Seeing you, our new graduates, cross the stage after your years of hard work is a proud moment for us all, as I'm sure it is for all of you, and for your family and friends. You are 48 unique individuals, all with your own unique academic, skills and social talents. I'm so thankful for all your smiles and hugs. Thanks for opening your hearts and letting us be a part of your lives.*

So....

Follow your dreams

Follow your passion

Believe in yourself.

Life is an endless process of self-discovery

Before we say goodbye to you the graduating students, I just wanted to leave you with something special,

"you're special just because you are you"

Congratulations!!!

Fionika Sanghvi, Principal

“Proud moment to have graduation certificate of Priyanshu. My sincere thanks to Fionika ma'am and entire team of SPJ Sadhana School. Special thanks to Jasmine ma'am and Parul ma'am for taking all care with patience and extending support all the time for bringing up the children. The School worked very hard to achieve the best of it”. ***(Priyanshu's Parents)***

“Congratulations to all the children. Feel so proud and emotional to see Mustafa's graduation certificate and hat. Special thanks to Ms. Jasmine and Ms. Parul for your sincere efforts, patience, care and hardwork to bring out the best in Mustafa and all the children, preparing them to be confident and face challenges in the outside world. Also thanking Ms. Fionika, Ms. Simida, all the teachers and staff of SPJ Sadhana. Highly appreciate every one's hardwork.” ***(Musatafa's Parents)***

Dear Mam/Sir, Thanks a ton for the well-designed Graduation Certificate and a memorable book as a gift.” ***(Radhika's Parents)***



The Toa Nafasi Project **IASE DONATION REPORT**

Early this year our team in Tanzania received a shipment of learning games which were donated by the IASE to support kids with learning difficulties in public primary schools. The items donated were supposed to reach Tanzania in the middle of the year 2020 but because of the pandemic things slowed down a little bit.



Kids getting instructions on what is supposed to be done from our tutors

In Tanzania, most of government schools are not equipped with enough learning games for students to use; hence, a lot of students with learning difficulties are not receiving proper teaching appropriate to their needs. Toa Nafasi, with the help from IASE, has managed to supply different learning games (*School zone – memory match, The learning journey – Self-correcting count & puzzle, Self-correcting number puzzle, and Safari floor puzzle*) to be used by 431 students from our 2020 cohort and 500 students from 2021 cohort in 11 public schools we work with. The games will also be used by our next cohorts in the future.



Toa Nafasi tutor (Rose Assey) giving out instructions to

the kids on how they are going to do with Safari floor puzzle.

With the help of our tutors, whom we recruit and offer intensive training on how to deal with and support students with learning difficulties, the items donated are used by our kids to learn while they enjoy playing with them. Our schoolchildren are happy using these items, you can tell from the smile they put on their face while playing.



Kids are busy playing games donated by IASE

Our tutors started using these games to help kids with learning difficulties to learn in a way that each kid has shown interest in participating in each game they are directed to play. Rose Assey, our tutor from Msaranga primary school, says “it was hard for the kids at the first time to know what is needed but after doing it the second time, kids were fast and enjoy playing Safari floor puzzle. After completing the puzzle kids started shouting what they saw ‘twiga’ ‘simba’ kiboko’ and more and more.” Rose finished by saying “it was fun!” We at Toa Nafasi we would like to thank IASE for their generous support they keep showing us since we became a member of this international network to support kids with learning difficulties in Kilimanjaro, Tanzania.



Kids smiling after completing a safari floor puzzle

Toa Nafasi Project

Sarah Rosenbloom, Founder of the Toa Nafasi Project

Our Education Officer, Belina Modest, ramped up our professional development activities for the staff with more and better weekly workshops including the *Linda na Uwezo* (Protect with Ability) series conducted by our friend, Novatus Marandu and his group, [Linda Community](#). This outfit promotes Tanzanian communities free from sexual abuse, violence, and trafficking so that all children may thrive. Sadly, we have seen such cases in the past and we are thrilled to finally be able to address this sensitive topic in the schools we serve with Nova's thoughtful seminars.



Novatus leading a sexual abuse awareness seminar

We continue to hold workshops on other topics each week, ranging from peer-led according to our tutors' interests to partner-sponsored with input from local organizations like [Songambe](#) and [Femme International](#). These collaborations, stoked by our Partner Liaison, Ema Mnubi, have proven to be invaluable over the last year and we hope to keep them up and develop even more.



Government school teachers listening in

Last but not least, we participated in two major events in the first quarter of 2021: the [Kilimanjaro Marathon](#) and [International Women's Day](#)

The marathon took place on Sunday, February 28th starting at the Moshi Cooperative University sports grounds and looping throughout the town back to the stadium where refreshments were given and a speech was made by Kilimanjaro Regional Commissioner, Anna Mghwira.



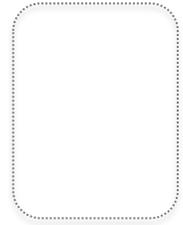
The Kili Krew

International Women's Day took place on Monday, March 8th under the theme of "Women in Leadership: Achieving an Equal Future in a COVID-19 World." The celebration began with a march around town followed by exhibitions from various organizations. The guest of honor was the Mayor of Moshi Municipality, Mr. Juma Raibu, who gave a speech calling out the good work of institutions like Toa and our various partners.

Treasurer's Report As of April 5, 2021 Iris Drower

Account	Amount
Checking	\$3,937.33
VSP/Giving	\$13,067.90
Marg Csapo Scholarship	\$6,002.67
Operational Fund	\$126, 836.05
Total	\$149, 843.95

Renew and Join IASE Today!



To join IASE, contact Rachael Gonzales, email: IASEMembership@gmail.com

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