

AnnuntiatuS

International Association of Special Education

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

President's Message

By Iris Drower

A special strategic planning session and board meeting were held in Vermilion, Ohio, USA, from April 30th to May 3rd to discuss the implementation of our strategic plan. Thanks to Dr. Jim Chapple for hosting this leadership team event! The Mayor from Vermilion Ohio, Eileen Bulan, graced us with a special welcome. The board reviewed IASE's vision, mission, goals, and purpose to consider how to revitalize and energize IASE efforts on behalf of students, parents and professionals who advocate for and promote the development of individuals with special needs across the world.



IASE board meeting in Vermilion, OH, in May 2014

Our strategic plan is an important document as it will guide IASE's actions to achieve the desired outcomes over the next few years. Everyone can play an important role in helping IASE be that 'change maker.' Our strategic plan will be posted on our website soon. Some of our focus areas included:

- activities dedicated to international cooperation and collaboration development to address the social, economic, and issues confronting educating children with special needs;
- offering biennial conferences to enhance communications among practitioners as well as among the leadership of other organizations. We purposefully take our conferences to different parts of the globe in order to serve all parts of the planet;
- scholarly publications (newsletter and journal) that reflect the field of special education around the world;
- establishing networks through our National Chairs that foster collegiality, recognize achievement and leadership, and foster broad understanding of the international experience in education and services for individuals with exceptional needs;
- engaging in international volunteer service projects that bring together people from various societies and cultures;
- enhancing our inclusivity so that we better respond to the individual needs of members, are open and accommodating to the ideas of others, and draw people from different backgrounds.

Please join us by becoming more active and examine your role as an IASE member. We are counting on you to spread the word and help us build our capacity to service the world!

Cheers, Iris

14th Biennial Conference Updates

By Jim Chapple and Malgorzata Sekulowicz,

Conference Co-chairs

It seems like the dates of June 21-25, 2015, are in the distant future but we are only 13 months away from the next IASE conference in Wroclaw, Poland. We are busy making preparations for an exciting and stimulating professional conference where all IASE members and non-members can interact, hear amazing keynote speakers, as well as participate in many excellent breakout sessions in the beautiful city of Wroclaw. Put the dates on your calendar and watch for future updates on the IASE website and in the next edition of AnnuntiatuS.



Wroclaw, Poland, the hosting city of the 14th Biennial IASE conference

The theme of the 2015 conference is "New Dimensions Toward Education, Advocacy, and Collaboration for Individuals with Special Needs" and will be held at the University of Lower Silesia in Wroclaw. The Call for Proposals can be submitted via the IASE website directly online, in a Word format, or as a PDF document. Be sure to read and adhere to the criteria for submitting the proposals. All proposals are due electronically to Dr. Jim Chapple at chappiw@aol.com.

Here are some important dates for you to remember:

October 1, 2014: Deadline for submission of proposals;

December 1, 2014: Notification of acceptance of proposals;

March 1, 2015: Registration for the conference is due.

How can you help? There are a number of ways that you can help with the preparations and assist at the conference. Why not volunteer to be a proposal reviewer or help with one of the many committees that make our conferences such a success? Here are some of the committees that need volunteers: working at the registration table, scheduling and working with the exhibitors, helping conduct the silent auction, with the children's art exhibit, the Gala event, and the Opening reception. We are in need of chairs for the Exhibitors' activities, and the Silent Auction. If you are interested in serving on a committee or even serving as a committee chair, please contact Jim Chapple at chappiw@aol.com or at 440-225-1547.

Conference co-chair, Malgorzata Sekulowicz, and her local arrangements committee are planning many exciting tours. Watch for more details in the next newsletter. Mark the conference dates and be an active participant in the 14th Biennial IASE conference!

The Perspective of an IASE Vietnam Volunteer

By Hazel Delfina Chang

My name is Hazel and I am from Hong Kong. This is my first volunteer service project with the International Association of Special Education (IASE). The one word that I would use to describe my trip is "Fulfillment". The volunteer service project (VSP) means "fulfillment" in many different ways for me.

Fulfillment means being with like-minded people

Our IASE VSP group consisted of Marg Csapo, Mary Gale Budzisz, Iris Drower and myself. Though we come from diverse backgrounds and variations in experience in the area of special education, we all have one thing in common: to want to give and share what we have with the people of Vietnam so that our exchange would instill new inspiration to the arena of special education there. Marg, the founder of IASE, role modeled her love and dedication of the spirit of IASE as I watched her lecture and role playing a teaching strategy. I feel very much fulfilled as I know that I belong to an association that is true to its mission and vision.



Hazel Chang with Vo Thi My Dung; Participants at HCMC University of Education

Fulfillment is sharing our experience with people of same passion

Dean Ha of Ho Chi Minh City University of Education gathered 40 people who are current principals, heads or teachers of special schools or centers of Ho Chi Minh City. My first duty in the project was to share the founding story and curriculum structure of The Rock Foundation I started five years ago for young adults with special needs in Hong Kong. The participants were very attentive. I was encouraged and affirmed that 'passion crosses cultural boundaries'!!



Associate Professor Nhan with Dr. Drower, President of IASE; Participants at HCMC University engaged in social skills activities

Fulfillment is seeing dedication to work

The case-study session was the highlight of the workshop where we saw the participants put their knowledge and experience into action. 'Words into action' was how they had shown me their level of dedication and commitment to children with special needs.

Fulfillment in listening to and understanding children's needs

Associate Professor Nhan of Hue College of Medicine and Pharmacy started a special school in the city and several smaller schools in rural areas for ethnic minorities of Hue. I was much amazed by his vision to work with youth with special needs as we listened to and tried to understand the existing medical welfare conditions and their impact on early intervention. Dr. Nhan gave a passionate plea for help with the multitude of deaf children in his area of Vietnam. He explained that a young technician has been trained to modify old hearing aids. If anyone has old Oticon, Phonak or Siemen hearing aids and is willing to donate them, please contact Dr. Nhan in Vietnam at dcvn@ogcdc.org.

Fulfillment is experiencing education in rural areas

It was lunch time at a special school in the rural part of Hue. Students were practicing life skills. The teacher designed a lunch menu for the day, including rice, eggs, and fish. I realized that even with limited resources, when "there is a will, there is a way"!



Children making lunch in a rural school in Hue

Fulfillment is commitment over the distance

No distance, no language barrier, and no cultural differences can keep us away from the children with special needs in Vietnam.

We will come back again soon!!

The Journal of the International Association of Special Education (JIASE)

The Journal of the International Association of Special Education (JIASE) is currently seeking consulting editors from countries other than the U.S. IASE members from countries, other than the US, who are willing to join the editorial team as consulting editors are encouraged to contact the editor, Dr. Morgan Chitiyo, at chitiyom@duq.edu. Please send a brief letter of interest and abbreviated CV.

The JIASE is a peer-reviewed journal that publishes research and PRAXIS articles on the education of children with exceptional needs from around the world. The PRAXIS section of the journal is intended for the dissemination of practical strategies that readers can immediately implement in their classrooms/schools. These methods/strategies may be new and unique ideas or they can be effective methods/strategies that teachers have been using and believe that by their publication, many more teachers could implement them in their classrooms.

Dr. Morgan Chitiyo, JIASE Editor

IASE Treasurer's Report

By Steve Leitz

Balances in IASE's two bank accounts:

Chase Bank	\$48,829.37
Bank of America -	\$219,499.76
Combined	\$268,329.13

We have established separate dedicated accounts for GIVING funds, VSP and the Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund.

Finance Committee Members Needed

Become a part of the IASE Leadership cadre by joining our newly established Finance Committee. The primary work of this committee will be to imagine, plan and implement fundraising for our dedicated IASE accounts that support our Volunteer Service Programs, IASE membership scholarships and the Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund for Biennial Conference attendees. To become part of this creative team, please contact Steve Leitz, Treasurer, at stevenleitz@gmail.com.

Vimukti School for Girls, Jaipur, Rajasthan, India

By Marg Csapo

The bright-eyed and smiling students of the Vimukti School for Girls, a unit of Vimukti Santha, a registered, non-profit, organization send their thanks and good wishes to every member of IASE from Jaipur, India. This school seeks out girls in the urban slum areas and offers free education, from pre-school to senior secondary (grade 12), free uniforms, shoes, school bags, transportation, books and notebooks, emphasizing the need for education of the girl child in a country where "every 6th girl child's death is due to gender discrimination, where two thirds of girls cannot read or write, where over two million children, mainly girls between the ages of 5-15 are forced into prostitution and sexual slavery" according to World Vision India (Outlook, March 17, 2014, page 19).



Academics



Environmental day

When the Volunteer Service Committee first visited the school, the number of students was below 200. In 2014, registration stands at 300 and the goal is to reach 500, which is the full capacity. Girls are admitted from families whose monthly joint earning is below 7,000 Rupees (about US \$120).

From kindergarten to grade II, the students are taught Mathematics, Environmental Studies and General Knowledge. From grade III onward, Computer Science and English are added to their curriculum. Vocational training is being offered to the girls and their parents under the "Learn and Earn" program to increase their earning capacity. IASE donated \$600 this year for books, notebooks as well as cameras to document their special events. A copy of the IASE Newsletter is under the glass on the desk of the coordinator of the school.

The school is very proud of their achievements in 2013. All students from grade X passed the National Institute of Open Schooling (NIOS) examination. The students participated in Inter School Craft and Poster competitions and won a second prize amongst 12 schools and also second prize among 13 schools in the Inter School Dance competition.

Congratulations, girls and teachers! Keep up the good work!

Book Donations for Mzuzu University, Malawi

By Ambumulire N. Ifimu

Over a month ago, we sent out a request for information resources to support the establishment of a center for inclusive education at Mzuzu University. Through the International Association of Special Education (IASE), we received up-to date quality materials from universities and publishers. Over a hundred books with various titles, and addressing various topics in inclusive education were donated. IASE provided a grant of 1,000 US Dollars to purchase additional books and meet the cost for shipping the books to Malawi. The books have already been packaged and shipped to Malawi.

We are deeply grateful for these donations. Specifically we are grateful to Dr. Iris Drower, the current IASE President and Ms. Mary Gale Budzisz, the co-chair of the volunteer service projects, for talking with publishers, sending out the requests for the book donations, and facilitating logistics for sending the books to Malawi. We are also thankful for the generous donations of professional books received from the following publishers and universities: Love Publishing, Corwin: a Sage Company, the Council for Exceptional Children (CEC)/ Professional Development Services, Ashland University, and the State University of New York at Oswego.

We are thankful to Professor Lynn Aylward from the University of Acadia who spent two weeks in the month of April, 2014, in Mzuzu. With her support, the initial proposal for the center was developed.

Establishing a center for Inclusive Education at the University will enable collaborative, interdisciplinary research projects, strengthen teacher education programs, and offer the possibility of further community partnerships and outreach. The Mzuzu University Center for Inclusive Education would engage in teaching, research and programming that aim to address the multiple elements of inclusion that contribute to inequity in Malawian society and the wider world.

Call for IASE Board Officers Nominations 2016-2018

Nominations are being accepted from now until December 1, 2014. The following positions are open:

1. *President –Elect*, 1 to be elected for two-year term
2. *Secretary*, 1 to be elected for two-year term
3. *Treasurer*, 1 to be elected for two-year term
4. *Member at large*, 3 to be elected for two-year term

All applicants must have a valid IASE membership for at least one year. Send a letter of intent and a short (one page) resume to Paula Leitz, IASE Nominations Chair. These documents can be emailed to leitzph@plu.edu or mailed to Paula Leitz, IASE Nominations Committee Chair, 8220 67th St. Ct. N.W. Gig Harbor, WA 98335, USA.

The committee will review all nominations and forward their recommendations to the Board for ballot approval. The voting ballot will be included in the Spring Newsletter with submission instructions.

Please note: According to IASE's constitution no board member may serve for two consecutive two-year terms.

Scholarship News

All of the documentation to apply for a scholarship to attend the 14th Biennial IASE conference in Poland in June 2015 is now available at the IASE website: <http://www.iase.org/>. Please take some time to review this information and consider applying. Any questions can be sent directly to Dr. Marcel Lebrun, Chair of the Committee. His email is mrlebrun@plymouth.edu.

Recording the history of IASE

The IASE board has recently approved that Mary Gale Budzisz will archive the history of IASE. The next step is to have a written history of our organization. If any of you have a story, memory, or recollection of an IASE conference or meeting to share, please send these to Mary Gale Budzisz at mgbudzisz@aol.com.

International Association of Special Education

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SAVE THE DATE

14th Biennial Conference of the International Association of Special Education

New Dimensions Toward Education, Advocacy, and Collaboration for Individuals with Special Needs

Wroclaw, Poland, June 21-25, 2015

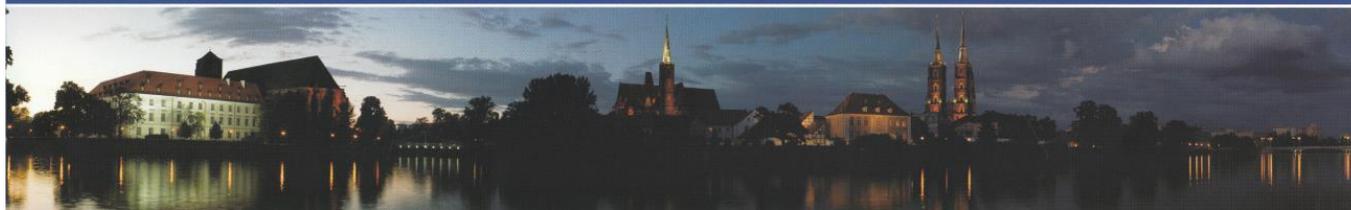


Photo: pl.wikipedia.org/wiki/Wroclaw

Featured Topics Include

Delivery services	Collaborative practices & inclusion
Teacher leadership	Administrative advocacy, policy & procedure development
Professional roles & ethics in special education	Distance learning
Service learning	Life transitions
Technology & society	Support services
Emotional, behavioral & social development	Education, family, school & community partnerships
Teacher training world-wide	Life-long learning
Early intervention	

Organizers

International Association of Special Education
and University of Lower Silesia, Wrocław

Co-Chairs

Professor Małgorzata Sekułowicz, University of Lower Silesia,
Wrocław, Poland
Professor James Chapple, Ashland University, Ohio, USA

The Call for Proposals will be announced at www.iase.org.



University of Lower Silesia

