

# Annuntiatus

Volume XXIX, Issue 4, November 2016

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

## President's Message

By Iris Drower

Dear IASE Members and Friends,

IASE will be having a birthday! We will be celebrating 30 years of achievement in Perth, Australia at our 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference on June 28<sup>th</sup> at our Gala dinner. Here we will commemorate all IASE accomplishments. Celebrating our longevity is a great motivator for our members, leadership team, donors, and volunteers and is truly a cause for celebration. In order to showcase what IASE has achieved, we are looking for photos, stories, testimonies and short video clips from our members on how IASE has impacted your life and the community you serve. Please send these submissions to Roni Chavez at [iasechavez@gmail.com](mailto:iasechavez@gmail.com) by April 1, 2017.

In this issue we continue to recognize international research and **innovative and collaborative** practices within our field. We are delighted to highlight two long time members as our first keynote featured speakers.

Dr. Morgan Chitiyo, Associate Professor & Director of Special Education Program at Duquesne University, USA and Dr. Kim Poon-McBrayer Director of the Center for Childhood Research & Innovation at the Hong Kong Institute of Education.



Valentina and Iris visit the new Recrea shop in Panajachel

The stories in this issue highlight our Central and South American Volunteer Service Project (VSP) sites Centro Maya Servicio Integral (Guatemala) and Prosefam (Columbia). After a recent visit to our VSP site in Guatemala I was equally impressed by the logo mixing symbols of daily life and activities as part of their inclusive educational practices at this Centre. Their stories and challenges are a reminder of how our member donations and volunteers contribute to these sites and provide needed services and supports for individuals with disabilities. We thank both of these sites and their directors for making a difference in the lives of children and young adults.

*Agradecemos a ambos sitios y sus directores para hacer una diferencia en las vidas de los niños y adultos jóvenes.*



Election time is among us again! If you are interested in taking on a leadership role we have several openings available.

The following offices include: President-Elect, Secretary, Treasurer, and three Members at Large. Feel free to send your letter of interest in serving on our board to Dr. Marg Csapo at [margcsapo@shaw.ca](mailto:margcsapo@shaw.ca) on or before December 1, 2016.

Committees also serve as the heart of IASE and pump new ideas into our organization, which then result in new products and innovations. The Conference Planning Committee under the leadership of our conference liaison, Sandra Trevethan, will be putting the final touches on our upcoming conference; the Marg Csapo Scholarship Chair, Meghan Mulvenna has been organizing with her committee the final selection for our scholarship recipients; our Program Conference Chairs, Dr. Fartun Mohamud and Dr. Brenda Lazarus have been compiling over 385 proposals for peer review; Dr. David Evans has been working his magic as Exhibition Chair and spreading the word around the globe. In addition, Dr. David Evans and Dr. Cathy Little will be editing our conference proceedings. Our Registration Chair, Debbie Gomez, will be ensuring that you are registered for our upcoming conference; while Dr. Sharon Matthews has been working on the Silent Auction event. Any IASE member may participate in our committees by contacting one of the chairs. The names and email addresses of our committee chairs and other board members can be found at our IASE website at <http://www.iase.org>. IASE committee chairs are always looking for members to help out, so if you are interested in joining an IASE committee and or conference committee feel free to contact the chairs at your earliest.

What is astonishing to me—besides the sheer diversity and breadth of our international members, this year's upcoming conference submissions and committee involvement—are the ways in which we have created an organization over the past 30 years that lives up to, and perhaps even exceeds, our vision, mission and strategic plan. As an organization, we need to continue to collaborate on effective education and inclusive pedagogies, policies, and research as a common means rather than the exception. Looking forward to seeing you in Perth!

Share the Experience! Sponsor Now!

By Karen Nave

Consider sponsoring a member from a developing economy country. For only \$20 each you can sponsor a full membership to a deserving person who would not otherwise afford to join.

Now is the time to renew for 2017. Membership must be current to register for the 2017 Perth conference next summer

Perth, Australia  
June 25 – 29,  
2017

15<sup>th</sup> Biennial  
Conference  
IASE

See you there!

15<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference Updates  
By Conference Planning Committee

We are very excited about all that will be offered at our upcoming conference, including thought provoking plenary speakers, poster-roundtable sessions, unique best practices and research, special networking, our 30<sup>th</sup> birthday celebration at our Gala dinner, our Volunteer Service Projects (VSP) sessions, our Silent and Live auction and morning tour options to various sites within the Perth and outlining areas and so much more. With the theme "Addressing the Exceptional Needs of the Whole Child and Young Adult: Embracing the Future", the 15<sup>th</sup> Biennial IASE Conference will be held in Perth, Australia from June 24-29, 2017 at the Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre. This is in collaboration with Curtin and Edith Cowan Universities and the Association of Independent Schools of Western Australia. We are proud to announce our first two plenary speakers who have served IASE in various position.



Dr. Morgan Chitiyo

Dr. Morgan Chitiyo is an Associate Professor and Director of the Special Education Program at Duquesne University in the USA. He is currently co-editor of the African Journal of Special and Inclusive Education and former editor of The Journal of the International Association of Special Education. Morgan served as the IASE Proceedings Chair for recent IASE conferences in Namibia, Canada and Poland. He also serves on the editorial board of the Journal of Research in Special Educational Needs. His current research projects include exploring autism, behavioral disorders and special education teacher preparation and professional development in Africa. Dr. Chitiyo will be addressing: *Establishing a Sustainable Framework for the Development of Special Education in Africa*

Dr. Kim Poon-McBrayer is currently Associate Head of Department of Education Policy & Leadership and Director of the Center for Childhood Research & Innovation at the Hong Kong Institute of Education. She was on faculty at Monmouth University in the United States, University of Hong Kong, and Nanyang Technological University in Singapore. Plus, she has been a visiting professor at the University of Brunei and St. Joseph's University in Macao. Dr. Poon-McBrayer has been a teacher and teacher educator for over 35 years, plus she previously served as an IASE Board Officer and a Consulting Editor for The Journal of the International Association of Special Education. Dr. Poon-McBrayer will be addressing: *From Inclusive Education to Lifelong Inclusivity: Till death do us part.*



Dr. Kim Poon-McBrayer



Grahame Hay

The IASE Conference Committee has arranged accommodation options at seven hotels/apartments. These are available to preview on our website. Go to [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org) and find out all the possible options that suit your individual needs.

Get to know Perth and the western area of Australia by taking an optional travel adventure. Contact Grahame Hay, CEO of WA Instyle Tours in Perth, at [wainstyletours.com](http://wainstyletours.com) to arrange transport to/from the airport, shuttles to various destinations, plus he can also create a MYO (make your own) trip especially for you! Do not miss the amazing travel opportunities and the grand hospitality of Grahame. Please go to [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org) and click on the link to preview the pre and post conference tour options.

This year we will be offering four different Thursday, June 29, 2017 optional AM tours sites for our delegates. You will only be able to select one option. Here is snapshot of these amazing sites:

- **Rocky Bay Foundation**, for nearly 80 years, Rocky Bay has been a leading provider of disability services, offering choice and independence to thousands of people of all ages living with any disability in Western Australia;
- **Wheelchairs for Kids**, is made up of a group of retired volunteers in Western, Australia who use your donations to make and distribute up to 300 wheelchairs per month to poor disabled children in developing countries;
- **Telethon Speech & Hearing (TSH)**, is a non-profit organization which provides services for teaching children with hearing and speech & language impairments to listen and speak;
- **Creaney Primary School and Education Support Centre** share a campus to provide small specialized classes catering to individual needs while also offering a range of opportunities for integration with mainstream peers.

**You can select one of the optional half-day tours highlighted above when you register for the conference. Payment for your choice is to be included when you register for the conference. Registration is now officially open. A hard copy of the Registration Form is included in this newsletter and if you choose to register online please go to [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org) and complete the form. On behalf of your Conference Planning Committee...we look forward to seeing you "Down Under" in 2017.**

Dear IASE Members,

Many, many thanks for the generous gift from the GIVING Fund to help towards our tee-shirt purchase for next year's Toa Kids. They will be so happy! Please relay our gratitude to the whole team at IASE.

Sincerely,  
Sarah Rosenbloom,  
CEO of Toa Nafasi in Moshi, Tanzania.

Treasurer's Report  
Colleen Meyer

Chase Checking Account \$ 11,000  
Volunteer Service Project Account \$ 46,223.64  
Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund: \$ 11,330.33  
Chase General Savings: \$ 156,318.54  
Total: \$ 224,872.51

## News about Centro Maya..a VSP site in Guatemala

By Madelyn Ardon

Asociación Centro Maya Servicio Integral is a Guatemalan non-profit organization located in the town of San Juan La Laguna in Sololá that works in favor of people with disabilities residing in Lake Atitlán through different programs related to education, healthcare, vocational formation and expanded coverage, contributing to generate opportunities, development and inclusion in society for people with disabilities without discrimination. It provides services such as special education, physiotherapy, language therapy, psychology services, occupational therapy, early stimulation, music-therapy, dance, theater, recreational activities and a labor inclusion program. The organization currently serves more than 140 people with all types of disabilities of ages from 0 to 85 years old.



Crafts workshop and a stall to buy the finished products.

The organization has been working in order to promote the rights of people with disabilities for over 2 decades. In 2011 the labor inclusion program Alma de Colores started working, as a result of the difficulties and discrimination that people with disabilities face in rural areas in Guatemala, that make it extremely hard for them to be active and be employed. The program has 5 working areas functioning according to a justice, inclusion and solidarity philosophy that extends to the products made in the workshops. The areas of work are: a crafts workshop that uses local seeds, a sewing workshop that uses recycled fabrics, a bakery that makes fresh integral bread with sourdough, organic agriculture that promotes native plants and a coffee shop/restaurant that serves nutritional meals. Beneficiaries of this program get paid fair rates in exchange for their work and get additional benefits that include food, therapies, transportation, small loans without interests, and access to a healthcare fund. This project collaborates with local businesses with a similar philosophy and organizes educational activities in the surrounding communities.

Centro Maya Servicio Integral is now considered a reference point for organizations that works with people with disabilities around the area and also is a trusted organization supported by the community and local authorities, especially because it works according to the indigenous population's reality and it is run by Sololá locals.



Speech therapist Anelisse, Tobi a volunteer from Germany, IASE President Iris and CEO Leticia display school supplies given by IASE.

*Asociación Centro Maya Servicio Integral es una organización guatemalteca sin fines de lucro ubicada en el Municipio de San Juan La Laguna, Departamento de Sololá. Trabaja en favor de personas con discapacidad de 7 municipios del nor-oeste del Lago Atitlán a través del desarrollo de programas en las áreas de educación, salud, formación vocacional y ampliación de cobertura que contribuye a generar oportunidades y promover su desenvolvimiento e inclusión en la sociedad sin discriminación. Ofrece servicios de educación especial, terapia física, terapia de lenguaje, atención psicológica, terapia ocupacional, estimulación temprana, música terapia, danza, teatro, recreación y un programa de inclusión laboral. Actualmente cuenta con más de 140 beneficiarios con todos los tipos de discapacidad de edades de entre cero a 85 años.*

*La organización trabaja por la promoción de los derechos y atención de las personas con discapacidad desde hace más de dos décadas. En el año 2011 inicia el programa de inclusión laboral para personas con discapacidad Alma de Colores, tras la evidente necesidad de la creación de un espacio que permita a las personas con discapacidad desenvolverse en el ámbito laboral, situación que se complica debido a la discriminación y exclusión que enfrentan, sobre todo en las áreas rurales del país. Este proyecto cuenta con 5 áreas de trabajo desarrolladas de acuerdo a una filosofía de justicia, inclusión y solidaridad que se extiende a los productos realizados. Las áreas que se trabajan son: artesanía con semillas locales; costura con telas recicladas; panadería integral a base de masa madre; agricultura orgánica que promueve plantas tradicionales y un café/comedor que sirve comida nutritiva. Los beneficiarios de este programa reciben ingresos justos por cada producto que entregan, además de beneficios como alimentación, terapias, transporte, préstamos sin intereses y acceso a una caja de salud. El proyecto colabora con negocios de filosofía similar y organiza actividades educativas en las comunidades donde se desenvuelve.*

*Centro Maya Servicio Integral se configura actualmente como un punto de referencia para las organizaciones que trabajan con discapacidad en la zona, también como una organización que goza amplia confianza de parte de las comunidades y autoridades locales, precisamente porque se desarrolla de acuerdo a la realidad de los indígenas y es administradas personas locales.*

### Notes from Mary Gale Budzisz

Iris and I visited this VSP site in late October 2016. We brought requested school supplies. In addition to spending time at the school and learning about all of the wonderful programs for the students, we also got to taste the delightful food at the new restaurant. Plus, it was a pleasant experience to have Valentina escort us to Recrea, the new shop overlooking the beautiful Lake Atitlan, located in Panajachel, Guatemala, which is a part of the Association of Craftsmen of Sololá Atitlan Santiago.

The misión of Recrea is to increase the abilities and improve opportunities for people with disabilities. It facilitates and promotes sustainable development through projects to create social awareness about labor rights and inclusion in general.

If you have a good command of the Spanish language, and like a bit of adventure, this VSP site may be a good chance for you to volunteer. Please consider giving back your expertise...as it may be a fabulous life-changing memorable experience for you. Check out the volunteer application process at [www.iase.org](http://www.iase.org) if you are interested in volunteering.

1....2.....3.....Sold!!!!!!

By Sharon Matthews



Donating to the auction for IASE is a cool and kind way to give so as to help others. We are in special education because we are caregivers and advocates to improve the lives of all people no matter where they live in this massive and complex world. Every dollar spent goes to a great cause, the Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund.

Proceeds from the silent and live auctions at our biennial conference as well as generous donations from our IASE members provide scholarships for participants who could not otherwise afford to come, and we want to continue to make this possible and support our mission to include as many voices as possible.

Donate items that are representative of your uniqueness, your culture, your creative endeavours or talents. Every item will help someone somewhere. No item is too small. Please take a picture of your item and send the photo to Sharon Matthews ([matthews@strose.edu](mailto:matthews@strose.edu)) with the email heading SILENT AUCTION ITEMS so that we can include it on the website and put together a slide show prior to your arrival in Perth.

IASE AUCTION is the place to hang out for creative artifacts June 25-29, 2017! Whether you donate an item, or you just come and shop, we can't wait to see you at the Silent Auction table! Just think all the fabulous items that you can use as conversation starters at your dinner parties, social and family gathering and gifts for that special someone, while at the same time supporting a great cause. Get started now and plan ahead!

## Call for IASE Board Officers Nominations 2017-2019

Nominations are being accepted from now until December 1, 2016

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

Descriptions of the roles and responsibilities for each of the above positions are in IASE's constitution and by-laws. IASE Constitution states that the Board shall be comprised of a minimum representation of 3 countries to reflect the international focus of the organization. Criteria for application include a valid IASE membership and prior experience with IASE (e.g., committee chair/work or elected position). Board members are not paid a salary and must attend meetings at their own expense.

If you are interested in volunteering your time and expertise, send a letter of intent and a short (one page) resume to Dr. Marg Csapo, IASE Nominations Chair. These documents can be emailed to [margcsapo@shaw.ca](mailto:margcsapo@shaw.ca) or postal mailed to Marg Csapo, 3483 W. 18th Ave., Vancouver, CANADA BC V6S 1A8. The committee will review all nominations and forward their recommendations to the Board for ballot approval. The voting ballot will be included in the February newsletter sent to all paid members. According to the IASE's Constitution no board member may serve more than two consecutive two-year terms in the same office.

## Featured Member

Dr. Monica R Brown

Dr. Brown is a Professor of Special Education in the Department of Educational and Clinical Studies at the University of Nevada, Las Vegas. Prior to becoming higher education in faculty in 2001, she was a K-12 resource room teacher in Clark County School District in Las Vegas. Her areas of disability expertise are in learning disabilities and other high-incidence disabilities. She is particularly interested in issues that impact the academic and behavioral wellbeing of culturally and linguistically diverse adolescents with disabilities in the school setting.

In her spare time, she enjoys international travel, spending time with her two boxer dogs (Lambeau and Sooiee), and watching as many Arkansas and Wisconsin sports teams as possible. Music is also a big part of her daily life. Her favorite genre of music is jazz and she attends as many concerts as she can.



## PROSEFAM SCHOOL

Serving the needs of Baranquilla, Colombia's children

By Cap Lee

Prosefam is a neighborhood school with arms that reached into the community to support all community members. At the helm is the mother of the neighborhood Luz Estela Narvaez. I call her the mother of the neighborhood because she serves not only many kids in the neighborhood, but served their parents also when they were children as she has been involved in this Foundation for over 25 years. She is akin to Mother Theresa because her passion for the neighborhood goes without pay, except for a few loose coins the residents of this poor neighborhood can afford. Over 90% of the students pay nothing

On a normal day, Mother Luz Estela has a meeting with seniors designed to inform them of health resources. Seniors also volunteer to work with the students in the school. Within the umbrella of the foundation is the service to young single mothers, not only with art and crafts classes in conjunction with Universidad de Atlantica, but also health and personal care classes with CENA University.

The youth have a solid program including dance classes, community events and planting a food garden in the back yard of the school. And other young adults who didn't graduate from high school, have the chance to graduate with evening classes at the school. This is done in cooperation with the local public school



Prosefam students solving a problem as a team

And then there are the students in the school, all from the neighborhood. This includes students with a wide range of skills. Many very bright who chose to go to the school because their parents did or the convenience of the neighborhood. Many students, however, simply couldn't read and could not be supported in the public sector due to extremely large class sizes. I literally cried when I met two kids aged 13 and 16 who tried but couldn't read even the simplest word. And they didn't go to school. They gave up. What makes it sad is that the school building just didn't have enough room for them. Mother Luz and her daughter Amalia ran the school by themselves. Mother Luz spent 14 to 16 hours a day serving the community and somehow found a way to serve even more kids and adults in the neighborhood with educational needs.

The International Association of Special Education purchased desks, chairs, a printer, a computer as well as assessment programs for reading writing and math. Those assessment programs assured that all kids were monitored and learned the fundamentals needed to survive in their community. As an IASE volunteer, I taught English to adults and students in the classes, as well as, music, rhythms and games to the preschool kids.

Former students include an accountant, police captain, entrepreneur, a politician, a mechanical engineer, a nurse and many others who graduated from Prosefam. That is the sign of a successful school.

There are also senior citizens who are directed to quality health programs, single parents who not only did arts and crafts but were given health and beauty information, retired farmers and carpenters who taught the children their crafts and a wide variety of people that qualified the statement, "It takes a whole village."

Recently the program has increased in size with more students of need brought into the classes. They had no room for more students before so they assigned them to shifts throughout the day and into the evening.

But my thoughts go back to two teenage girls who couldn't read a word a year ago. They have now increased their reading by 3 grade levels. And they were so proud. I personally met so many that couldn't read. Young, old, any age that are left behind in this poor barrio in Barranquilla, Colombia.

The needs of 7 de Agosto barrio are massive. They outgrew their school which was housed in the home of Seno Luz and her daughter's family and began building a new school surrounding the house. No longer could their house be a school serving shifts that begin at sunrise and last into the night.

Now they are building a new school block by block. Whenever they get enough money for a roof, they add a roof, one room at a time. They have one completed classroom and another make-shift one. Neighborhood residents are helping generously as are students and former students.

Additional classrooms can be used when it doesn't rain because they need a floor and a roof. And the home still houses the bathrooms. But the courage of Mother Luz will eventually lead to so many more children being served. And eventually a new school building with the ability to serve those children well. She simply never gives up.



A Prosefam student helping to build the new school classrooms

Roni Chavez  
003 My Tu 1  
Phu My Hung, District 7  
Ho Chi Minh, Vietnam



**JOIN and/or 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**  
PO Box 170061  
Milwaukee, WI. 53217 USA  
**By Email: [cmeyer@nosd.edu](mailto:cmeyer@nosd.edu)**

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