



# ANNUNTIATUS

Volume XXXII, Issue 3, August 2017

**INTERNATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF SPECIAL EDUCATION**  
The 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference in Magamba, Tanzania July 13 - 17, 2017

## President's Message

By Iris Drower

Welcome IASE members to the August 2017 issue of your newsletter, the IASE Annuntiatius. This issue provides highlights from the 15th Biennial Conference, our scholarship winners, our General Membership Meeting Minutes and synopses of the work of one of our newest IASE members.

It has been an intensive and exhilarating week (June 25-29, 2017) in Perth, Australia that has set the stage for the future work of the International Association of Special Education. Our 15th Biennial International Conference theme addressed the exceptional needs of the whole child and young adult by embracing the future. This conference brought together 220 researchers, practitioners, advocates, parents, and policymakers from 33 countries.

As a number of IASE members remarked, the year 2017 also marks an important 30 year anniversary for our field and organization. Our founder, Dr. Marg Csapo was honored with a special tribute toward her work and vision for IASE.

As I reflect on this issue I would like to draw your attention to two things that stand out for me. The first is the extent of involvement of young and new scholars in our field and organization.

I am always excited to see the amount of work that new and emerging scholars are conducting around the world. This was seen through our talented scholarship awardees from the Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund.

I am also struck by the contributions that our own members have made and continue to make for our organization. Two of our conference keynoters were IASE members. Dr. Morgan Chitiyo from the USA and Dr. Kim Poon-McBrayer from Hong Kong shared research and advocacy for those with special needs.

I hope you enjoy reading this issue and are as inspired as I have been in learning about the many contributions and collaborative efforts our members are making in the field of international special needs and inclusive education.

There are so many opportunities for all IASE members to continue to stay involved (e.g. publishing, conferences, and committee work to name a few). Let us hear from you!

IASE moves into the year ahead with a set of solid plans. Committees are being formed to address the tasks which need to be accomplished with many hours of dedicated volunteerism to prepare for the next conference. Please mark your calendar and Save the Date for our 16th Biennial Conference in Tanzania, East Africa.



Jerusa Ongeru, a Scholarship Awardee from Kenya, with our Scholarship Chair, Meghan Mulvenna. This was Ms. Jerusa's first trip out of her country.



One of our conference keynoters, Dr. Kim Poon-McBrayer from Hong Kong addressed "From Inclusive Education to Lifelong Inclusivity: Till death do us part"



Marg Csapo (on left) with Dean Nga from the Ho Chi Minh City University of Education located in HCMC, Vietnam came to the conference.



Dr. Morgan Chitiyo as a keynote speaker from the USA shared his work on Establishing Sustainable Framework for the Development of Special Education in Africa at the Perth Conference.

**SAVE THE DATE**  
**IASE 2019 Biennial Conference**  
 Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University  
 Magamba, Tanzania  
 East Africa

**July 13-17, 2019**

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**WE WILL BUS YOU UP THE MOUNTAIN...**

**AND BUS YOU DOWN THE MOUNTAIN...**

**AND CHANGE YOUR LIFE IN BETWEEN!**



The Rock Troupe performers are thanked for their entertaining performance by Iris Drower on the left. To the right are: Hazel Chang, Ryan Rodrigues, Meena Chatjaval, Sunny Ma, Joyce Yeung, Joshua Chang, Ronnie Yeung, Mui Thomas, and Angel Lau.



Our MC, Gary Carvolth with IASE Board representatives from the left: Mary Gale Budzisz, Jayne Nadarajoo, Zandile Nkabinde, Roni Chavez, Beatrice Adera, Marg Csapo, Karen Nave, Grahame Hay and Iris Drower for the official ribbon cutting.

## University Volunteers Add Local Flavor To Conference

By Mary Gale Budzisz

Your IASE Conference Steering Committee invited students from the two local universities that collaborated with IASE to volunteer. We asked them to provide introductions for each session presentation during the conference and in return, they could attend the conference free of cost. Plus, we provided T-shirts, lunch, and certificates of participation. Karen Nonis of Curtin University recommended Audrey Liow and Vanessa Southey. Susan Main of Edith Cowan University recommended Caitlen Bianchi, Emily Jansen, Mary Mensah, Jodie Miller, Lisa Quinn and Jess Takla. After the conference, I received the following emails of appreciation.

Dear IASE,

Thank you, I really enjoyed the conference and feel that I learned a great deal. I aim to keep learning about inclusive educational practices so that I may best help all students in my maths and science classes once I start teaching. And thank you, Karen, for starting me on the right path."

Best Regards,  
Vanessa Southey

Dear IASE,

I wish to express to you my profound gratitude for the opportunity to serve/participate in the just ended IASE Conference in Perth, Australia. It was a great opportunity and a wonderful learning experience. I have learned a lot during the presentations and the plenary sessions. Thank you very much. I pray and hope for more of such opportunities in the future.

Kind regards,  
Mary Mensah

Sincere thanks to the university volunteers who did provide that local flavor with Aussie accents. We truly appreciated that you gave of your time to travel to the PCEC and attend our IASE Conference. And thanks also to Roni Chavez, Karen Nave and Jayne Nadarajoo who helped to coordinate the volunteer schedule.



Mary Mensah (on left) is an Edith Cowan University student from Ghana who volunteered at the conference. Marg Csapo, IASE Founder is on the right.

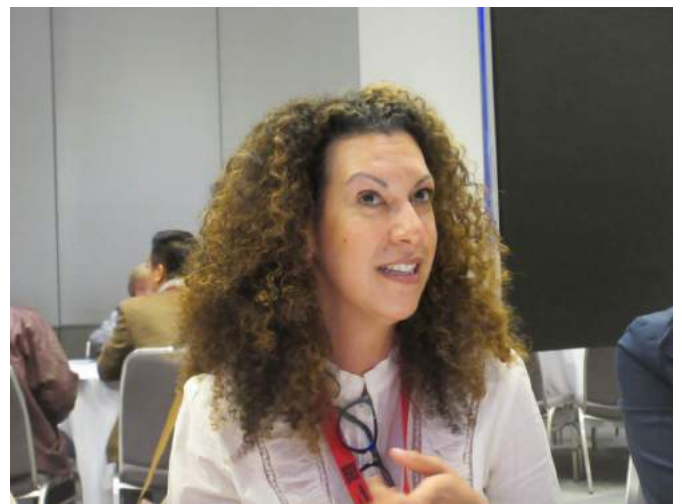
Our IASE founder, Dr Marg Csapo, welcomes submissions to her on-line journal, The International Journal of Special Education. The intent is to make the journal available internationally and free of charge to everyone who is interested in special education or is a student of special education. For more information go to our new website at:

[http://www.internationalsped.com/issues.cfm.](http://www.internationalsped.com/issues.cfm)

## TREASURER'S REPORT

**As of August 2017 statement:**

Checking \$23,304.01  
VSP/Giving \$35,958.63  
Marg Scholarship \$11,332.59  
Operational Budget \$126,393.75  
**Total : \$196,997.85**



Check out this blog.....by Sarah Rosenbloom

Sarah Rosenbloom, IASE Member and CEO of Toa Nafasi, our Volunteer Service Project site in Moshi, Tanzania, attended her first IASE conference and wrote an interesting blog...her view of the conference.

Please visit <https://toanafasi.blogspot.com/2017/07/superstar.html>  
In addition to doing a presentation and a roundtable poster session, at the General Membership Meeting she informed the members that the 2019 IASE Conference will be at the Sebastian Kolowa Memorial University (SEKOMU) in Magamba, Tanzania. She distributed SAVE the DATE cards...remember July 13-17, 2019!

Children with disabilities (CWDS) are a vital and valuable part of the society, yet most are a marginalized and vulnerable group of persons in developing countries like Uganda. They are abused, exploited, disowned and excluded by the societies they live in, denying them of their recognized rights. In Uganda, very few programs have been developed to rehabilitate and advocate for the rights of children /people with disabilities.

Despite the efforts by the different stakeholders to enlighten Ugandans about the need to treat all children as being equal, very many Ugandans have continued to have a negative perception about them. Children with disabilities are taken as sick, possessed or cursed and are considered as being of no use to society. This has negatively affected the delivery/provision of services thereby contravening their basic human rights like access to education, rehabilitation, health and food, freedom to associate and to the extreme the right to life. Because of the stigma, most of children with disabilities are abandoned on streets, at cross roads and sometimes dropped in pit latrines. This puts their life in jeopardy making their future ahead rather uncertain.

Uganda is a landlocked country located in East Africa with more than 34 million people and 14 million are children below the age of 15. A Situational Analysis in 2011 revealed that these children and their families are in dire need for support especially the socio-economic interventions. Families living with special needs children often lack resources to cater for their needs and as a result, fulfillment of their rights is undermined. Despite children representing a significant majority of Uganda's population, they are the most vulnerable group. Of Uganda's 31 percent under the poverty threshold, 62 percent are children.

CWDS have suffered disproportionately, the data relating to CWDS are scarce and to some extent, unreliable. However, the research study conducted by the United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) between November 2013 and February 2014, and also based on the estimates, the child disability prevalence is about 13% or 2.5 million people living with some form of disability in Uganda.

Like all developing countries, Uganda became a member and signed both the Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) in 1990 and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of Persons with Disabilities (UN CRPD) on September 25, 2008 without reservations. Furthermore, the provisions are recognized in the constitution of 1995 and in most of the laws and policies establishing the rights PWDs and/or children including, but not limited to the Children's Act and PWDs Act of 2006.

Initially the provision of Special Education has been purely in the hands of charity Organizations (NGO) and some relatives who needed to educate their children or relatives. The development of services for persons with disabilities is either hindered or accelerated by the perception and conceptions a community has concerning the target group.

Although children have a right of access to education, good health, food and life, this is not the case for children with disability and orphans in Uganda. Many parents have a negative attitude/perception towards providing the aforementioned basic necessities because some families attach disability to witch craft, bad luck or curse forcing other families to either hide their disabled children or kill them.

Henceforth, CWDS are vulnerable to a number of challenging issues recognized as follows;

#### **Lack of effective participation**

There is limited involvement or no involvement of CWDS, their parents or guardians in formulation, dissemination and implementation of the laws and policies that relate to them.

#### **Community misconceptions and stigmas**

Community misconceptions and stigmas remain associated with CWDS, homes of CWDS and this in turn leads to attitudes and behaviors of neglect, isolation, abuse and marginalization of CWDS by communities and families leading to increased discrimination.

#### **Inferiority complex**

CWDS always underestimate themselves before others in society. They think they do not fit in the society like how other able bodied children do. This is visible in self-pity, loss of self-esteem and non-reporting of human rights violations against them.

#### **Hunger**

It is a painful reality that CWDS go through in their day to day lives. Inadequate nutrition at a young age prevents CWDS from developing properly both physically and cognitively.

#### **Lack of community mobilization and advocacy**

This has been because of weak institutional framework as a result of lack of coordination between government institutions and civil society organizations of PWDs.



## School related challenges

The enrolment rate of CWDS in pre-primary, primary and secondary school is very low. About 9% of CWDS attend school and only 6% of these children complete primary school and go to study in secondary schools according to a study conducted by UNICEF.

### Way Forward

1. Review and enforce the Uganda legal and policy frame work;
2. Sensitization, awareness and reinforce the capacities of communities and stakeholders.
3. CWDS, their parents or guardians to be actively consulted on an ongoing basis in relation to the decisions that affect them directly or indirectly;
4. Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development in conjunction with the ministry of education to establish the child rights sponsorship fund for CWDS
5. School curriculum should be revised to take into account the educational needs of all children and the Government should increase funding of the special education units.
6. The Government should enforce the recruitment of special needs Education Assessment and Resources Services program (EARS).
7. Government to come up with the statistical information for CWDS
8. Nutritional counseling and encourage immunization of CWDS.
9. Implement program in education, health and rehabilitation fields.
10. The Government to partner with organizations of the child and disability movement.
11. Provision of disability friendly facilities and instructional materials.
12. The Government to enact a special secondary education policy to ensure consolidated and comprehensive service delivery;
13. Community mobilization and advocacy;
14. Parents of CWDS to form Associations.



Walusumbi Moses, Founder and President,  
Special Children Special

*In January of 2017 I had the pleasure of meeting Mr. Walusumbi, Founder and President of Special Children Special People located in Kampala, Uganda.. He had submitted a Call for Proposals for our 2017 IASE Conference in Perth, Australia and it was accepted. I was visiting with friends who were also very impressed with his project and paid his conference registration fee. They promised to provide air fare to the conference....but he did not get a visa to travel to Australia. He wrote to me, "I missed a great milestone in my life. But, I would like to continue to network and search for partners for my project." Moses is in the process of applying to become an IASE Volunteer Service Project site.*

*By Mary Gale Budzisz*

## FEATURED MEMBER



Hazel Delfina Chang is the Founder and CEO of The Rock Foundation, a private charity, started 8 years ago, to fill the service gap for post 16 young adults with disabilities and/or special educational needs in Hong Kong.

She was trained as a professional accountant, had years of experience in the commercial sector. She got involved with people of various abilities since 1993 through the Catholic church in Hong Kong. She did a Master's of Christian Ministry, started a Sunday school for children with special needs for ICA, a Christian church in Hong Kong and still heading and serving the ministry. She raised a son with hearing impairment and he earned his own Bachelor's Degree. She is passionate about pursuing dreams and hopes for the young generation and she looks forward to transforming society through lifting up young adults with disabilities and/or special educational needs.

## Wheelchairs for Kids Highlighted at Conference

By Mary Gale Budzisz

When I first visited Wheelchairs for Kids in December of 2015, I wanted to tell the whole world about the fantastic project. I had read about this Western Australian project a year prior and sent an email...but did not get a response. Then Sally Mohamedali had a chance meeting in Kenya with a Christian Brother who gave her more information and a contact email...and it worked. On arrival we were greeted by Brother Olly Pickett the Workshop Manager. We learned about the whole production line process of creating the wheelchairs, then how they are boxed with a sheet of directions, and a small cuddly animal plus a lovely locally made blanket or quilt is also included in the shipping box. These wheelchairs have been produced since 1998...and over the years they have been upgraded and adapted to the needs of very special children. Over 35,000 wheelchairs have been distributed to countries all over the world. The project is entirely run on a volunteer basis. After this visit the IASE Conference Steering Committee agreed that we would invite the Wheelchairs for Kids representatives to keynote at our 2017 conference in Perth, Australia.

We were lucky to have Gordon Hudson, Wheelchairs for Kids CEO, and Bob Sheridan, Workshop Coordinator, attend the Sunday evening IASE Conference Reception at the beautiful Perth Convention & Exhibition Centre in Perth, Australia on June 25, 2017 to show everyone an actual wheelchair. They gave a little background information and informed the group that each wheelchair cost \$200AU to make. During the conference days a donation bucket was available at the Wheelchairs for Kids booth. Donations of any monetary size were accepted and the donator could place their name into the bucket.

Brother Olly Pickett, Workshop Manager, and Bob Sheridan were closing Keynoters on Wednesday, June 28, 2017. They gave a wonderful presentation about the history of Wheelchairs for Kids, statistics about deliveries to various developing countries, stories about kids who received the wheelchairs, and shared many photos showing the smiles on the faces of the kids who were recipients. It was very moving...and showed what volunteers can do when they collaborate for a cause.

At the end of their presentation, Brother Olly drew a name from the donation bucket. Marandal Ayres from Perth was the name drawn. When I informed her that she was the "winner" she responded, "Many thanks for letting me know that my name had been drawn. I think "Wheelchairs for Kids" is an awesome venture and am glad I could donate a few \$\$ towards your very worthwhile work. Well done you all." Cheers, Marandal Ayres.

Bob Sheridan responded to Marandal, "Thank you very much for supporting Wheelchairs for Kids with your donation during the recent IASE conference in Perth, W.A. Your name was drawn from the names of those who donated to our project. The result of this draw is that a laminated dedication has been attached to a wheelchair which will be given to a disabled child in the Philippines around mid-August. Thanks you once again." Kindest Regards, Bob Sheridan.

Please visit [www.wheelchairsforkids.org](http://www.wheelchairsforkids.org) to learn more about this project. Click on the video...it will warm your heart!!



Gary Carvolth on the far left next to Dr. Marg Csapo the Founding Member of IASE, Mr. Hoang Pham from Vietnam, Dr. Young Kyoon Park from Korea, Dr. Anupriya Chadha from India, Mr. Sherwin Fraser from Guyana, Mr. Pavan Kumar from India, Jerusa Ongeri from Kenya, Prof. Malgorzata Sekulowicz from Poland, Mrs. Serefete Molosiwa from Botswana, Dean Thi Nga from Vietnam and Mr. Mosher Mubanga the IASE Scholarship Chair

We were pleased to award 12 scholarships this year from the Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund for the 15 th Biennial Conference in Perth, Australia.

Awardees included:

Dr. Young Kyoon Park, Korea  
Ms. Jerusa Ongeri, Kenya  
Mr. Pavan Kumar, India  
Mr. Sherwin Fraser, Guyana  
Mr. Hoang Pham, Vietnam  
Prof. Malgorzata Sekulowicz, Poland  
Dean Thi Nga, Vietnam  
Dr. Anupriya Chadha, India  
Ms. Lightness Mbila, Tanzania  
Dr. Tolu Eni-Oloruda, Nigeria  
Mrs. Serefete Molosiwa, Botswana  
Mr. Kariisa Isaac, Uganda

Nine awardees successfully arranged travel to Perth and enjoyed the benefits of meeting and sharing with their colleagues from around the world. Many presented sessions of their own work. The awardees were honored during the Gala Dinner on the last night of the conference.

Thanks to all our recipients for your tireless contributions in the field of Special Education in your respective corners of the world, and thanks to all the donors who have made their scholarships possible. And a special thanks to Dr. Marg Csapo, founding member, mentor and leader in the IASE for creating the vision and support for children worldwide, which is carrying on 30 years later. For more information, or to donate to the Marg Csapo Scholarship fund, visit <http://www.iase.org/scholarships.htm>

**15<sup>th</sup> Biennial International Association of Special Education**  
**Minutes for the Annual General Meeting**  
Wednesday, June 27, 2017  
Perth Convention Center, Perth Australia

**Main Board/Extended Board Members present were:**

Iris Drower\*  
Beatrice Adera \*  
Mary Gale Budzisz\*  
Marg Csapo\*  
Roni Chavez \*  
Karen Nave  
Meghan Mulvenna (scholarship Chair)  
Zandile Nkabinde (National Co-Chair)  
Jaynee Nadarajoo(Fund Raising)

**Main Board/Extended Board Members not present:**

Colleen Meyer\*  
Mary Lipemba\*  
Fartun Mohamud  
Renáta Tichá (Editor)  
Virginia MacEntee

**Voting Members\***

**1. Call to Order:** The 15<sup>th</sup> annual Biennial General Membership meeting was called to order by President, Iris Drower, presiding at 8:05am. There was a quorum present.

**2. Approval of Minutes from the June 23, 2015 Membership Meeting**

There was a motion by Roni Chavez to accept the minutes of the 14<sup>th</sup> Biennial General Membership meeting that was held at the University of Lower Silesia Wroclaw, Poland on June 23, 2015 and published in the Annuntiatius Newsletter Summer 2015. Mary Gale seconded the motion and it carried unanimously.

**3. Approval of Written Reports**

**Iris Drower, President**

The primary responsibility of IASE president during the past 2 years has been to build capacity and work towards more sustainable solutions for the organization. This charge focused on ensuring that the different committee chairs had active committee members to complete the assigned tasks. The organization has taken a pro-active position by activating a finance committee, constituting a conference steering committee, expanding the number of volunteers and donations to our VSP sites and appointment of two membership chairs. Our sponsorships have been expanded to include 28 fellows from Kazakhstan, Ukraine, Armenia and India via the challenge (2016) along with the ADA fellow grant program (University of Minnesota and ASU).

The board also engaged in the revision and update of the By-Laws and Constitution. The revised by-laws and constitution to be voted on. Ongoing work involved discussion and updating the Strategic Plan along with other tasks namely:

- Development of a concept note;
- Presentation at an International Conference in Mexico (2016)
- Fall workshops for Dr. Giang, at [Southwest Autism Research & Resource Center \(SARRC\)](#) Arizona, 2016
- Presentations with Phoenix Sister City Programs and Phi Delta Epsilon, 2016
- Promotions and Conference Development in Perth, Australia, 2016
- Contributed funds to purchase to a full kitchen at the first Vocational College in Blantyre, Malawi and participate in training workshops.
- The board also added a Book Publication Committee and Fund-Raising Committee Chair positions to support our organizational growth and needs.

In reference to membership, as the membership continues to grow and maintain the base of 400 plus members largely from developing countries, there is need of a collective plan to help maintain and sustain our members throughout the year. The organization is making great strides with our Volunteer Service Project (VSP) Sites. Financially, the board authorized completion of a Financial Review and we recently hired a part-time administrative assistant to further manage our organization. In addition, all our finances are currently housed under one bank system (CHASE) which also allows for easy tracking of our records. Roni Chavez moved that the Presidents report be accepted. Beatrice Adera seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

**Sally Mohamadali – President Elect**

As of December 15, Sally Mohamadali informed the board that she would not be coming to the conference in Perth and would be unable to fulfill her duties as President-Elect. Based on this knowledge the board created a Conference Steering Committee. She submitted a written report. Roni Chavez moved that the president-elect report be accepted. Beatrice Adera seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

## **Colleen Meyer – Treasurer**

As of May 31, IASE has a balance of \$255,298.98

- Giving and VSP Accounts - \$55,955.64
- Scholarship - \$11,332.31
- Operational Budget – \$141, 374.87
- Checking – \$66,625.94

We expanded options for making payments for IASE offerings (membership, conference, registration, conference tours etc.) through the Chase Bank Services. The new system allows IASE to process all payments through the same bank. The administrative assistant is currently charged with maintaining the data bases for all payments in addition to sending receipts to acknowledge receipt of payments. At this time, all the necessary documents for filing 2017 tax return have been submitted to ensure that we maintain the 501 (c)3 status. Future plans include completion of internal audit and accelerating fundraising efforts. Mary Gale moved that the treasurer report be accepted. Marg seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

## **Karen Nave and Meghan Mulvenna - Membership**

The membership co-chairs have been working to streamline the membership records and working to align everything with Mail Chimp. The membership payment options have been changed from PayPal to Merchant. This change has its own advantages and challenges but the membership co-chairs will continue working to tweak the process. Membership registrations will continue being managed through Google docs. This has made it easier to ensure that current information is available to those who need it. Our current membership is 400 of which 71 are sponsored by other members and the members are from 42 different countries - over half of members are from outside the US. In addition, Meghan Mulvenna signed on as co-membership chair – she will be very helpful given that she is more tech-savvy. The membership co-chairs will continue to collaborate as they strive to streamline the membership process in order to minimize errors, or losing track of members. Any suggestions from the members are always welcome. Mary Gale moved that the membership report be accepted. Marg Csapo seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

## **Renáta Tichá - Journal**

The journal editor reported that manuscripts for the 2017 issue were in process of review with one manuscript already accepted for publication. A new review form for manuscript reviewers was developed to provide a more structured and streamlined way of reviewing all manuscript submissions. The journal editor has appointed some new consulting editors as ADA fellows with IASE sponsored membership. Also, a new "Theory" section was added to accommodate theoretical manuscripts that are continually being submitted to JIASE. In future, the editor plans to establish an impact factor of JIASE and exploring the possibility of an on-line version of JIASE. Beatrice Adera moved that the journal report be accepted. Roni Chavez seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

## **Roni Chavez - Newsletter Editor**

There have been 8 Annuntiatius published since 2015. Future plans include integration of newsletter with Mail Chimp. The newspaper editor will create a log in for members to access previous editions of the newsletter. In addition, the plan is to send bi-monthly email campaigns to members along with an online forum to discuss topics in the newsletters. In addition, the newsletter editor will plan and execute social media campaigns using free tools to ensure efficiency and progress. Members were encouraged to provide suggestions and ideas of things to include in the newsletter. Mary Gale moved that the Newsletter Editor report be accepted. Beatrice seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

## **Mary Gale Budzisz - Giving/Volunteer Service Project [VSP]**

IASE Volunteer service sites provide wish lists that go through a budgetary process for approval and then IASE volunteers deliver the items. IASE does not write checks and submit via post-office mail. In 2015, the GIVING funds account distributed \$48,931.46 to a variety of VSP sites and a total of \$27,906.45 in 2016. At the 2015 IASE Conference forum session in Poland, there was also a vote to limit the number of VSP sites to be supported per year to 20. The group also voted to close three VSP sites in Bangladesh (Songshoptaque, Hope for Bangladesh and Nowzuwan) due to safety issues. The Centro Maya Servico Integral VSP site in San Juan La Laguna in Guatemala on Lake Atitlan was developed in the fall of 2015 and approved by the Board. All volunteers go through a thorough background check and have to self-fund their trips. IASE does not provide any financial support to the volunteers.

The following activities were also completed in 2015-2016:

- Volunteers visit India (Vimukti, Sankalp Centres, Lebenshilfe, SPJ Sadhana, and Don Bosco) and provided school supplies, a laminator, printer, sewing machines and supplies, a sound system, microphones, embroidery machines, uniforms, keyboards, construction of toilet facilities, and also hosted a Teacher Appreciation Luncheon.
- Volunteers also visited Vietnam (Santa Maria Clinic, HCMC University, Dien Ban Day Centre and OG CDC) and provided books, teacher training/TEEACH Training Workshop, games, toys, resource room cabinets and books, assessment resources; sewing materials, puppets, and a xylophone.
- Volunteers visited Tanzania (Jaffery Academy, Toa Nafasi, Tanga Dianawomen) and provided school supplies, laptops, refrigerator and water dispenser.

Of the funds distributed in 2015-2016:

- \$15,000 was given to Mzuzu University to create an Inclusive Center and \$10,000 to Mwayi Trust to finish construction on the Vocational Centre. In March 2016, the MZUZU University VSP site in Mzuzu was dropped because the CEO Ambumulire Phiri was no longer able to direct it and she was moving from the area. Their budgeted funding for 2016 was reassigned to be used at Mwayi Trust in Malawi.

- Volunteers participated in the Grand Opening of the Mwayi Trust Vocational College in Blantyre, Malawi. IASE GIVING helped to stock the state-of-the-art IASE Kitchen with 3 electric stoves, 1 gas stove, a huge refrigerator, and all of the tools needed to conduct baking and cooking classes.
- We also provided supplies for the construction project at Prosefam, Columbia and funds for shipping Brailers and T-Shirts to Tanzania.

In 2017, the following events activities have been completed so far:

- Funds were distributed to SEKOMU, Tanzania for shipping an Embosser
- One volunteer visited Lebenshilfe in India to conduct needed workshops including fire safety offered in conjunction with the local Fire Chief and staff. Funds were also disbursed for school supplies.
- In Vietnam, volunteers visited Dien Ban Day Centre and purchased needed school supplies, shopped for farm tools, plants, playground bench, a freezer, toys, sports equipment plus chick and forest pigs for the new rural farm designed and built by OGCDC.
- Prosefam has completed the building addition to their school in Barranquilla/Columbia using local students and elderly to do all of the work.
- To date \$14,700 GIVING funds have been spent for 2017.

Roni Chavez moved that the Giving/VSP report be accepted. Marg Csapo seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

#### **Mary Gale Budzisz – Historian/Archive**

Archival materials are being collected to preserve the history of IASE. These include copies of past newsletters, articles, stories, photos, etc. The historian plays a significant role in providing historical information to inquires of board members. Future plans include preparation of archival materials for the web site and will continue providing historical perspectives for the Board. Beatrice Adera moved that the membership report be accepted. Marg Csapo seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

#### **National Co-Chair – Fartun Mohumad and Zandile Nkabinde**

National chairs from the following countries India, Pakistan, Sweden were present in Perth for the conference. The national co-chairs will continue outreach to the other National Chairs across the globe to continue supporting the work and IASE mission. We currently have a total of 8 national co-chairs. Beatrice Adera moved that the verbal National Chair report be accepted. Roni Chavez seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

#### **Marg Csapo – Past President-**

We came up with the nomination slate that was published in the February newsletter. I also worked on reviewing the constitution and bylaws. Revisions were submitted to attorneys [Paul Petterson and Frank Liska] before submission for a vote. Roni Chavez moved that the verbal Past President report be accepted. Beatrice Adera seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

#### **Iris Drower - Website**

The web administrator reviewed the format and accessibility for the website and recommended a new server and format for future use. The website is currently updated every 2-3 months with events that pertain to the organization.

Several updates including information on the VSP projects, social media lists, membership and a new payment system via Merchant Services with Chase were completed. Future plans and activities include:

- Identifying a graduate student and/or member of the organization to carry on as our website administrator;
- Locating a new user friendly server/platform that will provide accessibility and ease of navigation for our members.

Mary Gale moved that the website report be accepted. Beatrice Adera seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

#### **Meghan Mulvenna – Scholarship**

The team reviewed all application and a total of 12 scholarships were awarded. Only nine of the scholarship recipients were unable to make it to Perth. Two awardees were denied Visas and a third one could not make it due to funding issues. Marg moved that the website report be accepted. Beatrice Adera seconded the motion and it carried unanimously

#### **Jayne Nadarajoo – Fundraising**

One of the biggest challenges with fundraising is because many corporations in the Asia region do not know much about the organization. The plan is to set up a smaller committee somewhere Asia so the committee can continue exploring fundraising opportunities. Other fundraising opportunities to be considered include offering training sessions in exchange for payment that will benefit the association. Jayne emphasized the fact that provision of professional development at international destinations is a great way to enhance name recognition and generate revenue for IASE. Mary Gale moved that the fundraising report be accepted. Beatrice seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

#### **Ginny MacEntee - Publication**

Ginny is putting together materials for a book that will document the history of IASE along with stories from the VSP sites. The work is very time consuming and currently in progress. Beatrice Adera moved that the fundraising report be accepted. Roni Chavez seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.



## **Conference Program Co-Chairs**

Brenda Lazarus and Fartun Mohumad coordinated the review process with 16 IASE members assisting with the review of conference proposals. All proposals were all reviewed and 332 proposals were selected. There were 70 presenters with accepted papers who cancelled either because they could not get Visas or for other reasons. It has been very difficult to put the program up to-date. There were 146 sessions on the program including 3 invited showcase sessions and 1 virtual showcase session presented live from Germany. The virtual session is on the topic of sexual abuse and will be a pilot virtual presentation using zoom. Marg Csapo moved that the fundraising report be accepted. Roni Chavez seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

## **4. Old Business Information**

### **Constitution and By-Laws**

We had 3 different amendments and many things have changed over the years. The review process began with amendments of the bylaws followed by the constitution with great input from members. The revisions have been reviewed and approved by our attorneys [Paul Petterson and Frank Liska] who have completed the work pro bono to ensure alignment with USA laws governing non-profits. Listed below are some highlights from the document:

- Rolling Membership: This is an opportunity to keep all members active and involved with the organization
- Conference Steering Committee: This committee has been instituted as a standing committee. This structure will help ensure we have a structure in place with seasoned/experienced committee members to help organize/drive the conference. The President Elect will be the conference chair but not necessarily part of the steering committee.
- An administrative assistant can be hired on a consultancy basis as needed. Beatrice Adera moved to accept revised bylaws and constitution as published in the February 2017 newsletter. Roni Chavez seconded the motion and it was carried unanimously.

## **5. New Business**

### **a. Incoming officers for the 2018-2019 – Iris**

The new board was introduced and officially welcomed to serve IASE for the term starting January 1, 2018 to December 31, 2019.

- President: Beatrice Adera (USA/Kenya)
- President - Elect: Roni Chavez (Philippines)
- Past President: Iris Drower (USA)
- Secretary: Susan Pursch (USA)
- Treasurer: Colleen McShane-Meyer (USA)
- Members-at-Large: Peng-Sim Eng (Australia), Pavin Kumar Bada (India) and Mary Lipemba-Kaphwiti (Malawi)

### **b. VSP Awards – Mary Bale Budzisz and Marg Csapo**

The following volunteers and hosts were honored for their work in supporting the VSP sites as listed below:

#### **Volunteers:**

- Beatrice Adera – Mwayi Trust, Malawi
- Zandile Nkabinde – Mwayi Trust, Malawi
- Rachel Gonzalez – HCHM in Vietnam
- Karen Nave - Mwayi Trust, Malawi
- Marg Csapo – Mwayi Trust [Malawi], Lebenshilfe and Vimukti [India]
- Iris Drower – Mwayi Trust [Malawi], Vietnam and India
- Roni Chavez - Mwayi Trust, Malawi

#### **VSP Site Hosts:**

- Sandra Trevethan - Mwayi Trust, Malawi
- Sara Rosenbloom – Toa Nafasi, Tanzania
- Sara Devi – Lebenshilfe, India
- Peng Eng-Sim, Diem Ban, Vietnam
- Cap Lee- Prosefam, Columbia
- Hoang Nga-HCMC University, Vietnam
- Giang Than-Santa Maria Clinic, Vietnam

### **c. Announcement of Conference Site for 2019 – Sara Rosenbloom**

Sara Rosenbloom announced that the 16<sup>th</sup> Biennial Conference will be at SEKOMU in Magamba, Tanzania, July 13-17, 2019. Following announcement, there was a short power point presentation on SEKOMU and Tanzania. Save the Date cards were handed out.

#### **Adjournment - Iris**

Marg Csapo moved and Beatrice Adera seconded the motion for adjournment. The meeting was adjourned at 9:10 am

#### **Respectfully submitted,**

Beatrice Adera, Secretary IASE

Roni Chavez  
21 - 7 St  
Nazareth, Cagayan de Oro  
Misamis Oriental, Philippines  
9000



### Renew Your IASE Membership

Please print information clearly:

Name: Last \_\_\_\_\_ First \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ State / Province: \_\_\_\_\_ Postal Code: \_\_\_\_\_

Country: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

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: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to receive the publications ( ) electronically or ( ) paper

**By Mail: IASE Treasurer**

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**By Email: [cmeyer@nosd.edu](mailto:cmeyer@nosd.edu)**

IASE membership runs from January 1 through December 31 of each calendar year.