

Annuntiatus

International Association of Special Education

The 12th Biennial Conference in Namibia – July 10 -14, 2011

Getting Ready for Windhoek, Namibia

By Paula and Steve Leitz

The 12th Biennial Conference of IASE is quickly approaching and we hope you are as excited for this grand affair as we are! Dr. Louise Mostert, (Conference Co-Chair), spent several days in Washington state with Dr. Paula Leitz (Conference Co-Chair) and Steve Leitz (Program Co-Chair) reviewing final conference arrangements.

To help make your trip to and your stay in Namibia the experience of a life-time we decided to provide you with what we think are helpful suggestions.



Louise Mostert (Chair, Educational Psychology and Inclusion Department, UNAM), Paula Leitz (PLU), Kenneth Matengu (Director: External & International Relations, UNAM) and Steve Leitz took a planning break at Seattle's Pike Place Market

Packing Your Bags:

It will be winter time in Windhoek when you arrive in July. It is the cold, dry season. Night time weather can drop into the low 40s and the days can get into the 70s with beautifully blue, sunny skies. Bring sweaters for the daytime and warmer jackets for the evening/morning times. If you are taking a trip to the northern part of Namibia, the days are much warmer, so make sure you bring something cooler to wear. If you are going to the southern sections of Namibia or even into South Africa, then warmer clothes will be needed. Hats, sunscreen and sunglasses are essentials no matter where you go. The sun is intense and you will get plenty of exposure to it.

Arrival:

There is a bank and ATMs available when you arrive in Windhoek's Hosea Kutako airport (WDH). We have found that using ATMs, with care, will give you the best return for your money. As always, when using an ATM, be aware of the people around you. You'll probably want to start with getting \$N1000 (at today's exchange, that is about \$150).

If you want the convenience of being picked up, contact Uanee at Ombaue Travel (uaneek@gmail.com or uaneek@ombauetours.com) before you leave as they are available to pick up delegates at the cost of N\$200. If you have not emailed Ombaue Travel about transport, then you will have to get a taxi to take you to where you are staying. There is no public transport available.

Auction Items:

There are silent auctions during the conference and a live auction at the gala dinner. Funds raised from the auctions go to the Marg Csapo Scholarship Fund to support worthy delegates to attend future conferences. Delegates are asked to bring an auction item that is representative of your town, region, state or country. Each day of the conference items brought from the delegates will be displayed and conference participants will be able to bid on these items. At the end of the day the highest bidder will receive the item. Some items are saved for the live auction held at the Gala Dinner. Auction Committee chairs Lynn Aylward and Bill Towne coordinate this fast moving, fun-filled event.

Children's Books:

If you have some space and a few kilos of luggage weight to spare, we would appreciate you bringing any new and/or lightly used children's books. We plan to put together some small "Libraries in a Tub" for the school groups who perform at the conference and the two schools we visit on Thursday's tour. Beginning-to-read books, non-fiction and reference books, chapter books, all books are greatly cherished (and quite expensive) for Namibian learners. You cannot imagine how much this will be appreciated.

Dress:

Two special conference events are the Vice-Chancellor's reception and the Gala Dinner. Recommended dress for the reception is business casual. For the Gala Dinner, delegates are asked to wear traditional, formal dress. With delegates coming from 35 countries, this promises to be a most colorful event.

Travel tip:

Visit www.oanda.com and click on Travel Exchange Rates to get your fxCheatSheet. Then click on your Destination Currency and also click on your Home Currency. Copy this wallet-sized chart and then click on "reverse cheat sheet" and copy this chart. Carry these with you when you travel.

Website Updates:

We'll be updating the website throughout the month. The list of session presentations was recently added. Please check the date and time of your presentation to make sure we have spelled presenter names correctly. Take a look once a week to view any new items.

The website is: <http://sites.google.com/site/iase2011conference/>

Until July, be well and take care.

See you in Windhoek!

On The Road Again...with Marg and Mary Gale

By Mary Gale Budzisz

Another whirlwind adventure took place in January and February of 2011. Marg met Mary Gale in Dhaka, Bangladesh, and host Sajjad Khan began the non-stop tour. Beginning with a visit to the Sajjad's new Hope For Life Bangladesh, we learned about designing and creating prosthetics and orthotics for those in need. We met the staff who carefully craft these devices using very simple machines and tools. We met parents with smiles on their faces when they received the device needed by their child. IASE GIVING funds were used to purchase a compressor, a drill, a jig cutter, a hot glue gun, an industrial sewing machine, and a plaster cutter saw...then watch them jammed into an auto rickshaw and whisked off into the tumultuous Dhaka traffic to appear soon at the shop and to be set up and used to make another prosthetic device.

While in Dhaka, we visited Rabiul Hasan, the Director of the Centre for Services and Information on Disability. He taught us about his project and explained that he has email connections with thousands of people involved in special education all over the world, and volunteered to work on our IASE Membership Committee to help enhance our membership diversity.

We will never have to go on another costly amusement ride, because Sajjad arranged a very inexpensive nighttime local bus ride. After eight hours of non-stop shifting and horn honking, we arrived in sunny Chittigong to be greeted by Mohammed Imam Chowdhury, Chief Executive of NOWZUWAN. He escorted us on a lovely drive out of the city to see his newest Disability Resource Center. When the planned volunteer lodging is finished, we hope to have IASE members serve this community.

Our other site in Chittigong, Songshoptaque, honored us with huge floral leis and the clients were all prepared with a lovely concert in our honor. Director Sawrav Barua has created this service agency with music and art as a basis and the IASE GIVING fund was able to contribute a new guitar, a set of small drums and art supplies. Their dream is to cut a CD. Hopefully IASE will be able to provide support for them.



Mary Gale and Marg are honored when they visited Songshoptaque in Chittigong, Bangladesh.

Being able to partake in a lovely lunch provided by our hosts and prepared at a local restaurant was really special. The time is always too short but we did accomplish a lot. Then back to the bus for the breath-taking ride to Dhaka. Loved every minute of it...hope everyone has a chance to travel this way!

Next is a day of not-one-wasted-minute. We departed Dhaka in the early AM. When we arrived in Delhi, India, at 11:00 AM we were met by Raoul, our driver from Culture Holidays, who took us shopping. We needed to purchase school supplies funded by IASE GIVING and requested by Anu Chadha for her Sankalp Schools in northern India. When all of the items were loaded in the car, we met Anu at a New Delhi Conference Center, unloaded the stacks and boxes at the curb, had a short fast snack and then hugs and thank-you's were shared...by 3:30 PM off to the airport. We caught our flight to Jaipur, India. We were greeted by Bharti and her family and taken to a party. Our gracious host, Sudhir, invited us to join the festivities.

We visited Vimukti Girls School (a unit of Vimukti Sanstha) many times during our stay in Jaipur. The school has a wonderful ambience. We spent time with the girls and the staff. Coordinator Bharti Sharma is to be credited with organizing a fine school with an exuberant staff, where the girls truly appreciate their education. This school is targeting urban deprived girls living in the city slums. Their initiative is to combat and overcome vulnerability of students by providing education, uniforms, meals and transportation. This is a new IASE Volunteer Service Project site.

Our wonderful Jaipur driver, Harry Mohan, drove us to a variety of destinations such as the Sawai Mansingh Hospital to meet Abdul Abbasi at the Jaipur Foot Factory and watch him and his staff create a "leg-in-a day" for amputees. We watched as one young man hopped on his bike and rode off with his new leg. We also visited the SOS Children's Villages of Rajasthan and learned a lot from D.R. Puri. When Harry invited us to visit his own home we were thrilled...meeting his two girls and wife and having them share the girls' school reports meant a lot. The warmth showered on us during our time in Jaipur was overwhelming.

Next off to Visakhapatnam, India and our yearly volunteer stint at Lebenshilfe. We were greeted by the student tiger dancers, CEO Sara Devi, staff members and the students who remembered us from previous visits. It seemed as though we were "home" to spend about three weeks of giving support and service to this site. Without missing a beat, we picked up where we left off last year...organizing calendars, gathering supplies, preparing workshops, and getting lots of hugs and smiles.



Mohammed Imam Chowdhury, Marg Csapo and Sajjad Khan pose in front of the first story of the new Disability Resource Center being constructed by Mr. Chowdhury in Chittigong, Bangladesh.

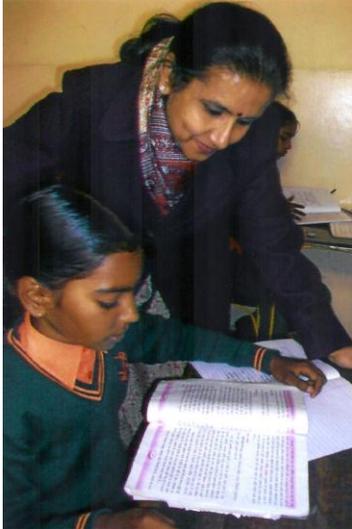
The weeks sped by and we did accomplish a lot. We conducted three teacher workshops concentrating on documentation skills and methods. With sincere thanks to Patricia Brigrance and Francis Ferguson of Curriculum Associates we were able to share the Brigrance Curriculum Readiness Activities using the materials provided with their generosity. We taught the staff about the importance of documentation using portfolios. The IASE GIVING Fund purchased the portfolios and teaching supplies. With Sarah's blessing, we created a Teacher Resource Room by purchasing boards and bricks to build shelving units, containers to store items, and then moved lots of materials from their storage areas into the room. We hope it continues to be a happy place for teachers to plan their lessons and utilize the teaching tools.

The second annual Lebenshilfe Sports Day/Inspirational Olympics was conducted by the staff and students. ALL students were involved in this event. Many races occurred, such as the wheelchair, book-on-the-head, and relays. Other students participated in the ball-in-the-bucket, frog hop and the elephant walk. The student-made awards were given to all participants. The teams cheered, yelled and encouraged everyone toward the finish line.

As this road trip came to an end...we are already preparing for the next...check out www.iase.org and click on the Volunteer Service Project...come on and volunteer!!

THANKS to IASE

Bharti Sharma, Coordinator of the Vimukti Girls Schools located in Jaipur, India, sent the following letter of thanks to IASE:



Bharti Sharma, Coordinator of Vimukti Girls School, listens as a student reads to her.

Dear IASE,

We are grateful to you for your kind support shown towards the students of Vimukti Girls School. We thank you for the donations of an HP Laser Printer with a cartridge and for books, copies of classes-K.G, prep I and II.

Your help is greatly contributing to the overall development of the underprivileged girls. We are sure that with the concern shown by people like you, these girls will become a great asset to society at large. They will fondly remember your generosity. The world definitely becomes a better place with the zeal and enthusiasm shown by you.

On behalf of the students and staff of Vimukti Girls School, I extend my sincere gratitude.
Looking forward to your support in the future.

Warm Regards,
Bharti Sharma, Coordinator

Message from the President

The membership is notified that the following changes and additions to the IASE By-Laws were approved by the IASE Board on May 7, 2011. These items will be on the agenda for a vote during the July 12, 2011, General Membership Meeting at the 12th Biennial Conference in Namibia.

Change #1: Section VI.8 Duties of the Treasurer: subsection b) All checks written to exceed \$75.00 (seventy-five US dollars), all bills of exchange, or other evidence of indebtedness shall be signed by two...

NEW: b) All checks written to exceed **\$1,500 (fifteen hundred US dollars)**, all bills....

Change #2: Section VI.8 Duties of the Treasurer is an addition to the duties

NEW: m) **During the vacancy in the office of Treasurer the President is authorized to be the sole signatory on any check up to \$1,500 US with the President-Elect as the co-signatory on any check exceeding \$1,500 US.**

MALAWI CONNECTION: IASE & Mzuzu University

By Ambumulire Nellie Phiri

At the present time, I am enrolled at the University of Missouri-St. Louis in a Doctor of Education Program focusing on Special Education. I look at this opportunity to earn an advanced degree in special education as relevant and timely. I plan to return to Malawi and use my knowledge and expertise there upon the completion of my studies. Malawi, like many other countries south of the Equator recognizes the key role of including all people regardless of ability into the development process. The country is fast embracing and implementing the inclusion philosophy. The need to build capacity and expertise to support the inclusion of individuals with special needs and ensure their meaningful participation is critical.

In 2009, with the support of the International Association of Special Education (IASE) experts, I was privileged to facilitate development of a special education course as part of our Teacher Education core curriculum at Mzuzu University, Malawi. The course was offered to our general education students beginning in August of 2010. My colleague, Dr. Simeon Gwayi, has been teaching the course. We were further honored to receive 20 textbooks from the IASE GIVING Fund, as well as, support from one of the book authors, Dr. Yvonne Bui, and the book publisher, Mr. Stan Love.

Mzuzu University prepares approximately 200 teachers every year, and hence, a new course required a sufficient number of text books for students to use as library resources. With scarcity of teaching and learning resources, the gift of books with up-to-date research in the field of special education was just the most appropriate gesture of kindness.

I am therefore very thankful to the IASE organization for its mission to connect experts around the globe with a mission to make a difference in the lives of individuals with special needs. I am also thankful to Mary Gale and Marg for helping to assure that the text books reached Malawi, and I appreciate that they were able to make time and visit Mzuzu University to see the implementation of the course developed with the help of IASE.



Ambumulire Nellie Phiri is standing on the steps of her lodging facility at the University of Missouri-St. Louis.

Treasurer's Report for 1/1/11-4/30/11

Beginning Balance (1/1/11)	- \$275, 277
Total Credits - \$56,769	
Conference registrations	- \$54,760
Memberships	- \$1910
Interest	- \$99
Total Debits - \$12,413	
Conference planning trip	- \$2228
Conference materials	- \$2796
Conference registration refund	- \$350
Printing (winter newsletter)	- \$780
Postage (journal, membership)	- \$321
Bank & credit card fees	- \$2204
Giving & Volunteer Projects	- \$3719
Ending Balance (4/30/11)	- \$319,687

International Association of Special Education

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Two Easy Ways to Renew Your Membership

By Mail: IASE Treasurer

Steve Leitz

8220 67th St. CT. NW

Glg Harbor, WA 98335, USA

By Email: sleitz@centurytel.net

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) _____

Signature of Cardholder _____

If you have special needs that require the journal or newsletter to be sent to you electronically, please note that here.