



International Association of Schools of Social Work

Association Internationale des Ecoles de Travail Social

Asociación Internacional de Escuelas de Trabajo Social

newsletter

Welcome to Santiago



Invitation from **Malvina Ponce de Leon**, President of the Organizing Committee of the 33 World Congress of Schools of Social Work.

Henry Parada, Member of the Board of Directors of the IASSW

Dear Colleagues;

It is a real pleasure for me to have the opportunity to invite all social workers to visit Santiago, Chile and to participate in the 33 World Congress of Schools of Social Work to be held from August 28 to 31, 2006.

The international events organized by the IASSW have been distinguished by the open debate of the research, experiences and contributions that have been made to social worker's professional development. Open also in its approach to the contributions affecting the decision making process at the local and world wide levels. Within this context, the participants at the Chilean congress will debate an important thematic entitled "Growth and Inequality" and the new challenges that the social work discipline faces in the new global reality. Some of the guiding questions that will be debated at this congress are: How will social work as a discipline face the new era of inequality? How do we explain the social relations that allow for an increase in the gap between those who have and those who have not? How does the social work profession bring about changes that will include those who have been socially excluded?

We believe that Social Work as discipline needs to analyze the 'social' taking into consideration: the effects of modernization and/or globalization, the perspective of human rights issues, reflexive participation and the development of organizations within horizontal structures. To face the new forms of 'growth and inequality,' social workers, through research, need to revise and change their existing forms of interventions that deal with the complexity of challenges faced as a result of the new forms of human development. We also believe, the main goal of the congress participants should be to analyze 'growth and inequality' from many different cultures, languages and perspectives.

The congress is fortunate to have some very distinguished keynote speakers from different continents and schools of thought.

Paulo Netto (Ph.D. Universidad Catolica de Sao Paulo). Dr. Netto has expressed through his publications, lectures and writings, his strong commitment to social transformation within capitalist societies. Some of his better known books are: Social Services and Questioning, the Operational Inability of the Social Sciences,



Dictatorship and Social Work, The Paradigmatic Controversies of the Social Sciences, The Crisis of the Socialism and the Neo-Liberal Offensive.

Adela Cortina. Professor of Ethic and Judicial, Moral and Political Philosophy at the University of Valencia, Spain. Her discussions about citizenship and responsibility have been very influential in diverse areas of philosophy, social sciences and economics. Her publications include: Ethic of Consumerism, the Citizens as Actors, Communicative Reason, Solidarity Responsibility, and Ethic without Morality.

James Midgley. Specialist in development and social work. His interests include areas of social policies with emphasis on international events, the contradictions of the globalization process including challenges and opportunities this process provides. His writing include: Individualism, Collectivism and the Marketization of Social Security: Comparison between Chile and China, Globalization, Capitalism and Social Welfare: A Social Development Perspective.

Sheila Burwaree (Ph.D. University of Latsabe Melbourne) will present a lecture about Ms. Eileen Younghusband(1902-81), who is internationally known for her research and teaching in social work. In her Carnegie Reports of 1947 and 1950,

she advocated 'generic' training - a set of core knowledge common to all forms of social work practices and fields. In 1954 she pioneered the teaching of a generalist course that became the prototype of professional social work training at other universities. In 1955 she chaired a Ministry of Health committee dealing with the training of social workers. The subsequent Younghusband Report led to the establishment of a Council for Training in Social Work and a social work certificate. In 1968 she chaired the Calouste Gulbenkian Foundation's report into 'Community Work and Social Change'. Eileen Younghusband's works include: The Education and Training of Social Workers (1947), Social Work in Britain (1951), Social work in Britain, 1950-1975: a follow-up study (1978).

The organizing committee invites you to celebrate and share our commitment to the provision of answers and contributions to improve this world that is so full of inequalities. The Committee is looking forward to hearing and debating interesting topics that will allow us to become better professionals and therefore to provide better services to students, colleagues, clients and the societies that we inhabit.

ELECTIONS 2006: ANNOUNCEMENT OF CANDIDATES

The IASSW Elections will be held between May and August, with results announced at the General Assembly in Santiago Chile. There is one position open for Treasurer and two positions for Member at Large of the Board of Directors. The candidates put forth by the Nominations Committee are announced here. Ballots for the 2006 election will be sent to all paid up members at the end of May. They will be sent from the office of the Secretary. If you do not receive a ballot, please contact Lynne Healy, Secretary, at iasswsec@comcast.net. Ballots are due back at the Secretary's office by mail by August 1. Ballots not mailed may be hand carried to the Chile Congress and handed in on August 28 by 17:00 (5:00pm) at the IASSW booth.

Candidates for Treasurer



Gavin Rennie

Present Position:
Senior Lecturer, School
Health and
Community Studies,
Unitec New Zealand,
Auckland, New
Zealand

Academic Qualifications:
BA (Sociology and
Politics) University of
Auckland
DipSocSci (Social
Policy and Social
Work) Massey
University
MTh (Maryknoll School
of Theology) Ossining
NY, USA

I am honoured to have been nominated for the position of Treasurer.

My nomination has come from Shimon Spiro, the present Treasurer and is seconded by Gurid Aga Askeland, who is a member at large.

I believe fully in the mission statement of IASSW, which is:

- To develop and promote excellence in social work education, research and scholarship globally in order to enhance human well being.
- To create and maintain a dynamic community of social work educators and their programmes.
- To support and facilitate participation in mutual exchanges of information and expertise.
- To represent social work education at the international level

As President of the New Zealand Schools of Social Work, I have done all of the above. I have also contributed to the partial achievement of these goals at an international level as a board member of IASSW for eight years. Much more remains to be done. I have the time, the will and the ability to contribute to IASSW to further our work towards these goals.

Potentially IASSW could represent over 2000 Schools of Social Work. In fact, we represent considerably less. I believe finding effective ways of reaching existing schools and offering support to new ones, should be a primary focus of the next period of development of IASSW. It is our responsibility to promote IASSW in the international community of social work educators.

The finances of IASSW are now in a healthy state and I believe we should use some of the money we have to promote IASSW in the existing regions and in parts of the world which know little of this organisation. I am committed to continuing the building of IASSW into a strong, well managed, fiscally responsive organisation. The finances are well managed and I know too that I could work well with the Resident Treasurer based at CSWE.

So what would I bring to this position?

Knowledge and Values

- The personal is the political and social work is not a value neutral activity
- Strong and abiding commitment to social work as a human rights profession, predicated on principles of social justice
- Understanding that differing traditions have a positive, indeed necessary, contribution to make to diversity in social work
- A belief that context is paramount in social work education and practice. Also that we learn from the exchange of ideas and the support that we experience as members of the international social work community
- Social policy at all levels influences practice and globalisation is a reality which needs critiquing.

Skills:

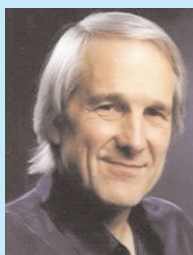
- Strong interpersonal skills
- Good Organiser
- Effective Manager
- Team Builder
- Strategic Thinker

- Excellent networker with many international alliances in place
- Broad experience in acquiring funding

Experience:

- Practitioner since 1977
- Social work educator for 12 years
- Founded the School of Community Studies at UNITEC in 1992. The unique professional programme we developed, educating social workers counsellors and community developers, was accredited in 1993.
- Chaired the development of post graduate social work qualifications at UNITEC
- Chair of the New Zealand Schools of Social Work since 1994
- Board member of IASSW since 1996. Chair of the Directory Committee for four years
- Editor New Zealand Social Work Review
- Visited more than 25 countries and have an international perspective whilst respecting local contexts
- Co-chair Organising Committee and Programme Committee for the IASSW/IFSW Congress, Adelaide 2004 which made a profit of AUD \$140,000

I am appreciative of the support that I carry with me as I go into this election - from the New Zealand Schools of Social Work, Unitec New Zealand (who have given an undertaking of support to enable me to carry out the role) and my colleagues in the School of Community Studies. I look forward to your support and for the opportunity to bring all that I have to offer to the role of Treasurer of IASSW.



Isidor Wallimann, MA, Ph.D.

Present Position:
Professor of Sociology,
Economics and Social
Policy, School of Social
Work
Basel, University of
Applied Sciences
Northwest Switzerland,
Switzerland.

Academic Qualifications:
BA (Economics,
Business Adm., Agric.)
Kansas State
University, USA
MA (Economics)
Kansas State
University, USA
Ph.D. (Sociology)
Syracuse University, USA.

I have been nominated by

- Prof. Dr. Christine Labonté-Roset, Member of the IASSW Executive Committee and President of EASSW, the European Association of Schools of Social Work, and by
- Agustín Moñivas Lázaro, Subdirector de Relaciones Externas, Escuela de Trabajo Social, Universidad Complutense de Madrid

If elected as the treasurer, I shall bring to the IASSW executive committee and board

- An academic background and entrepreneurial experience in economics and business administration
- 10 years experience as the treasurer of EASSW
- 3 years of experience as an IASSW board member
- 15 years of experience in international social work education on the graduate and undergraduate level
- several years of experience in international higher education policy and accreditation systems
- 12 years of experience as an expert of the Swiss National Science Foundation for social policy and social work research programs

- 25 years of experience as a scholar active in Europe, Asia and the United States through lecturing, teaching, research and publishing
- 25 years of experience in editing academic journals, research annuals and book series
- 12 years of experience as member of the board of a publishing company
- 25 years of experience as president or board member of professional associations for university professors or sociologists.

Born 1944 in Switzerland, I studied first economics, business administration and agriculture (BA and MA). Subsequently I received my Ph.D. in sociology, also in the United States. My present teaching responsibility is in sociology, economics, social policy and international social work. I have published books and articles in English and German on subjects such as economics and social work, social policy, ethnic antagonism and genocide, social integration, community social work, social movements, industrial sociology, sociology of work, resource scarcity and on sustainability. One book has been translated (from English) into Korean, another into German.

I started the teaching career as an assistant professor in the United States. Since 1980, my major

professional teaching stage has been in Switzerland (at the School of Social Work in Basel) with appointments also at the Universities of Bern and Fribourg. At the School of Social Work, I have been responsible for international cooperation in social work education and research for many years. Some time ago, I was given the honour of lecturing at the Chinese and the Beijing Academy of Social Sciences and in Japan. On several occasions, I enjoyed being a visiting professor in the United States and Taiwan. Part of my research career has been as an expert for the Swiss National Science Foundation. Professionally I have served many years on editorial boards, on the board of directors of a publishing house, and on the board of other professional organisations such as the Swiss Association of Schools of Social Work.

For ten years, I have been the president of a community development project building a "social economy network" in Basel with the help of our own alternative (parallel) currency.

If elected with your support, I shall - as a member of the IASSW Executive Committee and board - be pleased to help enhance IASSW and its goals, while as its treasurer - simultaneously assuring its continued financial viability. Thank you for your support.



Lincoln Williams

Present Position:

Tutor Coordinator,
Social Welfare Training
Centre, School of
Continuing Studies,
The University of the
West Indies, Mona
Campus, Jamaica.

Academic Qualifications:

B.A. Hons.
(Economics/Philosophy)
University of East Anglia,
UK.
Post Graduate Certificate
in Education
(Distinction). Phillippa
Fawcett College of
Education/University of
London, UK.
Post Graduate Diploma
in Youth and Community
Work. Avery Hill College
of Education/ University
of London, UK.
M.A. (Distinction) Urban
Education. King's
College, University of
London, UK.



Tatsuru Akimoto

Present Position:

Professor and Graduate
Dean, Graduate School
of Integrated Arts &
Social Sciences, Japan
Women's University,
Japan

Academic Qualifications:

Bachelor of Law
[Hogakushu], Tokyo
Metropolitan
University, Japan
MSW (Social Work)
Wayne State University,
USA
DSW (Social Welfare)
City University of New
York, USA

Statement in support of candidacy for treasurer to the Board.

Lincoln Williams is a member of the Board of IASSW, one of the NACASSW representatives. He co-founded the Association of Caribbean Social Work Educators (ACSWE) and was its first president from 1997 to 2003. He is also co-founder of the Caribbean Journal of Social work and is currently its editor-in-chief. Since January 1993 Lincoln has been the Director of the Social Welfare Training Centre, School of Continuing Studies, University of the West Indies. The Centre provides social work education for para-professional and qualified social workers. Overall, Lincoln Williams has been engaged extensively in the training of para-professional social workers and youth workers for over 25 years.

Lincoln has been a member of the IASSW Board since 1999 and has served on several of its committees. He would like to take on the challenge of being the Board's Treasurer and states that he is qualified to do so. Lincoln has had substantial experience of management including financial management. He has been responsible for the management, budgeting and development of the Social Welfare Training Centre at the University of the West Indies since 1993. Prior to 1993, Lincoln was Head of Community Education for the London Borough of Southwark in the UK, with responsibility for the adult education and youth services. This post entailed managing a budget of eleven million pounds sterling.

In his role as President of ACSWE, Lincoln received considerable support from IASSW in the early stages of setting up the organization. He sees the role of Treasurer as an opportunity to assist other regional networks to be supported in establishing themselves.

In his experience on the Board, he recognizes that the role of income generation and financial management is critical for the support of fledgling networks, particularly in regions that have been very challenged in trying to establish regional or sub regional networks. Lincoln will bring to the position the requisite dedication, perseverance and commitment to making a difference.

In addition, Lincoln wishes to ensure that any monies spent, or committed, by IASSW generate value for money. He sees the role of the Treasurer as advisor to the Board on matters of investment, project support, administrative efficiency and expenditure. With the President and the Secretary he sees the role of the Treasurer as critical for ensuring strategic direction for IASSW in accordance with the wishes of member schools.

Candidates for Member at Large

IASSW Has a Big Future

1. Towards the Third Stage of Social Work

My intellectual interest is to make social work, which was born in the United Kingdom (the first stage) and has grown in the United States (the second stage), mature into the third stage enriched with realities and experiences in other parts of the world, or some 200 countries and areas in addition to these two. How can IASSW contribute to this development through enhancing research and education and bridging practices and theories?

2. Organize!

IASSW's membership was 456 schools in 66 countries in the middle of the 1970s and is slightly fewer in numbers today while there were already some 1700 schools in over 100 countries even ten years ago. Without a larger membership, our activities can not be effective nor our voice be heard, and our people's lives and rights are not protected and promoted. There are numerous unorganized schools in "developed" countries although they are facing consolidation and contraction. Most parts of the world have been untouched by IASSW. We have unlimited possibility.

3. Be Organizationally Accountable

(1) Services beyond a Biannual Congress

What services have our due-paying member schools expected of IASSW beyond a biannual congress? Overseas field placements satisfying their criteria, human resources for their programs, curriculum development for disaster relief, assistance for the institutional building of their schools to guarantee quality education and research, the exchange of data and information, such norms and guidelines as International Definition and Global Standards, or a window through which they can see the world? Some member schools may not seek for any direct return, but expect services for non-members in districts where there has been neither "social work" nor a "social worker" yet.

(2) Strengthen national and regional associations

Without this, IASSW could never be strong and functional. Two thirds of IASSW board members are from national or regional associations including five vice presidents. Retaining the wealth of IASSW's personal links and networks and avoiding the bureaucratization, how can we be more organizationally accountable to our members?

(3) Be sensitive with Languages

If not, IASSW could never be strong and functional. "Language is one of the four basic human rights together with race, sex and religion." (The original UN Charter Article 13) We talk about our deprivation of a language from indigenous people in the past, but we are doing exactly the same now and here in international organizations. Or we assume that our English-written documents delivered to our member schools will be read by our colleagues whose mother tongues are not English. It is unrealistic, naïve, arrogant, or innocent.

4. My Qualification

My research and work experience in both A Third World and Two Thirds World over several years, as well as in ILO for two years, universities and governmental institutions for many years, as researcher, project coordinator, educator and administrator will benefit for my contribution to IASSW.

My experience in the IASSW board of directors includes two years as National representative and Member At-large—which is much shorter than most other top leaders' dedication. Sometimes, however, to infuse new blood into old tradition will be both useful and necessary.

5. A Pledge

Only my hesitancy to run came from the simple fact that I belong to a country that has a history of invasion into other countries to exploit their life and wealth. It is not easy for me to work particularly in Asia. However, I hereby swear that I will do my best to achieve the purposes and missions written in our by-laws and mission statement.



Shirley E. Cox,

Present Position:
Professor, School of Social Work, Brigham Young University, USA

Academic Qualifications:
MSW (Social Work) Howard University, USA
DSW (Social Work) University of Utah, USA

It is my pleasure to volunteer for service as an IASSW Board Member. My international service began in 1969, when I served four years on the US National Association of Social Workers (NASW) National Board. At that critical time of the organization's history, I was a strong voice for continuing the organization and for emphasizing its relationship with and out-reach to allied international professional organizations. In 1992, I was again elected to the NASW National Board, this time in an At-Large position. During this tenure I served as a member of the Executive and International Committees. In 1995, I served as a Representative to the International Federation of Social Workers and in 2002 served as a member of the International Rhoda G. Sarnat Award Panel.

Prior to my service in the university system, I served as an administrator for a variety of state level welfare agencies. I managed large child welfare, family and youth service divisions, and services to the emotionally and physically impaired in three different states within the US. During that time I consulted with developing programs internationally: Russia (May 1993), New Zealand (September 1995), South Africa (November 1995), and Nepal (November 1997).

As a Field Education Director, I have placed over 250 students internationally and been an outspoken advocate for culturally competent international placements. Out students, serving internationally, are always required to be familiar with the local culture (often requiring a year's experience prior to placement) and

fluency in the local language. (Often my students have served as translators for students from other universities, in order to ease the burden on the in-country service agency.) In addition, I have required that students connect with the local social work educational institutions and professional organizations. In each case, students have been connected to a local professional social worker for on-site supervision within the local professional culture and best practice standards.

I have research and written extensively in the area of international placements and the necessary supporting ethics and technological tools. Four of my articles, in this area, have been published in top tier journals. In addition, I have published in four international conference proceedings and have presented juried or invited papers in Adelaide, Australia; Montreal, Canada; Beijing and Singapore, China; Cairo, Egypt; Lourdes, France; Hong Kong; Jerusalem, Israel; Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia; Mexico City, Mexico; Katmandu, Nepal; Doha, Qatar; Kolomna, Russia; Bangkok, Thailand; Christ Church, New Zealand; and Cape Town, South Africa.

I will be actively involved in the deliberations of IASSW which will include attendance at all meetings and completion of assigned tasks and projects. I will strive to be an example of trust and respect among cultures and an outspoken advocate for open and honest sharing of agendas within the international social work educational community.



Gu Donghui

Present Position:
Associate Professor and Executive Chairperson, Department of Social Work, Fudan University, Shanghai, China

Academic Qualifications:
BA (Economics) Fudan University, Shanghai
MA (Economics) Fudan University, Shanghai
MSW (Social Work) The University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong
Ph.D. (Social Welfare) Chinese University of Hong Kong, Hong Kong

With the Wisdom of Social Work, Develop the Social Work Education in Developing Counties and Districts

In June 27th 2001, the definition of social work was mutually agreed in Copenhagen by IASSW and IFSW. It is certain that the application of wisdom of social work in developing social work education is a rational decision.

I. Participate principles

Board of Director can push the development of IASSW by using the social work methods, because the relationship between the board and the members is like the social worker and the client.

The social work education in developing countries should be the key work in the future of IASSW. The developing countries are experiencing the same old problems as already confronted by the developed countries, as well as facing many new issues. Therefore the needs of social development are stronger than developed ones.

It is important for board members to participate in the feasible work relied on their own background. I am from China. How to promote social development by using social work is becoming an important strategy in China. China Association for Social Work Education, an organization with more than 200 college members, is a part of international social work education. Many years ago, with the help of HKU, our department began MSW program in Shanghai. Therefore, I have personal experience as to how to develop the social work education in developing countries, how to make use of resources of developed regions to promote development of new projects, and other issues related to the development of social work education.

II. Working ideas

Based on my background, it is rational for me to promote the development of social work education in developing countries and regions. If I am selected for the board, I will proceed with my work primarily in the following aspects:

To expand members, especially members from developing countries.

To engage in propaganda for IASSW; to drive the professional training organizations, colleges or associations that agree with the tenet of IASSW and are recognized by member's conference to join the IASSW; to promote establishment of more national associations of schools of social work that match the charter's standard in developing countries.

To assist individuals in developing countries who are engaged in and interested in social work education or training to become informal members, to promote further development of social work education in developing countries with international assistance.

To assist to promote positive change of members.

I suggest that the association adopt more techniques to make better interaction with members, and integrate the "up and down" needs from the association's departments and the "down and up" needs from the members, in order to find new working areas.

I suggest that the association integrate resources, particularly those from regions with developed social work education. With accordance to the background of different regions, the resources will make new training plans, provide opportunities for teachers and students from developing countries, and assist new members particularly those from

developing countries to improve their professional capability.

I suggest collecting and providing the latest information of professional education and training to members.

I suggest encouraging members to build more teams, to provide the support for the connection between different teams and social organizations, hence to actualize the self empowerment of the association.

I also suggest to impulse different counties to make their working models according to its own culture, history, society and finial conditions, and promote the communications.

Besides, to find the professional topics and to do the related works.

I will devote my intelligence and energy for the actualization of the object and future development of IASSW.

International Projects



Adamnesh Afnafu, assistant to the President and Helle Strauss at the board meeting in England

Members of IASSW have access to engagement in international projects with other member schools of social work from different parts of the world through IASSW funding.

IASSW invites proposals for projects, designed to advance social work education internationally. Grants of up to US \$3,000 are available for proposals that can be expected to contribute to the implementation of the IASSW Mission Statement, and to the enhancement of cooperation among schools of social work world-wide.

This is a continuous aspect of IASSW activities but the final submission date for the next round of bids is 15th August 2006.

In order to qualify for support, proposals will have to meet the following criteria:

1. The project can be expected to make a direct and meaningful contribution to at least one of the following areas:
 - 1.1.1 The philosophy of social work education.
 - 1.1.2 Curriculum development.
 - 1.1.3 Content of specific units, modules or courses.
 - 1.1.4 Field instruction.
 - 1.1.5 Teaching methods.
 - 1.1.6 Technology of instruction.
 - 1.1.7 Staff development.
 - 1.1.8 Administration of educational programs.
 - 1.1.9 Community involvement of staff and students.
2. The project has to be truly international, involving social work educators from minimally three schools in at least two countries with differing cultures or systems of social work education. The project should be

expected to enhance international and cross-cultural collaboration, and may contribute to educational developments through the inclusion of schools of social work in countries where social work education is facing particular challenges.

See further details concerning the proposal on the iassw homepage: <http://www.iassw-aiets.org>

In January 2006 the following 3 projects were selected for IASSW funding:

- **“Indigenous social work Education and Practice Around the World”** (Involving Israel, Canada, Australia, Hong Kong, Malaysia, New Zealand, USA, India and Botswana. Contact person Prof. John Coates, St. Thomas University, Fredicton, NB, Canada)
- **“Development of a Module on Disaster Management for Social Workers”** (Involving Kenya, Phillipines and England. Contact person Proff: Ralph. Firth, School of Health Community & Education Studies, Benton, Newcastle Upon Tyne, England
- **“Teaching Social Work in Health & Mental Health: an East-West Appraisal”** (Involving US, China and Hong Kong. Contact person: PhD Peter Szto, University of Nebraska at Omaha, US)

Another example of previous approved project is

- **International Social Work and political conflict resolution network** (Contact person J.F. Lindsay, school of Social Work, Kingston University, Kingston Hill, Kingston Upon Thames, England.)

This group has set up a homepage: www.isw4peace.org which you can access through IASSW's homepage. It holds among other items a discussion board, a section for research in the impact of political conflict on populations and the role of social work, social work in post conflict situations, and social work intervention in political conflict situations and approaches to conflict resolutions. The homepage has already been visited by more than 4000.

Social Work in China: Challenges and Opportunities



Since the start of economic reforms in 1978, China has achieved undisputable economic growth, and yet also experienced dramatic uneven development across different regions and population. It is likely that change will continue to unfold as China integrates more deeply into the regionalized and internationalized global system. The current social welfare policy in China is to provide a basic “safety net” that will avoid social unrest, while limiting the growth in social

expenditure in order to allow China to maintain competitiveness. In practice, Chinese government has gradually adopted a different approach in delivering welfare services. Instead of being service providers, the government is now focusing more on policy, planning and management. The more recent policy is encouraging civil society and non-profit organizations (NPOs) to take up the role of providing direct services. Besides the public welfare programs, the work units are also operating under the market economy which requires self sufficient or making profit in order to survive in the competition. Many of these work units, which used to provide comprehensive welfare services to their employees, are no longer taking up this responsibility now. Therefore, more community organizations and NPOs are being developed in various parts of China and they are now running different types of social services ranging from child welfare to long term care for the aged. In a nutshell, social work in China has a tremendous market in both the public, non-profit and private sectors and is expected to make great progress in the near future.

Since 1994 China has been undergoing a rapid growth in social work education, currently there are more than 200 programs teaching social work in various universities and colleges in China. On average, these programs train more than 6,000 social work graduates per year. However, majority of these graduates is not working in social service settings or with social service programs. Most of the social services in China are subsumed under different government organizations and these organizations used to hire

non-social work trained people to deliver the services to their clients. There is a huge gap between the newly imported, university-trained social work profession and the well-established, local, practice-based practitioners. One challenge is facing social work education in China is related to the current recruitment practice from the major social service organizations in China as they have not committed to hire social work trained personnel. In other words, social work has not yet been recognized as a profession in China. Therefore, social work in China is now at a critical juncture to further develop the new discipline and profession.

When social workers in China strive to achieve professionalization, they should consider adopting a more inclusive approach, which will allow social work scholars to work with existing practitioners to articulate and conceptualize their knowledge and practice. The development of the social work profession in China should extend the boundaries of its profession so as to provide space for various existing and newly emerging human service practitioners who share similar values and social functions. A dialogue among these interested parties will offer a better prospect for the emergence and consolidation of this new profession.

China could learn from the experiences of developing social work in the developed countries and at the same time take the initiative to develop social work that is more appropriate for China and other developing countries. China has no real burden of historical established social work structure; therefore, it can take any direction it likes to develop its own social work theories and practices to meet the needs of its society. This opportunity would not only benefit China itself but also contribute to the global social work development.

Iris Chi, DSW

References:

Chi, I. (2005). Social work in China. *International Social Work*, 48(4), 371-379.

The 18th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference



The 18th Asia-Pacific Regional Conference was held in Seoul, South Korea from September 21 to September 24, 2005 and ended with successful results. From 27 countries, 845 social work educators and practitioners participated in this conference. Korea was selected as the host country of the 18th Asia-Pacific Social Work Conference during the IASSW congress held in Montpellier in July 2002. With the effort of In Young Han, Korea Representative, Professor of Ewha Womans University, the Organizing Committee was established in January 2003, and presidents of The Korea Association of Social Workers (KASW) and The Korean Council on Social Work Education (KCSWE) were selected as co-chairs of the organizing committee.

There were three major parts delivered during this conference: **Academic Sessions, Cultural Events and Apple projects**. 150 academic papers were presented and several workshops were offered. The development process of social welfare and its current educational systems of 17 countries in the Asia-Pacific region were presented and discussed during the country paper sessions.

Cultural events were attractive during opening and closing ceremony to introduce Korean culture to participants. There were also special activities, such as Extra-Large Bibimbap (Korean traditional dish, mixed with rice and vegetables) for over 500 persons and Korea Paper Crafts.

As a result of this conference, The APPLE Project was requested to actualize the conference's theme, "Challenges and Responses of Social Work: Toward New Asia-Pacific Paradigms". The APPLE Project aims to protect the children and families in the Asia-Pacific region who are vulnerable to poverty, abuse and disaster, and is aiming at establishing a research center, relief fund and welfare corps. Korea that hosted the conference requested the representatives of each country to participate in the APPLE Project. 7 countries agreed to an APPLE resolution: China, Japan, Korea, Philippines, Singapore, Sri Lanka, and Thailand. This partnership is believed to play an important role in making the APPLE Project a success.

Professor Han thanked IASSW president, Abye Tasse and IFSW president Imelda Dodd for their attendance and strong support for 18th Asia Pacific Social Work Conference.

In-Young Han

Sub-regional network of the Schools of Social of the South East Europe



During the last IASSW board meeting held in January 2006 in Hatfield, the board of directors supported and approved a new initiative which intends to create the sub-regional network of schools of social work in the south east Europe. In spite of several economic disadvantages, ethnic wars in some parts of the region, and turbulent political changes during the last decade, new schools of social work have been established and some old have been developed and enlarged. The sub-regional network is going to strengthen the

collaboration and networking between social work academics, researchers and students in order to increase the international and collaborative work between these schools and to increase their participation in the wider international academic social work arena.

The sub-regional network will bring together schools of social work with very different traditions and with very different historical developments. Several of the schools of social work from former Yugoslavia have been established already during the 1950's which was a unique development among the countries with socialist and communist governments. The first school was established in Croatia at the University of Zagreb in 1952, and later on Schools of social work had arise in 1955 in Ljubljana and in 1958 in Belgrade, Sarajevo and Skopje (Zaviršek 2005a, 2005b). During the same period of time in some other parts of eastern Europe schools of social work have been closed down and social work has for almost half of the century remained an activity without formal education and training. In Budapest the department of social work was closed down in 1948, in Czechoslovakia in 1953 and in Romania the pre WW II school of social work Princess Ileana, was turned down in 1952. In these countries schools were reestablished or started to appear after the political changes in 1991. This is one among many reasons for invisibility of those schools in the global social work community. Their teaching activities, publications and research have often remained nation-based and unnoticed from the international public. Often, the regional knowledge of social work practice were colonized and silenced by older and more dominant social work traditions (Zaviršek 2001). Many social work academics believed until recently, that regions in south east Europe have not had any social work, at all.

The sub-regional network of the schools of south east Europe wants to increase joint collaboration and overcome the historically created division between peripheral schools and knowledges and the dominant one. Only few schools of social work from former Yugoslavia had a strong network which was brutally stopped in 1991 and reestablished after the end of the

war in Bosnia in 1995. One of the latest intensive collaboration of the schools of social work of Yugoslavia took place between 2000 and 2005 which helped to overcome ethnic divides and to re-establish the pre-war collaboration with social work teachers and researchers (cf. HESSLE & Zaviršek 2005). The network has brought several positive results such as joint efforts for the establishment of a new social work department in Banja Luka (Bosnia and Herzegovina), exchange of teaching material and methods, curricula and a joint publication on the role of social work within the concept of sustainable development (ibid.).

The sub-regional network tends to embrace not only the region of former Yugoslavia, but wants to include also countries like Albania, Romania, Bulgaria, which shared a common political history that influenced teaching, theories and practice of social work profession. This will strengthen European integration and inclusion and will further internationalize the world academic social work community.

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UN ACTIVITIES UPDATE



Janice Wood Wetzel, the IASSW Main Representative at the United Nations in New York, was elected Chair of the NGO Committee on Mental Health at the Committee's December meeting. This very active committee is an important force working to strengthen inclusion of mental health in UN health initiatives.

The activities of the UN team have been expanded through the internship of MSW student, Kelly Shannon, who spends 20 hours or more each week with IASSW-UN activities. She participated in NGO committees and is working with IFSW students in plans for Social Work Day at the UN. In early January, Kelly also spent several weeks in Rwanda as part of a Young Leaders' Human Rights Delegation.

Links she made there with UNICEF staff may facilitate IASSW efforts. Kelly is a 2nd year MSW student at the University of Connecticut. The IASSW team sponsored a successful side event at the February meeting of the UN Social Development Commission. Organized and Chaired by Dr. M.C. "Terry" Hokenstad, the session was on Disasters: Roles for Social Work. Speakers were Dr. Golum Mathbor, Laura Hokenstad, Dr. Catherine Papell, and Afifa Yusufi. Another IASSW workshop has been approved for the UN Women's Commission meeting in late February. The theme for this session will be: "What Difference Does it Make When Women Decide?" Panelists will include Dr. Wetzel, Dr. Evelina Pangalangan, IASSW UN representative, Dr. Lynne Healy, IASSW Secretary, and Dr. Georgine Gorra of Adelphi University. Social Work Day at the United Nations, co-sponsored by IASSW and IFSW, will be held Monday, April 3, from 1-4pm. This year's theme is Human Rights: Addressing Poverty, Violence and Disaster. For more information, see: <http://bluehawk.monmouth.edu/swork/UN>

34th World Congress of Schools of Social Work



The Association of South African Social Work Educators' Institutions (ASASWEI) invites you to join us in celebrating the 80th anniversary of the International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW). ASASWEI is hosting the 34th World Congress of Schools of Social Work at the International Convention Centre, Durban, South Africa from 19 – 23 July 2008 when IASSW turns 80.

South Africa promises to be an exciting congress venue - a social laboratory with untold opportunities for education, reflection, research, networking and broadening one's horizons. Experience the pulsating life of freedom made possible by our global example of transition from apartheid to a peaceful democracy. Home to our World Icon, Nelson Mandela, prisoner turned President, who is the very embodiment of all that social work stands for on a global level - peace, reconciliation, non-

racism, human rights and social justice.

South Africa offers sites to woo the senses - fabulous fast cities, exotic wildlife, blue-green seas with the most glorious white waves breaking and a cosmopolitan world of cultural and ethnic diversities with vibrant colour, dress, rhythm and cuisine for all tastes. Yet, it is a land of paradoxes - in the unenviable position of having about the highest rate of inequality in the world with high rates of poverty, unemployment and HIV/AIDS. The hope and despair born out of such paradoxes provide fertile ground for innovation in social work education, research and practice. We ask you to join us in celebrating our hope and our achievements and to engage with us in addressing the enormous challenges both in South Africa and across the globe.

For expression of interest contact: Vishanthie Sewpaul, School of Social Work and Community Development, University of KwaZulu Natal, Durban. E-mail: Sewpaul@ukzn.ac.za

Reporting of the President



1. Organization of the President's Office

A new person has been appointed as an assistant to the President Office. Ms Adamnesh Atnafu.

Consequently all the delay in communication that has occurred between the President Office, member schools, Individual members and board members has now come to an end.

One of the new activities that are managed by the Office is sending electronic messages to all member schools. Adamnesh has complied and searched through different means the electronic address of our member schools. The communication with the members as a result has been strengthened.

2. Participation

Since August I have been able to participate in three conferences in Asia Pacific Regions which are:

1. China

The Chinese Association of Schools of Social Work invited me to open the national conference. I took this opportunity to congratulate the CASSW

and the President of CASSW on the tremendous dedication to the IASSW. I am glad to report that more than 50 schools have joined the IASSW after this conference. I would like to thank Iris Chi who has been a key actor in linking IASSW to the CASSW.

2. Korea

The Korean Association of Social Workers, the Korean Association of Schools of Social Work, the Asia Pacific Association of Social Work and IFSW organized a very successful conference, where close to 1000 delegates attended. I would like to take this opportunity to thank specially Professor In Young and both the president of the KASW and KASSW to have facilitated the IA's presence at this conference.

3. Japan

Invited by the Japanese Association of School of Social Work I was able to represent IA at the national conference of JASSW. I also gave papers both in the Japan women's University and the University of Akita. The role of Prof. Tatsuru Akimoto in bringing together IA and the JASSW is remarkable. I would like to say how much I appreciate his dedication to IA and the active role he has played in less than one year of his participation in the board to settle all pending issues among the two organizations. I would like to take the opportunity to thank warmly the President of the JASSW for his dedication to IA and to have facilitated in resolving different issues between JASSW and IASSW.

3. Meetings

1. Chile with the organizer of the congress 2006

During this meeting most of the difficulties that have arisen in the preparation of the congress have been discussed with the organization team. I would like to thank Malvina Ponce de Leon and her husband Peter for their great cooperation and also Margarita and all colleagues for their immense work in organizing this conference. I would like to take this opportunity to invite all members to mobilize the maximum schools in their respective countries to join in the congress.

2. Adelaide, Annual Joint Committee

The annual joint committee IFSW and ICSW have been held in Australia for two days. This was one of the most successful joint meetings due to a very intense and open discussion held with the three organizations.

I am happy to report that the relation between IA, IF and IC is of high quality. I would like to forward a special thanks to Imelda Dodds the president IFSW who hosted this trilateral meeting. Finally, I would like to conclude by forwarding a special thanks to Shimon Spiro who has been of great help in realizing most of IA's activities. He has gone extra miles in organizing and giving leadership to many of our achievements. Thanks also to Lynne Healy for her dedication for IA's activities during the first year of her mandate.

Abye Tasse
President of IASSW

Board Meets in England in January



Members of the board at the meeting in England, January 2006

The Board of Directors held its January meeting at the University of Hertfordshire in Hatfield, England, and were hosted by Dr. Brian Littlechild. The well-attended

meeting had 24 participants from 17 countries. The organization's new Administrative Assistant/Assistant to the President, Ms Adamnesh Atnafu, was introduced to board members and worked tirelessly throughout the meeting to assist the board.

Considerable attention is being given to strategic planning for the association, a process initiated by President Abye Tasse to give direction to our activities over the next 5 years. At the January meeting, the Board reaffirmed the organization's mission statement (adopted in 2000) and worked to draft goals and objectives for each of 4 key areas of the mission: promoting excellence in social work education, research and scholarship worldwide; creating and maintaining a community of social work educators; facilitating participation in exchanges of all types; and representing social work education internationally. Input from members was received from the survey sent with the last newsletter and posted on the IASSW website. A draft plan will be presented for review and comment at the Chile Congress. The board will then work on structural issues to ensure that the association is as responsive as possible. The plan is still in its formative stages. Although the original deadline has passed, members are encouraged to complete and send the strategic planning questionnaire (posted on the website) to Secretary Lynne Healy.

Much good news was shared by board committees and officers. President Tasse reported that he participated in productive discussions with the International Federation of Social Workers (IFSW) and the International Council of Social Welfare (ICSW) in January and that the three organizations are planning for a joint congress in 2010. IFSW and IASSW will soon be publishing the Global Standards for Social Work Education and Training and the new document on Ethical Principles.

The membership report was particularly positive. IASSW membership has grown considerably over the past year and there are member schools in more than 60 countries in all parts of the world. It was exciting to welcome more than 50 new school members from China, reflecting the rapid growth

of social work education in that country and their interest in the world organization. The significant increase was certainly spurred by the efforts of board members and recent travel of the President to China, Japan and France. The membership brochure and forms have been updated and are available for download on the association website.

Darja Zavirsek of Slovenia presented a preliminary plan to develop a sub-regional network of schools of social work in South East Europe. The board endorsed the idea and will work with Darja to make the effort a success. We also heard from Asian Regional Vice-President Romeo Quieta about work being done with newly forming programs in Myanmar and other ASEAN countries. African Vice President Lengwe Katembula Mwansa was congratulated for his work to revitalize the African region.

The publications program continues to grow. Three books are either out or well underway in the IASSW series with Venture Press. Publications Chair Brian Littlechild noted that his goal is for the IASSW/Venture Press effort to become a focal point for writing on international social work and social work education. Book proposals are welcome. The journal, *International Social Work*, sponsored jointly by IASSW, IFSW and ICSW, has been expanded to 6 issues per year. Several themed issues are planned for the future.

The Board also assisted Malvina Ponce de Leon of Chile, President of the upcoming IASSW Congress, with final plans for the August conference in Santiago. Members should note that the Early Bird Registration Fee will be extended through the end of April. This exciting world congress will offer attendees the opportunity to network with colleagues from all around the world, while learning from plenaries, papers and field visits and enjoying South American hospitality. Vishantie Sewpaul presented her report on plans already underway for the 2008 IASSW Congress to be held in Durban, South Africa. This Congress, with the theme "Transcending Global and Local Divides: Challenges for Social Work Education and Practice," will mark the 80th anniversary of the IASSW.

The board meeting concluded with a half-day seminar for social work educators from throughout the U.K. The seminar was chaired by Karen Lyons. Speakers were Helle Strauss (Denmark); Letnie Rock (Barbados); Vishantie Sewpaul (South Africa); and Brian Littlechild (England). Holding the board meetings in different parts of the world allows this opportunity to interact with local educators and share important global developments.

Lynne Healy with Adamnesh Atnafu

First international scholar appointed by the Katherine Kendall Institute



Dr Lengwe-Katembula Mwansa

Dr Lengwe-Katembula Mwansa, Director of Education SSW in Botswana is the first international scholar appointed by the Katherine Kendall Institute, Council on Social Work Education.

Dr Mwansa, who is the first president of the African Scholars of Social Work will focus his work in the U.S. on developing the African Association. By opening the workings of CSWE, including the educational policy commission and then global commission Dr Mwansa will offer means by which the African Association might develop.

In addition Lengwe will be a University Scholar at the University of Kentucky where he is keynote speaker for the University of Kentucky College of Social Work's weekly event. Social Work in the Global Community: Peace, Justice and Reconciliation. He will appear at the City Lexington's Human Rights College of Social Work annual reconciliation breakfast. Dr Lengwe will also be a visiting scholar at the University of Connecticut, Cape Western Research University and Howard University. An extended period in Alexandria, VA, Lengwe will make his temporary USA home at Howard University

Kay Hoffman

Newsletter Editor:

My thanks to the board for inviting me to be the Newsletter Editor for a further four years. My thanks also to Henry Parada for agreeing to work with me, this will allow to develop the Newsletter. Please note my new e-mail address ralphfirth@aol.com also Henry's e-mail address hparada@ryerson.ca

Ralph Firth
Editor