

**International Association of Schools of Social Work
(IASSW)**

Annual Report 2015

IASSW

2015

Foreword

I am delighted to present this compiled update of the activities and progress of our association done from January to December 2015.

The Annual Report provides an opportunity to reflect on the significance of our accomplishments over the past one year, as well as get a glimpse of where we are headed in the coming months. This report gives an insight into the range of activities undertaken by our members in different parts of the world.

A few of our Board members who had served IASSW with great commitment, giving of their time and making significant intellectual contributions by providing leadership in several committees, namely, Sue Lawrence, Vishanthie Sewpaul, Antoinette Lombard and Wassie Kebede completed their terms on the board. While Sue Lawrence volunteered to be an evaluator of the China Collaborative project, Vishanthie and Antoinette were co-opted and continue their roles as Chairpersons of the Review of Ethical Statement Task Force and the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development International Steering Committee respectively. Wassie was entrusted to complete his task of finalising the nomination for the Katherine Kendall Award to be presented at 2016 World Conference on Social Work, Education and Social Development. We thank them for their continued involvement.

Our first faculty capacity building programmes in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh in Vietnam in collaboration with the Vietnam Associations of Social Work were organised with external funding through the IASSW Foundation. We achieved this thanks to the efforts of Angie Yuen and her team in Hongkong as well as our coordinator Janet Williams. The funders were enthused to continue supporting this initiative.

The bi-monthly meetings over Skype among the office-bearers continued and helped tremendously to follow up on actions to be taken and issues that needed urgent consideration.

Communicating over Skype has been most useful. I was able to hold productive meetings with colleagues from other international organizations on the basis of requests for some form of international collaboration like the UNICEF's Geneva based Child Protection Coordinator who is keen for collaboration to strengthen social work education in Central Asia.

The new website was launched in November, 2015. Both the website provider Preshit and the website mistress Rashmi worked closely together to get it ready for the January board meeting. IASSW members had started accessing the new payment gateway and any faults were being dealt with pronto. The new chairperson Surinder Guru of the website committee reported and invited comments and suggestions from the board members.

A new team of IASSW members had started working along with IFSW representatives to organise the Social Work Day at the United Nations HQ in New York in March 2016. I thank Carol Cohen, Associate Professor, Adelphi University, Martha Grabin, Silberman School of Social Work at Hunter College City University of New York, and Shirley Gatenio-Gabel, Associate Professor, Fordham University, for agreeing to volunteer to plan and organise the event. They were in continuous communication with Lynne and me regarding the same.

The board thanks Darla our board member for proposing their names.

I am highly appreciative of the enthusiasm of our board for initiating IASSW strategic review after 2008 and look forward to discussions in the forthcoming board meetings.

I invite our members to share pride in the achievements of their association and comment freely on the report.

Prof. Vimla V. Nadkarni, Ph.D.

President, International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW)
Tata Institute of Social Sciences, Mumbai, India

Introduction to IASSW

The International Association of Schools of Social Work (IASSW) is the worldwide association of schools of social work, other tertiary level social work educational programmes, and social work educators. The IASSW promotes the development of social work education throughout the world, develops standards to enhance quality of social work education, encourages international exchange, provides forums for sharing social work research and scholarship, and promotes human rights and social development through policy and advocacy activities.

IASSW holds consultative status with the United Nations and participates as an NGO in UN activities in Geneva, Vienna and New York. Through its work at the UN and with other international organizations, IASSW represents social work education at the international level.

IASSW was founded in 1928 at the First International Conference of Social Work, held in Paris. It started with 51 schools, mostly in Europe, and was known as the International Committee. Revitalized after World War II, the organization expanded its membership to include a wider range of countries and was renamed the International Association of Schools of Social Work.

The association has member schools in all parts of the world. Five regional organizations based in Africa, Asia and the Pacific, Europe, Latin America and North America and the Caribbean are affiliate members and their Presidents are the Vice-Presidents on the IASSW Board of Directors.

IASSW is governed by the Board of Directors under a constitution approved by the biennial General Assembly. The mission of the association emphasizes the promotion of worldwide excellence in social work education and engagement of a community of social work educators in international exchange of information and expertise.

IASSW carries out its purposes through:

1. A biennial world conference of social work educators.
2. Publication of an online Social Dialogue magazine.
3. Representation at the United Nations.
4. Co-sponsorship, with IFSW and ICSW of the journal International Social Work published by SAGE.
5. Funding of small cross-national projects in social work education.
6. Important policy documents include the Definition of Social Work, Global Standards for Social Work and Social Development and Ethics in Social Work Statement of Principles (all developed along with the International Federation of Social Workers) and the Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development.
7. Capacity building and other activities of Committees and Tasks Forces of the association.
8. Setting up IASSW Regional Resource Centres in collaboration with social work colleges/departments.

Activities and Achievements in 2015

IASSW Board meetings

Fifth Executive Committee and Board Meeting-Vancouver Board Meeting- January 20-21, 2015



Picture 1: IASSW Board of Directors in full board meeting at Vancouver

The fifth Executive Committee and Board meetings were held at The University of British Columbia in Vancouver in January 23-24, 2015. The Board meeting was attended by 20 board members and two joined through Skype. IASSW committee list was revised and circulated for expression of interest to each board member

Additional meetings organised were: International Steering Committee meeting on the World Conference, Global Agenda meeting with partner organizations, and the Tripartite meeting. Each meeting raised health debates around issues and many important decisions were taken for action and to be further discussed, if required during the Medellin meeting.

Sixth Executive Committee and Board Meeting- Medellin Board Meeting- July, 2015

The Sixth Executive Committee and Board meetings were held at The Universidad de Antioquia, Medellin, Colombia in July 29-31, 2015. This meeting was unusual as the first brainstorming session on IASSW was conducted in a one day workshop with the board of directors. It was attended by seventeen board members while two board members (Angie and Lena) joined via Skype. President and all board members thanked vice dean and board member Prof. Hernando Muñoz Sanchez for organizing the board meeting at his campus as well as Rector Dr. Mauricia Alviaz, Dean Prof. Gloria Pelavez and Department Director Dr. John Mario Munoz for their hospitality.



Picture 2: IASSW Board of Directors in full board meeting at Medellin

Seminars organized in collaboration with Universities hosting IASSW Board meetings

Advancing the social work profession across borders: Promoting international collaboration in education, research, knowledge exchange and credential recognition (January 25, 2015)

The daylong conference was attended by board members, colleagues from The University of British Columbia and Canadian Association for Social Work Education.



Picture 3: Mini conference attended by IASSW Board of Directors, faculty & Colleagues from CASWE and UBC

Several board members alongwith members of CASWE made excellent presentations on various aspects of regulation and enhancing quality of social work education.

IASSW thanks the Director of the School of Social Work who provided meeting space for the several meetings and the Longhouse at the University, a most beautiful setting for the board meeting. Thanks were also due to Prof. Dixon and Prof. Janet Williams for coordinating the meeting along with CASWE.

Mini conference on Social Movements (August 1, 2015)

The Board meeting in Medellin in July 2015, followed by a day conference, was to provide an opportunity to promote IASSW and to listen to members in the region. The topics of Social Work and Social Movements and Social Work in the Context of Conflict were chosen to showcase this region's skills and initiatives.

The conference was attended by board members, colleagues and students from The Universidad de Antioquia for Social Work Education. Several board members along with faculty of Facultad de Ciencias Sociales y Humanas de la Universidad de Antioquia made presentations.



Picture 4: Mini conference attended by IASSW Board of Directors, faculty, student and staff of Universidad de Antioquia

Re-organising the IASSW Committee

The clustering of committees under broader themes and issues was an innovation that was implemented in 2015. This ensured that each thematic cluster was headed by a voting board member to ensure synergy across and follow up of the various activities. The committees were thus grouped as follows:

Theme: `Education` included activities pertaining to Capacity building, Regional Resource Centres, International Projects and Social Work Research.

Capacity building

Capacity building is a sub-committee of the Education Committee. This committee had several activities in year 2015. Few are listed below.

International Social Work Capacity Building Workshop: Building Capacity for Professional Leadership in Vietnamese Social Work

Vietnam Association of Social Workers (VASW), Vietnam Association of Schools of Social Work (VASSW) and International Association of School of Social Work (IASSW) organized two four-day social work training workshops for social work educators and practitioners in Hanoi and Ho Chi Minh City respectively. The workshops were coordinated by Janet Williams and Angie Yuen along with Prof. Thuan Nguyen Thi, President of Nguyen Trai University, and Madam Hang. The programme was sponsored by funding organisations based in Hongkong.

On the basis of the suggestions from the Vietnam faculty, the sessions covered core topics on curriculum development, evidence based research, field education which were attended by all the faculty participants. Thereafter, based on their choice, they participated in full day workshops on social work with families and women experiencing violence and abuse, children with learning or physical disabilities, delinquency, violence and gangs, and social work in schools.



Picture 5: (From R) President, Angie Yuen, Immediate Past President and Janet Williams, Chairperson, Capacity Building committee of IASSW in workshop at Hanoi



Picture 6: Banner of workshop at Hanoi

The trainers were from various parts of the world especially South Asia and included board members. Along with Prof. Thuan and Angie Yuen who was the chair of the programme, President IASSW gave the welcome at the first workshop held in Hanoi during November 4-6, 2015. She also took a session on "Evidence-Based Research". VASW is an association formed to promote the professionalization of social work and social work education in Vietnam and is supported by the local government and IASSW.

Regional Resource Centres

The first IASSW Regional Resource Centre namely "Peking University - The Hong Kong Polytechnic University China Social Work Research Centre" was launched in March 2015 at a conference in Beijing. The RRC was selected on the basis of principles and guidelines in the policy document for RRCs. A 'procedure document for applicants and assessors' is posted on the website.

Programme Consultations

The President formally accepted an application from the University of Al Ain, in the UAE, for a Programme Consultation (MSW) planned for the autumn or winter of 2015/16. This would be their second Consultation. In order to facilitate consultation applications, a procedure document with timelines was developed and the self-appraisal framework based on the last Consultation in Sri Lanka finalised.

International projects

IASSW provides grants of up to US \$4000 for international projects, which contribute to the implementation of the IASSW Mission Statement, and to the enhancement of cooperation among schools of social work world-wide. The IASSW Board of Directors approved four projects for 2015, of which two were completed as given below.

1. Developing and Disseminating a new Masters Social Work Program on Women and Families in China. Coordinator Tuula Heinonen, Faculty of Social Work, University of Manitoba, Canada. April 2013-April 2015. Canada, China, Finland.
2. Where Knowledge, Social Work and Social Policy Meet: A Cross-National Perspective on the Involvement of Social Work Academics in Social Policy. Coordinator John Gal, Paul Baerwald School of Social Work and Social Welfare, Hebrew University of Jerusalem. Jan 2014-June 2015. Israel, Portugal, U.K, Puerto Rico.

Social Work Research

The committee added new members, and worked on a special issue on Social Work Research for the Social Dialogue online magazine. The committee also planned a mapping of member schools with focus on research education as well as a social work research seminar at the world conference in Seoul in 2016.

Theme: Advocacy and Policy

Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development

IASSW along with the partner international organizations namely ICSW and IFSW continued promoting the second theme “Promoting worth and dignity of peoples” of the Global Agenda for the period 2014-2016, globally, through various innovative activities.

The slogan/ statement for the campaign to promote the worth and dignity of peoples was as follows: “Human dignity is core to sustainable development and well-being”.

The rationale behind the slogan was that sustainable development (including equal sustainable communities) cannot be achieved unless the worth and dignity of people are realized. To provide a framework to report on promoting peoples’ worth and dignity, relevant concepts were developed, and used by all three organizations.

A Special Issue of International Social Work journal on the theme of “Promoting worth and dignity of peoples” would be prepared by a team of social work educators from IASSW and IFSW and launched at the Seoul Joint World Conference in 2016, along with a consolidated report of the implementation of the Global Agenda.

Human Rights

IASSW’s human rights committee has so far focused primarily on social work education. Although, the previous mission of the committee also included a campaigning dimension, this did not receive similar attention. A couple of issues that were considered by the committee as potential campaigning themes included the “Social Protection Floor” and “Guiding Principles on Extreme Poverty and Human Rights”.

The committee reformulated its objectives as follows:

- A. Encourage, promote and facilitate opportunities for Human Rights and Social Justice informed curricula.
- B. Monitor and record human rights violations affecting social work educators, practitioners and students.
- C. Identify and co-ordinate broader campaigns, petitions, coalitions promoting social justice, in line with the strategic priorities of our Association and the recommendation of our membership.

Sustainability, Climate Change, Disaster Intervention

The chairperson of the committee Prof. Lena Dominelli represented IASSW at the UNISDR World Third Disaster Summit in Sendai, Japan in March 2015, with financial support from Doshisha University in Japan where she gave a talk on Green Social Work. She was part of a panel organized by the University which was supporting the Japan Disability Movement to highlight the much worse outcomes for disabled people caught in disasters (research based on the 2011 Great East Japan Earthquake) and asked UNISDR to acknowledge the differentiated needs of disabled people in its final statement. This was successful in that disabled people were mentioned twice in the final communique.

Since 25 April, 2015, a great deal of work went into supporting the staff and students of the Nepal School of Social Work (NSSW) who were working in Sindhupalchowk, Kathmandu and Dhading to provide services to 12,000 victim-survivors of the two earthquakes that have devastated Nepal. IASSW members mobilised funds, provided training materials, and other forms of support to NSSW, through Dr Balaraju Nikku, board member, and Pradipta Kadamari, CEO of NSSW.

Dr. Nikku has been leading the IASSW international project related to the 2013 flooding in the Uttarkhand area, which is nearing its completion. A faculty workshop and a publication are the outcomes.

After the initiative by President IASSW and Sue Lawrence, Lena Dominelli continued discussions in a productive meeting with Margareta Wahlstrom, UNISDR, on 26 June in Geneva. She impressed on Ms. Wahlstrom the importance of including social workers in their activities as social workers, like health workers, were called upon to help victim-survivors of all manner of disasters from (hu)man-made to natural ones. Additionally, the Disaster Network headed by Dr Julie Drolet from the University of Calgary, Canada, has included IASSW as a sponsor in the research network entitled, Rebuilding People's Lives After Disasters, presented papers at the Gender and Disasters Conference in Vienna in July 2015.

IASSW presented on the initiative of the chairperson Prof. Lena Dominelli, a Side Event and Exhibition at UNFCCC COP20 meeting in Paris, France from 30 November-12 December 2015. Marcel Jaeger at the Paris Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers (CNAM) and Manuel Boucher at the School of Social Work in the Institute of Social Development in Rouen collaborated with IASSW to organise the side-event in Paris CNAM, titled: Advocating for Environmental Justice: Social Work Addressing the Challenges of Climate Change – Research, Theories and Practice.

World Social Work Day and Week (WSWD), March 2015

The World Social Work Day and Week in March was celebrated by regional and sub-regional associations as well as schools of social work across the world. Several IASSW members shared their celebration reports and pictures, which were posted on the IASSW website.

President's video message was shared with members of IASSW and posted on the website and Facebook. The message was translated in Dutch and in Japanese as per demand from IASSW members. The Dutch version was used for student's online learning programme.

A significant event was the joint celebration with UNAIDS in Geneva.

IASSW at the United Nations

Several members of IASSW have developed expertise on UN based themes and issues and work closely with the NGO committee in New York and Geneva. Some of the areas of intervention by the respective committees and task forces are described below.

IASSW Representation at the United Nations, New York

IASSW has consultative status with ECOSOC and DPI (Department of Public Information) at the United Nations. IASSW are permitted to register 5 representatives, including the President and a badge for a "Chief Administrative Officer." In addition, temporary passes (renewable) were available for interns and others for short term assignments. IASSW members (faculty volunteers) serve on NGO Committees at the UN on behalf of IASSW and participate in sessions of UN Commissions. Prof. Lynne Healy, School of Social Work, University of Connecticut, is the Main Representative at the UN in New York on behalf of IASSW.

Migration

IASSW interns, Louise Harmon and Grace Felten, University of Connecticut represented IASSW on the NGO Committee on Migration and were very active members of the Committee's two task forces. Louise co-chaired a task force on Migrants at Sea and researched and drafted the group's policy statement on the topic. Dr. Rebecca Thomas has been introduced to the Committee and will represent IASSW in 2015-2016.

Working Group on Girls

This active committee addresses many topics of interest to social work, including child marriage, female genital mutilation, trafficking, and equal access to education.

Ageing

Terry Hokenstad continues to represent IASSW on the NGO Committee on Ageing and travels to New York each year to attend the International Day of Older Persons events. He is currently working on using electronic technologies for distance communication.

Social Development

Lynne Healy is IASSW official representative on the NGO Committee for Social Development. She is also a member of the Committee's grassroots task force, a body that conducts research to bring on-the-ground experiences and opinions into UN deliberations. A study is currently underway to identify examples of grassroots economic projects. The survey has been distributed to all IASSW members.

Post-2015 Agenda Process

In September 2015, the UN General Assembly adopted the Post-2015 Agenda to identify priorities and targets for global and national attention for 2015-2030. Lynne Healy has been following the process over the past 18 months, both by attending sessions and keeping up with on-line materials. IASSW was part of an advocacy petition to urge reinstatement of a Goal on inequality—a successful process.

Commission on the Status of Women

In September 2015, Shirley Gatenio-Gabel joined this group on behalf of IASSW. Several team members participated in the annual session of the UN Commission on the Status of Women in March 2015.

Family

Dr. Rebecca Davis has officially joined the NGO Committee on the Family for IASSW and will be representing the team in 2015-2016. She is also involved with UNICEF.

CSWE APM

The IASSW-UN team presented a session titled "Representing Social Work Education at the United Nations" at the October 2015 Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education in the United States.

WSWD at UNAIDS, Geneva

The World Social Work Day was successfully celebrated on March 17, 2015 in Geneva at the Kofi Annan Memorial Hall, UNAIDS. This was the first joint collaborative event after the signing of the MoU between IASSW and UNAIDS. IFSW was also a partner in this event. The President of the International Council on Social Welfare (ICSW) participated in the event. World Social Work Day 2015 was about the role of social work in working with people to prevent and mitigate the impact of AIDS and how the social work profession can contribute to ending AIDS by 2030. There were 120 participants from Geneva schools of social work, IFSW, EASSW and ENSACT. The entire day's programme was relayed on livestream. The seminar ended with a "Common statement on Joint Action between UNAIDS and Social Work Organizations Ending Aids, Promoting Dignity and Respect for All". President would like to put on record her thanks to Mariangela Simoa, Director for Rights, Gender, Community Mobilization and Prevention, UNAIDS; David Chipanta, UNAIDS, Klaus Kuhne, UN Representative on behalf of IFSW and Sue Lawrence, the team that worked together to plan and organise the collaborative event.



UNAIDS/WHO and the Global Health Workforce Alliance Meeting on "Catalysing Global Action to Eliminate Stigma and Discrimination in Health Care - 10th and 11th November 2015

President IASSW represented the association at the Meeting on "Zero HIV related stigma and discrimination in health care settings" at Geneva which was organised by WHO, UNAIDS and the Global Health Workforce Alliance. The meeting was attended by representatives of WHO, UNAIDS, ILO and other international health organisations. President also chaired a working group session titled: "Scaling up what works: actions to fast-forward to ending discrimination in health care". At the end of the meeting, a joint statement has been issued of concerted action to end discrimination in health settings summarised as follows: "Meeting participants committed to increase individual and collective efforts around a shared vision: Everyone everywhere needs access to health services without discrimination. The achievement of this collective vision demands that all stakeholders already working to advance this agenda come together for a Platform to Stop Discrimination in Health, grounded on the health-related SDGs, and the results of the UNAIDS Strategy and upcoming Global Strategy on Human Resources for Health: Workforce 2030. The Platform will prioritize three critical areas of information sharing and collective action: Accountability, Political Impact and Implementation".



Picture 7: President IASSW with Participants at UNAIDS/WHO Meeting



Picture 8: President at Plenary session at UNAIDS/WHO Meeting in Geneva

Presentations at International Fora

Professional Social Work in South-East Asia: Education & Qualifications” on July 21-22, 2015 Cambodia

President IASSW presented the keynote address at the inauguration of the international conference, co-organised by the Department of Social Work at the Royal University of Phnom Penh and the Association of Professional Social Workers of Cambodia.

The conference sought to build the capacity of social work educators in Southeast Asia through its objectives: to learn about educational innovations for preparing professional social workers in SE Asia, explore ways to address challenges to building the capacity of social work education in SE Asia, and build networks and partnerships across social work programs. There were over 150 presenters and participants from across the globe. Prof. Tatsuru Akimoto, Director & Professor, Asian Center for Social Welfare Research, Shukutoku University and an Immediate Past President, Asian and Pacific Association for Social Work Education (APASWE) presented the closing keynote speech.



Picture 9 : (from Left) Mr. Bora Chun, President, Association of Professional Social Workers of Cambodia; Prof. Vimla Nadkarni, President, IASSW; Dr. Kimkanika Ung, Head, Department of Social Work and Dr. Tracy W. Harachi, Associate Professor, UW/RUPP Social Work P

19th International Symposium of the International Consortium for Social Development on Transforming Society: Trends and Models in Community Leadership and Social Development (July 7-10, 2015))

President IASSW was invited by the Sim University in Singapore as a plenary speaker at The 19th International Symposium of the International Consortium for Social Development on Transforming Society: Trends and Models in Community Leadership and Social Development (July 7-10, 2015). She presented a paper on “Social Work Education for Social Transformation” in which she has used

illustrations of social work alumni and social work departments that are harbingers of social change and are working for socially transformative policies and programmes.



Picture 10: Resource persons and participants in Roundtable discussion

She also attended a Roundtable Session where representatives of the international organisations of social work and social development provided updates on their respective activities. In her presentation, she described the vision and mission of IASSW, the structure, nature of membership, membership benefits, and the activities. The other presenters were David Jones, IFSW Coordinator, Global Agenda for Social Work and Social Development, Mariko Kimura, President-Asia Pacific, APASWE, Barbara Shank, President, ICSD and TAN Ngoh Either we Tiong, Chair, Global Institute of Social Work (GISW). The papers are being published by Prf. Tiong and his team.

The Joint Regional Conference APASWE and IFSW Asia Pacific: Growth and Crisis: Social Work and Policy Discourses, (21st -24th October, 2015), Bangkok, Thailand

President IASSW was invited as a speaker at the Plenary Session II: A Panel Discussion on "Social Work and Policy in Response to Global Crisis". The other panel speakers were President IFSW Ruth Stark and Immediate Past President of APASWE and former board member of IASSW, Prof. Tatsuru Akimoto.



Picture 11: President, IASSW along with Resource Persons, Hosts and Sponsors of the conference

President IASSW made a presentation on "Re-Imagining Social Work Education in the Era of Global Crises". She outlined the various global crises that are providing both challenges and opportunities for social work teaching, practice, research and advocacy. She stressed the necessity for social work education to re-imagine and re-animate the global mission with a sense of urgency and moral imperative. She concluded that: "The crucial issue is how to train students with a social transformative perspective so that they work on both economic and social fronts and are enabled to empower the poor and marginalized populations to demand their human rights and participate equally in social change efforts to reduce and conquer the impacts of the global crisis".

2ND INTERNATIONAL SOCIAL WORK CONFERENCE 2015: CELEBRATING DIVERSITY IN ONE WORLD ON 2nd -3rd DECEMBER 2015, Penang, Malaysia

President IASSW delivered the Keynote Presentation on "Social Work at the Crossroads: Diversity in a Globalised Environment" at the international conference, a collaboration of the Ministry of Women, Family and Community Development, Malaysia and Universiti Sains Malaysia, (2-3 December 2015), Penang. The conference was inaugurated by the Honourable Minister of Women, Family and Community Development along with Prof. Dato' Omar Osman, Vice-Chancellor and President of the University, and other dignitaries. Professor Azlinda Azman, Head of the School of Social Work presented the concept and objectives of the conference.

In her presentation, President IASSW emphasised that respecting diversity was a core principle in social work. "Social workers are expected to respect diversity and follow the principles of multicultural and ethnic sensitive practice. However it is only when this key concept is brought to our notice do we wake up and introspect. When a teacher in Germany was interviewed about teaching the children of the Syrian refugees, she said that they don't only need to learn the language but they have to get integrated into our society to be accepted by our people. Does this mean giving up their own culture and language to get integrated into the new society which they have chosen as an alternative to being massacred in a rabid conflict situation. This is an ethical and practice dilemma for social workers both in the field and in teaching". She discussed how diversity is understood and taught as well as the dilemmas of diversity-sensitive and anti-oppressive practice within a globalised world. Other distinguished speakers included Prof. Choi Won-Gyu, Korea, Datuk Dr. Denison Jayasooria, Malaysia, Prof. Maritta Torronen, Finland, Professors Sara Crabtree and Jonathan Parker, U.K.



Picture 12: President IASSW delivering the Keynote Presentation

Theme: Member Services

Communications and Publications (Website, Social Dialogue magazine)

Book publication

The IASSW sponsored book titled "Global Social Work Education: Crossing borders and blurring boundaries". edited by Carolyn Noble, Helle Strauss and Brian Littlechild, was successfully launched at IASSW Melbourne world conference and has been very much appreciated by social work educators across the world. The copies of the book were sold at various other conferences with the support of the IA members, regional and sub-regional associations.

Social Dialogue Online magazine

Social Dialogue (SD) Magazine is published by IASSW on a quarterly basis in both online and print versions for global distribution. It has served and developed as a primary platform for IASSW members, programs, faculty and students to communicate on global social work education and developments across regions.

Since the inception of April 2011, SD has published 10 issues and has successfully established its reputation as a professional magazine network with free access for substantive discussion. The past discussion topics include the following:

- Social Work Education,
- Human Trafficking,
- Asylum Seekers,
- HIV & AIDS,
- Environment and Sustainable Development,
- Disaster Response & Management,
- Community-based Social Economy,
- Gender,
- Disability
- Social Work and Conflict

IASSW published the following three issues of Social Dialogue in 2015:
March 2015 Social Work and Conflict (Guest editor Vasilios Ioakimidis)
July 2015 Social Work without Borders (Editor Carolyn Noble)
November 2015 International Social Work (Linda Kreitzer and Janet Williams)

Language Committee

There are 5 official languages: English, French, Japanese, Spanish and simple Chinese recognised for both verbal and written communication with IASSW members.

IASSW Language Policy was circulated to all partner organizations and local organizers of the Melbourne world conference. The committee also looks after the translations which are done by translators on a professional or voluntary basis, for documents such as election materials, and definition of social work. The language committee coordinates with website committee for translation of website in IASSW official languages. The Committee is highly appreciative and most thankful to colleagues who responded positively and voluntarily helped with translations of the Global definition of Social Work on request.

Programmes/Activities of the Regional and Sub-regional Associations

Five regional associations and two sub-regional associations have been involved in a range of programmes in 2015. Some of their activities are highlighted below. Their detailed reports are available at the IASSW website : <https://www.iassw-aiets.org/page-Regions>

Association of Schools of Social Work in Africa (ASSWA)

ASSWA members supported the opening of new graduate programmes at the University of Swaziland and Institute of Social Work, and Hubert Kairuki memorial University, Dar es Salam, Tanzania. These are filling gaps in graduate study programmes particularly in countries outside of South Africa.

Vishanthie Sewpaul and Dr. Janestic Twikirize were among the keynote speakers in the first ever social work conference organised in Burundi in March 2015 as part of capacity building for social work in this post conflict society.

ASSWA supported colleagues in Liberia with a sum of US\$ 5000 in respect of the Ebola crisis. ASSWA's contribution made a modest difference in relieving the financial pressure suffered by colleagues at the United Methodist University. The association also mobilised US \$2000 for Nepal School of Social Work's rebuilding efforts. Students were sensitised to the global issues around climate change and environmental disasters, and encourage supporting the relief efforts.

Asian & Pacific Association of Social Work Education-(APASWE)

APASWE organized a Joint Conference with International Federation of Social Workers – Asia Pacific (IFSW-AP) on 21st-24th October 2015 in Bangkok, on the theme: Growth and Crises : Social Work and Policy Discourses. APASWE publishes a monthly online newsletter called "Check It Out". This contains country reports and news/messages. Through the country report, the members learn about each other's program and activities in advancing social work in general, and social work education in particular.

European Association of Schools of Social Work (EASSW)

EASSW developed a statement on the conflict in Ukraine/Russia which was posted on EASSW and IASSW websites. The EASSW bi-annual conference in Milan (July 2015) entitled "Social Work education towards 2020" attracted more than 700 delegates from 43 countries. Keynote speakers included Professor Iain Ferguson, Professor Jan Fook and Assistant Secretary-General for Disaster Risk Reduction Margareta Wahlstrom. The first EASSW Honorary Lecture was delivered by Prof. Walter Lorenz. EASSW in collaboration with IASSW and IFSW celebrated WSWD 2015 at the UN in Geneva.

East European sub-regional Association of the Schools of Social Work (EEsrASSW)

The members organised the 5th European social work research conference of the ESWRA, a new social work association established in 2014. Darja Zaviršek was the editor of the special issue of the Journal of Social Work (Socialno delo), published by

University of Ljubljana on the Disability studies in Eastern Europe and Southeast Asia. Articles were in both languages, Slovene and English. The special issue aimed to promote and connect social work scholars in the area of disability studies and social work across Eastern European region and make a comparative analysis with the development of disability studies in Asia.

Nordic Association of Schools of Social Work (NASSW)

In Norway, a new council has been established to develop collaboration between different social work colleges and universities. The Nordic higher education collaboration programme, Nordplus, is important especially for Greenland and Iceland. In Denmark, first net-based social work programme starts at VIA University College. In Finland, the network for academic social work education, SOSNET, offers national net-based courses which are open for all social work students in Finnish universities.

North American and Caribbean Association of Schools of Social Work (NACASSW)

The North American and Caribbean Association of Schools of Social Work (NACASSW) held two regional meetings at the Canadian Association of Social Work Educators (CASWE) in Ottawa, Canada in June, 2015 and the Association of Caribbean Social Work Educators (ACSWE) Conference in True Blue, Grenada in July, 2015. An additional meeting was planned and held for the Annual Program Meeting of the Council on Social Work Education in October, 2015 in Denver, Colorado. Both regional meetings supported the concept of a new constitution, the draft of which was discussed with Executive Committee members and at the APM-CSWE meeting in Denver. CSWE has been designed (in cooperation with NACASSW) as the point organization to gather examples for the second publication in implementing the Global Agenda theme (Worth and Dignity of Individuals). Leaving the USA, the Presidency next moves to the Caribbean in June 2016.

Social Networking

IASSW provides updates and networks with its members through various Social Networking sites.

IASSW is very active on Facebook (<http://www.facebook.com/IASSW.AIETS>). The membership of the Facebook site is growing with more than 1000 followers/ members using that site. This has enabled IASSW to continuously upload and share information on activities, events, pictures and links of IASSW members with sites followers. IASSW also welcomes and uploads information from its members on its Facebook page.

IASSW is also present at Twitter: @IASSW_AIETS (having around 400 followers) and at LinkedIn as 'International Association of Schools of Social Work' (group)'.

Communicating within the Association

Two Google groups were created for facilitating and enhancing communication amongst IASSW members as follows:

- Individual members
- Institutional members

1. Annex-1 ; IASSW Board of Directors

IASSW Board of Directors and Executive Committee (February, 2015)				
Sl. No	Position	Name	Details	Email ID
Executive Committee				
1	President	Vimla Nadkarni	Former Professor and Founder Dean, School of Social Work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences, India	vimla@iassw-aiets.org
2	Immediate Past President	Angelina Yuen	Vice-President, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong); and Professor, The Hong Kong Polytechnic University (Hong Kong)	angie.yuen@polyu.edu.hk
3	Secretary	Tetyana Semigina	Professor, School of Social Work, National University, 'Kyiv-Mohyla Academy' Ukraine	iassw.secretary@gmail.com
4	Treasurer	Mark Henrickson	Treasurer, IASSW and A/Prof Massey University Auckland, New Zealand	m.henrickson@massey.ac.nz
5	Vice President, President of Association of Schools of Social Work in Africa (ASSWA),	Gidraph G. Wairire	President ASSWA, Senior Lecturer Department of Sociology and Social Work University of Nairobi, NAIROBI KENYA.	wairire@uonbi.ac.ke , wairireg@gmail.com
6	Vice-President, President, Asociación Latino Americana de Escuelas de Trabajo Social	Nilsa Burgos	President, Asociación Latino Americana de Escuelas de Trabajo Social, Profesora, Universidad de Puerto Rico	nilsamb@yahoo.com
7	Vice-President, President of Asian & Pacific Association for Social Work Education	Fentiny Nugroho	Chair of Expert Board, Indonesian Association of Social Work Education (Indonesia)	fentiny2015@gmail.com

8	Vice-President, President of European Association of Schools of Social Work	Nino Zganec	President of European Association of Schools of Social Work, Associate Professor at the Department of Social Work, University of Zagreb Faculty of Law Department of Social Work Zagreb Croatia	president@eassw.org
9	Vice-President, President of North, American/Caribbean Association of Schools of Social Work	Mark Rodgers	Dean and Professor, College of Health & Human Services, Marywood University in PA (Pennsylvania), USA	mrodgers@marywood.edu
10	Member At Large	Linda Kreitzer	Associate Professor, University of Calgary, Canada	lmkreitz@ucalgary.ca
11	Member At Large	Yongxiang Xu	Professor of Social Work School, Dean of College of Social Policy and Public Administration, East China University of Sciences & Technology (China)	yongxiangxu@hotmail.com yongxiangxu@ecust.edu.cn
12	Member At Large	Bala Raju Nikku	Director, Nepal School of Social Work, Kathmandu (Nepal), Sr. Visiting Lecturer , Social Work section, Universiti Sains Malaysia	nikku21@yahoo.com , balarajunikku@yahoo.com
13	Member At Large	Hernando Muñoz Sánchez	Associated Professor, Vice Dean, Universidad de Antioquia, Colombia	hernandomunozsanchez@gmail.com
Regional, Sub regional & National Representatives				
14	Sub-Regional Representative (President of Nordic Region of Europe)	Anna Metteri	President of the Nordic Association of Schools of Social Work, Professor in International Social Work, University of Eastern Finland	anna.metteri@uta.fi
15	Sub-Regional Representative (President of East European Regional Association)	Darja Zavirsek	Chair of the Department of Social Justice and Inclusion, Faculty of Social Work, University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)	darja.zavirsek@fsd.uni-lj.si

16	Representative of European Association of Schools of Social Work	Vasilios Ioakimidis	Lecturer- Masters in Social Work, Durham University (UK)	vas.ioakimidis@dur.ac.uk
17	Regional Representative (Representative of Africa, Vice President of ASSWA)	Janestic Mwendu Twikirize	University Lecturer, Department of Social Work and Social Administration, Makerere University Uganda	jtwikirize@ss.mak.ac.ug
18	Regional Representative (Representative of Asia Pacific)	Decha Sungkawan	Dean Faculty of Social Administration Thammasat University , Thailand	skwdecha@tu.ac.th
19	National Representative (Canada)	Dixon Sookraj	Associate Professor, School of Social Work, Faculty of Health & Social Development, The University of British Columbia (Canada)	dixon.sookraj@ubc.ca
20	National Representative (Israel)	Faisal Azaiza	Professor and Head of the School of Social Work, University of Haifa (Israel)	azaiza@univ.haifa.ac.il
21	National Representative (New Zealand)	David McNabb	President of Council for Social Work Education Aotearoa New Zealand; Lecturer, Social Practice, Unitec Institute of Technology, Auckland, NZ	dmcnabb@unitec.ac.nz
22	National Representative (South Africa)	John Rautenbach	Head of Department, Senior Lecturer, Final Year & MSW Co-ordinator Department of Social Work and Social Development University of Fort Hare, East London Campus	jrautenbach@ufh.ac.za
23	National Representative (USA)	Darla Spence Coffey	President Council on Social Work Education	DCoffey@cswe.org
24	National Representative (Japan)	Mie Ohwa	Professor Department of Social Work School of Human Welfare Studies Kwansei Gakuin University	ohwami1@kwansei.ac.jp

25	National Representative (UK) & Assistant Secretary	Surinder Guru	Lecturer in Social Work, Institute of Applied Social Studies, School of Social Policy, University of Birmingham	S.GURU@bham.ac.uk
26	National Representative (Indonesia)	Dr. Soni Nulhaqim	Department of Science Faculty of Social and Political Sciences, Padjadjaran University,	soninulhaqim@yahoo.com
27	National Representative (China)	Prof. Zhang Li-Xi	China Association for Social Work Education (CASWE)	mx100@263.net
Committees				
29	Chairperson of Global Agenda Committee	Antoinette Lombard	Professor, Head of Department of Social Work & Criminology University of Pretoria, PRETORIA-	antoinette.lombard@up.ac.za
30	Chairperson of Climate Change Committee and Disaster Management	Lena Dominelli	Professor and Head of Subject, School of Applied Social Sciences, Durham University (UK)	lena.dominelli@durham.ac.uk
31	Co-chair Publications Committee	Carolyn Noble	Chief Editor Social Dialogue, Editor IASSW Newsletter, Inaugural Professor of Social Work (ACAP, Sydney), Professor Emerita, Victoria University Melbourne, (Australia)	Carolyn.Noble@vu.edu.au
32	Main UN Representative for IASSW	Lynne Healy	Main UN Representative at International Association of Schools of Social Work, Board of Trustees Distinguished Professor Emerita University of Connecticut School of Social Work West Hartford, CT	lynne.healy@gmail.com
33	Chairperson Capacity Building (Education)	Janet Williams	Faculty Health and Wellbeing - Sheffield Hallam University	janetatiassw@gmail.com

Annex. 2: List of Committees and Task Forces

Committee	Chair/Co-chair	Members
Theme: Education (Chairperson: Angelina Yuen)		
Capacity building	Chair: Janet Williams Co-chair : Darla Spence Coffey	Wassie Kebede, In Young Han, Janestic Mwende Twikirize, Linda Kreitzer
International projects	Chair: Anna Metteri Co-chair: Darja Zavirsek	Letnie Rock , Linda Kreitzer, Janestic Mwende Twikirize, David McNabb
Research	Chair: Anna Metteri Co-chair: Dixon Sookraj	Darja Zavirsek, Faisal Azaiza, Brian Littlechild, Linda De Chenu, Soni A. Nulhaqim, Surinder Guru, Synnöve Karvinen-Niinikoski
Theme: Advocacy and Policy (Chairperson – Vimla Nadkarni)		
Global Agenda	Chair: Antoinette Lombard Co-chair: Lena Dominelli	Regional observatories Prof Zulkarnain Hatta (APASWE)
Human rights	Chair: Vasilios Ioakimidis Co-chair: Hernando Muñoz Sanchez	Letnie Rock , Antoinette Lombard, Surinder Guru, Mark Henrickson
Sustainability, Climate Change, Disaster Intervention	Chair: Lena Dominelli Co-chair: Bala Raju Nikku	Letnie Rock , Mark Rodgers, Antoinette Lombard, Surinder Guru
Theme: Member Services (Chairperson - Tetyana Semigina)		
Membership Recruitment and Retention	Chair: Tetyana Semigina Co-chair: Darla Spence Coffey	Mark Rodgers, Vishanthie Sewpaul, Fentiny Nugroho, Vasilios Ioakimidis, Hernando Muñoz Sanchez, Mark Henrickson
Communications and Publications (Social Dialogue magazine and book publications)	Chair: Carolyn Noble, Co-chair: Linda K.	Angelina Yuen , Helle Strauss, Vimla Nadkarni, Janet Williams, Anna Metteri, Vasilios Ioakimidis, Brian Littlechild
Website Committee	Chair: Surinder Guru Co-chair: Dixon Sookra	Angelina Yuen, Vimla Nadkarni
Language Committee	Chair: Janestic Mwende Twikirize Co-chair: David	Anna Metteri, Angelina Yuen , Tetyana Semigina, Mie Ohwa (Mimi)

	McNabb	
Review of World Census committee	Chair: Bala Raju Nikku Co-chair: Linda Kreitzer	Brian Littlechild, Tetyana Semigina , Angelina BH, Vasilios Ioakimidis
Theme: Budget and Finance (Chairperson - Mark Henrickson)		
Budget and Finance	Chair: Mark Henrickson	Faisal Azaiza, Yongxiang Xu, Dixon Sookraj, Darla Spence Coffey
Solidarity Fund	Chair: Mark Henrickson	Dixon Sookraj, Mark Rodgers, Janet Williams
Theme: Administrative (Chairperson - Vimla Nadkarni)		
Nominating Committee	Chair: Helle Strauss	Abye Tasse, Angelina Yuen , Hernando Muñoz Sanchez, Linda De Chenu, Lynne Healy, Synnove Karvinen-Niinikoski
Tripartite Committee		Vimla Nadkarni, Tetyana, Mark Henrickson
Katherine Kendall Awards	Chair: Wassie Kebede Co-chair: Mark Rodgers	Vishanthie Sewpaul, Patricia Acevedo, Vasilios Ioakimidis
Eileen Younghusband Lecture	Chair: Tetyana Semigina Co-chair: Vishanthie Sewpaul	Mark Rodgers, Patricia Acevedo , Vasilios Ioakimidis
Definition of Social Work Monitoring Committee	Chair: Vishanthie Sewpaul	Dixon Sookraj, Bala Raju Nikku, Mark Henrickson, Vasilios Ioakimidis
International Collaboration Committee	Chair: Vimla Nadkarni	Dixon Sookraj, Angelina Yuen, Mark Henrickson, Hernando Muñoz Sanchez, Vasilios Ioakimidis
Task force on Archive of IASSW	Chair: Lynne Healy Co-chair: Vasilios Ioakimidis	Abye Tasse, Angelina Yuen
Task force on World Social Work Day	Chair: Vishanthie Sewpaul Co-chair: Linda de Chenu	Wassie Kebede , Vasilios Ioakimidis
IASSW-UN International Committee (UNAIDS MOU)	Chair: Lena Dominelli Co-chair: Sungkawan Decha United Nations, New York; Main representative- Lynne Healy	Surinder Guru, Bala Raju Nikku, Antoinette Lombard, Mark Henrickson, Vasilios Ioakimidis, Lynne, Tetyana Semigina, Vimla Nadkarni
Task group on financial management	Mark Henrickson	Darla Spence Coffey, Dixon Sookraj, Vasilios Ioakimidis

Task force on Strategic Planning	Mark Rodgers	Surinder Guru, Hernando Muñoz Sanchez, Janestic Mwende Twikirize, Tatsuru Akimoto, Sungkawan Decha
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