

## **Alumnewsletter** **December 2003**

**Message from Richard Longhurst,  
Chair, IDS Alumni Association:**

Dear Alumna/Alumnus

This Newsletter again shows the wide variety of activities and achievements of IDS Alumni and it comes with every good wish for success in all you do.

The Committee has made some progress in generating help and information for students in finding jobs and internships and we will be putting the materials generated on the website for your comments. Hopefully you will find them of value and use to yourselves. Our performance indicator for this activity is 'something is better than nothing', in other words we hope to do some collective work that saves search time for others by a few days at least.

We have reduced the meetings of the Committee to two a year, just before the Governing Body meetings in June and December. In common with many others we are trying to do as much as possible of our work on an electronic basis. This means that we have only met once since the last Newsletter - just a few days ago before the Governing Body meeting which was attended for the first time by the IDS Director-elect, Lawrence Haddad, and our new representative, **Joaquim (Kim) Tres (MP 14)**. The Committee has started to plan the next Reunion, which is to be held in summer 2005 (dates to be advised). Arrangements have to be made well in advance, so if you have any ideas or suggestions about the format for the Reunion, please let Diane know.

We have made less progress with the development of the website; we realise that the lack of a lively and useful website does not help the continued development of the Association. Although the reasons for this lack of progress cannot be laid entirely with the Committee we will be giving this our top priority in the New Year, and I will write separately when there is something good to view. I will also be contacting you again before the next Newsletter about progress on the Alumni issue of the *IDS Bulletin*, which is to be devoted to governance, as well as to ask your help

in tracking down the email addresses of 'lost' Alumni.

It is good news that so many Alumni have been in touch and are also contacting others directly. We now have e-mail addresses for 74% of you and are always seeking to increase this. I hope you find this Newsletter interesting and informative and we all wish you a happy festive season and prosperous New Year.

**Richard Longhurst (DP 81)**

\*\*\*\*\*

Congratulations to all our students who completed in 2003 with special mention to the following who gained pass with distinction:

MPhil Development Studies: Mukhtar Ahmad Ali, Jude Fransman, Oriol Miroso-Canal, Oliver Pearce, Emma Williams;

MA Gender & Development: Monica Costa, Lisa Gibson;

MA Governance & Development: Jaydeep Biswas, Robert Lloyd, Nguyen My Binh, Julian Salazar Dominguez.

\*\*\*\*\*

### **DPhil News**

#### **DP 82**

**Khalid Affan** is currently working with UNDP in Kuwait on an assignment with the Ministry of Planning, doing capacity building, etc. His family is in Canada and they are now Canadian citizens.

#### **DP 86**

**Ricardo Carciofi** is currently Senior Economic Advisor to the Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean (ECLAC). He is based in Santiago de Chile and says: 'my tasks deal with the drafting of many reports that are issued by the Commission and provide support to the activities performed by the Secretary, particularly those related to the links between ECLAC and LAC governments'.

### **MPhil News**

#### **MP 2**

**Diane Morcom** (formerly **Wilderspin**) emailed from Wellington: 'I have just been appointed Secretary of the Cabinet. I have been Deputy Secretary since 1991, and before that spent 20 years in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in a variety of roles including First Secretary at the NZ Embassy in Paris, Deputy Director of the South Pacific Division and Director of Personnel. I take up the new position at the end of September.'

#### **MP 5**

**Brigitte Granville** is just starting a new post as Professor of Business Management at the Centre for Business Management, Queen Mary, University of London.

### MP 7

**Tom Hewitt** (and **DP88**) wrote: 'After teaching development at the Open University since 1989, I have had a change of direction and have been appointed Director of the Child Rights Information Network (CRIN) hosted by Save the Children UK. CRIN works with a membership of 1400 childrens' organisations around the world and acts as a clearing for information on child rights through its website and twice weekly email listserves. I'd be pleased to be in contact with anyone who has an interest in the area. My email is [thewitt@crin.org](mailto:thewitt@crin.org).'

### MP 8

**Helen Dalton** is now working at the Commonwealth Foundation in London.

### MP 9

News from another former IDS student working in Geneva. **Catherine Mulholland** wrote to say that she is back at the World Health Organization headquarters after a brief stint away from WHO in 1999/2000 during which she experienced the pleasures of the NGO world after working with in the UN system since 1987, built a house in beautiful Annecy with French husband Lyonel Recorbet (who many will remember from IDS days living at Holland House), undertook some graduate distance learning courses in public health, and added a third child to the busy household with the birth of daughter Caroline in August 2000. The older boys Michael aged 10, and Christopher aged 8, seem to have accepted with good grace that it is little sister who rules the roost.

Catherine is still fighting to keep health and development work alive in WHO. She was right in the thick of the WHO preparations for the World Summit on Sustainable Development (WSSD) in Johannesburg in 2002, and is currently working with the Healthy Environments for Children Alliance which is WHO's major follow up to the WSSD, and a contribution to helping achieve the Millennium Development Goals. Catherine is sure that there are lots of IDS people who come through Geneva and would love to hear from anyone who is working here or passing through at [mulhollandc@who.int](mailto:mulhollandc@who.int).

**Aliki Mouriki** is still working as a researcher at the National Centre for Social Research in Athens (Institute of Social Policy) on issues such as flexibility, working time, gender and collective bargaining, and also says: 'In my private sphere, I have a 14-year old daughter, Phaedra, and I keep in touch with quite a few old colleagues from the MP9 (either I visit them, or they visit me!). Also, I continue to make my own wine from the 150 years old family vineyard in Antipaxos. Any volunteers to help with the harvest in September are welcome!'

### MP 11

**Mary Delaney** emailed us from Managua: 'A quick update on what I have been up to since my IDS days: I have been working on international

HIV/AIDS issues since 1990, beginning in Washington DC with the International Center for Research on Women and then the Global Health Council. I joined the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS (UNAIDS) in 1996 and was posted to Namibia until 2000; from there I came to Nicaragua and also served in Honduras (2001). Since 2002 I have been working on more of a free-lance basis for the UN and other international organizations, primarily helping country teams in Central America to prepare proposals for the recently established Global Fund to Fight AIDS, tuberculosis and malaria. I also work half time for the Synergy Project, a USAID-funded project focused on design, monitoring and evaluation issues for HIV/AIDS programmes at country level.

The most exciting news of all, however, is my nine-month old son, Thomas, better known in Nicaragua as Tomasito. With a Chilean father, a US mother and a Nicaraguan passport, I suppose he is a real American in the hemispheric sense. He is getting the best of my energy these days.

I have very fond memories of my days at Sussex. Recently I have been in touch with **Joanna Chataway** and **Jerker Edstrom** (both mates from MP11), I also recently encountered **Cesar Viera** (MP3?) who works for the Pan American Health Organization in Washington.'

### MP 13

**Ranjani Krishamurthy** was visiting South Africa in September with regard to her work on health sector reforms and reproductive health, and tracked down **Betty Munoz** and **Zavarei Rusomjee** (the marriage of the MP13 batch) through the telephone directory service (it works). It so happened that **Jens Burggerman** was visiting them on the same day. The four of them had a good get-together. As Jens was not expecting to see Ranjani he walked right past her.... and later patched up!!!.

Ranjani is now a freelance researcher, based in Chennai, India, working on gender, poverty and health. She is married to Mustafa and has a seven year old son called Armaan. Betty and Zaf have a son, Godrej, and two daughters - Veronica and Venessa. They have become grandparents. Zaf is running a mining industry in South Africa, while Betty is a home maker full time. Jens is settled in Germany and has married a Latin American. He manages a national park in Germany.

### MP 14

**Hiro Hatashima** wrote: 'I've been in Washington, DC for 3 years so far, working for the International Finance Corporation. In the past years, I've worked in SME development, workout and restructuring of problem investments and securitization. Starting from September 2003, I've moved to the Evaluations Group and am in charge of special studies on risk factors embedded in

recently-committed projects. I am busy in my family life as well - my daughter, Aya Hatashima, arrived on 15 April 2003. She is now almost 8 months and very excited on every front. I am looking forward to going to some field assignment someday with my family.'

#### MP 16

**Marzia Fontana** has moved back to Brighton and is working at the Economics Department of the University of Sussex since September.

#### MP 17

News received in August from **Jeremy Armon** (MP17): 'Kirsti and I are back in Brighton, ten years on. We are currently in the process of buying a house in Hove, and we're also expecting our first child in September. Kirsti is working in Research and Evaluation with the International HIV/AIDS Alliance in Queen's Road. I am commuting up to London most days where I'm working as a Governance Adviser in the Asia Directorate of DFID. We got back from four and a half years in Uganda in May, and would be missing the place badly if we had any time to think. Until we move into our new place, we are living in **Jerker Edstrom's** place at 35 North Gardens, next door to the Caxton Arms. Anyone who wants to get in touch, please do so. Email addresses are currently [jeremyarmon@hotmail.com](mailto:jeremyarmon@hotmail.com) and [kirstimitchell@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:kirstimitchell@yahoo.co.uk). Cheers - Jeremy

#### MP 21

**Robert Muggah** sent the following message at the end of August: 'It has been a grim few weeks over here in Geneva, many close friends/colleagues having been killed or injured in the recent events in Baghdad. This has spurred on, among other things, a desire to re-discover lost friends. Hence the reason for this note.

I'm still at the Graduate Institute of International Studies, a project manager with the Small Arms Survey. Though I've been working on the topic for a few years, and on DDR with the Bank, the UN, and diplomats, guns are still, sadly, a fairly common commodity in the world. Work's obviously cut out for us. I'm also a GSC fellow of the SSRC and in my second year of my doctorate at Oxford. I'm taking up a temporary visiting fellowship in Sri Lanka at the International Centre for Ethnic Studies as part of my studies - focusing on social engineering and resettlement. I continue to run into IDSers all over the place, it never ceases to amaze me how widely dispersed this gang is.'

#### MP 23

**Fatima Shabodien** emailed in July: 'Since leaving the IDS I have been working as a monitoring and evaluation programme manager on a civil society project in Indonesia. While we are based in Jakarta (visitors welcomed!) we work in partnership with local NGO's from across the

archipelago in the form of capacity building assistance, and in some instances, grants.

My work focuses primarily in assisting NGOs with the development of organizational and programme M&E systems. This is quite a challenge as this remains an emergent NGO community in which M&E is still largely considered to be "thing that donors do". I am happy to report that we have made some inroads and some of the NGOs we work with have embraced participatory M&E in creative empowering ways that enhances management accountability, but also in very real ways, contribute to the attainment of their development goals.

Needless to say, I have had loads of opportunities to actively draw on much of the skills and knowledge developed during my time at the IDS. So all those course readers and class notes are kept close at hand. And while I honestly had my misgivings at times, I can now say without a doubt, all those MPhil sweat and tears, was well worth it! I will be staying on in Indonesia until the end of 2003, and then I will likely be heading back to South Africa (or its environs).'

#### MP 24

**James Ako-Egbe** wrote: 'I have returned to Cameroon to continue work for my employers - the Presbyterian Church In Cameroon (PCC). Before coming to IDS in 2000, I worked as the Development and Medical Secretary co-ordinating and liaising with both internal and external stakeholders on all the development projects/programmes and medical services of this organisation.

On return in November, 2002 and in April, 2003, I was appointed Director of Internal Audits. The position meant creating a new and independent audit department which hitherto was attached to the Treasury Department. The department's functions are not limited only to financial audits, but also opened to making inputs for restructuring the organisation's 92 departments/institutions. It is certainly going to be a big challenge but also provides opportunities for me and also to the authorities, because it is all about change, change towards greater accountability and transparency to the organisation's many stakeholders.

I'm delighted to have been given this opportunity which will certainly contribute in enhancing the image of the organisation.'

**Alessandro Bini** and **Janie Elliott** were married on 26 July in Italy. They are now both working with the International Service in Burkina Faso.

**Leah Murphy** is working as Research Assistant for the Governance Resource Centre and the Health Systems Resource Centre within the Information Team at IDS. Her big news is that she got engaged to her partner Dave Brettell in April and will be married next July.

## MA News

### MA 7

**Kirsty Milward** has been living in Santiniketan, West Bengal, India for the last six years, with her partner, Rahul, and their three small children. She says: 'We built the house 'ourselves' and have an organic smallholding, a lot of chickens, several goats and a cow. We run a restaurant at home for six months a year, and I make ceramic tableware when I have time - which isn't that often right now as the youngest child is 4 months old. I've also been doing some e-mail based research-support work from here for a few years, and am currently developing the 'out-source' territory, as we finally have a reliable internet connection and reasonably reliable electricity. I'm still in touch with a few MA7s, but would love to hear from more.'

### MA 12

**Imma Guixe** wrote to say: 'In the last three years I have been working for two Spanish NGOs in Madrid and Barcelona. These jobs involved frequent travelling to Latin America to monitor and evaluate development projects. Last year, I was awarded with a Lacaixa Fellowship to study abroad, and in August I moved to New York with the purpose of taking a two years master degree in international affairs at Columbia University. I am particularly focusing on Human Rights and Development issues from an advocacy and policy analysis perspective. At the moment, I'm getting used to this enormous and very interesting city, I hope to survive!

Is anyone else from MA 12 in the US? It would be nice to get together...

Regards to all MA12 classmates!!'

**Melissa Roche** is now a doctoral student in public health at the University of North Carolina.

### MA 14

**Meharoon Ghani** is Manager for the Anti-racism and Multicultural Unit of the Ministry of Community, Aboriginal and Women's Services with the Provincial Government of British Colombia. She is excited to have this opportunity as anti-racism activism has been a long-held passion of hers. Generally, the job consists of bringing various stake-holders together to define policy and to implement strategies within communities. Meharoon is working closely with community organisations, the Hate Crimes Unit, the local police, and the municipalities.

**Rebecca Zuniga-Hamlin** wrote: 'During the last year, I have been working in Nicaragua, Honduras and Peru. In Nicaragua I have finalised my contribution to the Exchange (a health and communication network based in the UK). This experience has allowed organisations of different levels to exchange their experiences on ways of sending health messages out to improve people's lives and reduce poverty.'

In Honduras, I have been working with a women's organization that focuses on women working in the maquila (sweat shops); this work has been possible through the Central American Women's Network (a group of women of the UK interested in Central America). The work in Honduras has been of particular interest for me because the country has such flexible laws that allow international corporations (GAP, Levis Straus, Liz Clairborne, and similar) to install their factories with no restrictions.

My work in Peru has taken me to the Peruvian highlands. I have been evaluating citizen's participation in local democracy - a relevant issue in a country with a weak political class and a population is anxious to participate in decision making.'

### MA Gov 01

**Siri Grønneflåta** went to Burundi in August as an administrator with Mèdecins sans Frontières for nine months (security situation allowing).

### MA Gov 02

**Elena Krylova** says: 'Our consulting company DPI Development Partnership International that specialises in development in Eastern Europe and the former Soviet Union is pleased to announce the launching of its new website - you can view it at [www.dpint.org](http://www.dpint.org) All comments and suggestions are welcome (email: [mail@dpint.org](mailto:mail@dpint.org)).'

\*\*\*\*\*

## MA in Participation, Development & Social Change

15 Months (full time, including field-based learning)

The Institute of Development Studies, University of Sussex, UK, is offering a new MA in Participation, Development and Social Change starting in May 2004. The programme aims to deepen knowledge, innovation and practice of participatory approaches for engaging people in decision-making and active citizenship. It is designed for experienced practitioners, to help them deepen their abilities for critical reflection, analysis and application of participatory methods. The course combines two 10-week periods of intensive group learning in residence at IDS with a 9-month period of field-based action research with an organisation engaged in participatory approaches. For further information, please visit the IDS website at: <http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/teach/mapart.html> or contact Julia Brown: [J.L.Brown@ids.ac.uk](mailto:J.L.Brown@ids.ac.uk)

\*\*\*\*\*

### People and Planet / Third World First

Were you involved in Third World First / People and Planet as a student? If so, we hope to be able to invite you to our 35th birthday celebrations. Please contact [lara@peopleandplanet.org](mailto:lara@peopleandplanet.org) with your name, contact details, university and dates of involvement."

\*\*\*\*\*

Are you getting your *Yellow Monday*? *Yellow Monday* is the weekly newsletter for and about IDS. It keeps you in touch with external vacancies, events, news, new work in print, internal and external meetings. It's available in print, by email and online at [www.ids.ac.uk/ids/news/y monday/index.html](http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/news/y monday/index.html) subscribe, email [yellow.monday@ids.ac.uk](mailto:yellow.monday@ids.ac.uk) or call Alison Norwood on 01273 678675

\*\*\*\*\*

For information about the IDS Alumni Association, please contact the Secretary, Diane Frazer-Smith, on [alumni@ids.ac.uk](mailto:alumni@ids.ac.uk) or check out the website: [www.ids.ac.uk/ids/alumni/](http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/alumni/)

A directory detailing email addresses of all Alumni who wish to be included is available from Diane on request. This is regularly updated. **Please let Diane know if you change your email address or know of any Alumni who have done so.** When writing, please also mention your course number or year.

\*\*\*\*\*