



Institute of Development Studies
Sussex

Alumnewsletter

March 2005

Message from Richard Longhurst, Chair, IDS Alumni Association:

Dear Member,

This quarterly newsletter comes in the flurry of communications about the Reunion, which I hope I need not remind you is being held on April 14-16. There is an excellent programme lined up as well as the chance to meet your former colleagues. Information about the Reunion is available at <http://www.ids.ac.uk/ids/alumni/reunionspage.htm> The deadline to book accommodation at IDS has been brought forward to **21 March 2005**. For those of you who have videos or DVDs illustrating your work, family or colleagues, we will have facilities to play them!

The Alumni Association General Meeting will take place at the Reunion, on Friday 15 April, including elections for the Alumni Committee. Please consider standing for the Alumni Committee, either by self-nomination or nomination by others. You do not have to live in Brighton (or in the UK for that matter) to serve on the Committee - two of our most active committee members live in the USA and Southern Africa respectively. What we need from you is good networking ability and to be active in gathering ideas from alumni in your part of the world. Send your nominations in to Nabila at alumni@ids.ac.uk

IDS Director Lawrence Haddad met with alumni in Washington and Geneva in January and February. Many thanks to Hiro Hatashima (MP14) and Alan Leather (MP1) for organising these evenings, which provided important feedback and ideas for Lawrence as well as being very enjoyable occasions for all concerned. There is a short report on these events in this newsletter.

This newsletter also contains a brief paper about internships for IDS students and lays out the expected obligations on both sides. If your organisation is willing to enter into an internship 'contract', please contact Sue at S.W.R.Ong@ids.ac.uk

The IDS fortieth anniversary is coming up next year and we hope alumni will be actively involved in their own countries. You will receive more information about that in June, but it will also be a topic of discussion at the Reunion.

Finally, I look forward to seeing you in April!

Richard Longhurst (DP 81)

Alumni Meetings with Lawrence Haddad in Washington and Geneva

Two very enjoyable meetings were held with Alumni in Washington (19 January) and Geneva (February 8) giving Lawrence his first chance to get feedback from alumni outside the Brighton area. In Washington, twelve alumni met at the Heritage India Restaurant for an evening organised by Alumni Association Committee member **Hiro Hatashima (MP14)**. Alumni at the event were keen to organise more IDS events in the future, including discussion groups around specific themes, as well as meetings with IDS Fellows visiting the States. Alumni present were **Mariko Higashi (MP10)**, **Enrique Aldaz-Carrol (MP19)**, **Hakon Nordang (MP24)**, **Barbara Pozzoni (MP24)**, **Sue Fleck (MP9)**, **Liz Carty (MP13)**, **Farah Nageer (MP23)**, **Kaoru Yamagiwa (MA13)** and **Nigel Biggar (MP21)**.

In Geneva a group of alumni and friends of IDS met at the 'Restaurant le Dodo' (Mauritian cuisine) with Lawrence and IDS Development Officer **Catherine Gee (MA Gov 01)**. **Alan Leather (MP1)** and his partner Sue pulled everybody together - it was the first opportunity the Geneva-based alumni had had to get together. Some old acquaintances were reunited and some new connections made. **Lena**

Krylova (MA Gov 02) even travelled the two hours from Bern for the event. Most of those gathered were working in the headquarters of international organisations (UNCTAD, ILO, WFP, PSI were represented). As at the Washington event, alumni showed enthusiasm for maintaining ongoing relations with IDS through their interest in the strategy consultations and affirming their willingness to find internships in their organisations for students. Lawrence and Catherine also met up with **Patrick Low (DP81)** in his capacity as Director of Development and Economic Research Division, who also expressed an interest in hosting interns. It was a very enjoyable visit and encouraging to find IDS alumni so strategically placed. Also present were IDS Governor Carlos Fortin, **Asha D'Souza (Sussex)**, **Patrick Belser (DP01)**, **Taffere Tesfachew (DP90)**, **Robin Jackson (MP5)**.

MPhil News

MP 10

Hong Gang, a former 'lost' alumnus, wrote in January: 'This is Hong Gang from China reporting to the Association! For the past 11 years, myself, Heather and our son Owen Hong (now 16!) have been living in Shanghai. Prior to this and since we came back from Sussex, we lived in Beijing for 5 years. Very few countries (with the only exception of Eastern Europe perhaps) have experienced such radical social and economic changes as in China over the past two decades. I am fortunate enough to have witnessed the change from inside, a change like a huge spinning centrifuge, tearing the 'oldies' apart and marginalizing the 'not-so-fittest'; the Chinese Gini-coefficient is quickly approaching 0.5 from something like 0.3 in late 80s. The trade-off? Like an unbound tiger, Chinese entrepreneurship exploded releasing a huge amount of energy and pushing macroeconomic efficiency and productivity to an unprecedented height, and turning coastal China into the so-called "world manufacturing powerhouse". Needless to say, in order not to be marginalized and sacrificed by the 'law of the jungle', we have been struggling to stay with the 'fittest' side over the past 15 years, i.e. more or less with the commercial sector, whether it be state- or privately-owned, or owned by foreign companies. However, we have never turned a blind eye to serious development issues inside China. We are no longer 'academics' – we read fewer books and write even fewer papers, but we would like to share our observations and experience with those IDS alumni who retain a serious academic interest in what is going on in my country, particularly those who visit China, and Shanghai in particular. You can contact me at gang.hong@china.com

MP 13

Hisaaki Mitsui sent the following note in February: 'Dear old friends, I have been working at a development research institution in Tokyo called IDCJ for years. Once a week, I also teach Development Economics to young undergraduate students at a private university in Yokohama. As a major bilateral donor, Japanese overseas development assistance has expanded recently; my area of expertise has expanded accordingly. Two years ago, I was a residential advisor to the Jordanian government on industrial policy. Last year, I was deeply involved in public financial management in Malawi. I am currently working on state enterprise reform issues in Vietnam, and planning to visit Thailand and Kenya to compare their pro-poor growth paths!'

Liz Carty is working for Oxfam America's Washington DC office. She has two children, 5 and 4, and has been in contact over the years with the following MP13 classmates: **Jens Bruggemann**, **Robin Mearns**, **Eduardo Ramos-Avalos**, **Françoise Trine**, **Moss**, **Anna**, **Zav Rustomjee**, **Haniel Garibay**, **Ana Paola Teixeira**, **Betty**, **Ranjani Krishnamurthy**, **Zoila Ellis**, & **Miguel Santos Neves**. She would love to hear from others, and also welcomes visitors! Her email is: ecarty@oxfamamerica.org.

MP 16

Shahin Yaqub sent the following update in January: 'In 2004 I finished my DPhil at Sussex. Entitled 'Born Poor, Stay Poor?', it was on the intergenerational persistence of poverty. I am currently on the team writing this year's UNDP Human Development Report, working specifically on the chapter on inequality. The HDR 2005 is being written to put pressure on the world to honour the promises we made in the Millennium Development Goals – and to honour them fully and not be satisfied in 2015 with a glass half full (but also half empty). There is a series of events scheduled this year on development and the MDGs – i.e. opportunities to influence – and the HDR is intended to add weight to advocacy work at these events.'

MP 26

Ruriko Minami wrote in February: 'After a month and a half of intensive job-hunting, I got a job in the financial sector with Daiwa Securities SMBC. This is a Japanese company dealing mainly with

investment banking, equity, and treasury and securities services for Japanese clients. As I am in the International Financial Department, I will probably deal with international bonds such as the World Bank. Although I will be slightly away from development, I will remain close to development organisations and I guess this is a good opportunity for me to learn about finance.'

Ruriko also sent news of other MP26 alumni: 'I met **Wing Lam** in January at **Hirofumi Ishizaka's** new house. She was very well. Also Saeko and Kazu (Hiro's wife and son) were well. I was glad to catch up with them. **Makiba Yamano, Eisuke Tachibana and Naoko Yoshida** are also fine. Makiba and Eisuke are working in Tokyo, and I plan to meet with them soon.'

MA News

MA 16

Amaya Algarra wrote in January: 'I have been working in Johannesburg as the Civil Society Index LAC Officer and the Gender Coordinator for CIVICUS: World Alliance for Citizen Participation for a year and a half. It is one of the most wonderful experiences I have had. I have learned lots and lots, and I have discovered an amazing country. I now understand those people who say they have fallen in love with Africa...' Amaya contacted us in March to say that she is currently working in Honduras for Fundacion Intervida, a Spanish NGO.

MA 17

Victoria Bovaird sent the following note in January: 'I recently accepted a position with a not-for-profit organization in Toronto called Catalyst (www.catalystwomen.org). Their mission is gender equality in the professions. Their primary focus is on North America, but I hope I can learn skills with them that I will one day be able to apply to the developing world. Since last September I have been working for the Canadian Institute of Health Research as a Project Manager. The highlight of last autumn was a trip to Mexico City for the Global Health Forum 8. We did some very interesting work on health research to improve the status of Mexico's indigenous populations.'

DPhil News

DP2001

Nik Rosnah Wan Abdullah wrote in March: 'Warm greetings from Baltimore! I'm attached to the Institute for Policy Studies at Johns Hopkins. I will be here till the end of June on research leave. JHU offered me this position which was too tempting to resist. I was also awarded a Fulbright Scholarship which funds my research and so it works out just fine. I will be giving some lectures and present seminars, besides my research work. On my research work, I haven't accomplished much yet but I will be seeing some key government officials in health and some professors who are health lobbyists. Near the end of my stay I will give another seminar presenting my research findings.'

For information about the IDS Alumni Association, contact Nabila Jiwaji, Alumni Communications Assistant at alumni@ids.ac.uk or visit the IDS Alumni website at www.ids.ac.uk/ids/alumni/

Keep in touch! A directory detailing email addresses of all Alumni who wish to be included is available on request from Nabila at alumni@ids.ac.uk. This is regularly updated. **Please let Nabila know if you change your email address or know of any other members who have done so.** When writing, please mention your course number or year.

News of how your organisation can offer internships to IDS students

INSTITUTE OF DEVELOPMENT STUDIES

Internship Programme

The IDS seeks support from organisations in developing a post-graduation internship programme to ease its new graduates into the development job market. Every year 60 to 70 students graduate from the IDS Masters' programmes with excellent analytical and practical skills in development economics, gender and development, governance, participatory methods, social policy, and other areas. Not only are these graduates trained in the latest perspectives on development problems, but the IDS provides them with a basic set of analytical and writing skills that are applicable in development work. Most of

these graduates also have prior operational experience in development, and the combination of this experience and the training they have received at the IDS makes them extremely well-equipped for a range of development work – whether this be in research, policy analysis or field operations. A 3-month internship (October – December) in a development setting is intended not only give them an invaluable running start in the job market, but would bring a burst of new ideas, energy and commitment to an organisation.

IDS would expect host organisations to provide:

- challenging and stimulating work with opportunities to interact as widely as possible within the organisation;
- a designated supervisor who would ensure the intern is integrated within the life of the organisation at an appropriate level, and provides support to the intern as required;
- a clearly defined work programme and responsibilities, which fit with the expectations of all parties, and are discussed and agreed upon prior to the start of the internship programme;
- open channels of communication, maintained throughout the internship period, providing regular feedback on progress to both intern and manager;
- reasonable office space or a work station, telephone, office supplies and computer with internet access.

Arrangements for each placement vary, with some organisations being able to offer support and others not. The list below is suggestive, but we would also welcome internships from those organisations that cannot offer any financial support:

- Salary or honorarium
- Round-trip economy-class airfare or travel expenses
- Accommodation
- A daily stipend to cover cost of food, laundry and local transport
- A cash bonus upon successful completion of the research project or internship.

Listed below are suggested terms of reference which set out the responsibilities of the intern. These are generally tailored to the specific needs of the placement, but we include them here for information and guidance.

- Interns are required to observe the daily work schedule of the organisation;
- Interns must organise their own insurance prior to taking up the internship and send proof to the organisation;
- Interns are bound by the organisation's code of conduct as contained in the policy handbooks (e.g. sexual harassment, alcohol and drug abuse, etc.), or applicable legislation;
- Interns may be required to sign a written agreement regarding intellectual rights on written and researched materials produced as part of the internship programme. The undertaking states that the materials shall be the sole property of the organisation. The writer may use the information or data (provided it is not sensitive) with prior clearance and specific referencing.
- Interns should not expect the internship to lead to employment within the host organisation.

Proposals from organisations for internship placements are circulated to all students. It is helpful if the host organisation gives details of the internship, the necessary experience/qualification required and the duration. The CVs of interested students are then sent to the host organisation for consideration/selection. We are happy to provide guidance about setting up a suitable placement if required.

IDS will expect a report from the intern and from the host organisation reporting back on the intern's performance and the usefulness of the internship to the organisation.

If you have any questions or are interested in providing an internship placement, please contact the Teaching Manager, Sue Ong on S.W.R.Ong@ids.ac.uk.

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