



Institute of Development Studies
Sussex

Alumnewsletter **January 2005**

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

Dear Alumna/Alumnus

It is of course impossible to be writing now without having the Asian tsunami disaster well in mind. There can be few of us who have not been affected in some way and all of us will be thinking about it, wondering what we can do and how we can adjust to its realities in the future. Lawrence Haddad has already written to all alumni in the region and those of you who have been touched directly by the disaster are in our thoughts.

This newsletter is rich in news about alumni and what they are doing. I hope you will take advantage of the networking that the Association provides to be in contact with your colleagues either on a geographic or subject interest basis. I am very grateful to **Bernardo Mendez (MP 4)** for putting together such a valuable account of all those with whom he has been in contact.

I am also pleased to see that a meeting of IDS alumni has been organised by committee member **Hiro Hatashima (MP 14)** for a visit by the Director to Washington mid-January and I hope that whenever Lawrence travels we will be able to organise similar meetings of alumni. He is keen to get your views.

This end of 2004-beginning of 2005 period sees a major change in the Association as Diane Frazer-Smith steps down as Secretary. Diane has been Secretary of the Association since March 2000 and has managed to keep it going despite also having the very demanding job of PA to the Director. We all owe Diane a lot for being the glue that has kept so many people in touch and I owe her a big vote of thanks for all the support she has given to me. In her place we are delighted to welcome Nabila Jiwaji, who has already made her mark on the Association, focussing on the organisation of the Reunion in April. Short messages from Diane and Nabila follow later.

Further to the April Reunion you will see a separate note of the programme at the end of this newsletter. May I draw your attention to the existence of a modest travel fund for those who wish to come but need some support.

We all look forward to welcoming you to the April Reunion.

Richard Longhurst (DP 81)

Briefing from the December 2004 Governing Body (GB) meeting

When I was a student, I always thought IDS Governing Body meetings were unbearably boring. Wrong!!! Last December's also proved me wrong. It was Lawrence Haddad's first meeting and his dynamism and hard work of the previous six months were clearly seen and felt. Our work focused on the new IDS Strategy Review (5-10 yrs), which Lawrence has already shared with Alumni by sending us a two-page summary, which is worth reading, and by making available the full report. From that Strategy Review though, I would like to highlight that IDS wants to be a global institution working on international development, seeking pro-poor changes, working to understand, explain and change the world by linking southern and northern actors, challenging conventional wisdom through interdisciplinarity and looking for a closer integration of research, teaching and communication. After reading the Strategy Review summary, it seems clear that IDS has chosen a clear path to make a difference for a fairer world.

IDS' prospects are good and the IDS pipeline looks healthy with a more favourable landscape due to implementations in funding institutions.

In the next six months, I think it is worth keeping an eye on new developments in research through the IDS teams: Asian Drivers of globalization (Globalization), private investment and governance; state capacity (Governance), African agriculture; risk, vulnerability and social protection (Poverty); deepening democracy, citizenship and peace building (Participation); Governing Science and technology (Environment); development of future health systems and sexual and reproductive rights. It is also worth noting plans in the Communications Department to develop links between global and local knowledge services with innovative institutional arrangements.

The formal GB meeting is preceded by a GB Seminar which is open to everybody. In my two previous GB meetings the seminars were devoted to communication and research respectively. To complete the IDS triangle, I really enjoyed the seminar on the future of teaching and training offered jointly by Rosalind Eyben, IDS Fellow, our DPhil Venezuelan colleague **Lizbeth Navas-Aleman** and Peter Taylor (Head of Graduate Programmes). Rosalind reviewed findings from her work in the last months in which several Alumni and students had made contributions. Lizbeth gave the student perspective and Peter, building on previous good analytical work, outlined the joint future directions. For the moment, I would like to advance: there is overall satisfaction

with teaching quality, being in a policy research environment with a very good library, and alumni think that IDS qualifications help get a job. Findings made clear that learning is at the core of IDS and an integrating force in IDS activities and one outstanding possibility is that courses will become building blocks. The option of a one-year MA is being discussed; this could lead onto a two-year MPhil with just one extra year of study, leading to a DPhil with two further years of study. Regardless of the final teaching offer chosen by IDS, the new Teaching and Training Strategy will start being implemented in October 2006.

I expect many of you would like to take some years off work either to do the complete itinerary or part of it but, since this is unlikely, you may only be able to take some minutes off to tell colleagues, friends and relatives about it. I promise a more detailed piece in our next issue.

Joaquim (Kim) Tres (MP14)

Alumni representative on Governing Body

MPhil News

MP 5

Peter Stockdale, Chair of the Conflict Prevention Working Group, Conflict Prevention in Canada, sent in the following:

The Conflict Prevention Working Group is an informal coalition of academics, activists and practitioners who aim to address the root causes of conflict, including inequality between groups, social, religious and political institutions which fail to promote social harmony, uneven social and economic development, and human rights abuses.

The Working Group endeavours to:

Foster a Canadian and global interchange of techniques of conflict prevention. Encourage clarification of the language, theories and models of conflict prevention in a developmental context. Identify indigenous models of conflict prevention and their interface with "Western" techniques. Encourage dialogue between CPCC members and other actors in conflict prevention, such as the security sector, businesses, religious groups, trades unions, and the legal profession. Generate clear results, such as alteration of developmental practices and policies by governments, NGOs or others. Measure conflict prevention by identifying indicators of a lack of conflict, conflict reduction and abatement and to identify the indicators of agreement and peace. Invite governments to incorporate conflict prevention into their policies and mandate. Address a perceived need for a common language on conflict prevention. Hold workshops, seminars on issues related to conflict prevention. Facilitate information exchange on conflict prevention issues.

If you would like to join the Working Group, its Research Group, or be informed about upcoming events please contact cosumma@rogers.com

MP 7

Sepali Kottegoda (and DP 91) wrote in October: I am currently in Tokyo on the Asia Leadership Fellow Programme offered by the International House of Japan and the Japan Foundation. This year we are 7 scholars from 7 Asian countries. The Fellowship is for 2-3 months and I have almost completed my 2 months. We have travelled quite a bit around Japan from Hiroshima and Kyoto to Hokkaido. It's been a wonderful experience for me.

Of course the IDS Alumni in Japan have been a great support. I have met **Akio Takahara**, **Shinichi Kondo**, **Aya Okada**, **Ken Inoue** and **Suzuka Sugawara** in Tokyo and Nagoya, sampled masses of the most amazing array of food, experienced typhoons and earthquakes, visited shrines and temples, met with Japanese academics, activists, corporate heads. I was invited to speak at several universities, including at Rikkyo University in Tokyo where Akio is a Professor. I will be returning to Colombo at the beginning of November.

By the way, my book entitled *'Negotiating Household Politics: Women's Strategies in Urban Sri Lanka'* was published by the Social Scientists Association, Colombo, in August this year.

I would love to attend the IDS reunion next April but as yet I do not know whether this will be possible.

MP 11

Gerardo Bracho is posted at the Mexican Embassy in London after many years in Moscow. He wrote: 'I have a Russian wife (a good painter too) and a gorgeous 8 year old daughter. We are enjoying London much so things are not toooooo bad as you Brits say.'

MP 13

Andr s Mariakis has just contacted us to say: 'I will try to give you a good report of one of the IDS couples in the world, **Ana Paola Teixeira** and myself. We have already been in Chile for six years and we are very happy about it. We would like to stay at least six more. We arrived here as I was transferred by the ILO to work on labour institutions in a small team of about ten specialists covering the southern cone. Last June the Director of the Office retired and since then I am acting as the officer in charge. For the time being it has been a very good experience.'

In Santiago Ana Paola changed her career drastically as she started a small business supplying different kinds of software for internet in mobile phones. Her clients are the big telephone companies, mainly in Chile, although this year she will expand to other LA countries (mainly Brazil).

The products she sells are chat, games, wall-papers, music that is downloaded on mobile phones through the internet. It is amazing to see how much she has learnt about this industry, as well as all the different aspects one has to know to develop a small business. For those who know her, you can imagine that this was done not only because she is bright, but also because she puts so much energy into her work. Year 2005 will be crucial for her enterprise. Keep your fingers crossed!

We have two small children. Teo is 7 years old and Niki is 5. We are the paradigm of the globalised family: Ana was born in Brazil, and has only that nationality; I was born in Argentina and I am also Greek; Teo was born in Switzerland and he is Argentinean, Brazilian and Greek; Niki was born in Chile and she is Chilean, Argentinean, Brazilian and Greek. Every time we travel (and we travel a lot) we have to carry with us piles of passports and travel authorizations. But globalization is a fact in all main capitals, as customs people rarely express any surprise! We enrolled the children in the international school, and I think it was a good decision, as half of the children are also foreigners.

We have not been in touch with other alumni. I sometimes meet **Ricardo Lagos (MP 12)** for lunch or we talk on the phone. I just called him and asked him what to say about him in this note. He said that every year he is getting fatter and fatter! I must say that this is not true. His belly has stabilized at a reasonable size. He is one the most knowledgeable Chileans in free trade agreements as he has worked in this area for years. This year he was involved in the organization of the APEC meeting that took place in Santiago last November. Next year he might move into politics.

I am looking forward to reading the news of other friends and I wish you all a very good 2005'.

Ranjani K Murthy met up with **Sue Ong** and her daughter, Natalie, when they were in Chennai, India (to attend **Ramya Subrahmanian's (MA 4)** wedding) and had a good time. Ranjani would like to extend support to any IDS staff and alumni who visit Chennai to get the best out of the city and neighbourhood.

MP 14

Joaquim (Kim) Tres sent a few lines to update friends and colleagues in the IDS community of his recent career move.

'After 12 years working as Country Representative of the Spanish Aid Agency (AECI) in Mexico, then in Bolivia and in the last two years in Guatemala, I decided to make a career move. It has been a great experience and a learning challenge both from senior policy-makers and important community leaders.

What were the main lessons I learned? Current students will like to hear that my IDS training was crucial in my job and gave me the edge I needed

to engage in the development debate with Latin American policy-makers, community leaders and aid practitioners. More general lessons are:

Despite global constraints and limited opportunities, development is possible if policies are genuinely pro-poor and people are empowered to ensure it. Communities can seriously improve if there is leadership, organization and systematic outside knowledge.

One can learn a lot from IDS Alumni and I did very much so in Mexico with **Bernardo Mendez (MPhil)**, **José Octavio Martínez (MPhil)**, **Lorenia Parada (MA)**, **Enrique Bautista (DPhil)**, **Eduardo Ramos** and so many other Sussex University postgraduates like **Paco Giner de los Ríos**, **Álvaro Baillet**, **Jonathan Davis** ...

I enjoyed lengthy discussions with IDS Alumni whom I know share the view that many Latin American countries need to improve and update political systems to be more inclusive and strengthen their democratic institutions, and that universities are key for the sovereign development of their environment.

Team management is the key to success but needs clear rules and something I learned at IDS has proved really useful: Never say 'yes' over the phone (related to business, of course) and never start talking or writing with apologies.

A few months ago I joined the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI) a joined network by UNESCO, the UN University with HQ at the Technical University of Catalonia in Barcelona, Spain. Our main activities are:

the annual World Report on Higher Education, which is going to see light in November 2005 and will be on the financing of universities,

establishing an Observatory of Best University Practices to offer them to the University Community as a whole but especially to developing country higher education institutions,

and organizing the International Barcelona Conference on Higher Education at the end of each November with participation of Nobel Laureates.

This career change has meant moving back to Barcelona after 15 years when I left for Falmer to do the MPhil in 1990. It is good to be back. Both our daughter Mariona (10) and our son Albert (5) are happy to enjoy the city and its culture, including the Barcelona soccer matches. I would like to carry on enjoying visits from IDS Alumni and Fellows. Real landmarks were the discussions that alumni had in Mexico with **Hans Singer**, **Stephany Griffith-Jones**, the Andean walks with **Mick Moore**, the participation training offered by **James Blackburn (MPhil 15)**, now living in the same building I lived in in La Paz, and the PRSP discussions with **Rosalind Eyben** now a Fellow but a while ago DFID Country Rep in Bolivia.

Now, I would like to organize a gathering of the Spanish alumni in Barcelona for a challenge: will we be able to establish development studies in Spain?

Colleagues interested in their higher education institutions joining GUNI can visit our website (www.guni-remies.net) or send me an e-mail joaquim.tres@upc.edu

MP 15

Preeti Shroff sent 'a quick note to let you know that I have been appointed as the Director for Civil Society and Social Change Unit at World Learning for International Development organization headquarters based in Washington, DC. I will coordinate civil society, democracy and governance projects around the world funded by World Learning. World Learning has also established the graduate school for International Training (SIT) in Vermont. I plan to collaborate on global projects and teach at SIT. I will start the new job in August 2004.

We are travelling in New Mexico this summer and enjoying the diversity of cultures, foods and people in the US. The American Indian communities here face tremendous challenges in terms of their access to education, health and livelihood opportunities.'

MP 16

Yonekura Yukiko sent us the following message:

'As the end of 2004 is approaching, I reflect that I have arrived at Phnom Penh to work for JVC early September 2001, just before the 9.11. Since then, many new wars have started. It has been very painful to see the wars destroying innocent ordinary people's lives.

Working in Cambodia where people are still struggling to overcome the legacy of civil war including land-mines, UXOs, trauma, sadness of losing family members, I wonder when human-beings will stop killing each other.

Also, Cambodia is facing new challenges. People who have visited Cambodia during the 1980s and early 1990s may feel a big change in Phnom Penh, paved roads, electricity/water supply, new houses, etc. Yet, farmers who compose about 80% of Cambodian population seem to have been losing out. Markets are full of imported cheap agriculture products. Farmers have to buy pesticides, chemical fertilisers, seeds, various daily goods, while farmers do not have much cash income. In addition, illegal large-scale commercial logging and fishing are taking rich natural resources away from small-farmers. More poor farmers have to sell their lands for medical treatments and foods.

Such impression matches with the World Bank report stating that the U5MR (under-5 years old mortality rate) of Cambodia has worsened from 115 out of 1000 in 1990 to 138 out of 1000 in

2001. This is the worst figure among Asia followed by 109 of Burma, 100 of Laos, 93 of India, and 91 of Nepal. The countries with figures worse than Cambodia are mainly the African countries that are affected by recent or on-going armed conflicts.

Why is Cambodia like this? Everybody expects that once the war is over, people's lives will improve. Some of the main reasons are the poor-public services and the slow reforms of public administration and judiciary. Transparency International released a 2004 report on the corruption rates in 146 countries. The bottom countries were Bangladesh and Haiti both ranked as the 145th. How about Cambodia? The report did not include Cambodia but according to World Bank, it says that corruption in Cambodia is worse than Bangladesh.

These figures are really heart-breaking for us all. Since the Japanese government is the biggest foreign donor providing 25% (US\$123 mil) of total foreign aid to Cambodia in 2004, as a Japanese citizen, we need to make sure that our tax money is wisely used for the destitute in Cambodia and not wasted.

Yet, of course, some positive things are happening in Cambodia, too. One of them is the rebirth of Cambodian cultural heritage Pidan silk, Cambodian pictorial ikat silk. Together with some friends, we will hold a special 'Pidan' exhibition supported by Cambodiana Hotel in Phantom Penh. The silk will be shown in the Tonle Mekong Room, next to the Lobby Bar at the ground floor of Cambodiana Hotel from 10:00 to 18:00 every Sunday from 23 January to 20 February 2005. This exhibition is an attempt of Pidan Project Team, a group of volunteers who wish to set-up a permanent exhibition in Cambodia to introduce 'Pidan' to the Cambodian and international public. The Cambodian silk ikat weaving, especially "Pidan", temple tapestries and canopy cloth, enjoys rare distinguished existence of its originality and intricate motifs.

If you are visiting Cambodia in January-February, please visit the exhibition. If you have a chance to visit Phnom Penh, please visit JVC office!

MP 18

Eva Ramos, a former 'lost' alumna, has contacted us saying: 'After my two year stay in the Philippines working with the European Commission I returned to Spain five years ago. I worked for three years for a consultancy firm specialised in sustainable development and at present I work in the field of corporate social responsibility with a Foundation called Fundación Ecología y Desarrollo (www.ecores.org). The foundation is the Spanish member of SIRI Co. (Sustainable Investment Responsible Investment Company) an international consortium of organizations focused on CSR analysis for socially responsible investment. I am also collaborating

with the CSR centre Vincular associated to the Universidad Católica de Valparaíso en Chile.'

MP 20

Ada Mwangola-Kirundi wrote in October: 'You probably remember I worked for Oxfam in Kenya. After almost four years as the Rural Livelihoods Coordinator, I felt it was time for a change. An opportunity came up in DFID Kenya for a Social Development Advisor and I was very lucky to get it amongst stiff competition. I joined DFID in July and I am now well settled in. I like the job very much. It is broadly about exclusion issues, dealing with risk and vulnerability of poor people, and making links with national policy processes. Very much my deepest professional interest that made me come to IDS to increase my capabilities, at the same time challenging enough to make me start thinking of more skills development in this area. I'm happy that it has worked out that way in real life for me! On a personal note, I have a baby girl, Ariana, she is now two years and two months old. She makes all the challenges worthwhile!

I'm coming to Brighton between 2nd and 6th November for DFID's social development and governance retreat. I plan to pop into IDS when time allows, at least to the bookshop.'

MP 23

Melkamnesh Alemu Negussie is working for DFID Ethiopia as Food Security Advisor.

MP 26

Eisuke Tachibana started in November a contract with JICA for the Asia and Africa knowledge creation programme.

MA News

MA 3

Kemi Williams has moved from the DFID office in Nigeria and is now the social development adviser for DFID Southern Africa based in Pretoria.

MA 4

Manal Ahmed Elehemier is currently working as the Head of Equalities and Community Cohesion at Brighton and Hove Council. Manal is looking for a job in development in Sudan and plans to return home for at least two to three years.

MA 5

Hala Shukrallah is Director of the Development Support Centre for Training and Consultation in Egypt.

MA 8

Haddy Sey is still at the World Bank, working as a social development specialist with the Community Driven Development group at the Social Development Unit in the anchor.

MA Gov 01

Jill Clements and Shane Ricketts are delighted to announce the arrival of their daughter, Neve Meara Clements, born 11 Nov 2004 at 05.35, weighing 8lb 4oz of adorable joy.

MA Gov 02

Ari Katz has been managing the School Connectivity for Uzbekistan programme for the last year. They have set up internet centres at 60 schools throughout the country, including some of its most remote areas. Their website, www.connect.uz, is one of the country's top ten websites, and its leading educational portal. 'It's a great job, and I am really enjoying it.'

MA Gov 03

Youri Saadallah emailed: 'After having disappeared for a few months, I wanted to tell you that I haven't forgotten IDS and the wonderful year I spent there. I work in Burundi for GTZ, the German corporation. I organize repatriation of refugees from Tanzania to Burundi. And I really love it!'

News of IDS and Sussex Alumni living in the Americas

Bernardo Mendez (MP4) has kindly compiled the following report for this Newsletter:

'I have been already more than 8 years in the US, 5 in Atlanta and more than 3 in the San Francisco Bay Area. I had a wonderful experience in Martin Luther King Jr and Jimmy Carter's homeland but San Francisco is unique: 2400 NGO's of all kind of alternative groups, very progressive, Human rights, fair trade, and environment defenders but also a great academic atmosphere.

There is a lot of news from Canada to Argentina regarding IDS and Sussex alumni: I know that **Peter Stockdale (MP5)** in Canada is very active in a non profit organization in Ottawa and also **Alex Volkoff (MP4)** is back after spending many years far away.

Ennio Rodriguez (MP3, DP84) was many years in Washington DC working for IDB but he is now back in Costa Rica. Also in Washington DC is **Cesar Viera (MP4)** working for PAHO and he will retire to Bello Horizonte this coming August. **Ricardo Carciofi (MP4)** also spent several years in the US capital but is now in Santiago working for ECLA. Also with ECLA is Rebeca Grynspan (Sussex MA Economics 1980), who is Mexico and Central America director, former second Vice President of Costa Rica married to **Saul Weisleder (MP4)** former member of the Legislative Assembly of Costa Rica and recently provisionally and partially retired from his professorship at the National University of Costa Rica in Heredia. (He intends to re-engage in

various new tasks later in the year.) Saul is writing his first novel, doing some consultancy for Costa Rica and very likely already published his new book on Central American economic integration and free trade. Working with Rebeca is José Octavio Martínez (Sussex MA Econ. 1980), an outstanding Mexican ECLA expert for more than 20 years. **Jose Eguren (MP4)** is still with UNDP in New York and I had news from **Eduardo Martinez (MP4)** that he had been transferred from UNESCO, Montevideo, to the UNESCO headquarters in Paris.

I recently heard from **Francisco Pareja (MP4)** who is working with Comunidad Andina de Naciones in Lima. Last summer when I was back for the summer vacation in Mexico City I had dinner at Rebeca's and Saul's nice residence in Mexico City, the special guest was Jonathan Davis-Arzac (PhD, Sussex), now President of the Mexican Banking and Stockmarket Commission, Jose Octavio Martinez (Sussex MA Economics 1980) was very active questioning Jonathan about banking policies and increasing globalization of banking activity in Mexico. Also I saw **Enrique Bautista Villegas DP82)** in Morelia, Mexico, Secretary General of the state government of Michoacan, former federal legislator and key lobby person for opening the US market to the Mexican avocado. Enrique invited our legendary Peruvian friend "el pata" **Alfredo Nunez Barriga (MP1)** to visit Mexico. Alfredo who is still living in Lima and always thinking of going back to IDS for some research "up-date". "El pata" has known many of the IDS generations, he was roommate in my times with **Wendy Walker (MP4)** and Cressida McKinney (Sussex DPhil Economics), before that he shared the legendary apartment up of the Fishmarket store in downtown Brighton with **Enrique Bautista Villegas (DP82)** and many years later he was very helpful when **Joaquim Tres (MP14)** arrived at Sussex and found the poshest basement, which they both shared. I am sure that Maria Eugenia Otarola (AFRAS) now in Ottawa and **Angelica Gimpel (DP89)** both dear Chilean friends remember him very well.

Through the last ten years I have been in contact with **Joaquim Tres (MP14)**, Kim, and I made the most important effort to build the Mexican IDS and Sussex network. Kim was first in Mexico, one day he told me: "they have given me an upper post: I am going to La Paz, Bolivia, is higher than Mexico City". I know Kim did an outstanding job for the Spanish International Cooperation Agency in Mexico, Bolivia and Guatemala, when he left Mexico City all IDS alumni lost a great host and networking person. After living "High" he came back to the Mesoamerican land in Guatemala. In these "up and downs" moves, his family grew: now he and his wife Nuria have two wonderful children.

Kim is now back in Barcelona working for the Global University Network for Innovation (GUNI)

(UNESCO & UNU project) at Politechnical University of Catalonia, Barcelona working in a very innovative academic network that is producing the World Report on Higher Education, very much cut to his skills and personal vision: international academic networking that he will be able to explain better than me. I have had news of other important Sussex alumni: Francisco Giner (DPhil-SPRU), who is now Mexican Federal Under Secretary for Environment and Alvaro Baillet, (Sussex DPhil Economics) Academic Vice President of Universidad de las Americas in Puebla, Mexico working close to Dr Nora Lustig, President and world leading expert on Poverty analysis and statistics. **Kurt Unger (DP83)** is leading economist at CIDE in Mexico City and Gabriela Dutrenit and husband Alexander Veracruz (Sussex DPhil-SPRU) are very active at UAM-Xochimilco (my former Alma Mater) training new generations of experts in technological change and innovation policies.

I spoke on the phone with **Lorenia Parada (MA 1)** who spent several months in Big Sur, near Monterey bay, here in California and **Eduardo Ramos Avalos (MP13)** who is playing a key role at the Ministry of Economy (formerly Trade) in Mexico City. Eduardo is the general coordinator of advisors to the Under Secretary of International Trade Negotiations. Also on the phone, I spoke with Fernando Castaneda (DPhil Intellectual History) with Istvan Metzarus and Pablo Schabes (Sussex DPhil Astro-Physics) leading researcher at the National University of Mexico.'

REQUEST FROM PROFESSOR SIR HANS SINGER

At present Hans Singer is busy preparing the introduction to a volume in honour of the late Celso Furtado, the most internationally renowned Brazilian economist who died last November, and whose work was at the core of dependency theory, Latin American structuralism and ECLAC.

Hans is asking those Alumni who were directly or indirectly in touch with Celso Furtado to contact him via IDS (p.lewis@ids.ac.uk) because he would like to include some personal stories.

Dear Alumni

As you will have read in Richard's message, I have now handed over the Secretaryship of the Alumni Association to Nabila who will be devoting two days a week to alumni affairs. I will really miss corresponding with so many of you over the last few years but now need to concentrate on my PA work for Lawrence. I will however keep a close watch on how the Alumni Association progresses!

I hope to see many of you at the April Reunion.

Diane

**Note from Nabila Jiwaji,
Secretary to the Alumni Association**

Hello, I am Nabila Jiwaji and I joined IDS in November and have now taken over from Diane as Secretary to the Alumni Association. I recently completed a Masters in Development Studies, specialising in children's issues and gender; my dissertation looked at the impact of agrarian change on gender relations, with a focus on Kenya. Contact me at alumni@ids.ac.uk with any news or queries you might have, or to notify me of changes of address. I look forward to hearing from you over the coming months!

A directory detailing email addresses of all Alumni who wish to be included is available from Nabila on request. This is regularly updated. **Please let Nabila 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.

IDS Information Services: Livelihoods Connect

Livelihoods Connect is a web-based information service, one of a range of free web-based information services at IDS. Its mission is to enable the implementation of sustainable livelihoods approaches as a tool for achieving poverty reduction by encouraging practitioners and researchers to exchange experiences by supporting knowledge sharing and networking. The project has been supported by DFID for five years and enjoys good working relationships with a wide range of national, bilateral and multilateral organisations.

Content includes:

- summaries of new sustainable livelihoods practice and thinking
- guidance sheets to promote distance learning
- a key documents database
- a sustainable livelihoods toolbox
- hot topics like urban-rural change, migration, and information and communication technologies for development

Visit www.livelihoods.org to access extensive online resources including a range of materials in other languages (French, Spanish, Portuguese, Russian, Chinese, Bangla, Nepali and Dari).

To receive the **Livelihoods Connect Email Update** send a blank email message with the words "subscribe livelihoods update" in the subject field to:

lyris@lyris.ids.ac.uk or subscribe online at <http://www.livelihoods.org/emailupdate/emailupdate.html#2>

The Livelihoods Connect team would like to hear from IDS alumni who work with the sustainable

livelihoods approach. Please send an email to livelihoods-connect@ids.ac.uk

ALUMNI REUNION 2005

To all IDS alumni

We very much hope you will be able to come to the Alumni Reunion, taking place from 14 to 16 April 2005 here at IDS. The theme of the Reunion is security/insecurity, a theme that can be approached from different angles, touching on many aspects of current work at IDS and, we hope, the professional interests of many alumni.

Programme

Slots for speakers at the parallel sessions are filling up quickly! If you would like to make a presentation, please contact the Alumni Office at alumni@ids.ac.uk.

Alumni Committee elections

Elections to the Alumni Committee will take place at the Reunion. If you would like to be nominated, or nominate anyone else) then email alumni@ids.ac.uk

Registration and accommodation

Registration forms will be going out soon. Accommodation will be available at IDS on a first come, first served basis.

And if you can't come...

You can still get involved! We will be setting up an internet café in the computer training room. Absent friends can post photos and messages, or send 'poster presentations' for display at the reunion. IDS also has a limited travel fund available for alumni who would like to attend but are unable financially to do so. Applicants must (a) be living in a developing country, (b) be working on a local salary and (c) give a presentation (either verbal or poster presentation) on their work. For further details contact Nabila at alumni@ids.ac.uk

Draft Programme

Thursday 14 April

1200: Registration (tea and coffee)

1230: Lunch

1400-1530:

Welcome (Richard Longhurst), introductory comments (Lawrence Haddad) and overview of theme: Development within the current global security context (Martin Greeley; Maggie Ibrahim; Susan Willett; Robin Luckham, discussant)

1530-1630: Coffee and photos

1700-1830: Keynote lecture – Peter Piot, UNAIDS (t.b.c.)

1900: Drinks reception and dinner

Friday 15 April

0915: Coffee

0930-1100: Parallel Session 1

- Gender and conflict and gender-based violence
- Security issues in humanitarianism
- The changing technology and governance of conflict

1100-1115: Coffee

1115-1245: Alumni Association General Meeting and committee elections

1245-1400: Lunch

1400-1530: Parallel Session 2

- Lessons from the Indian Ocean Tsunami
- Famine and food/water security
- Climate change and access to natural resources
- IDS Strategic Review and Teaching and Training Review

1600-1730: Panel discussion with experts and high profile journalists (t.b.c.)

Lindsay Hilsum, Channel 4 (chair; accepted); Zeinab Badawi, BBC; George Alagiah, BBC; Kevin Watkins, UNDP; Paul Rogers (Peace Studies, University of Bradford); Mick Moore (discussant)

1800: Buffet and IDS Band

Saturday 16 April

0915: Coffee

0930-1100: Parallel Session 3

- Politicisation of development and development funding
- Migration, refugees and IDPs
- Economic/financial security

1100-1115: Coffee

1115-1245: Parallel Session 4

- Health and HIV/AIDS
- Legal issues and participation
- Job-hunting/skills/training

1245: Sandwich lunch