

MEETING MINUTES  
ISB BOARD OF TRUSTEES  
REGULAR SESSION  
MPB 3  
Tuesday, 25 February 2014

Present: Mr. Ira Blumenthal (6:15)  
Dr. Sumiter Singh Broca  
Mr. Gurdist Chansrichawla  
Dr. Prathip Chiaravanond  
Dr. Ana Coghlan  
Ms. Joy Davy  
Mr. Marc de Vries  
Mr. Brent Gros  
Mr. John Heinecke (6:20)  
Mr. Janewit Kraprayoon (6:26)  
Mr. Michael Mussi  
Mr. Kevin Sypolt

Absent: Mr. William Harvey  
Mr. Eric Ma  
Mr. Pravitt Sukhum

Administration: Dr. Andy Davies, Head of School  
Mr. Graeme Scott, Deputy Head of School for Learning  
Dr. Ugo Costessi, Deputy Head of School/Chief Financial Officer

Guests: Ms. Andrea Spira, PTA 1<sup>st</sup> Vice President  
Mr. David Playfoot, International Education Consultant

**I. OPENING**

Mr. de Vries opened the meeting at 6:08 pm.

**Approval of Minutes**

Minutes from the 21 January 2014 meeting were approved 8-0 with one abstention as presented.

**II. PTA UPDATE**

Ms. Spira reported that the PTA recently approved two new grants: 1) to purchase t-shirts for the Yoga Stops Trafficking program, and 2) to sponsor author Ruta Sepetys' visit with the ISB community including her visit fee and a fund-raising dinner for ISB parents.

The International Family Fair is to be held Saturday, March 1. There have been no food booth cancellations, and one additional booth has signed up to participate. Most of the volunteers recommitted themselves to the new date. One of the IFF raffle prizes will be a reading basket provided by PTA that will contain books by each of the three authors visiting the ES in March.

The PTA is working with Deputy Head of School for Learning Mr. Scott on a metacognition workshop in addition to the already scheduled Girl Talk workshop on April 30. PTA is in touch with Rod Warner to conduct another resiliency workshop, this time focused on teens. A Learning Optimism workshop is in the works, and other topics are being considered. PTA has a goal to increase the number of workshops it offers with a goal of six throughout this year.

ES Book Week is to be held in May, during which students will vote for their favorite books. The week will include a day on which students can dress up as book characters. Students who participated in NaNoRiMo will be recognized. Two authors Margaret Read MacDonald and Ralph Fletcher will visit ISB to encourage students to read, tell stories, and write poetry, and will hold workshops for parents.

PTA will host a Staff Appreciation Lunch March 26. PTA will have significant turnover this summer, including the departure of President Cory Fox, so members will focus effort on recruiting parents to run for PTA office.

### **III. CC JAKARTA**

Dr. Davies reported back to the Board the outcome of the visa application of the ISB student of Israeli nationality who applied to travel to Indonesia to participate in IASAS Cultural Convention. Unfortunately, Indonesian Embassy officials did not grant the student a visa by to travel. Similarly, there are concerns about students of Israeli and other nationalities who might need visas to participate in programs in other countries, e.g., Malaysia, but who are very likely to be denied. Dr. Davies reported that a student with Pakistani nationality was not able to obtain a visa to travel to India within the timeframe.

Dr. Davies described three options for the Board to consider:

- 1) Maintain the status quo
- 2) Discontinue GCW trips to Indonesia and Malaysia
- 3) Continue trying to push the visa issues with the embassies with the support of other IASAS schools while continuing to consider additional avenues that arise

The reluctance to begin restricting ISB activities/trips for visa reasons was expressed by Board members as it sets a precedent that may be very difficult to rein in in the future. The Board will continue to support students with their visa applications and pursue all available avenues for visa issuance.

### **IV. BOT COMMITTEES**

#### **Strategic Improvement and Learning Committee (SILC)**

Three potential scholarship candidates have been identified for next year. Two will be selected to receive an ISB scholarship. All three will come to ISB for an assessment, which will be considered in the selection process.

Dr. Davies is working on trimming and modifying the Learning Scorecard, including mean test scores from recent years. He will consider using more historical data and focusing on outcome statements in the Learning Scorecard instrument.

The committee discussed progress toward ISB being more inclusive. Dr. Davies will present progress at

the April SILC meeting and the April B.O.T. meeting after attending the Next Frontier Inclusion Conference in Brussels.

The consideration of teaching ethics/character education was raised and the committee viewed a presentation. The committee has just begun to discuss whether and where it might fit into ISB's mission. A Board member raised the need for teachers to be careful to be objective in their teaching of this type of program and not teaching simply her/his own perspective.

### **Business Committee**

The Business Committee discussed the proposed preliminary budget for academic year 2014/2015 (see below). Additionally, a traffic consultant as been contacted and asked to generate a quote for the cost of an ISB traffic flow survey. After receiving the quote, the Board can consider whether to proceed with the survey.

## **V. PRELIMINARY BUDGET 2014/2015**

Discussion of the proposed preliminary budget for academic year 2014/2015 focused on projected enrollment for next year in the context of recent political uncertainties; calculations were made using a student enrollment of 1900 as a baseline. In the eventuality that there are only 1800 students next year, there will be an anticipated drop in cash flow by 80 million Thai baht, which will not result in serious budget concerns. If enrollment happened to drop by 200 below the baseline to 1700, cash flow will drop by 170 million Thai baht, which represents a drop equal to normally expected surpluses of two full academic years (2013/2014 and 2014/2015 combined). If enrollment were to drop 400 below the baseline to 1500, cash flow would decrease by over 360 million Thai baht and serious cuts would need to be initiated for the following year.

## **VI. GENERATIVE THINKING**

Mr. de Vries led the Board in a discussion of how developing international relationships within ASEAN and potential changes in demographics within the international community in Thailand may have an impact on ISB. An example from the private sector was raised that Chevron has a goal of increasing nationals in the workforce, but slow gradual changes in the number of expatriate employees are expected. In Indonesia a very high percentage of Chevron's workforce is Indonesian. Expansion of work in Thailand has resulted in a steady number of expatriates even as more positions are nationalized.

One possible outcome of changes within the international community is that the number of students at ISB for whom English is not their first language may increase. This could create the need for more English language resources possibly leading to a bilingual school within the larger ISB school community. Or ISB could potentially see a need to become more international in character rather than having a school culture from a particular country or group of countries.

It was expressed that even in the face of future changes to the student body, the quality of education ISB delivers cannot be allowed to diminish. Quality is the most important feature to the educational product that ISB offers.

## **VII. COMMENTS AND QUESTIONS**

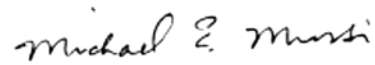
It was observed by a board member that there may be changes in the political situation in the next 10 days to 2 weeks, as there has been increasing activity by supporters of the interim government, and there are a number of court decisions expected to be released soon.

**VIII. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting was adjourned at 7:24 pm.

*The next meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 25, 2014.*

Verified as approved by the Board  
at its meeting March 25, 2014

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Michael E. Mussi".

Michael Mussi  
Secretary, ISB BOT