



Message from your Regional Director

Fellow International Christian Educator,

Last month I mentioned the painful goodbyes surrounding graduation, but have you considered that there is more than one type of leaver at your school? As I see it, there are three kinds of leavers at each international school. First, there are the graduating seniors. These are the most visible leavers. These ones are celebrated, photographed, and generally well-prepared to leave. They are gifted with banquets, senior trips, class activities, and even re-entry seminars. While their hearts may be nervously pounding about leaving, they have been coached to some degree about leaving well.

But then there are two more types of leavers that are sometimes overlooked. Let's talk about the leaving staff. I'm sure you have some sort of staff appreciation dinner for all your staff where you also point out those that are wrapping up their years of service. But often I wonder if that is enough. We might make the mistake of thinking, "They're adults, they know what to do." Interestingly, we do much better at helping our staff adjust to our school at arrival, yet neglect helping them transition away. Articles like these are never too late to share with them. [10 Tips for Repatriating with Dignity](#) and [How to Leave Well, Build a RAFT](#) Do any of you offer a re-entry seminar to leaving staff? I would love to hear about that.

Finally, there are the non-grade-12 students who will not be returning next year. You know who I mean. These are the ones that won't be on a graduation stage, won't have a banquet, and might not be given any re-entry tips either. I remember at Black Forest Academy when we finally started noticing these early leavers and doing something to recognize their status. When I got the chance to speak to this group I would recount the Stones of Remembrance story from [Joshua 4:1-7](#), where the Lord ordered the Israelites to pick up 12 stones from the Jordan river as they crossed and then stack them up because, "These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever." And then I would give those leaving students permission to, "...in the next few days, go ahead and pick out a small stone, one that will fit in your hand or your pocket. A stone from either the school campus, from outside your dorm or house, or some other special place, to take with you as a stone of remembrance, a physical piece of your current "home" to take with you forever. That stone can help you remember your friends, this place, and what God has done for you here." What do you do for the early leavers at your school?

(This book, [Faith on the Move: A Devotional for MK/TCK Teens in Cross-Cultural Transition](#), could make a great gift for the teen leavers! Contact [Interaction International](#) for bulk orders.)

I can't help but close with one short story. Back when our sons were in high school, we took a full year in the US, partly for us, and partly to prepare the boys for their own coming repatriation. When we got to the States, we discovered that our oldest son had specially packed a bottle of tap water from the village he grew up in in his checked bag. No, it wasn't a stone of remembrance, but it was a remembrance, nonetheless. He brought that bottle of water to the US 1) because he recalled from previous trips, he didn't like the water where we are going and 2) so he could enjoy it later in the year (it was in the freezer for months) when he was especially missing home...so he could REMEMBER.

How have you prepared all the leavers at your school? If you yourself are leaving, what is the stone of remembrance you are taking with you?

Blessings,

Tim

Tim Shuman for the [International School Team](#)

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Coming Up

- [PFO2Go Online](#) now includes a section on Child Safety. Register your incoming staff now. Leaders, let us know if you need access to review the course. Remember, Advisors can register for FREE. Since the start of 2022, we've had 80 persons sign-up for the course.
- Our [Fall 2022 Job Fair Tour](#) is ready to go with stops at GCU, Baylor, and Liberty universities (in that order). You can register now.
- Save the date for the [2022 Fall Virtual Job Fair](#) on 15–16 November. We are researching a new platform to host the fair. Details to follow.
- [ISLC 2023](#). Leaders, please make plans to join us at the International School Leader Conference (ISLC) in beautiful Dubrovnik, Croatia on 23–25 April 2023. I'm pleased to announce that Dr. Roger Parrott, President of Belhaven University will be joining us. Check out his new book [Opportunity Leadership](#).
- Please mark your calendars for [2023 ICEC Asia](#) in-person in Jakarta 23–25 November 2023. Details to follow.
- Save the date. ICEC Europe, hopefully in Prague, 20–23 March 2024.

News, Articles & Other Ideas

- ACSI Membership. ACSI School Membership Renewal email is arriving this month. To prepare for renewal season, please update your enrollment numbers and key school contacts. Here is a [short video tutorial](#) to assist you, or you may download the [PDF User Guide](#).
- We are seeing more International School leaders join in the FSI trainings in the USA. [Learn more here](#).
- Please be sure to check out the story about how [Kyiv Christian Academy](#) and the [International Christian School of Budapest](#) partnered to put on graduation for the KCA seniors who had been evacuated. See link below.
- Accreditation News. Please be sure to review the new ACSI accreditation protocol, [Inspire](#), on the ACSI website. Beginning in the fall of 2023, schools that are renewing or just beginning the accreditation process will utilize the Inspire protocol. Please reach out to your divisional accreditation office if you have questions.
- "Christians should deeply care about special education because all people bear the image of God." I loved this article by my friend and colleague, Matthew Lee, [The Missing Piece](#).

- Some of you are saying goodbye to your graduating TCK child who is leaving the nest. I know how hard this is. Please read this article, [The Art of Letting Go](#), by our friend MaDonna Maurer.
- This article, [Improving the induction of new staff in international schools](#), certainly presses home the importance of a well-thought out orientation program for your new staff. However, I believe it falls short in addressing the need to get your new staff's hearts and minds ready for what's ahead. [PFO2Go](#) addresses that missing piece.
- Recruiter, have you checked out our new [Career Center Employee Manual](#)? It covers everything about posting your jobs on the ACSI Career Center. And this [new support page](#) also helps you make better use of the ACSI Career Center. And PS. We are praying with you during this challenging season of recruiting.
- Have you considered hosting a Student-Teacher at your school? Learn more about how your school can become a Placement School at [STAGE](#), a ministry arm of Interaction International. You can also write directly to our friend [Sheryl O'Bryan](#) to request more information. PS again...student teachers often turn into fulltime faculty.
- It's been so great to see some of our international schools participate this year in various ACSI Student Activities. Check out the [full list of options](#) and the Student Activities [Home Page](#). Most, if not all, have a virtual option and international schools are heartily welcome!
- The latest [International School Leader Magazine](#), June 2022
- The latest [International Teacher Magazine](#), June 2022
- When I taught Middle School, I used to run [Balsa Wood Bridge Building Competitions](#). Well, [this young man](#) went way beyond balsa wood and wins the contest for design and detail!
- What?? [The Churches of Antarctica](#). Will someone let me know if there are any international Christian schools there and if they have any beaches?
- To my fellow coffee-devotees, enjoy this [Italian coffee machine museum](#). Who knew a coffee machine could be so beautiful.

Headship Openings Only

- **NEW.** Bandung Alliance Intercultural School, Indonesia. [Learn more here.](#)
- **NEW.** Carthage Classical Academy, Tunisia. [Learn more here.](#)
- Caspian Academy, Azerbaijan. [Learn more here.](#)
- **NEW.** Crossroads Christian Academy, Panama. [Learn more here.](#)
- El Camino Academy, Bogota, Colombia. [Learn more here.](#)
- Evangelical Christian Academy, Spain. [Learn more here.](#)
- Faith International Academy, Philippines. [Learn more here.](#)
- Holy Lands Ministry Schools, Israel. [Learn more here.](#)
- Hope Academy, Bishkek. [Learn more here.](#)
- Lazarus Academy, Honduras. [Learn more here.](#)
- Ukarumpa International Academy, Papua New Guinea. [Learn more here.](#)
- **NEW.** Yongsan International School of Seoul, Korea. [Learn more here.](#)

The ACSI job board is currently showing nearly [6655 resumes](#) from job seekers! You will need to login to see those results.

If you have a head of school opening coming up, please let me know. Be sure to check our [member school vacancy pages](#) as well as the [ACSI Job Board](#).

ACSI Announcements

ACSI is holding an [ongoing fundraiser](#) to help schools impacted by the **Ukraine** war. We have raised close to \$100k. Many ACSI member schools have held fundraisers of their own to contribute to the fund. These funds have gone to help with feeding the poorest of the poor, providing shelter and education for women and children, helping senior citizens with medications, and housing refugees.

Kyiv Christian Academy, an ACSI international member school, was forced to evacuate back in March. School officials were not sure if they would be able to have a graduation ceremony, but International Christian School in Budapest offered to hold the graduation ceremony at their school. You can read more about [this story here](#).





Kyiv Christian Academy class of 2022



There are only about 100 seats left for FSi Chicago in West Brook, IL, on June 21–23! Make plans to join us for a transformative experience and then stay for a personal vacation while visiting Navy Pier or other fun sites. [Register now.](#)



Have you seen the new Language Arts, K-3rd or Science, grades 1–3, third edition textbooks? Preview them and Spring into Savings with the [Purposeful Design Publications Annual Textbook Sales](#) now through June 30th.



Watch for your ACSI School Membership Renewal email arriving in June! To prepare for renewal season, please update your enrollment numbers and key school contacts. We now have a [short video tutorial](#) available to assist you. You may also [download the PDF User Guide](#). If you need assistance or have questions, please contact the ACSI Care Team.

Also, consider **Gifting ACSI Individual Memberships** to retiring educators so that they can stay connected. Learn more [here](#).



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