



## Message from your Divisional Director

### Fellow International Christian Educator,

In a recent men's group gathering our leader covered the issue of powerlessness — times when we may be overwhelmed. As I write this newsletter, the pandemic has now raged for over a year. During this period, our lives and our work have been disrupted in profound ways. I feel it, I know that you do, too. And sometimes it's easy to wallow in a feeling of powerlessness, weakness and even hopelessness. But consider these strange words from the Apostle Paul in 2 Cor. 12:10, "...I am content with weaknesses, insults, hardships, persecutions, and calamities." What? Seriously, Paul? Yes, he says, "For when I am weak, then I am strong." Paul explained earlier that he could only say those words because of a promise from God himself, "My grace is sufficient for you, for my power is made perfect in weakness." Amazing.

A passage in Isaiah 40 asks a related and probing question, "Why do you complain, Jacob? Why do you say, Israel, "My way is hidden from the Lord; my cause is disregarded by my God?" (Isa 40:27) If you can relate to Jacob's and Israel's complaint and cry — then take heart from the wonderful words that follow...

"Do you not know? Have you not heard?  
The Lord is the everlasting God, the Creator of the ends of the earth.  
He will not grow tired or weary, and his understanding no one can fathom.  
He gives strength to the weary and increases the power of the weak.  
Even youths grow tired and weary, and young men stumble and fall; but those  
who hope in the Lord will renew their strength.  
They will soar on wings like eagles; they will run and not grow weary, they will  
walk and not be faint."  
*Isaiah 40:28-31 (NIV)*

Leaders if you need encouragement, please consider joining other leaders for networking and renewal at the International School Leader Conference\* coming up in April. See more below.

Our prayers are with you! Pray for us, too.  
Tim S

Tim Shuman for the [International School Team](#)  
Follow on Twitter: [@tpshuman](#) [@acsiintschools](#) [@acsiglobal](#) [@acsiusa](#)

[Tim Shuman, Regional Director, International Schools](#)  
[Caitlin Taylor, Global Activity & International Events Coordinator](#) to Tim S  
[Tim Thompson, Associate Regional Director](#)  
[Kimberly Park, Executive Assistant](#) to Tim T

## Coming Up

- \*Leaders and leadership teams please join us for the [International School Leader Conference](#), 26-27 April 2021. The timing makes it ideal for leaders in Europe, Africa, and Latin America to participate live. Of course, leaders in Asia are welcome to join, too, keeping time zone differences in mind. Participants will enjoy both pre-recorded content and live discussion with amazing keynote speakers Dr. Michael Lindsay, President of Gordon College, Dr. Roger Parrott, President of Belhaven University and others. For full details visit [our conference webpage](#) and for any additional questions, please reach out to Caitlin ([caitlin\\_taylor@acsi.org](mailto:caitlin_taylor@acsi.org)). [REGISTER NOW](#).
- Mark your calendar. **ICEC Asia** is slated for 25-27 November 2021, and we are going virtual. Please be patient as we build out all details.
- [PFO2Go Course](#). PFO2Go (PreField Orientation) can be taken anytime, anywhere. If you are a head of school or head of recruitment, please reach out to us for access to view the course content.
- Mark your calendar. **ICEC Europe**, 7-9 April 2022, is currently planned in-person in Prague, CZ. However, there remains some caution with much depending on the status of the virus and vaccine distribution. Virtual is a backup possibility.

## Resources

- HS English teachers, how would you like to have a live guest speaker join you and your students? [Sean Beckett](#), Christian and poet, performer, and educator, is offering free, live, virtual poetry and performance-poetry workshops to supplement your English classes. For more information and lists of potential workshops, click [here](#). Sean will gladly work out a time suitable for you and your class.
- [Black Forest Academy](#) and [KC360](#) are teaming up for a Virtual College Fair March 15-29th. Each university and college participating in the VCF will post a recorded video presentation that students can watch at any time during the fair dates. Students can [register today](#) for access to exclusive interviews from colleges and universities over March 15-29th.
- I loved this short article on moving to a new country, "[You're Going to Hate It](#)". Read it to the end. I'm sure someone needs this right now.
- I really appreciated this timely article originally written in 2017 by an American pastor to American Christians. It takes on the tough problem of mixing theology and politics in [The Patriotic Idolatry](#). Discussion worthy.
- If you are in lockdown right now, maybe you could use [a virtual car ride in a major city with the radio on](#). Sometimes you need a fun distraction like this

one. I've been to many of the cities featured, how about you? Be sure to use your big screen.

- Do you remember the [Food Pyramid](#) that guided us toward healthy eating habits? Recently I heard about [The Wisdom Pyramid](#) that gives guidance for healthy habits for knowledge intake.
- Is there a member of your staff that is retiring after 30 years of service in Christian schools? The ACSI Career Service Award is now taking nominees. [Learn more here.](#)
- The good people at [AXIS.org](#) have worked out a discount with ACSI for their parenting materials. Yes, this applies to international schools too. [Learn more here.](#)
- Check out the latest issue of the [International School Leader](#) magazine.
- Join Dr. Jerry L. Eshleman and Christian educators from around the world, as we continue the free Well-Being Leadership Webinar Track on March 23: [Well-Being – Emotionally Intelligent Leaders.](#)

## Headship Openings Only

- Black Forest Academy, Germany. [Learn more here.](#)
- Brasilia International School, Brazil. [Learn more here.](#)
- Caspian Academy, Baku, Azerbaijan. [Learn more here.](#)
- Christian International School of Prague, Czech. [Learn more here.](#)
- Faith-Based, Wuxi, China. [Learn more here.](#)
- Faith-Based, Yantai, China. [Learn more here.](#)
- Haven of Peace Academy, Tanzania. [Learn more here.](#)
- Holy Lands Ministry Schools, Israel. [Learn more here.](#)
- Hope Academy of Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. [Learn more here.](#)
- Ukarumpa International Academy, Papua New Guinea. [Learn more here.](#)
- Whitman Academy, West Amman, Jordan. [Learn more here.](#)

Be sure to check our list of [member schools' vacancy pages](#) as well as the [ACSI Job Board](#).



What an extraordinary season it's been, but we serve an extraordinary God! In this new year as you train the next generation to know and love an eternal Savior who the is same yesterday, today and forever, we invite you to understand and learn how to flourish in your family and school community the way God intends. Learn more at [acsi.org/flourishing](https://www.acsi.org/flourishing).

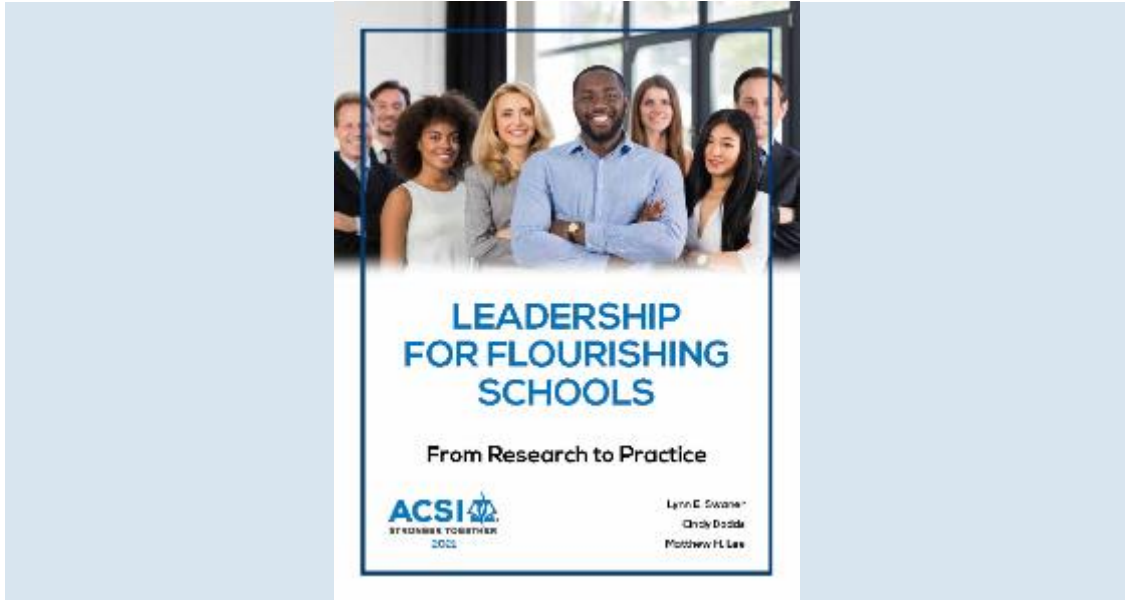
Join us June 16-18 for the first Flourishing Schools Institute Experience in Dallas, TX! This new professional development opportunity for school leaders will transform your school culture. Register Now at <https://www.acsi.org/home/professional-development/fsi>.



ACSI and Axis have partnered to provide relevant tools to educators and parents designed to help them stay current with rapidly changing cultural trends impacting youth.

Membership grants users entry to an expansive library of relevant materials and access to a team of Gospel-focused researchers standing by to answer any questions. Ultimately, both ministries believe the initiative provides tools to help adults and children cope with the dizzying, seismic cultural shifts they face.

This includes international schools. To read more about this partnership, click [here](#).



ACSI's Flourishing Schools Research in 2018 was groundbreaking and yielded the first ever measure and model of Christian school flourishing. A new report, [Leadership for Flourishing Schools: From Research to Practice](#), answers the question of how these findings can be utilized by school leaders—including heads of school, administrators, and school boards—to develop their own practices that lead to flourishing-related outcomes for their schools. The report also provides two sets of self-reflection guides—one for school leaders and one for school boards—with questions that can be used individually and collaboratively to strengthen leaders' foundational, relational, and strategic practices for flourishing.



[Apply](#) now for a 14-month mentoring program for new and emerging heads of schools beginning in April through Leadership U. Learn more [HERE](#).

## Updates

# CAREER SERVICE AWARD

Nominations for the 2020-2021 ACSI Career Service Award are being accepted now through April 1, 2021. Nominees must be entering formal retirement at the end of the 2020-2021 school year. They must also have a minimum of 35 years in education (with at least 25 of those years in Christian schooling). For details, please click [here](#).



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