Message from your Regional Director

Fellow International Christian Educator,

International educators have travel stories, I have them, so do you. I will never forget the time I landed at Narita in Tokyo to make a connection to serve an ACSI school in SE Asia. We were informed just prior to landing that all outbound flights were cancelled due to a snowstorm. I gave a sigh, but thought, “No problem, I will just go to a nearby hotel, get some sleep and catch a connection the next day.” Once in the terminal I learned that there was no ground transportation, and all hotels were full. After walking around the crowded terminal for a couple of hours trying everything I could think of, it finally sunk in that I was going nowhere along with thousands of other stranded travelers. And so, eventually I accepted the airport handouts: a blanket, a foil pack of crackers and a small drink box. Then found a little spot of floor and laid down next to my many new neighbors to try and get some rest. With my head on my backpack and my body on the cold marble floor, I couldn’t help but be reminded of that time when Jesus remarked, “Foxes have holes, and birds of the air have nests, but the Son of Man has nowhere to lay his head.” (Matthew 8:20)

Jesus said those words to an excited scribe that came up to him and declared, “Teacher, I will follow you wherever you go.” In his response Jesus was basically warning the scribe that following him would be costly. Now, I do not equate my one night on an airport floor as anywhere near the costly discipleship that Jesus was talking about. But as I laid there that evening, I had to do some soul checking about what’s most important, about the true cost of following Jesus, about my selfish wants, and about my need to be in control. While listening to the sounds of babies crying, adults snoring, and a few neighbors chatting, I felt comforted knowing that Jesus knew right where I was, that he knew all about not having a place to lay one’s head, and that it was going to be ok. He was there with me.

What’s your travel story? Have you seen Jesus meet you in unexpected ways? Are you resting in your Savior’s care today despite challenges you don’t want and didn’t ask for? Are you taking your questions to Him, letting go of your need for control, and resting in Him? Go ahead and share your best travel story with a colleague/friend and be sure to ask for theirs. And oh, btw, I did make the connection the next day.

Many blessings,

Tim

Tim Shuman, Senior Director, ACSI International Division, for the International School Team
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Coming Up
• **ISLC 2023.** Leaders, join us in beautiful Dubrovnik, Croatia for 2023 ISLC which will feature keynote presentations from Dr. Roger Parrott, President of Belhaven University, and international thoughts leaders leading breakout discussions around these topics:
  o Introduction to Flourishing for International Schools and Where to Start
  o Financial Accountability and Fraud Deterrence for Christian International School
  o Developing a School Climate that Promotes Trauma Recovery

• Per usual, there is room in the schedule to connect with other leaders and explore the city. You don't want to miss this time for fellowship and PD! [REGISTER HERE](#).

• Please mark your calendars for **2023 ICEC Asia** in Jakarta 23–25 November 2023. Details to follow.

• **Save the date.** ICEC Europe, in Prague CZ, 20-23 March 2024.

• **PFO2Go Online** course continues to be available anytime, anywhere for your newest staff.

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**News, Articles & Other Ideas**

• Leaders, part 2 of our Salary & Tuition report is in the latest issue of ACSI’s Research in Brief. This time we focus on [Tuition, Revenue, and Enrollment in International Christian Schools](#).

• ACSI latest posts:
  o Bullying in Schools: Why It Matters More Than Ever
  o Moving Forward Flourishing Series: Questioning (ACSI podcast)
  o Moving Forward Flourishing Series: Responsiveness to Special Needs (ACSI podcast)

• I am so pleased to share this one-stop webpage with all the ACSI student activity offerings that apply to international schools: on-demand and virtual events like Art Festivals, Math Olympics, Speech Meets and more! Everything international is now on one webpage: [Global/International Student Activities](#). What event will your school host?

• **What are your tips for cultivating a flourishing culture?** Michael Essenburg helps get our minds into flourishing for the international school context. Please subscribe to his posts.

• The latest edition of [EduCare](#) (by our friends at [EuroTCK](#)) focuses on Indian MKs. Fascinating.

• I highly recommend to you the work of TCKTraining.com. Take a look at this blog post, [Caution and Hope for Students in Christian International Schools](#). I know you will find their research helpful.

• Here’s a good example of an onboarding practice from an international school, [Successful Onboarding of New Teachers](#).

• I’m sure you know this already, but it’s always good to be reminded. Bilingual students [have the upper hand](#).

• This long-ish article on multilingualism is also interesting. How [Our Brains Cope With Speaking More Than One Language](#). You have some polyglot students in your classroom right now. This may be helpful to you.

• “If our kids grow up to be great athletes, that’s exciting. But if they grow up to be great human beings, that’s infinitely more consequential”, [What I’ve Learned Refereeing Youth Soccer](#), Peter Greer.
“There is plenty wrong in this world—there always has been, and there always will be until Christ returns. But Christians, of all people, are to be optimists, and this optimism should shine as a bright light of encouragement and as a model to our students and a watching world.” Frightened of a Changing Culture?, Barrett Mosbacker.

This 2023 World Ranking of Universities is almost mind-blowing. Does your school have alumni in the top 10? 20?

Paper currency can tell you a LOT about a country, its culture, its values, and what it hopes to project to the world. What Types of People Appear Most on International Currencies?

I am fascinated by this pair of 1880’s Levi’s (oldest known pair) that went on auction recently.

Here’s a site that features the calming sounds from forests around the world. Nap time, anyone?

Headship Openings Only

- Bandung Alliance Intercultural School, Indonesia. 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.
- Lazarus Academy, Honduras. Learn more here.
- Ukarumapa International Academy, Papua New Guinea. Learn more here.
- Yongsan International School of Seoul, Korea. Learn more here.

If you have a head of school opening coming up, please let me know. Be sure to check our member school vacancy page as well as the ACSI Job Board. The ACSI job board is currently showing almost 6834 resumes from job seekers, up again by 25 since last month! Use the filter to see the most recently updated resumes.
We have updated our Accreditation protocol, called Inspire. Click the image above or watch the video about it here.

You can watch our recent Maximize Your Membership video about the 2023 Day of Prayer and download a PDF about it here.

Fall 2022 issue of Research in Brief released – This month, ACSI Research releases the Fall 2022 issue of Research in Brief. RiB is published twice per year and highlights the latest findings in Christian education research to inform best practices in Christian schools. This issue focuses on parental choice and partnerships with Christian schools. Each member school is mailed a hard copy of RiB and additional digital copies can be downloaded and shared using this link.

Invest in your next generation of leadership through ACSI's Leadership U. Applications are being accepted now through December for new and emerging leaders to go through a 14-month mentoring program. Study administration, governance, research, advancement, and best practices, grow with veteran mentors, and thrive in a community of fellow scholars who share your passion to lead with skill and integrity. Learn more here.
ACSI presents **Greater Access Digital**. Greater Access brings with it the hope and Promise of Christian Education. ACSI is living out the Great Commission through Christ-centered education with greater access of resources than ever before for teachers and students. Learn more.

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We’re always on the lookout for inspirational stories about Christian schools around the world. What are the exciting things happening at your school? Take a moment to share your story with us by filling out this form. We want to highlight the amazing things taking place at your school!

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ACSI Student Activities offers international virtual and on-demand events that make it easy for member schools around the world to get involved!

Facilitated through our unique Student Activities E-vents platform, virtual events give schools and students the opportunity to participate and connect with other registrants without travel or time zone limitations. On-demand events equip schools with the resources needed to facilitate an event for their students on campus anytime throughout the school year.

Learn more here.

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Is Your School Future Ready? New Study Released! ACSI and Cardus are excited to release an excerpt from their new groundbreaking research on Christian school financial sustainability called *Future Ready: Innovative Missions and Models in Christian Education*. A copy of the study was mailed to every ACSI member school in mid-October. To order additional copies or learn more, click here.