



### **Fellow International Christian Educator,**

Welcome to the new school year. I love this time of year, always have—new backpacks, new books, new pencils, new friends, new plans. At the start of this new year, let me encourage you once again dear educator with this great quote from Desiderius Erasmus (1466–1536), "To be a schoolmaster is next to being a king. Do you count it lowly employment to imbue the minds of the young with the things of Christ and the best of literature and return them to their homes honest and virtuous persons? In the opinion of fools, it is a humble task; but in fact, it is the noblest of occupations." [Want to see a photo of me beside Erasmus' burial site?](#) It's not too far away from one of our member international schools in Europe.

The start of this school year is also a great opportunity for me to encourage you to listen to the 15 August 2019 episode of the Life & Faith podcast entitled, [The "Christian" Classroom—why might someone who's not religious want to send their kids to a faith-based school?](#) This episode is an interview with Dr. David I. Smith, recent keynote speaker at ICEC Prague (Europe) and author of *On Christian Teaching, Practicing Faith in the Classroom*. Amazingly, David's interviewer is Dr. Natasha Moore, our [upcoming keynote speaker at ICEC Kigali \(Africa\)](#)! Talk about worlds colliding! It's a great talk covering many issues of interest to us as Christian educators. Naturally, this happy collision also affords me a chance to remind you to plan on attending ICEC Kigali.

I also want to quickly take this opportunity to invite ALL school leaders wherever you are in the world to our spring International School Leaders Conference (ISLC) in Dubrovnik, Croatia. Not only will we have two excellent keynote speakers ([learn more here](#)), but you will also have a chance to meet and hear from ACSI's new President, Dr. Larry Taylor. We are opening up ISLC to now be a more worldwide gathering rather than just a regional one.

Blessings to all of you,

Tim Shuman for the International School Team

[Tim Shuman, Regional Director, International Schools](#)

[Tim Thompson, Assoc Regional Director](#)

[Anne Jones, Exec Assistant](#) to Tim S

[Kimberly Park, Exec Assistant](#) to Tim T

[Cindy Epp, Admin Assistant](#) to our team

## Events

1. **JOB FAIR. ACT FAST!** [Register now for Job Fair 2019](#). 22-29 October 2019. Fair stops are as follows: 22 October: [Grand Canyon University](#) (20,500 students on campus). 24 October: [Liberty University](#) (16,000 students on campus). 29 October: [Baylor University](#) (16,000 students on campus). A section of [this article](#) covers how to prepare to participate in a job fair.

2. [ICEC Africa](#). **Register NOW**. The International Christian Educator Conference (ICEC) will take place on the campus of [Kigali International Community School](#) 1–4 April 2020. Keynote speakers include Research Fellow, Dr. Natasha Moore, at [Centre for Public Christianity](#), and Sandra Paetkau, consultant and founder of [The Total Tech-Over](#).

3. **Calling all heads of school around the world** (not just in Europe). [International School Leaders Conference](#) (ISLC) will be held on 26–29 April 2020 in Dubrovnik, Croatia at the beautiful [Kompas Hotel](#). Come and meet [ACSI's new President, Dr. Larry Taylor](#). Keynote speakers include Dr. Roger Parrott, [President of Belhaven University](#), author of "[The Longview](#), Lasting Strategies for Rising Leaders" and Sandra Paetkau, consultant and founder [The Total Tech-Over](#).



Learn More

## Resources

- **Is teacher stress an issue at your Christian school?** Someone in your school leadership needs to listen to the latest ACSI Podcast on the topic of "[Teacher Well-Being in our Schools](#)".
- **New ways to pray for one another.** In place of our Global Prayer Guide, we are now launching a new interactive prayer group called International Schools Prayer Community on ACSI's Community platform. All you have to do is [login into community](#) using your ACSI credentials, search for "International Schools Prayer Community," and then click on Join Community. Joining will allow you to post prayer requests (these will be moderated) and will allow you to be alerted to new prayer items that are posted.
- **Policy Governance.** From Governing for Impact. "Looking for a precise description of the 10 principles of the Policy Governance model? [This document lays out what IS and IS NOT Policy Governance.](#)"
- **China International School Market analysis.** "China is the largest and fastest growing international schools market in the world." ISC Research once again provides [an excellent analysis here](#).

- [Recruiting Tips for the Christian International School](#). Recruiting staff for the international school is a year-round activity. This document is a collection of recruiting ideas for international schools that covers a lot of ground. The next recruiting cycle is already beginning.
- **Facebook-ACSI USA**. Do you follow ACSI-USA on Facebook? The USA page enjoys highlighting member school stories wherever they exist. Do you have a great story to tell? Stories of God at work? About an innovated practice? An impact on a family's life, or a town or a city? An academic milestone for your school? Submit your brief story proposals to [anne\\_jones@acsi.org](mailto:anne_jones@acsi.org) and maybe yours will get selected. This may also be a great way to increase the profile of your school.
- **Book Recommendation**. All of you live in a tight-knit community, and right now, things with your colleagues probably look pretty rosy. Hopefully it stays that way, but the truth is, sometimes living and working with one another can be challenging. Tim McGill, Superintendent of Morrison Academy, recently gave me a copy of, [Unoffendable: How Just One Change Can Make All of Life Better](#), by Brant Hansen and I can't recommend it enough to you. I've found it challenging and helpful. This description says it all: "Not entitled to get angry? Really? It's a radical, provocative idea: We're not entitled to get offended or stay angry. The idea of our own 'righteous anger' is a myth. It is the number one problem in our societies today and, as Dallas Willard says, Christians have not been taught out of it." This could be a good book for a small group or your entire staff.
- **Global TCK Summit** will be held in [Chiangmai, November 8–11, 2019](#). The theme of the conference is to mobilize MKs in MK care. It will have a stronger focus on the newly sending countries.
- **Speaking Opportunity for YOU?** ACSI Indonesia is looking for candidates to teach a module titled Teaching the Exceptional Learner in fall 2020. They are hoping to find someone who has experience in the East Asia context. [Learn more here.](#)
- **The ACSI Blog**. [Have you read the latest ACSI Blog post?](#)

### The Big, Five Minute Poll

[Click here to participate in the big, five minute poll.](#) We are seeking to understand the continuing impact of ACSI's PreField Orientation program on its program alumni around the world. It begins with the question, *Did you ever attend ACSI's PreField Orientation program?* Even non-PFO attendees are urged to participate.