



International
Association for
Volunteer
Effort

E-IAVE

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In This Issue

News from IAVE

- **IAVE Arab Nations Conference Set for Oman**
- **Website for Latin American Regional Conference Goes Live**
- **IAVE Has Strong Presence at U.S. National Conference**
- **A Special U.S. Launch for the 2014 World Volunteer Conference**
- **GCVC Meets in Washington DC**

News from IAVE Members

- **IAVE Nigeria Celebrates Global Youth Service Day**
- **Hong Kong Institute of Volunteers Is Launched**

News from the Global Volunteer Community

- **Time to Plan for International Volunteer Managers Day**

The Final Word

IAVE ARAB NATIONS CONFERENCE SET FOR OMAN

We are pleased to announce that the 2nd IAVE Arab Nations Regional Volunteer Conference will be held in Muscat, Oman, November 24-26, 2013.

It will bring in volunteer leaders, NGOs, business and government officials together from different countries in the Arab world to share their experiences in volunteerism and learn more to strengthen it in the region.

"We are looking forward at the conference positively. It is a golden opportunity for those who are seriously interested in volunteerism. Volunteerism can bring sea changes in any community," said Saleh Mahmood Al Zadjali, Board member (secretary) at Oman Association for Consumer Protection, the local organizers of the conference.

Barka Al Bakri, IAVE's National Representative in Oman, said the conference would provide an opportunity for local NGOs and volunteers to understand volunteerism. "By attending the conference, the participants will get a broader picture of volunteerism.

"They can also learn how to do it in a professional way," said Barka, who has immense experience in steering organizations which help women, visually challenged and those with handicaps in Oman.

The three-day conference will be divided in four parts: an opportunity for sharing best practices in volunteering in the Arab region, training of trainers in volunteer management, youth volunteering for youth leaders aged between 18 and 25 years, and corporate volunteering for companies those who want to start volunteering programs.

Patricia Nabti, Regional Representative for the Arab Nations to the IAVE Board of Directors, is providing overall guidance and support in planning the conference.

[Quotations in this story appeared in a story about the conference in the Times of Oman on June 11.]

WEBSITE FOR LATIN AMERICAN REGIONAL CONFERENCE GOES LIVE

Want to learn more about IAVE's Latin American Regional Volunteer Conference? Please go to <http://voluntariadoecuador2013.com> for all the details.

Remember: October 14-16 in Guayaquil, Ecuador!

IAVE HAS STRONG PRESENCE AT U.S. NATIONAL CONFERENCE

[Thanks to Kathi Dennis, IAVE Executive Director, for this article.]

As we do every June, IAVE had a strong presence at this year's Points of Light National Conference on Volunteering and Service. In Washington DC this year, the conference offered numerous opportunities for our participation. Here is where we, our members and our partners were:

- GCVC members Samsung and Bank of America were represented by Jiseon Tak and Melissa Moi, respectively, along with Hitoshi Suzuki from NEC in Japan in the workshop "A Deep Dive in Asia" All three corporations did an excellent job in presenting their employee corporate volunteer programs in the region. The session was sponsored by GCVC member and long time IAVE supporter, The Disney Corporation.
- Another panel, "Regional Trends in Volunteer Management" featured our own Dr Lee; Monica Galiano from Brazil who is leading our corporate strategy in Latin America; IAVE member Hammam Al Juraied, director of the WARIF Volunteer Center in Saudi Arabia; and Ramona Dragomir, our Atlas Corps Fellow who serves in our Secretariat. They were joined by UNV New York Office Chief, Jordi Llopart who spoke about the United Nation's post 2015 agenda for community development.
- Raaida Mannaa, who leads our Global Youth Volunteers initiative, presented in a session on youth volunteering.
- Board members who participated in the conference program were David Styers (USA), Silvia Meruvia Landers (Bolivia), Patricia Nabti (Lebanon) and Sam Santiago (Chair of GCVC). National Representatives Heloise Coelho (Brazil) and Susana Barnetche (Mexico) also participated.

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- We joined corporate sponsors Disney and Hilton Hotels, both GCVC members, and our colleague organization, Meridian House, as partners in a special reception for global participants, hosted by Points of Light. Special thanks for their support goes to the Association of Junior Leagues International, IAVE National Representative in the U.S.

A SPECIAL U.S. LAUNCH FOR THE 2014 WORLD VOLUNTEER CONFERENCE

On Monday, June 17, The Honorable Kim Beazley, Australian Ambassador to the United States, and his wife, Susie Annus, welcomed the IAVE Global Corporate Volunteer Council to his residence in Washington DC.

Ambassador Beazley hosted GCVC as part of the Australian government's support for the IAVE World Conference to be held in Australia in September 2014 (www.iave2014.org). IAVE World President Dr. Kang Hyun Lee thanked the Ambassador for his support.

The 2014 conference was represented by Margaret Bell, Past World President of IAVE and Conference Coordinator, and Dorothy Harding, Project Manager. Margaret and Dorothy also attended the GCVC meeting and the Points of Light conference to promote the conference.

For more information on the conference, please visit <http://iave2014.org/>.

GCVC MEETS IN WASHINGTON DC

[Thanks to Sarah Hayes, Consultant Director for GCVC, for this report.]

25 members of IAVE's Global Corporate Volunteer Council (GCVC) gathered in Washington D.C. for the first GCVC meeting of the year, from June 17-19. This was the largest GCVC meeting held in our almost 7-year history of the GCVC.

The theme of this meeting was "Corporate Volunteering – the Stone Age to the Information Age to...?" Our members had lively discussions on the evolution of their employee volunteer programs and where they see them going in the future.

On Tuesday, members were treated to additional presentations from The Conference Board and representatives from the Atlas Corps Fellows program from Sudan, Romania, Spain and South Africa.

Diane Melley from IBM shared with the group the progress of the Disaster Dialogue, begun in London. This topic is one that GCVC companies have great interest in and the work ahead promises to be important and challenging. Several GCVC members raised their hands to be part of a working group around this special topic.

Sam Santiago (American Airlines and IAVE Board) and CJ Jones from Mondelez led a discussion about the new GCVC Steering Group and the work that would be undertaken in the next year.

All in all, it was one of the best GCVC meetings that has been held since the launch of the GCVC in 2006. There were many new companies represented as well as some wonderful, familiar faces that have been part of this special network for years. There was excitement for what we can all do together as a team. Participants left with new inspiring practices to consider

implementing, new friendships, and a renewed commitment to GCVC and to the important work of managing employee engagement programs globally.

GCVC companies represented at the meeting: Adobe, American Airlines, Amway, Avnet, Bank of America-Merrill Lynch, Disney, EMC, Google, HP, IBM, Intel, Intuit, Marsh & McLennan, MetLife, Mondelez International, Monsanto, PIMCO, RBC, Salesforce.com, Samsung, Starbucks, State Street, Telefonica, UBM and Verizon. Guests from Wells Fargo and NEC attended the last day of the meeting.

NEWS FROM IAVE MEMBERS

IAVE NIGERIA CELEBRATES GLOBAL YOUTH SERVICE DAY

[Thanks to Chinenye Atuma, the leaders of IAVE Nigeria and Marcel Umesi, Regional Representative for Africa to the IAVE Board of Directors, for this report. IAVE Nigeria has a strong record of organizing its members, many of whom also are members of IAVE, for volunteer actions.]

The Global Youth Service Day was elaborately celebrated in Umuahia, the Abia State capital on 26th and 27th, April 2013 by IAVE Nigeria members in partnership with Vision Africa Radio Volunteer Team (VARVOT).

The programme was preceded by advocacy visits to Her Excellency, Wife of the Abia State Governor, Lady Mercy Odochi Orji and the Abia State House of Assembly to solicit for partnership and sponsorship of the event. This was followed by massive publicity in the electronic media.

The event was flagged off with a visit to the Umuahia Prisons. The hall was packed full when IAVE members arrived. The inmates did not hide their excitement to receive the visitors.

In his remark, the Deputy Controller of Prisons expressed gratitude to IAVE for reaching out to the needy in the society. He lamented of congestion in the prisons and disclosed that there are over 780 inmates. According to him, 95 percent of them have been on awaiting trial list for over seven years because they have no money to hire legal services. He alleged that the case files of some of them are missing and appealed to government to release those who have over-stayed and urged IAVE not to relent in its humanitarian deeds.

IAVE members and other people delivered good will messages. Prominent among them were the IAVE Nigeria Coordinator, Dr. Rose Ekeleme, C. J. Mama from Love 103.9 FM Radio Station, Umuahia. They admonished them to see the place as a training ground for developing their potentials and preparing themselves for a better life ahead. They urged them to use the opportunity to effect the necessary change and transformation in their lives.

The IAVE Nigeria Chairperson, Lady K. C. Nwokoro assured them that with the help of her husband who is a lawyer, they would regain their freedom. Similarly, Mr. Uchechukwu Uwalaka, a member of the Vision Africa Radio Volunteer Team disclosed that he had secured the release of four inmates and promised to facilitate the release of some others who do not have the resources to help themselves. On his own part, Evangelist Uche A. Ohaka, urged them to be repentant and cultivate a healthy relationship with God.

Also speaking, the representative of the inmates outlined some of their challenges to include inadequate or lack of medical support for pregnant inmates, inhalers for asthmatic inmates, education for inmates' children, lack of financial and legal aid for those awaiting trial. They

appealed to IAVE to apply pressure on the state government to implement its promise of releasing those who have been pardoned under the Prerogative of Mercy and expressed hope that IAVE and good-spirited individuals and corporate organizations would visit them regularly.

Highlights of the occasion included melodious renditions by the Umuahia Prisons Choir, presentation of food items, clothing and cash gifts; inspection of handicrafts produced by the inmates including colourful bags, foot wares, and upholstered chairs and fabricated machines. A visit to the female section revealed some pregnant inmates, a nursing mother carrying a month-old baby and a couple of children.

Those who graced the occasion were IAVE and VAVOT members, prison officials and inmates.

In a vote of thanks, Lady Nwokoro expressed appreciation to Her Excellency and the Abia House of Assembly for their generosity in providing the necessary logistics and for sponsorship.

On 27th April, 2013 we visited the Special School for the Vision Impaired, School of the Blind, Afara Ukwu in Umuahia, where IAVE members carried out extensive environmental clean-up exercise of the premises which was overgrown with weeds. Everyone including those who heard about it over the radio and volunteered their time worked with unfeigned zeal. The enthusiasm was so overwhelming that we used sticks as improvised rakes.

The Principal and the Vice Principal of the Special School were so impressed and thanked IAVE for saving them thousands of naira that would have been used for hiring labourers. The turn-out was encouraging. Those who participated were secondary school students from St. Patrick Model Secondary School, Kings' Capital Academy Ohokobe Afara, and Master's Vessel Classical Academy Umuahia. Also in attendance were individuals who heard of the programme over the radio and came out en mass to volunteer their services

The team also paid visits to St. Vincent de Paul Centre for physically and mentally challenged children, Umuafai and Agape Orphanage Home for Motherless Babies Ipupe Ubakala all in Umuahia. The reverend sisters and the children were happy and rejoiced to see us. We sang and clapped and prayed with them and distributed food, toiletries and drinks to them. The Coordinator of Agape Orphanage Home expressed concern over non institutionalized orphans in the society and appealed to government to ensure that every child is protected from all forms of economic exploitation such as child labour, early marriage, neglect, exclusion and child trafficking.

The Global Youth Service Day which was celebrated in earnest afforded IAVE the opportunity to create awareness on volunteerism and humanitarian activities in the society.

HONG KONG INSTITUTE OF VOLUNTEERS IS LAUNCHED

[Thanks to Flora Chung, CEO of the Association for Volunteer Service and IAVE National Representative for Hong Kong for this article.]

The Hong Kong Institute of Volunteers (HKIoV) Inauguration Ceremony and Forum on "Building Impact in Volunteering," organized by the Agency for Volunteer Service (AVS), was completed with flying colors on March 21. The event attracted the active participation of some 160 policy makers, volunteer leaders and administrators from different sectors.

The Chief Secretary for Administration, HKSAR, the Hon Mrs. Carrie Lam Cheng Yuet-ngor, GBS, JP officiated at the Inauguration Ceremony and conferred the Honorary Fellowship of the HKIoV. The event not only celebrated the establishment of the HKIoV, but also marked the

milestone in the development of volunteering in Hong Kong. HKIoV is a new initiative of AVS which is dedicated to advancing volunteerism and promoting excellence in volunteering.

Realizing the cooperation with the private sector has become the trend of the world's volunteerism, the Forum focused on the productive partnership between the private sector and volunteer-involving organizations with a view to building impact in volunteering. Ms Margaret Bell, AM, Patron of Volunteering Australia and Dr Justin Davis-Smith, CBE, Executive Director of Volunteering and Development, National Council for Voluntary Organizations, England as well as the local community leaders, Dr John Chan, GBS, JP, Prof Joseph Lian Yi-zheng and Mr Shih Wing-ching, JP shared their valuable experiences and insights with the participants who found the discussions most fruitful and constructive.

NEWS FROM THE GLOBAL VOLUNTEER COMMUNITY

TIME TO PLAN FOR INTERNATIONAL VOLUNTEER MANAGERS DAY

[Thanks to Andy Fryar in Australia, Chair of the IVMDay Committee, for this information. For more information, he can be reached at andy@OzVPM.com.]

We are writing to you to remind you that International Volunteer Managers Day 2013 is only 5 months away, November 5.

Please take this opportunity to start promoting IVMDay 2013 to your members, supporters and colleagues. The theme for 2013 has been set – "Connecting and Inspiring" – to reflect two key qualities which quite aptly describe the role that volunteer managers play everyday.

Please check out our brand new website at www.volunteermanagersday.org.

THE FINAL WORD...

So, last month, we were a week late sending E-IAVE and we wrote, "Maybe we will do June a week early...or not!" Sadly, it turned out to be "not." This time your editor spent most of the last two weeks of the month on travel for IAVE to Seoul, Beijing and Macao. But there is no travel on the calendar for July so...we'll see! Thanks for your patience!

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