



# welcome

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editorial

Welcome to the second issue of the IST Alumni Newsletter – a bi annual publication aimed at keeping the IST alumni, in Tanzania and abroad, abreast with the Association’s work.

### **Don't miss out**

Catch up on the two get togethers that the new committee has organized since coming into office in October 2009, including: *The Family Fun Garage Sale* in March at the Secondary School campus - which raised over 1,000 USD for a charity that works around the clock to get single mothers and children off the streets (House of Blue Hope) – and the *IST Family Fun Day* in June at the Golden Tulip: a fun-filled day for alumni and their families with swimming, entertainment, food and more!

July saw the Alumni organization partly contribute to the air fare of three IST students who excelled in the IB program and obtained scholarships to leading universities: Adelaide Makwaia, Meysam Rajani and Maximillan Nengendahayo. See how the funding will help them achieve their academic goals, and hear from past recipients, the IST Secondary School Counselor and IST Board Chair on this worthy annual intervention that the Association makes each year.

### **Also featuring**

Join and follow us on our newly created Facebook page to keep yourself updated on the latest news of the Association and its events

in Tanzania and abroad. Also find out what Chandni Ruparelia and Chintu Patel have been up to since they left IST in the *Where Are They Now* section and catch up with Mr. Bhandhari – a fun-loving Science and Physics teacher of the 80s and 90s. Finally, see if you can spot yourself (or your friends) in the *Down Memory Lane* photos.

### **You tell us**

We look forward to your feedback. For comments, or what you would like to see in the next newsletter, please let us know by sending an email to [alumni@istafrica.com](mailto:alumni@istafrica.com). Also feel free to share any photos, stories and events in your part of the world so we can publish these in the next issue. For a FREE subscription to the newsletter and to be added to the alumni database, please contact Doreen at the same email.

### **Hassan and Nikki**

PS: special thanks to METL, Sumaria, Synarge, The Living Room, Indian Ocean Hotels and Exim Bank for sponsoring the second issue of the newsletter.



**Hassan Dewji Nikki Aggarwal**



# Alumni Events

## News

### *The Family Fun GarageSale*

*(March 13th 2010, IST Upper  
School Campus, 11AM to  
5PM).*

All proceed go to “The House  
of Blue Hope” a worthy Charity  
that works around the clock to  
take children and single mothers  
off the streets.



# *IST Family Fun DAY!*

*(June 6th 2010, Golden Tulip Hotel, 11AM to 5PM).*

Food, games, swimming and entertainment for families.



*Word from IST Alumni Scholarship  
Recipients*

*Current Recipients (2010-2011)*



*Adelaide Makwaia*

A lady of a vision marked with loyalty to the roots.

Tanzanian heading to Bates College hoping to study Economics with an aim of using skills gained to serve the community.

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*Meysam Rajani*

I have enrolled myself at Tufts University in Medford Massachusetts, a few minutes away from Boston City. For the moment, I have my status as “undecided”, however; I’m looking at pursuing Mathematics, Statistics, Economics which might lead to a career in financial analysis and/or risk management (maybe actuarial science).



*Maximillian Ngendahayo*

I am going to study economics and or bussiness at Grinnell college, Iowa for four years under a full four year scholarship. I have chosen this carrier after analysing the current tanzanian economic and market situations. I believe that unless the current market structure change to a more proffesional and organised one, there will be little or no economic development. I believe that my knowledge and perhaps experience of foreign economic systems would help to bring new ideas to the society.

*Past Recipients*

*Evelyn Lupimo*

The funding for my ticket to the States was a lot more helpful than I thought it would and even more so, it came at the right time. Although it did not cover the entire cost, it was better than nothing. I am grateful I received that much and I hope some students will benefit from the ISTAA funding this year too. I appreciate it!





***Duyshyant Pattni***

“I am very grateful to the IST Alumni Association for initiating such a move to help IST scholarship students even though they were about to leave the IST community and the country for a while. On a personal level, it was very beneficial as there are added costs when one travels to another country for the first time and has to start from scratch. The funding for my ticket to the States made it a lot easier for me and my family. Moreover, the entire process enabled me to get familiar with the IST Alumni Association and was pleased to meet the board members who were doing so much for IST even after graduating many years ago. It was an inspiring event and I thank the IST Alumni Association for that.”

***Charles Mbatia***

Last summer, after concluding my two years of IB at IST, the IST alumni group approached me and expressed interest in supporting the beginning of my educational journey overseas at Stanford University by funding part of my air fare to the US in September. As a result of their support, I was able to have fewer financial restrictions in my freshman year of college. Many thanks goes out to the IST Alumni group for being there for me when it mattered most.



■ Thank you for your IST Student Scholarship support and for again offering this additional funding this year for these young people to travel to their US universities. Your efforts and time are much appreciated.

■ ***Daryl Rustad. Secondary School College Counsellor.***

■ IST Alumni,  
■ Your continued support to enable the IST scholarship students to attend the universities of their choice is highly appreciated. This is a fantastic contribution not just to IST, but to Tanzania’s future. The followup of the 12 students you’ve assisted so far is a great idea!

■ ***Amy Carr, Chair IST Board of Directors***

# Interview

## Mr Bhandari



It was in 1983 when my brother received the IST newsletter that said that Mike Maybury, the then CEO of IST, was going overseas to recruit new teachers among them a science teacher.

I called Ms Baby who worked in the office in the lower school to ask if a physics teacher was needed. She enquired

and confirmed. She also got the application forms as well, shortcutting the need for writing a letter. The following week I was interviewed and my employment confirmed.

My salary was the maximum for the local hire, shg 10,000= per month. But I would get shg 4,200= net salary because high salaries extracted high taxes. The upper portions of earnings extracted nearly 90% in taxes. This was the period that Mwalimu Nyerere was struggling hard to implement socialism in Tanzania and reduce the gap between the rich and poor.

The salary scale was a three-tier. On the top was the Overseas-Hire whose scale was compatible to overseas salaries. They received 50% in TShg and the other half in hard currency overseas. The second scale was Locally-Hired expatriate and at the bottom was the locally hired National.

I started teaching in the Upper School in September, 1983, finishing in July 1999 when took voluntary retirement. I had sixteen years of the most wonderful years of my life!. I shall never ever forget those years for so long I shall ever live!

The first group that I taught physics was London GCE O

level, grades 10 and 11, 20 bright students academically inclined and highly motivated. The school's policy was such that only two sciences could be timetabled in the regular day. Those who wanted to study three sciences had to come for physics in the afternoons, 4 to 6 twice a week. I will never forget the joy that I experienced when I taught them.

And at the end of the two year course, I was very pleasantly surprised. Out of 21 students of mine (one was a tenth grader) one got a D, one got a C, seven got a B and 12 had A's. The one who got a D was very bright student from Somalia. He had joined very late. Earlier he had studied a local course in science. So the O level Physics exam was way out of his experience.

The school grew rapidly under the leadership of Bill Powel. He was a teacher for English Literature and became the headmaster when Dr Edward left. It was under his leadership that six scholarships were introduced for Tanzanian students who had scored A's in the local examination. I can proudly recall them succeeding in life beyond their imaginations, each and every one of them. It is on record that six Tanzanian graduates of IST have studied in the MIT, USA, on full scholarship!

It was under Bill Powel as headmaster and later as CEO that many teachers went to study for post graduate course during summer vacations including MA in education. The school paid for the tuition while the teacher paid for travel and stay. But for the local hires, Bill paid for tuition as well as stay and paid for travel in hard currency. I went to amny summer courses. I paid back to School slowly in TShg from our salaries. I did not feel the pinch at all. At this time our salary scale was tied to the US Dollar like ALL teachers, another change that was also initiated by Bill Powel. So as time went we received higher salaries in TShg because the shilling was devaluating quite rapidly to find and equilibrium with the Dollar INTERACT Club. I was in charge of

it from 1984. It was the top community service club in IST. It was under the presidency of Bhavesh Ladwa that the International Night, an evening of cultural music and dances, was introduced. This went on to become an annual event of the school.

**KIKAPU:** Earlier I use to walk from Upanga to the Lower School to catch the school bus. One day at about 6.30 in the morning four thugs caught hold of me, one of them put a knife to my throat. They took away my watch and 800 shillings that I had in my pocket and started walking away with my SAMSONITE bag. I pleased with them to take away anything of value from

my bag but return me my students' scripts. They got convinced and left my bag. I swore that day that I shall never walk about with a SAMSONITE bag. It was the bag that had attracted thugs to attack me. So I started using a KIKAPU instead.

**LONG HAIR:** When my son Amit was in IB, his best subject was Music. He had grown long hair and tied them with rubber bands looking like the lock of a MAASAI. And I thought if the son can do it so can his father!. Since then I too grew long hair. Today he is civilized with a neat hair cut while long hair has become part of me.

## *Where are they now?*

### *Chandni Ruparelia*



I fondly recall my kindergarten, primary and secondary education at the International School of Tanganyika, where I also completed the International Baccalaureate programme – yes I am a full bread IST chick!

After graduating with honours in 2003 from Warwick University, reading Law & Business for my undergraduate degree, I completed the Legal Practice Course at the Inns of Court School of Law with a commendation. I promptly decided it was time to have a 'working holiday' and spent about 8 months in Dar Es Salaam interning at Adept Chambers (formerly Ringo & Associates, a member of Africa Legal Network).

After having had perhaps a little too much fun in Dar(!), I resolved to go back to the UK and undertook the vocational

part of my training to qualify as a Solicitor at Frank Forney & Partners LLP, and I am currently a fee earner with the firm. I specialise in the areas of commercial and residential property law, including landlord & tenant, probate and litigation. Throughout my client facing role I have had experience of dealing with high value commercial property matters and have acted for a wide range of clients on numerous challenging transactions.

I am currently a member of Advocates for International Development, an organisation that connects lawyers to provide access to justice for the developing world.

In my spare time, I enjoying playing tennis, rock climbing, cooking and organising social water polo matches. Perhaps I have a little too much time on my hands ...!



## Chintu Patel

My career aspirations were fairly modest, and a career in sales was something I definitely had not imagined.

As a graduate in MIS (Management Information Systems) from a reputable technical institute, I was eager to land a job

with a Fortune 500 company in the field of Business Analysis or System Integration, or any one of the hundred different types of tech jobs out there. But with my luck, it simply wasn't going to happen. To add to that, at the turn of the century, the dot com bubble had just burst, GW Bush had come into power, and the tragic events of 9/11 had taken place, further dampening the US economy.

It took three months, travelling to various different

states for interviews to finally land a job, that too in Sales. At first, I was quite hesitant; sales, I thought, I've never envisioned a career in Sales? Besides, what am I supposed to sell? Fortunately, the company I was working for was an IT company (Infinite) which delivered Managed Services to Fortune 100 companies. I was assigned to be an Account Manager at one of our largest Telecom clients and was basically was the liaison between my company and the customer, where we ran simultaneous IT projects in areas of software development, data warehousing, 24x7 production support, and quality assurance, to name a few. My job was to ensure our projects' deliverables were met on time, and that they were under budget, while continually soliciting repeat and new business from the same Telecom client.

After spending four and half years at Infinite, I decided to move back home to Dar speculating good growth and value add to myself, and to Tanzania. And needless to say, my foresight definitely paid off. I have been in the field of Sales in Telecom for the past three plus years and have enjoyed it thoroughly.

Am I an example of the accidental salesperson? Perhaps I am, and I certainly enjoy every minute of it!

## FACEBOOK PRESENCE

Join the Official IST ALUMNI ASSOCIATION Page on Facebook and keep up with your old school mates, the latest news and events, as well as any news of the IST and the Association ...



