



# WORLD NEWS

FEBRUARY 2007



CIF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE AND CIP, CIPUSA  
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF INTERNATIONAL EXCHANGE

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the COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP magazine



**COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP**

by **Mimmo Merola**  
**CIF - ITALIA**



**COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP**  
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Dear CIF Friends,

I am very please to write to you this letter on behalf of CIF Italia!

The year 2007 marks an important achievement to us: 20 years of existence and activities! It is our intention to make it a special moment and an opportunity to reminisce all that we have shared, see ourselves as we are today and think about the future.

To do this we are planning a long week-end in Capua (near S. Maria C.V. in the South of Italy) at the end of April 2007, where we can first of all spend some time together in an old seminar nicely renovated with some formal (but not too much) moments and other not so formal, planned excursions to some interesting sites in the area and, obviously, free time to visit others on your own.

We are, therefore, particularly pleased to invite you to be part of this opportunity to meet old and new CIF friends. Your participation would be a precious gift to us.

We like to think that CIF for many people was, has been, is and will be a significant life moment, and would like to add another of those special moments April 26 – 30, 2007 for our 20th birthday! We are waiting for you!!!

**Mimmo Merola ,**  
 President CIF Italia



# FOREWORD

By the CIF World News editor

In my last Editorial I had indicated the importance of 50th birthday, as a major milestone in the life of an institution. The CIF international Conference in USA is a wonderful time to come together and reflect on five decades of CIP and the shaping a vision of Henry Ollendorff, the man who started CIP and whose alumni seeded the beginnings of CIF International.

The vision, thoughts and ideas left behind by Henry Ollendorff, inspire us and will continue to inspire us in our efforts to unlock the power of unity and network and working together towards a better world, a more secure future and a brighter tomorrow. How can we as social workers, in our own small way contribute toward achieving this in a world full of divisive forces, uncalled for hatred and cultural intolerance, is a challenge we need to collectively address. It is for all of us to appreciate diversity, celebrate pluralism and encourage diversity of thought, with a view to strengthen the world and work towards Unity in Diversity.

The American society is a wonderful example of heterogeneous togetherness, a democratic society allowing divergent streams of immigrants to live and grow in harmony, encouraging free thought and fiercely guarding the individuals' freedom. When I think of how C.I.P in its own way contributed to divergent integration I am reminded of A.Lumley, whose definition of CIP appeared in the 32nd series, 1976 edition of the CI (the forerunner of the WN). I reproduce the same below:

“On a recent visit to Cleveland, Ohio, I tried to define C.I.P and discovered that a Considerable Insight into one’s Personality is necessary to Calculate the Information Presented.

It seems that **C**reative **I**maginative **P**roblems are set before **C**rowds of

Incoming Personnel who Collect Important Placements before stating their Community Inquiries and Paradoxes. These Concerned Individual People Create Improvised Posts by giving the locals Counseling, Information and Practical help. The Clientele Invite Participation and are not surprised to meet Colombians, Iranians, Peruvians, Ceylonese, Indians or Pakistanis, even if Citizens, Inhabitants or Plain Americans would seem a more obvious choice.

Another area for Comment, Insertion, and Primary thanks must go to the host families who provide Care, Investment and Pleasure to the hoards. Clever, Indiscriminate and Personalized supervisors offer Close, Innate Perusal of the flock with Carefully Inspired Precision. Supervisors and families make the guests feel Comfortable Initiated and Pleasant among other things.

Cooperation, Interchange and Practise are the major Considerations, Ideologies and Policies of the Council for International Programmes. Congratulations, Incantations and Philcitations on the 25th Birthday, not forgetting the bi-Centenary Inevitable Pleasantries of the past 200 years.

For all this we are grateful - it only remains for me now to say - Go Forth, Ollendorff! Continue, Instruct and Persevere."

The definition above was probably penned on the occasion of the 25th Birthday of CIP, but perhaps still holds good over a quarter century later.

We all look forward to the CIF International conference in Cleveland, Ohio, the city where it all started. It's like homecoming. Here's wishing the CIPUSA organizers all the best. I know what a lot of work and effort goes to make any conference a success, having gone through with it for the Goa conference not so long ago.

Greetings for 2007 and Happy Celebrations!

Best wishes,

**Zarin Gupta**

Vice-President, CIF International

**FROM THE PRESIDENT'S DESK**by **Lambrini-Ninetta D. Zoi**

President, CIF International

Dear CIF Colleagues and Friends,

It is a lovely sunny afternoon in Athens while I am writing to you! We have all welcomed 2007 by treasuring memories of 2006 and wishing and dreaming of the best for 2007 and the years ahead!

I am thinking that in a world full of violent struggles and wild antagonism, we - CIF volunteers are going on our systematic sharing and serving, our peaceful noble competition for the good, the beautiful, namely the honest exchange and learning from one another!

The Executive Committee continued together with the generous offer of Dorothy Faller, our conscious efforts to involve the Board of Directors as the true policy-making pillar of CIF International. In Paris CIF family grew further, from 28 we are now 31 Branches, while our list of Contact Persons is constantly growing as well. CIF - CIPUSA Exchange Programs are flourishing and developing offering a variety of unique learning and personal-professional growing opportunities to colleagues all over the world. We had very interesting and fruitful meetings in Paris and we thank CIF France for hosting us. Celebrating with them their 40th Anniversary amongst the others added to our souls more pleasant memories of being together and encouragement to go on!

Speaking of anniversaries our special wishes go to CIF Italia celebrating their 20th Anniversary this year and offering us another opportunity to get together celebrating this April!

Last November I had the special joy to attend the biannual meeting of CIF Finland! I believe it is extremely rare for a President to have the opportunity to attend such a meeting of a Branch other than her/his own Branch. It was indeed very touching to be with my Finish CIF Fellows and I enjoyed once more the world wide special atmosphere and spirit of a CIF meeting!

Then in December I visited one of our youngest Branches CIF Cyprus! They invited me to their inauguration meeting and it was a lovely opportunity to support their first steps and at the same time to discuss with Fulbright Cyprus

the possibilities of cooperating again with CIPUSA in the near future!

Since overseas traveling is still too expensive and the financial situation of CIF International tough as always before, the Executive Committee cannot afford to meet in Cleveland visiting our next Conference site according to the tradition. We know that we have there an excellent team supporting CIPUSA, very well organized, being regularly in touch with us on-line, working hard for our 27th CIF International Conference celebrating 50 years of international exchange in Cleveland 23-27 July 07, certainly a rewarding one that we should all try not to miss! You will find all-important details in this World News issue.

The Executive Committee has accepted the invitation of CIF Sweden to have our meeting in Stockholm in the beginning of March 07. We are thankful and very glad we will have the opportunity to meet again in person with Håkan Berggren (Finance Advisor) and Karin Holmqvist (Information Technology Advisor). They both support the Executive Committee generously anytime.

In my two terms of serving I had the honour and pleasure to work closely together with a capable and highly motivated Executive Committee and an active and supportive Board of Directors chosen by you. In the coming months until Cleveland we are accelerating our efforts to meet the challenges and exigencies of the time. In Cleveland we need to elect a new Executive Committee therefore I would like to remind you about the present situation and vacancies in order to start preparing on time:

<b>Position</b>	<b>Present Holder</b>	<b>Election Eligibility</b>
President	Lambrini-Ninetta Zoi	Vacant
Vice President (WN Editor)*	Zarin Gupta	Eligible for re-election
Secretary	Maria Hierlinger-Gudat	Eligible for re-election
Treasurer	Birgitta Holm	Eligible for re-election
Member at Large (Exchange Program Coordinator)*	Nadine Rogue	Vacant
Member at Large (Contact Persons and Homepage Coordinator)*	Leo Heikkilä	Eligible for re-election in a different position.

\*Tasks allocation is to be decided amongst the position holders of each newly elected Executive Committee.

I invite every CIF Fellow to be as active as possible in serving CIF purposes. Your personal contribution is valuable and irreplaceable. Support your Branch as much as you can. This acting and serving together is both our added value and our operating capital for now and the years to come.

Thank you and see you in Cleveland!

**Lambrini-Ninetta D. Zoi**

President, CIF International



## COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP

### Minutes of the General Assembly Bonn

Germany

July 2005

195 CIF International members attended the General Assembly held in Bonn, Germany on 29th July 2005.

Ms. Lambrini-Ninetta Zoi, President CIF International opened the meeting and welcomed the members. She gave an overview of main activities from August 2003 to July 2005. She informed that the EC met 4 times in this period. The old EC met the new EC for handing and taking over in London, UK in August 2003, followed by Kassel, Germany in November 2003, then in Riga, Latvia, in July 2004 and last in Vienna, Austria in Feb 2005.

She informed the General Assembly of the framework of the 26th CIF International Conference and expressed her deep appreciation for all the good work that CIF Germany has put into organizing this excellent Conference in Bonn!

The President was proud to inform that there were 27 CIF branches all over the world. Ms. Lambrini Zoi informed that the 28th CIF Branch would be CIF Aotearoa (New Zealand and Australia)

Ms. Lambrini Zoi informed that she was happy to see CIF Sweden and CIF Finland supporting Branches in the Baltic countries. She also informed that they are supporting CIF members in Ghana and in Kyrgyzstan in forming Branches. CIF Sweden visited Ghana last year and is planning to visit Kyrgyzstan next year.

#### **Report of Board of Directors Meeting**

The Board of Directors met on 2nd, 3rd and 4th July 2004 and also on 29th July in Riga, Latvia. The BD had also met during the conference in Bonn,

Germany on the 23rd, 24th, and 25th July 2005. Ms. Lambrini Zoi briefed the assembly on the strategic planning meetings of the board of directors during these two BD meetings.

### **Report on Strategic Planning process:**

Ms. Lambrini Zoi thanked Dorothy Faller who had accepted the invitation to come to the BD meeting and voluntarily continue with the Strategic Planning Process as started in Goa and continued in Riga.

After deliberations and hard work the following decisions were made:

1. **The mission statement was adopted. It is:**

**The Council of International Fellowship provides professional human services development and training through intercultural exchange."**

2. Include ISP members to be CIF members.
3. Last two editions of World News will be available to everyone on the web.
4. To link the International Federation of Social Workers web site to the Council of International Fellowship. EC will examine further linking of CIF International website and websites of other organizations.
5. All e-mails to EC should be copied to the secretary.
6. E-mails from EC to the branches will be responded to in 14 days.
7. Communications: Embrace new technologies. Not impossible for any Branch, but Ghana cannot do teleconferencing and only two cities are on line.
8. CIF International will be ready with new communication methods by 6 months.
9. Governance: Look at alternative ways for administrative support: hiring for services; paying expenses.
10. Be inclusive in relation to costs, specifically.
11. EC will do a new transition process, but not lengthen terms at this time.
12. Set up working Committees for:
  - Finance Advisory
  - Fundraising
  - Marketing (Shirley Worland (Australia) will share the Brochure she did for Australia with this Committee).
13. Set up a method for standardization to put goals in place at the Branch and CIF level, including the Exchange Programmes Curriculum.
14. EC will provide certificates from CIF International that Branches are

approved and their Exchange Programme as well.

15. Volunteers to write the Strategic Plan.

Ms. Lambrini Zoi informed that CIF France would host the next BD Meeting in Paris in September/October 2006 as CIF France would be celebrating its 40th anniversary. We have accepted the proposal asking them to keep the costs as low as possible.

Ms. Lambrini Zoi informed that the next conference would be in Cleveland, USA. The theme would be "Bridges for the future". Update information would be available in the January 2006 edition of the World News.

#### **Report of the Editor of CIF World News:**

Ms. Nüket Atalay, informed that the World News was published in July 2003, January 2004 and Jan 2005 and distributed to all the National Branches, CPs and individual CIF International members regularly.

The experiment of putting the WN on the CIF Sweden web site was quite successful and she said that it has been put up on the CIF International site as well on experimental basis.

She informed that old issues of the WN were put on a floppy disk by Mr. Raul Kivi (CIF Estonia) and were available

#### **Report on CIF International Web Site:**

Mr. Leo Heikkila informed that the web site has been updated regularly and that it was further improved in July 2005. A live demonstration was given to the members.

He also said that links to various NBs who had a web site would be made available on one click.

The members were informed that he is supported sporadically by volunteers in his present work.

The CIF International web site had the last two issues of the WN. It was decided to have the file of all the old WN created by Mr Raul Kivi of CIF Estonia accessible with a password and the latest versions without a password.

#### **Report of the Contact Persons Coordinator:**

Mr. Leo Heikkila, reported that he had done a survey in 2004 August: e-mails and / letters were sent to 34 CPs and only 13 CPs reacted!

The CP List has been updated according to the survey.

Mr. Leo Heikkila, informed that there were CP challenges for 2005-2007.

Priority was to first get candidates in countries where there was a potential,

theoretically the larger number of former CIF program participants the better. For example: Europe: Poland, former Balkan Countries. In Africa: Morocco, Egypt, And South Africa, In Asia: Bangladesh, Thailand and Philippines

#### **Report of the Exchanges Programmes Coordinator:**

Ms. Nadine Rogue informed that the guidelines on CIF Exchange Program was revised in December 2004 and distributed to all the NBs.

The Final Evaluation Report was sent to all the NBs.

Ms. Nadine Rogue, informed that with the help of Marie Therese Martin of CIF France, she had completed the CIF participants directory up to 2004. She informed that the file was in word format and could be merged with the CIP directory if it could be put on the Access document.

Ms. Nadine Rogue, informed that the Baltic countries had their first EP in May/June of 2005. The first EP program of Aotearoa/New Zealand and Australia would be taking place in September 2005. CIF Cameroon and CIF Switzerland were planning to have their first EP in 2006. CIF Argentina is planning to have an EP in 2007. CIF Kenya and CIF Tanzania haven't yet informed of any EP in 2005-2006.

#### **Report of Treasurer:**

The treasurer, Ms. Mieke Weeda presented the assembly with the report. She informed that Mr. Hakan Berggren had completed the accounts up to 2004. She informed that the 2000-2004 accounts (profit and loss statement) were now tabulated.

Ms. Mieke Weeda, said that there is now a 2 year budget, ending with the conference year. Therefore the new budget for the years 2006-2007 was presented. Budgets need to be realistic and that means based on the realistic expectations of the income. The 06/07 budget has now been increased to make it more realistic. The Budget for 2006-2007 was unanimously passed.

Ms. Mieke Weeda informed that this year 11 participants were given grants to attend the conference. 8 of them were also given grant towards their travel costs.

#### **Secretary's report:**

Ms. Zarin Gupta presented the amendment to paragraph 5 of the Statutes as required by the Court in Bonn, Germany. At the BD meeting in Bonn, Ms. Lambrini Zoi suggested that since the amendment of paragraph 5 is being done it would be the right time to include in CIF membership, members of ISP program (International Study program of the Federal Republic of Germany). All the BD members unanimously had agreed to the inclusion. The amendment is

now presented for voting to the General Assembly. All 195 members presented voted for the amendment. It now states "Article 5 - MEMBERSHIP

Membership of the Organization will be open to all former participants in CIF and CIP (Cleveland International Program - Council of International Programs) Exchange Programs, former participants of CIPUSA Exchange Programs and International Study Program (ISP) of the Federal Republic of Germany who are social workers, special educators, youth leaders and others in closely related professions, and individuals who support the objectives of CIF.

Eligible persons may acquire membership by written request and payment of membership to the National Branch; in countries where no National Branch exists, requests may be made directly to the CIF President and the decision will be at the discretion of the Executive Committee.

Membership is terminated by non-payment of fees, by death, by voluntary resignation from the Organization and by expulsion from membership by the Board of Directors. If the membership fees are not paid, the member will be reminded in writing and a final date will be set for payment. If payment is not received by set date the member will be excluded. The resignation has to be submitted in writing to the respective National Branch. Where no National Branch exists, the declaration of resignation has to be sent to the CIF International President or CIF International Secretary. The Board of Directors retains the authority to terminate membership for actions inappropriate to the spirit of CIF. A member whose membership has been terminated in this way may appeal to the General Assembly who can reverse such a decision with a 2/3 (two-thirds) majority of those present.

Ms. Lambrini Zoi also suggested that we could work on future cooperation with AGJ (Arbeitsgemeinschaft für Jugendhilfe).

#### **Report from CIPUSA:**

Ms. Lisa Purdy (President & Chief Executive Officer - CIPUSA) shared information about CIPUSA.

CIPUSA is a program conducted from 1 to 18 months in the USA. She informed that CIPUSA at present have 9 CIPUSA affiliates in the country. They are Chicago- Illinois, Cleveland-Ohio, Columbus-Ohio, Denver-Colorado, Kalamazoo-Michigan, Morgantown-West Virginia, San Diego-California, San Francisco-California, and Scranton-Pennsylvania.

'The Olive branch' CIPUSA Newsletter, is read on the website. CIPUSA has developed a data base with 10,000 members.

She informed the board members that CIPUSA would host the next CIF International Conference in 2007, in Cleveland, Ohio. She said that she would be working closely with CIF USA and CIPUSA affiliates for the conference. She would however send details to be printed in the January 2006 issue of the World News.

### **Results of Elections:**

Ms. Gunvor Bretschneider chairperson of the Election Committee announced the result of the elections for the following posts:

President: Ms. Lambrini (Ninetta) Zoi.

Vice-President: Ms. Zarin Gupta.

Treasurer: Ms. Birgitta Holm.

Secretary: Ms. Maria Hierlinger-Gudat,

Members-at-Large: Mr. Leo Heikkila,

Ms. Nadine Rogue.

### **Any Other Business:**

Ms. Inge Bierbrauer (CIF Germany) informed that the official opening of a square with Henry Ollendorff's name has been planned for the Monday after the conference and invited all the members. The city council of Darmstadt (Henry Ollendorff's hometown) decided to do so -Martha, Frank and Jane would be attending it.

Ms. Mireille Boucher (CIF France) announced that September-October 2006 would be the 40th anniversary celebration of CIF France. She proposed that the next BD meeting after the BD meeting in Bonn could be held in France. She said that they would plan exhibitions, cultural activities.

Ms. Lambrini Zoi (President, CIF International) thanked all the members.

### **Ms. ZARIN GUPTA**

SECRETARY (2003-2005), CIF International.



## REPORT OF CIF BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING

by **Maria Hierlinger-Gudat**

Secretary, CIF International

of 28th and 29th September 2006 in Paris, France

### Present:

Argentina: Silvia Nutter • Australia: Shirley Worland  
 Austria: Gabi Kronberger • Cyprus: Maria Christopoulou  
 Czech. Republic: Markéta Skalická • Finland: Valpuri Salonen-Sorri  
 France: Mireille Boucher • Germany: Ilse Hoffmann and Inge Bierbrauer  
 Greece: Veta Bakagianni • India: Zarin Gupta  
 Israel: Edna Bar-On • Italy: Maria Stefani  
 Netherlands: Trudy de Wit • Norway: Laila Mörck  
 Sweden: Paula Kaaremo • Switzerland: Irene Hilfiker  
 Turkey: Sevil Atauz and Nuket Atalay • United Kingdom: Issy Bruce  
 USA: Michael Cronin • CIPUSA: Lisa Purdy  
 and the CIF International Executive Committee members

**Invited Guest:** Dorothy Faller, former CEO of CIPUSA, in charge of the Strategic Planning Process voluntarily.

The President, Lambrini-Ninetta Zoi, opened the meeting and welcomed the members present. She thanked Mireille Boucher, President of CIF France, and all the other French members for the invitation to their 40th Branch Anniversary and for hosting the BD meeting.

As an introduction to the meeting she showed a short and interesting power point presentation on techniques for better intercultural communication and then asked all participants to present themselves and to let us know their name, their Branch, the CIF/CIP/CIPUSA Exchange Programs they attended and a favourable experience they had made.

All 18 NBs and CIPUSA present fulfilled the requirements for voting rights and newcomers were welcomed.

The minutes of the last meeting in July 2005 in Bonn/Germany was approved unanimously as well as the agenda for this meeting.

Lambrini-Ninetta presented an overview of the 28 National Branches (NBs) and their activities. She stated, unfortunately, she has not received all Annual Activity Reports (AARs) from the 28 NBs so far. In some cases not only reports from 2005 but also from 2004 are still missing. Furthermore,

she stated that the Final Evaluation Reports (FERs) are a tool to analyse the whole planning and implementation of each EP run by the NBs and in addition they are providing information on applicants, selected applicants and the participants which are needed in order to update the directory on a regular basis. However, this requirement has not been fulfilled either by a number of NBs. She regrets this as well as that several questions were not answered in a proper way. These reports that were revised repeatedly by the EC are our major tools for regular communication between the NBs, the EC and amongst the members of the Board of Directors (BD).

23 NBs have an Exchange Program and 11 NBs have now a Home Page.

**New Branches:** Recently, Aotearoa/New Zealand and Australia decided to form two Branches from now on as now they have a sufficient number of alumni. The presidents are Sarah DeSouza and Pepple Shih. Both countries decided to have the Exchange Programs in 2007 as planned.

Kyrgyzstan founded a Branch only a few months ago. Gulasel Nogoibaeva who attended the Conference in Bonn is the President and they have submitted to the EC all the relevant documents.

Cyprus is working on the foundation of a Branch. Maria Christopoulou has been in contact with more than 20 CIP alumni, their statutes are ready and under the legal process for authorization.

The Board approved the above-mentioned new Branches and in total we have presently 31 NBs.

The treasurer, Birgitta Holm, presented her report. The profit and Loss Statement as well as the Balance Sheet for 2006 were given to all persons present. She talked about the Income, the Expenses, the costs for EC and BD meetings and the existing funds which are the HBO and Martha Ollendorff Fund, the Sonja and Paul Unger Fund and the CIF Finland/Sweden Fund.

With regard to bank transactions it was stated that Håkan Berggren, Co-Treasurer of CIF International, has advised to encourage more bank transactions: in particular from the Western countries. Payments of fees and grants should preferably be made through bank transfer. Birgitta strongly requested that all NBs who can handle it this way should do so in the future.

Another point were the grants for the next conference. Birgitta should be informed by the NBs before 31 December, 2006 which decisions were taken related to grants. Of course, all funds, given at any time, will be accepted.

As the expenses augment from year to year we need to increase our income. There are different ways to do this: to increase the number of paying members, to raise the membership fee which was already discussed at the conference in Bonn or to find other sources, e. g. donators, etc.

Zarin Gupta, the Vice President, stated that she is the editor of the WN since the end of July 2005. She is always open for suggestions and recommendations. She asks for understanding that she has to shorten articles sometimes which always depends on how much space she has available. Zarin referred also to the e-version of the WN and suggested to check with the members if they would like to download it themselves as then less hard copies would be needed. This would save costs. Furthermore, Zarin stated that a lot of work is involved in publishing the WN every 6 months.

Leo Heikkilä, member at large and the Contact Persons' Coordinator and Webmaster, reported regarding the website of CIF International. The version which was accepted in Bonn is still valid. However, he is working on a new format and he plans to simplify pages and updates. He welcomes new websites from NBs and pointed out that it is of major importance to update the websites on a regular basis. Leo also indicated that the two last versions of the WN are in the web and could be downloaded by the CIF members themselves. With regard to the new CIF International Brochure he stated that it would be available most probably until the end of the year.

Leo stated that we have right now 16 Contact Persons (CPs). The new CPs are from Romania, Serbia, Philippines and Russia (St. Petersburg). CPs recruitment, encouragement, guidance and supervision is an ongoing process and he welcomes any possible help for this from BD members in suggesting alumni who would be ready to become a Contact Person, etc.

Maria Hierlinger-Gudat, the secretary, reported about the changes of § 5 membership of the International Statutes and updates regarding the following guidelines: "Guidelines for Conference Grants", "Application Form for Grants for the CIF International Conference in ..." and the "Guidelines for proposing and Organizing a CIF Conference." With regard to the last mentioned guideline the members stated that it does not contain sufficient information for the country that has to organize a conference. It should provide much more detailed information like a manual. Therefore, the BD decided to form a working group with the following members: Maria Stefani, Zarin Gupta, Ilse Hoffmann and Lisa Purdy. This task should be finished by the end of February 2007.

Nadine Rogue, member at large and the Exchange Programs Coordinator, reported that the Final Evaluation Report (FER) provides a good overview. She regrets that not all NBs sent the requested FER to her. Furthermore, she pointed out that the list of the participants is needed every year for the Directory. She recommended to convert the existing Directory (word document) into an excel program which, however, is a very time consuming task. Therefore, volunteers are needed for this job. It would be desirable to have the new Directory ready for the Cleveland Conference in July 2007. Gabi Kronberger offered her assistance.

Lisa Purdy, from CIPUSA mentioned that 2006 was a very busy year for CIPUSA. Some new Programs were offered and two projects are still going on with Turkey (Nuket Atalay) and Ethiopia (Dorothy Faller) - helping the School of Social Work to implement the first Master level. There are also smaller projects going on e. g. with Turkey (Nuket) and Italy (Mimmo Merola). Lisa pointed out that these projects are really a very good experience.

Lisa presented the conference update and mentioned that they have a very good team which meets every week. Dorothy is a big support because of her very long experience with CIF. The Conference site, the Case Western Reserve University, is a gorgeous place with new buildings and dormitory style rooms. She gave also an overview on the conference days and program. All of us got the impression that a great conference will wait for us in Cleveland in July 2007.

Michael Cronin, president of CIF USA, gave a very interesting power point presentation on the CIF Social Work Experience - Purpose and Scope of Social Work. He showed in an excellent illustrative way that in CIF we have internal resources we often do not use. His presentation was based on his dissertation - he made his Doctor of Philosophy in Social Welfare in May 2005. He has the intention to write an article about his findings and conclusions and to have it translated into different languages.

Branches projects involving specialized Exchange Programs were presented and briefly discussed:

1. Veta Bakagianni reported that CIF Hellas accepting the proposal of Dr. Munira Merchant, former Vice President and Webmaster of CIF International, hosted in Athens, Greece a group of 11 social work students accompanied by two professors - one of them Munira, in May 2005. This was a 10 days 3-credit study abroad course for BSW and MSW students titled "International Social Work Practice",

organized by CIF Hellas in partnership with Aurora University-George Williams College of Health and Human Services. The course consisted of lectures and visits to Social Service Agencies aiming to develop the students' knowledge of the Greek social welfare system and in turn, deepen their understanding of the US system. The participants left with very positive typical CIF comments: "It changed my life!" CIF Hellas running this program managed to get donations not only from its members but also from many more individuals (e. g. lecturers) and organizations (e. g. field visits), and therefore gained a profit. Veta stated that Munira has the intention to come again with a new group. She feels that such projects and experiences besides operating as funds generator make a Branch more alive and known. For example the US Embassy was invited and present for meetings.

2. Turkey reported about the Community Leadership Project in which CIF Turkey is involved to a certain extent. They did not make any money. If money is left over it should be, of course, for the use of the Branch.
3. Mireille Boucher and Lambrini-Ninetta referred to the European Leonardo Project and their cooperation with the University of Maribor (Slovenia) Project Coordinator with Project Partners GRETA (adult education body) and CIF France and CIF Hellas (Greece). The project started in 2005 and will be completed in 2007 and its title is: "Parents training most powerful supporters and guiders of persons with disabilities."

This is one of the very first experiences of CIF participating in the implementation of European Union Projects and it is certainly an experimental learning including difficulties for the Branches involved. Mireille emphasized that it is a hard job and she does the necessary work mostly in the evening. It is hoped that the Branches will also have some improvement in their overall financial situation at the end.

### **Strategic Planning Process (SPP)**

Dorothy Faller continued her work on the SPP. She reminded that the discussion for changing the direction of CIF should go on so that it does not disappear but adjust smoothly to the changing world of today. It started after an unanimously decision in Athens (2002) and its enthusiastic implementation in Goa (2003) and was continued in Riga (2004), in Bonn 2005 and now in Paris. We need to think about changes in a positive way.

Lambrini-Ninetta reported that the work and time involved in this process is much more and could not be anticipated at the beginning. The times between the BD meetings have proved not to be very productive but with the constant support and systematic preparation and continuity by Dorothy the SPP is progressing in a satisfactory way. She expressed to Dorothy in the name also of the EC and BD members the deep appreciation for her significant help offered to CIF voluntarily. The discussions were only able to cover one aspect of the SPP namely governance.

Lambrini-Ninetta explained that the amount of work needed to keep the organization alive and growing requires changes in our governance structure. The exchange of e- and webmails around the world is overwhelming. The Executive Committee (EC) alone can no longer carry the full burden.

The results of the two half days of discussions under Dorothy's coordination were: There is a great need to establish an office with a paid staff for CIF by 2009.

**Decision 1:** To hire a paid staff member to support the CIF International and the Executive Committee provided adequate plan and funding is obtained and agreed upon.

**Decision 2:** To increase the CIF Conference fee to CIF International from 5 to 20 Euro in 2009. CIPUSA promised to examine the possibility to increase the 5 Euro fee according to capacity at the end of the Cleveland conference.

**Decision 3:** Write a grant proposal to provide start up money for the first three years. The Executive Committee will do this with the help of a working group consistent of Lisa Purdy, Dorothy Faller, Inge Bierbrauer and Michael Cronin. This will be completed by the end of February 2007 for the next EC meeting. The draft will be sent to the National Branches (NBs).

NBs will send information of two or more possible foundations to the Executive Committee. The name of the foundation, the guidelines, and the deadlines for submission are needed. The personal contacts are also needed.

**Decision 4:** National Branches will maintain their core programs with the option to expand to other programs (e. g. for students) and to make our programs compatible (aligned) for university credit, for continuing education credit, and to inform the EC of CIF accrediting requirements (licensing, registration, certification) for social workers and related professionals.

Information for this will be gathered from the International Associations of Schools of Social Work, and the requirements of the Council on Social

Work Education and other appropriate bodies.

**Decision 5:** Letters are in progress to link websites with IFSW, IASSW, ICSW and ICSD.

**Decision 6:** Explore the options to work toward one video conference or telephone conference every 6 months if needed, and to use home based telecommunication of the Board of Directors of CIF.”

Finally, the Executive Committee reminded the Branches that it looks forward to receiving proposals which country would be ready to host the conference in 2009 and the Board of Directors Meeting in 2008.

Lambrini-Ninetta thanked all members present for their good cooperation and fruitful discussions.

Almost everybody who attended the BD meeting stayed for the celebration of the 40th birthday of CIF France which was a pleasant and interesting event.



## CIF - Sweden in Kyrgyzstan in August 2006

by **Ingrid Olsson**  
CIF-Sweden



Gulayim Ismailova, a former participant of the Swedish program, had invited the Swedish branch to visit her country. To

some of us the idea seemed a bit unreal but very interesting. More than 30 persons expressed interest and curiosity – and 17 persons went.

One day during the winter Gulayim turned up in Stockholm and presented the schedule.

One of the first days in August we were all together in a children’s home in Bishkek, the capital of Kyrgyzstan. A very generous arrangement! The children were on holiday - which made it possible for us to stay there. We were

very comfortable there. Several times during our tour we were impressed by the hospitality we met.

Kyrgyzstan is covered up to 93% with mountains - most of them higher than 5000 meters. The capital Bishkek is surrounded of a ring of mountains - some of them wearing caps of snow - while the temperature on the ground was over 30 degrees C. Wherever we travelled in the country we enjoyed so beautiful and dramatic sceneries.

In Bishkek we visited a school equipped and sponsored by Unicef. School in Kyrgyzstan is compulsory but still many parents do not send their children there. The general economy of the families is very poor. Therefore also the children's contributions to the family's living are needed. This school has succeeded in getting more pupils since the children were offered breakfast and lunch paid by Unicef and Save the Children in Denmark.

We also visited an institution for left children. From this home several children had been adopted both in Kyrgyzstan and abroad. Here the children could stay to an age of four. After that they must go to an other institution for older children. The matron who wanted "her" children to stay did not approve this rule.

It was very hot in Bishkek those days. Because of the temperature Gulayim switched our schedule from one day to another. We left Bishkek and went to the resort at the beautiful lake of Issyk-Kul. Here we spent four comfortable and lazy days while Gulayim was away working. Before she left she hold a lecture on "Kyrgyzstan today" which was very appreciated of our group. One day we were offered a national drink - Kymus (local name). It is fermented horse milk. - To be honest - not all of us appreciated this speciality! We travelled in minibuses - often on miserable ways and occasionally where roads were missing. During two days we had four flat tyres. Our two drivers seemed to be used to those events and we were most of the time patiently waiting during the repairs. Next place for stop overnight was Barskoon - where we stayed in a private home. This family intended to live on tourism and was so hospitable. They moved out of their rooms to give us space. We saw different examples of handicraft - most of the things were made from sheep's wool. We visited a co-operative of women who made woollen carpets in bright colours.

Our last stay in the countryside was a farm where they have lots of horses. We were free to ride and the five bravest in our group did. The farmers here had started two years ago to earn their living buy accepting tourists at the farm. They had two yurtas - the old type of mobile home used by nomadic

people. There we slept for two nights enjoying looking through the big hole in the top of the roof - a marvellous starry sky. Some from the group stayed an extra day at this farm.

On the way back to Bishkek we visited relatives of Gulayim who were cultivating strawberries and we were invited to pick and taste.

The last days together we spent in the same institution for homeless children where we started. We had a rather busy time to see as much as possible in Bishkek.

The stay in Bishkek ended with a huge party - celebrating both Gulayim's birthday and the beginning of a CIF branch in this country. We met a group with very enthusiastic CIF-members, who had been participating in CIF-programs in Europe during the last few years.

During this night some of the most enthusiastic Kyrgyz and some Swedes had a meeting dealing with establishing a branch, which they already had prepared and it was formed this night. The new branch also got a starting grant, since the treasurer of CIF International happened to be a participant of our travelling group. We felt the same kind of enthusiasm as we did with the Baltic countries earlier. We also met with Gulasel Nogoibaeva, who participated at the conference in Bonn. It was such a joy to meet the Kyrgyz members and this meeting was sure one of the highlights of our trip.

Gulasel also arranged a visit to a hospital the following day and some visits to handicraft shops.

We are all very happy for our very successful and eventful journey.

Many thanks to all who made it possible!



**Free consultations and scholarships to  
Mahdi's Orphanage**  
by **Albert Kalle**  
CIF-Cameroon

Following Santa Claus visit to the MAHDI Orphanage by Cifcam Kumba, on Thursday 21st Dec. 2006 where we presented gifts in kind and cash in line with their felt needs. The members through the gesture of Dr. Gilbert Nzume of Ejed Medical foundation offered free consultation services to the children and by extension the four man staff of this institution with an immediate effect. In addition, the group offered a scholarship to the youngest child for her primary school course for six years beginning from next year. This includes;



school uniforms, books, writing materials and school fees annually.

On her part the Director of the institution Madam Daina Mah expressed great appreciation to Cifcam who described the group as Godsent. She said most of the children are orphaned by HIV / AIDs parents. The orphanage is a personal initiative which started with two children some two years ago and now has ten children between

three months and ten years.



## Operation to separate Siamese Twins successful!

by **Shirley Worland**  
Vice President, CIF-Australia

When Sarah De Souza (Aotearoa/New Zealand) and Shirley Worland (Australia) completed their CIF program in India in 2000, they left with the vision of starting up a branch in their own countries - of providing other CIF members an opportunity to come on program to the Antipodes to share our unique culture and hospitality. This vision became a reality in March 2004 when via teleconference across the Tasman Sea, the first meeting of the Aotearoa/New Zealand and Australia CIF Branch was held.

From this landmark event nearly 3 years ago, the Branch has grown, in both numbers and more importantly, enthusiasm as new members take on the ethos and values of CIF. From its inception, it was always planned that the joint Branch would separate into 2 individual branches as alumni and members grew. The Branch started with just 5 alumni - 3 from Australia and 2 from Aotearoa/New Zealand. This number has now trebled, and we realised that the time had come for the Branch to achieve its original goal - that of being two individual branches. So, just over 2 years since the birth of the Siamese Twins Branch (Aotearoa / New Zealand and Australia), the Committee put in place the necessary procedures to become 2 individual branches. This was successfully achieved in September 2006.

2007 promises to be another exciting year as each of the new Branches host their first ever exchange programs. For Australia, the program will occur



in Adelaide, South Australia from 30 August to 20 September. People attending this program also have the option of travelling on to New Zealand to undertake their program.

Adelaide is a delightful city characterised by calming hills, crashing waves and a whole valley of wine. Our CIF Committee are completely committed to producing the best ever exchange program

and look forward to giving back some of the hospitality shown to them on their respective programs. All details are listed on our website - [www.cifaustralia.org](http://www.cifaustralia.org). Closing date for applications is March 1st. Shall we see you there?



by **Manfred Zielinski**  
Lahnstein / Germany, December 2006

Hi good old friends from the CIF Germany family and also the members of the International CIF family.

Best wishes to all of you for the coming year. With this message I would like to thank you very, very much for your friendship, sympathy and understanding for me and my present situation as well as all your good wishes and greetings you sent me recently from the German General Assembly in Kassel and also from the BD meeting in Paris to the Military Hospital in Koblenz where I stayed for nearly 6 month. All your wishes and greetings helped me very much during the time of my stay at the hospital. It was really a long time and I had 5 surgeries on my right leg. At the moment, my right leg and my foot are still infected and for this reason another surgery is not possible right now. I, however, need a further operation. Only when everything will be over in a positive way, I will be able to look forward to the future. Therefore, I very much hope to get healthy pretty soon so that I can participate at the conference in Cleveland in July 2007.

Again, 1000thanks as well as good luck and health to everybody for the coming year.

## CIF ITALIA: 20th ANNIVERSARY

In 2007 CIF ITALIA will be 20 years old. It's an important anniversary for all those who have invested their energy in order to reach this point: members, participants, host families, and friends.

For this reason we consider appropriate to celebrate the moment with an event where all the protagonists of these past 20 years can meet again to share good memories, but also reflect on what CIF is today and on what we would like it to be tomorrow.

**Dates:** from Thursday April 26th to Monday April 30th 2007.

**Venue:** "Seminario Vescovile" of Capua (<http://www.diocesidicapua.it/seminariumcampanum/>) with excursions and site visits in the area (S.Maria Capua Vetere, Caserta, Napoli)

**Booking:** use form that will be available on our website [www.cifitalia.it](http://www.cifitalia.it) from December 1st 2006.

Tentative Programme:		
Date	Activity	Notes
Thursday 26.04.07	Arrival afternoon/evening at the venue, welcome, dinner overnight stay.	
Friday 27.04.07,	Breakfast - Morning: opening session, speakers - Lunch - Excursion to the Royal Palace of Caserta by coach Dinner and fun - Overnight stay	Speakers will talk about CIF and local history/culture The entrance to the Royal Palace is included in the fee
Saturday 28.04.07	Breakfast - All day excursion to the City of Naples by coach - Lunch (not included) - Dinner at the venue Overnight stay	There will be an organized itinerary on foot and by coach. Lunch will be at the expense of each participant as eventual entrance to museums or other places you choose to see on your own
Sunday 29.04.07	Breakfast - Morning: visit to the City of S.Maria Capua Vetere and its sites aperitif at the new premises of CIF ITALIA	The entrance to monuments and museum included in fee. The closing session will

	Lunch at venue - Afternoon: closing session with guests, authorities, host families and friends of CIF - Dinner - Closing event with concert - Overnight stay	last till evening.
Monday 30.04.07	Morning: breakfast and departure	

### Participation fees per person:

in double room € 230 • with three or four beds € 210  
children up to 12 years old (in room with parents) € 150

The fees include what stated in the programme above. Please note that lunch and entrance fees to monuments and museums in Naples are not included.

The participation fee can be paid in two instalments (50% by 31.1.07 and balance by 28.02.07) or in one solution by 28.02.07 on CIF ITALIA account (specificare le modalità).

### Payment modalities:

**From Italy** : on postal account n° 10630812 to the order of Associazione CIF Italia, Via Gramsci, 71, S. Maria Capua Vetere (Ce);

**From abroad** : from other post offices on account n° 10630812 to the order of Associazione CIF Italia, Via Gramsci, 71, S. Maria Capua Vetere (Ce), indicating the following coordinates:

BIC code: BPPIITRRXXX, ABI 07601, CAB 14900

This is possible from the following Countries: Austria, Belgium, France, Germany, Japan, Great Britain, Island, Lyxemburgh, Marocco, Holland, Slovac Rep., Spain, Switzerland, Tunisia

For other Countries and for those who wish to pay in Euros through a bank: on postal account n° 10630812 to the order of Associazione CIF Italia, Via Gramsci, 71, S. Maria Capua Vetere (Ce):

ABI 07601, CAB 14900, BIC Banca Popolare di Sondrio POS0IT22XXX

N.B. Places are limited and will be assigned on "first come, first served" basis.

For any specific need please contact us individually.

Address: CIF Italia – Via Latina 63 – 81055 S. Maria C.V. (Ce) – Italy  
Tel/fax +39(0)823 798631 Contact: email: [cifitalia@cifitalia.it](mailto:cifitalia@cifitalia.it)

# CIF /CIPUSA - International Exchange Programs 2007

## Program Dates / Details

Country	Duration	Dates	Deadline <sup>2</sup>	Language	Registration Fee <sup>3</sup>	Support by <sup>4</sup>	No of Participants
Austria + Czech Republic <sup>5,1</sup>	3 weeks + 1 week	Together: April 20-May 20	Dec 1st	English	Together: 250 € 5.2	Dom. travel	4 to 5
Australia <sup>6</sup>	3 weeks	August Sept	March 1st	English	AU\$300	Dom. travel	6-8
New Zealand <sup>6</sup>	3 weeks	Sept 23-Oct 13	March 1st	English	NZ\$300	Dom. travel	6-8
Finland	5 weeks	April 20-May 26	Dec 1st	English	No fee	Dom. travel + allowance	7 to 8
France	5,5 weeks	May 20-June 28	Dec 1st	French	No fee <sup>7</sup>	Dom. travel + allowance	12 to 15
Germany AGJ <sup>8</sup>	8 weeks	Sept-Nov	March 1st	German	No fee	Allowance	20 to 22
Greece	4 weeks	May 2-May 27	Dec 1st	English, Greek if possible	400 €	Dom. travel	5
India	6 weeks	Nov-Dec	March 1st	English	450 €	Dom. travel	7 to 12
Israel	3 weeks May 19	April 28	Dec 1st	English	\$300	Partial Dom. travel	2
Lithuania	4 weeks	May 13-22	Dec 1st	English	€ 250	Domestic travel	Up to 7

Latvia Estonia		M.23-J.1 June 2-12					
Norway	4 weeks	April-May	Dec 1st	English	No fee	Dom. Travel	7 to 8
Scotland	6 weeks	May -June	Dec 1st	English	No fee	Partial Dom. travel	10
Sweden	5 weeks	April 12-May 15	Dec 1st	English	No fee	Dom. travel	6 to 8
Tanzania	5 weeks	May 14-June 16	Dec 1st	English or Swahili	US\$ 460	Dom. travel	4 to 6
Turkey	4 weeks	May 4-June 1	Dec 1st	English	300 €	Dom. travel	4 to 6
USA	1 month up to 18 months is optional	August – December or January – May (18 month program can be any time)	Dec 1st June 1st	English	US\$800 - US\$1250	Local Travel	Open

<sup>1</sup> Dates/Details are subject to change from year to year. • <sup>2</sup> Deadline is for applications from people living in countries without a national branch. In countries with national branches the deadline may be earlier. • <sup>3</sup> In addition to the registration fees, applications fees can be charge by countries with national branches that send the application to a program. • <sup>4</sup> All exchange programs provide participants with housing - usually host families living during the program Either an allowance (pocket money) is provided and/or domestic travel cost in the country during the exchange program. • <sup>5.1</sup> Hungary and Czech Republic have a joint exchange program with Austria every second year. In 2007 Austria + Czech Republic have a joint exchange program. Therefore there is no program in Hungary in 2007. • <sup>5.2</sup> The fee for Austria (100 €) can be waved on request. • <sup>6</sup> Australia and New Zeland programs can be a joint program or two separate programs. • <sup>7</sup> From countries where there is a support from the French embassy. • No programs are organized by CIF Italy, Slovenia, Jamaica and the Netherlands in 2007. • For more information, please visit our web site, [www.cifinternational.com](http://www.cifinternational.com) for access to the national branches and their website when available.



There is end to all good things

by **Gisela Senssfelder**  
CIF-Germany



'The 1957 CIP Group'

Almost 50 years ago 51 people from 8 European countries met in Cleveland/Ohio, all of them participants in the 1957 CIP. After their return home they tried to keep

in contact, letters were exchanged; visits were eventually arranged, until in the 80th the idea came up: why do we not arrange a meeting. It worked and since that time we met in Austria, France, Germany, and the Netherlands and in Norway.

This years meeting took place in the lovely landscape of Bourgogne/ France amidst large wine yards. Testing the famous burgundy was, of course, part of our program. We visited medieval towns through which we rode in small, slow tourist trains. Inspected museums and Romanesque cathedrals and had picnics in the nature. But we also had interesting conversations: what had we done since our retirement, who is engaged in which voluntary work, what plans do we have for the future. It was an interesting meeting which fell on fertile ground.

Age, illnesses and handicaps prevent many of us from traveling far distances and unfortunately, more and more of the old friends passed away. So we decided that this was our last meeting. We said "Good-bye" with tears in our eyes and thanks for all the wonderful things we were able to share during the past 50 years.



## Memories from CIF Italia Program 2006

by **Birgitta De Bernardi**  
CIF-Sweden



Anni Haapalinna, Maria Rosa De Risa (with glasses), Giovanna Santoro and the last on the right Birgitta De Bernardi (author of the article).

So many nice persons, such good food and a lot of interesting experiences! I was in Italy for almost a month in September/October 2006 and I will never forget it. We were only two in the CIF Italy Program, my colleague Anni from Finland and me from Sweden. I have been to Italy many times before but my reason of going there this time to the CIF program was to get to know how my job as a social

worker is in Italy.

We got the theoretical part of the program, how the health, education and social system is built in Italy, during our first week, in S. Maria Capua Vetere. Those lectures that we got were really interesting and valuable. S. Maria Capua Vetere is a small town outside Naples, situated in the South of Italy. It is nothing really special at the first sight. A lot of traffic and lot of rubbish (a big problem in the South of Italy, 'where to throw away all the rubbish?'). But after a while you just love the place and especially the people. S. Maria Capua Vetere also has a very interesting amphitheatre which is almost abandoned and I really hope that somebody soon will take care of it. It's an historical jewel and nobody seems to care about it!

My first week in Southern Italy was very special for me, as a Swedish person. It's very common in these parts of Italy to go out and have pizza around 10 at night and the restaurants are always crowded even during the weekdays. In this part of Italy you easily make many friends and therefore my group of friends grew larger and larger each day ...from the first day until the last.

A young psychologist whom we had met along with her colleagues took

us out on an excursion in the first week.. They took us out into the countryside with all their clients. This psychologist works with clients with really difficult psychiatric illnesses like schizophrenia and psychosis. Once a month they take these clients from the clinic to do something nice. In September, when I was there, they took all the patients to a summer-cottage owned by the church. We spent a really nice day eating, singing and dancing with all these people and during that day it was sometimes difficult to find out who was a client and who was staff. It was a bit like in the film with Jack Nicolson "One flew over the cuckoos nest" when Jack Nicolson presents all the patients as doctors when they are boarding a boat. The psychiatrist (the chef of the clinic) made all the food that day for all these people, around 35 people. I have never seen such warm feelings between the doctors and the patients, it was something really special! Another thing that is not forgotten in the South of Italy is laughing! In Sweden and also in other parts of the world I think that we almost have stopped laughing or at least do not laugh very often. People in the South of Italy seem to live for talking, discussing and laughing and I really like it.

This was a small piece of my CIF-program in Italy and my thoughts about the first week of the CIF-program. After this, I went to do my practice in a social office in Padova, outside Venice for two weeks and ended up in Ljubliana in Slovenia for the last week of the CIF-program but that's another story.



TRAINING BUILDS BRIDGES FOR A CHANGING WORLD

## 27th CIF CONFERENCE

July 23 to July 27, 2007

Hello CIF Friends!

The CIF 27th Conference is well on its way. CIPUSA's conference planning team has been meeting twice a month to make this a celebration you won't want to miss! We have been receiving positive responses from alumni, host families, affiliates, and training sites about participating in the conference. Please remember that you can find updated information on our website at [www.cipusa.org](http://www.cipusa.org). Please check it regularly as new information is being posted. Below you will find details on the program, post conference tours, airline discounts, call for papers, and mini reunions with affiliate offices. We can't wait to see you this summer!!

## Registration Form

The CIF-CIPUSA conference registration form has been slightly updated and can be found on our website at [www.cipusa.org](http://www.cipusa.org). We updated the form to make it easier to complete. We will still accept the earlier registration form as well. Please know that the conference registration deadline is MARCH 31, 2007. An additional fee of \$100 USD will be charged to you if you submit the registration form past the deadline.

## Conference Program

The theme of the conference is Training Builds Bridges for a Changing World: Transforming Lives, Transforming Communities, Transforming Yourself. The three focus areas are the elderly, the youth, and community development. We will also offer a few workshops on self-help for individuals. Below is a sample of our conference program:

July 19 – 20, 2007	CIF Executive Committee Meetings
July 21 – 22, 2007	CIF Board Meeting
July 23, 2007	Arrival and Conference Opening Ceremony at 5:00 p.m.
	Affiliate Booths and CIF National Branch Booths
July 24, 2007	Plenary Speaker and Workshops CIF Elections
July 25, 2007	Plenary Speaker and Workshops Host Family Reunion and Market of Nations
July 26, 2007	Agency Visits and Cultural Excursion in Cleveland
July 27, 2006	CIF Inauguration of new CIF leaders CIF General Assembly, Closing Ceremony

Below is a sample of the types of workshops that we are planning. Please note that this list is only a sample and the listed workshops are subject to change. Please check our website for updates and additional information on the workshop schedule.

### Elderly:

Realities of Global Interdependence: Challenges for the Social Work Profession.

Elder Abuse: A Global Concern for Older People - Elder abuse is not just a problem in the U.S. Understand more about this global concern recognized by the United Nations and the World Health Organization.

Integrated Care Model for Seniors: Senior Health and Wellness Center - Learn about the first model care system of its kind in the U.S. where the care

is therapeutically defined by the patient.

### **Youth:**

Autism 101 - The incidence of Autism is increasing at an alarming rate. Explore the characteristics and challenges for individuals on the autism spectrum including common characteristics, sensory considerations, and communication issues.

Arts based programming: Motivations through Excellence - Understand how a nationally recognized arts based program provides personal development, promotes academic achievement, personal empowerment, and leadership skills to an underserved urban youth population.

Peer Mediation: Handling conflict resolution from the students' perspective - Peer mediation is both a program and a process where students facilitate resolving disputes between themselves. This process has proven effective in schools around the United States, changing the way students understand and resolve conflict in their lives.

### **Community Development**

Conflict Transformation: Seeing conflict as a positive force for change - Conflict is inevitable and is a natural occurrence in all human interaction, whether among co-workers, family members, or community residences. If handled poorly, conflict becomes a negative force that separates people, makes decision-making difficult, and undermines group effectiveness. This workshop promotes conflict as a resource and positive force for change.

### **Call For Papers**

We are calling for papers related to the following themes:

- Youth development and skills needed to work with our younger generation
- Incorporating the elderly into our daily lives and new concepts of caring and providing for the elderly
- Community Development
- Life skills and non-profit management skills such as budgeting, grant writing, board management.

We are interested in presentations that emphasize the best practices and the newest practices in the above areas. The audience will be individuals from around the world. The sessions will each be didactic and discussion-oriented presentations of a total of one hour in length. A double session for a two-hour interactive experiential session will be considered. International presenters are welcome. Preference for presenters is given to the members of the Council

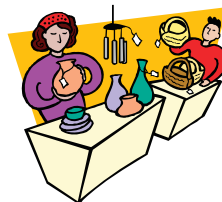
of International Fellowship, but it is not restricted to this group.

### Guidelines for the Submission of Abstracts

1. Abstracts are to be submitted in English
2. Abstracts can be sent by email as a file attachment in Microsoft Word format to dorothyfaller@sbcglobal.net. Abstracts may also be sent by postal mail to Dorothy Faller at 6889 Columbia Rd., Olmsted Falls, OH 44138.
3. Abstracts should be prepared as follows:
  - a. Title
  - b. Author (name, job title, corresponding address, city, country, nationality, telephone, fax, email, institution, discipline)
  - c. Other authors (name, job title, institution, country)
  - d. Abstract's text (maximum 500 words)
  - e. Include an evaluation component related to the stated goals and objectives
  - f. List any equipment that you will need for your presentation
4. Workshop proposals must describe the goals and objectives, structure, and presentation method.
5. A biography / résumé of the author needs to be included, including author's academic training, professional licensure or certification, or professionally recognized experience. Presenters should have an identifiable involvement with human services.
6. A brief bibliography relevant to the topic.
7. Deadline for submitting the abstract: March 30, 2007.
8. Notification: April 30, 2007.

### Market of Nations

Due to the success of the Market of Nations, CIPUSA will continue this fundraising effort at the 27th CIF Conference. Please bring items from your home country to sell. Each country will have a table as a market stall. You can sell all the items you bring with you as you would in a bazaar. If there are only a few participants from a certain



country they will share a market stall. Items should be representative of your home country or things made in their home countries. In the past items to be sold included small gifts, handmade goods, jewelry, etc. The proceeds from the Market of Nations would go to the CIF International. The Market of the Nations will be opened to CIF attendees and host families. We encourage

you to bring your country flags, wear traditional clothing, and wonderful CIF spirit!



### **CIF Branch Booth**

To expand on CIF and CIPUSA marketing, at the CIF 27th conference we would like to have a time where CIF branches can promote their exchange programs. Since the conference is being held at the Mandel School of Applied Social Sciences, we may have students and faculty who may be interested in attending a CIF program. Therefore we ask that all CIF Branches bring promotional material and any relevant material to display. We will have a tables set up where you can display your CIF branch program information throughout the conference.

### **Photographs and CIP Memorabilia WANTED**

CIF Germany was kind enough to share their photos they collected from the Bonn Conference with us. We hope to continue what they started and grow the photograph board and memory room! So if you have any photos or memorabilia of CIF or CIP/USA from the past 50 years please send it to us!!! Please write a short explanation on the back of the photo with your name. Please send this to us by email [cifconference@cipusa.org](mailto:cifconference@cipusa.org) or by mail:

CIPUSA, 1700 East 13th Street, Suite 4ME, Cleveland, OH 44114, USA

Thank you for helping us grow the CIF and CIP/USA memory!



### **Airline Discount AVAILABLE**

Continental Airlines has agreed to be the official conference airlines. Continental is offering CIF and CIPUSA conference attendees 15% off of fares from July 14th - August 1st. You can book your flight online at [www.continental.com](http://www.continental.com) and use Z Code: ZVBP and the Agreement Code: B9LfXC. For further information about this offer please visit the CIPUSA website at [www.cipusa.org](http://www.cipusa.org).

### **Travel Excursions**

CIPUSA partnered with Kollander Travel, a local Cleveland based travel agency to assist us with post conference travel excursions. CIPUSA is happy to present the following tours to you. If you are interested in participating in a tour please follow the instructions following each tour. CIPUSA will also be arranging short 1-2 day trips in Ohio. For those of you that may be interested in learning about these trips please inquire at [cifconference@cipusa.org](mailto:cifconference@cipusa.org).

PLEASE NOTE THAT ALL ARRANGEMENTS ARE MADE THROUGH THE TRAVEL AGENCY, NOT CIPUSA.



If you are interested in signing up for any of these tours, please contact:

**Stephanie Ventura**

Group Travel Coordinator, AAA East Central

Ohio Motorists Assoc. Region, 5700 Brecksville Rd

Independence, OH 44131 Phone: 216-606-6180

Fax: 216-606-6155 Email: sventura@aaaoma.com

**Motor Coach Tour to Washington, D.C. July 28-31, 2007**

Round trip motor coach transportation between Cleveland, Ohio and Washington, DC \* Use of coach while in DC \* Three nights accommodations at the Hilton Hotel in Crystal City \* Full day guided tour of DC \* Half-day tour of Arlington \* Guided Evening Illumination tour \* Free time to visit Smithsonian Museums or other attractions on own \* 2 dinners \* Luggage handling (1 bag per person) \* Tips & taxes on included features \* AAA Tour Manager to accompany group

**PRICE:** (Subject to change - based on a minimum of 25 paying passengers)

\$839 single occupancy • \$569 per person, double occupancy

**Motor Coach Tour to Toronto and Niagara Falls, Ontario July 28-30, 2007**

Round trip motor coach transportation between Cleveland, Ohio and Toronto, Ontario \* Use of coach while on tour \* One night's accommodation at the Delta Chelsea Hotel in downtown Toronto \* One night's accommodation at the Radisson Hotel & Suites in Niagara Falls, Ontario \* Guided tour of Toronto \* Toronto Harbor Cruise \* Guided tour of Niagara Falls \* Maid of the Mist Boat ride \* 2 breakfasts (at hotels) 1 lunch (at Table Rock overlooking Canadian Falls) 1 dinner (Joe Badalis in Toronto) \* Luggage handling (1 bag per person) \* Tips & taxes on included features \* AAA Tour Manager to accompany group

**IMPORTANT:** All U.S. Citizens will need proof of citizenship and a photo ID to cross the Canadian border and return to the U.S. All non-US Citizens are strongly advised to check on Canadian entry regulations with their consulate. They will need a multiple entry visa for their return to the United States after this tour. AAA East Central cannot be held responsible for any passenger denied entry into Canada or back into the United States due to incorrect documentation. AAA cannot be held responsible for any delays encountered at the border crossings which can be extreme in some instances.

**PRICE:** (Subject to change - based on a minimum of 25 paying passengers)

\$719 single occupancy • \$519 per person, double occupancy

**Air Tour to the Grand Canyon & Las Vegas July 28-August 3, 2007**

Shuttle to Cleveland Airport from CWRU on departure day \* Round trip nonstop air on Continental Airlines, Cleveland to Phoenix & Las Vegas to Cleveland \* All Motor coach transportation & driver tips \* Trolley tour in Sedona, AZ \* Two nights accommodations at the Grand Canyon Railway Hotel \* One night accommodation at the Maswick Lodge at the Grand Canyon \* Round trip First Class travel on the historic Grand Canyon Railway to the South Rim from Williams, AZ \* Grand Canyon South Rim tour with complimentary lunch included \* Old West BBQ & Entertainment in Williams on Monday evening \* \$20 certificate for the Grand Canyon Railway's Gift Shop \* Three nights at the Flamingo Hotel in Las Vegas \* Baggage handling (1 bag per person) between airport & hotels \* Tips & taxes on included features \* AAA Tour Manager will accompany group

**PRICE:** (Subject to change - based on a minimum of 25 paying passengers)

\$2099 single occupancy • \$1599 per person, double occupancy

**Affiliate Reunions**



Some affiliate offices are offering pre and post conference mini reunions in their affiliate cities. Each affiliate is responsible for the details of the reunion they offer. If you are interested in attending one of the affiliate city's reunion please contact them directly. Below are brief descriptions of what is being offered:

**Columbus International Program (CIP), Columbus, Ohio Affiliate:**

**WHAT:** POST CONFERENCE COLUMBUS REUNION. Immediately following the 27th CIF Conference in Cleveland past Columbus CIP participants, their family and traveling companions are invited to the Columbus Reunion.

**WHEN:** The dates are: Saturday morning, July 28 through Wednesday morning, August 1, 2007.

**ACTIVITIES:** Opportunities for great entertainment; tours of the fantastic changes that have taken place in downtown Columbus and at the Ohio State University; a community wide Sunday Picnic including past and present host families, agency supervisors and staff and CIP leaders current and past. There will also be free time for individual interests.

**HOUSING:** Housing will be provided through host family living by former and present host families.

**COST:** A registration fee of \$25 per person can be included in the fee payment for the CIF Conference. This fee will be forwarded to the Columbus Reunion Committee to help defray the expenses of the Reunion.

**CONTACT:** For more details about this program or if you are interested in attending please contact Ruth Schildhouse by email at [schildhouse@earthlink.net](mailto:schildhouse@earthlink.net) or by phone at 614.235-3691.

**Indiana University CIP (IU-CIP), Indianapolis, Indiana Affiliate:**

**WHAT:** POST CONFERENCE INDIANA UNIVERSITY AFFILIATE REUNION. Immediately following the 27th CIF Conference in Cleveland past Indiana IU-CIP participants, their family and traveling companions are invited to the Indiana Reunion.

**WHEN:** Immediately following the CIF Conference in Cleveland.

**CONTACT:** For more information about this program or if you are interested in attending please contact David Metzger by email at [dmetzger@iupui.edu](mailto:dmetzger@iupui.edu) or by phone at 317.255.4887.

**Philadelphia International Professional Exchange (IPX)  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania Affiliate:**

**WHAT:** POST CONFERENCE PHILADELPHIA IPX AFFILIATE REUNION. Immediately following the 27th CIF Conference in Cleveland past IPX participants, their family and traveling companions are invited to the Philadelphia Reunion.

**WHEN:** Immediately following the CIF Conference in Cleveland.

**CONTACT:** For more information about this program or if you are interested in attending please contact Priscilla Schwartz by email at [pschwartz@maine.rr.com](mailto:pschwartz@maine.rr.com).

**San Francisco International Program (SFIP)  
San Francisco, California Affiliate:**

**WHAT:** PRE CONFERENCE SAN FRANCISCO REUNION. Prior to the 27th CIF Conference in Cleveland past San Francisco CIP participants, their family and traveling companions are invited to the SFIP Reunion.

**WHEN:** July 2nd – 11h, 2007

**ACTIVITIES:** Entertainment includes a Fourth of July Parade and barbecue; stay over in Monterey Peninsula, California; visits to Carmel by-the sea, Monterey Aquarium, and Cannery Row; program concludes in Lake

Tahoe.

CONTACT: For more information about this program please or if you are interested in attending please contact David Strand by email at [dnstrand@strandandseaborn.com](mailto:dnstrand@strandandseaborn.com) or by phone at 415.345.0910x302. Marilyn Herand at [mherand@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mherand@sbcglobal.net) by phone at 415.648.4092.

**Council of International Program in Chicago (CIP-Chicago)  
Chicago, Illinois Affiliate:**

The Chicago affiliate will not be hosting a reunion conference but they would like all alumni of their program to know that if anyone is interested in visiting Chicago they are more than willing to make arrangements for your stay through host family living and help with any planning that you may need. The contact for the Chicago affiliate is George Palamattam and can be reached by email at [gpalamattam@yahoo.com](mailto:gpalamattam@yahoo.com) or by phone at 630.616.1414.

**West Virginia Council of International Programs (WV-CIP)  
Morgantown, West Virginia Affiliate:**

The West Virginia affiliate will not be hosting a reunion conference but they would like all alumni of their program to know that if anyone is interested in visiting Morgantown they are more than willing to make arrangements for your stay through host family living and help with any planning that you may need. The contact for the West Virginia affiliate is Linda Yoder and can be reached by email at [lky2@mail.wvnet.edu](mailto:lky2@mail.wvnet.edu) or by phone at 304.291.0409 or 304.293.6955x8.

**Colleagues International (Kalamazoo International Program)  
Kalamazoo, Michigan Affiliate:**

The Kalamazoo affiliate will not be hosting a reunion conference but they would like all alumni of their program to know that if anyone is interested in visiting Kalamazoo they are more than willing to make arrangements for your stay through host family living and help with any planning that you may need. The contact for the Kalamazoo affiliate is Jennifer Lang and can be reached by email at [klang@colleaguesinternational.com](mailto:klang@colleaguesinternational.com) or by phone at 269.806.2160.

**Denver International Program (DIP), Denver, Colorado Affiliate:**

The Denver affiliate will not be hosting a reunion conference but they would like all alumni of their program to know that if anyone is interested in visiting Denver they are more than willing to make arrangements for your stay through host family living and help with any planning that you may need. The contact for the Denver affiliate is Claudia Theise and can be reached by email at [ctheise@du.edu](mailto:ctheise@du.edu) or by phone at 303.871.2457.

See you all soon in Cleveland.



**Lisa Purdy**  
President & CEO  
CIPUSA

**Dorothy Faller**  
Ex-President & CEO  
CIPUSA



## All alone in Athens

by **Lisbet Sander**  
CIF-Sweden



Ninetta Zoi with Lisbet the lone participant and others of CIF Hellas.

I spent 4 weeks in May 2006 as a participant in a CIF programme, which was located in Athens in Greece.

Since I love everything that has anything to do with Greece, and really like everything that I know about the Greek "lifestyle", I couldn't resist the

opportunity offered by the CIF exchange programme to come to Greece and Athens.

Normally in a CIF programme you are involved in a fixed programme along with other participants. This was not the case for me, because this year I was the only applicant for Greece. After a number of e-mails between CIF Hellas, and myself I was told that they were prepared to accept me and prepare a "special programme" on the basis that I would be the only participant.

I have visited Greece many times as a tourist. For many years, I have spent at least a few weeks each summer on one or more of the Greek islands. And as I said, I have really liked the Greece that I have encountered.

This time, I would have the opportunity to see another side of Greece. I would meet professionals in my own field and have the chance to make comparisons with my everyday work, and the problems and difficulties that Swedish social services are struggling with.

I have been working as a social worker for almost 25 years, the past ten of them as a manager responsible for a programme area. To tell the truth, as the years have passed I have increasingly doubted whether the "Swedish model" is always the best one. Social work in Sweden has very much become the exercise of a role as a public authority, with focus on interpretation of current legislation.

Back, to my stay in Greece. I spent the first few days at the Psychiatric Hospital of Attica with Pantelis, who looked after me with great warmth and commitment. I was told how the awful 1999 earthquake was the factor that initiated a wide-ranging psychiatric reform which gave many patients the chance to move out of hospitals and into housing.

The second week, I began my longer 3-week stay at the social work office in Iraklion of Attika. I took part in the everyday life of the social work office along with the social workers Eleni and Meropi. We have a lot of fun together and I have the opportunity to see the daily life for the social workers.

Conditions for social work really are different in Sweden and Greece. Greek municipal social workers spend most of their time providing information and supportive counselling, unlike Swedish municipal social work, which is mainly about investigating and making decisions about measures.

Greek municipal social work does not have the resources or wherewithal to offer individuals the type of support measures that we do in Sweden. Despite the lack of measures, my lasting impression was still that those who contacted the social workers were happy with the help they received. The help

and support were designed to help the individual and his or her network to take responsibility for changing their situation. In Sweden, the authorities are often expected to take this responsibility which many times create a false sense of security.

During these three weeks, I observed the everyday life of a Greek social worker at close range. For example, the day on which Meropi was "ordered" to act as secretary to the Mayor because the usual secretary had other things to do. I wonder what his view of social work was.

Or the visit to an elderly single woman with no relatives? The preparations for the blood donation campaign. The discussions of cases. The celebration of "name days", so different from the Swedish way to do, but so fun. And the visit to the Lavrion, a refugee camp.

The visit to the refugee camp is something I will remember particularly well. The social worker in charge was an unusually committed and warm-hearted person who really did the best for the refugees staying at the camp. These refugees were living in extremely meagre circumstances, and with so many personal tragedies and human fates gathered together in one and the same place, the air vibrated with tension. But the fact that these refugees were able to support themselves through work locally was, I think, a good thing and a contributing factor in what was a rather bearable existence despite extreme conditions.

I also spent a further few days at various activities that focused on drug abusers. Here, too, the work I saw was of very good quality and with very well trained staff.

Apart from seeing the social workers' everyday working life, I also got a very good insight into everyday life in Greece. I lived in central Athens with Mrs Imelda, who was a very active and sociable person with a wide circle of friends and who energetically enjoyed what Athens had to offer by way of cultural activities.

Most evenings, Mrs Imelda had an idea of what we could do but she always let me say no. Because she herself had participated in a CIF programme, she knew all about the fatigue you can suffer after a whole day of new impressions.

So, what did I think about being a "lone" participant in a CIF programme? Perfect,- as far as I am concerned. Perhaps I am a bit "anti-social", but it was enough for me to get all these impressions on my own. I think, too, that if I had been in a group with people from other countries to relate to, it could

easily have become a different kind of stay and perhaps not as "Greek" as I think it was.

I think that it is very important however, if they are receiving a lone participant, that committed "hosts" are available who will get involved and take the participant along in social contexts outside the professional placement.

I can only recommend that more people to take the chance that an exchange programme provides. It is a privilege to be given the opportunity to spend time in a country for a long period of time.



## Tribute

Helena Ekdahl, Malmo, CIF - Sweden

Helena Ekdahl, Malmo, Sweden (CIF member) has left for heavenly abode on 26th January 2007.

We Sven Erik, Per, Andreas, and Nils, lost our Helena 26 January, 2007 who was found dead in our kitchen, striking us all with shock. We miss her tremendously. Helena was an including person that wanted everyone to fill welcome. So, please forward this info to Helena's friends that might not have been reached. Please give them this info: We will set up a webpage: <http://hemma-hos-oss.se/helena/>

On this page you will, in a few days find: To honour the memory of Helena Ekdahl and her lifetime achievement, we have decided to, together with all you friends create "The Helena Ekdahl scholarship fund". One of Helena's most intense interests was to search for scholarships for herself, family & friends to make some dreams come true. So we want to encourage you all to send your contribution to make Helena's "dreams catching" continue by making a deposit of an amount of your own choice.

With our kindest regards.

**Sven Erik, Per, Andreas, Nils**

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## COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP GENERAL ASSEMBLY PRELIMINARY AGENDA

July, 27, 2007 in Cleveland, Ohio/USA

1. Acceptance of the Minutes of the last General Assembly in Bonn/Germany
2. Approval of Agenda • 3. President's Report
4. Report of the Board of Director's Meeting • 5. Report of the Treasurer
6. Report of the Exchange Program's Coordinator • 7. Report of CIPUSA
8. Report of the Contact Person's Coordinator
9. Report of the CIF International Webmaster
10. Report of the Editor of CIF World News
11. Next CIF Conference in 2009
12. Results of Elections • 13. Any other business.



## COUNCIL OF INTERNATIONAL FELLOWSHIP BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING PRELIMINARY AGENDA

21 to 22 July, 2007 in Cleveland, Ohio/USA

1. Opening of the meeting by the president
2. Branches attending/Voting rights
3. Acceptance of the minutes of the last meeting in September, 2006 in Paris/France • 4. Approval of Agenda • 5. President's report
6. Overview of National Branches and their activities
7. Report of the treasurer • 8. Budgeting for EC and BD meetings
9. Review of the membership fees
10. Report on CIF World News (WN) and WN e-archive
11. Report on Website (International)
12. Report on Contact Persons (CPs)
13. Report on Exchange Programs (EPs)
14. Report on the different Committees – any results?
15. Report on the Strategic Planning Process • 16. Report on CIPUSA
17. Conference update • 18. Any other business

**Maria Hierlinger-Gudat**  
Secretary, CIF International

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