

# Books Abroad

Official Newsletter of the International Book Project.

## IBP Looks to the Future

Rachel Lewis, IBP Executive Director

As the new Executive Director of IBP, I want to take a moment to introduce myself and provide a glimpse of what is in store for IBP this summer. Prior to accepting this position, I was a volunteer at IBP and had the opportunity to learn much about the intricacies of the organization from Lynda Frazier, the previous Executive Director. I plan to utilize my background in marketing to improve IBP's communication with its donors and increase the community's awareness of our programs and mission. Additionally, my educational background in international nonprofit management will be used to improve IBP's efficiency while maintaining our commitment to sending quality, requested books to our recipient partners.

One of the things that drew me to IBP was the impact a small, grassroots nonprofit in Lexington was making around the world. While living in Ghana a few years ago, I had the opportunity to visit a village which had just built a new school and library. They were so proud of the buildings, but they were even more eager to show me the few precious books they had in their library, books provided by organizations like IBP. What a wonderful opportunity IBP has to impact lives and communities!

This summer IBP will be sending a sea container of books to two universities in Afghanistan. A book drive was held during finals week on UK's campus to collect books for the container. IBP will also be adding an additional Americorps Vista volunteer to our staff who will help coordinate IBP's marketing efforts and manage our volunteer projects. Finally, we will be striving to improve our efficiency and processes as we continue to send high-quality books via both m-bags and sea containers to countries across the developing world. IBP currently has container shipments in various stages of development for Ecuador, Uganda, and Myanmar.

While IBP has been sending books overseas for 42 years, our mission is certainly not yet fulfilled. There are still many places where books are a scarce luxury. A New Jersey professor recently wrote to IBP asking for a shipment of books for politically troubled Myanmar. Recounting her recent trip, she remembered, "When I asked the young and old what they wanted most, the answer was always: books and health."



*Making Dreams Come True, One Book at a Time*

### Books for Afghanistan

IBP is currently collecting books for a sea container shipment to two universities in Afghanistan.

**The Kabul Medical University of Afghanistan** enrolls approximately 3,500 students studying to work in the medical field. It has been in existence for several decades, but fell onto hard times under the rule of the Taliban. Years of neglect have left the university with few quality educational resources. IBP will ship the university thousands of needed medical books from our warehouse.

**The American University of Afghanistan** is a young institution funded primarily through USAID resources. The university is modeled after the American system of higher education and is open to students across Afghanistan regardless of gender, ethnicity, or religion. The school currently enrolls 500 students, but is expected to grow exponentially in the coming years. IBP will be shipping college textbooks in a variety of fields to support this growth.

## Frazier Bids IBP Farewell

Lynda Frazier, IBP Director 2004 - 2008

For the past three and a half years, I have had the pleasure of serving as Executive Director of the International Book Project. In this capacity, I have worked with many wonderful volunteers, donors and book recipients. On a daily basis, I have been inspired by the hope and determination of these individuals. Whether it was the volunteer who trudged in on winter days to pack books in our unheated warehouse, the teenager from Kosovo who spent countless hours organizing book shipments to her homeland, or the dedicated contributors who cared so deeply about giving a child, half way around the world, the chance to learn to read, I have engaged with folks who represent the best in all of us.

IBP's legion of committed supporters coupled with the constituencies we serve are the bedrock of this organization, and they are a testament to the profound change that can be made when people of diverse backgrounds come together for the common good. As I vacate my position as IBP's Executive Director, I do so knowing that this organization will continue to make a unique contribution to building a culture of opportunity, tolerance and peace, thanks to this grassroots network of compassionate and hopeful people, people who have dedicated themselves to IBP's mission of promoting literacy, educational opportunity and intercultural understanding in communities near and far.

During my tenure as Executive Director, I not only worked with wonderful volunteers, donors and recipients, I have also been blessed with a dedicated and committed staff. Without these hard working individuals, IBP could not distribute hundreds of thousands of direly-needed books annually. Their caring, kindness and sense of humor always made the IBP offices and warehouse a fun and rewarding workplace. They are excellent stewards of this project's mission and the legacy of our founder.

As some of you may know, I will be relocating with my husband and son in the coming months, undoubtedly encountering new personal and professional challenges. But I will always remember the lessons I learned at IBP, lessons about hard work, integrity, compassion, imagination, intellectual and spiritual growth, and so much more. Thanks again to all of our loyal supporters; I believe I am leaving IBP on firm-footing and in good standing, and this is a credit to your efforts. I feel confident that this organization will carry out Harriet Van Meter's dream of bringing literacy, educational opportunity and intercultural dialogue to marginalized communities around the globe for decades to come.

IBP's Used Bookstore

### *World of Books*

- *Mysteries*
- *Cookbooks*
- *Travel Books*
- *Self - Help*
- *Local Interest*
- *Gardening*
- *Children's Books*
- *Contemporary Literature*
- *And More...*

Hours: Monday thru Friday 9am - 5pm  
Summer Only: Saturdays 10am - 2pm



**Most Books are Under \$2!**

## IBP Bookstore Supports Shipping Costs

About a decade ago, IBP started selling used books in the front of its warehouse. Over the years, it has developed into a small used bookstore called, World of Books. The books sold in the bookstore are titles which are rarely requested overseas because of their specificity to American culture, English difficulty, or narrow subject matter. All proceeds from the bookstore help IBP pay shipping costs to send more appropriate materials abroad.

Shopping at our bookstore is a great way to help IBP and find a great bargain for you or a friend. We have a wide array of titles for a fraction of what you would pay at a local bookstore. In fact, most of our books are priced at less than \$2!

Stop by our warehouse anytime Monday thru Friday between 9am - 5pm to browse our selection. We are also open Saturdays from 10am - 2pm Memorial Day through Labor Day.



# Books as Bridges' First Year A Success

**Whitney Zimmerman, Americorps Vista**

As the 2007-2008 school year and my service at IBP come to an end, it is a good time to reflect on the work I have done during the past year. I have been affiliated with the International Book Project since 2004, but it is in the last year that I have been given this opportunity to oversee an amazing program on a full-time basis. Books as Bridges is a service-learning initiative that matches fifty local schools and youth service organizations with sister institutions abroad. Students in classrooms here in Kentucky correspond through a pen-pal program with students who benefit from book donations from the International Book Project throughout the developing world.

Over 100 classrooms at home and abroad were touched by Books as Bridges this year. Students received books, shared photos, and began friendships. While I am certain that the support given to foreign classrooms was invaluable, the most memorable part of the exchange for me was watching young students in the Central Kentucky region learn about other cultures. I had the opportunity to visit 20 of the participating classrooms and take part in a cultural lesson and craft from the region of their pen-pal



This Books as Bridges partner classroom in a remote part of Ecuador happily shows off their new books from IBP. This classroom is partnered with Mrs. Skelton's 2nd grade class at Simmons Elementary School in Versailles, KY.



The Macasandig Elementary School in the Philippines is the partner school with Mrs. McIntyre's 6th grade class at Edythe J. Hayes Middle School in Lexington, KY.

country. We learned everything from how to count to 10 in Swahili to how to make traditional Zambian cuisine. Music was sampled from many regions. Some of the crafts we created included Kenyan masks, Ecuadorian maracas, Ghanaian drums, Filipino parols, and Moroccan khamsas. I was amazed at how children as young as six were able to gauge cultural similarities and differences.

## Recycle for Literacy

IBP has partnered with Central Kentucky Fiber Resources (CKFR) to earn money for shipping books overseas by recycling magazines. You may now drop off magazines with your book donations at the IBP warehouse (please use separate boxes) or you can drop off your magazines directly at CKFR's plant. The process is simple:

1. Collect the magazines in bushel sized laundry baskets. Please: No phone books, catalogues, string or rope.
2. When you have 4-5 baskets, transport the material to Central Kentucky Fiber Resources at 847 Angliana Avenue in Lexington.
3. Tell the scale operator you are bringing magazines for the International Book Project.
4. You will then be instructed on where to drop off the magazines.
5. Get a copy of the scale ticket when you leave and verify that IBP is the name on the donation.



## Top 4 Ways to Help

### 1 Donate Books.

IBP is always in need of high quality books to send overseas. The books in highest demand are the following:

- History, business, and sciences
- Classic & contemporary literature
- Encyclopedias (complete sets, copyrighted after 2000)
- Dictionaries
- Primary, secondary, and higher education textbooks (copyrighted after 2000)
- Agriculture books
- Medical & nursing textbooks (copyrighted after 2000)

### 2 Tell a Friend.

IBP helps many communities in developing countries around the world, but our domestic awareness is still relatively low. Tell your friends about these programs:

- **Books Out Program**  
Is your community group or church going overseas this summer on a missions trip? You can pick books from our warehouse and take them with you. Cost: Just \$25 for 50 books.
- **Gregg New Donor Match**  
Do you have friends who are interested in books, world affairs, and/or education? Tell them about IBP. Every donation IBP receives from a NEW donor will be matched by the Gregg New Donor Match Grant.

# Gregg Grant Funds Book Shipment to the Philippines

**Books to be distributed to primary schools across the country.**

Tammy Purcell



Children throughout the Philippines will have increased access to quality educational resources, thanks to a large book shipment made possible by the 2007 Gregg Challenge Grant.

The shipment, comprised of over 14,000 brand new primary school textbooks donated by McGraw-Hill Publishing Company, left Lexington in late March en route to Manila, the Philippines' capital. The Rotary Club of Downtown Manila will team up with the Education Development Center (EDC), a not-for-profit organization that works to improve schools in marginalized and impoverished communities around the world, to distribute the books throughout the archipelago nation.

The EDC focuses on enhancing the curriculum of schools in need by providing quality educational materials as well as working with teachers and administrators to improve classroom practices and school management. IBP's book shipment will aid public schools identified by both the EDC and the Rotary Club of Downtown Manila's World Community Service Project.

As one of the world's largest island chain nations, the Philippines is home to both developed urban areas and isolated regions with little or no access to modern conveniences. Approximately thirty percent of its people, many of whom reside in outlying regions, live below the poverty line and the central government struggles to maintain schools, libraries and other public institutions in these areas.

IBP's gift of such high quality books will make a profound impact on the educational landscape in these communities. As the Philippines works to further develop its economy and infrastructure, it is essential that the country's youth, regardless of family income or geographic location, have access to timely and relevant literacy and learning tools.

Thank you to Kate Gregg for sponsoring the 2007 Gregg Challenge Grant and all the donors who gave so generously to this project. You are making the dream of education a reality for thousands of Filipino children. Special Thanks to McGraw-Hill for the book donation, W.T. Young Storage for housing and loading the shipment and all the volunteers who helped sort the 45,000 pounds of books.

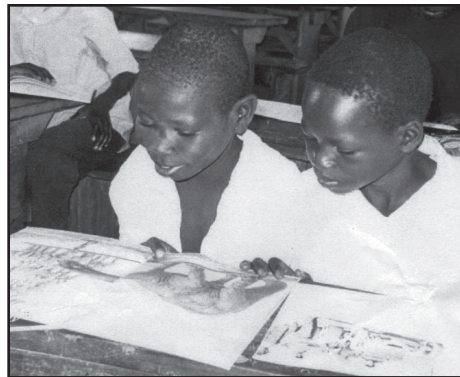
# Donations In Honor and Memory of:

## *In Honor*

Andrew Wilson  
 Bill Wilson  
 Liz Wilson  
 Sheila Kalas  
 Grandchildren of Mr. & Mrs. Fred Sargent  
 Joan Stewart  
 Florence Dowdy  
 Pamela Hanes  
 Katherine Dill  
 Kathy Eickmann  
 Virginia Litsey  
 Steve Settlage  
 Mildred Buster  
 Margaret Starr Rider  
 Mr. and Mrs. J.L. Rogers  
 Ceci and Holland Johnson  
 G.W. Dygert and Family  
 Anna and Homer Lane  
 Carol and Charlie Hall  
 Morri Anggelis  
 Mr. and Mrs. Phillip Teter  
 Mary Conover  
 Stella Ruth Craft  
 Mr. and Mrs. Richard Butler

## *In Memory*

Ruth Young  
 Joan Ferguson  
 Clark Heiple  
 Melvin Zahn  
 Sydney Marshall  
 Renee Gallant  
 Adam Cooke  
 Kenneth Lemke  
 Anthony Lala  
 Frank Chesnik  
 Molly Bayer



Two school girls in Africa read a new book from IBP about dinosaurs.

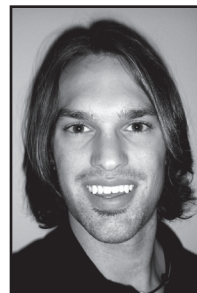
## Lane Named UK Intern of the Year

Former IBP intern Travis Lane was one of four students named 2007 University of Kentucky "Intern of the Year" at a ceremony held on campus in late February. IBP was also honored with an "Employer Partnership Award" for sponsoring the internship.

A native of Somerset, Kentucky, Mr. Lane interned at IBP during the Fall 2007 Semester. During his time with the organization, the business management junior compiled the "International Book Project Operations Manual," an invaluable resource that documents IBP's policies, procedures and program logistics.

The award recipients were chosen by a committee that included faculty, staff, and alumni. This panel based their selections on nomination letters submitted by employers as well as academic records, community involvement, and leadership.

Mr. Lane will complete his undergraduate studies in the Spring of 2009 and hopes to pursue a career in international business. Congratulations Travis and thank you for all of your hard work!



## 3 Volunteer.

IBP needs committed volunteers to help us meet the demand for books overseas. Our highest needs are currently:

- **Book Store Attendant**  
 (2-4 hours per week)  
 Sort and stock bookstore books.  
 Assist bookstore customers.
- **Front Office Assistant**  
 (5 hours per month)  
 Assist with data entry and other paperwork tasks.
- **Recycling Driver**  
 (1-2 times per month)  
 Load recyclable materials and transport them to recycling center. Requires a pick-up truck.

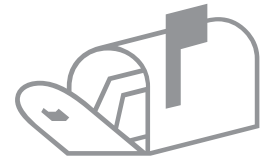
Call 859-254-6771 or email [ibpdirector@alltel.net](mailto:ibpdirector@alltel.net) if you would like to volunteer.

## 4 Give Money.

It costs IBP \$200 to send an m-bag (35 lb. box) of books overseas and thousands of dollars to send a sea container. IBP's biggest impediment to providing books abroad is lack of funds for overseas shipping. There are several ways you can give:

- **Online.** Go to [www.InternationalBookProject.org](http://www.InternationalBookProject.org), and click on "Donate Today".
- **By Mail.** Send a check.
- **By Phone.** Donate via credit card.
- **Planned Giving.**  
 Call 859-254-6771 for more information .

# International Book Project Mailbox....



*"We are more than grateful for the titles which we received. These are of great value to our clientele's research as they cover the institution's main subject interests... With such a comprehensive donation, we know that this will contribute to our vision as an institution as the library will effectively support the research and learning function of the institution from such donations."*

*"I write on behalf of this organization to thank you most sincerely for your kind and public-spirited support. This missive cannot adequately convey the joy of this organization and its beneficiaries. We are particularly pleased and delighted that you share in our vision to fight illiteracy and rural poverty through education."*

**Joel Didi, Executive Director  
International Secondary School  
Port Harcourt, Nigeria**

**Abigail Samunyanga, Librarian  
Harare Institute of Technology  
Harare, Zimbabwe**

*"Your kind generosity has made it possible for much needed books to be delivered to a new Educational Resource Center that we are establishing here in the Stann Creek District of Belize. Approximately 9,500 students are taught by over 470 teachers in Stann Creek schools. These books are providing educators with much needed innovative, effective methods to engage students in the learning process."*

**Oscar Reyes, Manager  
Stann Creek Education Center  
Dangriga, Belize**



*"I want to emphasize again how much these books will mean to us. I've been here for one and a half years and I have literally had no books whatsoever. I've had to create lesson plans out of thin air. Therefore, your books will greatly improve the students' education, and in some cases, might even change their lives."*

**Kathleen Lance, Peace Corps Volunteer  
Kyrgyzstan, Central Asia**



*"Thank you so much for the books! They arrived in Macedonia earlier this week. This morning I went to take pictures and speak with the Director of the House of Culture and she was very excited to receive the donation. As I looked through the books, I had a flashback to my lower school days as one of the reading textbooks is the same as the one I had in school! Thank you again for the donation. The books will go to good use here in Novo Selo!"*

**Anne Withers, Peace Corps Volunteer  
Novo Selo, Republic of Macedonia**

# MDRT Foundation Sponsors Book Shipment to Albania

## Library in Albania is Revitalized by IBP books.

Tammy Purcell



When Besnik Gojani visited Shkodra, Albania several years ago, he was dismayed by the lack of books on its main library's shelves. The dedicated International Book Project volunteer returned to the United States determined to do something about it.

Gojani's efforts to bring direly needed educational resources to the northern Albanian city culminated in late March when IBP sent a shipment of approximately 12,000 books to the public library there and to its neighbor, the University of Shkodra.

The shipment, sponsored by a generous grant from the Million Dollar Roundtable Foundation, contains an array of books, including everything from specialized higher education texts and English as a Second Language resources to popular novels and children's literature. Gojani handpicked many of the volumes from the donated inventory in IBP's Lexington warehouse.

A picturesque and ancient city near Albania's border with Montenegro and Kosovo, Shkodra, like Albania as a whole, has fallen on particularly hard times in the past two decades. For much of the twentieth century, Albanians

toiled under a repressive and xenophobic communist state. In 1991, following the fall of the Soviet bloc, the nation implemented a multiparty democracy and began moving toward free market economic reforms.

Yet integrating into the global economy has not been easy for the small Balkan nation. Hampered by a dilapidated transportation and energy infrastructure, as well as widespread corruption and organized crime, the Albanian government has struggled to combat high unemployment and maintain political stability. While the Albanian economy has begun to grow slowly, it remains one of Europe's poorest nations. About a quarter of its people live below the poverty line and the unemployment rate hovers around 13 percent.

IBP's book shipment will serve as a vital educational tool for Shkodra residents as they work to attract jobs and investment to the city.

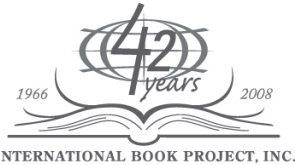


In March, IBP sent this 20 foot sea container filled with 12,000 books to the community library in Shkodra, Albania.

Many of the books will be available to the public in the main library while more specialized titles will aid students in their coursework at the university. The volumes, all printed in English, will also help local residents improve their language skills. Many Albanians are hungry to master English as it remains the international language of business and commerce.

Thanks to the Million Dollar Roundtable Foundation for funding this important book shipment and to all of our American book donors. Special thanks to Besnik Gojani for dedicating countless hours picking books for this project and coordinating the book distribution once the shipment arrives in Shkodra.

A native of Kosovo and an ethnic Albanian, Gojani has organized two large book shipments to the Balkans. The first, sent in 2005, supplied books to two community libraries in Kosovo that were burned by the Serbian military in the late 1990s.



International Book Project  
1440 Delaware Avenue  
Lexington, KY 40505

Return Service Requested

**Non-Profit Organization**  
**U.S. Postage Paid**  
**Lexington, KY**  
**Permit No. 55**

**INTERNATIONAL BOOK PROJECT**

1440 Delaware Avenue  
Lexington, KY 40405  
Phone: 859-254-6771  
Toll Free: 1-888-999-BOOK  
Fax: 859-253-2293  
www.internationalbookproject.org  
Rachel Lewis, Executive Director  
ibpdirector@alltel.net

**BOARD MEMBERS**

**PRESIDENT** - Sheila Kalas  
**VICE PRESIDENT** - Richard Mook  
**TREASURER** - Dorothy Swope  
**SECRETARY** - Gwen Matthews  
**MEMBER AT LARGE** - Toni Greider  
**MEMBER AT LARGE** - Billy Lanter  
Dr. Kwadu Addo  
William Drury  
Dr. Juanita Fleming  
Jeff Gehring  
Brandy Hamby  
Dean Hammond  
Mary Hammond  
William LaSalle  
Susan Masterman  
Hunter Nighbert  
Marianne Stoess  
Alan Thacker  
Leslie Thomas

**ADVISORY BOARD MEMBERS**

Madeleine Taylor Baugh  
Billy Cundiff  
Carol Pitts Diedrichs  
Chris Gowin  
Stephanie Hong  
Alicia McCorvey  
Janet Scott  
Lynda Thomas  
John Stempel  
Honorable Laurance Van Meter  
Gayatri Varanisi  
Sue Wylie

## A Time for Change



Sheila Kalas, IBP President of the Board

A time for change...A time to move forward...How exciting! These statements define where IBP is currently. The changing of an Executive Director position can be a daunting and disruptive task for any organization. However, we at IBP have been blessed to make a smooth, almost seamless transition from our former director, Lynda Frazier, to our new director, Rachel Lewis.

Rachel was an active volunteer for IBP, as she was finishing up her Masters in International Development at UK's Patterson School. Her dream was to work for an international non-profit and make a difference in this world. Finding this opportunity in Lexington, Kentucky was a tall order.

The timing of Lynda's departure and Rachel's availability was perfect! Lynda has worked hard to get IBP on sound financial ground and develop our volunteer program; poising IBP for growth. The strengths of Rachel Lewis: marketing, international studies and travel, as well as non-profit financing, are just what IBP needs to take its next step.

The board is excited about IBP's opportunity in the coming years. We believe that great things lie ahead. We hope, as IBP supporters, you keep a watchful eye on us and enjoy the progress and change you will be seeing.

Now, more than ever, we need your continued support; we need to keep the momentum going. Please continue your support of IBP and our mission. Continue to spread the word about IBP and the difference we make here and around the world.