

# ALUMNI NEWSLETTER 2011

**\*\* News from July 1, 2010 to June 30, 2011 \*\***

*Many of you contacted Marie and Mouzon on Face Book this year. We may have missed noting that in our Newsletter because of the volume of messages. We will try to include all next year and are sorry if we may have missed you in this year's Newsletter.*

## **Class of 1957-58**

**Edgard Sevilla** Edgard sent us a contribution to the Worley Fund again this year. We appreciate his continued and faithful support of the Fund honoring Jim and Rosemary Worley.

Edgard always writes us a note too when he sends us the contribution. He said he is doing well but he was sorry that he missed our reception this year. I believe he said that he was out of the states at that time. Maybe we will get to see you next year, Edgard. Thank you again for your contribution!

## **Class of 1961-62**

**U Hla Maung** U Hla sent us his annual Season's Greetings and New Year's greeting card this year. In the card he said he will never forget his old days at Vanderbilt. He also sent us his new mailing address too. Thank you for your nice comments about our program and remembering us every year, U Hla! We wish you the best always.

**Dr. Ali P. Sumer** Dr. Sumer was one of the first who responded to the Newsletter last year, when he sent us a check for the James S. and Rosemary Worley Fund. We want him to know how much we appreciate his continued support of the Worley Fund and his support of the GPED. Thank you and we would love to get a note from you telling us how you are doing.

**Marianne Ziver** Marianne sent us her annual letter that she sends out to all her friends and relatives including the GPED. She told us about the February 5<sup>th</sup> snowstorm in Bethesda where she was without electricity and heat for 3 ½ days, some of her travels, and about her nieces and nephews. Thanks for all of your news Marianne. It is always a joy to hear all that you have been doing in the past year.

## **Class of 1964-65**

**Nourredine Bouzاهر** We found current contact information on Nourredine on Facebook this year. It is nice that we are able to find so many Alumni on Facebook, so we will be able to reconnect with them now. Hopefully when they receive the Newsletter this year, it will prompt them to write us. Nourredine, write us!

**Jagadish Upadhyay** We owe Jagadish an apology for an error I made in last year's Newsletter. I had said in the Newsletter last year, "He told us that he is 91!" Well this is wrong! I had misread what he said in his letter to us. He was commenting with pleasure that one of our alumni who is 91 had written us. He was happy to see that! He did explain to me that he is still a couple decades away from 91 yet! I do apologize, as it was my interpretation of Jagadish's note that I turned upside down. We just hope that Jagadish will continue to write us when he turns 91!

We do want to also thank Jagadish for his continued support of the Worley Fund again this year!

## **Class of 1965-66**

**Aly Ercelan** The "Big News" from Aly this past year is that he became a "Grandpa!" He has a grandson, Adam, who was born in February 2010 to his daughter Aliya and her husband Lane. He said he spent a lovely month in the summer of 2010 visiting him. Congratulations Aly!

He said he had been helping with the flood relief in Pakistan. He said primarily getting water through solar disinfection and using recycled bottles. That is wonderful that you can help out. Way to go Aly.

Aly sent Mouzon a message on Facebook. He said all is well with him and was asking if we have an e-mail address for Professor Tony Tong. I am working and this and will get this to him if I can find one. We would love to hear more from Aly and we hope that we do within this coming year. Congratulations again on become a "Grandpa!"

**Hernan Puentes** We were happy that Hernan and Beverly were able to join us this year at our Annual Alumni Reception in Washington. It is always a pleasure seeing them. They both looked great and are doing well. Hernan and Beverly continue to send us a contribution to the Worley Fund every year. Their support and love of the GPED is welcomed and appreciated so much! Thanks to the both of you! We hope that we will be able to see you again next year in D.C.

**Anis Salib** In December 2010 we received another check from Anis. He has always been so faithful in sending contributions for the Worley Award Fund. We are so grateful for his continuous support. Thank you Anis! We hope this Newsletter finds you doing well.

Anis continues to keep us posted on Muhammad Yunus. In April he sent us a way to show our support for Muhammad Yunus. We hope that many of you sent some support comments for him. Thanks Anis for all the updates!

**Muhammad Yunus** On March 22, we head from Yunus, writing about a documentary on the Grameen Bank. An excerpt from his letter follows:

This is a crucial time for microfinance all over the world and the Grameen Bank and me in Bangladesh. You have heard or can search the Internet about our

challenge to maintain the independence and autonomy of the Grameen Bank in Bangladesh.

Now, just in time, Gayle Ferraro is launching a deep and inspiring documentary on Grameen that focuses on the brave members of Grameen in America. It is followed by a panel discussion with me participating remotely from Bangladesh. The combination provides important information on Grameen for the much broader audiences that we must now reach for our work to continue successfully.

Gayle Ferraro's film, "To Catch A Dollar: Muhammad Yunus Banks on America" will be shown on Thursday, March 31 at 7:30 PM in more than 225 theatres around the US. Audiences will see the 60-minute film, and also the important panel discussion introduced by Robert De Niro, moderated by CNBC'S Maria Bartiromo and featuring Suze Orman, president of Kiva Premal Shah, Vidar Jorgensen, representing Grameen, and me. You also hear calls to action from Hugh Jackman and Matt Damon. If this works well on March 31, the theatrical release will expand and continue. We only have one chance to make the launch a success. If March 31 does network, we will have to try something else.

There was not a showing in Nashville, and we were unable to attend the closest showing in Chattanooga. We do hope it went well! This is a huge undertaking, like so many of the Grameen projects and we do hope for its success.

The documentary "To Catch A Dollar: Muhammad Yunus Banks on America" shows that the Grameen America customer works incredibly hard for long hours to improve the prospects for her children. Grameen America has almost 5,000 members, 4,500 borrowers, and a 99% repayment rate.

Unfortunately in this past year Muhammad Yunus has been faced with a terrible confrontation, which we think is just awful. Our thoughts and best wishes go out to him. Apparently Bangladesh's government has escalated its campaign against microfinance pioneer, Muhammad Yunus. The Central Bank of Bangladesh is saying that his continuation as managing director of his famous Grameen Bank is "not lawful." This is just so unbelievable! No one can believe this has happened!

## **Class of 1966-67**

**Javier Gisbert** Javier sent us a really cute Santa Claus Christmas card this year. He wished a very Merry Christmas and a great 2011. Thank you, Javier for remembering us at that time of year. We hope you and your family have had a great 2011 also. We hope you will send us updates about yourself and your family since we last saw you on your visit here in the GPED.

**Dai-Sheng Hong** We want to thank Dai-Sheng for his continuous support of the James S. and Rose Mary Worley Award Fund. He has been very faithful in sending a donation for several years. We could not do this without so much support of from our

alumni. We hope that maybe next year Dai-Sheng will drop us a note. Thank you, again Dai-Sheng.

## **Class of 1967 – 68**

**Ernesto Seselovsky** Ernesto wrote us at the end of September 2010 that he had been appointed to a new position. He is now Director of the Economic and Social Observatory of the Universidad Nacional de Rosario. Congratulations on your new job, Ernesto! Ernesto also went to Italy and was invited there for a dissertation at the Universita Degli Studi di Padova. It was good hearing from Ernesto this year and thanks for the updates. Hope to hear more from Ernesto in this next year!

## **Class of 1968-69**

**Kusum Ketkar & Suhas Ketkar** Kusum and Suhas are back in New Jersey this year. We are missing them at Vanderbilt! We do hope you will “make the move” back to Nashville! We have kept in close touch this past year and it is always so good to hear from them.

Kusum and Suhas organized three sessions of the Association of Indian Economic and Financial Studies (AIEFS) at the AEA meetings in Denver, Colorado at the beginning of 2011 in their capacity as executive director and president of AIEFS. They also organized the AIEFS biennial conference in June 2011 at the University of Wisconsin where they met **Halima Qureshi (who earned her Ph.D. at Vanderbilt in 1987)**. Halima, who now teaches at Alabama A and M University, presented an interesting paper entitled "Impact of FDI and Different Measures Economic Freedom on the MENA Region". While Suhas stepped down from being the president of AIEFS, Kusum continues to serve as its executive director. She is also on the executive board of Women's Rehabilitation Group, a New Jersey based charity that provides funds to schools and other organizations in India that provide education and training to disadvantaged women. *[For more information on Suhas, see the Newsletter Cover Letter 2011.]*

## **Class of 1969-70**

**Abdul A. Feroqh** Mouzon found him on the internet and found his current contact information there too. We look forward to contacting him and we hope he will be writing us back! Mouzon's husband Sultan spoke with him on the phone. They knew each other when Sultan was at Peabody (the same time Abdul was at Vanderbilt.). We hope he will be able to attend our D.C. Alumni Reception this March so we can have a nice visit.

**Jane-Yu Ho Li** We heard from Jane-Yu again this year. When she wrote us it was just after she had received the 2010 Newsletter from us and she said she was going to give us a brief report on her life since leaving Vanderbilt, as we had requested when

we last heard from Jane. Thank you so much in responding, Jane. This is exactly what I like getting from our alumni so I can report your news to others!

After leaving Vanderbilt she began Ph.D. study at Madison, Wisconsin in 1970 and was married that very same year. She and her husband moved to a suburb of Washington, D.C. in 1975, after her husband completed his Ph.D. degree. Besides polishing her dissertation, she worked at various consulting firms for about 8 years before settling at an U.S. Federal government job, at GAO (Government Accountability Office). She worked there for 20 years, mostly on international trade policy issues. She took early retirement in 2004. She wanted to spend more time with her ailing mother and also leave some more time/energy for her own life's enjoyment. Good for you Jane, I know you owe it to yourself to do that!

Jane plans on doing some traveling soon, which she said she has not been able to do for the past two decades. Unfortunately, Jane's mother passed away last August and we were sorry to hear this. I know you had taken care of her for some time and at least you had the opportunity to be there for her. We send our deepest sympathy to you and your family.

Last but not least, Jane sent us another contribution to the Worley Fund, as she has been doing every year since it began. She said, "I had indeed tried to make a contribution to Worley Fund annually ever since it was established. In part, because I cherish memories of Professor Worley, and many other professors and classmates, during my stay in the GPED, in 1969-70." She wishes everyone well! Thank you, Jane for your wonderful letter. We wish you the best always too!

**Dionisio Carnero Neto** We were saddened when we heard of the death of Dionisio Neto. He died at age 64. He graduated from the GPED and went right into the Ph.D. program here at Vanderbilt and received his Ph.D. from the Economics Department. Professor Suhas Ketkar e-mailed us this very sad news on August 5, 2010. We know he will be sadly missed by his family and all who knew him. We want to send our deepest sympathy to his family. We were very sorry to hear this sad news!

Dionisio was a professor at Pontificia Universidade Catolica in Rio de Janeiro. He was Vice President of the Financier of Studies and Projects (FINEP) and is the author, plus other publications; such as, "The Brazilian Economy: Prospects for the Second Half of the FH Government" (in Bulletin of Economic Environment Minas Gerais, Fundacao Joao Pinheiro and Governor Minas Gerais, Year I, No.1, 2<sup>nd</sup> quarter, 1996), "The Southern Brazil: Boundries of Past and Future" (in Southern Brazil-Editora Alumbramento, 1995) and "Private International Capital Flows to Brazil," co-authored with Marcio GP Garcia, International, the Discussion Paper No.333, (PUC-RJ, 1995).

## **Class of 1971-72**

**Rahima Valena** We found Rahima also on the internet. Mouzon wrote her and we have heard back from her. Rahima said she was so glad to hear from Vanderbilt and she looks forward to getting the Newsletter from us.

Rahima has been politically active for a long time. She is a member of the District Board and the Federal Women's Council Delegates, the Greens, and the Federal Association for Women's Policy. She is a member of National Women's Council of Lower Saxony and a former volunteer women's representative at Gottingen University Library in Goettingen, Germany.

Currently Rahima is a member of the Green Party and elected member of the City Council in Goettingen, the city where she lives in Germany. She works mainly in the field of Women's Rights and Integration Politics. She said that she thinks a lot about her homeland, Afghanistan. She gives speeches about the women's situation in Afghanistan and works with some institutions that work in this area.

It was great hearing from Rahima! You have accomplished so much since leaving Vanderbilt and we are so proud of you. Keep in touch as often as you can. We loved hearing from you!

## **Class of 1972-73**

**Leonardo Cardemil** Leonardo wrote to us in late February telling us that he would not be able to attend our Alumni Reception in D.C. again this year. He was in Chile and would not be back in D.C. until the day we were leaving to return to Nashville. We were so sorry that we just missed each other. Maybe next year!

Then in late March we received a donation from Leonardo and Flor for the Worley Fund. They are one of many who send us a contribution every year. They continue to support the GPED in their dedication to making annual donations and we appreciate it so much!

**Degefe Befekadu** Degefe a prominent economist in Ethiopia was imprisoned with other scholars and humanitarians in 2005 through 2007. Degefe was a member of Parliament in the Coalition for Unity and Democracy Party, which is the opposition party in Ethiopia. Amnesty International declared him a "prisoner of conscience." We are pleased to let you know that Degefe is now out of prison and fortunately teaching again and in the U.S.

Degefe taught economics for 20 years at Addis Ababa University and has served as Head of the Ethiopian Economics Association and worked as a policy researcher for the International Monetary Fund and the World Bank. During that time he served as External Examiner and Visiting Professor in many universities in Africa between 1974 and 1991. He also served as Team Leader and Lead Author of the Economic Report on Africa from 1994-2000. Currently Degefe is Research Fellow in the Department of Economics at The New School for Social Research. He was the New School's first University in Exile Scholar in Residence. We are glad to hear that Degefe is safe and doing so well now!

**Bekele Tadesse** Bekele is living and working in Nigeria and Ghana. Bekele sent Mouzon an e-mail message in February, 2011. Thank you, Bekele with your updated contact information. Bekele is working for Ceragon. This is a wireless network. His title is MD & Country Representative for Nigeria and Ghana.

### **Class of 1973-74**

**Mohd Sheriff Kassim** On December 23<sup>rd</sup> we heard from Mohd Sheriff Kassim from Malaysia. He said he had lost touch with many of his classmates and asked for their email addresses. We sent him a copy of the roster via e-mail in hopes he could find some of his classmates. Sheriff wrote us back the very next day to thank us for the list and to say he didn't realize how many Malaysians were in the Program. He sent us his updated address which is in the roster. So, we hope many of his classmates will get in touch with him either by email or through the mail or by phone. Sheriff, you are the only one from your class we heard from this year. Let's hope we hear from many more in the coming year. It was so good to hear from you and get your updated information. Write us more any time you have a chance!

### **Class of 1974-75**

**Yasmeen Mohiuddin & Muhammad Siddiqi** Muhammad and Yasmeen sent us a contribution to the Worley Fund again this year. Their continued support of the Worley Fund and GPED is much appreciated by all of us. Also, a few months ago, Yasmeen and Muhammad came to Nashville and invited Mouzon and Sultan to dinner at a wonderful Turkish restaurant in Nashville. Mouzon and Sultan had such a nice time visiting with them and "catching up" with what they and their family were doing. We have all been so busy this year that we haven't seen each other as much as usual but hope to change that in the coming year

### **Class of 1977-78**

**Ismail Adam** The news we learned about Ismail is that he has left as Head of the Civil Service Department but continues to serve in a Government Commission. This means that we need current contact information on Ismail. We only have his office address so if he is no longer in the same office that means we can't find him without hearing from him or one of you contacting us with this information. Thank you to **Patricia Chia (Class of 1983-84)** for updating us on several of our Alumni.

**Ms. Maria Madalena Maia** On June 16<sup>th</sup> of this year we had a very pleasant surprise when we opened our mail and found a contribution to the Worley Fund from Maria Madalena. We want to thank her again for the contribution that she made; we really do appreciate you doing this. We would love to get a note from you telling us how you are doing and what you have done since leaving Vanderbilt. We look forward to hearing from you Maria in this next year!

**Bahman Maneshi** It was our pleasure having Bahman visit us here in our office in July 2010. He surprised us with a call saying he was in town attending a conference and wanted to come by our office for a visit. This was the first time that Bahman has been back to Vanderbilt since he graduated. He enjoyed seeing our office and hearing all our recent news.

Bahman teaches economics at Paradise Valley Community College in Phoenix, Arizona. He brought a few of his students who were with him to meet us. They were in Nashville for the 2010 PBL (Phi Beta Lambda) National Leadership Conference from July 9<sup>th</sup> through July 12<sup>th</sup>. At the conference several of his students won top honors. Congratulations, to you Bahman and your students on a job well done!

Shortly after his return home he mailed us a contribution to the Worley Fund and also, a very nice letter thanking us for his pleasant visit in the GPED. It was our pleasure having you here, Bahman. Bahman told us in his note back to us that his wife, **Farangis Zardoshty (Class of 1976-77)** sends her best regards and wishing us all good health, peace, and happiness. Thank you Farangis and we wish the two of you the best always too. We would love to get a letter from you too and letting us know what you have been doing since leaving here too, besides being the wife of Bahman! I want to thank the two of you for the generous contribution to the Worley Fund. Bahman, it was just great getting to meet you and having you here!

### **Class of 1978-79**

**S.M. Mazahir H. Hamdani** In late June, we had a wonderful surprise in the office. Mazahir came by to visit us and to let us know that his daughter, Syeda, was getting married on July 2, 2011. Syeda and Omer Hashmi were married at the Marriott Hotel near Franklin, Tennessee. Mouzon and Sultan had planned to attend but Mouzon caught a very bad cold and they could not go. I believe Professor Maneschi and his wife Helga were able to attend. We know it was a lovely occasion. Mazahir seemed so happy for his daughter. We saw a lovely picture of Syeda and her fiancé on the web. We wish them all the best. Come by and see us again soon, Mazahir!

**Abdul Rahman Jamal** Abdul Rahman has retired from serving in the Malaysian Government but continues to serve in other advisory capacities. We would love to hear from Abdul to hear what he is doing now. Maybe by now he has retired. The news regarding his retiring from government service we received from **Patricia Chia (Class of 1983-84)**. Let us hear from you, Abdul!

### **Class of 1980-81**

**Arshad Hashim** We heard the news that Arshad had retired from Government Service in Malaysia. We received this information from **Patricia Chia (Class of 1983-84)**. We would love to hear from you, Arshad. Drop us a line when you can.



**Ahmad Rusli Joharie** We learned the news, again from **Patricia Chia (Class fo 1983-84)**, that Ahmad Rusli has also retired from the Malaysian Government Service and he was working in the Ministry of Agriculture. We would also like to hear from Ahmad Rusli. As of now we do not have any current contact information for Ahmad Rusli. If anyone out there has contact information for him please send it on to us so we can get the Newsletter to him.

**Eui-Jae Kim** We heard from Eui-Jae in April of this year via e-mail. He is currently working for the Prime Minister's Office as Chairman for Officials Recruitment Committee and he is also teaching at a university. Eui-Jae said that he is also initiating a forum named "International Forum for Wisdom." He attached to the e-mail a proposal for the forum in case anyone may want to participate.

He sent us his new e-mail address and his other contact information. He wished us all the best here in the GPED. It was nice hearing from Eui-Jae and thank you for sending us information about your forum and all your updated contact information. We look forward to hearing from Eui-Jae again in the near future.

**Jin -Tan Liu** Jin-Tan sent us another contribution to the Worley Fund again this year. We want to thank him for his continuous and generous support of the Worley Fund. We do appreciate your generosity! Write us a little about what you have been doing since leaving Vanderbilt. I am sure many of your classmates would like to hear about you too! I will be waiting to hear from you Jin-Tan.

**Toru Taguchi** We were overwhelmed with the generosity from Toru when we were contacted and told that Toru was donating a **very large** donation to the Worley Fund. We received the contribution and we are very grateful and appreciative of the large donation, we all thank you so much! This will enable the Fund to help future incoming students in the GPED in memory of Jim and Rosemary Worley.

Toru also sent us his updated address. Toru is President of TICS Co., Ltd. in Tokyo. He said he looks forward to getting the Newsletters each year.

## **Class of 1981-82**

**Alihan Abdul Hamid** The news that Alihan Abdul has retired from the Malaysian Government was sent to us from **Patricia Chia (Class of 1983-84)**. We would love to hear from Alilhan Abdul and hear about what he is doing now and /or what he has done since leaving Vanderbilt. We also need his updated contact information so that we can see to it that he receives the Newsletter. I hope maybe on of you out there or one of his classmates will contact him or us and get this info to us. It was good to hear something about Alihan Abdul.

## **Class of 1983-84**

**Patricia Yoon Moi Chia** Patricia wrote us this month with a very nice and informative letter. She gave us information on several alumni from various classes on their retirement from Malaysian Government positions. We want to thank her so much for giving us this news on so many!

Patricia, as many of those she wrote us about, also has retired from the Malaysia government jobs. She was appointed by the Government of Malaysia as Secretary-General of the Colombo Plan for 2007 for a four year term. She said that it was very challenging, as well as educational. She said that she was very grateful for her time she spent at Vanderbilt, which gave her the background that was needed for her career.

Patricia sent us the Colombo Plan website ([www.colombo-plan.org](http://www.colombo-plan.org)), which will show you what they are doing in the Asia-Pacific Region and recent photos. The plan specifically shows that Malaysia has the biggest drug demand reduction program in the region, especially in Afghanistan. They will be celebrating their 60<sup>th</sup> Anniversary this July, 2011, of building human capital in that region. Congratulations on this plan and the work you have put toward this. We are very proud of you, Patricia.

Patricia sent us her updated contact information also. Thank you again Patricia for you very informative letter. We look forward to hearing from you again in the near future!

**Lourdes Coll** Several times this year we have had notes from Lourdes. They have been primarily in Spanish so we are not always able to translate them and understand the entire message. When a recent one came, however, we asked Professor Maneschi to help us translate and he said that Lourdes is running for Congress! We knew something was up! There are some wonderful pictures on Face Book showing, I suppose, political rallies.

We understand that Lourdes wants to tackle problems in Peru and is particularly interested in poverty. We wish you all the best in all your endeavors, Lourdes. Do stay in touch with us and we will try to have your correspondence translated—or maybe one of us will learn Spanish! All the best to you.

## **Class of 1984-85**

**Myriam Quispe-Agnoli** Myriam came by our office one day to visit. She is a Research Economist and Assistant Policy Advisor in the research department at the Federal Reserve Bank in Atlanta, Georgia. She brought a friend/colleague with her from the Nashville Office. Myriam was here in Nashville giving a talk at Belmont University and decided to come by the good ole GPED. It was so nice meeting her and we were very glad she dropped by.

**Mario Lee** Mouzon sent Mario an invitation to be his friend on Facebook but did not get a confirmation from him. Maybe she will hear something from him soon. We would love to hear how you are doing and what you have been doing since leaving Nashville.

## **Class of 1985-86**

**Boubacar Traore** Boubacar wrote us in early November. He said between his moves he had lost his Vanderbilt diploma. He was writing to request a duplicate. We called the University Registrar's Office and they ordered one for him; we received it and mailed it on to him. Boubacar has moved back to Tunisia now after spending some time in Libreville where he was transferred in 2009. Good hearing from him and hope he keeps in touch with more information about himself and family. In January, Boubacar wrote again to say he had received his diploma. We are so happy it reached you!

**Enver Guney** Enver sent us a great letter telling of his career since leaving Vanderbilt and updating his address and contact information. He spent the bulk of his career in Government services. His final position in Government is the General Director of Foreign Investment in the Turkish Treasury and now living in Ankara. He is partly working in Ankara, Istanbul, and Marmara Ereglisi. Living in Ankara gives them the opportunity to see our friends from the GPED.

Enver travels to the United States at least every year. Their daughter, Fulya, who was born, while Enver was studying at Vanderbilt studied in San Francisco in the summer of 2010. She was attending a MA program at Academy of Art University. Their son, Berkay is attending Bilkent University in Ankara.

Last summer (2010) they hosted Professor Kathryn Anderson in their home after 25 years. I know Kathy said she had a wonderful time visiting in Ankara and Istanbul and everyone showed her a wonderful time.

At the first of the year Enver sent us New Year's greetings and later in the year he sent us his current contact information. Thank you, Enver for such an informative letter. We wish you the best in all your future endeavors. We also hope that one year in the near future you will be able to visit us again!

**Butjaina (Buthaina) Shabany** Wrote to thank us for the Newsletter. She thought it was very good. Buthaina said it made her day when she read it and it brought back all good memories of her days here at Vanderbilt. She said she hopes to visit us some day. That would be great! Thank you, Buthaina, for all your nice comments. Continue to keep in touch and keep you address current with us so you can continue to receive our Newsletter.

## **Class of 1986-87**

**Abdiweli Ali** We have some really exciting and "**Big News About Abdiweli!**" In January of this year Abdiweli was appointed to be the **Deputy Prime**

**Minister** and Minister of Planning and International Cooperation of Somalia.  
**Congratulations Abdiweli!** We are very proud of you! Thank you for updating us on your enormous new position.

Then on June 28th we were notified that **Abdiweli has just been appointed Prime Minister of Somalia on June 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2011!** Well, some people just move up the ladder rather quickly. We are so excited! Congratulations Abdiweli on your newest and big promotion! WOW!!

Abdiweli said he took a sabbatical leave from Niagara University. He told us that he owes a lot to Vanderbilt University and it helped him at a critical juncture in his life. He is eternally grateful to all the faculty and staff members who kept him close and gave him a great opportunity to learn, grow, and become the person I am today.

Abdiweli thank you so much for all your very nice comments about Vanderbilt and Nashville. We are so happy and proud of you. Congratulations from the GPED!

**Juan Jaramillo** We heard from Juan the last day of August 2010 telling us his **“Big News”**. He told us that he is finally getting married! By the way, he is the one who said, finally. I didn't put that word in there – he said it! Anyway we are all very happy for you Juan. Congratulations! Send us some pictures of your wedding. We would love to see them.

Juan was also writing and congratulating Mouzon on her award she received last year that was written up in the 2010 Newsletter. Good hearing from you Juan and please keep in touch with us.

**Young-Geol Lee** We were delighted to receive word about Young-Geol in October 2010. We received a recommendation letter from him for an applicant for January 2011. We had lost contact with Young-Geol for the last few years and by receiving this recommendation letter he sent us his contact information and his job status. Currently Young-Geol is Vice Minister in the Ministry of National Defense in Seoul, Korea. The student he recommended for our program is **Mr. Jae Ho Chun** and he was accepted and he started our program in January 2011. Young-Geol Lee said that he had worked with Jae Ho during the economic crisis in 2009 when Young-Geol was appointed as the Vice Minister of the Ministry of Strategy and Finance.

Young-Geol, it is nice to know all this impressive information about you. We can see you have gone far since leaving Vanderbilt. Congratulations on all of your promotions! We would love to get a letter or note from you about your family too. Write when you can and glad we have you back in our circle of GPED alumni!

## **Class of 1987-88**

**Sirima Bunnag** In December 2010, Sirima sent New Year's greetings via Facebook to Mouzon.

We heard from Sirima in late June of this year. She said she is doing fine and still teaching on the Faculty of Economics at Chulalongkorn University in Bangkok. Besides teaching, Sirima also is working for the University in the Administrative Office. Currently her position is Assistant to the President of Chulalongkorn University in the Student Affairs Office. She has been in that position for almost 8 years. She continues to teach two courses a semester. She teaches Economic Development for second year students and Theories and Policies of Development Economics for 3<sup>rd</sup> year students. She said she still enjoys teaching.

Thanks for writing us with so much information. Sounds like you are a very busy person but loving it too and that is good! It was great hearing from you and we still miss you coming by our office with your great smile. Write us again when you get a break sometime!

## **Class of 1988-89**

**Ana Aargoth Arevalo Cornejo** Ana wrote to Mouzon in December wishing her a great Christmas and happiness in the New Year. I know Mouzon enjoyed getting these greetings from Ana. We just hope that in this next year we will hear a little more from her. How about writing us with some news Ana!

**Kadir Aslan** Mouzon received a birthday greeting card from Kadir and wished her the best! Again, Kadir, I am sure Mouzon appreciated getting a birthday greeting from you. Kadir also sent Mouzon Christmas and New Year's greetings this year too. We would love to hear more from you, such as any news from you. Please write this year so we can put it in next years Newsletter.

**Shufen Hung** Shufen called out office on January 30th of this year. She said she is now living in North Carolina. She has two children, a daughter, Tiffany, who is in the 9<sup>th</sup> grade and a son, Alex, who is in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. She is doing well and hopes to come to the GPED for a visit some time in the near future. We would love to see her. She was going to try to come to D.C. to see us there but the plans did not work out for her. Maybe we will get to see her some time during this year. It was good hearing from Shufen.

Before coming back to the States Shufen had been working as an assistant research fellow at the Institute of International Relations, National Chengchi University, Taiwan.

**Ana Regina Vides de Andrade** Ana Regina e-mailed Mouzon greetings on her birthday. I know Mouzon appreciated that very much. Ana Regina continues to be one of our thesis Advisers, and the students enjoy working with her very much. We see Ana Regina every once in a while and she is doing great! Her oldest daughter, Gabriella, will finish Medical School at Vanderbilt this year and her youngest daughter, Regina, is at the University of North Carolina Chapel Hill. We are also very pleased that her niece will join the GPED in the Fall.

## Class of 1989-90

**Jose Luis Diaz Naranjo** We heard from Jose last October. He said it has been twenty years since he was at Vanderbilt. He said he is still teaching at Universidad Nacional in Costa Rica.

Jose said he married 13 years ago, which would have been in 1998. He said that he has two children, a daughter, Maria who is 11 years old and a son, Dimas who is 8 years old. His daughter Maria is in the fifth grade and his son Dimas is in the second grade.

He wished us well in the GPED. Thank you for writing Jose. It was nice hearing from you!

**Sudarno Sumarto** Professor Sam Morley wrote us and told us he was headed to Indonesia to work on a project. He was in hopes to meet up with Sudarno while he was there. We haven't heard if he did get to see him. Maybe we will know something by this time next year.

## Class 1990-91

**Teresa Deras** We stay in contact with Teresa or she stays in contact with us all the time. It is really nice, we just e-mail each other back in forth with news, jokes, whatever. She is so kind and sweet and remembers us on all occasions.

We heard from Teresa in August 2010. She wrote to tell us about one of our applicants Ana Ivette Gutierrez, who did enroll and has finished her first year! It is always so helpful to hear from alumni about our applicants. Teresa said so many nice things about Ana and we found them to all be true. In her letter, Teresa said that former GPED director **Sam Morley** had just been in Honduras. She said he would be teaching a course about a CGE Model in late September, and was working with the Central Bank for that with **Carlos Espinoza (of this class)**. Teresa was hoping Mr. Morley would be working in Honduras for a while. We're not sure what happened about that.

Again this year she came to D.C. and met us there. We had a wonderful time being together and of course her daughter, **Kirsten Funes ( Class of 2006-07)** lives and works in D.C. and so she not only gets to see us but her daughter too. Kirsten is just like her mother and we always stay in close touch. Kirsten too keeps us posted on everyone who graduated from the GPED and is living and working in D.C. She also remembers us on every occasion.

On May 18<sup>th</sup> Teresa sent us a picture of **Hassan Ali Din Mohammed's (of this Class)** son and his new bride. Thank you, Teresa, for forwarding this picture on to us. Teresa is doing well and continues traveling and working constantly. She is a very busy lady!

**Carlos Espinoza** On August 17, 2010, we had a nice note from **Teresa Deras (of this class)**. She told us that former GPED director **Sam Morley** had been visiting and that he had been working with Carlos at the Central Bank. I'm sure the two of you enjoyed working together. It was nice to hear indirectly about Carlos and to know that he is still at the Central Bank. We hope to hear from him directly this year. Carlos, write and tell us about your family and your work. We would love to hear from you!

**Hassan Ali Din Mohammed** Hassan wrote us a very nice and newsy letter and we were so glad to hear from him. First of all, Hassan, told us that he retired from government service in January 2010 and after one year he joined a USAID funded program in Pakistan. This is an Assessment and Strengthening Program for Capacity Building of recipient agencies of USAID assistance in Pakistan.

Hassan said he has kept in touch with Professor Sam Morley. He said in fact, the last four years Professor Morley has been going to Honduras and other institutions in a General Equilibrium Model. Professor Morley has also been traveling to El Salvador and to Guatemala as well. Thank you, Hassan, for some updates on Professor Morley.

On the family front, Hassan's son, Zohaib got married on February 5, 2011. Congratulations to you and your son! As mentioned above, **Teresa Deras (of this class)**, sent us several family pictures that was taken at Zohaib's wedding that Hassan had e-mailed Teresa. It was a great picture of the whole family! Zohaib was only 7 years old when he was in Nashville. Zohaib completed his Masters in Business Administration (MBA) with specialization in Finance. He is now working in the National Bank of Pakistan, as an Officer Grade II for the last six months. His second son, Shoaib is still studying ACCA in London. Shoaib came to Pakistan for his brother's wedding ceremony. It was great hearing from you Hassan and thank you so much for your informative letter.

**Marial Yol** We want to thank Marial for sending us his informative letter regarding what he has done and accomplished since leaving the GPED. In 1998 Marial started his Ph.D. program in Malaysia and completed his degree in Economics (International Finance) in February 2002 and came back to Sudan. Upon his return to Sudan he resumed his position as Assistant Professor in the College of Social and Economic Studies at the University of Juba. In July 2003 he got a job offer in Malaysia, as a Senior Lecturer, in one of the Malaysia Universities, which awarded him his Ph.D. He taught there until May 2009 when he was contracted by the World Bank as a consultant on Monetary and Exchange Rate Policies and positioned in the Central Bank of Sudan. He worked there until June 2010 when he was appointed State Minister of Finance and National Economy of the federal Government.

Next, because of the referendum (took place in April 2011) in which Southern Sudanese opted for secession from the North, they are now preparing to move down to the South where a 54<sup>th</sup> African nation will be born on July 9, 2011. Right now Marial is not sure whether he will be appointed in the government of the new country to be known as the Republic of South Sudan (ROSS) or not.

Congratulations Marial on all of your promotions and accomplishments since leaving Vanderbilt! We are very proud of you! Thank you for sending us all this information about yourself. I am sure all your classmates, friends and professors whom you knew while you were here will be very happy to hear all this news from you.

## **Class of 1991-92**

**Omar Al Madani** Omar wrote Mouzon on New Year's Eve 2010. He wrote to wish her and everyone in the GPED a Happy New Year for 2011.

Omar said that he wanted to thank us for the Newsletter he receives every year that keeps him in touch with the GPED and informs him about all GPED alumni. We are very happy to hear such positive responses about the Newsletter and appreciate your nice comments.

He wrote to congratulate Mouzon on the Commodore Award she won last year. He said that it was a well deserved honor, which it was. He said Mouzon was the first person he met in Nashville at the airport and the last one he said goodbye to at the same airport! Omar said he keeps fond memories of Mouzon and the GPED "all inclusive."

Thank you, Omar, for your very nice letter. Next time you write please give us some news about yourself!

**Keat Yue Chin** The news we have heard about Keat Yue is that she has retired from government services in Malaysia. We would love to hear from her as to what she is doing now and we would also love to hear about her daughters. I know they are adults now but we would still love to hear about them. We heard the news about Keat Yue's retirement from government services from **Patricia Chia (Class of 1983-84)**. Hopefully we will hear from Keat Yue in this next year!

**Swarna Gunaratne** Swarna sent us a lovely Season's Greeting card from the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. Thank you so much, Swarna. Try to write us over this next year and tell us some of your news! We would love to hear from you.

**Kwan Hwie Liong** Kwan and Mouzon connected on Facebook this year. Kwan told us that he continues to work at the Indonesian Pluralism Institute (IPI) He leads younger fellows to study the social-economic relationship among multi-stakeholders to revitalize Indonesian Batik culture and small industry. They use the Lasem Batik culture and industry in Rembang Regency, Central Java Province, Indonesia as our focused study.

His son Filbert is busy and happy studying Pharmacy at Sanata Dharma Catholic University in Yogyakarta. He and his wife Rosie live in BJOR, a small town south of Jakarta.



It was nice hearing from Kwan and getting news about he and his family. He hopes to visit Nashville some day and we hope that he gets to also. Thanks for your news and updates, Kwan.

**Jose Enrique Luna Soto** Jose called our office one day late last summer. He lost his passport and wanted to know if ISSS would have copies so that he could work on getting another one. We directed him and got things arranged and they got his paperwork taken care of and he came by picked them up.

Jose still lives and works here in Nashville. He gave us his updated phone numbers. It was good seeing him and he seems to be doing well.

In June, Jose finished working on his house which was destroyed by the flood in May 2010. His family was having a party on his wife's birthday in August to celebrate completion of the repairs. Jose invited our office staff to come to the party but we were unable to attend. Jose and his wife have a son (who must be grown by now!) and a daughter in high school.

**Jariya Wongsathuaythong** Jariya called our office on October 18, 2010 to tell us that he is vacationing and was in Boston, going to D.C. and to New York City. He is married and has two boys; one is 13 and other is 6 years old. He maintains his address in Thailand but works in Bahrain. He is working on a government project in Bahrain for a Thai Construction Company.

Jariya sent many pictures to Mouzon of his classmates in the GPED to Mouzon's Facebook page. If you were in the class with Jariya, check out the pictures on Jariya's page.

It was good hearing from you, Jariya and to learn all you are doing. It seems you are coming into the States every year. When are you going to make plans to vacation in Nashville? Or even maybe just part of your vacation, a side trip to Nashville. We would love to see you!

## **Class of 1992-93**

**Kim, Seong In** Guess who we ran into in our hotel lobby in D.C. one morning during breakfast? Give up? Well it was none other than Seong In Kim. He recognized Mouzon and came up to her and said hello. It was very nice seeing him and of course a very big surprise for us and also for him. It was so cool!!

Seong In is now Deputy Director-General for Multilateral Trade at MOFAT in Seoul. It was great seeing him! Write us when you can Seong In!

**Dawn Lyken** On Thursday, August 12, 2010 Dawn surprised us when she walked in our office and tried to pass herself off as a new GPED student. It took us a minute to catch on but we finally realized it was Dawn. It had been 16 years since we last saw her.

When Dawn first left Vanderbilt she lived and worked in Botswana. The last four years she and her husband lived and worked in the UAE. Dawn was teaching Economics in a university there.

She is back at Vanderbilt and getting her PH.D. at Peabody in the LPO program. Dawn said she decided she wanted to get the next diploma, so she returned and here she goes! We are very happy for her and that she is back here. I told her to visit us wherever she can. We will keep you updated on Dawn for the next 4 or 5 years.

**Kadiatou Konate Traore** Kadi wrote to Mouzon to wish her a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year and to all in the GPED too.

Kadi was also writing Mouzon to get information about Vanderbilt and the Undergraduate Program. Her son, Mohamed is in the 12<sup>th</sup> grade and will entering college next year. I can't believe he is college age. It seems like it was only yesterday when he was in our office in a baby stroller. Time does fly! We wish Mohamed luck wherever he may go!

## **Class of 1993-94**

**Amalia Lucena** Amalia sent us a newsy letter in January of this year. She said that she continues working as a professor at Universidad Central of Venezuela. She is hoping to finish her doctoral thesis this year. Right now she is enjoying being a Research Visitor at Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain. She said that soon she would be returning to Venezuela and continuing her research activities and classes at UCV.

In addition to her academic studies, she has been working with Inter-American Development Bank (IDB) and CAF, Financing Institution to Latin America. Last year she had the opportunity to meet with **Dante Mossi (Vandy Ph.D.) and Luis Gomez (Class of 1992-93)** in Honduras. Amalia said it was nice talking about their days here at Vanderbilt.

Amalia said that **Richard Diaz (Class of 1994-95)**, her husband, continues his honey business. He is a beekeeper and a national wholesale deliverer. Richard is running his business well and is a marvelous entrepreneur, Amalia tells us.

Amalia and Richard have two children. Ricardo 11 years old and he is a violinist in the Infant Orchestra of Venezuela System. Their daughter Lucia is 9 years old and has an extraordinary ability in being an artistic painter.

Thank you, Amalia, for all your news! We appreciate it when we get letters that tell us about what each of you and your family and how they are doing and what they are doing and your children's ages and all. Amalia sends her best to everyone.

**Chandra Mai** Chandra connected with Mouzon on Facebook this year but we haven't received news from him otherwise. We hope to hear from him in this next year.

**Lana Soelistianingsih** An incoming student from Indonesia, Armand Sim, wrote us regarding some forms he was working on for his arrival here. He asked if we remembered Lana and that she had been a student in the GPED in the '90s. Of course we remember Lana! She asked the student to convey her greetings to us. She said that she had enjoyed her years here at Vanderbilt. Apparently Lana works in the same place as the incoming student. It was great to get a hello from her but we also would like a letter directly from you Lana. I hope you are still getting our Newsletter.

## **Class of 1994-95**

**Carolina Avalos** Carolina wrote us and was trying to get in contact with Muhammad Yunus. She saw him in New York and he told her to write him. I believe she was having trouble contacting him and wanted to know our contact information on him. Mouzon sent her what we have. I hope that she was able to get through to him.

She wished us a Happy 2011 and sent her best wishes to all of us. We look forward to hearing more from her this year.

**Suriyalatha Jayaratne** We were delightfully surprised on June 21, 2011 to hear from Suri. She was actually writing us from the U.S. Suri had come to visit her two sons who are in Wichita, Kansas. She arrived on June 12<sup>th</sup> and was leaving on July 18<sup>th</sup>. We hoped that she could visit us but she was not able to this time. She will be coming back in the next year or so to visit and we do hope to see her then!

Madhuka, Suri's eldest son, works at Johnson Control as an Engineer. Tharindhu, the younger son, is a Junior at Wichita State University, studying Aerospace engineering. My goodness, your sons must be really, really bright! Suri talked about the good days at Vanderbilt. We really miss you here, Suri! We do hope you will be able to come to see us next year! It was just great hearing from you!

**Moon Gyu Jeong** The only information or word we heard from Moon Gyu this year is that he asked Mouzon to be friends with him on "Facebook." I am sure she said yes to that. Maybe we will have some news from him by next Newsletter.

**Teddy Caster Sianturi** Teddy wrote on Mouzon's Facebook last August that he gets to see **Moon Gyu Jeong (of this class)** every now and then. He said he is so happy that he and Moon have stayed friends over all these years. He had been helped by Moon during his exhibition which represented his Ministry's booth at ENVEX in 2010.

He also sent us pictures of his family and of Moon attached to this Facebook note. Thanks for the great pictures and information about you what you have been doing. Continue to keep in touch.

Teddy sent his greeting via Facebook on October 30, 2010. He was touching base with Mouzon and wishing her a happy birthday, which was coming up very soon.

## **Class of 1995-96**

**Hee Bong Chae** We heard from Hee Bong in December 2010 telling us he is now in D.C. He is working at the Inter-American Development Bank. He is an Energy Specialist, in the Infrastructure and Environment Department (Energy Division) of the IDB. He sent us his new address in D.C. and other contact information. We were hoping to see him in D.C. during our Field Trip but it just so happened that he was going back to Korea for visit there. We hope that we will be able to see him next year. Thanks for writing us Hee Bong!

**Meissa (Dieng) Cisse** Meissa wrote and told us how her son was so happy to see the picture of the two of them in last year's Newsletter. He was very proud of it and had to show his friends the picture and told them "This is Mommy's school in the USA! They know me!" That was so cute! She also wished Mouzon a happy belated birthday.

Meissa also connected with Mouzon on Facebook this year. She was telling her how she remembers arriving here in Nashville and Marie picking her up. She said it was 100 degrees and 99% humidity. She felt like she was in a sauna, regardless of our hot summers Meissa misses us and Nashville anyway. Good hearing news from Meissa this year!

**Robert Mosko** It was good hearing from Robert, although it was brief, but at least he wrote to say hello. In early April Robert wrote to say hello and asked how we were doing in the GPED and asked me to give his greetings to Mouzon and Professor Kathryn Anderson.

Robert did send us a very generous donation to the Worley Fund again this year. That was so kind of him to do this. Robert is one of our continuous supports of our Worley Fund and we appreciate it so much. Thank you again, Robert.

Robert, when you get a chance during your busy schedule please drop us an e-mail message of what you are doing. We would love to hear more from you!

**Roberto Penalzoa** Roberto & Maria sent Mouzon a Birthday Wish via Facebook. They said they found Mouzon on Facebook due to our Newsletter. It was good to hear from them but we would like to know about them! Write us sometime, Roberto!

**Nirmal Shiwakoti** In December we received Christmas and New Year's greetings from Nirmal. Thanks so much Nirmal and we wish you and your family the best 2011 has to offer.

When Nirmal wrote us in March of this year, he told us that he is in southern Sudan with the Peace Keeping Operations of the United Nations. He came to Sudan as a State Advisor to the Referendum Process. This Referendum for self-determination was the historic moment for its people and for peacemakers as well. This successful completion of this referendum process has led the country to completely end the more than 25 year long civil war. Good for you Nirmal! We are very proud of you.

Nirmal said that he has had contact with **Ardiyanto and Bahaduri Wijaanto Bekti Mukarta (from this class) and also Roberto Penaloza (from this class & Nirmal's roommate, while in Nashville).** He said he chatted with his friends via e-mail right before leaving for Sudan. He said it was so nice hearing from everyone and especially Roberto, since he had not been in touch with him in a long time!

Nirmal also sent news about his family. He told his wife, Bafa, is doing well. His oldest son was in the 11<sup>th</sup> grade and his youngest son is in the 7<sup>th</sup> grade. Thank you for the nice and informative letter. Good to hear about Bafa and boys too!

## **Class of 1996-97**

**Pilsun Kim** Last summer we were writing some of our alumni to see if we needed updated addresses on them. Pilsun wrote us back and gave us his updates. He and his family moved to Amman, Jordan last May. He is still working with the Korean Electric Power Corporation (KEPCO) but in Amman working on a Power Project. Thank you for writing Pilsun and giving us updates on yourself and your e-mail address. I hope things are good for you and your family in Amman.

**Ebtadul Islam** Ebtadul wrote Mouzon last summer asking how she and the rest of her family were doing. He said he was looking back at his days here at Vanderbilt and all the fond memories he has of here. He told us that **Ashan Ullah, MD Alam, and Raze Hasan (All of this Class)** and himself were all promoted to the post of Executive Director. Congratulations to all of you guys!

**Sunil Ratnasiri** Last December Ratna sent us greetings for the Holiday Season. Thank you so much Ratna, we did appreciate receiving these greetings from you. He was in Malaysia at the time and was going to be there for a couple more weeks. He was asking if we could send him some current contact information for several GPED Alumni. We did just that. I hope he got to meet up with some of them. Let us hear about that if you can Ratna. The last we heard was that he had tried to reach **Rohani Bin Salleh (Class of 1996-97), Chellam Palanyandy (1995-96) and Zabudin Hat (1997-98)** but so far he had not been able to reach them. We hope you were able to reach some of our friends while you were in Kuala Lumpur. We would like to hear more from you during the next year.

**Rohani bin Salleh** Rohani called our office in October 2010 telling us that he and his wife are coming to the States and plans on visiting the GPED. He said he had planned to come to Nashville in May or June in 2010, but his wife's job took them to London and so they visited Europe in July 2010 instead.

The next time we heard from Rohani was an e-mail we received on February 4, 2011. At that time he told us that he and his wife now plan on vacationing in the U.S. for about 2 weeks. He hopes to stay 4 or 5 nights in Nashville and then on to Alaska and either Chicago or Washington, D.C. That would be just wonderful to have him here and we look forward to meeting his wife too. We hope that you can make it here this time, Rohani!

Rohani is currently working in the Home Ministry of Affairs under the Department of Police Regulatory etc. Congratulations on your current job status, Rohani!

### **Class of 1997-98**

**Rosario Basay** Rosario called us on September 22, 2010 to let us know that she is now teaching at Sam Houston State University in Houston, Texas. She is teaching Principles of Microeconomics, Introduction to Microeconomics, and Calculus. Way to go Rosario! Bet you are an excellent teacher!

On Monday, November 15<sup>th</sup>, 2010 Rosario defended her dissertation and passed with flying colors! We are so proud of you Rosario! Congratulations! It was a fast paced trip in for her Defense. She flew into Nashville on Monday morning and presented her Defense in the afternoon and afterwards at around 5:30 she flew right back to Houston, as she had to teach the next day. Such dedication Rosario!

On November 5<sup>th</sup> Rosario wrote to Mouzon wishing her a Happy Birthday. Mouzon appreciated you remembering her on the 5<sup>th</sup>, Rosario. Rosario said that her daughter turned 16 on October 8<sup>th</sup>. Wow! It is hard to believe that Alejandra is that old already!

During the Thanksgiving Holiday Rosario and her family, including her parents came to Nashville for that holiday weekend. Rosario's parents stayed with Mouzon and Sultan during their time here and I understand they all had a fun time together. Rosario stayed at a friends home, close to the campus.

On May 13, 2011 Rosario, Alejandro, Alejandra and her parents were all here for Rosario's graduation! It was a big day and we congratulate Rosario with all our hearts! Way to go Rosario!

**Enkhjargal Danzanbaljir** Enke wrote us after writing her on behalf of **Kilseog Hwang (Class of 2003-04)**. Enke wrote us back and wished us a Happy New Year. She said she is now living in London since April 2010 and that is for the second time. For a while she was Deputy Governor of the Central Bank of Mongolia. She said

she is also a member of the Board of the Development Bank of Mongolia. Her contact information is the same as it was when she lived there before.

Mr. Kilseog Hwang was moving to Mongolia and he was selected to help set up the Development Bank of Mongolia (“DBM”). The government of Mongolia wants to learn KDB’s role and experience in the process of the development of the Korean economy. He wanted to know about GPED alumni in Mongolia to contact. So of course we put him right in touch with Enke, as she is our only alum from Mongolia. With her position and all there is no one better to contact.

Enke was very gracious and they got in contact with each other and I am sure Enke was very helpful to Kilseog. I am sure that he was very excited to get in contact with her.

Enke told us that her son, Erdom and her niece live with her in London. Thanks Enke for all your help. We would love to hear more from you and about Erdom. Please write us. You are a busy lady and you hold quite an impressive position, congratulations in all you have accomplished!

Well, it looks like ‘Enka’, as we called her, has been a very busy lady most of her life! Here is what she has accomplished and been involved with since leaving Vanderbilt.

She has been an Advisor to the Governor, Representative of the Bank of Mongolia in London, Chief Economist and Assistant to the Governor, Economist & Acting Director of the Monetary Policy Department, and Director of the Supervision Department. Other roles outside the Bank of Mongolia include Member of the National Statistics Committee, Chairman of the Auditing Committee at the International Investment Bank in Moscow, Russia, Commissioner of the Securities and Exchange Commission of Mongolia.

Currently she is working toward a Ph.D. at Bickbeck College, University of London. Her research is Economic Growth, Financial Development, Mineral Wealth, and Climate Change.

Wow Enka! We could go on and on about all you have been doing. I can’t believe all that you have done and still doing! Congratulations on all you have accomplished! Some way or other, if you ever get a chance we would love to hear from you directly. We are hoping to get a note from you soon!

**Ratbeck Djumashev** It was nice to receive a letter from Ratbeck. He was sending us his updated address in Australia so he can be sure to receive our Newsletter. Thanks, Ratbeck for the update.

Ratbeck said that he is still in Australia, after getting his Ph.D. there. He is teaching at Monash University in Melbourne, as a lecturer (Assistant Professor) in

Economics. His wife is working towards a Ph.D. in Statistics there. He told us that his kids are growing up. His son is finishing high school this year and his daughter just entered high school.

Thank you for writing us with your updates, Ratbeck. Congratulations on getting your Ph.D. and we wish your wife the best of luck in going for hers. I know you must be a wonderful teacher. We won't forget you, and always keep us posted about yourself and your family.

**Bongani Gigaba** Bongani appeared on my Facebook page just in time for me to get him in this Newsletter. That was good timing on your part, Bongani. In his picture he looked incredibly good! He said hello and he is still actively involved in the mining and financial services industries in South Africa. In September 2010, he was asked to assist the Presidential Review Committee on State Owned Enterprises. He said the project is ongoing. Thanks for your updates on yourself. Great hearing from you, Bongani, don't forget us and keep in touch with us more often!

**Zabudin Hat** Mouzon received a birthday greeting from Zabudin and his wife, Sarina, on the day before Mouzon's birthday. She appreciated getting this from them. We would love to hear more from you Zabudin. Write us about all your children and how they are doing and what all you have been doing since leaving Vanderbilt!

**Frederico Sarguene** Mouzon found Frederico on LinkedIn. It's fun to check on people with Face Book and LinkedIn. Hopefully, by next year, we can find out much more information on our alumni this way. We learned that Frederico works in the Logistics and Supply Chain Sector. He worked for 5 years as Commercial Director of SDV AMI Mozambique and now the Owner of Contratuz, Lda. Frederico, we would love to hear directly from you. We really miss you here in the GPED! Write us whenever you have a chance.

**Kakhramon Yusupov** The "**Big News**" regarding Kakhramon is that he received his Ph.D. last May, 2010. I don't know how I missed entering this news in last year's Newsletter. A huge congratulations; to Kakhramon! I do apologize for not putting this in last year's newsletter. We are all so proud of him to persevere and complete his Ph.D. after returning home while being a husband, father, and working. Way to go, Kakhramon!

Kakhramon wrote us last June; again I should have had this in last year's Newsletter, but did not for whatever reason. At that time he was writing regarding the May 2010 flooding in Nashville. We were all fortunate, in the GPED & Economics Department, and had little if any flooding to our own homes. Thanks for being concerned about us.

At that time when he wrote he said he had been very busy traveling extensively. He was working for UNDP on top of teaching at a British school. It was involved in a



cross country household survey for the UNDP. They want to study poverty. He was also teaching Micro and Econometrics in Westminster University in Uzbekistan.

In August he sent an e-mail note to Professor Anderson. He told us that he was in the hospital with pneumonia but was going to be released very soon. We were so sorry to hear this. He said he didn't know how it got it in the middle of the summer. He also told Professor Anderson he will always remember the support and guidance that she gave him. He plans on continuing to teach even if it is part time, as he likes it too much.

In January of 2011, I received another e-mail from Kakhramon wishing me a Happy Birthday. He is always so sweet in remember, Mouzon, Prof. Anderson, and myself on our birthdays, plus I don't know how many others he remembers. Kakhramon, you are something else! We all appreciate it so much and always happy to hear from you. I believe I need to write you now!

He told us that he continues to work at the UNDP and teaches at the same time. He will be traveling a lot and will have chances to come to the U.S. due to the nature of his job. He hopes he will be able to come to Nashville occasionally too. We would love to see him any time he can come.

Thanks Kakhramon for all your wonderful news. I hope to hear from you soon! Congratulations on your diploma and jobs too!

## **Class of 1998-99**

**Ilgar Alisultanov** We found some current contact information on Ilgar through People Finder this year. He is still living in D.C. and we were glad to hear that. Maybe this year we will get to see him in D.C. Write us Ilgar.

**Arman Kashkinbekov** It was nice getting a note from Arman and he informed us of his **Big News** and his news is that he is now married. When he wrote us in March he said he and his wife are planning on visiting the U.S. and one of his stops will be here in Nashville and will be visiting the GPED! We look forward to seeing him and meeting his wife! We will let you know about this in next year's Newsletter, if he doesn't come here before then.

**Jae-Geo Kim** Jae-Geo wrote us requesting an official transcript, which we had sent to him. In his note requesting the transcript he told us he had such a good time when Professor Anderson visited Seoul three years ago. He said he has many good memories of the time she spent there and visited with several of our Korean alumni. Good hearing from you, Mr. Kim. Write us more about yourself and your family next time!

**Jong Hun Kim** Jong Hun came to Vanderbilt on March 4<sup>th</sup> to work on a paper that he and Professor Rousseau were presenting. Jong Hun brought his wife, Narie, with him. They took us to lunch at Amerigo's just before we left on the D.C. trip. We had a

wonderful visit together. It was great seeing them and they seem to be doing well and very happy. Jong Hun will be up for tenure in two years. We wish him the best of luck!

**Jonas Mhlarhi** In late November and early December Jonas and the office communicated together upon Jonas' request for a copy of his transcript. He told us he needed the transcript for a job application. We finally got all the details taken care of and the transcript was sent and delivered to him. He was deeply appreciative for receiving his transcript. Let us know Jonas about the job. I feel sure that you got it, right? Write us, Jonas!

**Baso Sanggo** A friend of Mouzon's from church, Homested Makuto, ran into Baso recently. It happened that they were on a flight at the same time and met while in line at the airport. Homested said Baso is doing very well. He continues to serve as Permanent Representative of South Africa to the United Nations and lives in New York. How nice to get news of Baso and to learn that he is doing well! We are so proud of you Baso! We also found news of you on the internet and saw some wonderful pictures!

**Yiqian Zhang "Ann"** We heard from Ann earlier this summer and she told us she is getting ready to go to Korea for 20 days. She was asking for **Seop Shim's (of this class)** e-mail address. We sent it to her and hope that she does get in touch with him and they can get a big group together and have a good time. Let us hear back from you, Ann, and let us know if you got in touch with Seop!

## **Class of 1999-2000**

**Rustam Duspayev** In December 2010, we received a very sweet and thoughtful Christmas and New Year's greetings from Rustam. Thank you very much for thinking about us. We hope 2011 is being a good one for you and that 2012 will be even better for you!

On March 31<sup>st</sup> we received a request from Rustam for his transcript. We ordered it for him and mailed it to him. Upon receiving it he wrote and thanked us for getting it to him.

When he wrote us initially he asked about all of us here in the GPED. He also told us he has had several different positions since leaving Vanderbilt. He said he used to work in Kazyna State Holding and was responsible for the Economic Development, Executive Office of the President. He also worked at the Public-Private Partnership (PPP) Center (a State Company responsible for Economic Examination of PPP projects and feasibility studies of State investment projects. Rustam is currently with a partly State-Owned Financial Group (Astana Finance JSC) as the Advisor to the Chairman. The group is in bad shape (and is in default), so they are crisis managers there.

Next thing we find out, on LinkedIn, is that Rustam is Head of the Credit Risk Division or the Development Bank of Kazakhstan. Congratulations on your position and job!

Well Rustam, you have done a lot and been in a lot of different positions since leaving here. You have been very busy! I am sure with you at the helm, - this company out will get out of default and be running extremely well soon. I have great confidence in you! Keep up the good work. Write us again when you have the time.

**Nasser Al-Mawali.** In searching on line for an updated address for Nasser, we found a wonderful picture and write up about Nasser. He is an Assistant Professor, Department of Economics and Finance at Sultan Qaboos University and also serves as an external Reviewer on the Oman Accreditation Council. After finishing the GPED, Nasser earned his Ph.D, in International Economics from the University of Canberra, Australia. Nasser is serving as Head of the Academic Group at the Indian Ocean Rim Association for Regional Co-operation, a board member of the Oman Economic Association as well as one of its founders.

Nasser's research is mainly concentrated on studying determinants of trade flows, economics of intellectual property rights and economic growth. He has published several refereed articles and presented many research papers at numerous national and international conferences.

My goodness, Nasser, you have been busy since you left us! We are so proud to read about your teaching career and your many accomplishments!

## **Class of 2000 -2001**

**Aliya Ishmikamedova** We heard from Aliya this past May when we had written her to tell her about one of our former students, **Sait Mboob (Class of 2007-08)**, who wanted to write to her regarding applying at J.E. Adams Associates, where Aliya works. She did write back with some information to pass on to Sait.

Aliya's "**Big News**", is that she had another baby in December 2010. Congratulations Aliya! They named the baby, Daniel. She said that her son Alan is already 6 years old and now is in kindergarten. Wow! How time flies! Aliya asked about everyone in the office and Professor Foster too. I assume she knows that he is no longer at Vanderbilt and now is in D.C. teaching at George Washington University.

Good hearing from you Aliya! Keep writing us!

**Samwel Kiondo** In mid-July 2010 we received a note from Samwel. I told him that I had already cut it off for entries in last year's Newsletter and that I would be putting this information in the 2011 Newsletter. So hear is what Samwel wrote us. He said he and his family are doing well. His wife, Dafrosa was in Kansas at the time he wrote us and had been there since April and expecting her back in early September 2010.

Samwel is continuing to work in the Ministry of Finance and Economic Affairs as a Principal Economist. He said, "I thank God, things are going well."

He asked how my husband Pat and my grandson Michael are doing and said that he misses the GPED and he sent his best to The GPED Family. I enjoyed hearing from Samwel so much and it was a nice and informative note from him. Thanks, Samwel! Continue to keep in touch with us from time to time.

**Iksang Lim** We heard from Iksang in February and March of this year. We had sent him an invitation to our annual Alumni Reception in D.C., as he had been at George Mason University taking a training course the last we had heard from him.

He wrote us back and said that he had been in D.C. for only one year, when he was called back to work at the Korean National Assembly Budget Office, as a General Director in December. He told us that he is always missing Nashville, as is his wife, Sukja, as well as his children, Joeun, and Woojin. Iksang and his family hope to be able to return to Nashville someday. He also gave us his new address back in Korea. Thanks Iksang

It was good hearing from you Iksang and we too hope you can return to Nashville for a visit. We would love to see you and your family. Keep in touch!

**Ebralie Mukarusagara Mwizerwa** Current student Jin Ho Kim ( who will graduate in August 2011), went to Alabama recently with a volunteer group to help people clean up and rebuild after the very bad tornadoes there on April 28<sup>th</sup>. While working in Alabama, he ran into Ebralie who was there also volunteering with a group from Nashville. Jin Ho said they had a very nice visit. We have not heard from Ebralie for a while but, as far as we know, she is still working for the Outreach Foundation, a non-profit organization of the Presbyterian Church, U.S.A.

**Tatiana Mihailovschi-Muntean** We received a Christmas card from Tatiana again this year. She wished us all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. She said that she misses us and the greeting was from Tatiana, Sasha, and Sabina. We wish the 3 of you well. Tatiana, drop us a line or two when you can and update us on you and your family. We would love to hear more from you!

**Peter Redvers-Lee** Peter sent us his updated address at American University in D.C. We appreciated getting his new address, but we would love to hear other news from him too. We had hoped to see Peter when we were in D.C. on our annual Field Trip, but he was unable to come. We do hope to see you next year! Write us a line or two, Peter!

**Natasha Romyantseva (Dr.)** Natasha sent us her new address in England this year. Thank you for the updates! Natasha is Lecturer in Higher Education Studies in the School of Education at the University of Southampton in Hampshire, United

Kingdom. Congratulations on your new job and we wish you the best! Write us when you can. We would love to hear how you are doing in England.

**Emiliana Rweyemamu** Emiliana e-mailed us a cute Christmas card this past December. She wrote a note wishing us a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year and the best in 2011. Thank you Emiliana! Write us sometime!

**Nazym Zhaksybekova** Nazym contacted Mouzon asking her to be friends with her on Facebook. Mouzon confirmed this with her, but no other word from her. Maybe she will write in this coming year.

## **Class of 2001-02**

**Abby Cordova** Abby Cordova and her husband Dominique Zhepyr are back at Vanderbilt working on a Latin American Public Opinion Project ( LAPOP). Abby finished her Ph.D. in Political Science at Vanderbilt and is now a Research Associate with LAPOP. Dominique is a Research Coordinator with the Department of Political Science. How nice to have them back at Vanderbilt! We'll get more details and write more in our next Newsletter.

**Aulia Fadly** Aulia wrote Mouzon on Facebook on her birthday, wishing her the best! That was very thoughtful of Aulia. Write us a long letter some time, Aulia!

**Yerlan Manatayev** Yerlan contacted Mouzon on Facebook and requested that she be his friend. I am sure Mouzon was confirmed as his friend! He wrote Mouzon in November to wish her a Happy Birthday. I know Mouzon enjoyed hearing from Yerlan and Assel on her birthday.

I guess the **Big News** from Yerlan and **Assel (from this Class)** are that they are now the parents of 3 children! Wow, how time flies. I cannot believe they have been gone long enough to have three children already. Congratulations Mom & Dad! They have a 7 year old son named Kassym, a 2 year old daughter named Aisha, and an 8 month old daughter named Astana. Of course you have to add months on to these ages, as these were their ages when he sent us the note on November 8, 2010. I know you guys are busy with work, not to mention being busy with your children. We wish the two of you the best of luck always. Keep us posted from time to time, okay!

**Doria Xu** Doria wrote us back after we sent out the invitation to our Alumni Reception in D.C. Unfortunately Doria said she would not be able to come to our reception on Monday evening because she has an evening class on Monday night. She said she would love to see us and would like to come for a visit another evening while we were there. We would have loved to have seen her too, but I guess she was just tied up that week, so we never got to see her. We hope she will write us and give us some updates on herself!

Doria did contact Mouzon on Facebook in early November 2010 and wished Mouzon a Happy Birthday too!

### **Class of 2002-03**

**Osayi (Ovbiosa) Akinbosoye** Osayi wrote us in early November and told us that she and her children were going to Nigeria from November 18<sup>th</sup> through December 7<sup>th</sup>. She was going to see her Grandmother, who was not doing too well since she had lost her only son. So Osayi wanted to take her children to see her while they had a chance. We hope all went well and her grandmother got to meet Osayi's precious children, David and Zoe. She said she also plans to have time to clear her head and just relax while she was there. We all need that sometime Osayi and I hope you got to do just that!

On January 29<sup>th</sup>, 2011 Zoe, Osayi's daughter, turned one . She had a party for her of course. Sultan and Mouzon went to help in the celebration. Others who joined the celebration were **Rupa (Gootam) DeLoach (Class of 2003-04)** and her daughter Hannah and her husband, David. **Nancy Juma (Class of 2003-04)** and her son and daughter, Anabelle were with her. I am sure the party was lots of fun, as they usually are for 1 year olds. It was nice that Mouzon got top see Rupa and Nancy too.

**Jeong Koo Ahn** Jeong Koo, "Mr. Ahn", as we called him wrote to Mouzon on Facebook. He was asking if we remembered him. Mouzon wrote back, "Who could ever forget Mr. Ahn! We miss you and hope you will come back sometime for a visit." We haven't heard back from him since then, hope he will contact us with some news about himself.

**Ali Almutawa** Ali wrote in January of this year telling us his **Big News**, that he had just completed his Ph.D. at American University in Vienna. Congratulations on receiving your Ph.D.! We are so proud of you! His future plan, at this time, is to write a book about the Economic History of Kuwait. Good luck with your writing Ali, I am sure your book will be a big success. Let us hear about that!

He also wanted us to say "Hi" to Alex Maisuradze, who was his roommate while he was here at Vanderbilt. I guess he doesn't have contact information for Alex and requested we say hello to Alex from Ali in this Newsletter! We hope Alex gets this message from you, Ali!

**Jaemoon Hong** The only news we have from Jaemoon is that he contacted Mouzon on Facebook and now they are friends! Maybe he will start writing on Facebook and we may find out other news on him in this next year!

**Lynn Jittivanich** We found Lynn on Facebook and see that she is working for Shell Oil Company in Thailand and we also got her e-mail address. We have not heard from her personally and hope maybe she will contact us.

**Kuban Kabayev** Last November we received pictures of Kuban's lovely family. I believe his wife, Asel Kasenova, is the one who actually sent us the pictures and we want to thank her very much for sharing them with us. They were actually sent to Kathryn Anderson first and she forwarded them to us, but I believe Mouzon also received the pictures too via e-mail. The pictures were of Kuban, his wife Asel, his daughter, Aisha and his new baby Aitenir. Thank you so much for sharing these pictures with us. We loved seeing them. Kuban you have a very lovely family!

**Alex Maisuradze** Alex wrote us last August and said that he had just returned to Georgia. He had been a Consultant/Contractor for UN Support Office for Somalia, but based in Nairobi and coordinated projects from there. He said that was his first African experience and he loved it.

Alex also worked in Haiti where he worked with the UN for about two years. He said that some of the courses he took in the GPED really made sense after observations he made in Haiti. He said he thought he needed to study more on urban development/planning and left for New York. He said he would definitely go back to Haiti, but wanted to be more useful there.

Life in New York was next in his letter. He said things there were tougher than he expected. The program there was not as generous as GPED. He said that he had to work two jobs every semester to make ends meet. He has an internship in New York City Economic Development Corporation. It's a city government agency that manages all redevelopment projects in the city. He said it is really interesting to see how the city deals with low income immigrant populations and its affordable housing policies.

Alex remembered Mouzon on her birthday via Facebook. I am sure she enjoyed getting this from Alex. Hey Alex, how about you dropping us a note some time this year and tell us what is going on in your life right now!

We found Alex on LinkedIn and his current job is Program Management Officer at the United Nations Support Office for AMISON. Congratulation Alex on your new job!

**Raja Ashan Shah** Raja contacted Mouzon on Facebook and wished her a Happy Birthday, too! This is all we heard from Raja this year.

**Raushan Tulepbayeva** Raushan sent Mouzon and Marie New Year's greetings this past year, wishing us the very best in 2011! Thank you Raushan and we do hope that 2011 is being a very good year for you too. Please write us soon and let us know how you are doing and anything newsworthy you would like to tell us.

## **Class of 2003-04**

**Hojakuli Atakgayev** Hoja wrote us in August 2010 and told us of his "**Big News**", he and his wife had a baby boy, who was then 2 weeks old. So from that I assume he was born in early August. Congratulations Hoja on your long awaited baby boy! He sent us great pictures of his whole family. He sounded very happy. Thank you for sharing the family photos with us. You really do have a handsome family. I know you said you are very busy these days and don't write as often as you would like. Don't worry, we understand and look forward to hearing from you whenever you have the time to write.

**Mher Baghramyan** Mher is a Senior Researcher with AIPRG or Armenian International Policy Research Group. We found him on the internet. That is all we know about him at this time.

**Manfredo Chocano** We found Manfredo's contact information but have not heard from him yet. We hope to hear something from him in this coming year.

**Claudia Diaz** Claudia and Mouzon contacted each other on Facebook and said hello to each other but that was about it. At least we know we can find people on Facebook! Write us with some info Claudia!

**Amelia (Garrish) Barron** Amelia wrote us and gave us her updated address, after we had sent out a request for updates to some of our alumni. Thanks Amelia. How about writing us some time with news about yourself and what is going on with you and your husband. We are looking forward to hearing from you in the near future!

**Rupa (Gootam) De Loach** In early October I e-mailed Rupa asking if she had moved. Her Newsletter we sent was returned to us. Fortunately Rupa still had the same e-mail address and she confirmed that she had moved and gave us her new address. Thanks for your new address, Rupa!

Rupa is now living in Hermitage, TN, (just outside of Nashville) with her husband John and their daughter, Hannah. Rupa was promoted to Director of Research and Community Development for the State of Tennessee. Congratulations Rupa on your promotion!

Rupa asked how we were all doing. She also sent us some beautiful pictures of her little daughter Hannah. She is just precious! Thanks for the pictures, Rupa. She told us that Hannah was going to be 1 later in October 2010, so I guess when you receive this Newsletter Hannah will be almost 2 years old. Congratulations on your darling baby girl!

Write us when you can with news about yourself and your new position!



**Kilseog Hwang** Kilseog wrote us in early January of this year, wishing us a Happy and Prosperous New Year. Thank you for that Kilseog and we are hoping the same for you in 2011.

Kilseog said he is currently working in the KDB Asia in Hong Kong and will be moving to Mongolia to set up the Development Bank of Mongolia (DBM). He was asking for our alumni in Mongolia to contact them for their support. Well, actually we have had only one student from Mongolia and that is **Enkhjargal Danzanbaljir (Class of 1997-98)**. We put him in contact with her and we knew that she would be able to help him a lot with other contacts in Mongolia.

This DBM was to be set up in 2011 and Kilseog was selected as a candidate to setup the DBM. He was appointed as a member of the Management Team of DBM or Deputy CEO of Planning and Strategy Division. Congratulations, Kilseog on your appointment to do this huge job. I am sure you will do an outstanding job.

Thanks for all your news Kilseog and we were very happy to recommend Enke to help with important contacts. Write when you get a chance and let us know how things are going with this project and also how your family is doing.

**Sangsoo Park** Sangsoo posted on Mouzon's Facebook Wall, "Happy New Year to you and your family. I know Mouzon appreciated getting this greeting from you Mr. Park. Please send us any information you have about yourself and your family. We would love to hear from you!"

We now hear that Sangsoo is back in Korea and is teaching at Korea University, the #2 university in Korea with the #1 Economics program we are told. Congratulations Sangsoo! Write when you can. We are so proud of you!

## **Class of 2004-05**

**Vivian Agbegha** Vivian wrote us in late February regarding our Alumni Reception in D.C. She told us she was planning to come. She did come and we had a wonderful time seeing her. She had some "**Very Big News**" to tell us. She had accepted a post with the African Development Bank in Tunisia. The position was starting in a few weeks from the time she wrote us. This is very exciting news. Congratulations Vivian! We are so proud of you. Mouzon wrote her and told her about several alumni who are working at the ADB in Tunisia. I am sure she was going to contact them and she said she appreciated getting the names of these GPED alumni. We wish Vivian the best of luck and we will be looking forward to hearing from her after she gets settled there.

**Tehara Clarke** Tehara sent Mouzon a birthday greeting via Facebook last November. That was so sweet of you, Tehara. How about drop us a line or two on how you are doing these days!

**Bradley Davidson** Bradley sent us a check for the Worley Fund again this year. Bradley has been contributing to the Worley Fund for several years now and we

appreciate his generosity so much. Now, we only wish that he would write us and let us know how he is doing and what he is doing now. We thought he would be running for the Governorship of Alabama by now! Write us Bradley!

**Alireza Ebrahim** Alireza wrote us in early February telling us they were moving to D.C. His wife Tahereh has been offered a fellowship there. This is wonderful news for them. So Alireza hopes to finish his Ph.D. before leaving therefore he is seeking a job in the D.C. area. He was asking Mouzon if he could use her as one of his references. Of course Mouzon was delighted to this for him. We wish him the best of luck and hope to hear from him when he lands a job there. Good luck to Alireza, Taherah, and little Saba. We will miss them being in Nashville.

**Konstantin Egorov** Konstantin came by our office on January 10, 2011 and told us he would be finishing at the Owen School in May. That is wonderful Konstantin. We have not seen him since then. I guess he did finish at Owen, but we are hoping he hasn't left Nashville yet, as he has not come by to tell us goodbye!

**Lola Soumonni** The "**Big News**" from Lola is that she has completed her Ph.D. program and will graduate in August 2011. Congratulations Lola! Way to go!

Lola's other "BIG NEWS" is that she has accepted a job at Price Waterhouse Coopers, which will start in July. The location where she will be working out of is Atlanta, Georgia. Not far away at all! So maybe we will get to see her from time to time. Another exciting thing about her working in Atlanta is her brother is in school there and going to Georgia Tech and working toward his Ph.D. on Energy Policy. This will be nice for the two of them, being in the same city.

We certainly will miss Lola around here. She has helped us out in many ways with our students, tutoring them etc. Definitely I will miss her coming with her big smiles and hellos and sometimes sneaking up on me to say hello and I jump out of my skin not expecting anyone and especially when it is very quiet! Oh yes, I will miss that part—just kidding!

Seriously, we will miss her so much. She has been like family and always taking part in whatever we have or when we need her. I hope she will keep in close contact with us as the years move ahead!

We received a note from Lola telling us that she is settling down slowly into the city and new job. She also told us that there was an immediate need for additional associates and PWC & Atlanta has a strong preference for Vanderbilt graduates. That was very exciting news but I don't know if we ever had anyone go for that opportunity or not. Haven't heard anything!

**Maria Emma Santos** Maria wrote us in mid- July of last year and apologized for not writing us in so long. She and her husband moved back to Argentina in April 2010 but she is still linked to THE Oxford Poverty and Human Development Initiative

(OPHI) and will going to the UK every now and then. She is working at her home university, Universidad Nacional del Sur, as a researcher for the National Research Council (COINCET).

Maria's **Big News** on OPHI's release of the Multidimensional Poverty Index. She said she is very excited about the media impact the MPI seems to be having. Congratulations Emma, we are so proud of you! This is what Emma has been working on with Dr. Sabina Alkire, who created the MPI and with Professor James Foster and also Suman Seth. This has been in the Indian Newspapers. To read about this here is the web-site: <http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/india/8-Indian-states-have-more-than-26-poorest-African-nations/articleshow/6158960.cms>.

**Chenyu Zhang** We received a very nice and informative letter from Chenyu on September 30<sup>th</sup>. She had just received the 2010 Newsletter and told us how much she enjoys reading it and hearing about her classmates. She said it always puts a smile on her face when reading it. We are very glad to hear how much she enjoys the Newsletter. She said that she often talks about our program to her friends in Colorado and what a great program we have. Thank you for your nice comments about the GPED.

She also told us that she saw the pictures of the May 2010 flooding in Nashville and she was very glad to hear that all of those in the GPED were safe.

Chenyu said that she has been busy at work the whole year. She said really no complaints in this economy. She continues to work Clayton IPS Corporation. Besides working, she has become very active with outside sports. She does a lot of jogging, hiking and goes camping a lot. She had been enjoying the pleasant summer weather in Denver. That sounds so good to me, Chenyu. I bet it is gorgeous and wonderful weather in the summer there, not like Nashville and our 90+ degree weather and high humidity. I would enjoy my summers better if we had to lower humidity!

She said she did not get a chance to visit Nashville during this summer (2010), as she traveled to the northeast to places she had not been to before. She went to New York City, Boston, Philadelphia, and New Port, Connecticut. I am sure you got to see many wonderful things in those cities. There are so many historic things to see in all of those cities not to mention many other things too. I'm sure Chenyu had a great time.

Chenyu was contacted and asked to come to Raleigh, North Carolina to a farewell party for **Xi, Gao (Class of 2005-06)**. He was leaving and returning to China. Chenyu believes he is going to be working in an Investment Bank in China. Chenyu could not go as it was too short a notice to get a plane ticket etc. She said that **Weiwei Shi (Class of 2005-06)** and **Qi Xu (Class of 2008-09)** did attend Xi Gao's farewell party. Chenyu sent her best to Xi Gao and wished him the best of luck.

In mid-December Chenyu sent word through **Xu, Ning** (one of our current students) saying that she missed us. Well, we miss her too. **Xu, Ning** had been in touch with Chenyu regarding internships and the process of securing an internship.

We were so happy to hear from Chenyu and hope to see her again soon. She visited us a couple of years ago and it was wonderful having her here!

Now, last but not least, we want to thank Chenyu again this year for her generous contribution to the Worley Fund. Thank you for your great letter and informing us on all you have been doing in this last year. You have set a good example and I hope other alumni read what you have talked about and write us more of what they have been doing. Your kind of letter makes this Newsletter more interesting. Thanks so much!

## **Class of 2005-06**

**Hannah Acquah** Well, Hannah has written us this year and this is what she is doing now. She has set up a non-profit organization called The Knowledge Channel (TKC). The headquarters are in London, but the services they provide are to benefit the African Continent. She attached the TKC press packet to our email from her. If you would like to hear more about this, please contact Hannah. Congratulations Hannah on your new undertaking! We are very proud of you and we hope this organization goes far in helping many people.

**Amir Ansari** Amir sent us a very newsy letter also toward the end of July 2010. Looking back he said that 2007 was a wonderful year for him. He got his MS degree then he met Ayesha and later married her. After receiving his degree here he went back to Pakistan for 9 months and during that time he went back to his job he had before coming here. His "**Big News**" is that he got married. Then in January he returned to The New School University in New York and began his Ph.D. study.

He left his wife behind, after being married only 1 week. Ayesha joined him after 6 months. They were together in New York for about 15 months. Amir's other "**Big News**" is that Amir and Ayesha were blessed with a beautiful baby girl and they named her Hiba (meaning gift from God). They both left the US in September 2009 to visit her parents and grandparents. Ayesha planned to return but could not because of some immigration problems.

Amir said that he will soon be joining them after defending his dissertation proposal sometime in August 2010. He said since his area of research is about Pakistan's experience with fiscal decentralization, he has to return to Pakistan to conduct fieldwork. He said he plans to complete his dissertation within one year's time.

After getting his Ph.D. he plans to teach in Pakistan. He said that at the New School he had been working as a graduate student throughout the whole time there. He was offered a job to teach a graduate level "Public Finance" course as Adjunct Professor, but his DS-2019 did not permit him to stay in the fall.

His wife, Ayesha has an MBBS, MCPS, & FCPS, these are the highest medical degrees in Pakistan. She was going to pass the US Medical Licensing Examination and

do a residency. She passed step 1 and was preparing for step 2 & 3. Now she is working in a local hospital as OB&GYN consultant.

We heard from Amir again on January 1<sup>st</sup> 2011 wishing us a Happy New Year. Thank you for your best wishes and we hope 2011 has been a great year for you and your family.

In March, Amir wrote after the tragic earthquake in Japan. He was concerned about **Hideki Yoshimurs (of this Class)**. Of course we were all concerned about him. We later heard that he and his family were all okay. We thank God for that!

This was another very newsy letter and we appreciate hearing all about you Amir. Keep us in mind and write us whenever you can. We loved hearing from you. Congratulations on all your good news, your marriage and your baby daughter! Let us know when you receive your Ph.D.

**Jie Gao** Gao, Jie wrote us several times over this last year. She caught up with Mouzon on Facebook. Gao, Jie is living in Los Angeles still but is applying for jobs in D.C. We wish her the best of luck with getting on with one of the institutions there. She has been in contact with several alumni now working in D.C. and we are hoping they can help her to get on there. Let us know Gao, Jie how this goes.

Christmas she sent us Christmas and New Year's greetings. Thank you for you for thinking of us. Let us know about your job hunting and how that goes. We wish you the best of luck.

**Xia He** We had heard through Kathleen Finn who works in the Economics Department that Xia had been very ill. She wrote to find out details and Xia's husband, Jisong wrote her back. Apparently Xia was having terrible pains in her stomach. They eventually sent her to a surgeon and they performed a CT-scan and found the problem and immediately performed surgery on her, which was a four hour surgery. Her condition could have been life-threatening if not caught in time. Fortunately for Xia they did catch it in time. She was in the hospital for some time and her mother came to help them out during Xia's recovery period. As far as we know at this time Xia is doing just fine now. We were so worried when we heard about this. We are just glad that she was diagnosed in time. We hope to hear from her in the near future! Xia, we want you to know we are thinking about you and wishing you well!

**Hyoung-Jun Kim** The only news we received from Hyoung-Jun is that he requested Mouzon to be friends with him on Facebook. Of course Mouzon said yes. I hope that we get some news from him in this next year. Write us Hyoung-Jun!

**Jane Karonga** In January of this year, we were pleasantly surprised when Jane and her eldest son, Terrance Mashoro walked in our office. She works in Addis Ababa, Ethiopia with UNECA (United Nations Economic Commission for Africa.) She is in the U.S. for the ASSA Meetings in Denver. She and her son Terrence flew to D.C. drove down to Nashville. She will fly to Denver for the meetings where she is a

discussant and then flew back to Nashville to meet up with Terrence. They will then drive together to Baton Rouge where Terrence will enroll at Louisiana State University and then returned to Ethiopia.

We felt bad because we couldn't at least have lunch or dinner with Jane but their schedule was very tight. We wished her a safe trip and Terrence good luck at LSU.

Jane was asking about many classmates Rupa, Mekael, and many others. She keeps in touch with Iahli who works for the U.N. in Niger.

Jane looked wonderful – she hasn't changed a bit. She still has her big smile and all that wit and energy! It was great seeing you Jane and meeting your son, Terrence. Keep in touch!

We then heard from Jane again in late June. She sent us greetings from Addis Ababa, the capital city of Africa. She said they are busy planning the future of Africa. She said she is doing well, but going to too many meetings, workshops and training sessions, just very grateful that she has a job! Jane said they are planning a Trade Summit ahead of the African Heads of State Summit to shape the outcome of the meetings on Intra-African trade. Good luck with the Summit and we hope it all goes well.

In spite of all the work she is involved with Jane is taking the time for a vacation in mid-July to go to the Alps for two weeks. Good for you Jane, we all need a vacation, at least once a year.

She sent her best to all of us here in the GPED. Thanks Jane for writing. We look forward to hearing from you again and make sure to tell us about your trip!

**Ng, Siu Meng** Siu Meng wrote Mouzon on Facebook and wished her a Happy Birthday. So sweet of you to do that! Siu Meng said that she is doing well and still in Los Angeles.

**Ferhat Topkaya** Ferhat and his family sent us Christmas and New Year's Greetings via e-mail. Thanks Ferhat. We hope that 2011 has been a good year for you and your family. Write us and tell us what is going on with you and your family.

**Althea Wilson** Althea wrote us after she had heard from **Hideki Yoshimura (of this Class)**, regarding the earthquake in Japan. Hideki told her that he and his family were okay. He said it was chaos when he wrote us on March 12<sup>th</sup> and there was still shaking. The Tsunami was so strong and it was more than they had estimated. At that time that he wrote he said he was working on writing a story about what had happened. He said that the nuclear plant case is very serious. He wanted Althea to pass along the word to everyone from the GPED that they were okay. We want to thank Althea for getting contact with Hideki and getting the info to us.

Now back to Althea. We pulled up this on Althea from the African Leadership Foundation website. Althea is working as the External Relations Manager at African Leadership Foundation, where she leads external relations and fundraising activities in the U.S. Then it proceeds to tell her background history, education etc. It was nice finding this on Althea.

We hope Althea writes us this year and tells us how she is doing. Thank you again Althea for getting in touch with Hideki and relying the message to us!

**Gao Xi** We heard from Gao Xi on December 17<sup>th</sup>, 2010. He wrote us to give us updates about himself. He said that he resigned from Credit Suisse in September 2010, after working 3 or so years there. He said it was a great experience working in that company. He said it was time for him to move on and made the decision to return to his home country to go after his long term life/career plan.

He is currently working in a Chinese Investment Banking Firm called GuoSen as a Project Manager in the investment banking division. He said the work schedule is very demanding, they work seven days a week. They have this schedule for 10 months every year. He said he did learn a lot. Gao Xi took this job for good training for gaining the industry knowledge and will consider getting into the government after he finishes working here. He will let us know how it goes.

Gao Xi gave us his updated contact information and wished us a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. It was great hearing from Gao Xi! Thanks for all your updates and plans. Write us again!

**Hideki Yoshimura** We were delighted when we received a very special Christmas card from Hideki and his family, wishing us all the best for the Holiday Season. The “**Big Surprise**” to us was the family picture! Apparently since leaving here Hideki has a new little one! Congratulations Hideki! When did this happen? You never told us about this, I don’t believe. Such a little cutie! Don’t keep secrets like that from us, okay!

I guess the best news (other than a new baby) is that Hideki and his family are okay and survived the earthquake. We were all so worried about you, and you immediately came to my mind when I heard about it. We knew communications were down and all. That was such a traumatic event and it was just awful seeing the news about it. I can’t imagine being there! We were very happy when we did get word from **Althea Wilson (from this Class)** that you were okay. We understand you were writing a story about this and I am sure that was very hard for you write about all of it. We are thinking of you and were thinking of you. If you ever get a chance please drop us a line.

## **Class of 2006-07**

**Assel Abdrakhmanova** We found Assel on Facebook. We had heard that she was married and had a baby. One day a picture of Assel and her husband’s picture

popped up on Facebook and they were holding their precious little baby. This is all the information we have on Assel. We are hoping that one day she will write us and tell us more about her life since leaving Vanderbilt. Sounds like she has had a very happy and active life since leaving here! We wish her the best always!

**Dana Alibekova** We heard the happy news from **Tola Oni (of this Class)** regarding Dana. I think Tola actually received this news from **Aknur Jamatova (of this Class)**. Tola said that Dana now has a baby boy! Congratulations to Dana! We hope that she will read this and write us and/or send us a picture of her “New Bundle of Joy!”

**Marshall Carter** We heard word about Marshall from Professor Suhas Ketkar in September 2010. Marshall is now working as an Associate Economist with Moody Analytics in Westchester, Pennsylvania. Westchester is just west of Philadelphia. We knew that he had changed his job and location. We hope he will write us during this next year.

**Jessica Clemans-Morrison** Mouzon received birthday greetings from Jessica that was posted on Mouzon’s Facebook wall. I know Mouzon appreciated getting a remembrance from Jessica. We haven’t heard any news on Jessica lately. We hope she will write us in this coming year and will tell us how she is doing and how her children are doing too, and if she has had any more babies. She said she wants a house full, so I am expecting to hear that she probably has close to a half a dozen kids by now! Love to hear from you Jessica!

**Kirsten Deras Funes** Ah – Kirsten! Kirsten probably takes the **1<sup>st</sup> Prize** for the GPED alumnus who keeps in touch with us the most. No offense to any of you, but it is true! She is very faithful and contacts us year round by phone calls, e-mails, or cards for all occasions and for everyone’s birthday here in the office. She remembers us in many ways and keeps us current on many alumni in the D.C. area and elsewhere. I cannot thank Kirsten enough for all she does to keep us informed on so many and her complete thoughtfulness to us and to so many. We are very grateful for all she does!

For example, one of the things she sent us this year and circulated many places was a petition for the Grameen Foundation to win \$200,000 from American Express. They won! Probably thanks to Kirsten!

She is on the job hunt and/or applying for Ph.D. study. I believe she was looking at schools in France and other places too. I am sure she would love to be in France and we hope she gets what she wants, but we will surely miss her when she leaves D.C. We have such a wonderful time being with her and her Mom every time we go to D.C. We wish her the best in whatever she takes on!

She did some traveling this year and of course one of the places was Paris, France. Kirsten and her Mom went to Paris together. She sent us all kinds of beautiful pictures from their trip. We want thank her for the pictures.



She and her Mom, **Teresa Deras (Class of 1990-91)**, semi-surprised us in D.C. this year. Teresa returned and met up with us on our D.C. trip again this past March. I say semi-surprised us, as she did surprise us last year when she came to D.C. and we were shocked when we saw her. We had a wonderful visit with her! One of our new students Ana Gutierrez, from Honduras works with Teresa in Honduras so that was fun for Ana too. She had not met Kirsten before but had been in communication with her so that was nice for Kirsten and Ana to finally meet. We went to a late dinner with them on Sunday night after we arrived.

Kirsten sent us wonderful photos taken while we were in D.C. at the Alumni Reception. Thank you Kirsten, these are great!

We will keep you posted on Kirsten and believe me she will keep us posted too on so many. Thanks for all you do for us, Kirsten!

**George Ferguson** Mouzon received a note from George via LinkedIn. He told her he had recently gone into the U.S. Navy Reserves into the direct commission officer program for the Supply Corp. He told her he really didn't know what he was getting into, but he had always toyed with the idea of being in the Navy. Wow George, we are really proud of you! Keep us posted on all you are doing and whether you are going to be shipped out.

**Daniel Goodman** We were happy that Daniel came to our Alumni Reception in D.C. He is doing very well and seems very happy. He looked just great! We hope to hear more from Daniel during the year. And, maybe we'll find a little more time to write, too.

**Jeremy Henry** Jeremy now lives in D.C. and is rooming with **Daniel Goodman (of this Class)**. He came to our reception in D.C. It was so nice seeing him. We hope to hear more from Jeremy, also, during this year.

**Kuat Ibrayev** The "**Big News**" we have heard about Kuat is that he is married and the lady he married is none other than our **Aknur Jumatova (of this class)**! Congratulations to Kuat and Aknur! We learned of this news from **Tola Oni (of this class)**. We wish Kuat and Aknur the best always!

**Aknur Jumatova** We heard "**Big News**" about Aknur from **Tola Oni (of this class)**. Aknur was in D.C. in June of this year for her annual World Banking training and she and Tola had lunch together one day. It was at this lunch that Aknur told Tola that she and **Kuat Ibrayev (of this class)** were now married. We were not that surprised with this news, as we kind of thought that this was in their future! Anyway we want to congratulate Aknur on her marriage to Kuat! We wish the two of you the best always!

**Mirzhan Karakulov** We heard from Mirzhan on May 1<sup>st</sup>, which was Kazakhstani Peoples Unity Day, which is a State Holiday. He said on this day he remembers his GPED family, which he says is a really good example of unity of different

people and nations. Mirzhan congratulated us and wishes us many more years of bringing people from many nations together.

Mirzhan said that he is still working with the Development Bank of Kazakhstan and he also told us that **Diyar Medeubekov (of this class)** is working there too. Thank you for giving us this information on yourself and Diyar. Tell him to write us some time. E-mail is the fastest and simplest way to contact us.

Then again on May 5<sup>th</sup> Mirzhan wrote to give us his updated contact information and also to wish the Class of 2011 the best of luck and congratulations to them. Thank you Mirzhan! It was great hearing from you.

**Jaehyeon Kim** Jaehyeon sent us his updated contact information last October and we appreciate that. He sent Mouzon New Year's Greetings on January 1<sup>st</sup>. I am sure she appreciated getting this greeting from you Jaehyeon. Whenever you get settled again please let us know and what you are doing at that time. We look forward to hearing more from you.

**Sun Bum Kwan** Sun Bum sent us a beautiful New Year's greeting card in January wishing us peace and health in the New Year. Thank you so much Sun Bum and we hope you have a great 2011 too!

He said it has been two and half years since he left Vanderbilt. Sun Bum said he will never forget every corner of the city and especially Vanderbilt. He feels very lucky that he got to study here and the thing he will always remember are the kind people he met while here.

Sun Bum sent his best regards to Professor Anderson and said that he hopes to see here again. When Professor Anderson was in Seoul in 2008 Sun Bum told us he had dinner with her and how much he enjoyed seeing her there in Seoul.

Thank you Sun Bum for the New Year's greeting and your nice note enclosed. We look forward to hearing from you again soon!

**Luo, Xinghua** In October 2010, we had a nice note from Xinghua. He said he was doing well in New York City. Xinghua worked for a company as a Research Analyst and then at Columbia University as a Research Assistant before enrolling in Columbia in Sept. 2009. Xinghua said he may graduate from Columbia at the end of 2010. Let us know more about that when you have time! Xinghua said he goes to Philadelphia or Washington, D.C. occasionally to visit GPED classmates such as **Daniel Goodman , Mekael Teshome, Marshall Carter, George Ferguson, (all of this class)** and others.

Xinghua also sent us his new address which is in the roster. We hope you will get down our way sometime. We would love to see you!

**Alex Maisuradze** Alex sent us numerous pictures on Facebook of life at Vanderbilt, commencement, parties, etc. Thank you so much Alex! These are just wonderful. Write us sometime!

**Nicky Mapa** Nicky wrote us in mid-May of this year requesting his transcript. He told us that he will be back in the U.S. this coming fall. He will be here to take a two year course in the Government School at Columbia. He said he looks forward to seeing us again soon! I don't know if he plans to stop here in Nashville or what. It would be great to see Nicky. We will let you know if he comes to see us. Thanks for writing Nicky and we wish you the best in your studies at Columbia.

**Norman Nigh** It was a pleasant surprise when we got a note from Norman. He said he has returned from about 12 months of doing Economic Development in Afghanistan. He said he is currently a Research Fellow at the Strategy and Policy Department at the U.S. Naval War College. Over the past few years, Norman has lived in the Middle East and Asia, focusing his efforts on Iraq (Operation Iraqi Freedom), Afghanistan (Operation Enduring Freedom) and China (Tibet). His work has included post-conflict reconstruction, conflict mediation and counterinsurgency. He has worked extensively with Canadian and French forcers, as well as with the Afghan National Army and Army Special Operations Forces. Currently, he is working on studies concerning irregular warfare strategies in Afghanistan. Norman said he will be at the Naval War College for a few months and then he will decide what he will do next! I'm sure you will come up with something great, Norman. Thank you for writing. It really was great hearing from you and that you are safe!

This e-mail was sent the end of November and he was wishing us a Happy Thanksgiving. Thanks Norman, we hope that 2011 has been a great year for you and we hope you had a great Thanksgiving in 2010 too!

**Tola Oni** Tola is another one of our graduates who keeps close tabs with us too! Tola always remembers us on every occasion and event. She contacts us frequently and also helped me so much in getting our group into the IMF this year. I am so grateful for all she did for us. Not only that, but she got to speak to our group. The students really did enjoy Tola speaking to them and she was very beneficial to many of them.

Tola attended our reception and visited us every night while we were there and took a group out to dinner too. It was wonderful seeing her and being able to visit with her so much.

Over this past year Tola got to go home for the first time in many years. She enjoyed her visit with her family. She said after a couple of days she felt like she had never left home. She also told us that it was unbearably hot there! I bet it was, Tola. I remember you didn't like the really hot days we had in Nashville while you were here!

In June (2011), we heard from Tola several times, with all kinds of news for us about several of our alumni. She told us that **Patrick Jordan (Class of 2008-09)** was in

the UK on a 2 week trip, related to his job. She told us that **Abebe Hailemariam (Class of 2008-09)** was applying for a job at the World Bank and Tola was writing a recommendation letter for him. She knew of a job opening who needs someone who speaks Amharic and would be doing work in Ethiopia. Tola said, “Who would be more perfect than Abebe!” He also told her that he is transferring to Georgia State and that he got married!

Also; in June, Tola had lunch with **Aknur Jumatova (from this class)**. Aknur was in D.C. for a training session at the World Bank. Aknur told her that she and **Kuat Ibrayev (of this class)** were now married! Also Aknur told Tola that **Dana Alibekova (of this class)** now has her second child, a little boy!

Tola said that she sees **Daniel Goodman (Class of 2006-07) and Jeremy Henry (Class of 2006-07)** from time to time. She said she believes **Eissa Al-Rumaithi (Class of 2007-08)** went home in Dubai for a visit. Tola said she spoke with **Manoj Dora (Class of 2007-08)** and his girlfriend, Daniela and they are doing well. Thanks for all of these updates Tola. Keep up the good work!

Tola continues to help update us on alumni in the D.C. area, whether it with an address or what they are doing currently. I want to thank Tola for all she has done and still does for us. We hopefully will get to see her next year--but then we don't know because she may be going to Phoenix if she gets a good job opportunity. I think she is missing someone who moved there! Good luck Tola, we will be happy for you no matter where you end up, as long as you are happy!

**Indrani Ray** Indrani has e-mailed us a few times this year and she even came by our office one day. She wrote us after receiving the Newsletter last year and told us it was great to hear about everyone. When she wrote us in October she told us her daughter, Anushri, was almost 2 years old so now she must be going to be close to 3 years old by time everyone receives this Newsletter. She was getting ready to put her daughter in preschool. That should be fun for her and give you a break too.

Indrani called our office on January 12, 2011. She had just been hired for a job at Vanderbilt Medical Center and would be beginning the job on January 24<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations, Indrani on your new job! She will be working on data concerning “Reducing Diseases in Hospitals.” This is in the Clinical Improvement Division of the hospital. She wrote us in April saying she is getting to know her colleagues and learning new computer skills. We wish Indrani the best of luck with her new job!

Indrani also told us that her husband, Achintya is doing well too! Glad to hear that, Indrani. Keep in touch with us. We always are happy to hear from you!

**Young-Woo Rho** We see Young-Woo from time to time. He either comes by the office to visit for a while or we see him down the hall or at various events in Calhoun. Young-Woo is getting close to finishing his studies for his Ph.D. We hear that he is an outstanding student in the Program! He and his family are doing well.

This March Young-Woo gave a Seminar Presentation with Professor Joel Rodrigue here at Vanderbilt in Calhoun. The title of the presentation was “Firm-Level Investment and Export Dynamics.” I am sure that Young-Woo did an excellent job.

**Ken Takeda** Ken sent Mouzon a birthday greeting via Facebook this year! I know she appreciated it very much. This is all we have heard from Ken this year, but hopefully we will hear from him in this coming year.

**Mekael Teshome** Mekael is working as an Associate Economist at Moody’s Analytics in Westchester, Pennsylvania. I think he is enjoying his new job and seems to be happy. He now has a friend/colleague from the GPED working there with him, and that is none other than, **Marshall Carter (of this Class)**.

We would like to thank Mekael for updates on his contact information and getting us updated on Marshall also. We look forward to hearing from Mekael in this next year and we will keep you updated on Mekael when we hear from him!

**Lin Yuan** Lin wrote us a lovely note in early August 2010. He said he just received a full-time job offer at Black Rock in New York. He said that this will be his first full-time job and he was very excited about it. Congratulations Lin! We wish you the best there. Lin sent us his new address and other contact information. Thank you for your new contact information, we do appreciate that.

Lin also stated, in the note to us, how much he learned and grew-up in the four years here at Vanderbilt and how much he appreciated all that we did for him and others too. He said he will never forget us and how much he got out of our Program. Thanks, Lin for all your nice complements. Of course we won’t forget you either! Keep in touch!

Lin also sent us a very nice Christmas card also in December. Thanks again, Lin for thinking of us.

## **Class of 2007-08**

**Eissa Al-Rumaithi** Eissa’s “**Big News**” is that he is now engaged! Congratulations Eissa! Eissa called our office on January 30<sup>th</sup>, 2011 to tell us that he is now engaged and he was very excited! He had proposed to his fiancé, Andrea, only the night before and obviously she accepted. He was so happy. We are very happy for the two of them!

We met Andrea a year or so ago when Eissa brought her to Nashville with him. She is so sweet and I am sure she and Eissa will have a wonderful life together. We will let you know more about the wedding plans when we hear them from Eissa.

Also this year in D.C. Eissa and Andrea took us to dinner one evening. He took us to a wonderful Mid-Eastern restaurant. The group he took to dinner included Mouzon and Sultan, Lorraine (Mouzon's sister), Pat and Marie, and Tola Oni. We had a wonderful visit at the restaurant and not to mention the food was fantastic. We look forward to seeing Eissa and Andrea again next year and we will keep you posted on Eissa and his wedding plans!

**Manoj Kumar Dora** Manoj wrote us in October to tell us about a summer internship that some of our students might be interested in doing. We always appreciate hearing about internships available. Thank you, Manoj, for passing this information along to us.

In this same note he first said that he had received the Newsletter and enjoyed reading it and he was happy hear about our new Director, Kamal Saggi and to hear that he is a very pleasant person.

Currently Manoj is at Gent University in Belgium working as a Scientific Researcher. So far Manoj has already had two publications. The first one was published on October 21, 2010 entitled, "Diagnosing Quality Improvement Initiatives among European Food SMEs and the second one is entitled, "Lean Application Among European Food SMEs: Findings from Empirical Research." Congratulations, Manoj! Way to go! I am sure we will be hearing about many more publications in the years to come.

Manoj said he is expecting to have a very busy fall with a lot of excitement going on in his life. In November Professor Suhas Ketkar plans to visit with Manoj on his way to India. He said he can't wait for his visit! Then shortly after that his parents will be coming to visit Manoj, but not only that they are coming to meet Manoj's girlfriend/fiancé, Daniela for the first time. I am sure he is very excited about that. I am sure all will go well for him.

On November 5<sup>th</sup>, Manoj wrote on Mouzon's Face Book to say Happy Birthday. That was so nice.

On March 23<sup>rd</sup>, we were delighted to receive a phone call from Manoj. He was in Reno, Nevada at a conference and Daniela was with him. It was so good to hear his voice and to know that he and Daniela are doing well. We hoped they could find a way to come to Nashville, but they could not on this trip.

Manoj's **Big News** is that he and Daniela will marry this fall. We'll hope to hear all the details and let everyone know in next year's Newsletter.

**Raffi Garcia** We were delighted to see Raffi at our D.C. reception. He was so sweet to come and I think he enjoyed visiting with everyone. I know our current students always enjoy meeting our alumni there in D.C. Raffi also gave us his new contact information. We hope that we will continue to get to see Raffi every year at the reception

as long as he is in the D.C. area. Write us Raffi we would love to hear from you and what all you are doing currently!

This summer (2011) Raffi is having one of our current students live with him while the student is in DC during a summer internship there. Thank you, Raffi. We really *appreciate* how our alumni help current students and also each other!

**Hujiaabudula Hasimu** Hujia wrote us in July of this year telling us he has applied for a job as a Senior Budget Analyst for the Maryland National Capital Park and Planning Commission. He said his interview went well and he hopes that this will work out. Good luck, Hujia and let us know if this works out for you. He also so said that he will miss us, but he said he will be able to see us in D.C. on our annual trip there.

Now for Hujia's "**Big News**", he has a new baby boy, born on April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2011. Hujia said that he is the center of his family's attention right now. He sent us a picture of his daughter and baby son together. They are both so cute! Congratulations Hujia we are so happy for all of you! Keep us posted about your new job!

**Shan He** The first we heard from Shan this past year was when she sent Mouzon birthday greetings via Facebook. I know Mouzon appreciated Shan remembering her birthday!

Shan wrote us a note on November 24<sup>th</sup> wishing us a Happy Thanksgiving. Thank you very much, Shan. Thanksgiving is always an especially nice holiday here when you get together with your whole family and have the Thanksgiving feast and usually most people watch football on this day.

He, Shan said that in September she moved back to China. She said time really does fly and said that it seems like only yesterday that she was hanging out in the GPED office. We miss you here He, Shan and sometimes it does seem to me that it was just the other day that each of you were here. Sometimes it is hard to believe how long it has really been since any of you were – time flies! Thanks for your sweet note. Write us again and let us know what you are now doing in China.

**Martha Hoskins** We received a note from Martha after we had contacted her about a piece of mail we received for her that we thought may be very important. She wrote us back and gave us an address to send it to.

Martha said that she was in Thailand doing an internship with a law firm there. She asked if we have alumni in Thailand that she could contact. She said she didn't know anyone there and she would love to have someone to talk with or see. I feel sure that Mouzon sent her some contact info on many or maybe all our alumni in Thailand. I would love to hear back from you Martha if you did end up getting together with any of our alumni there. Please write us and let us know.

**Patrick Jordan** Patrick is now working at American Express in Phoenix, Arizona. I understand he is doing well. We do hear directly from Patrick from time to time but also keep up with him through Tola Oni. We wish him all the best in his new job and life in Phoenix.

**Qingyun Kong** We had a wonderful letter from “Kong”, as we called her. First she apologized for not writing in so long, but she said that she does get a lot of news regarding her fellow classmates through the Chinese Network. She said she saw pictures of this year’s graduation and a picture of Mouzon attending the ceremony. (Marie had gone back to the office, so no picture of Marie!)

She said she is currently working with KPMG, one of the big four auditors internationally. The Beijing office just finished the peak season. Now Kong has time for a little break. She said she might get the opportunity for training in the KPMG office in the United Kingdom this June. She is excited about that! If she gets there she does plan to visit with **Manoj Dora (of this Class)**.

Kong said that she did get to have dinner recently with **Shan He (of this Class)** and she said she is working in Beijing now, which I mentioned to you earlier, hearing that info from Shan He ourselves. She said the two of them had just a wonderful time talking about a lot of things and especially talking about the wonderful times they had here in the GPED. She said they both thought the good times here were wonderful!

Kong also told us that her brother is applying for college in the U.S. If he is accepted and comes to school here in the U.S. that will give her an opportunity to visit him here and she said that way she hopes she will be able to come here and visit us here in the GPED. That would be great, so of course we are pulling for your brother to come to the U.S. for study! Let us know.

Kong said to tell everyone hello. Great hearing from you Kong! Write us again when you can!

**Neil Kutty** Neil wrote us last October and told us he has been working with the Dollar General Corporation Offices as a Business Analyst in Goodlettsville, TN. He said he had been there for a year.

Neil also gave us his new contact information when he wrote. Neil said he is doing well and we are glad to hear that. He also told us that he has been taking Cello lessons again. That is fantastic Neil! It is good that you are going back to playing the Cello again. Everyone needs a good outlet and playing an instrument, especially something like the Cello has to be relaxing for you. It was great hearing from you. Please continue to keep in touch with us!

**Sait Mboob** Sait telephoned Mouzon at home on September 29<sup>th</sup> just to say hello. He was with **Ismaila Jarju (Class of 2006-07)** and he sent his greetings too. Sait said he will be in D.C. and N.Y. soon for a couple of weeks. He also hoped to be back in



D.C. when we have our Alumni Reception next March. We surely hope so! Sait surprised us last year when he showed up at our reception and it was so exciting!

Sait wrote us again in May 2011 and told us that he had left his job at the Central Bank and was looking to move on to something new. He said that he was looking at all sorts of different things in Gambia and in the States. He said he was actually applying to a consulting company in DC called J.E. Austin Associates. He said that he had discovered that **Aliya Ishmukhamedova (Class of 2000-01)** is working with this same company and he wanted to contact her. We gave him her contact information. I guess he got in touch with her and I am sure she was very helpful.

We haven't heard back from Sait yet, but we wish him the best of luck to get into something he really wants. We will let you know when we hear back from him. Best of luck, Sait!

**Juliao Matsinghe** We heard from Juliao on February 7<sup>th</sup> when he called our office to say hello. He said he is doing well. He is doing Consulting Work for UNSCA in the area of collecting information. It was great hearing from Juliao! Write us with more details about yourself and your family, Juliao. We miss you!

**Ely Katembo Shabani** Ely came to Nashville Thanksgiving weekend and brought his girlfriend Luna with him. They had the traditional Thanksgiving Dinner at Mouzon's and Sultan's. Take that back! I am sure it went over the top for the traditional Thanksgiving Dinner seeing that Mouzon was fixing the dinner, if you know what I mean! Also attending the dinner was **Eissa Al-Rumatha (of this Class)** and his fiancé Andrea. In fact Eissa drove Ely and Luna to Nashville and back to D.C. I am sure they all had a fantastic weekend at Mouzon's and Nashville.

We were fortunate enough to see Ely in D.C. again this year, at our reception and his other visits too. We hope that we will get to see him again in 2012!

**Rebecca Stricklett** Rebecca wrote us on August 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2010. Her **"Big News"** is that she said, "I finally got a job." She said she is in her 4<sup>th</sup> week at LCRA (Lower Colorado River Authority) and she loves it. Their primary business is to generate and sell wholesale power to cities and co-ops in their operating area. She works in the settlement division as a Settlement Analyst. She helps to analyze how much power they generate vs. how much was consumed and determine the final price. She said the people are incredibly nice, the benefits are amazing, and their office is located across the street from beautiful Lake Austin. She said the work is really interesting and challenging and she gets to apply what she learned at Vanderbilt. She said she really believes now that things happen for a reason and it is well worth the wait! Congratulations Rebecca! We are so happy for you and proud of you too! Thanks Rebecca for your sweet and informative note. Write us again and let us know how you are doing this year.

**Lei Zhang** Mouzon chatted with Lei on August 13<sup>th</sup>, 2010. Lei said he called just to hear a "Nashville accent!" We hoped he enjoyed hearing our wonderful Southern

accents! Lei is now working at AIG. Write or call us again in this next year. We would love to hear more from you!

**Ye Zhao** Zhao, Ye “Joey” came by our office on November 5<sup>th</sup> to bring Mouzon a birthday gift. It was a beautiful Chinese embroidered picture which he had framed. Mouzon said she would find a very special place for it in her home. Joie looked great and was very happy. We hope to see him again next year or at the least to hear from him again soon!

Joey works in Nashville but travels with work to China. He is Executive Assistant at Tianjin Morris Property Services. He assists in the US Headquarters to analyze real estate and property management market in Tianjin, China. This position includes, Assisting with daily financials, budget analysis between the US & China and client development and management. Good luck with your new job. We are sure you will go far!

## **Class of 2008-09**

**Talgat Akhmetov** We heard from Talgat on October 20<sup>th</sup>, 2010. He e-mailed us trying to get contact information for **Christina Wood (in this Class)**. We were having difficulty finding it ourselves and I think Mouzon finally found some info for him, I hope. Can’t remember now whether she did or didn’t.

Talgat called the office too one day. He said it was so nice hearing my voice and made him feel like he was right here or like he was sitting at Panera Bread across the street. He said that he really misses Vandy. We miss having you here too Talgat.

Talgat sent us his current contact information and we were very glad that he did that. Talgat is working at Renaissance Capital, which handles investment banking and finance in Moscow, Russia. Talgat works in the Investment Banking division. Thanks for calling and writing. Don’t forget us and please continue to keep in touch with us!

**Andrew Conniff** Andrew sent Mouzon birthday greetings on her birthday and he even wrote her a Haiku dedicated to her. I know she enjoyed reading it. That was sweet of you Andrew and it was so true what you wrote and cute too. I am not writing it out now as it was very different and one of words may not be pleasant to someone out there.

I wrote to Andrew in late January asking him to see if he could help our group get into the Bureau of Labor Statistics again this year for a seminar. Andrew was very helpful and he did help get us set up for a seminar there and our students enjoyed it very much! Thank you, Andrew.

Andrew also came to our Alumni Reception in D.C. and we had a great visit. We have so many recent graduates working in the D.C. area right now, so when we go there

we just have a marvelous time and party long after our reception is over. It is really great!

Andrew said that he has been acting as a Consultant for an entertainment company at nights and on the weekends. He said it is extra cash plus he just loves it! That sounds great Andrew. We are glad to hear that you are doing something fun and you get paid for it too!

Next thing we know is that Andrew wrote us in mid-June of this year and said he is moving back to Nashville! He said he most likely will be moving back around August and he was looking for a roommate. Andrew has received a job offer here in Nashville and he is very excited about it. I don't know the name of the company as of yet. Congratulations Andrew! We look forward to having you back in Nashville!

**Mingyang Dai** Mingyang "David" wrote in late September asking about his diploma, which he had not received. We checked into it and found out it had been mailed only about a week before to his address listed on his Intent to Graduate Form. I am sure that he received it shortly after his request about its whereabouts.

Mingyang said he missed us here and we told him we feel the same way. We hate to see each of you leave after being here for two years. Just don't forget us and always keep in touch with us.

**Maryna Derkach** We heard from Maryna several times since she left here. She first wrote Mouzon on September 19<sup>th</sup>, when she wrote to Mouzon telling her how much she hated that she had to leave Nashville without saying goodbye to her. Mouzon was out of the office on that day. She said she was in Russia at that time visiting with friends and would be going back to Ukraine in about a week.

The next she wrote to us was October 1<sup>st</sup> and she said she had just returned home and that she had stopped in St. Petersburg, Russia to visit with some friends who have a baby. She is now back in Kharkov, Ukraine. She said her next plans are to study for the GRE and get prepared for Ph.D. study. She was going to start applying soon at that time.

In November Maryna wrote to Mouzon to wish her a Happy Thanksgiving.

Maryna has now received a multiple entry Visa. So now she can come and go as needed. Congratulations to Maryna of getting this type of Visa. Now we will be able to see you more often, we hope!

Maryna sent us her new contact information since she would be losing her Vandy e-mail account. Thanks for the updates.

Our big surprise was that Maryna came for a visit here at Vanderbilt on April 29<sup>th</sup> and we were just delighted to see her. Her "**Big News**" that she came to share with us is that she is engaged to Sarong! She came by not only to see us but to show us the ring.

Congratulations to the both of you Maryna! We are very happy for you. Keep us posted on your wedding plans, okay!

**Abebe Hailemariam** In early October we received we received a contribution to the Worley Fund and a T-Shirt order from Abebe. Thank you so much for the contribution that was so generous and thoughtful of you. We also hope you are enjoying the GPED T-Shirts.

The next time we heard from Abebe was on January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2011. He called us to tell us that he was now married and his wife is now with him in Canada. Congratulations Abebe! Your wife is a lucky person to get you for a husband, you are a great guy. We wish the two of you the best always!

We look forward to hearing more from Abebe in this next year!

**Jonathan LeQuan** We heard from Jonathan several times last fall and he was doing fine and on the job hunt. It was nice hearing from him and we appreciated him keeping us updated on how and what he was doing. He said he was missing the GPED and Vanderbilt and was not too excited about everyday life without a job!

Then as the New Year came in, Jonathan wrote us with his **“Big News”** of getting a job! He said that he has just received a job offer in Data Management Analysis in Fort Worth, Texas right before Christmas! He said he had planned on visiting during the Christmas Holidays but his training started in early January so he did not get a chance to get here. We want to congratulate Jonathan on his new job and that we are very proud of you! Write us when you can and tell us how you like your new job!

**Nan Li** Nan wrote us asking for her diploma to be sent to an updated address. She also said that she is enjoying her internship in Vienna, Virginia. We hope to hear more from her in the next few months. We wish her good luck with her internship!

**Lu Luo** Lu wrote to Mouzon on November 27<sup>th</sup>, wishing her a Happy Thanksgiving. She said it is very cold in Beijing when she wrote. She said she is on the job hunt but has not found what she would like yet. We hope by now that she has found what she was looking for and that she will write us about it!

**Bakhrom Mirkasimov** July 23, 2010, Bakh wrote us from D.C. he was trying to get his paperwork done to leave the States. He said that he has had a change in his plans and he was not going to Berlin, Germany for two years. He said he will be doing mainly research and taking field trips to Central Asia, mainly Kyrgyzstan. He said he is very excited about this opportunity. He said he just wanted to update us and let us know that he is really missing us here in the GPED.

We heard from Bakh again on November 1<sup>st</sup>. He told me he hoped that I had a wonderful Halloween with my grandchildren and all. We always do have a great Halloween. Bakh said that Germany is great! He is working at the German Institute for

Economic Research (DIW Berlin) in Berlin. His project deals with the “Economic Transformation, Household Behavior and Well-Being in Central Asia.” He is very excited about this work, in particular because he is originally from this part of the world. He also sent us his current contact information and wished everyone in the GPED the best. Congratulations Bakh on this exciting job! We are so happy for you!

Then in December Bakh sent us a post card from Berlin wishing us a Merry Christmas and a great 2011! He said that he misses the care that he received while he was here in Nashville. He said also that he would be going home to Tashkent during the holidays. Thank you for thinking of us and keeping us updated on things. We miss you too here in the GPED!

Bakh will have the last entry for this year’s Newsletter. We heard from him on Thursday, June 30<sup>th</sup>, our Newsletter cut off day! Bakh told us that he traveled a bit this summer. Also his younger sister is getting married this September and he and his whole family are excited for her. He also sent us a couple of wonderful pictures from Belgium. Thanks Bakh! Keep us informed on your travels and work.

When he wrote us he said that he had been in Belgium a couple of weeks ago. While there he got to visit with **Johan Westenberg (of this Class) and Manoj Dora (Class of 2007-08)**. They had a great time and Bakh sent us several pictures of Johan and Manoj. They had a great time visiting with each other. Continue to keep in touch with us Bakh!

**Lindsay Moffett** Lindsay’s **Big News** is that she got married this past spring. She married Drew, whom she met at a Christmas party the first semester she was in our program. Drew was in his last year of Medical School here at Vanderbilt. They apparently hit it off immediately and a year and a half later Drew proposed to Lindsay and she accepted. They then chose the date and they got married in April of this year. They married here in Nashville. Mouzon and Sultan went to the wedding and reception and they said everything was beautiful and just perfect. Unfortunately Marie and Pat were not able to attend. We are all so happy for them. We want to wish Lindsay and Drew the best always!

**Razali Mohamad** Razali returned to Malaysia in December 2010 and upon his return he received a promotion in the Ministry of Finance. We heard about this from one of our other Malaysian students who also had just returned to Malaysia, **Mahummar Gadaffi Omar**. We hope to hear from Razali in this coming year and we want to congratulate him of his promotion!

In January we received a picture of Mouzon with his children and Mat Yaakob’s children in our office. The pictures are posted on Mouzon’s Facebook.

**Kihyun Nam** Mouzon received a letter from Kihyun in October 2010, when he had just returned to Korea from Nashville about four months earlier. He was apologizing

for not being able to say good-bye before leaving. He was tied up with all the detailing you have to do before leaving here.

Kihyun said they are happy in Seoul, but they do miss Nashville and the life they had here for a while. I know they are happy to be back with their family and friends and their family and friends are happy to have them back too. We wish you and your family the best and make sure you continue to contact us.

**Danijel Nurkovic** Danijel wrote us in September and he said he has settled down back in Slovenia. He sent his best to Marie, Vicky and all his former classmates. He misses us here and Ana misses Nashville too. Ana is now in a day care school in Slovenia and likes it very much. Danijel said it is a shame that she is so little and won't be able to remember Nashville but they will tell her all about it and show her pictures. He said that Matjaz is working at the university there. He is in the undergraduate department.

In November Danijel wrote and wished Mouzon a Happy Birthday. He said he was doing fine and had almost completed the finishing touches on his Thesis. Then on December 2<sup>nd</sup> we heard from Danijel again. He said they had just had their first snow fall, which he said was a little early for them there, but they had a lot of fun in it. I am sure little Ana enjoyed it. Of course they don't celebrate Thanksgiving in Slovenia, since it is an American holiday, but he said because of little Ana they celebrated at their home anyway. He said it is such a nice holiday anyway. When he wrote us in early December he had submitted his final copy of his thesis to Professor Andrade. Then Danijel officially graduated in December. Congratulations Danijel!

We heard from Danijel several times during the rest of the month of December. He was discussing the legal things that he needed done for his thesis for it to be accepted in his country. Next he wrote to wish us a great Holiday Season and that he was thinking about us. He also sent us a lovely post card from Slovenia and wished us a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year on the post card too. He said he knows we get Christmas cards and he thought he would send us greetings on the post card. Thank you Danijel for the post card, you know how I love post cards!

The last we heard from Danijel was on March 10, 2011. He had some great news; he was hired as an economist at the Tax Administration of the Republic of Slovenia(TARS). This is the Slovenian version of the IRS. We want to congratulate Danijel on his new job! We hope that he will be very happy with his job. Thank you, Danijel for all your correspondence with us. Please keep writing and give Matjaz and Ana our love.

**Qiqing (Alex)Qian** Alex is working in the state of Maryland for the stateworking for business with China.

I also heard that Alex is now a **“Big T.V. Star”** and wanted by many women! It seems Alex was on a television show, something like the show that use to be on here in

the States, “The Dating Game.” From what I hear there were 4 girls that all liked Alex the best! I don’t know the outcome but maybe someone out there or maybe even Alex can let us know what happened with this. Congratulations Alex on being such a big hit!

**Yan “Vicky” Zhang (of this Class)** had lunch with Alex one day in Shanghai. Vicky was there on business, as well as a visit. They said they had such a good time seeing each other and talking about the good times they had while they were here.

We look forward to hearing from Alex in this next year and we really want to know the outcome of the T.V. show!

**Dilip Rabha** On June 29, 2011 friends gathered at Chef Yang— a favorite local restaurant – to say goodbye to Dilip who was leaving for a new job in India on June 30<sup>th</sup>. It was Dilip’s birthday the day before so we celebrated that also. **Vicky Zhang (Of this Class), Gu, Yu (of this Class), Lei, Siwei (Of this Class), and Tual Tuang (Of this Class)** joined us for dinner as well as Marie, Mouzon, and many current students. Dilip will start to work in July as a Research Associate with J-PAL. He will be working on a development project with the South Asia team based in India. J-PAL, which stands for (Abdul Latif) Jameel Poverty Action Lab,” is based at MIT and works for impact evaluation of development across many countries. Dilip says it is a “very suitable match with our skills developed in the GPED program, if someone is interested in international development and poverty alleviation.” Many, many congratulations to you, Dilip! We know you will make great contributions toward the improved welfare of people in India and perhaps other countries. We are so proud of you!

**Swizen Rubbani** Swizen has been working at the World Bank in D.C. for a year now and has just recently signed a contract for another year there. Way to go Swizen, congratulations!

We have been able to see Swizen twice in this last year. He came to our Alumni Reception in D.C. and visited us several times while we were there. We had a delightful time with him and many other of our GPED alumni there in D.C.

This summer Swizen came to Nashville for his vacation and was here at Vanderbilt visiting with us almost every day. It was so nice to have him here again. We look forward to seeing him in D.C. in March 2012!

**Hiroyuki Takao** Hiro called our office on January 6, 2011 and told us he had just been offered a job with Fact Sets which is similar Bloomberg. He will be working on Financial Data. He begins the training for this job in early February in Norwalk, CT. and will be training there for one year. He now plans to come to Nashville to see us before he begins his new job.

Hiro did come to visit with us before he began his job. It was nice having him here for a visit. He is really excited about landing this job and we are very happy for him. Please keep in touch, Hiro! Congratulations on your new job!

Hiro wrote on Mouzon's Facebook in March right after the earthquake in Japan. He told us that he was okay and actually he was in London at the time. He said that his family lives northeast of where the earthquake took place. So there was no devastation there and his family is all fine. He said that they were having "Blackouts" everyday to provide electricity for Fukushima. We all were much relieved when we heard from Hiro and also from other GPED alumni in Japan that all were okay!

**Tual Tuang** As most of you know Tuang is going for his Ph.D. at American University in D.C. Shortly after he got settled in D.C. he sent us his new contact information. Thanks Tuang, we do appreciate it!

We get to see Tuang from time to time. He came down for Commencement this year. It was nice having him here! Also Tuang came to our Alumni Reception in D. C. it was so nice having him there. It seems like every time I turn around in walks Tuang and that confuses me. Sometime I wonder, Tuang did you really leave us or are you still here? We love it anytime Tuang can get here!

We saw Tuang again in late June. We were all getting together at a local restaurant to say goodbye to **Dilip Rabha (of this class)** who was leaving Nashville to accept a position with J-PAL in India. As always it was just great to see Tuang. It's so nice that he keeps in touch.

**Christina Wood** In September 2010 we received a check and a request from Christina for some GPED t-shirts. We did send them right on to her. I hope she has been enjoying wearing them. Write us when you can. We would love to hear from you!

In the spring, Mouzon saw Christina at Lindsay Moffett's wedding. Christina was a bridesmaid—and a beautiful one!. She and Mouzon had a chance to talk at the reception. It was great seeing her!

**Qi Xu** Xu, Qi wrote to tell us that she was taking the spring semester off from her studies but was going to begin again in the fall. Mouzon received a sweet note on her birthday from Xu, Qi. How sweet of you to remember. We did receive and updated address for Xu, Qi. We would love to hear more from you. Please write us when you can, Xu, Qi!

**Mohamed Mat Yakob** We got word about Mohamed from **Gadaffi Omar (of this Class)**, that Mohamed had been promoted to the Economic Planning Unit in the Ministry of Finance. Congratulations to Mohamed for your promotion! Write us when you can. We look forward to hearing from you!

Later in May we heard directly from Mohamed that he is now working in the Ministry of Rural and Regional Development. He also told us that he and his family are doing well. Good hearing from Mohamed directly. Congratulations on you new position, Mohamed!



**Bin Yao** We received “**Big News**” from Bin’s husband, Richard, on the morning of December 22<sup>nd</sup>. Yao Bin and Richard have a baby born on Tuesday, December 21 at 8:46 a.m. He said that everything was good and all three were doing fine. Congratulations to Yao Bin and Richard!

**Minxin Zhou** Minxin wrote us when he returned home to give us his current contact information. Thanks, Minxin for the updates. He also wrote to say “Happy New Year!” He was asking how everyone is doing in the GPED and if Nashville was still cold! Nashville was still very cold when he wrote. We hope that Minxin’s year will be a very good one for him and I look forward to him writing us soon!

We heard that Minxin was married when he was in the U.S. Is it true? Hopefully we are not spreading a rumor. You’ll have to let us know about that! We do wish you all the best and hope to hear from you this year.

**Yan “Vicky” Zhang** We still get to see Vicky pretty regularly, as she is still here in Nashville. She no longer is working for us, of course, but she does have a job here in Nashville. She is doing great and is very happy. She drops by our office from time to time and usually brings by some snack or even lunch for us. Just last week she brought us some of her homemade Chinese Dumplings. They are great! Vicky seems to be a very good cook.

Late spring and early summer of this past year she went back to China and Taiwan for a visit with her parents and Ray’s parents and also she was there as part of her job. She had a wonderful visit with her parents and Ray’s parents. Ray went too and he stayed a few weeks longer than Vicky, but he is back in Nashville now.

We will continue to keep you updated on Vicky as time goes on!

## **Class of 2009-10**

**Lauren Elizabeth Davis** Lauren dropped us a note saying that she has accepted a job offer to work with Professor Andrade at the Center for Evaluation and Program Improvement. She is so happy to still be in Nashville and being on campus too! Congratulations on your new job, Lauren! We’re so glad you are still at Vanderbilt!

**Amanda Demolli** We had a sweet note from Amanda after she arrived in West Lafayette, Indiana where she will enroll in Fall 2011 for Ph.D. study at Purdue. Amanda’s **Big News** is that she gave birth to a beautiful baby boy. The baby’s name is Adrian and, the last we heard, he is sleeping well at night—very important!!!

We wish Amanda, her husband Besnik and baby Adrian all the best. We hear that Bes will also be in school. Good luck to both of you!

**Leandro Faria** Leandro wrote us on Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup>, four days after graduation here telling us his **Big News!** He had just received a job offer from the company he had applied to and hoped to get aboard with this company. The way and when he received this job offer is actually unbelievable and/or very funny. He was actually at Commencement in the gym (it was raining that day) and when the call came he saw the company phone number on his cell phone. He step outside in the middle of Commencement and received the job offer right then and there! I know that made Leandro's graduation day that much more exciting. Congratulations on your job, Leandro!

The job he accepted is with Credigy and this is a subsidiary of the National Bank of Canada. It operates mainly in the US and Brazil. The job will be based in Atlanta but will involve trips to Brazil. The company's headquarters in Brazil are less than an hour from where he was born and raised, so he is very happy about that! The position he was offered and accepted is an Analyst position within the company. They are going to sponsor him for an H1-B working visa here in the US and he said he is very happy about the salary! We are so happy for you Leandro, congratulations again!

**David Fulton** David came by our office last week to pick up a letter from Mouzon. He told us that he will be going back to school at Fort Leavenworth in the state of Kansas. He will be going to a Command and General Staff College. He will be moving there in mid-June. No wonder David is going to Command and General Staff College, as I just found out (after all this time) that David's officer status is Major! I saluted him! We will certainly miss you David! We wish you all the best and please keep in touch with us when you can!

**Daniel Holles** Daniel wrote us in mid-April. He was already at his new job with Ernst and Young, located in Charlotte, North Carolina. He said he is in an area called Transfer Pricing. He said he calls, it "International Tax Consulting", because it sounds more complicated and fancy! He said there is a pretty descent Vanderbilt alumni network in the Southeast area and they may need more people for next year. He said he found out about this through an "On Campus Interview", that Mouzon had sent an e-mail around for this. Congratulations on your job, Daniel.

We will post your contact information on the Alumni Address Roster. We wish you the best of luck! Keep in touch, okay!

**Bradley Kempf** Bradley wrote us last fall and told us about his new job! Congratulations on your new job, Bradley! Bradley is working at Ascension Health and is a Supply-Chain Analyst.

Bradley was sending important information to our students, as well as for any potential statistics teachers. Many businesses give an excel exam where you are required to do extensive analysis of data. Pivot tables help sort out key descriptive statistics such as the sum of spending on only good a, b, and d, in years 1996 and 1999 but not 1998. Many of the other applicants were able to accomplish parts of the exam using basic

commands but none were able to finish in the allotted time other than those who used pivot tables. Bradley said since they are such an easy tool to use and learn, he thought it might be helpful to teach it during the statistics course. He said he has seen many jobs require these skills and in this competitive economy it might help give my fellow students and edge.

Thanks so much Bradley for you helpful information. I am sure your fellow colleagues appreciate this very much! Write again when you can!

**Sam Leof** We heard from Sam around mid-June after we wrote to him telling him he had won an award for “Most Outstanding Thesis” and also a medal for “Award for Academic Excellence.” We needed his current mailing address so we could get his trophy, medal and certificate to him. Sam was unable to attend our Awards Dinner and we wanted to mail his awards to him. He did send us his address and was surprised and very appreciative of the awards! Congratulations to you Sam! Keep in touch.

Sam said he is still on the job hunt but he has had two promising interviews and is very hopeful of getting a job soon! We wish him the best of luck and we know we will be hearing from him soon about receiving a great job! Please let us hear from you and keep your address current with us Sam.

We did hear back from Sam and he has taken a job in Michigan. Not sure of the company he will be working for but he was very happy to get this job. Congratulations Sam! Keep in touch, okay.

**Liu, Si** Liu Si sent out a note right before leaving Vanderbilt. She gave us her e-mail address and her cell phone number in China. Her message to all her GPED friends is that if you come to China to visit she will be glad to show you around. That was a sweet message she left for all of you and we well miss her here in the GPED. We wish you the very best Liu Si! She wanted us to tell everyone to use this email: [cathy.si.liu@gmail.com](mailto:cathy.si.liu@gmail.com)

**Noornikman Bin Mohammad Arif** We got a note from Nik when he returned home telling us he and his family had arrived safely back in Malaysia. Thank you Nik for letting us know of you safe return. We always want to hear when our students leave here that they do get home safely.

He told Mouzon he was sorry he did not get back by the office on his last day to say goodbye. I believe Mouzon was out the day before when he came by to say bye. He said circumstances beyond his control did not allow him to get back here on his last day in Nashville. He said he will always treasure his days here and thanked Mouzon for all her generosity. He said his days in the US he will treasure for the rest of his life and his family the same way too.

We enjoyed having you here too Nik and we will miss you and your family for a long time to come. Please drop us a line from time to time.