

2008 ALUMNI NEWSLETTER

1957-1958

Edgard Sevilla We had the pleasure of seeing Edgard this past spring at our Alumni Reception in Washington, D.C. It was a pleasure seeing him, as always. The students loved meeting and talking with him. In April, he wrote us a note telling us how much he enjoyed meeting our students and was so glad to see students from the U.S. in our Program. Edgard said, "This adds new values and perspectives to the Program as an international group."

Thank you Edgard for your note and also, as always, Edgard continues to support the James S. and Rosemary Worley Award. We look forward to seeing you again next March.

1958-1959

Aluizio Batista Peixoto Professor Maneschi received an e-mail note from Priscila Araujo Hilligus, the daughter of Aluizio. She googled the GPED and found us and a picture of her father, Aluizio. She wrote us to see if we had any interesting information regarding her father. Priscila told us her father was 62 when she was born, and he died when she was only 12 years old. There wasn't a lot of personal information in his file, but there was a very good picture of him in there. I just wrote her and maybe she will want the picture. If any of you out there that were in Aluizio's class or knew him while you were here, would like to contact Priscila with some facts about him, contact us here at the GPED and we will give you her e-mail address.

1960-1961

Mahfooz Ali We were saddened to hear the news about the death of Mahfooz Ali. On October 1, 2007 we received a note from M. Saghir, a nephew of Mahfooz. He wrote to inform us that Mahfooz passed away in April 2007. We send our deepest sympathy to Mr. Mahfooz's family and friends.

1961-1962

Marianne Ziver In December we received a Christmas card from Marianne with a very nice note in it and also she sent us pictures she had taken at our D.C. Alumni Reception in 2007. She wrote and wished us a Merry Christmas and wished us a happy, safe, and prosperous New Year. Thank you, Marianne for thinking about us and the lovely card and pictures.

We were sorry that Marianne did not make our Reception in 2008. She may have been out of town at that time, as she said she would be travel more in 2008 that she did in 2007. Hopefully she will be around in March of 2009 and we will get to see her then!

1962-1963

Daoud Hamdani Daoud visited Nashville this past year. He came by our office for a visit. It was so nice to meet him. He is lives in Canada and works as a civil servant in Ottawa. He is a Statistician and has written an article entitled, "Impact of Science on Canadian Economy."

We hope that Daoud will get back to Nashville for a longer visit next time.

1963-64

Jose Rosales Rivas We did not have contact with Jose directly this year but again indirectly we did. We were delighted to have _____

_____ speak to us again this year. GET BACK TO THIS!

1964-1965

Anis Salib Anis continues to be an annual donator to our Worley Award Fund. We get a donation every year from Anis and his wife, Rhonda. We are so appreciative of his continued and dedicated support of the Award. We want to thank them so much for being so kind and generous.

We usually get to see Anis at least once a year but missed seeing him in this last year. Hopefully he will make it up here soon.

Jagadish Upadhyay Jagadish wrote us in early December. He thanked us for the Alumni Newsletter and said he enjoyed reading about those he knew while here at Vanderbilt. He mentioned Professor Sahota, Mrs. Whiteman and his friend Anis Salib. He said it is too bad that most of them don't take the time to drop a line or two at least every other year. Jagadish said that the GPED has made such an enormous impact on his life and it is hard for him to believe that he was here for only one year. We are hope that this Program has impacted most of you this way.

We also want to thank Jagadish for his generous and continued support of the Worley Fund. We appreciate every donation we get and it is helping us to increase the amount of the Award every year. Keep in touch, Jagadish!

1965-66

Hernan Puentes We were happy to have Hernan and Beverly Puentes come by our office this summer for a short visit. They were returning home after a trip to Memphis for a wedding. It was so nice having them here and they both looked wonderful, as always. Hernan and Beverly did have dinner the night before with Rosemary Worley. They had a wonderful time together.

They also were so nice as to make another contribution to the Worley Fund again this year. Their continued support of the Fund helps to keep it growing. We do thank them for their continued support of our Program.

1968-1969

Heraclio E. Antencio Bello Heraclio wrote to Professor Andrea Maneschi in January 2008. He was writing to ask if he knows of any one in Belo

Horizonte, Brazil. He was getting ready to travel there and wanted to see if there was someone in the area who could recommend a good hotel for him. Professor Maneschi wrote him back with some information.

Heraclio sent us a very generous contribution to the Worley Fund this past year which was included with the letter. We are very thankful and appreciative for his donation. Included in the package were two recently published books by the “Fundacion Venezuela Positiva”. We will have these books placed in the Vanderbilt library.

It was good hearing from Heraclio. It is always nice to hear from Heraclio and we are fortunate that he writes us from time to time and continues to keep in touch. We enjoy hearing from our alumni!

1970-1971

Samir El Khouri Samir was our wonderful host at the IMF again this year. Samir has helped me over and over again in the past several years by getting a Program set up for the GPED at the IMF. I am eternally grateful for all he does for us. He always gives the introductory seminar on an overview of the IMF. He is very informative and the students enjoy talking to him when he attends our Alumni Reception at the hotel. I always notice that so many of our students want to speak to him one-on-one.

Samir and his wife, Maria, invited Mouzon and Sultan Siddiqi, Andrea Maneschi, and myself (Marie Kelley) out to dinner. They took us to a cute and delicious restaurant in Maryland one evening. We enjoyed it so much. We dined on authentic Maryland Crab Cakes. They were just delicious! We all enjoyed the evening very much. I finally got to Maryland, after all these years of being so close in D.C. and never getting there!

We also want to thank Samir and Maria for always remembering the GPED by making a donation to the Worley Fund, which we deeply appreciate. We look forward to seeing Samir and Maria again next year in D.C.

Tae-Ha Park Tae-Ha sent us an e-mail note at the beginning of last January wishing us a good New Year for 2008. He also wrote to thank us for the Newsletter and Address Roster and he informed us of his new e-mail address. It was nice hearing from Tae-Ha. Thanks for keeping in touch and keeping us updated with changes in your contact information. Write us again next year. We look forward to hearing from you.

1972-1973

Leonardo A. Cardemil Leonardo and Flor Cardemil sent a very generous donation to the Worley Fund again this year. We can always count on the Cardemil's for their support of the "The Fund"! We would love to get a letter from you to let us hear how you are doing. We miss seeing you. Write us soon!

1973-1974

Sultan Hafeez Rahman We received a generous check from Sultan Rahman this year. Thank you for your support of the James S. and Rosemary Worley Fund. This goes to help one of our first year students each year. The Fund is growing continuously thanks to the support of so many of you. We would love to get a letter from Sultan telling us how he is doing. Maybe we will get some information from him next year.

1978-1979

Tsidi M. Tsikata It was so good to see Tsidi at our annual Alumni Reception in D.C. this past year. It was delightful talking with him and our students enjoyed meeting and talking with him also.

In late March we received a donation from Tsidi for the Worley Fund. Thank you Tsidi, we appreciate your donation and thoughtfulness. We look forward to seeing you again next March in D.C.

1979-1980

Ranga Murthy We heard from Ranga, Vidya, and Rohit during the Holidays. They sent us a lovely Holiday Greetings card and best wishes for the New Year. Thank you, Ranga, Vidya, and Rohit. We hope that 2008 is a good one for all of you.

Ranga is currently teaching at Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania. He said that he and his family are all doing well. He has been offered a tenure-track position at Western New England College in Springfield, Massachusetts. The position will begin in August 2009. Congratulations on your new position. We all wish you the very best. Thanks for keeping us posted. We love hearing from you.

1980-1981

Eui-Jae Kim Eui-Jae wrote to Professor Maneschi and to Mouzon Siddiqi towards the end of December 2007. He sent his New Year's greetings to the GPED.

Eui-Jae told us that he wrote a play entitled Waiting for Utopia, which was published by Book Surge Publishing Co. in the U.S. and it is sold on Amazon.com. The play is about life during our time, specifically peoples' eagerness to have more money. It is translated into English. Soon he will also have an essay published by the same company entitled "Walk of Mind." He wants to become known as an international writer. Good luck, Eui-Jae. It sounds like you are well on your way to becoming known as an international writer.

We enjoyed hearing from you and continue to keep us posted on all your writings. This is very exciting news to hear from you! Maybe with your materials going international you will get to travel to the U.S. and visit us here in Nashville. That would be awesome. We look forward to hearing from you again in the near future.

1982-1983

Baridjussalam Hadi Baridjussalam wrote to Professor Maneschi asking about receiving his transcripts from here. Professor Maneschi referred to Baridjussalam to me to help him. So I answered his questions and helped him with the procedure. He wrote me back and was most appreciative. Otherwise, he did not give me any particular news about himself. I hope he writes again and tells us more about his life since leaving here!

1985-1986

Sureyya Serdengecti We indirectly heard from Sureyya this year. He sent a recommendation letter on behalf of one of our applicants for this fall. The

applicant said he took some courses under him. It always makes us feel so good and proud when applicants have recommendation letters from GPED alumni.

Buthaina Shabani Buthaina wrote us in early January and said that she had just received the Newsletter and Roster for 2007. She was so pleased to receive it and enjoys reading about all her fellow GPED graduates every year.

Currently Buthaina is working as a Public Relations Manager at Aliman Schools, they are private schools. There are four Aliman schools with 2 kindergartens and grades 1 through 12 in all with over 2000 students (boys and girls.) I am sure Buthaina has her hands full being in PR with these schools!

Buthaina corresponds with us periodically throughout the year. Mostly she sends us slide shows, videos, or pictures of places and people and/or life in Palestine/West Bank. Thank you, Buthaina for sending us these pictures.

Boubacar S. Traore Boubacar wrote us this year after Mouzon Siddiqi had written to him about **Mr. Gil Seong Kang (Class of 2004-05)**. Gil Seong had written to tell us he is now working at the African Development Bank in Tunisia for MOFE. We wrote Gil Seong back and told him about GPED alumni at the AFDB. Boubacar wrote us back after Mouzon sent him a note about Gil Seong now working there. Boubacar told us that he had already met him and they had lunch with together. Boubacar said it is always nice to see GPED alumni; an indication that we continue to grow and thrive.

It was great to hear from Boubacar and we appreciate his kind words and actions for the GPED. I am sure we will be hearing from Boubacar again in the near future!

1987-1988

Aryan Wargadalam Aryan's son, Taufiq Arfi, wrote us this past spring. Taufiq said he is getting ready to graduate in August 2008 with a major in Economics and Business Law from the Undergraduate Program of Law, University of Indonesia. He is thinking about applying to the GPED program. So far he has not applied, but we hope that we will hear from him next January.

When Aryan came to have our annual group picture made in front of Kirkland Hall, back in 1988, Aryan's son was with him. Taufiq got to be in the group picture that year. I think that is the only time that we have had a child of one of our students in the picture.

He just happened to come that day, I guess, so they let him be in the picture too. I think that was very nice of the staff to do this!

Aryan, we hope to hear from you directly next year and we hope that your son does decide to apply to our Program. Looking forward to hearing from you.

1988-1989

Ana Regina Vides De Andrade The first news about Ana Regina in the past year is sad news. Early last September Ana Regina's father-in-law passed away. He was living with Ana Regina and Hernan here in Nashville. It was very sudden and unexpected. They had a lovely Mass for him and all the GPED staff and some of the Econ faculty attended. I know that many of you who knew Ana Regina and Hernan while you were here would want to know this information.

Some happy news for Ana Regina and Hernan this year is that their oldest daughter Gabriella just graduated from the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill and will begin medical school here at Vanderbilt this fall. Their youngest daughter, Regina graduated from high school this year and will enroll at the University of North Carolina at Chapel Hill this fall. They got one out of UNC and have the other one entering all in the same year. I guess they have started a family tradition! We want to congratulate Gabriella and Regina on their accomplishments this year! Way to go girls!

In early September Ana Regina contacted us about **Ana Margoth Arevalo (Of this Class)**. Ana Arevalo wrote and told us that she had a tumor on the back side of one of her eyes. We, of course, were very alarmed. She is okay now, I will tell you that before I go any further. Thank goodness! She had surgery and she contacted Ana Regina first and Ana Regina contacted us. Mouzon asked Ana (Arevalo) to send us details and we were going to see whatever we could do about getting her a surgeon here in Nashville. Her doctors said she should have the surgery in the U.S. As it turned out, I think her doctor found a doctor for her and she had the surgery at the Mayo Clinic here in the States.

Ana Regina continues to teach and is one of our thesis advisors. We are so glad to have her. She has had so many of our students this past year, I know she feels overwhelmed at times, but she is so good with each one of them. We are just very glad that we have her!

Ana Margoth Arevalo The news we had over this last year on Ana was that she had major surgery on a tumor, which was located behind one of her eyes. We are happy to say that the surgery was a huge success and she is doing just great now! I

mentioned all of the details, or pretty much most, of what went on with Ana in the above report on **Ana Regina Andrade (Of this Class.)** As I said earlier, her doctor preferred for her to have the surgery in the U.S. and so that is what she did. I believe the surgery was in November at the Mayo Clinic.

In December, she wrote us and wished us the best for the Holidays. We hope that 2008 has been a much better year for Ana than 2007 was, and that 2009 will be even better than this one for her! Write us soon, Ana. We love hearing from you!

Kadir Aslan We received a note from Kadir's wife, Naciye, last December. Naciye told us that they had not received the Newsletter in a while. She sent us their address and we hope that they receive the Newsletter this year. Look for their new address in this year's Alumni Roster. After receiving the note from Naciye we mailed them a copy of the 2007 Newsletter. We hope that they received it in a timely manner. Naciye said they are all doing well and she asked about everyone here. Thanks for writing Naciye. Maybe Kadir can write us some time in the near future.

Sudarno Sumarto Sudarno wrote a couple of times this past spring. A former visiting Professor at Vanderbilt was looking for Sudarno's dissertation. Professor Menke helped Sudarno with his dissertation and wanted to have a copy of it. I am not sure if they ever reached each other or not. Mouzon was working on it to help locate Sudarno's paper. I imagine that by now they have worked this out.

Sudarno said that he feels very blessed. He has three children, two daughters and a son. His oldest daughter, Jesita, is 9; his second daughter, Hanna, is 7; and his son, Adrien, is 5. Adrien goes to an international school and he enjoys meeting friends from around the world. Sudarno said his wife is a business woman and her work has her traveling quite a bit domestically. Sudarno keeps himself busy managing a small independent think tank working on socio-economic issues. He says overall, he is still doing research, lecturing and writing.

Sudarno meets with GPED alumni from time to time. He said all of them have advanced in their ranks in the government. It is so nice to hear that our Indonesian alums get together every now and then. It was great to hear from Sudarno and about his family too!

Maxton Tsoka Last November Maxton wrote us. He was applying for Ph.D study and wrote to ask for recommendations letters from Professor Kathryn Anderson and Professor Andrea Maneschi and also about receiving transcripts. We got everything taken care of for him. We have not heard back from him recently as to where he will be studying. I am sure he will soon let us know where he is now.

We also received, and you may have received them too, some disturbing e-mails saying that Maxton was being held in Nigeria and needed assistance to be released. As you may guess by now these were fraudulent e-mails. Maxton wrote us and told us this

was not true and he is doing perfectly fine. Another one of these e-mails about Maxton just surfaced again recently. If you ever get a similar e-mail about Maxton or someone else you may know, first check with that person or someone who knows that person. Don't try sending money until you are very sure about what is going on. Nine out of ten times, these are just hoaxes. We are all happy that Maxton is doing great!

1990-1991

Teresa Deras I WILL START WITH, WE ARE VERY THANKFUL THAT TERESA IS OKAY! As many of you may or may not know, Teresa was on the plane that crashed in Honduras on May 30th (I believe that was the date!) I was looking at CNN on my computer here at work and saw the picture and breaking news of the plane crash. My first thought was Teresa, as I know she travels a lot due to her job, and just prayed she was not on it.

On Saturday morning I got a phone call at home from Mouzon, telling me Teresa was on that plane! She said she did get out of the plane safely. I have talked with Teresa and Kirsten, her daughter, since then. She injured her foot and was still at home as of last week (middle of June). She has to keep her foot immobilized for a while; however, she is in good spirits. I understand that the floor of the plane below her feet was gone after the impact. Good old Teresa, as she is, got out of the plane and started helping others to get off the plane until her foot started bothering her too much. Ours hearts just sank when we heard the news! We are just very happy that she is okay!!

We have been keeping in touch with Teresa so much the last couple of years especially since her daughter, Kirsten, was one of our students. Kirsten graduated this past May and Teresa was here for her graduation. We are going to miss Kirsten so much and Teresa too. Teresa won't have an excuse to call or visit us as often. We will miss the two of them greatly!

1991-1992

Omar Al Madani It was good hearing from Omar during the year. He wrote to give us an update on his new address. We thank you for that Omar. This way, we can keep in touch with you and make sure you receive the Newsletter and Roster every year. He also wrote to wish us a Happy New Year this year too! We hope that 2008 has been a good one for you too!

He started out his letter by speaking of his days here at Vanderbilt and the experiences he had here. Hopefully they were all good experiences! He thinks of his wonderful days here and how he learned so much inside and outside the classroom. He said he has so many fond memories of Vanderbilt, Nashville, and the United States especially the American people and our ways. He mentioned how he enjoyed knowing and being with Mouzon Siddiqi, Professors Maneschi, Morley, Foster, and Anderson, Frances Rich, Mr. Ferguson, Marie Kelley (that's me), and all his colleagues. Thank you Omar for all your nice compliments on everyone here!

This is the class that I first met when I began to work here at Vanderbilt, and I remember Omar so well. He was so nice and polite and a handsome fellow too! I remember all of you from this class. Thanks for writing and continue to keep in touch! We miss you here!

Suwareh Darbo Mouzon Siddiqi contacted Darbo in mid-November regarding a GPED alumnus, **Mr. Gil Seong Kang (Class of 2004-05)**. Mr. Kang was getting ready to go to the Gambia to work at the African Development Bank. We have about three alumni who work at the AFDB in Tunisia, and we gave them a heads-up on Mr. Kang. Mr. Kang and Darbo have met, and I am sure that by now he has met every GPED alumni at the Bank. I am not sure at this time how long Mr. Kang will be at the Bank, but I am sure that Darbo will make sure that he is very comfortable there. Thanks Darbo for all you do! I know Mr. Kang appreciates it too!

Swarna Gunaratne Swarna sent us a lovely Season's Greetings card from Sri Lanka put out by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. It had pictures of native herbal plants that were used by early physicians and the special stone mortar and herb cutters used for preparing the herbs for medicine. It was a very interesting card.

Swarna's note was a happy one, telling us of the happiness she and Guna have with their precious daughter. Nethmi is now 1 ½ years old and absolutely the love of their lives. Swarna says she rushes home every day to get back to Nethmi. We are so happy for the two of you!

She thanked us for the Newsletter and told us how much she enjoys receiving it and reading updated information about her friends. Thank you, Swarna, for the lovely card and your sweet note. I hope 2008 has been a good year for you.

Aster Rutababalira Adams We heard from Aster this year and he is doing just great. He loves his job and is doing well. His family is doing okay too. Every now and then, he calls us to say hello. It's so nice of Aster to keep in touch with us. He did drop by our office one day this past year too. It was great seeing him. He sends his love to all his friends and classmates of the GPED.

Jariya Wongsathuaythong Jariya wrote us a note at the beginning of this year telling us how much he enjoyed getting the Newsletter. Apparently, he had just received it. He said he loves reading it every year. It was so good to hear from Jariya. It had been a while and we loved hearing from him. He wished us well for the New Year and we hope that 2008 has been a good year for him too! Thanks, Jariya, continue to keep in touch.

1992-1993

Chung Won Park Chung Won wrote us last October to request that copies of his transcripts be sent to him. He was applying for Ph.D. study in Korea. He wrote and thanked us after he received his transcripts. We have not heard back from him since then. I am sure that he got into a Ph.D. program, but we do not know where he is studying. We hope to hear sometime soon!

1994-1995

Carolina Avalos Trigueros Carolina wrote us in late October 2007. She wanted Professor Maneschi to send recommendation letters for her. She was applying for Ph.D. study at a couple of universities, one in Belgium and one in the Netherlands. Professor Maneschi was very happy to do this for her. We wish her well in her educational pursuits. I am sure Carolina will do just great. We have not heard back from her yet as to where she will be going. Hopefully she will contact us soon.

Currently Carolina is working with the UNDP in El Salvador. She is Executive Director of Red Solidaria, a conditional cash transfer program, one she helped design and implement. She is working with the Advisor of Social Policies to the President of the UNDP in a participative process to elaborate a strategy for urban poverty in El Salvador.

Carolina told us a little about her family. She said Alvaro continues to work at FUSADES (a think tank) and stays very busy. Andrea is studying in Argentina and turned 20 in October 2007, Rodrigo is 16, and Diego is now 13. They are both in high school and busy with sports and singing classes.

In mid-October Sam Morley was in El Salvador giving a seminar which Alvaro attended. Later that evening Alvaro, Carolina and Sam Morley went to dinner together. She said, "He is doing great and it was fun seeing him."

It was great hearing from Carolina this year. Thanks for all the information you sent us. We always enjoy getting updated news from Carolina and Alvaro. Let us hear back from you Carolina about where you are studying.

1995-1996

Roberto Penaloza During the Holidays Roberto and Maria Agustina sent us a very sweet card. Thank you for thinking about us.

Roberto is returning to Ecuador for a year or two to work there. We will miss him and we hope that he will be returning to Nashville. It has been nice having him here for the past several years. We will let you know how he is doing in Ecuador in the next Newsletter.

Nirmal Shiwakota Nirmal dropped us a note in mid-December 2007. He wrote to wish all of us here in the GPED a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you, Nirmal for your kind wishes. We hope that you and your family have had a great 2008! Write us about what you and your family have been doing in this last year. We would love to hear more from you in the upcoming year!

Artom Shneyerov Artom was a guest speaker here at Vanderbilt on September 13, 2007. The title of his seminar was “What Model for Entry in First-Price Auctions? A Non-Parametric Approach”. His talk was more or less for the Econ Ph.D. students, but some of our students attended. We never did see him in the GPED! I guess he was too busy to drop by and see us!!

1996-1997

Musa Jawara Musa sent us Holiday Greetings this past year via e-mail. Thanks for thinking about us. We hope 2008 has been a good one for you.

Veerapat (Ball) Kiatfuengfoo We heard from Ball the second day of January 2008! He sent us an e-mail wishing all of us in the GPED a Happy New Year! Thank you, Ball, for remembering us. We hope that 2008 has been a great year for you and your family! We would love to hear more from you. Write us an informative letter when you get a chance. Ball did send us his updated address, phone numbers and all. Thanks for the updates Ball.

Rohani Salleh After Mouzon had her surgery last year, Rohani sent Mouzon a Get Well Card, which was very kind of him. He put a note in the card and sent pictures too. The pictures were of Rohani and his wife on three different trips over three different years. They were in Australia in 2004, Switzerland in 2005 and China in 2006. Wow! Sounds like, Rohani takes nice adventurous vacations! Sounds nice to me! He also said in the note he wants us to see what he looks like and the changes that have occurred in the last nine years since he was here. Actually, he looks very much the same to me. I couldn't see any aging or such from the pictures. He looks like he is doing well and there were no dramatic changes from what I could see!

Rohani said he hopes to see us in 2008. So far we haven't seen him but we have another 6 months to go, so maybe we will yet. We hope so!

1997-1998

Rosario Basay Rosario sends us e-mails from time to time, and every now and then she drops by our office. She is doing great here at Vanderbilt. She wrote Mouzon a nice note around her birthday, the Holidays and other times too. In December, her parents came for a visit, and Mouzon and Sultan had Rosario and her family over for dinner. Rosario's parents love getting together with Mouzon and Sultan, and Mouzon and Sultan feel the same way about them.

Bongani Gigaba Bongani wrote to Professor Cliff Huang this year asking for help with a project he was working on this year. He asked for Professor Huang's interpretation of Bongani's results. Professor Huang sent us a copy of Bongani's letter to him. At the bottom of his letter he asked Professor Huang to pass his greetings to the GPED staff and students. It would be nice to hear directly from Bongani himself too!

Dennis Hickey Dennis wrote us a nice e-mail in February of this year. First of all he sent greetings to all of us here in the GPED. Then he sent his apologies to us for not being able to come to our 50th Anniversary Conference. He said at the time he was in transition from one job to another. He is now a shareholder in an investment management firm that he helped set up. He will be working hard for the next few years to get the company built up. He hopes that one day his daughter, Brittni, who is now 11, will be able to take his place and he can enjoy retirement. Congratulations Dennis and good luck! I am sure that if anyone can get the business built up, it would be Dennis.

Dennis told us that his wife, Sophia, sends her regards to us. Dennis and Sophia promised Brittni that they will vacation here in Nashville soon! That would be

wonderful. We would love to see them. When this happens we will be sure to let you hear about it!

Kakhramon Yusupov Kakhramon has left Vanderbilt and returned to Uzbekistan to be with his wife and children. He will be returning here some time, I think this year, to finish his dissertation. We certainly miss him here and have not heard from much from him since he left here. I am sure he is making up for lost time with his family. I know we will be hearing from him soon!

1998-1999

Obid Hakimov Obid wrote us for a recommendation letter for him. This letter was sent in mid-January. He said that he is currently working for Bearing Point Global Operations and is deeply involved with economic reform projects of USAID. Due to financial difficulties, the regional office decided to close their Uzbekistan branch. So Obid was on the job market when we heard from him last. We wish him the best of luck! Let us hear from you Obid when you get settled with your new job!

Arman Kashkinbekov We hear from Arman from time to time and when we do it is usually when he sends us his new phone numbers, e-mails, addresses or other information such as this. We really haven't received any written information from him this year.

Jong Hun Kim Jong Hun wrote us in early September 2007 and told us that he and Narie are settled in Terre Haute. He sent us his new address and you may find it in this year's 2008 Roster. We wish them the best of luck and hope to hear more from them in this upcoming year!

Jong Hun and Narie sent us a lovely Christmas card this past year with Christmas and New Year's greetings. Thank you. We hope 2008 has been a wonderful year for you!

Geryantika Kurnia Gery wrote us in mid-December after receiving the Newsletter. He sounded surprised that he had received it. He loved reading everything in it. He said he misses the GPED and all of his friends at Vanderbilt. He asked me to send his best regards to all of his friends and he would like to say Happy New Year to all of us! We all wish you the best for 2008 and 2009 too Gery!

Gery is working at Directorate General of Posts and Telecommunications Republic of Indonesia. His current position is Director of Multilateral Affairs for Posts and Telecommunications. Sounds very impressive Gery!

It was very good hearing from Gery! Write us again soon! You can find all of Gery's updated information in the 2008 Roster.

Vera Perdigao Vera wrote us a great letter last October. She asked about everyone in the office and sent her best wishes to all of us. She asked about the 50th Anniversary Celebration.

Vera has been in Senegal since April 2004, when the UN staff was evacuated from Cote d'Ivoire as the situation was not safe. Vera is currently working for the International Labor Organization (ILO) as a Senior Child Labor Specialist covering West and Central Africa. She said this is a challenging job as much needs to be done in this field in Africa. She has to travel a lot within the continent.

In 2005 Vera went to Tanzania and met with **Emiliana Rweyemamu (Class of 2000-2001)**. On her way back Vera also met with **Jonas Mhlarhi (Class of 1998-99)** in Johannesburg. Vera enjoyed seeing them and they discussed memories of their days here at Vanderbilt and of course the GPED. Then in November 2006 Vera went to Ethiopia, and she spoke with **Baso Sangqu (Class 1998-99)** who was leaving for New York to take a new position there. I see we don't have a New York address for Baso; hopefully someone out there could get one for us! It is so nice when we hear that our alumni make connections with other alumni out there when they travel. We also like getting this news from the one who visits them. Sometimes that is the only time we hear anything about some of you - when we get the news from others!

Now to Vera's family, she now has three daughters. Yes, I said **3** daughters. When Vera wrote us in October 2007, she told us that her family has grown and they now have another little girl who was eight months old at that time. I am writing this in June 2008. So this must mean that she must be 16 months or almost a year and a half old now! Her name is Chiara Margarida. She sent us some pictures of her, and she is adorable. Vera said she and the family spend a lot of her time running after her. Congratulations on the newest addition to your family.

Nayanka is Vera's oldest daughter and is in her second year at SOAS (School of Oriental and African Studies-University of London) studying Politics and Development. She is enjoying it and loves London.

Yovanka is in the second year of high school and would like to continue her studies in an Anglophone country. Vera said she must have influenced Yovanka.

Vera's husband, Macario is now working with a regional body for West Africa, the ECOWAS, and he is based in Nigeria.

Thank you, Vera, for all of your updates and information, on you and your family. Your letter is a perfect letter for us. This is the type of letter I wish that we would get from all our alumni! Very, very good! We appreciate you keeping in touch with us and we look forward to getting news from you again in the near future! Best wishes to you and your family.

1999-2000

Rustam Dusbayev Rustam is always so good about sending us e-cards for so many of our holidays. Last January he sent us a great Happy New Year's card for example. Thank you, Rustam, for always thinking about us.

In February we had a phone call from one of our students who had just returned to Kazakhstan, **Aknur Jumatova (Class of 2006-2007)**. She told us that Rustam is now an Advisor to Head the Administration of the President's Office. Congratulations to Rustam! Thank you, Aknur, for this news!

Young Goo Kang We heard from Young Goo or rather Mouzon heard from Young several times this past spring. Young Goo was writing regarding a colleague of his who will be coming to our Program this fall, as a Visiting Scholar. We look forward to having Mr. Jin-Mo Jang this year.

Young Goo is working for the FSS (Financial Supervisory Service) in Seoul. He and his family are doing well. Young Goo's daughter, Minsun graduated from the University of Korea and is now teaching high school students English in an international mission school. Minsun went to Hillsboro High School in Nashville while Young Goo was at Vanderbilt. Minsun got to know Mouzon's husband, Sultan, who taught English, as a second language at Hillsboro. I can't believe Young Goo's daughter has graduated from college already and is now teaching! Boy, how time flies!!

It was great hearing from you Young Goo. Thanks for all the updates. We look forward to meeting Mr. Jang very soon.

Raushan Tulepbayev We heard from Raushan around the end of December. She sent New Year's Greetings to Mouzon and Sultan via e-mail, and she also sent a lovely Christmas card to them by regular mail.

In February, Mouzon heard from Raushan again. Raushan was in D.C. at the time that we were there on the Field Trip. We were hoping that she could come to our Reception in D.C. and she thought she could too. When she found out that it was on Monday, she said she had three classes that day and two projects due. So she was not able to attend. We were really looking forward to seeing her.

She did say that she might make it to Nashville in May, but that didn't happen. Maybe someday she will be able to come here. We would love to see her.

2000-2001

Tatiana Mahailavich-Muntean Tatiana sent an e-mail message to Mouzon to wish her a happy birthday. Very sweet of her! In the same note she gave us her new address and phone number. This will be added to our roster this year.

As most of you may know Tatiana and her family are now in Toronto, Canada. Tatiana said Sasha and Sabina are doing well. They said all of them think of the GPED often and they said they miss and love all of us. We miss them too and love them also.

Tatiana taught Macroeconomic Principles and Advanced Topics in Macroeconomics last fall and taught Macro Theory II and Financial Economics in the spring semester.

In December we received a check from Tatiana for a donation to the Worley Fund. Thank you, Tatiana for your generous check. These donations help increase our ability to increase the amount of the checks almost every year.

In late March or early April we asked Tatiana if she still had the pictures from our Anniversary Conference. We could not find ours here that she had sent us. Of course she had the pictures and sent them to us. Thanks, Tatiana. Continue to keep in touch. We love hearing from you.

Damira Mambetova Damira stopped by our office on the weekend last fall, I believe it was last fall. Of course we were not in the office on the weekend so we missed seeing her. We found a note left on my desk from Damira saying that she was in town for the weekend only. She said she was sorry she could not see us and that she misses us. We were so sorry that we did not get to see her. Maybe next time and if you let us know ahead of time that would be good and we can plan something.

Ebralie Mukarasugara We heard from Ebralie in early May of this year. Ebralie continues to work for Outreach Foundation and travels for them, whenever her home responsibilities allow. She had just returned from travel to East Africa including Rwanda. She said it was great seeing the economic improvement in her country since the genocide 14 years ago.

Ebralie's organization, "Outreach Foundation" is in partnership with the Presbyterian Church of Rwanda, and they help and encourage people, care for vulnerable children and widows, mostly orphans and widows as a result of war, HIV/AIDS and many other diseases. They also help to alleviate poverty, by providing educational funds, medical expenses and food for poor children and destitutes who cannot afford these things.

Ebralie is doing such wonderful things and certainly applying her "Economic Development" to the world out there, especially in African countries. Way to go, Ebralie! Continue to keep us posted.

Ararat Osipian Yes, Ararat is still here. We see him from time to time. I think he is almost through here – I think. He tutored one of our students this last spring in her thesis. Kathryn Anderson sent us a print-out that showed a title of an article Ararat had written and published in "Research in Comparative and International Education, Vol.2 Number 4 2007". It is entitled, Corruption in Higher Education: Conceptual Approaches and Measurement Techniques. Way to go Ararat! Keep up the good work!

Peter Redvers-Lee Peter wrote in late December giving us updated information on where he has been and what he is doing and where. He said that they are now in Virginia after a few distant moves. They spent some time in Canberra, Australia, where his wife, Beth, had a fellowship at the Australian National University. They liked it so much that they wanted to stay. They then moved to Urbana-Champaign where Beth had another fellowship at the University of Illinois.

They are now live, as I said in the beginning, in southwestern Virginia. Peter works in the Public Policy and Community Service Department at Emory & Henry College. He teaches Statistics, Sustainable Community Development, Public Policy, and Community Organizing. He says he is really enjoying it!

Brownyn, Peter and Beth's daughter, picked up a lot of the Australian language. She is still saying a lot of the words they use or the way they say things. I am sure she loves it and the other children she is around are curious about it!

Peter said he enjoyed getting the Newsletter and reading about his old classmates and reading about the accomplishments of all our great alumni. He said he really looks forward to getting the Newsletter.

One day in the spring, Peter walked in our office. I think he was here to meet about his dissertation. It was a brief visit, but it was good to see him. He looked good and happy. He was planning on coming back later or the next day. I think Mouzon was out when he came by or something. I believe he did make it back, but I missed him then.

I am sure he will be back in the near future. Even though it was a brief meeting it was great seeing him. Thanks Peter, for all your great updates!

Nataliya Rumyantseva Nataliya e-mailed us in late October and told us she had just returned from traveling in Europe. Her “Big News” is that she defended her dissertation! Congratulations, Nataliya! She is on the job market now. I am sure she will get something great in the near future. We will keep you posted!

Emiliana Rweyemamu Emiliana sent us Christmas and New Year’s greetings via e-mail. She wished us and our families the best. She said she misses us all so much. We certainly miss Emiliana! She would light everyone up here and always has a smile on her face!

Emiliana sounds very happy! She said, “Myself, Shubi, and Wilfred are all doing fine, we thank God for the gift of life He has given us up to this time of the year 2007.”

Thanks for writing Emiliana! It was great hearing from you; continue to keep in touch with us!

Woramon Sinsuwan Woramon sent us a New Year’s Greeting Card from China. Wishing us the best for 2008! Thank you, Woramon. She is working for the Royal Thai Consulate-General in China. I am sure her job keeps her very busy and must be very challenging. It was so sweet of Woramon to remember us!

2001-2002

Anel Kalykova Anel wrote us way back in September 2007. We had already cut off the Newsletters entries for ’07 so we are getting this out there to you now, in 2008.

She said the last time she contacted us that she was planning MBA study in the U.K. Unfortunately, she could not get a scholarship from the British Consul because she already had an M.A from Vanderbilt. At that time their policy was aimed at students who had not received an M.A yet.

Since that happened, she decided to leave Deloitte. So now she is working for Alliance Bank in Almaty, the third largest bank in Kazakhstan. She is responsible for investor relations at the bank, which means that she is in daily contact with investors who purchase bonds/shares of her bank. This sounds like a very impressive and great job. I am sure that you are very good at this position!

Anel said that she often gets together with **Kuralay Tynabay and Assel Baimukhamova (Of this Class)**. She also sees others from this class, as well as other GPED alumni from Kazakhstan. Anel said that they all miss the GPED. It is difficult being in that working world. I know being a student is not easy either but probably easier than the working world, right!

You can find Anel's new work address in this year's roster. Thanks for your great letter. Continue to keep in touch, Anel.

Serguei Majoutko Serguei and his wife, Natasha wrote us a note in May of this year. He said, "At last we decided to send a message." We are so glad you did!

They are doing fine. They live in Moscow now. Serguei is a Deputy Financial Director in milk producer "ALEV." Natasha is an Internal Audit Manager in X5 Retail Group, the largest retail company in Russia.

Their son, Lesha, is 5 years old and goes to kindergarten in Wushu and has a white belt with yellow stripes. I can't believe Lesha is already 5; it seems like only yesterday that he was in a stroller coming to our office and WUSHU too! Amazing!

They sent their best wishes to Kathryn Anderson, Andrea Maneschi, James Foster, and all their friends in the GPED! Thanks for getting to us. We loved hearing from you about how you all are doing. Don't make it so long next time, okay!

Natasha Usseinova You can read the above note from Serguei, Natasha's husband above. The very nice note was from the both of them. As you recall Natasha and Serguei married while they were here in our Program. So they will always be a special part of the GPED. Thank you, Natasha, for the very sweet note and information about the three of you. Take care and keep in touch!

2002-2003

Ali Almutawa We just heard from Ali in early June. His "Big News" is that he has been admitted for Ph.D. study at the University of Australia. We are so happy for him. Australia sounds like a wonderful place for Ph.D. study. We have had other alumni go to Australia for their Ph.D. and they don't seem to want to leave when it is time.

Good luck in your studies and make sure you write us from time to time. It was great hearing from you and congratulations!

Julia Govorova Julia wrote a nice e-mail message to Mouzon in February of this year. She thanked us for the Newsletter and Roster. She said she always enjoys getting the big package from the GPED.

Julia now has a new job. She is head of the Regional Affiliate of International Center for Financial and Economic Development in Russia. Congratulations on your new job, Julia. She sent us her new address, which will be entered in this year's roster. Thank you for writing us with your news. Please continue to write us from time to time, even if it is a short note.

Kuban Kabayev Kuban called our office on November 15, 2007. It was great hearing from him. Kuban was in North Carolina on business and pleasure. He is working in the Ministry of Affairs. This is a U.N. Office involved with Drugs and Crime, and is a National Project Officer in Kyrgyzstan. Congratulations Kuban, on your new position. Thanks for letting us know. It was good talking with Kuban. We wish that he could have made it to Nashville when he was just a state away, but we understand business constraints won't always give you the time to travel wherever you please. Maybe next time Kuban is in the States he will be able to visit here.

Sung Jae Lee Sung Jae wrote us in January of this year. He is currently in the Foreign Affairs Division in the National Assembly in Seoul. Congratulations, Sung Jae on your new position in the National Assembly.

Sung Jae was also writing to tell us about a friend/colleague of his who wants to come to our program as a "Visiting Scholar" with his family. He went through the process and he is coming this August. We look forward to meeting him and his family.

Thanks Sung Jae for writing. We miss you here in the GPED office also. Write us again soon!

Suthee Luangaramkul Suthee dropped Mouzon a line regarding "LinkedIn". This is a professional network on LinkedIn. He says this helps you find the right people when you're looking for a new job or business opportunity. He wanted Mouzon to pass this on to our students. Thanks for thinking about us Suthee.

Anuar Mukanov Actually, Mouzon wrote to Anuar requesting some of the pictures he took while he was here at Vanderbilt. We are working on our web-site, new brochure and re-doing the office and building here. We wanted to get some of his great pictures. He wrote us back and sent us pictures, which I have not seen yet. I think many of them will be put in action here. We want to thank Anuar for doing this for us. We will have his name on or by the pictures, to give credit where credit is due. Thanks,

so much again Anuar. Please write us and let us know how and what you are doing for the next newsletter, okay!

Osayi Ovbiosa Akinbosoye Mouzon and Marie enjoyed visiting with Osayi, Akin and their 8 month old son, David, at Rupa's wedding. We sat together at the reception and dinner and had so much fun with David. Although he is only 8 months old, he is so alert – noticing everything around him and is pulling up, and crawling very fast! He keeps Osayi and Akin on their toes.

This year Osayi was Cliff Huang's Teaching Assistant for Econometrics. Osayi will begin her final year in the fall and go on the job market in a year. We just can't believe that Osayi is so far along in her Ph.D. studies.

On Spring Break, while Osayi was planning a little relaxation, her husband bought the family a new house! We haven't seen it yet, but we understand it is a beautiful four-bedroom home in La Vergne (a suburb of Nashville). We are so happy for the two of them.

We will continue to keep you posted about Osayi. It is so nice to have her with us!

Azhan Shah Muhammad Raja Azhan wrote us in November of 2007 telling us he has two colleagues interested in applying to our program. We instructed him on how to go on-line to apply. We hope that we will be getting them in the fall.

Azhan is in the Prime Minister's Department in the Economic Planning Unit in Putrajaya, Malaysia.

Azhan also sent his greetings to all of us here in the GPED, Mouzon, Marie, Professors Maneschi, Anderson, Foster and all his friends and classmates. Thank you, Azhan, for writing. It was great hearing from you.

2003-2004

Hussainatu Abdullahi It was nice hearing from Hussainatu over this past year. She sent Christmas and New Year's greetings to all in the GPED. Thank you for the greetings and we hope that 2008 has been a great year for you too! She said she was sorry she had not been in touch earlier due to the problem of internet service in her state. They have now overcome this problem in her office.

After leaving here, she finished her Ph.D. study and received a Masters degree (2005/2006) in Business Administration. Hussainatu was promoted to Senior Lecturer in

her department in 2005, while finishing her Masters. Congratulations, Hussainatu, on your new position! Wow! Hussianatu has been very busy since leaving here. I am quite impressed!

Good hear from you, Hussainatu. Please continue to keep in touch.

Kofi Anim Kofi is in D.C. and it is nice having him where we can contact him often. It was great seeing him in March. He came to our Alumni Reception in D.C.

Kofi is working at Deloitte & Touche LLP. He is helping with resume tips and cover letters, and recommends qualified candidates for positions at Deloitte. I am sure Kofi is very good at this position.

We look forward to seeing Kofi again next March.

Hojakuli Atakgayev Hoja wrote us in early February, right after the round of tornados in the middle Tennessee area. We were fortunate here in Nashville, but there were areas to the north of Nashville that saw a lot of destruction, as well as some deaths. Thank you, Hoja for your concerns. No one here at Vanderbilt and in Nashville was affected by these storms.

Hoja is a Commercial Director at M& M Militzer & Muench Turkmenistan, Ltd. in Ashgabat, Turkmenistan.

Hoja sent his best to all of us here in the GPED. He said he misses us very much and Vanderbilt too. We miss you too Hoja. Keep writing. We love hearing from you!

Mher Baghramyan We heard from Mher a couple times this year. He wrote and also inquired about our well being after the news of the tornados in our area. Again, we are just fine, fortunately. Thank you to all of you for your concern for us.

Mher was also writing to thank us for the Newsletter and Roster. He said he enjoyed reading it and thought it was a very good tradition. Thank you Mher, we are happy to hear your response to our mails.

Mher is working as a Senior Researcher at Armenian International Research Group (AIPRG).

Mher was the Project manager for a conference in D.C. and he also presented a paper. The conference was entitled “Looking Forward: Global Competitiveness of the Armenian Economy and the Need for a Second Generation Reform”, and took place at the World Bank Headquarters in D.C. The goal of the conference was to consolidate the existing knowledge and expertise on Armenia for the successful implementation of the second generation reforms in the country. The paper Mher presented is “Implications of

Armenian Currency Appreciation for the Competitiveness of Armenian IT and Tourism Industries.”

I know this was a tremendous task for you, Mher. I know that you did a super job. Congratulations! Let us hear how it went. Sorry we couldn't have been in D.C. at the same time. Maybe next time it will work out. I am sure you will be having other conferences in D.C., as time goes on.

Manfredo Chacano Manfredo sent us Holiday greetings this year via a lovely post card from Guatemala. He also sent us a couple of pictures of himself and his family in Guatemala. We always enjoy receiving pictures. Thanks, Manfredo. We would love to hear how you are doing. Drop us a note this year. We look forward to hearing from you.

Tehara Clarke Mouzon received an e-mail note from Tehara this past year. Tehara was applying for a job at the Central Bank in St. Kitts and asked Mouzon to write a reference letter for her. Of course Mouzon was glad to do this for her. She also requested that an official transcript be sent to the Bank. Mouzon took care of this for her. We have not heard back from Tehara since then. We all hope that she got the position she was applying for. Maybe we will hear back from Tehara in this next year and we will let you know what she is doing.

Claudia Diaz Just about the time Mouzon and Sultan sat down at Rupa Gootam's wedding (May 23, 2008), someone came toward them with open arms and a big smile. What a surprise! It was Claudia who had come from California for Rupa's wedding. Claudia is a Ph.D. student at RAND Graduate School, the world's leading producer of Ph.D.s in policy analysis. She has just completed her second year. Claudia looked great and it was just like old times. She was also planning on seeing Abby Cordova and Dominique Zephyr while in Nashville. At the dinner following Rupa's wedding, Claudia sat at the table with Marie, Mouzon, Sultan, and Osayi Ovbiosa-Akinbosoye, her husband Akin and their son, David. We had so much fun catching up on the news! It was just wonderful and a very unexpected and delightful surprise to see Claudia!

Claudia, keep in touch and pass us any big news you may have in the next year!

Alireza Ebrahim Alireza walked in our office on Friday, November 9, 2007. We were so surprised when he came in and just said hello! He and his wife, Tara was in Nashville because Tara was going to job interviews here. Alireza came along so he could visit with us, I guess. It was nice seeing him again.

Alireza is working toward his Ph.D. at the University of Tennessee. They are all doing well. Their daughter, who was born while Alireza was a student in our Program, was 21/2 years old at that time (November '07). He said she is talking a lot! I am sure she is a little doll and keeps them busy.

Alireza says he misses Nashville but he can't get over the growth here and the traffic congestion here now! We hope he comes by again some time and brings his daughter with him. It was a nice visit.

Rupa Gootam Rupa's "Big News for this Year"- She got married! We are so happy for her. Rupa married Jon DeLoach on Friday, May 23, 2008. They had a very beautiful ceremony at Granny White Church of Christ Church in Nashville with a reception following the wedding at the Church. Following that they had a lovely Indian Dinner across town at the Embassy Suites Hotel.

Rupa, of course made a beautiful bride. Rupa was stunning in her ivory beaded sari trimmed in red and gold. Rupa's Mother, Father and brothers were all in Nashville, as well as Jon's family too. The ceremony was modeled after both U.S. and Indian wedding customs. It was the most unusual and loveliest wedding I have ever been to. Jon and Rupa were all smiles the entire evening. I am so glad that we all went and got to be part of Jon and Rupa's wedding.

As far as the honeymoon goes, we haven't heard back from them as to where they went. It was a surprise for Rupa from Jon! I'm sure we will hear from Rupa soon. We will let you know next year about where they went.

Nancy Juma We learned from Osayi Ovbiosa-Akinbosoye at Rupa's wedding that Nancy gave birth to her second son. It seems like only yesterday that Nancy had her first son and brought him by the office. How time flies. Congratulations to Nancy and Alvin on the birth your new baby boy!

Chiratus Ratanamaneichat Chiratus wrote us on December 31, 2007, and wished all of us here a Happy New Year. She said she was celebrating New Year's with her brother and some of her friends. She went shopping that day with them in Beverly Hills. Sounds like fun! We hope 2008 has been a great year for you and your family!

Chiratus or “Meow” as she went by here, wrote us in February after she heard about the tornados in this area of Tennessee. Again, we were okay here in the Nashville area. It was counties north and northwest of Nashville that were hit really hard. Thank you for inquiring about our safety, Meow.

Meow has just finished her Ph.D. study and returned to Thailand. She said she was quite sad to leave this country after five years but she is very, very happy to see her family again. Congratulations Meow! Don’t forget us after you get home. Continue to keep in touch, okay.

Kurt Scheib We haven’t heard from Kurt too often this year even though he is just across the street at Peabody. He has called us a couple times though just to say hello. I am sure he is very busy with his studies. He did send us an update on his new e-mail address.

I am sure married life is going great for him. He e-mailed us some pictures from their wedding last summer. They were so good and of course Mary looked beautiful and Kurt looked too handsome and decked out for his wedding.

Arthur Shaw We were happy to see Arthur again this year at our Alumni Reception in Washington. He looked wonderful and I believe he enjoyed seeing all of us and particularly talking with our current students. I know our students enjoyed meeting our recent graduates who are now working in the D.C. area. Hopefully we will get to see Arthur again next year.

Honorata Sulila Honorata is another alumnus from this class now working in D.C. She continues to work at the Mozambique Embassy.

Honorata came to our D.C. Alumni Reception and it was wonderful to see her. She was all aglow, or in other words, was very happy. She is married and I have to say she is very much in love with her husband Charles, it showed all over her. He started his own church, in the D.C. area, so he is the Minister of a Church and Honorata is the “First Lady” of the church. Congratulations to the both of you on the beginning of your church! We wish both of you the very best in your marriage and with your church!

Next year we hope that we will get to see Honorata again and maybe if Charles is not too busy he can also come.

2004-2005

Gilseong Kang Gilseong wrote us last November with updated information about his position and address. Gilseong received a position with MOFE in the African Development Bank in Tunisia. He said it is a totally new job and

environment that he was trying to adapt to. I am sure by now he has the whole swing of things and has adapted well. Gilseong said his family would be joining him in December. We also sent him names, titles, and work addresses of GPED alumni who work at the AFDB. He was very grateful for their names. I am sure that by now he has met most of them. We are in hopes to hear from him again and how he is doing in Tunisia.

Hakan Karakoc We received a nice e-mail note from Hakan the end of last September. Hakan said he and Elcin are okay and working hard. Hakan has started Ph.D. study in Turkey. He completed his military service.

For his “Big News”, Elcin and Hakan are expecting a baby! Hakan didn’t say when the baby was due, but they do know it is going to be a boy! I am sure the baby is here by now but we haven’t heard back. Congratulations to Hakan and Elcin! Send us some pictures, please.

Mustafa Ozkarabuber We were very happy to see Mustafa here in our office the end of November or first of December. He finalized his thesis with Professor Maneschi. It was great seeing him. He looked healthy and happy. We hope Mustafa makes contact with us again in the near future.

In December Mustafa sent us a note and attached some pictures of himself after starting his army duty. He did not have hair anymore or at least very little! He said, “It was going to be very strange going in to compulsory military duty, not getting a salary, and loose contact with everyone for a long time and losing my hair too!” We hope all went well with Mustafa during his military experience. I think he should be through with it by now. Love to hear your stories from that part of your life, I am sure they would be very interesting! Write us when you can.

Iahli Patale Gabdibe We heard from Iahli two or three times in this last year. On top of that she made it here for a visit in October! We were so happy to see her.

Last August Iahli sent 2 wooden giraffes to Mouzon and me through one of our incoming students. That was so sweet of her, the giraffes are beautiful. I have mine at home in my dining room.

Then in October Iahli came for a visit to Nashville during her vacation. She had gone home to Chad and then came to Nashville. It was great having her here again and great that she wanted to come here to spend some of her vacation time with us.

As some of you know, Iahli is working with the UN in the Congo. She is an Associate Administrative and Finance Officer in the Office for the Coordination of Humanitarian Affairs (OCHA). This office works with local people and refugees,

international organizations, U.N. Military Forces (Peace Keeping Mission) and with Doctors without Borders. Way to go Iahli! This is a very impressive position you hold and we are so proud of you. They couldn't have a better person working for them in this position.

Iahli also sent us a lovely Season's Greetings e-card for the office. It was a beautiful snow scene. Thank you so much, Iahli for the lovely card. We hope 2008 has been a good year for you. Continue to keep in touch with us.

Maria Emma Santos The "Big News" we have heard about Maria this year is that she passed her Ph.D. defense on March 26, 2008. Professor James Foster was on the committee. Maria is now doing her Post-Doc at Oxford in England for one year. Professor Foster will also be there. Congratulations to Maria! We wish her the very best of luck with her future endeavors!

Chenyu Zhang Chenyu called our office on November 27, 2007. It was great to hear from her. She told us that she went home to China for her vacation from June through October, 2007. I am sure Chenyu's family was very happy to see her and have her home for a while.

Chenyu continues to work in Denver, Colorado. I can't remember the name of the company where she works. She really likes her job and has finally settled in and is content there. We are happy to hear that news.

She also sent us a cute Christmas card with Christmas and New Year's greetings. Chenyu also sent us a donation to the Worley Fund this year. Thank you, Chenyu that was so sweet of you. These donations help grow the Worley Fund and make it possible for us to increase the amount every few years.

We look forward the hearing from you, Chenyu. Write us again soon!

2005-2006

Hannah Acquah The "Big News" from Hannah is that she was chosen to be of the African T.V. version of the "Apprentice." It is taped in Logos, Nigeria. That is so exciting and cool. I think Hannah will make a wonderful candidate for that program. She could not make contact with anyone during the taping of the show, therefore we have not heard back from her. I am wondering how she did. I hope we will hear back from her and how it went. I am also wondering if that would be aired in the U.S. – I guess not, but I would love to see it!

Visakha Amarasekere Visakha wrote us in early February after hearing about the outbreaks of tornados in this region of the country. She was concerned about our welfare here at Vanderbilt and in Nashville. As I mentioned in earlier entries in this Newsletter that somehow the tornados did not touch down or hit Nashville. Tornados did hit in northern and north-western counties in Tennessee. Twelve people were killed in Tennessee and 26 altogether between, Kentucky, Arkansas and Tennessee. This was in one night. Thank you so much for concern for us. We would love to hear more about you Visakha, write us when you can!

Amir Ansari Amir wrote us in August, three months after he had left Vanderbilt. He said he will always think of Vanderbilt as the best time in his life and feels that all his classmates feel the same way too.

In January 2008, Amir wrote us to let us know that he is now doing Ph.D. study at Milano – “The New School for Ph.D. Study” in Milano, New York. When he wrote us the end of February he said everything was going fine and he was really enjoying the cold weather. We are sure that Amir will do just fine with his studies. We look forward to hearing more from him, if he can find the time!

Bradley Davidson Almost a year ago at this time Bradley came for a visit and we had lunch with him and a few others from his class who were still around. We had a great time and enjoyed hearing about the Non-Profit Organization he started.

In February 2008, he wrote us and told us his business was really taking off. The name of his organization is Empower Alabama, Inc. The purpose of Empower Alabama is reaching out to traditionally underrepresented communities such as the youth, women, and minorities. They have had huge responses to his plan, so the need is very real out there. We wish Bradley all the best with his organization! If you are interested in finding out more about this you can go to www.empoweralabama.org

Konstantin Egorov We received a nice e-mail note from Konstantin around the beginning of the year. He thanked us for sending him copies of his thesis. He said his family is very proud of his work and I am sure they are and should be.

He also wrote to thank us for the Newsletter and told us how much he enjoyed reading about his classmates and how they are doing. He said we were doing a good job and encouraged us to keep it up. Thanks, Konstantin, I guess we probably will, since it has been going out every year from almost the beginning of our Program.

Konstantin sent his best to Marie, Ararat, Lola and of course he wrote a note to Mouzon. That was very nice of him to send his greetings to all of us. We loved your note, Konstantin. Write us again soon but tell about what you are doing now.

Jie Gao Jie sent us an e-mail note in September. She was doing an internship here in Nashville with Venture Capital. She said she is happy to be in Nashville and

around old friends. We are glad to hear that she got an internship here in Nashville and maybe we will get to see her soon.

Xi Gao In December we received Christmas Greetings from Gao Xi. Thank you Gao Xi for thinking about us.

Gao Xi came for Commencement this May. It was great having him here! He is working at Credit Suisse, Equity Derivatives Product Control in North Carolina. He seems to like his work very much and he said it is very challenging. I am sure you are very good at this position. It was great seeing you. Congratulations on your Masters degree. Keep in touch!

Xia He Xia and her husband, Jisong, invited Mouzon and Sultan to the Chinese New Year's Celebration here at Vanderbilt. There was entertainment and lots of food. They said the party was wonderful. Mouzon and Sultan have been to several lunches and dinner with Xia and Jisong this year. They have a very close friendship.

Jane Karonga Jane is good about writing us and keeping us posted on how she is doing. She is doing well. She sends her love to everyone and misses us here. At Christmas she sent us a very nice card via e-mail. We hope that we will get to see her sometime in the very near future!

Hyoung-Jun Kim Hyoung-Jun wrote us in November. He said he is working hard to getting re-accustomed to his life in Seoul, after being a student here for two years. He stays very busy and he says when he gets overwhelmed with all his work he thinks back to his days here at Vanderbilt and he just smiles. Hyoung-Jun said life here at Vanderbilt was great.

When he returned to work, he met **Mr. Yang Cheon Sik's(Class of 1990-91)** who asked Hyoung-Jun if Mouzon is still here.

He also reported on the promotions of GPED alumni at the Import Export Bank of Korea. **Mr.Jung-Jun Kim(Class of 1985-86)** was promoted to Deputy President of Korea Eximbank. **Mr. Kii-Sub Nam (Class of 1993-94)** was promoted to Director General of Human Resources Department and **Mr. Cheon-Sik (Class of 1990-91)** is the Chairman& President of Eximbank.

Hyoung –Jun said he was getting ready to go on a business trip to Turkey, Kazakhstan and Ukraine. I think he was planning of seeing **Ferhat Topkaya and Kuat Ibrayev (both in this class)**. I hope he was able to contact them and see them. That is great that Mr. Kim is getting to travel to countries where he has classmates!

During the Holiday Season, Mr. Kim sent us greetings via e-mail and sent his best to all in the GPED. He also thanked us for his thesis and the Newsletter. We have not heard back from him since then. I know how busy all of you get when you return and get back into the work world. But, we hope that each of you will just take 5 or 10 minutes,

two of three times year to drop us a note on how you are doing. Thank you, Mr. Kim, for your nice letter and updates on GPED alumni at the Eximbank.

Mandla Mbatha Mandla is working here in Nashville and seems to be very happy. He is currently working for a research firm here in Nashville. He has not given us the name of the firm yet.

We see him or hear from him every now and then. In fact this week we took him to the bus station and he was going to visit some friends in North Carolina. We will keep you posted about what all he is doing in the next Newsletter.

Siu Meng Ng We were delighted to see Siu Meng when she returned to Vanderbilt for Commencement in May. She visited our office and she is doing great and is very happy. She is as cute as ever. She is working in Boston.

Ferhat Topkaya Ferhat wrote us last September. He said is so busy with his work and said that's all he has time for. Don't work too hard Ferhat!

He told us that Senam had surgery in July but is doing fine now. Glad to hear Senam is doing well now. Ferhat sent his best to all in the GPED. At Christmastime they sent us Holiday and New Year Greetings. It was great hearing from them and we hope 2008 has been a great one for them.

Althea Wilson Mouzon heard from Althea this past spring. She wrote, requesting a letter from her. I was disturbed to hear that she had not received the invitation to attend our D.C. reception this year. I am sure we sent her an invitation but I guess we did not have a correct address for her. We have now updated her address and you may find it in this year's address roster.

Althea is teaching in the Maryland area, I believe it is private high school. When she wrote us, she said their spring break was approaching and she could not wait. She said that is the nice thing about teaching, she gets breaks when the students get breaks. For this spring break her plans were to catch up on lost sleep! Hope you caught up on your sleep at that time?

Hopefully we will get to see Althea next year in D.C. Keep in touch. Send us any changes in your address!

Qing Wu Qing wrote us in late November and had been living in California for two months. She said that she missed us here in the GPED but does love El Cerrito, California very much. She said they are 5 miles north of Berkley. Qing said that life is much easier there than in Nashville. There are a lot of Chinese restaurants and they are only 5 minutes away from the largest Chinese supermarket in their town. Apparently there is a large Chinese population in your town! Duh – everyone knows there is a large Chinese population in California.

In November she had not found a job yet, but she had several interviews lined up. I am sure she is working now and she may have told us, but I didn't write it down, so I don't know. Hopefully we can contact her and find out where she is working and all soon.

In May Qing and her family came for Commencement. We were so happy to see Qing and meeting her family. It was a nice homecoming for them.

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Kerim Anuarov Kerim wrote us after he returned to Kazakhstan. He said he was back with his family and is now living in Aktobe, Kazakhstan, western part of the country. I am sure that Kerim's family is very happy that he is back at home. We hope to hear from Kerim again and hear about what position or where he is working in this next year. We wish him the best of luck.

Kirsten Funes Deras Kirsten, "Our little hostess, Coffee Maker, Tea Maker etc." has left here after her graduation in May. We miss her so much, not just the coffee making of course! She says she misses us too. I am sure she will get adjusted soon.

The good news from Kirsten is that she got a job in D.C. at the Pan American Health Organization (PAHO) and her job title is Assistant to the Procurement and Supply Management Department. She is very excited and enthusiastic about this new job. She said she has a lot to learn, as everyone does when they start in a new job. I am sure Kirsten will do just great at whatever she undertakes.

Kirsten had just left here when we received the news about her mom, **Teresa Deras (Class of 1990-91)** who was in a plane crash and survived with a relatively minor injury, but we were worried about Kirsten being in D.C. and how she would handle the news. I am sure she was in total shock at first, but by time we talked with her, about three days or so later (the weekend was in there), she was okay. We are all so thankful that it was not any worse for Teresa.

I am sure that we will continue to hear from Kirsten often and we will keep you updated on her in the next Newsletter too.

Aknur Jumatova Aknur wrote us in March after her return home. She sent her greetings to all of here in the GPED. She is in Astana, Kazakhstan and working in Kazyna Sustainable Development Fund, which is a government agency. She is a Senior Manager in Public Private Partnerships Department.

Aknur said that she sees **Rustam Dusbayev (Class of 1999-00)** occasionally. He works in the Administration of the Presidents Office. They talk about the university and the staff here in the GPED. Aknur said he remembers everything about Vanderbilt; the

street, professors, and details about the campus. She said he really loved it here in Nashville and misses it very much.

She said she misses Nashville too and really misses the campus and all of us. She said she had the greatest time in her life here. Thank you for all your sweet comments

On May 29, 2008 we heard from one of our current students that Aknur has accepted a position at the IFC (part of the World Bank). She will work as a financial analyst. Then a bit later Aknur called us from Washington, D.C., where she will be located. Congratulations on your job! I know Aknur must be very excited and happy about getting on at the World Bank. We are very proud of you, Aknur. Please keep in touch with us; we miss you here and your radiant smile and personality!

Mirzhan Karakulov Mirzhan wrote us on February 3rd. He wrote to ask how everyone in the GPED is doing. He said he is now living in Astana, Kazakhstan. He said the weather is pretty cold after spending one and half years here in Nashville. He is now working in the Kazakhstan National Holding for Management of State Assets “Samruk”. He is working in the Audit and Risk-Management Department as Senior Manager. Wow! That is great Mirzhan, congratulations on your new job! Sounds very impressive and quite an executive position too. I know you will do well and go far from here on out.

We heard from Mirzhan again in May. He wrote all his classmates to wish them the best for their Commencement Ceremony. Also he was wishing them the best in finding the jobs that they want and/or those who are seeking Ph.D. study get accepted to a school where they want to go. His letter was a very nice and thoughtful. We wish he could have been here for our Awards Dinner and all the Commencement activities. I am sure he was happy to be home with his family and all.

Mirzhan, write us from time to time to keep us posted on how you and your family are doing. Thanks for the nice notes you have sent us since you left here. We wish you the best in all you do!

JaeHyeon Kim JaeHyeon wrote us several times in this past year. He went back to Korea for a year. During this last year he was studying for a USCPA license. He said he felt like that would help strengthen his background in accounting to get ready for his Ph.D study.

At Thanksgiving he wrote to wish us all a Happy Thanksgiving, which was very sweet of him, especially since that is a U.S. holiday and not everyone thinks about it. Thank you for thinking of us at that time of year!

JaeHyeon will begin Ph.D. study at University of California Irvine this fall. We understand he is already in Irvine and getting settled in. We wish him the best in his studies. Keep in touch with us, JaeHyeon.

Nicky Mapa Nicky wrote us several times over this past year. He basically has been on the job market/vacation this past year. He was in New York, Maryland, D.C. areas. He did come back to Nashville for a few days in the fall. It was so nice to have him back here for a while. Nicky wrote us in late April congratulating his classmates on their graduation. He said he was sorry he could not be here for Commencement. At that time he was getting ready to return to Manila where he will be working at The World Bank. We hope to hear more from Nicky in this next year. We miss him here!

Tola Oni We are fortunate to have Tola still here with us. She has been incredible help to Mouzon and the office in general this whole past year. Tola helps Mouzon on a daily basis with keeping up with applications. This has gotten to be a year round job for Mouzon, one semester runs into the next and so on. Having Tola here has helped to lift a lot of these tasks off Mouzons shoulders or at least, making it a little more tolerable.

Tola is also on the job market and is hoping to get a permanent job soon. If fact she has an interview today. We wish her the best of luck. We will let you know the outcome. I am sure she will get a terrific job soon!

Indrani Ray Indrani stopped by to see us in early June. She received her work permit (OPT). She was continuing to look for a job. She was slowed down for a while, as she was ill. She is feeling much better now and is back on the job search. It was good to see Indrani. She and her husband, Achintya live here in Nashville. So I expect we will see and hear from Indrani from time to time.

Mekael Teshome Mekael wrote us in early April. He said he is doing well in Ethiopia. He had been back there for three months and said he had not caught up with all of his family yet. Mekael said there are too many of them in his family! Hey Mekael, I think that is great. Big families are nice to have around – with some distance that is!

Mekael started his internship at the Ethiopian Human Rights Council and also started teaching two introductory microeconomic courses at a private college in Addis Ababa. He said that so far it had been good. He said, “It is just a little weird going from student to teacher in a few short months.” He walks around campus with a black leather bag and his students, most of them older than he is, call him teacher. He said, “I must admit school is very different on this side of the fence. It’s good, but different.”

I am sure Mekael is a wonderful lecturer. We miss Mekael here in the office. Hopefully Mekael will continue to keep in touch with us. It was great hearing from him.

Doria Xu Doria contacted us on February 7, 2008. She had heard about the string of tornados that had hit Tennessee, Kentucky, and Arkansas the day before. She was very concerned about all of us here in Nashville. Actually, Nashville was very, very

lucky because the tornados avoided us. There were trees down and some minor damage here but that was it. Lafayette, Tennessee, which is north of Nashville, it was badly damaged by a tornado. There were some lives lost. Thank you, Doria, for your concern for us. Write us again soon and tell us more of what you are doing now!