

ALUMNI NEWSLETTER 2007

1957-58

Edgard Sevilla In late October we received a very nice letter from Edgard. He was writing mainly to let us know that he was unable to come to our 50th Anniversary Conference due to circumstances that were beyond his control. We hated to here that he could not attend, but we appreciated him writing us all the same.

He was glad to see that the Program that started 50 years ago continues vibrant and strong with so many accomplishments. Edgard said he has very fond memories of the faculty and the school during his years here at Vanderbilt. He saluted professors Stocking, Georgescu, Nicholls, Fels, Baldwin and many others, who contributed to so much of his knowledge and training in Economics. He said that the staff were very helpful in every way. Thank you Edgard for all of your compliments; we too are very happy that this Program does go on and hopefully will for another 50 years will go on!

We are sorry to say that we did not get to see Edgard this past year when we were in D. C. I suspect that maybe he was out of town at that time. Maybe next March we will get to see Edgard again; we hope so. Edgard was faithful as he has been every year in sending a donation to the Worley Fund. Looking forward to hearing from Edgard in this next year.

1959-60

Moshe Mandelbaum It was our pleasure and delight to get to meet Moshe this year at our 50th Anniversary Conference! Moshe is the Former Governor of the Central Bank of Israel. He and his lovely wife Sara came to our Conference and we had a wonderful visit with them. Moshe was presented the GPED Alumni Award for the alum coming from the earliest GPED class. It was so nice getting to know someone from one of the earliest classes, and he traveled all the way here from Israel!

Upon his return home Moshe wrote a very complimentary letter about how he enjoyed the Conference so much. I want to put this quote in that he put in his letter regarding the GPED. "I believe the GPED is unique in the academic world. It spreads the economic knowledge all over the world and all of us are united in deep appreciation and love to the department and the people that are running it in the last 50 years of operation. I am always amazed how much good is being done to so many students who

come from so many countries by so few wonderful and dedicated people.” We want to thank him for these beautiful comments. We get much more from all of you than you will ever know.

We heard later from Moshe that he might be able to visit us this year. We do hope he and his wife can return to Vanderbilt and Nashville for a longer visit.

1960-61

Mahfooz Ali We heard from Mahfooz Ali’s nephew right before this Newsletter went to press. Mahfooz’s nephew reported to us the sad news that Mahfooz died in April of this year. He died in Canada where he was living. After graduating from Vanderbilt, Mahfooz received his DBA from the University of California. We were so sorry to hear this sad news about Mahfooz. We all send our deepest sympathy to Mahfooz’s family and friends.

1961-62

U Hla Maung At the end of August last year we heard from U Hla telling us that he was in New York. He e-mailed Mouzon Siddiqi requesting phone numbers for our Director, Professor Tony Tang, and Mrs. Marilyn Whiteman Fels. We were happy to give him this information. We never did hear whether he got in touch with any of them. We hope that he was able to.

U Hla sent us a lovely Season’s Greetings card again this year. He put a note in the card telling us he did not receive our Newsletter and Roster in this past year. He continued to say that it was probably because he has a new address and he gave us his updated address, which is now in the new 2007 Alumni Address Roster.

Thanks for writing U Hla and giving us your updated address!

At the time of this writing, we have been following the news about Myanmar (Burma). We hope and pray for the Burmese People and for peace in your wonderful country.

Marianne A. Ziver Marianne wrote us with a correction in her address in late February 2007. Then, when we were in Washington, D.C. in March, Marianne came to our Reception. As always it was nice having her there with us and having her meet our students. We look forward to seeing Marianne next year too!

1962-63

Precioso Kuhonta Precioso attended our conference and we were delighted to have him and his lovely wife here. He is just a delightful person and we were so happy to finally meet him. He seemed to enjoy the whole conference and returning and visiting the campus and Nashville. Precioso is now retired. He was an Economist and Adviser for the Food and Agriculture Organization in the Philippines before his retirement. Thank you for coming, Precioso and keep in touch with us!

1963-64

Jose Maria Rosales We were delighted to meet Jose at our Conference. Jose works for the Salvadoran Institute for Industrial Development in El Salvador. He came for the whole Conference and attended all the events. It was so nice having him here and getting to know him! He also seemed to enjoy being, and meeting with his friends he knew while at Vanderbilt, and seeing the campus again and the changes here.

In December Jose wrote to wish us the best in 2007 and also congratulated us on the GPED 50th Anniversary Conference. Jose also published an article in a local newspaper in his hometown, and sent us a copy of the article. He was complementing and telling about the Conference here at Vanderbilt. It was a great article and we appreciate him sharing it with us. Thank you, Jose!

1964-65

Nilo Domingues Marilyn Whitman called our office one day and told us that she had seen Nilo and Maria Domingues on her travels to Brazil. They are doing well but Marilyn didn't have any details about what they are currently doing. I am sure they had a wonderful visit together.

Aly Ercelawn We heard from Aly once during this last year. It was a note telling us he was not able to get here for the 50th Anniversary Conference. Sorry he couldn't come but at least he let us know he was unable to attend. Aly, we hope you are well and that your work in Pakistan is going well.

Anis Salib Anis was here and participated in our 50th Anniversary Conference. As you probably already know, Anis is retired but, was a Professor of Economics at Alabama A&M University. It was a pleasure having him here for the entire Conference.

We heard from Anis several more times over this past year. He contacted us in early December to inform us, in case we hadn't heard, of the Nobel Prize celebrations that would be going on for **Mohammad Yunus (Class of 1965-66)**. We thank him for all the information he sent us. Then again in late April or early May we were contacting him and he was contacting us. We had the honor and pleasure of having **Mohammad Yunus** come to Vanderbilt and give the "Senior Talk", the day before Commencement. There were several events going on here at Vanderbilt that day for Mohammed Yunus and it was so great that Anis could be here for the occasion.

Anis is such a devoted supporter of the Worley Award Fund and again this year he sent us a donation to this Fund. We do appreciate his generosity so much! We do look forward to seeing Anis again this next year.

1965-66

Hernan Puentes Beverly Puentes wrote us for Hernan in October when we were anxiously trying to pin down those who were coming for our Conference so we could let the hotel know. She responded quickly as she sensed the urgency of the note and decided to write then and not wait for Hernan, as he was out playing tennis. We are so happy to hear that he is doing well and enjoys playing tennis. That is such a great sport!

Anyway, the Puentes could not come to our Conference. It was their 1st grandchild's 1st birthday and the party was going to be at their home on November 11th. There was no way they could miss that and I don't blame them. They said any other date would have been fine and they would have been here. I know that is true with them.

Beverly said they had just returned from a trip to the Shenandoah Valley and the leaves were just beautiful. I am sure they were during that time of year!

Flavio Rabelo Versiani In early October, Professor Maneschi received an e-mail note from Flavio saying he would be in Nashville and wanted to meet with Professor Maneschi and see the GPED office. Professor Maneschi wrote him back and said that we would be delighted to have him here. Flavio was here in Nashville for the BRASA conference and didn't have too much time to spend here at Vanderbilt. He came by our office on Friday, October 13th. We do appreciate him coming by and getting to meet him. Professor Maneschi did have Flavio to his home for dinner that evening. They had a wonderful evening together.

Muhammad Yunus Of course the “**Biggest News of the Year**” for all of us and especially for Muhammad Yunus was the winning of the Nobel Peace Prize on October 13, 2006! We were all so delighted and excited. We are all so proud of him and of course we have been expecting him to win this for a long time. 2006 was his year. Here in our office the phone was ringing off the hook, professors and students were dropping by our office to say how fantastic this was. We were calling people too, the e-mails started flowing into and out of the office. You would have thought that Yunus was right here. I have never seen so many people so happy and excited all at one time. Needless to say, everyone who knows him or knows of him can not think of a more deserving person for this Award.

To top things off for us here at Vanderbilt, Muhammad Yunus was invited to be the Senior Day Speaker, on May 9th, where he was presented the Nicholls – Chancellor's

Medal – a gold medal with a cash prize of \$100,000, the day before Commencement here at Vanderbilt. This was a very exciting time for us and it was such a great honor having him here so we could individually congratulate him. The GPED students and Econ faculty had a group picture with him and then they each had an individual picture made with him. That is something we can treasure forever! Yunus is so genuine and warm and a delight of an individual. He is so gracious he talks to you like he has known you forever. Very, very nice!

His talk was incredible! The seniors, their families, GPED students and faculty, University of the South students, MTSU students and VIP's were all present. Yunus' talk fit the occasion and you could not hear a sound from anyone listening to him. Everyone was spell-bound by every word of his talk. This is a day we will long remember here at Vanderbilt.

Congratulations again to Muhammad Yunus - - our pride and joy!

1966-67

Javier Gisbert Javier sent us a cute Christmas and New Year's greeting card this year. Included in the card was a note from him. Javier said they were very excited upon hearing the news of Muhammad Yunus receiving the Nobel Peace Prize. Javier and his wife, Bobbie Sue knew Yunus, when they were here. Yunus was working toward the Ph.D. when the Javier was studying in the GPED.

Javier told us that he was sorry he was not able to attend our Conference. It was so nice hearing from.

Raymond Martin We were so happy that we got to met Raymond in D.C. at our annual Alumni Reception. It was nice getting to know him and having him there with us. Raymond is Executive Director of Christian Connections for International Health in McLean, Virginia, just outside of D.C. We are hoping that we will get to see him on a yearly basis now!

Egas Moniz Nunes Did he come to the Conference????

1967--68

Ernesto Raul Seselovsky Ernesto e-mailed a couple of times last fall. Of course he was first writing about Muhammad Yunus' news and how he remembers him well. He said Yunus helped or probably was a T.A. for Professor Georgescu Roegen in one of the courses Ernesto was taking.

Ernesto also wrote to send his best for the 50th Anniversary Conference. He sent us his regrets for not being able to attend but he said he knows that it will be a big success.

He had news for us regarding **Yeda Rorato Crusius (Class of 1969-70)**. Ernesto wanted us to know that Yeda was elected Governor of the State of Rio Grande do Sul, in Brazil. Thank you Ernesto for that important news! Continue to keep in touch with us!

Ali Shamsavari Mr. Ali Shamsavari sent us a donation for the Worley Fund this year. Thank you for the contribution. We appreciate your generosity and keeping the Fund going!

1968-69

Kusum Ketkar It was a pleasure having Kusum here for our Anniversary Conference. Kusum presented a paper at our Conference entitled "Liberalization and Deregulation: Performance of Banks of India," which was well received by the audience! This paper was co-authored by her husband, **Suhas Ketkar (of this Class)**. I know she

enjoyed seeing everyone and remembering her days here at Vanderbilt. It certainly was a pleasure having her here!

The really “**BIG NEWS**” we have about Kusum is that she will be teaching here this academic year. We are so thrilled that she will be here and teaching our students. We will be able to give you more news on her by this time next year. Stay tuned!

Sahas Kethkar Over this past year, we have had the pleasure of having Suhas here at Vanderbilt and teaching economics for our students! He participated in all our activities and even rode the bus with us up to D.C., attended our Alumni Reception, and went to the IMF with us. I guess it brought back old times for him, only he was the professor now! This year will also be special for him, as well as for us when Kusum, Suhas’ wife, will be back here and teaching too. This we hope will be a grand year for them!

Of course Suhas was here and participated in our Conference. Suhas presented a paper at our Conference too, entitled, “Diaspora Bonds: Track Record and Potential.” Everyone received his paper with enthusiasm too! Good job, Suhas! I think he and Kusum enjoyed seeing so many of their friends, professors, and classmates here at the Conference. As I said in my remarks above, stay tuned and we will have more updates in next year’s Newsletter on The Ketkars!

Heh-Song Wang Heh-Song wrote us last September and told us he would not be able to attend our Conference as he was teaching at two universities and could not get away at that time.

Heh-Song did send us some news about himself. At this time he is serving as Advisor at the Ministry of Finance, in the Republic of China and teaching at the Graduate Institute of Finance at Fu-Jen Catholic University and Kainan University in Taiwan.

He told us about conferences he attended in 2006. In May 8 -10, 2006, he went on a retail banking study tour that was conducted by the Bankfin Consulting Pty Ltd. in Sydney, Australia. He represented the Asian Bankers Association. He attended the program, and coordinated the activities of the participants.

Heh-Song also participated in the 14th Annual Conference on Pacific Basin Finance, Economics, and Accounting in Taipei, Taiwan on July 14 -15, 2006. More than 300 government official, scholars, and bankers from the U.S., U.K, Australia, New Zealand, Hong Kong, Vietnam, China, and Taiwan attended the Conference. Heh-Song spoke at the Conference and his speech was divided into five parts: 1. Recent Economic Developments in China, 2. Financial Sector Reform, 3. Development Issues and Challenges, 4. the 11th Five-year Program, and 5. Economic Outlook and Forecasting.

Apparently his speech was well received. On October 2, 2006, the Asian Bankers Association (ABA) gave him recognition for contributing to the growth and development of the Association over the past 25 years and awarded Heh-Song with an Outstanding Service Medallion on the 25th Anniversary of the ABA in Taipei. Congratulations on winning this award!

We heard from Heh-Song again December 20th, 2006. He wished all of us here in the GPED a Merry Christmas and best wishes for the New Year. He also told us that the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University invited him to give a talk on "Taiwan and International Organizations: Achievements and Challenges" on November 28, 2006. His presentation was divided into four parts: the brief history of the ADB; the role played by Taipei; China in ADB; and the problems encountered by Taipei.

We heard from Heh-Song in August 2007. He told us that on July 20th and 21st, 2007 attended the 15th Annual Conference on Pacific Basin Finance, Economics, Accounting, and Management, held in Ho Chi Minh City, Vietnam. More than 210 scholars, economists, and banker from all over the world attended the conference. He was invited to Chair a Panel Session, "Asian Financial Market and Credit Risk Management." He also gave a talk entitled "Ten Years After the Asian Financial Crisis." The Asian Bankers Association will publish his speech in the Journal of Banking and Finance in January 2008.

In August 2007, the Commercial Press, Ltd. Taiwan published my book entitled, "Current Financial Issues and Policies," which is distributed in Taipei, Hong Kong and Shanghai. The book covers such topics as: banking sector issues and reform in Taiwan, Japan, and the People's Republic of China; as well as the impact on the world economy of the overvalued US dollar, and the financial and economic integration of the European Union.

Over the years 2002-2007 Heh-Song has written and published several books. It is his hope that these books will attract the attention of the general public and encourage active discussion on global and domestic financial issues.

This past summer Heh-Song, his wife Selma, his daughter Jean, his son-in-law Ken, and two grandchildren went to Alaska for a vacation together. They all had a wonderful time and enjoyed seeing a lot of Alaska; and the grandchildren especially enjoyed the dogsled ride. Heh-Song said the scenery was just beautiful. I am sure they had a wonderful trip!

Wow, Heh-Song! You have been a very busy person in the past two years. Congratulations on all your awards and presentations. Thank you so much for your very informative letter, Heh-Song! Maybe one year you could come back to Vanderbilt and give a talk here! We would love that! Thank you so much, I truly appreciated getting all of your updates!

1969-70

Yeda Borata Crucius When heard the “Big News” about Yeda Crucius when we heard from **Ernesto Raul Seselovsky (Class of 1967-68)** . Ernesto told us that Yeda Crucius was elected Governor of the State of Rio Grand do Sul, in Brazil! Congratulations!

Jorge Jatoba It was a pleasure having Jorge and his daughter, (who was born here while Jorge was studying at Vanderbilt) attending our 50th Anniversary Conference. Jorge was here for the whole conference and he also gave a paper entitled, “Labor Market Adjustment in Ecuador Under the Free Trade Agreement with the United States”. His paper was well received. Jorge’s current occupation is working at the Institute for Studies on Labor and Society in Brazil.

We were so happy that we got to meet Jorge and his daughter. We wish more of you could have been here for the occasion. Everyone who attended was very pleased with the whole conference.

Nuran Uras (Nuran Akyus) Nuran was one of the Turkish delegation who came to our Conference. We enjoyed meeting her so much. As I said earlier, all the Turkish Alumni who came were just a delight. We enjoyed meeting them and having them visit the office too. They were reminiscing about their days here at Vanderbilt and they enjoyed walking through the campus and driving around the campus and Nashville and seeing all the changes and enjoying the few places that haven’t changed. I believe Nuran loved every minute of her return here.

Nurcan’s husband, Gungor Uras wrote a very nice article regarding the Conference in the “Milliyet Daily Newspaper.” They sent us a copy immediately after returning to Turkey. We appreciate the publicity and your thoughtfulness in sending us a copy of the article. Again it was very nice having Nurcan and Gungor here for the Conference!

1970-71

Abdallah Bouhabib It was good hearing from Abdallah this year. He is now in Lebanon. He said he comes back and forth to the U.S. quite a bit as his children live here in New York and D.C. We hear a great deal about Lebanon in the news these days and hope and pray for stability in your lovely country.

When he wrote us in January 2007, he said he was making final arrangements to start a Think Tank in Lebanon. The name will be "Issam Fares Center for Lebanon." He said that Mr. Fares, who is starting the Think Tank with Abdallah is an important Lebanese philanthropist, businessman and a Statesman. Abdallah said he hopes to begin work there next spring. I don't know if he meant spring '07 or '08. We look forward to hearing how his project is going by next Newsletter.

In his e-mail to us he said how sorry he was to hear about the death of Frances Rich. He said, "She was a great person and helped us (newcomers to the U.S.) a lot, especially in our first year at Vandy." Those were very kind words and from all I knew of Frances she was a very wonderful person and loved all the students!

Abdallah's note also commented on not receiving information on the Worley Fund in the past year. So from this comment I guess he did not receive any mailings from us in the last year. I think Mouzon wrote to Abdallah and that is how he knew about Frances Rich. He did give us all his new addresses and contact information so this year he should receive everything.

It was great hearing from Abdallah and I am sure he will continue to keep in touch with us. We do miss seeing him when we go to D.C.!

Samir El Khouri Samir and his wife Maria attended our Conference in November. Samir is retired from the position as Chief, Middle East Division at the International Monetary Fund Institute. We were so happy that Samir and Maria could make this really special occasion. It was wonderful having them here and having them take part in all the festivities! We believe they had a wonderful time meeting many of their friends and colleagues here and visiting the campus and Nashville.

Samir is my lifesaver every year when I begin to make arrangements to visit the IMF during our D.C. trip. I don't know what I will ever do if he completely leaves the

IMF. He is my hero for all he does for us! He also makes arrangements for us to have lunch with him and other GPED alumni at the IMF when they are available and the speakers we have for our day. That is always so nice!

Samir also came to our Alumni Reception at our hotel; attends almost every year. The students surround him and have so many questions for him. They always love talking with him and I think it is mutual on his part too!

Every year, Samir and Maria make a donation to the Worley Fund. We are so grateful and appreciative. Thank you again this year for your continued support in everything you do for us. Samir is alum who truly keeps in touch and we love it!

Samir's and Maria's daughter Helen is an undergraduate at Vanderbilt. We have not seen her recently. We would love to have her drop by the office when she can.

Laura Khalo We were happy to hear from Laura. She was very sweet to write and let us know that she was unable to attend our Conference. She did wish Professor Maneschi and the whole department the best for the event. We really appreciated her responding as she did. Laura also sent us updates on her contact information, which you can find in this year's roster. Thank you, Laura for writing. We would love to hear more from you and what you are doing at this time. Write us when you can!

Antonio Licio Antonio dropped by our office one day. He was on his way to Kentucky to meet with a government official there. His visit was brief but we were very glad that he did get by the GPED. It was very nice meeting him. He gave us his updated contact information and you can find that in our Address Roster. Currently Antonio is an Economics Consultant with SINDIFUMO in Sao Paulo.

Tae-Ha Park In late December we received a very nice letter from Tae-Ha. He was very complimentary toward Professor Maneschi. He remembers his days here at Vanderbilt with great pride. Andrea taught Tae-Ha the course, "International Trade and Economic Development."

Tae-Hae said, "GPED and Vandy showed what a professor should be and what a professor should do. I have been grateful to GPED and Vandy people for their kindness and great help." Following that statement Tae-Ha told us he had enclosed a check for the Worley Fund. That was so generous and nice of him to do and we are very grateful for his contribution. He continues to help with his donations for the Worley Fund over the years since the Fund began several years ago.

Tae-Ha Park retired in August 2006 and since then has been teaching one course as a Professor Emeritus. He said he is enjoying a free lifestyle with his wife. That sounds very nice Tae-Ha. Congratulations on your retirement and wishing you many, many happy days ahead. Again, thank you for your generous contribution to the Worley Fund.

1972-73

Leonardo Cardemil We received a lovely note from Leonardo on April 11, 2007. Enclosed in the letter was a very generous donation to the Worley Fund. We do appreciate very much the continued support of the Worley Fund by Leonardo and his wife Flor.

Leonardo said he is enjoying his retirement very much. He is traveling a lot, including inside Chile, where he lives most of the time. He travels inside Chile to keep in touch with economic and political developments (mostly in Latin America) by participating in seminars in the U.S. and elsewhere.

Leonardo and Flor's family keeps growing. Their granddaughter is now one year old and is his oldest son, Esteben's child. Their youngest daughter, Cristina, is to marry this summer ('07). So they said they now balance their time between Chile and the U.S.

He said that he hopes to visit Vanderbilt some day and bring his children so they can see the beautiful campus of which he has such fond memories. Also, one of his children was born here at Vanderbilt Hospital. We hope that he will be able to visit us here; that would be great!

Befekadu Degefe Befekadu has 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.

Befekadu is a member of Parliament in the Coalition for Unity and Democracy Party, which is the opposition party in Ethiopia. He has been imprisoned with other scholars and humanitarians in Ethiopia, since November 2006. Amnesty International has declared them "prisoner of conscience."

We hope and pray that he has been freed by now. We do not know what the outcome is or will be. There has been a big push from Vanderbilt and through the Congress of the U.S. to get him and the other free. Keep him and all the scholars and humanitarians in this situation in your thoughts and prayers.

(The above was written about a month earlier.)

Our Prayers must have been answered! The "Big New" we have just received, on July 20th, 2007 is that we got confirmation that

Befekadu has been released from prison. This was the best news we have had in a long time! We are so happy and relieved! We wish Befekadu and his family the best!

1974-75

Gazi Ercel Gazi and his wife and daughter came to our Anniversary Conference. We were thrilled to meet them and have them here for this very special occasion! Gazi is the Former Governor of the Central Bank of Turkey.

They visited our office and we all enjoyed looking at the GPED group pictures when they were students here and reminiscing about the good times they had here. We pulled the Turkish alumni's theses off the shelf and they had a grand time reading from them. Not only did Gazi and his wife come but there were several other alums who joined them for the Conference. In fact, Turkey had the largest delegation attending. It was like having a party in the office.

Gazi presented a paper, entitled "Globalization and the Turkish Economy," which was very well received. When he returned to Turkey he wrote us and thanked us for our warm hospitality and how much he enjoyed the conference. It was just wonderful having the Gazi and his family here with us!

Yasmeen Mohiuddin and Mohammad Siddiqi Yasmeen and Muhammad here for our Anniversary Conference in November. They both enjoyed seeing everyone. They were here on Saturday only for the Conference, as Yasmeen was leaving the very next day for Halifax, Canada to attend the World Microcredit Summit.

Then, in May, when Mohammad Yunus came to Vanderbilt to give the Senior Day Talk, Yasmeen and Mohammad came to Vanderbilt for all the festivities. In fact, Yasmeen brought a group of her students with her for the talk. It was so nice having them here.

Yasmeen wrote us in mid-July asking if we have alumni in Greece. Mouzon wrote her back and gave her the names of three alums we have in Greece. Yasmeen and her daughter Nazia will travel this summer. I am sure they will have a wonderful time in Greece and they will also be traveling to India and Bangladesh. She will be seeing Mohammad Yunus in Bangladesh. We told her to give him our best and that everyone is still talking about the wonderful talk he gave here Senior Day. We look forward to hearing from Yasmeen every year after her summer trip and the adventures she has on them!

Also Yasmeen and Muhammad continue with their support of the Worley Fund. Thank you so much for your generous donation again this year to the Fund.

Roberto Moraes Roberto wrote us several times during early fall regarding the Anniversary Conference. He was trying his best to come but due to a problem of getting his visa he could not make it. I think his visa has just expired in 2006 and to get a new one he had to travel to Sao Paulo and then he found out it would be a year's wait until he could get an appointment. We were so sorry this happened. He was very disappointed! He had been looking forward to coming, as we were looking forward to having him here too.

Zekeriya Yildirim Zekeriya and his wife came all the way from Turkey for our Conference! Zekeriya is the Former President of the Central Bank of Turkey. It was so nice having the Yildirims here. It was like old home week for them when they arrived in the GPED! Several came together from Turkey for the occasion and we were as delighted as they were being here. It was fun looking up everyone's group pictures from when they were here and their M.A. Theses. They were a very delightful group. We hope that they will be able to travel back here some day and visit again.

1975-76

Shaukat Ali What do you want me to say about this guy? He wrote and tried to come here for a month but couldn't??? Let me know how you want me to write this one up!!!

1977-78

Ismail Adam Ismail Adams was another alum who came to our Anniversary Conference. It was so nice meeting him! He presented a paper at our Conference entitled, “Globalization: Policy Options – The Malaysian Experience”. Ismail is Director General of Public Service in the Public Services Department of Malaysia. We were very pleased to meet Ismail and happy that he could attend and present a paper too! While he was on campus he met with the many Malaysian students in the Engineering School. I am very sure all the students enjoyed meeting him and talking with him. We hope that he will be able to return to Vanderbilt again in the near future.

Munkun Cheong Munkun is currently the Director of the Economic Policy Research Department at Samsung Economic Research Institute in Korean. It was wonderful having him here for our 50th Anniversary Conference last November. It was also a pleasure for us to meet him. Munkun presented a paper at the Conference entitled, “Currency Crisis and the Korean Economy.” From our understanding it was an excellent paper! All who attended seemed to have a great time being back here among so many friends. Munkun, we hope you can return and visit us again some time in the near future!

While Munkun was at the Conference, he presented a check for \$3,000 for the Worley Fund on behalf of the Vanderbilt Korean Alumni Association. What a wonderful gift!

1978-79

Latifah Merican Cheong We learned this year that Latifah is now working at the World Bank in Washington, D.C. She is Program Director of the Financial Market Integrity, Financial and Private Sector Development Department. We contacted her about our visit to D.C. At the time she was going to be out of D.C. when we were going to be there. We were sorry that we did not get to see her or have a presentation from her. Maybe next year, Latifah!

Mazahir H. Hamadani It was a pleasure meeting Mahahir at our Conference this past year. He seemed to enjoy being back on campus and seeing the changes and enjoying the places that haven’t changed around here since he left here.

Mazahir sent us a very nice contribution to the Worley Fund again this year. Mazahir also sent us an updated address for, **Altaf Hussain Agral (Class of 1980-81)**. You may find his new address in this year's Alumni Address Roster. We appreciate getting updates on addresses and other information from any of you who may have updates for us. Thank you, Mazahir for this update and thank you very much for your generous contribution to the Worley Fund.

Tsidi Tsikata In this last year we heard from one of our current students, **Ismaila Jarju**, that Tsidi is currently working at the IMF. We wrote to Tsidi after hearing this news and he did write back and gave us his position and address at the IMF. He is a Deputy Division Chief in the African Department. Professor Maneschi wrote to Tsidi telling him of our annual visit to D.C. in hopes of seeing him there. I guess he was on a Mission as we did not get to see him as we had hoped. Maybe we will next year. It is nice getting updates on our alumni. Check for his updated address in this year's Roster.

1979-80

Ranga Murthy Ranga wrote us regarding the Anniversary Conference. He was not able to get away from his work at that time of year to come here. He continues to teach at Bucknell University. When we wrote us last fall he was teaching a new course, "Decision Sciences" in the Management Department. He said it is a lot of work, but a lot of fun too. That makes it nice if your work is hard yet fun! Sounds good, doesn't it!

He said that Vidja and Rohit are doing well. Rohit must be getting up there now. Ranga didn't say how old he is but I bet he must be close to high school age by now.

Ranga said he did run into Professors James Foster, Elton Hinshaw and Robert Driskill in January 2006, in Boston at the ASSA Meetings. I am sure that was nice for him to meet these professors from Vanderbilt.

Ranga also wrote upon hearing the news of the Nobel Peace Prize Mohammad Yunus received. As all of us were, Ranga was very excited and happy about this event!

Then during the Holidays, as always, Ranga, Vidja, and Rohit sent each of a sweet Holiday Greeting Card. Thank you, Ranga. We look forward to hearing more from you again this year.

1980-81

Carlos Mauro Benevides We were pleased that Carlos came to our Anniversary Conference Celebration. It was a pleasure meeting him. He enjoyed his return to Vanderbilt and seeing the old and the new here and visiting friends and colleagues. He is a Professor at the Graduate School of Economics at Federal University of Ceara in Brazil and is also State Senator of the State of Ceara, Brazil. We are happy that you came and hope that you continue to keep in touch with us here in the GPED!

Mazhar Islam We were happy to have Mazhar and his wife come up from Alabama for our Anniversary Conference. Mazhar is currently a professor at Alabama A&M University in Huntsville, Alabama. Not too far from here! Mazhar presented a paper entitled “The Role of FDI, R&D Expenditures, Financial Institutions, and International Trade on Economic Growth in Selected Developing Countries: An Empirical Analysis.” This was another well received paper. We were lucky to have so many really good speakers! It was delightful having them join us for the celebration!

We hope you will continue to keep in touch with us here in the GPED.

Eui-Jae Kim Eui-Jae wrote Professor Maneschi just to rekindle his friendship and congratulate him on being the Director of the GPED. Eui-Jae remembered when he was a student here that the Maneschis had the students over to their home for dinner. He has many fond memories of his days here at Vanderbilt.

He also told us that after leaving Vanderbilt he attended Harvard University. He then continued his studies at Saarland University in Germany where he received his Ph.D. Eui-Jae worked for the Korean government for 20 years. Now he is teaching Economics at a university in Korea. He did not say the name of the university. Maybe he will write us in this next year and tell us the name.

On the side, Eui-Jae is interested in literature and has written some literary works in English, as well as Korean. In the future he would like to write a play and poems in

English and have them published in the U.S. or Europe. Good luck Eui-Jae with your plans!

Jin-Tan Liu We want to thank Jin-Liu for his contribution to the Worley Fund this year. Hope to hear more news from Jin-Tan in this next year.

1981-82

Jose Garcia-Torres Jose wrote to Professor James Foster in December 2006 with his very sad news. His wife, Blanca Garcia has passed away. She had cancer and suddenly it advanced quickly. We were so sorry to hear this news from Jose. We send him our heartfelt sympathy, thoughts and prayers.

1982-83

Lourdes Coll Lourdes was coming to our Conference but at the end of October we heard back from Lourdes saying something impeded her trip and she could not make it. She was going to present a paper entitled, “Dollarization as a Financial Factor for a Monetary Crisis in Developing Economies”. We are so sorry that Lourdes could not come. We hope she will get a chance to visit us here sometime in the near future!

Erastus Bweria Erastus is another classmate of 1982-83 who wanted to come and tried to come to our Conference. Unfortunately, Erastus could not get a leave at that

time due to some operation his unit was required to undertake before the end of the year. His employer would not let anyone take leave time because of the project. We were so disappointed that he could not come, as he also was very disappointed. He was looking forward to seeing some of his classmates and professors again, after 23 years.

1983-84

Abel Kenyoru It was very nice having Abel here with us for our Anniversary/Conference/Celebration! We hope that he enjoyed being here as much as we enjoyed having him here. From all the feed-back from everyone who attended, we believe the Conference was a big success.

Abel wrote us upon his return to London thanking us for the wonderful welcome he received here. He said, "It was exciting to see Professor Maneschi after 22 years". He stopped in Dallas, Texas on his way back to visit his son, daughter-in-law, and grandson. He stayed with them for a couple of weeks before returning to London.

Abel is Principal Counselor and Deputy Ambassador at the Kenyan Embassy in London. When he wrote us he was in Geneva to meet his Vice President who came for a meeting at the UN Offices on Children's Rights..

In December 2006 Abel graduated with an MA degree in Diplomacy. He said it was very exciting. He hosted a party in his home in the evening and his boss, the Ambassador attended as the chief guest. Congratulations Abel on your most recent degree! Continue to keep us posted and all you do.

Mr. Suseno We heard word that Suseno received a promotion at Bank Indonesia. He is Director of the Research Department of Bank Indonesia. That is wonderful Suseno; congratulations! We are very proud of you. Please write us with more information about yourself and your family.

1984-85

Sun Jun Kwak Sun Jun was here as Visiting Scholar over this past year. It was a pleasure having him back here for a while. Since he was already here he got to attend the Conference. He thought the Conference was excellent and enjoyed seeing some alumni from different GPED classes. Everyone had a joyful time! I am sure we will here from Sun Jun from time to time.

Mario Luis Lee Pardo We heard from Mario this year. He e-mailed us requesting the Newsletter from us. He said he has not received one in two or three years or so. The reason is that we didn't have a current address for him. I am glad that he wrote to us and sent us his current address. Now he should be happy too and we can send him the Newsletter and Address Roster. Thank you, Mario, for getting in contact with us with your address! We hope that you enjoy reading the Newsletter.

Hyong-Boh Shim We heard from Hyong-Boh in early December. He was surfing the GPED website and found papers from our Conference. He seemed to be very pleased to find them and downloaded some of them and said they will be very helpful for him. Glad to hear this, Hyong-Boh!

Hyong-Boh is working as professor in the Human Resources Development Institute of the Bank of Korea. I sure the papers will be of good use to him since he is teaching now.

He said he always feels happy when he thinks about his days here at Vanderbilt. He has fond memories of Professor Worley and Marilyn Whiteman. Because of his experiences here at Vanderbilt and this Program he sent us a very generous check for the Worley Fund in Professor Worley's memory. Thank you again so much for your contribution and pleasant words about the Program here.

1985-86

Buthaina Shabani Buthaina sent us Christmas and New Year's Greeting this year via e-mail.

We heard from Buthaina again in February of this year. She had just recently started a new job. She is now a PR Manager at one of the leading schools in Jerusalem. Congratulations, Buthaina!

On March 3rd, Buthaina wrote us again and we were on our D.C. Field Trip. She said she hopes we enjoy our trip and that reminds her of her days here at Vanderbilt twenty years ago.

Please write us again in the near future. We always look forward to hearing from you. Thanks for keeping in touch with us.

Bonapas Onguglo Bonapas had planned to come to our Conference, in fact, he was going to present a paper here. At the last minute, his office requested him to represent them at the UNCTAD meeting in West Africa and the same time as our Conference. Of course he had to do what he had to do; work comes first! Anyway we were very disappointed. We looked forward to meeting Bonapas. Maybe some time in the future we will have the opportunity.

Boubacar S. Traore Boubacar wrote us in November right after the Conference was held. He sent his regrets that he could not attend and said he would have loved to have been here. Due to demands at his office he just could not get away. We would have loved to have seen him too. It seems that there is never a perfect time to suit everyone's schedule. We certainly understand that!

Then in December Boubacar sent the GPED Family a lovely post card from Sidi Bousaid, wishing us a happy Season's Greetings and the best for 2007. Thank you, Boubacar. Hope to hear from you again this year.

1986-87

Abdiweli Ali Abdiweli is a Professor of Economics at Niagara University. We were delighted to see him here at our Conference last November. Abdiweli seemed to enjoy being back here and seeing and meeting everyone. I am sure he had a great time being here too. We could just tell by looking at everyone's faces and their expressions and comments. Thank you so much, Abdiweli for taking part in our big event! Please come to see us again soon!

Khurshid Chauhan Khurshid wrote us at the end of last November. He had just seen our Newsletter through **Masood Ahmad (Class of 1977-78)**. When he saw

the Address Roster he noticed we did not have any address for him. So he decided to write us and give us his work address, which is wonderful. We now have him in the new Roster with his current address. He told us he had not received the Newsletter in several years; so now he can receive it and get updates on many. Khursid is currently Deputy Chief of the Planning and Development Division of the Pakistan Government. It was good to hear from Khursid! Hope to hear from him now more often!

Aminatta Jarra (N'janko N'jie) Omar-Sarr Aminatta wrote us to give us some updated information. First of all Aminatta told us that she lost her husband in August 2002. We were very sorry to hear this sad news. Since then Aminatta has remarried and has requested that we change her name or rather add her married name in the Roster, which we have done. She also gave us her work address too and new e-mail. Please check the roster for this information. Aminatta is Principal Program Coordinator in the Secretary General's Office of the African Development Bank. Thank you, Aminatta for the updates. We would love to have you visit sometime! Any chance of that?

Juan Jaramillo-Ortiz It was very nice having Juan here for our Anniversary Celebration. We enjoyed talking together and talking about the times while he was here. It was really enjoyable talking with the alumni who returned and the adventures they had while they were here. After Juan returned home he sent Mouzon a thank you note for the job well done for the Conference. His note was greatly appreciated. Thank you, Juan.

1987-88

Aryan Waruadalam Couldn't interpret your note!

1988-89

Ana Regina Andrade Ana Regina sent us a little write-up about her family for the Newsletter this year, which I truly appreciate her doing. She said that her daughter Gabriela (who attended several GPED classes with her when she was only four years old) graduated from college in December 2006, at University of North Carolina - Chapel Hill. Ana Regina said they are very proud of her hard work and dedication. Gabriela will take a year off to travel and work and plans to start graduate school in 2008.

Ana Regina reports that her youngest sister Joqui (who was living in Chicago, IL) moved with her husband Jaime to Jackson, TN, only two hours away from Nashville. On April 13, 2007 her beautiful niece, Elizabeth Marie was born. "She is absolutely a piece of heaven, life is getting better and better. Warm regards to all my classmates and friends, hope you all are having a plentiful life."

Ana Regina continues to be one of our Thesis Advisors and she has had more than a full load of students over this last year. She is very good and the students enjoy working under her guidance.

Ana Margoth Arevalo Ana came for our Anniversary Conference. It was so wonderful having her here. Ana is Adviser to the Superintendent of the Financial System of El Salvador. She wrote us upon her return home and told us how much she had enjoyed the Conference and seeing everyone. She also sent us pictures she had taken at the event. There were several alums here that were in her class or here at some point while she was here and they all got together and had a wonderful time. It was great having her here and she looks terrific! I believe Ana is the very first student I met when I started working here or in the Econ Office. **Teresa Deras (Class of 1990-91) and Ana Regina Andrade (Class of 1988-89)** also were the first ones. So it was a very pleasant time for me to see the three of them together again! We always look forward to hearing from Ana and hope to hear from her again soon!

1989-90

Dian Djani Dian wrote us at the end of September 2006. He was writing to give us his updated contact information which you can find in the 2007 Roster. He said that he has not received the Newsletter in recent years. When he wrote he had just been visiting in New York at the United Nations General Assembly. That is when he discovered that all his GPED mail had been sent to the Permanent Mission of Indonesia in New York. He has now returned to Indonesia. Currently he is the Director General for

ASEAN Affairs in the Department of Foreign Affairs of the Republic of Indonesia. He said before becoming Director General he was Director for Multilateral Trade, Industry, Director of Infra Regional Cooperation for Asia and the Pacific as well as Director for ASEAN Economic Affairs. So he said what he learned at Vanderbilt has been put to good use! He is happy to be in contact with us again and we feel the same.

Actually the very day we received this e-mail from Dian he also called our office from New York. He was flying back to Indonesia but just called to say hello. He said next trip to the U.S. he is going to try to make it to Nashville to visit the GPED. We hope that he makes the plans and we get to see him! Thank you, Dian, for all your information updates. We look forward to hearing from you soon or seeing you soon!

Teame Ghirmay Teame wrote us in early October 2006. He wrote us to let us know that he would not be able to attend our Conference due other obligations and commitments. Thanks for writing to let us know. We are sorry Teame couldn't make it. We would love to hear more from Teame to hear about what is has been doing in the last few years.

Youngjin Lee Youngjin wrote in early November 2006. He was requesting a copy of his transcript be sent to him, as he was changing jobs. Youngjin didn't tell us what his new job would be or where. He did tell us that for the last fifteen years he worked for Accenture, formerly Andersen Consulting and Samsung Group. Thanks for the update Youngjin. Write us more about your new position and what company.

Jose Luis Diaz Naranjo We heard from Jose this past year. We were checking e-mails to make sure we had correct ones on those alumni we had e-mail addresses on before we contact some of you regarding the Conference.

Mouzon Siddiqi heard from Jose again in June 2007. Jose wrote Mouzon to see how she was doing. He heard from **Teresa Deras (Class of 1990-91)** that Mouzon had surgery and was writing Mouzon to check on her. That was so kind of you, Jose. We would love to hear more from you and what you are doing at this time and about your family. Maybe by next Newsletter we will have heard more from Jose.

1990-91

Mehmet Aktas Mehmet sent the GPED New Years Greetings this year via e-mail. Thank you, Mehmet for thinking of us. We hope 2007 has been a good year for you and your family. We would love to hear more from you.

Teresa Deras This year we have heard from and seen Teresa on more than one occasion. We are fortunate enough to have her daughter, **Kirsten Deras Funes** in

the GPED Program. So we stay in continuous touch with Teresa through Kirsten if not from Teresa herself. We are thrilled to have Kirsten as one of our students. She is a real doll, very pleasant and very helpful around the office and to her fellow classmates.

Teresa's current position is Technical Coordinator for the CIPRES (Trade, Investment, and Competitiveness Program). I know she is very busy with this position!

Teresa came to our Conference and presented a paper entitled, "Study on Special Products and Trade Safeguard Mechanism for Honduras within the Doha Round Negotiations of the WTO." Her paper was very well received! Of course we loved having her here and she also contacted several alumni in regards to the Conference and prompted several to come and/or tried to get them to come. We appreciate all the hard work she did in promoting our Conference. She did get Ana Arevalo(Class of 1988-89) to come and Luis Gomez (Class of 1990-91) to come.

Teresa also called of course upon hearing about Mohammad Yunus' Nobel Peace Prize Award. Also she contacted us upon hearing of Yunus coming to Vanderbilt in May. She said she read every word of his talk to the Seniors here at Vanderbilt and said how much she enjoyed reading it.

Well, we will continue to keep in close contact with Teresa in this next year too. We will keep you updated on Teresa and her daughter Kirsten.

Gemunu Samarasiri Gemunu wrote us in mid-December 2006 wishing us a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He wished all of us hear the best and asked about Professor Kathryn Anderson, Professor Morley and others who had been with this Program. It was so nice hearing from him. He asked about Toshihiro Kato (Class of 1990-91) and asked if we have an e-mail address for him.

While Gemunu was in Thailand last year he met up with Kasama Roopkhajorn(Class of 1990-91). I think that is so nice when you get to see fellows from your GPED class or even others who have graduated from the GPED.

Currently Gemunu is working in the Department of the National Budget in Sri Lanka, as one of its Directors in charge of the budgetary work of the Human Resource Development Division. His son is now in the 10th grade in a government school close to Colombo. It won't be long now, until your son will be in college, Gemunu.

It was great hearing from Gemunu and getting all his news!

Mario Sangines We found an article that was posted in the Caribbean New News mentioning Mario Sangines. He is working with Lisa Bhansali, who is the World Bank's Senior Public Sector Management Specialist in Poverty Reduction and Economic Management for Latin America and the Caribbean. Mario is her counterpart and will be posted in the region on behalf of the World Bank focusing on improvements in public service systems. We were happy to hear some news on Mario!

Marcio Sierra We were happy that Marcio could join us for our Anniversary Conference! Marcio is an Economist in the Private Sector in Honduras. He formerly worked in the Ministry of Financial Affairs in Honduras.

Marcio and several alumni from this class and the class previous to this one got a large group together and had a wonderful time, from my understanding, partying together and enjoying the sights and sounds of Nashville in between all that was going on here on campus. So glad you could be here Marcio. Keep in touch!

Cheon-Sik Yang We heard news about Cheon-Sik from **Ki-Sub Nam (Class of 1993-94)**. Cheon-Sik was promoted or appointed to Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank of Korea. Congratulations, Cheon-Sik. Cheon-Sik and Ki-Sub told us that they often talk about their days here at Vanderbilt. Cheon-Sik told Ki-Sub that he would like to visit Vanderbilt in the near future if he gets a chance. We hope that he gets the chance and does come. We would love to see him. Cheon-Sik, we realize you must be a very busy person but we are in hopes that you will write us when you can. Here's hoping you come back for a visit! Bring Ki-Sub with you!

1991-92

Aster Rutibablira Adams Aster wrote us in October 2006 to let us know that he would not be able to attend our Conference. He sent his regrets and said that the same time as our Conference he was scheduled to participate in another conference being held in Miami, Florida. He said he was sorry he could not make ours and sent his greetings to Professors Anderson, Foster, and Maneschi.

Keat Yue Chin Chin sent us updated phone numbers for us on herself. Thanks for the updates. You may find them in this years Roster. Chin sent us this info on a beautiful Christmas post card and wished us the best for the Holiday Season in 2006. She also was writing to thank us for the Newsletter she had received earlier and she said she hopes our Anniversary Conference went well. It was good hearing from Chin. We only wish that she would write us a little more about herself for us to share with every one! Maybe she will write us in this upcoming year with some more information. We hope so!

Suwareh Darbo Darbo wrote us in mid-November, right after our Conference to tell us that he was getting ready to leave to go to D.C. where he will be attached for a

three month period at the IMF. He said he would call us when he gets to D.C., which he did. He called in mid-December to say hello. It was nice speaking with him. He told us at that time he would be leaving the first week in March to return home. That was disappointing, as we just missed seeing him on our D.C. Field Trip by a couple of days.

Darbo wrote us again in May, he was requesting a recommendation letter from Professor Maneschi. We took care of that and sent it on to him. He thanked us for the quick response. It was good hearing from Darbo a couple of times this year.

Swarnalatha Gunaratne We have heard really “Big News” for Swarna and Gune! They have a baby girl! She was just one month old when we heard the news last August, so she will be one year old just about now, which today is July 26, 2007. Congratulations Swarna and Gune!! We are so happy for you! Write us and tell us all about her. We would love to hear from you. By the way, we received this news from **Ranjani Weerasinghe (Class of 1992-93)**. We do appreciate any news we can get from our alums. We wish Swarna and Gune all the happiness in the world with their new “Bundle of joy!”

Alvaro Triqueros We heard from Alvaro and his wife, **Carolina Avalos (Class of 1994-95)** this year. They were hoping to come to our Conference but were unable to. Alvaro was hoping to present a paper, but he said he could not have it ready in time. We were looking forward to seeing them and so sorry they could not make it.

They had just received the Newsletter and told us how much they enjoyed reading about their classmates and friends. They also congratulated Mouzon and me (Marie) and our husbands on our cruise. Thank you, Alvaro and Carolina. We certainly did enjoy ourselves! I would love to go on another one someday.

It was good hearing from the two of you. We hope to hear from you again this year. I hope they tell us all about their work and their children!

1992-93

Luis Fernando Gomez Yea! Luis got here for our Conference. He really wasn't sure until last minute whether he could come or not. So it was a even greater surprise for us when we found out that he could attend. It was wonderful seeing him again. I believe he really enjoyed coming back here and seeing everyone. Luis is still in Honduras and doing very well. He is in the Exporting business in the Private Sector. He seems to be very happy and loves his family very much and he looks the same as when he

left here! It was sooooo nice having him here. We hope that he will drop us a line from time to time so we can keep up with him!
Thank you, Luis, for attending.

Young-Rok Lim This year we actually received a recommendation letter from Young-Rok for a prospective student for 2007. In fact, the student he recommended was accepted to our Program and is already here in Nashville. I did meet him shortly after he arrived, by the way, his name is **Jong Ho Yim**. We are always pleasantly surprised when we open a recommendation letter and it is coming from a GPED alum.

Young-Rok is currently Deputy Minister in the Ministry of Finance and Economy (MOFE), for the Republic of Korea.

It was good hearing from Young-Rok even if it was business. We would love to hear more from him regarding his family and all. Maybe if he reads this he may write us this year!

Metin Tosun What can I say about Metin! He is one of the best for keeping me posted on all he is doing by e-mailing me frequently. He sends me lovely pictures of art, places in Turkey and other beautiful places in the world, places I may never get to see in person but Metin brings them to me, which I deeply appreciate. We swap jokes and news back and forth. We have this wonderful communication relationship thanks to the age of “**computers.**” I wish more of my alums would keep in touch half as often as Metin does. He wins the prize with me for the #1 in keeping in touch!!

Metin wrote when Yunus won the Nobel Peace Prize. He also thanked us for last years Newsletter. Metin also seems to make connections with other classmates of his and other GPED friends. That is what the GPED connection is all about. There must be at least one or more GPED in almost every country in the world. So you go to another country, just look in your GPED Alumni Roster and I'll bet you will find a contact there. Just call or visit them. It always makes me feel good to know this Newsletter is read by so many. When we send out over 800 copies, it really, really makes us happy when we hear back! This is the main reason to keep your current mailing address updated with us, so you may hear from us.

Thanks again to Metin for all his communication with me. I always look forward to e-mails from my alums. Keep up the good work Metin.

Ranjani Weerasinghe Ranjani wrote us last August after we had stopped any more entries into last years Newsletter. In this note from her, she told us that her husband, “Weera” **Ranasinghe Weerasinghe (Class of 1993-94)**, retired from his office. He is now with a business outsourcing program, which is related to internet activities. He works out of their home. Their children, Dulani and Lakmini are studying toward a

computer engineering degree. Their youngest daughter is in the third grade. Rangani continues to work at the Public Debt Department of the Central Bank of Sri Lanka, as the Deputy Superintendent of Public Debt.

Ranjani also told us the news that **Swarnalatha Gunaratne (Class of 1991-92)** and her husband, Gune have a one month old baby girl! That is wonderful news! Thank you for letting us know this great news, Ranjani.

We heard from Ranjani again in October 2006, when she sent us a beautiful “slide-show” entitled, “Ten Things that Give Value to Your Life.” Overall it is our friendships and kindness that really matter in this world. It was just a great e-mail. Thanks so much Ranjani.

Ranjani sent us a very nice animated New Year’s card this year, wishing us the best for 2007. We hope 2007 has been a good year for Ranjani and her family too. Thank you Ranjani for keeping in touch with us!

1993-94

Ilhan Canli Ilhan came for our Conference. It was nice seeing him even if it was for a brief time. Ilhan is currently a Consultant for industrial companies in Turkey and Bulgaria.

His wife sent Mouzon and me some beautiful jewelry that she had made. It was beautiful! When Ilhan was a student his wife made us a student his wife made us a “Turkish Eye” which is on our wall in the office and also some jewelry.

Ki-Sub Nam Ki-Sub wrote us in mid-December of last year. His letter was full of news! When Ki-Sub returned to Korea from Vanderbilt, he was Head of the Public Relations Office at the Export-Import Bank. His duties included being a spokesman of the Bank; he was in charge of releasing news materials, planning and executing advertisement, issuing a monthly in-house magazine, and keeping good relationships with people from the press. He said this gave him a variety of experiences which would enrich his future business life.

In July 2006 Ki-Sub was promoted to Chief Secretary to the Chairman and President of the Bank. He also said the **Mr. Cheon-Sik Yang (Class of 1990-91)** was

appointed Chairman and President of the Export-Import Bank in September 2006. Ki-Sub said that they often talk about their days here at Vanderbilt and they hope to visit here again sometime in the near future. That would be very nice!

Ki-Sub told us that his family is doing well too. His wife, Hee-Kyung is a part-time lecturer at two different colleges and also working on a degree on-line. Soojin, Ki-Sub's eldest son, graduated from Harvard University in June 2006. He is now attending a graduate school in Paris, France studying for a degree in Political Science. His youngest son Sung-Hyun is now a freshman or I guess this year will be a sophomore at Boston University. Wow – your sons have grown up on us! Ki-Sub said he did not get the time to come to Nashville when Soojin graduated from Harvard and we understand that. Now that Sung-Hyun is at Boston University maybe you will get another chance or two to come back to the U.S. and maybe one of the times you could make it to Nashville. We would love to see you and your family!

At the end of his letter he wished us a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you. It was great hearing all your news. Thank you very much. Continue to keep us posted. We love hearing from our alumni!!

Tony Sumarlin I enjoyed hearing from Tony so much. It has been a long----- time since we have heard from him. Thanks to putting out a search for him last year, he responded with a very good, informative letter of all he is doing and has been doing in Indonesia. I do appreciate the time he took to contact us. He wrote us not only in August 2006, but again in June 2007. Here we go with everything he has been doing and is currently doing!

In August 2006, Tony said he was running his consulting firm called Global Consulting Company. It has two divisions: Outbrand (for branding consultancy) and Team Factor (for training activities). He is also a faculty member of the oldest business school in Indonesia, Prasetiya Mulya Business School (PMBS).

Being a faculty member, he had the privilege of being invited to give a seminar at the World Bank Forum, arranged by the Ministry of Finance. He was assigned as a moderator on one of the panels. In that forum he met **Fuad Rahmany (Vandy Ph.D) and Agung Widjojo (Class of 1992-93)**. Tony said Fuad is currently head of the Stock Exchange Commission and Directorate of Financial Institutions. Agung had recently been promoted to third echelon as a controller of Indonesia Financial Institutions.

Tony said he got involved with education in 2003 when PMBS asked him to assist Professor Agus Soehadi, Ph.D., in setting up a new undergraduate program of Entrepreneurship. He drafted the concept and it proved to be successful. The philosophy is driven toward the development of statesmanship and entrepreneurship of the students. He also introduced the concept of a mentoring system. A Mentor is a faculty member who possesses an extraordinary soft skill in people's development. He was then invited to become a Mentor and was on FM when the program opened in August 2005.

Tony also travels a lot for his work to remote areas of Indonesia. In support of economic development of a country, he is assisting politicians in forming the concept of welfare and micro entrepreneurship policies for the campaign of their regency elections. Since the election in 2005, two of his clients won the elections. His next assignment was to become a strategist for a governor candidate who is running in 2007 in West Kalimantan.

During his involvement in politics, he met **Sudarno Sumarto (Class of 1989-90)**, who is doing a lot of studies on Indonesia Poverty. Sudarno is also Tony's partner in brainstorming when it comes to rural development. Every time he meets with Sudarno he becomes more concerned about the output reach. He is very concerned with the level of poverty there and he is starting to do some small actions to encourage some people to create jobs.

In pursuing his strength of motivating people, Tony set up a radio talk show under the banner of Prasetiya Mulya Business School. The name of the program is SMART MENTORING. The program is directed to increasing the assistance of all listeners who are in search of entrepreneurial experiences. His ambition is to encourage more entrepreneurs in micro businesses to become bigger and sustainable.

With all this (above), as if this isn't enough, Tony also got into the entertainment business with a "Reality Show" entitled, "Kontak Jodoh" (Match Maker)! It was #1 in the ratings in Indonesia. This show helped ordinary people appear on TV and find new opportunities in the industry. He said 80% of former participants of the show are now beginning to appear on some TV ads, soap operas, and comedy.

Due to the success of the show, Tony and his wife Vera have begun another TV reality show. The program is about rekindling the first love of one's life. This show was to begin in September 2006. He said keep your fingers crossed. He said actually due to his busy schedule, he is dropping out of show business and leaving that for his wife. His wife is psychologist and that program fits her criteria better. Tony said he would rather spend his time spreading the gospel of entrepreneurship and statesmanship through education, politics and training.

We heard from Tony in June 2007 and here is what Tony is now doing. Since October 2006, he has been assigned to a State Owned Legal Entity as Finance Director. He is the first private citizen who is sitting in the second echelon in government offices. He is restructuring the portfolios of newly formed state owned institutions. His assignment is at Intitute Pertanian Bogor (IPB), Bogor Agriculture University.

He continues to teach at Prasetiya Mulya Business School (PMBS), the first business school in Indonesia. He is teaching a course called Creativity and Analytical Thinking, which he designed.

On Monday thru Thursday he is teaching at the IPB campus and on Fridays he is teaching 3 classes at PMBS.

He told us his son, Peter Amadeo Sumarlin is now four years old. He sent his best regards to Mouzon and Kathy Anderson too. Thank you very much Tony for the excellent summary of all you have been doing, at least in the past two years! This was very good coverage. Keep up all your good work! I wish I could have seen your TV show! It was great hearing from you.

1994-95

Carolina Avalos (Trigueros) Carolina said that she is still working in the social program Red Solidaria that is a rural intervention program and she has to coordinate with other institutions for its implementation. She said she just wrote a document synthesizing the program. She said she would send a copy for the GPED and the library.

Carolina works in the Technical Secretariat of the President's Office and they are starting, with support of Luxemburg and the UNDP, a poverty dialogue and studies of urban poverty. They are planning on inviting worldwide experts on these issues to El Salvador. Carolina was asking for contact information for Mohammad Yunus. I can't think of a better expert in this area than Mohammad Yunus, can you? It would be so wonderful if they can get him to go there and help them in this area. We wish you luck with this tremendous project.

Alvaro continues working at FUSADES (think tank) and does a lot of research on macroeconomic and fiscal issues. Carolina said all their children are studying. Andrea is in Buenos Aires in her first year of college, studying international relations. Rodrigo is in the 11th grade and has always been interested in history. Diego is beginning the 8th grade. I remember Diego when he was just a toddler, running around here. How time flies!

Thank you for writing Carolina. It was great hearing from the two of you and your family. Good luck in your UNDP project. Keep us posted.

Basuki Iskandar We heard that Basuki has received a promotion with Bank Indonesia. He is now General Director, the 1st in command under the Director; in the Post and Telecommunications Department. We would love to hear directly from Basuki. Congratulations Basuki on your promotion!

Suri Jayaratne We received a lovely Season's Greetings card from Suri this past year. It is a lovely picture of the Port of Colombo. This card was put out by the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. Thank you, Suri. Write us in this next year and tell us how and what you are doing these days. We would love to hear more from you!

Moon-Gyu Jeong Over the last year we have heard from Moon-Gyu a couple of times or so. He left the security company where he worked last year and started his own company which is a International Trading Company. He travels a great deal and has met and worked with **Teddy Sianturi (Class of 1994-95)** in Indonesia. Moon-Gyu deals with importing rubber and Coffee from Indonesia to Korea. Teddy has also visited Moon-Gyu in Korea too. Moon-Gyu also is going to Kazakhstan this summer; he wrote to ask for names of alumni in Kazakhstan. Where is your Roster Moon-Gyu? Anyway it is very nice that Moon-Gyu is traveling and working with fellow GPED graduates.

We heard from Moon-Gyu on June 19, 2007 and he had decided to go to Cambodia first before going to Kazakhstan. He also said he would be meeting with Teddy on June 30th in Korea at a conference in Seoul. I bet they never knew when they were students together here that they would be working closely together in future years. This is really great!

He reported that his family is doing well. His oldest son is studying at Beijing University. His second son is still at home with them. His wife is doing well. He asked Mouzon about Marie Kelley and Kathryn Anderson and sent his best to all.

Thanks for writing and calling. Continue to keep us posted on all you are doing and all you come in contact with, GPED alumni that is.

Teddy Sianturi As you just read above Teddy has worked with **Moon-Gyu Jeong (Class of 1994-95)** several times over this last year. Teddy has been to Korea a couple of times to meet with Moon-Gyu and Moon-Gyu has been to Indonesia several times. They are working in the International Trade area. I am sure the two of you have a great working and social relationship. I am so happy for the both of you.

Teddy wrote to Mouzon in September of 2006 and asked how everyone was doing. He especially asked about people he knew at Belmont United Methodist Church, (Mouzon's Church also) where he was a member while in Nashville. So Mouzon can keep him posted on the people he knew there.

It is always nice hearing from you Teddy. Write us more often and tell us about your family. Your children must be grown by now or close to it. Write and tell us more about yourself, work-wise and family-wise. We would love to know more!

Muthusamy Suppiah Mutu wrote us close to the end of last year and wished us a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. He said he received the Newsletter and enjoyed reading about his classmates and friends.

Mutu said he is with the Malaysian Economic Planning Unit in the environmental management section of the Prime Minister's Office. He said he does a lot of traveling but not too much to the U.S.

He did say that he visited in the U.S. December (2005). His son was in a program at Armand Hammer United World College in Montezuma, New Mexico. His son has been accepted at Princeton University with full financial aid beginning September 2007. Princeton is ranked #1 in the U.S. That is wonderful Mutu! Your son is obviously very smart! Maybe sometime you can come to Nashville for a visit. It was great hearing from Mutu. Keep in touch!

1995-96

Maria Eugenia Bonilla Chacin It was nice hearing from Maria Eugenia last October. She wrote us to say she would not be able to come for our Conference. She would not be in the U.S. at that time.

She also sent us her new mailing address in Chicago. Her husband, is teaching in Chicago. She said this means that she will not only be traveling to the countries where she is assigned but will be traveling also back and forth from Chicago and Washington, D.C. When she wrote us she was in Nigeria and would be there for the rest of the week. Eugenia said there lives are crazier than ever now.

Hang in there Eugenia! I am sure one day your life will slow up. It was great hearing from you. Write when you can.

Robert Mosko We got to see Robert this year for a change. He and his sister **Eugena Mosko (Class of 1998-99)** came to our Conference. It was wonderful seeing them, and having them attend the Conference was great! They haven't changed a bit; they looked the same as when they left here. Robert really seemed to enjoy being at the Conference and seeing fellow GPED friends. Yes, they are still working in Nashville but they stay very busy. They sent us a lovely Season's Greeting card this year. We hope that maybe we can see them more often.

Latest update on Robert: as of late August 2007, he has moved to Tampa, Florida. He has a really great job there. Robert got a big promotion in the company where works. Congratulations, Robert! Anyway it sounds very nice, just gettig to live in Tampa, Florida. I think that would be a very nice place to live and work!

Roberto Peneloza Roberto and Maria are back in Nashville. They are doing fine. Even though they are here in Nashville and Roberto is just on the Peabody Campus, we seldom get to see them I guess Roberto stays very busy. He calls us from time to time and that is good. He did e-mail us to let us know that they would not be in Nashville at the time of our Conference. In fact, Roberto was going to a Conference in Oregon, the same weekend as our Conference. We missed having them here. We will keep you posted on Roberto and Maria and update you yearly as they are here!

Nirmal Shiwakoti Nirmal wrote us in October 2006. He is back from Liberia where he completed an assignment with the UN . He said he feels proud of being part of the peace process for Liberia and its people. He said it was a great opportunity for him and a marvelous experience. Yet they are having their problems with peace in Nepal. He said peace talks are going on and he hopes that a good agreement can be reached.

He also said he has not received the Newsletter for the past two years. He did have a change in his mailing address, which he updated with us, so we hope he will receive this Newsletter. He sent his best to all of us here in the GPED.

Nirmal sent us Christmas and New Year's Greetings in December 2006.

Then, in April 2007, we heard from Nirmal again. In that letter he told us that his wife, Bafa and his children are all fine. Bafa is about to complete her Master's Degree in Rural Development. Congratulations to Bafa, a little ahead of time! Good hearing from Nirmal, thanks for the updates too.

Nirmal wrote us again in July 2007. He continues to work in the Ministry of Finance doing civil service work. Boys are doing well. Bafa is getting her master's in Rural Development. Sounds like all of you are doing well. Thank you again for your updates!

1996-97

Sujit Das Sujit came to our Conference and is wonderful having him here. He got to see many of the alums he knew while he was in our Program and while he was here getting his Ph.D. He wrote us after the Conference telling us how he felt the Conference was a big success!

Sujit also wrote us about a couple of his classmates from Bangladesh. Since they are from this class I will just note the info Sujit gave us under their names. Thank you, Sujit, for this newsy information.

Also Sujit told us his wife, Dolly, is back in school at Nashville State Community College and will graduate in December 2007. She is also working at Dillards Department Store here in the city. Their oldest son, Avi is at the University of Tennessee in Knoxville, Tennessee. Their youngest son, Antu is in the 7th grade here in Nashville. Thanks Sujit for keeping us updated with you, your family, and friends.

Razee Hasan Razee wrote us a note in October 2006. It was nice hearing from him after all these years and says he will write us more often now. First we heard the news about Razee from Sujit Das and then received the note from Razee . Both told us that he had received a promotion at Bangladesh Bank. He is now General Manager of a branch office of the Bank. He has 300 people working under him. The location of this branch is in Rahshahi, about 200 miles away from Dhaka, where his family still lives. He spends some holidays back home with them and some holidays they go to Rahshahi. He said he is so alone there! Poor Razee! His children are settled and in good schools there and he doesn't want to change that. His wife, of course, stays there with them and takes care of them. He has three children, his eldest is a daughter and she is in college and he said very bright. Then he also has two sons in school and they are doing very well too. Congratulations to Razee on your promotion! I hope some day soon you and your family can be together all the time.

He also wrote about how proud he and his country are about Mohammad Yunus winning the Nobel Peace Prize. I am very sure everyone from Bangladesh has to be very proud of him.

Razee asked about Mouzon's husband and how he is doing and he also asked about how I was doing. Mouzon wrote him back and answered those questions. We are all doing well here. Razee did tell us that he has some medical problems but seems to be doing better after taking many rounds of medications, he may still be on them, I am not sure. We are so sorry to hear this news from you, Razee and we do truly hope you are getting better. We will be thinking about you. Write us again when you can.

Ebtadul Islam Thanks to Sujit Das for passing along the word, we learned that Ebtadul received a promotion at Bangladesh Bank. Ebtadul is now General Manager in the Secretary's Department. Congratulations Ebtadul.

"Iskandar" Simorangkir Iskandar came to our Conference. It was very nice having him here. In fact, Iskandar presented a paper at our Conference entitled, "The Openness and Its Impact to Indonesian Economy." His paper was very well received. It was wonderful having him here and we believe he enjoyed it very much too.

Then, during the Holidays he sent Mouzon Christmas and New Year's greetings via an e-mail note. He also told us that his wife, Jane, and their daughters Dita and Cecil are all doing well. It was great having Iskandar here with us and we look forward to his keeping us posted on all he does. Thanks, Iskandar.

Anna Ivanova Well let's see, where shall we begin with Anna this year? She has a lot of "Good News" to share with everyone. First of all she got married last year to Akito! We are very happy for them! Anna's next "big news" is that they had a baby boy on May 16th 2007 and they named him Victor! Congratulations to Anna and Akito, we are so happy for you!

Also during the academic year 2006-07 we were delighted to have Anna's sister, Kate here at Vanderbilt. She was teaching in the Political Science Department, which is just downstairs from us. So we did get to see Kate often. She is a very delightful person, just like Anna, she left Vanderbilt for a position at Ohio State University. We will miss her this year!

In November, Anna, Akito, and Anna's mother came to Nashville to visit Kate. While they were here, they invited Mouzon and Sultan out for dinner. They had a wonderful visit and a fabulous meal at the Hermitage Hotel.

Anna also continues working at the IMF and we are hoping to see her next March if she is not out on a mission at that time. Anna, keep us posted on your next big news!

Musa Jawara Musa wrote us in early October of 2006. He was in Washington, D.C. and had been there since May 2006. He said shortly after he arrived in D.C. he was diagnosed with Diabetes but he was doing much better when he wrote to us. We are so glad to do that he is feeling better now.

He is engaged to Haddy Sarre, who lives in Atlanta, Georgia. He had plans for the two of them to come to our Conference but I guess something came up as they did not make it. I don't believe we heard back why. Maybe we will hear from him again this year and he will tell us what happened!

Musa called our office on July 24th and asked to speak with Professor Maneschi. Actually Professor Maneschi was out of office and just getting ready to return from his vacation abroad. Musa was getting ready to go to the West Indies for a month. He will be working on a project for the UNDP on Project Evaluation. Well, Musa knew who taught him that course and he made a bee-line to the phone to call Professor Maneschi. At this time, a few days later from his call, I don't think they have connected yet. We will let you hear more about Musa in the next Newsletter. Good luck, Musa.

K.M.M. Siriwardana We received a lovely and cute Christmas card from Siri, his wife Jayantha, and his children Himesh and Shehan this past Christmas. Thank you, Siri for thinking of us. We would love to hear more from you. Write us when you can.

Rohani bin Salleh After a long period of time we heard from Rohani. I finally contacted him in June of this year. He said he had e-mailed Mouzon and myself several times but he never heard from us. I don't know what happened to his e-mails but one finally got through to us and we were happy to hear from him. Actually, he e-mailed **Roberto Penalzoa(Class of 1995-96)**. Roberto telephoned me and told me how Rohani had been trying to contact us without success. So I wrote to Rohani and he wrote back. He was so happy to finally get in contact with us.

Rohani is currently working in Johor Bahru at the Public Complaint Bureau as a Johor State Director. This department is under the Prime Minister's Department. His job is related to solving problems facing the public during their dealing with the government department/agencies. He said his office is just a few minutes from Singapore. Johor Bahru is in the southern part of Malaysia and just 20 minutes to Singapore just across the causeway. He said that from his office, which is on the 21st floor he can see Singapore clearly. Sounds nice Rohani, I bet the view is gorgeous!

Rohani did say he hopes that he and his wife will get a chance to come to the U.S. in this next year and come to Nashville and visit the GPED. He didn't know yet when, but he did sound like that it is a real possibility. We would just love to have him here and to meet his wife also! Just let us know Rohani!

1997-98

Khalid Abdul Hamid Khalid sent us an e-mail primarily introducing a product he is selling. An herbal juice named INTRA. To find out about this product look at www.lifestyles.net. This was what the e-mail was about and no news about Khalid. Thank you, Khalid. Maybe next time you can tell us something about yourself!

Rosario Basay Rosario continues to work on the Peabody side of the Vandy campus. Rosario is teaching HOD 2260, Economics of Human Resources (Labor) policy oriented. Again we don't see her in our office very often but we do hear from her from time to time.

Rosario did come to our Conference and she enjoyed seeing so many she knows from when she was in our Program and since she has been here working on her Ph.D. she knows many more who went through our Program after she did. So it was like old family week for her. It was just great seeing so many get back together for a short while!

Rosario and I had something in common this Spring and early Summer. Her daughter, Alejandra and my grandson, Michael, played on the same Little League Baseball Team. So I got to see Rosario on the average of 2 to 3 times a week for almost a three month period. So this was nice and we could get caught up on news from each other. At one point during the season Rosario's parents were here and they came to one or two of the games also. It was nice seeing them here.

Rosario dropped Mouzon a note in July. The "Big News" in this note was about **Yiqian (Anne) Zhang (Class of 1998-99)**. Since I don't have other news on Anne I will put it in her section. Thanks Rosario for the updates!

Batbek Djumashev Well we were having high hopes that we were going to see Batbek and have him here with us for our Conference, but as it turned out he could not come. He found out he did not have enough time to get a visa to allow him to come so he had to cancel out. He had planned to present a paper. We were very disappointed that he could not come. Thanks for writing and trying to get here. I am sure he was disappointed too. Maybe you will get the opportunity to come here another time. We would sure love it if you can.

Dennis Hickey Dennis is another one who planned to come to our Conference. He contacted us and was planning on coming. We never heard from him again. We don't know what happened. We assume he is okay and that just something came up that prevented him from coming.

Seop Shim Seop wrote Mouzon this year with the news that he is on a training course this year and is far less busy. He said he likes having some idle time. I think all of us do!

His daughter Christine is a Junior or 3rd year in high school. She is studying for college entrance exams and the competition for these exams are beyond one's belief, Seop tells us. This is very stressful for her. Julie, their second daughter, made the top score in her school in English and Math.

He hopes Mouzon and Sultan can visit his family in Korea during Winter Break; but Mouzon hopes the Shims will come to Nashville! It would be great to have them here!

Kakhramon Husupov We see Kakhramon from time to time and he e-mails us regularly. He is working over at Vanderbilt's Center for Evaluation and Program Improvement on the Peabody campus. He helps tutor our students with their theses and offers tutorial programs in the computer lab. He stays so busy! He will be leaving us soon and returning to his family in Uzbekistan, after presenting his dissertation proposal. We are going to be so sad when he leaves. We won't know what to do without him! We will keep you posted.

1998-99

Ibrokhim Atamuratov We heard from Ibrokhim in this past year. I think this is the first that we have heard directly from him since he left here. It was very nice to have news from him. He sent his best to all of us here in the GPED and he promised to write us more frequently. We would like that. We would love to hear from you again Ibrokhim and have you tell us more such as what your position is now and where you are working. We heard you are married. Is that correct? Please send us more info about yourself in this next year.

Arman Kaskinbekov We hear from Arman from time to time sending us updates on his current addresses and /or e-mail changes. He told us he enjoyed receiving last year's Alumni Newsletter and Roster. We are glad to see that he enjoyed it. Arman is Acting General Director of KazEnergy Association.

Arman also had plans to attend our Conference, but due to his schedule he found out that he could not come here at that time. We are sorry that your plans to come were changed. We would have loved to have seen you!

Arman was one of the person's I wrote as I was finalizing this year's Address Roster. We seemed to have conflicting addresses and job titles for him. He wrote me back the very next day getting things straightened out so I have him at the right address and correct job! He is really good about sending us updates on his personal info. I want to thank Arman for his quick reply to me. He said he is also looking forward to get our annual Newsletter. Hoping we can get it in the mail quickly. Just a little more polishing to go!

Thank you, Arman, for writing us. Look forward to hearing more from you in the near future.

Nodira Karimova Nodira sent Mouzon and me a lovely Christmas and New Year's card this past Holiday Season. Thank you very much, Nodira. I hope that you can find time in this next year to write us and let us know some information about yourself.

Jong-Hun Kim Jong-Hun participated in our Conference last November. He chaired one of the Sessions and he also presented a paper entitled, "Investment and Financing Constraints around the Korean Financial Crisis." I am sure the paper was well received and that he had a large group attending his talk, as he was teaching here and he teaches our students.

Our **Sad News** for us regarding Jong-Hun is that he is leaving us! He has accepted a teaching position at Rose Hulmn Institute of Technology, in Terre Haute, Indiana. Rose Hulmn Institute is one of the nation's top undergraduate schools for engineering, science and mathematics. We are happy for him that he got this great offer; but, on the other hand, we will miss him here so very much. He has been wonderful with our students and they have all wanted to take the courses he was teaching. We will miss him stopping by to visit with us and having a cup of coffee with us. Jong-Hun has been here since he began our Program in 1998 and then continued PhD study here too, then teaching here. We will certainly miss Jong Hun and Narie (his wife). It was always so nice that having them here and they participated in every event we had. Hopefully they will find some time every year to come to Nashville and visit. They will be only four to five hours north of Nashville. We all wish Hong-Jun the best at Rose Hulomn Institute. Keep in touch, Jong-Hun!

Eugena Mosko We were so happy to see Eugena at our 50th Anniversary Conference in November. She and her brother **Robert Mosko (Class of 1995-96)** came together. We had the best time talking with them and enjoying their attendance there. Eugena looked great, as always. She continues working at the same place and stays very busy and travels a lot of the time. It was nice having both the Mosko's there to help celebrate and meet their classmates and other GPED alumni.

Also, we want to thank Eugena for her contribution to the Worley Fund this year. That was so kind and generous of you. I remember your day of being awarded the Worley Award and how surprised you were!

In late August of this year, Mouzon Siddiqi, ran into Eugena when she was out with new students buying things for their apartments. Eugena told Mouzon that her brother, **Robert Mosko (Class of 1995-96)** has moved from Nashville and is now working in Tampa, Florida. Robert received a promotion in his company but had to go to Tampa. Mouzon said Eugena was doing great and sent her best to everyone!

Baso Sangqu Baso wrote just trying to contact us. We wrote back and told him he had reached us and all is well here. Baso is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary, and Deputy Permanent Representative to the United Nations in New York. Wow! This is a very impressive position, Baso! Congratulations on this appointment! Please keep in touch.

Wiqian (Anne) Zhang ??????

1999-2000

Udeani Alawattage Udeani sent us a New Year's wish for prosperity in the New Year. Thank you, Udeani. We hope 2007 has been a great year for you and your family. Please write us with info about yourself and family.

Rustam Duspayer Rustam sent each of us and the GPED Family a cute Christmas and New Year's greeting card via e-mail this year. On the card he wrote that he was sorry he had not written much over this past year and keep up with us. We understand that often as everyone seems to be, we stay busy in our surroundings and sometimes don't take the time to write a note. I guess we all should just take a moment of our time to drop a line or two just to say hi when we can. We know you are thinking of us Rustam and we did appreciate our cards. Maybe we will get to hear more from you in this next year. We miss you here! We do keep up some with Rustam through our current student, Aknur Jumatova who works with Rustam in Kazakhstan.

Uloma Ihejiani We heard word from **Osayi Ovbiosa (Class of 2002-03)**, that Uloma gave birth to twins, a boy and a girl! Uloma has one daughter who must be 2 or 3 years old by now. Wow, you know Uloma has her hands full now! Congratulations to Uloma and her family! Write us if you ever find some spare time; that will be a challenge!

Hyo Duk Kim As I was finalizing this year's Address Roster, I e-mailed Hyo Duk and others who we had e-mails for but no mailing addresses. I had heard he may be living in the Nashville area. Well, to our surprise, the very next day he called our office and came by for a visit too! We were so happy to see him. This of course confirmed that he was actually here in the area. He and his family are living in Franklin, Tennessee, as most of you probably know is just about a 20 to 30 minute drive from campus. His family missed Nashville so much they decided to move here. We are so very happy about that! Hyo Duk is working in the Private Sector now. He wanted to take us to lunch that day but we were getting new students in and all and I guess you can remember how busy we were when each of you arrived here. So Hyo Duk said we would do lunch again sometime in September when things settled down here. We will keep you updated on Hyo Duk more often now!

Alexei Kokin Mouzon received a note from Alexei, Irina, and Valeria, wishing her a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. They said it has been five years since they left here and sometimes it feels like only yesterday. We hope they are all doing well and I bet Valeria is growing up so fast. We would love to have a updated picture of her. Write us soon!

Raushan Tulebayeva We received a lovely Christmas card from Raushan this past year. She wrote us a sweet note too. Thank you so much Raushan for thinking of us. We hope 2007 has been a good year for you!

Shams Umarov Shams wrote us in May '07 and said he is doing well. He has been working on different projects funded by the U.S. DOJ. Now he is back on the job market. We hope that he has found something really good by now. I am sure that he has. We hope to hear more from him and what his new job is in this next year. It was great hearing from him.

2000-2001

Abby Cordova Abby and her husband, Dominique came to our Conference also. This class "**Class of 2000-2001**", had the largest group to come to the Conference. They all had a great time reuniting. The hugs and smiles were incredible. We just loved every moment of seeing everyone! Abby of course is still here at Vanderbilt and fortunately I run into her from time to time and we get to have a little chat and catch-up

on things. The same is true of her husband Dominique. I either see one or the other, and sometimes I see both of them at the same time. Abby continues in her studies toward a Ph.D. in Political Science. We will continue to keep you posted on Abby.

Gillian Henderson As mentioned above Gillian was one from this wonderful class who came to our Conference. Their class was such a lively group and very close. Gillian looked great. She wore her hair straightened and that was different for us to see her that way, but it looked wonderful. She and **Aliya, Tatiana, Nataliya, Abby, Ebralie, and Ararat** were the strong hold for their class. Many pictures were taken of them. Gillian is currently working as a Credit Analyst at Bank of Tokyo-Mitsubishi UFJ, in the European Business Division, in London. We look forward to hearing from her in this upcoming year. Great having you here, Gillian!

When I heard from **Aliya Ishmukhamedova (of this class)** in July, she told us that Gillian had been promoted at her company. I am hoping to hear from Gillian to find out what the promotion was. Anyway whatever the promotion was, congratulations Gillian!

Also, as I mentioned in the write-up on Aliya, Gillian and Aliya met in Paris in March of this year and did Paris for a week. I know they had a fun time together!

Aliya Ishmukhamedova Aliya first wrote us in October after hearing about Mohammad Yunus' Nobel Peace Prize Award. She said, "I am so proud of the fact that he is also the GPED alumnus!"

We were very happy to have Aliya, her husband, Valdimir, and their son Alan at our Conference! Aliya's son is just precious - so cute. They brought him in our office the day before our Conference began. That gave us some quality time with them before everything started. They also brought him the first night to the reception. Aliya and her old roommate, **Gillian Henderson** were back together again for that weekend. It was grand having them here!

Aliya also sent us a delightful New Year's greeting card. It was so cute. Thank you, Aliya, for thinking of us and we hope 2007 has been a great year for you.

We heard from Aliya in July, after I had e-mailed her regarding her current mailing address. She wrote back and told me she really did have any news on any of her Kazakh friends but, she did meet **Gillian Henderson (of this class)**, in Paris this past Spring. She said they had a fantastic week together. I am sure they did! I can see Aliya and Gillian doing Paris together. I am sure they had a ball!!

Aliya mentioned that Gillian got a promotion at her job. She didn't say what it was. So we are hoping to hear this from Gillian herself!

Aliya said she is doing well and that their son Alan was with his grandparents and enjoying the Black Sea for the summer.

Thanks Aliya for your updates and again it was great having you and your family here for the Conference. Continue to keep in touch with us.

Tatiana Mihailovschi-Muntean Tatiana is very good about keeping in touch with us and we do love to hear from her. Tatiana, her husband Sasha, and their daughter Sabina all came to our Anniversary Conference. We were so thrilled to see all of them! This class, 2000-2001 had a great time getting back together. They all seemed to have a great time socializing together at the Conference and every chance in between! The Munteans brought us each a wonderful bottle of Russian wine. We drank ours (Kelley Family) at my birthday dinner. We all loved it! Very good Tatiana!

The very “**Big News**” from Tatiana is that she received her Ph.D. degree this year from Boston College. Congratulations are in order for you Tatiana! We are very proud of you, and had never questioned your chances of success! So since Tatiana was finishing in this last year she of course was also on the job market.

In May of this year Tatiana wrote us and told that she did receive a job offer which she has accepted. She is going to Trent University in Peterborough, Canada where she will be an Assistant Professor and will be teaching macro courses and financial courses. They do plan to live in Toronto. She will commute to Peterborough from Toronto.

She said that Sabina will be in the 11th grade and she will adjust well there. Tatiana said the schools are better in Toronto than in Peterborough. This is why they have chosen to live in Toronto.

Tatiana and family also sent the GPED a lovely card wishing us a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Again, it was great having Tatiana and her family here and we wish them the best in Canada. We hope they continue to keep in touch with us!

Ebralie Mukarusagara We were so happy that Ebralie could join us for the Conference. Although she lives in the Nashville area, she stays very busy and travels quite a bit so we don't get to see her like you might think. She continues working with an Outreach Program affiliated with the Presbyterian Church. So yes, it was a great pleasure having her here too and her classmates. Thanks Ebralie for making this special event!

Ebralie also made another donation to the Worley Fund again this year. Thank you so much Ebralie! You know what it means to a student, I remember the year you received your Award – seems like only yesterday.

I received a phone call from Ebralie in late August or early September. She called to say hello. She was at Vanderbilt Hospital and had been there for a week or so with one of her children. David, her 12 year old son had broken his elbow really badly playing basketball. She said that he had several surgeries on it but that they were getting ready to be discharged from the hospital in a couple of days. We were so sorry to hearing this news. We all hope that David will recover from this injury in the very near future!

Ararat Osipian Yes, Ararat is still here! In fact this summer he is camping out in our GPED Lounge every day. He is on the computer all day long. I think he is working on his dissertation. He should be getting ready to finish his Ph.D. very soon! We will keep you posted!

Of course we were very happy that he joined us for our Conference. He loved every moment of it. He love seeing his classmates again and chatting with them. This class was a very special group in many ways. I think Ararat enjoyed all the meals and refreshments, that's what someone told me.

It is nice having him around and he keeps us posted on so many of you from this class and even on some from previous classes and some on classes that followed this class. SO HE IS A VERY GOOD SOURCE OF NEWS UPDATES FOR US!

Peter Redvers-Lee HELP WITH PETER, PLEASE! CAN'T FIND MUCH.

Nataliya Bumyantseva In early September 2006 we heard from Nataliya via e-mail. She said she loved receiving the Newsletter and reading all the news on everyone. In this same e-mail she let us know that she would be attending the Conference. Again Nataliya is another one still here at Vanderbilt working on a Ph.D. degree. She is so busy we never get to see her. She stays on the Peabody side of campus.

Yes indeed, Nataliya came to our conference and this same class had a great time from all indications of just being together again and sharing their lives since leaving and future plans too, I am sure. It was great having Nataliya joining us!

Emiliana Bweyemamu Emiliana sent us Christmas and New Years greetings via e-mail. She sent us a very nice note.

Then Emiliana wrote us again in January. She was in Rome visiting her husband, Wilfred. She was getting ready to end her vacation there and return to Tanzania. She said Wilfred was doing fine and happy to have her with him during the Holidays. I am sure!

Emiliana continues to work in the Central Bank in Tanzania.

She said she had just received our Newsletter, she said the mail to them comes very slowly there. She sent her best to everyone and her prayers and thoughts to Sultan Siddiqi, Mouzon's husband (the last time she corresponded was when Sultan was recovering from heart surgery and a stroke about 3 years ago). We appreciated the kind words from Emiliana. Thank you for writing, Emiliana. Continue to keep us posted.

Kurt Scheib Well let's see where to start with Kurt! He has lots of “**Big News**” for everyone. A lot going on with him at this time! #1. He is getting married! His fiancé is Mary Armstrong. They will be married in July (07). They will marry in Lafayette, Indiana, Mary's hometown. Scott Fritz, a friend of Kurt's from the Vanderbilt Divinity School will perform the wedding ceremony. The weekend following the wedding they will go to Pennsylvania for a reception there in Kurt's hometown. Following that, they plan a honeymoon in the Smoky Mountains of East Tennessee!

#2. Kurt is going back to school! He says, “...apparently, I haven't had enough school yet!” He is returning to Nashville to Vanderbilt University's Peabody College of Education to pursue a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Policy. Most of his research will be in the area of K-12 education finance and economics.

#3. Since Kurt and Mary will be here for 4 or 5 years, they decided to buy a home here in Nashville. So they did buy a home and have already moved their furniture in and all! Actually, they bought their home through my husband, Pat. So this enabled me to meet Mary and to see Kurt! Mary is so sweet. I can see why she and Kurt are a perfect match. By the way Mary is also a marathon runner. The first time I met her was when she came to Nashville for the Music City Marathon. She ran the whole 26 miles, at least I think it is 26 miles. I am not sure what position (number) she came in. That really doesn't matter; the fact is, that she can do it. I understand she was pretty sore that afternoon when they rode all over Nashville looking at homes! I don't know how she was up for that!

So, in the past 4 months, Kurt become engaged, was accepted for Ph.D. study, bought a house and got married! Wow! Congratulations to Kurt in all of these fantastic events in your life!! We are all so happy for you and glad to have you back in Nashville. We look forward to getting to see you occasionally!

Honorata Sulila ???

2001-2002

Assel Baimukhanova Assel wrote us in April of this year. She and Yerlan are now living in Astana City. She works at Deloitte as a Consultant in the Tax and Legal Department and Yerlan is in the Investment Projects Department of the Development Fund of Kazakhstan. This Fund is in charge of development institutes of Kazakhstan.

Assel said their son, Kasym, is growing up. He is very interested in dinosaurs and knows almost all of them. Funny how little boys just love dinosaurs. We would love to see a picture of him.

They are doing well and sent hellos to Professor Maneschi and James Foster. It was nice hearing from Assel and Yerlan

Erbol Kopbaev Good hearing from Erbol this year! Erbol wrote us in March. He has browsing the University web-site. He said he was pleasantly surprised when he read that Mohammad Yunus had been in the GPED. I guess he did not know before then. He said it made him feel very proud! Of course we are all very proud of that fact!

When Erbol left Vandy and went home he first worked at the Kazakhstan Development Bank and the Center for Marketing and Analytical Research. Currently he is working at an investment company in Almaty.

A couple days after receiving the above e-mail from him, he telephoned our office. It was great talking with him. Erbol told us that his wife Dalida is studying at Cornell. While Dalida is in the U.S. Erbol has their daughter, who is four years old, with him in Kazakhstan. He is working but at nights and weekends he is home with their child. I guess turn about is fair play, as they say! I am sure Erbol makes a great mom & dad combination. Thanks for keeping in touch, Erbol.

Erbol was one of the alumni I wrote as I was finalizing the Address Roster for this year. We had his e-mail but not a good mailing address. I couldn't find his e-mail address at that moment but found Dalida's phone number in New York. I called and got voice mail and left her the message. The very next day Erbol called us in response to my message to Dalida. It was so good to hear his voice. He said he was doing great and so he went ahead and e-mailed me his address and phone number and all. We e-mailed back and forth to get everything straight. He said he is looking forward to getting our Newsletter. Hopefully we will be sending it out by early October if not before! Thank you, Erbol for your quick response to my request!

Darius Coulibaly We were thrilled to death to have Darius here for our Anniversary Conference! He was charming as always -- and just the same as ever. We were glad to see him looking so healthy and to learn that he had completely recovered after his bout with Malaria.

He is hoping when his company has grown more to be able to have an intern from our Program every summer. That would be just wonderful. I am sure that we will always stay in touch with Darius and he will do the same with us. Keep us posted, Darius. It was great seeing you!

Carmen Herea Carmen sent each of us a lovely Christmas and New Year's greeting card this year via e-mail. Thank you, Carmen; you were so sweet to remember us especially at that time of year. We hope Carmen is doing well and maybe we will get some newsy info from her in this next year. How about it Carmen?

Nazym Zhaksybekova Mouzon received a very complimentary note from Nazym over this last year. She said it has been three years since leaving Vanderbilt and Nashville and she said she still misses Mouzon! I am sure many feel this way, if not all. Mouzon **is very special** to all who pass through our Program. That was very nice of you Nazym to write the special note to Mouzon. Perhaps you could drop us a note and let us know what you are doing!

2002-03

Ali Almutawa We heard from Ali a couple time this year. He is currently teaching in a business college. He is also thinking about applying for Ph.D. study. He was writing us to get some ideas on good places to apply to here in the United States. In particular he wanted recommendations for suitable programs from the professors here. We look forward to hearing from him again and hearing where he goes for his Ph.D.

Raja Azhan Shah Raja was very kind to send each of us a Season's Greetings card this year. He wished us the best for 2007 and good health and all. Thank you very much for the beautiful card. We would love to get a note from you telling how you and your family are doing and about your current occupation. Please drop us a not Raja.

Ernesto Fernandez Ernesto wrote us in early November and apologized to us for not writing us last year. He said that he was so busy at his work time just got away from him. Ernesto said he was challenged by the work at Bank of Mexico-FIRA in order to open a new working area of the Central Bank, which was named the Direction of Economic Analysis. In October he was appointed as Director of this new area. So I am sure that Ernesto was very busy. Congratulations Ernesto on getting this new and challenging position. I know you are really great in this appointment.

He said his wife Alejandra is doing excellent and he gives thanks to God for her. That is so sweet and I know he means it too! His daughters, Alejandra and Andrea are

getting so big. I guess he means growing up so fast. They probably are not getting big in sense of getting BIG, right! Just growing.

Ernesto sends his best regards to all in the GPED and all he knew while he was here. He says he misses us here and the classes too. I guess maybe work is harder than the classes. Anyway we miss Ernesto and his family too and look forward to him writing us again.

Julia Govorova It was nice hearing from Julia this year. She sent Mouzon a birthday card via e-mail and also a separate e-mail note. She said she was so excited the other day when she heard the news about Muhammad Yunus. She said they had just recently published an article in their local newspaper about Yunus.

Julia said she continues working in the microfinance area in her country. In September 2006 she attended an Annual Asian Credit Union Forum in Sri Lanka and represented the youth for the Board of Directors in ACCU.

She also said she congratulates the GPED for their 50 years and wished that she could be here. Thank you, Julia for such a nice note. Write us again soon.

Jae-Moon Hong Jae-Moon wrote a recommendation letter for a prospective Korean student for Fall 2008. It is always such a nice surprise when we open a recommendation letter and it is from an alumnus! We do appreciate all the alumni who have recommended us to their friends and colleagues!

So from the letter we see that Jae-Moon is Director of the Financial Hub Planning Division in the Ministry of Finance and Economy of the Republic of Korea. We would love to hear about you and your family, Jae-Moon. Drop us a note, even if it is brief.

Serguei Majoutko and Natasha Useinova Serguei and Natasha sent us a lovely Christmas card via e-mail this year. Thank you so much for thinking of us. It was so sweet of you. It was also from Losha too. We would love to get a note from the two of you!

Alexander Maisuradze We received a lovely Christmas card via regular mail, for a change, from Alex last Christmas. Thank you, Alex. Drop us a note some time and let us hear how you are doing and what you are doing.

Nadir Mardonov Nodir stopped by our office last year, November 27, 2006. He was in the area and just dropped by to say hello. It was nice seeing him. Nadir continues to work at US Bank but he is now located in Bellevue -- a suburb of Nashville. He was located in Franklin, Tennessee, which is about thirty miles south of Nashville. Now he is even closer to us. We still don't see him often but at least he is close by. He is Assistant Manager of the Bellevue branch of US Bank

Anuar Mukanov We heard from one of our current students, **Assel Abdrakhmanova**, who went home to Kazakhstan for the summer, that Anuar is a Manager in Tax Consulting at Deloitte. We would love to hear from Anuar directly. Anuar, how about you writing us? Please, pretty please! Okay, we just hope to hear from Anuar!

Osayi Orbiosa Akinbosoye Osayi has really “Big News” to share with us! Osayi and Akin are having a baby! They found out in May that they are having a baby boy and they have already given him the name of David. They are very, very happy about this new little life given to them! We can’t wait for him to be born! We will give a lot more details about little David a year from now. Congratulations to Osayi and Akin!

Osayi continues her Ph.D. study. She may have to break for a while when David gets here. She also continues to edit of our students’ M.A. theses for us. So we get to see Osayi regularly. She is a great editor, not only good but fast too – probably the best editor we have ever had!

So we are happy to announce that Osayi’s baby, David, was born on September 10th. (Right before we sent the Newsletter “to press”.) He is so cute and she is back in the office already. Congratulations to Osayi and Akin on their “Bundle of Joy!”

Daniyar Salimbayev The only word we have heard about Daniyar is at least some “Big News”. **Dossim Saukimov (of this Class)** wrote and told us that Daniyar is now married and has been for around a year from when Dossim wrote in (January 2007). Congratulations to Daniyar. Write us, Daniyar, and tell us about your new wife and where you are working.

Dossim Saukimov It was nice hearing from Dossim this year. He wrote us in early January and wished us a Happy Year. He is currently living in Almaty. He said they had a baby boy born in April 2006 and his daughter has now started school.

Dossim also said that he sees his friend Rustam Tairov, who was at OWEN School when he was here. He also informed us that he sees **Daniyar Salimbayev (of this Class)**. He said that Daniyar got married about a year ago and now lives in Astana. Dossim said Daniyar and his wife are doing well.

Dossim also wrote asking for a recommendation letter. He was changing jobs to a foreign bank and needed a recommendation letter from here. I understand he did get the job but I am not sure the name of the bank he went with. Maybe I can get this information by the next Newsletter. It was great hearing from Dossim!

Adriano Ubisse We heard from Adriano in early October, wishing us luck and congratulations on our 50th Anniversary. Thank you, Adriano. He was also asking about another copy of his thesis. So we sent him a copy since we had it here on a diskette. So that was about the sum of his letter. It was good hearing from him and hope to hear more from him in this next year.

2003-04

Hoja Atahgaev Hoja has “Big New” for us and especially for him. He has a new baby girl. He sent us some pictures of her and she looks so sweet. They named her Merjan, which means pearl. Hoja is very proud of his new baby girl! His first daughter looks just like Hoja, at least in my opinion and Mouzon’s too.

He told us that he is a Financial Director of a freight forwarding company. He said his heart lies in the field of economics, but he could not find a good job in that area at this time. I am sure that he will find a really great economics job in his near future.

He also said how proud he was of Muhammad Yunus winning the Nobel Peace Prize and how he remembers him when he was at Vanderbilt for the Most Distinguished Alumnus Award. Hoja said he has many pictures of him taken here.

Thanks for writing Hoja. Keep us posted and yourself and family.

Mher Baghranyan Mher wrote us in early January wishing us a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year.

Mher is a Senior Researcher at Armenian International Policy Research Group. He said he was working very hard and they were getting ready for a Conference to be held January 13-14, 2007. The Conference was “The Economic and Social Consequences of Opening the Armenia-Turkey Border.” Mher said he had been very worried about this border closure and hoping something would change in the near future. I don’t know the outcome of this. Maybe Mher can clue us in.

Mher was also hoping to come to our Conference and tried his best, but was unable too. We were so sad hearing this. I think he was going to present the thesis that he wrote while in our Program. It would have been perfect for our theme of Globalization.

It was great hearing from Mher and we hope to hear from him again this year.

Manfredo Chocano It was nice to hear from Manfredo, the day before our deadline to cut off info for the Newsletter for this year. He made it, just under the wire! After his return to Guatemala he worked at a Fiscal Research Center. He told us he is working with the Tax Administration of Guatemala since February of 2006. He is Manager for Planning and Institutional Development for Superintendencia de Administracion Tributaria (SAT), a very strategic position working closely with the Superintendent.

Manfredo said that his wife, Claudia has been working since 2005 for an Advertising Agency. Their daughter, Mariana, is attending an American school whose teachers come from the US and don't speak too much Spanish! Manfredo said this is good for Mariana's English. She will be speaking it better than he will, says Manfredo.

He sends his best to all and to all of us here in the GPED. Thanks for writing Mandredo. Please keep in touch.

Claudia Diaz It was a nice surprise to hear from Claudia on July 27, 2007. We haven't heard from her in a while so it was nice getting a note from her. She said she has just completed her first year of Ph.D. study at RAND Graduate School in Santa Monica, California. She said she successfully finished her prelims. She said it was a task but finally got them done! Congratulations Claudia! We are so proud of you!

She said she is looking forward to receiving the Newsletter. We hope to get it off in a timely manner. Never know around here when it may go out. Thanks for writing, Claudia. Look forward to hearing from you again!

Amelia Garrish We just recently, in early July 2007, received a baby-announcement from Amelia. She had a little girl, born May 11, 2007, and she is Amelia Junior. She sent us a picture with the announcement and Amelia Junior is adorable. Congratulations to Amelia!

Rupa Gootam Rupa is still here in Nashville working for the State of Tennessee in the Economic Development Office. She checks in with us occasionally by phone and we get to see her from time to time. I am sure she is doing great in her job! It was very nice having her here for the whole Conference and she participated in everything.

One day this summer Rupa met us at the University Club. We had an alumnus here, **Bradley Davidson (Class of 2005-06)**. It was great seeing her then and catching up on local events and politics, and general chit-chat! We had a great time at this lunch. Will have to get together again soon, Rupa!

We contacted Rupa again in early August. We were trying to contact **Konstantin Egorov (Class of 2004-05)**. We knew that he had visited her the last time he was here in Nashville so we assumed she would have recent contact info for him. She did and thanks to Rupa, again, we did make contact with him. She did tell us she thought Konstantin will be coming back to Nashville for another visit in September or October. We hope that he will be coming! Thanks Rupa for all your help!

Nancy Juma We are happy to say that Nancy is back in the area, I believe she is living in Hendersonville, Tennessee, just outside of Nashville. She did come to our Conference for a while. I think she didn't have anyone to leave the baby with, so she couldn't stay too long. We enjoyed seeing her even if it was for a short while. She looked very happy and just wonderful. I think she really enjoyed seeing some many familiar faces. Everyone seemed to have a great time!

We got to see Nancy and her baby daughter again on August 31st at a baby shower for Osayi Ovbiosao Akinbosoye. It was just wonderful to see them!

Sangsoo Park We see Sangsoo frequently after all he is just down the hall from us. He is moving along quite well with his Ph.D. studies and I am afraid he won't be around here too much longer. We will definitely miss him when he leaves!

This year he was awarded the Noel Dissertation Award. We in the GPED are very proud of him! Congratulations to Sangsoo!

Arthur Shaw We were happy to see Arthur at our reception in D.C. this year. It was so nice having him there and getting to see him and talk with him. He looked wonderful and very happy. He seems to be getting along just great. I believe our students really enjoyed getting to meet him and talking with him too. We hope that we will get to see him again next year!

Arthur has been helpful to many of our GPED students as they search for internship positions in the U.S. We really appreciate all the help, Arthur.

2004-05

Zelalem Addis Zelalem wrote us on September 10, 2006 and said he was now in Ontario, Canada. He said he had been there a week and had now settled down. He will be working towards a Ph.D. at the University of Western Ontario. He said he misses us very much, especially in the settling in phase. He said he didn't get the help there that we offered when he arrived there.

He told us that he is feeling very healthy now. We are certainly glad to hear that news from Zelalem! We all hope this continues for you! He also told us that he had a wonderful summer vacation with his family. Zelalem, we are so happy that you did get a break and had a nice summer with your family. I am sure they were terribly happy to see you. Keep in touch with us, okay!

Vivian Agbegha Vivian wrote us in late August of 2006 and gave us her new address in Falls Church, Virginia. She told she finally found a place and she had settled in to her new routine. Thanks, Vivian, for sending us your new address and keeping us posted.

In November when we had our Conference, Vivian came and participated in the Conference. She seemed to enjoy herself. It was like old home week, as they say, having her back. It was almost as if she had not left us yet. Thank you, Vivian for making it back for our Anniversary Conference and helping us celebrate the occasion!

In March when we were on our D.C. Field Training Program we got to see Vivian again. She came to our annual Alumni Reception at our hotel in D.C. It was so nice seeing her and she looked wonderful. She is now acclimated to the D.C. area and doing just great! We were really happy that she came out to see us. We love seeing our alumni in D.C. We are hoping that she will make it to our reception again this year.

Aarti Bajaj Aarti wrote us in late September 2006. She had settled in at Lawrence, Kansas and had begun classes. She was very complimentary of Vanderbilt and the GPED. She said that she misses Vandy, GPED, Clahoun, and her classmates. She also said she misses the diversity that Vanderbilt has; she said her new school is not very diverse. She plans to keep in touch -- especially with several of her classmates. Thank you, Aarti, for all your compliments; do keep in touch. Haven't heard from you since last September. Hopefully we will hear from you in this next year!

Tehara Clarke Tehara sent Mouzon a Mother's Day Card via e-mail this year. That was so sweet of you Tehara. Wish you would write us with some information on how you are doing. Maybe we will hear from Tehara in this upcoming year!

Talgat Dairov We received a print-out on USA Today's web-site regarding Kazakhstan and the travel industry there. What did we find out and read? Talgat Dairov is a Manager/Travel Agent for Sayat Tours in Kazakhstan! That is wonderful to hear. I am sure he is very happy with this occupation. This is a newly founded company and they are pushing for tourism to Kazakhstan. Travel to Kazakhstan has increased in the last couple of years to the point that they had to order more Kazakh currency! The country went from 130 tourists in one year to 400 tourists in the next year. We hope this works for Kazakhstan and for Talgat!

Bradley Davidson We heard from Bradley in early September and he was doing fine. He said he had settled down in Anniston, Alabama. When Bradley graduated he organized, "EMPOWER ALABAMA" for Economic Development. This is a Non-Profit organization, which he also was basically in charge of setting up. The goal of the organization is to educate the citizens of Alabama on the election process and help them to be able to help them in elections to select someone who represents their interests. He said the organizations was moving along now that he had all the legal and accounting things out of the way. He said he would keep us posted but have not heard anything more from him in recent months. I hope this is a good sign and that he is just too consumed with business to have time to write us!

He did say he received the 2006 Newsletter and that inspired him to send us his new address and e-mail address. We would like to thank him for sending us a donation to the Worley Fund. That was a very nice gesture on his part. He had just left here not too much earlier when he made the donation. Thank you again, Bradley.

Bradley did write the very day that Mohammad Yunus received the Nobel Peace Prize and wanted to know if we knew. Yes, we did know. I think we heard on the news on the way into work that morning. As all of us, he was proud of the fact that Dr. Yunus had been in the GPED.

Bradley had plans to come to our Conference but I guess at the last minute something came up and he did not make it here. He did get to come for a brief visit this summer. We got a few people together for lunch at the University Club. It was great to hear about his work and to visit his web site, www.empoweralabama.org

Konstantin Egorov We had a pleasant surprise in May when Konstantin let us know that he would be in Nashville and was coming to visit us! He had been in California and was off to New York for a couple of days before returning home.

Konstantin is currently working in Diamond Mining and just promoted to Head of the Investments Department! Wow! That sounds nice. We are hoping the next time he visits he will bring us a souvenir from his diamond mind! Just kidding! Ha-Ha!!!

Anyway Konstantin looked great! It was a short visit but very nice seeing him. We do appreciate him coming by. The next time he comes we asked him to promise to let us know in advance and we could set up a dinner or lunch. We have a feeling that we will get to see Konstantin again in the near future. Write us Konstantin and great seeing you!

Okay, since I wrote the above paragraph, we have heard back from Konstantin and he is planning on coming for a visit here in September or October. We are looking forward to his visit. We will give you any additional news we get from him in the next Newsletter.

Metin Hassu Metin sent us pictures of his travels on his return to Turkey. Thank you, Metin. MOUZON DID WE SEND HIM TROPHIES AND ALL THIS YEAR OR WAS IT LAST YEAR?

Jae-Pil Kim I wrote to Jae-Pil asking him for his current mailing address and other information for the finalizing of this year's Address Roster. He was very prompt and wrote me back the very next day! He told us that he is back in Korea and is a Professor in the Finance and Business Department at Soonchunhyang University and has just become Dean of Admissions there also! Congratulations on becoming a Dean, Jae-Pil. That is impressive! I am sure you will make a wonderful Dean!

Jae-Pil said his family moved back to Korea in February 2006. His wife is a manager of an Institute of Music in Cheonan City near Seoul. Jae-Pil said that she is enjoying her work. Jae-Pil's son is in the 11th grade and going to high school in Salt Lake City, Utah. He wanted to study in the U.S. so he has been here since January of this year. His two daughters are 11 and 15 years old. He said his whole family lives a busy life-style, as so many of us do these days! He said, "Life in Nashville was so good and happy."

Thank you for writing and we look forward to you writing us from time to time.

Mustafa Ozkarabuber Mustafa wrote us last December and told us it had been almost a year since he left Nashville. He said from time to time he thinks of his

days here at Vanderbilt and Nashville and he misses the beauty of the city and surrounding area. He also said he read the column written by **Gungor Uras** in the “Milliyet” daily newspaper about the GPED 50th Anniversary Conference. He enjoyed reading the article and wished he could have been here for the Conference.

He said he continues to work at the Competition Authority, handling anti-trust and merger cases in Ankara. He said he has a girl friend who is bright, beautiful, and makes him full of life! He said he thinks they are building a serious relationship! Wow, that is great Mustafa! Let us know how it goes. I wish you the very best with this young lady.

Then at the New Year, Mustafa sent us an e-mail greeting card wishing us the best for the Holiday Season. Thanks Mustafa for thinking about us. We look forward to hearing more from you in this next year.

Iahli Gabdibe Patale Before leaving to return home, **Lolo Soumonni (of this Class)** had a going away dinner for Iahli . I was unable to go at that time but I am sure it was a tremendous success from all I hear.

She wrote us on August 29, 2006 and told us she had returned home safely and how much she missed us. We miss her too and wish her the best of luck.

On March 19, 2007 Iahli called our office. She is working at the United Nations in Congo. Congratulations to Iahli on this fantastic job! We know you will go far! Very proud of you, Iahli! She said her job is going well and she would e-mail us. We look forward to hearing from her soon!

We contacted Iahli this summer to get her new mailing address. She wrote us back with the information and said how glad she was to hear from us! She said she stays **very** busy at work. She had met one of our incoming student’s for this fall, **Ely Katembo**. She talked to him about things he had questions about here at Vanderbilt and Nashville. I am sure Iahli gave him all kinds of helpful information. As a matter of fact, we have just met Ely today! He brought us gifts from Iahli. She sent us each a beautiful wooden Giraffe. Thank you so much Iahli, we love them!

Omolola Soumonni Ah, Lola. It is so nice having Lola close by! In fact, she is now working with the GPED in conjunction with the Theses. She does tutoring for us, with our students working on their Theses. She has her own office, “**The Dungeon**”, as she calls it! Actually her office is in the basement of Calhoun! In the summer it is so quiet around here and she is so far (downstairs) from us, she feels like she is in a dungeon, sort of, no windows etc. Anyway the good news is that she takes her breaks by coming to our office to visit, so we get to see her several times a day. She especially enjoys sneaking up on me and scaring me to death! I have told her to watch that! One day she really got me good, I almost jumped out of my skin. After that she has been a little more cautious about sneaking up on me.

Lola will be in her second year of the Ph.D. Program in Economics. She is doing great. We are very proud of her! We will keep you updated on Lola since she is right here! She sends her best to all her classmates!

Maria Santos We heard from Maria a few times during last fall. She wrote to say she was hoping our Conference would be a big success and wishing she could be here for it.

Maria did tell us that she had presented a paper with Professor James Foster, at a conference in Mexico. She said it was a wonderful experience. I am sure that the conference and giving a paper with Professor Foster was quite an experience!

One of the first times Maria wrote us last fall, she said she is enjoying married life very much! That is great and we will always wish you the best! Thanks Maria for writing. We would love to hear more from you in this next year!

Akihiro Yamamoto We recently learned that Akihiro changed jobs. He is a Consultant with Woodland Japanese IT Company. We learned this news from one of our current students from Japan, **Ken Takeda**.

Chenyu Zhang We received a lovely Christmas card from Chenyu this past year. The enclosed note said she is doing pretty well in Denver but missing the GPED. She said, "It's a great family that I will never forget." Thank you, Chenyu. I am sure you will keep up with several of your classmates and meet with them from time to time. We miss you here too! I hope you have had a great 2007. Write us soon!

2005-06

Hannah Acquah Hannah wrote us in late September 2006 and asked us how we enjoyed our cruise. We wrote her back and told her how wonderful the cruise was and the four of us enjoyed it soooo much! Wish I was on that cruise right now. I can't thank all of you so much who made our cruise possible!

When Hannah wrote us in September she said she had been in China for three weeks. She said it was great and she was having lots of fun trying to adapt to the culture. She is working for a Canadian based company called Delter International Business Institute. She said they paid her way over there, plus gave her accommodations and a salary! Wow! That sounds great Hannah!

She said when she was writing us that she was in Nanchang (1 hour south of Shanghai) and was returning to Beijing in about four months. She said she is slowly learning the language and may pursue a Ph.D. in Beihang University in Beijing. She said

at that time she is just thanking God for this opportunity. She said every day is an experience! She has done all kinds of sightseeing before beginning her new job. I am sure all of this is a once in a lifetime opportunity. Good for you Hannah!

We heard from Hannah again in December 2006. She was adjusting to China, in fact so much so that she has decided to pursue Ph.D. study there at Tsinghua University. She said this is a very good school and her Ph.D. studies will be Technology Economy and Management. I believe this is final. We will let you know how it goes in next year's Newsletter. Keep us posted Hannah!

Visakha Amarasekera Visakha wrote us on June 13th, telling us she arrived home safely. She did say that it is great to be back home, but she does miss Vanderbilt. She was thanking us for all we did for everyone while they were here. It is our pleasure and that is what we are here to do!

She said she is back at the Treasury at the Central Bank of Sri Lanka. She also said that she ran into **Udeani Alawatage (Class of 1999-2000)**. He spoke fondly of all at Vanderbilt. That was so sweet of him. Glad that you can run into GPED alumni there at the Bank. We have several there.

Visakha promised to keep in touch with us and I am sure she will!

Amir Ansari Amir wrote when he returned in May 2007. He said he arrived safely to his hometown in Pakistan and has now moved to Karachi and working in the position of Secretariat.

He said he now realizes how wonderful his days here at Vanderbilt and the GPED were. He is missing his classmates and his professors. However, he plans to return to the U.S. to do Ph.D. study and that is helping him. He sent his best to all of us.

Metin Hassu We heard from Metin regarding receiving his thesis and diploma from us. It was good hearing from him even if briefly. In December 2006, he wrote us a Season's Greetings note via e-mail. We would love to hear more Metin in this next year. Hope he is doing well!

Nathan Huret Nate wrote us in January 2007. He was wishing everyone well for 2007. He was also writing to tell us that over the weekend he accepted an offer to become the new Existing Industries Coordinator for the Catawba County Economic Development Corporation in Hickory, North Carolina. He was so excited –

understandably. This is exactly the type of work he wanted to get into and we are sure he will go far. We are all so happy for him. Congratulations on your new occupation! Keep us posted.

And of course Nate's **"Big News"**, is his wedding is this summer. Nate, I know 2007 is a great year for you!! Don't forget us and keep in touch, okay!

Oh yes, Nate wrote us after he received his Awards which were given out at our Annual Awards Dinner. Nate returned home in December and was not here to receive them, so we mailed them to him. He was so surprised. One was for "Outstanding Thesis" and that was well deserved and the other was for "Outstanding Student". Congratulations on all of this, Nate!

Jane Karonga Jane has written two or three times since she left here. She is now in Los Angeles, California. She is trying to get settled and know her way around. She said she is still a little hazy, but knows her way to work, the grocery, and maybe church! Jane said she now knows or has been told not to wear anything on her head. Different colors on your head may be the color for a particular "gang" in L.A. and you could be shot at if someone doesn't like that particular gang. That's scary! She said she learned that real fast and that she is a "quick learner." I would be too if I lived out there. You better learn all the ups and downs for L.A. Good luck, Jane. Be careful out there!

She said she likes her work but she still has a lot to learn about the job. She said she will be fine once she learns everything that is essential to her work. I am sure you will do great out there Jane. Look forward to hearing from Jane again in the near future. She asked about everyone and left instructions for all of us on how to take care of each other. That's Jane, isn't it! Thanks and you take care too!

Hyoung-Jun Kim Hyoung-Jun wrote us on June 12th to let us know that he and his family arrived back in Korea safely. He wrote when he heard that Mouzon had surgery and was concerned about her and asked about sending her an e-mail message.

Hyoung-Jun said they were lucky; shortly after they arrived in Korea they bought a new home that is close to his office and close to his daughter's school. That makes things very convenient, right! At the Export-Import Bank of Korea, Hyoung-Jun is in charge of bank loans with commercial banks in Turkey and Kazakhstan. He is very happy about that because of his friends he met while here from Kazakhstan and Turkey. He said he will get to go to those countries on business! So this Program does provide you with contacts in so many countries and it is nice when you get to meet GPED folks almost any country you go to from now on!

Hyoung-Jun said he also met with an incoming student for this year **Mr. Yim, Jong-Ho.** He was leaving to come to Nashville the very next day. Glad they got to see each other. Mr. Yim is now here and we enjoyed meeting him and having him here.

Hyoung-Jun, we miss you. Please keep in touch. Thanks for writing.

Kristen Kotter Kristen e-mails us from time to time and it is always great hearing from her. She is now working at the Medical Center here at Vanderbilt in the Department of Biostatistics.

One day last fall we had lunch with Kristen and we enjoyed getting updates from her on her classmates, as well as giving her the updates we had on other classmates. It was very nice seeing her and having a leisurely lunch with her.

We heard from Kristen the day Mohammad Yunus won the Nobel Peace Prize. She said she was so awed by the news! She said she looked up on the Vanderbilt website to see if any other Vanderbilt Alumni had ever won the Peace Prize before. There never has been anyone else to win the Nobel Peace Prize from here before. There had been one person in medicine to a Nobel Prize but not Peace, and as Kristen said, the Nobel Peace Prize is the top prize of the different Nobel Prizes. So all of us feel very special since Dr. Mohammad Yunus was and is a part of the GPED!

Kristen also came to our Anniversary Conference. It was nice seeing her and having her with us in our celebration. I think she enjoyed seeing so many alums and meeting old friends from here too.

During the Christmas Season Kristen sent us a cute Christmas card wishing us the best for the Holiday Season. The kitty cat on the front of the card looks like Kristen's cat, she told us. He was a big orange putty-tat. I am sure her cat is adorable, a kind of Garfield type!

Kristen dropped us an e-mail note on June 8, 2007. She was just writing to say hello and wanted to know how things were going in the GPED. She told us that she is now working in the Biostatistics Department at the VU Medical Center. She said she is really enjoying it, as long as she can apply her interests and technical skills to tasks that can help people.

Kristen said she and Chris had **Kakhramon Yusupov (Class of 1997-98)** over for dinner the night before she wrote this note. Kakhramon brought over a wonderful bottle of Russian wine. She said they had a fun time together. Kristen and Kakhramon worked together or close by when she worked over at VIPPS. It is always nice hearing about our alumni when they get together. Kristen, continue to keep in touch!

WeiWei Shi We heard from WeiWei on March 14th. She was so excited. She has a job with Credit Suisse Investment Bank, as a financial Analyst, located in Durham,

North Carolina and her husband is teaching Physics at a University there. Congratulations WeiWei on your job! We know you will do great there.

WeiWei did get back to see us in April when she had her thesis presentation. It was great seeing her! We hope to hear from her again in the near future.

When **Gao Xi (of this Class)** visited here recently, he told us that he and WeiWei work at the same place in the same office and that she is the only other person he knows there. I am so happy that Gao Xi and WeiWei are there together. That helps in getting to know a new place. I know they must keep in close contact!

Ferhat Topkaya Ferhat wrote us on January 31st telling us that he had arrived safely back to Turkey. He reported that all the family was doing well. He was very tired from the flight. Sanem's family could not meet them at the airport because of bad weather so they planned to go to them in Antalya the following weekend. Thanks for writing and letting us know that you got home safely.

I wrote Ferhat in May after our Awards Dinner. He received several awards at our Dinner and we needed to send them to him, so I asked for a good mailing address. He wrote back with the address. He also told us that he started back to work shortly after he returned and he has a lot of work, so he is very busy. He send his best to all of us and all his friends still here. We hope he continues to write us!

Althea Wilson Althea wrote us early last September wishing an awesome cruise before we left. It was awesome too! We can't thank the students enough who made it possible. We will never forget it or you either! She also gave us her new cell phone number and later updated us with her new mailing address when she got settled in Maryland. You can find her info in the Roster.

Then Althea came for our Anniversary Conference in November. It was wonderful having her here. It was like old home week having Althea back with us already!

Althea also was able to come to our Alumni Reception in D.C. this year. We certainly had a ball with so many recent alums in the D.C. area and those who were on our trip and had been here when Althea was still here. It was a really fun evening.

Althea is Director of Development at St. Francis Episcopal Elementary School.

Then, in May for Commencement, we were fortunate enough to have Althea return and go through the ceremony. It was a wonderful and joyous day. Again, it was great having her here to join many of her classmates!

At the end of May, Althea wrote us because **Segun Ogunro** had given her the award and the GPED Certificate which was awarded this year at our Awards Dinner. We

asked Segun to accept them for her since she had already left. She didn't understand what they were for and Mouzon wrote and explained it to her.

Gao Xi Gao Xi, as most of you may know who were in this class, is now working in Durham, North Carolina. He has a very good job with Credit Suisse and is a Financial Analyst there. **WeiWei Shi (of this Class)** is also there in Durham at Credit Suisse Investment Bank and is also a Financial Analyst. Gao Xi said that they work in the same office so they do know each other there. Gao Xi said she is the only other person he knows there. I am sure he will be making new friends there very soon.

Actually, Gao Xi stopped by to see us just last week. It was nice having him here. He was tying up so loose ends here. He said he likes his job but there is a lot of pressure. I am sure he will do just great. It always takes a while to get used to a new environment and to make the transition from being a student to going into the work world. We hope, since he is just a few hours away from here, that he will come back and visit us some. Congratulations on your job, we know you will do just fine!

Hideki Yoshimura Hideki wrote us after he returned to Japan and after visiting his wife's family in the States. They found a new home in a suburb of Tokyo close to his daughter's school. Their home is just a 20 minute train ride to Hideki's parents' house. I know they are thrilled to have Hideki and his family back and to be so close to their grandchildren again. Their children were happy to see their friends again.

He said he is back at work and working like a dog! Hideki said he continues as a staff writer, what he was before coming here. He said it will take him a while to get use to the routine. He said his daughter, Ellie, started her first year of school in April. He said he wished we could have been there for a program Ellie was in where she performed "Take Me Home, Country Road." I am sure she was adorable and quite good too! Wish we could have seen the performance too! He said his wife, Susan, stays busy with the kids and homelife! That is more than a job and a half, believe me!

We heard from Hideki again in May. We mailed him his trophy and certificate he was awarded at the time of our Awards Dinner. Of course he had already gone home so we mailed it to him. He was just thrilled and his family too. He sent us a picture of himself and his children with trophy, certificate and wine in hand. He said they celebrated the occasion with dinner and the trophy in the center of the table. We appreciated getting the picture so much. He also sent us a picture of him at his desk in his office. He looked a little overwhelmed! Maybe that was shortly after he got back to work. Thanks for the pictures; we love receiving the pictures!

He sent us his new contact info and you can find it in the Roster. Hideki sent his best to everyone and said, "I will always take pride as a GPED graduate for my career and for my family." That is so nice to hear, Hideki.

Well we look forward to hearing from Hideki over the next year and beyond!

2006-07

Nicholas (Nicky) Mapa I have heard from Nicky often since he left Vanderbilt. When he left here he did some traveling. He first wrote us from New York. He has two sisters living on the East Coast. He said he wasn't doing too much except for eating a lot and doing some running. I guess if he was eating a lot that the running helped him burn those extra calories! From New York he went west. He went to San Deigo, and San Francisco, and Los Angeles, California for a while and also went to New Mexico, and to Las Vegas. He left from San Francisco to return home.

He is on the job hunt and not sure whether he will be in the States or at home in the Philippines. He is keeping me posted on what he decides. I will keep you posted on Nicky in our next Newsletter. Thanks, Nicky. We wish you the best in your job search! We miss you here!