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Welcome to a new school year! We hope you've arrived back at school refreshed and excited to take on the challenges of a new academic year. AISA is here to support you and (school name) step into the year ready to not only deliver great learning experiences, but enjoy and extend your own learning. Our learning programme extends to over 30 professional learning institutes (PLIs), in addition to the annual School Head's Retreat ([SHR2018](#)) and Educators Conference ([AEC2018](#)). See the AISA website for full details of the AISA PLI programme [here](#).

Over the break the team has been busy thinking about how we can better serve and reach our members, so this year you will see some new opportunities to engage and connect with the AISA community.

One of the consistent pieces of feedback from our conference evaluations is that networking and connecting with the AISA community is important to you. So this year this eCircular will be delivered to you monthly and will include some new features. A **Member News** section will be dedicated to welcoming new members, profiling people who work in an AISA school, sharing school news and profiling Associate members. Look out for this section in this update and send us your school news and personal profile so that we can help better connect the AISA community.

AISA is also introducing **eTimely**, AISA's new webinar series. We know that getting to events can be costly and a time investment that we don't always have. The new webinar series will be another way to grab some relevant PD in a timely fashion and connect with others in the AISA network. Find out more about eTimely [here](#).

We also know that having your learning recognised is important to demonstrating to your current and future employees that you are committed to your own learning and development. This year we are introducing **Micro-credentials** that will help you do just that. To read more about how micro-credentials can help develop you achieve your learning and professional development plans, see [here](#).

As always, we welcome your feedback and suggestions, particularly on these new initiatives, so feel free to reach out to any of us on the AISA team.

Team AISA



# AISA'S PROFESSIONAL LEARNING PROGRAMME 2018/19

In addition to our world-class professional learning programme, AISA has developed a number of offerings to support our leaders and educators to access professional development opportunities that will foster their continued learning, growth and career development. Don't miss out on these opportunities that AISA provides exclusively to members:

## AISA Educator Scholarship's: Applications Due 31<sup>st</sup> August

AISA recognises that the costs of event registration and travel in Africa can prevent members from attending AISA learning events. With this in mind, AISA is offering a range of professional scholarships that cover the full cost of registration. The participants or their school will need to cover the travel, accommodation and all other associated costs.

### SCHOLARSHIPS ON OFFER

- \* Attendance at the AISA Educators Conference (AEC) -3 Scholarships
- \* Attendance at a Professional Learning Institute (PLI) - 4 Scholarships

For details on how to apply, see the website [here](#).

## Introducing the NEW AISA Webinar Series

AISA is delighted to announce our new Webinar Series, live on the last Wednesday of each month. These are different to many other webinars, as each follows an interview format with a host asking questions of the guest/s to create a lively, interactive discussion. The topics explored will focus on both personal and professional growth, with the first topic being "Top Tips for New Arrivals".

**Registration is free of charge for members.**

Date: 29 August 2018

Time:

- \* GMT 16:00
- \* WAT 17:00
- \* CAT 18:00
- \* EAT 19:00

To Register in advance, visit: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_cELtbLSeR-KFez3SSQpN2w](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_cELtbLSeR-KFez3SSQpN2w)

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the webinar.

Webinars will be posted on the AISA Facebook page after live broadcast.



The AISA team has been working hard these last few months to put together an extensive programme of professional learning events for 2018-19. With over 30 PLI's to choose from, in addition to our School Head's Retreat and the Educator's Conference, there is a learning event to meet your professional development needs this year. If there isn't let us know and we'll make sure to include it next year.

## AISA School Head's Retreat



For our 3rd AISA School Heads Retreat, we've designed something special. With the input of our new Leadership PL Advisory group (all school leaders themselves), we have devised the 2018 SHR programme to have less directed input and more opportunity for Heads of Schools to learn from each other, to network, and to share and reflect on their own expertise in a facilitated and productive way.

Learning Opportunities at the Retreat include:

- \* **Collaborative Enquiries** exploring the issues you raise.  
What are some of the issues, challenges and questions you would value thinking through with your peers?
- \* **Innovative Practice Series** sharing solutions to common challenges.  
What innovations, success stories, changes have you led at your school in the past 2 years that are relevant to your peers at the Retreat?
- \* **Open Space Facilitation** to pose a question, raise a concern or seek like minds on issues that are relevant to you.  
What are the burning issues you want to discuss with your peers?
- \* **Future-focused Workshops** exploring how Heads can shape the future of international education in our region and globally.  
What issues do Heads need to be aware of and respond to successfully as we shape the future of international education both in our region and globally?
- \* **Networking** with colleagues.  
How will conversations with your peers support you today and into the future?



For more information contact Graham Watts: [gwatts@aisa.or.ke](mailto:gwatts@aisa.or.ke)

## AISA EDUCATORS CONFERENCE



**When** 20<sup>th</sup> – 23<sup>rd</sup> October, 2019

**Where** King Fahd Palace Hotel, Dakar

**Early Bird** US\$615 – Full Member  
**21<sup>st</sup> August** US\$695 – Affiliate Member

**To register** [Here](#)



## Inviting AEC Delegates to Lead an Innovative Practice Session (IPS)

The Innovative Practice Series is a dedicated space during the AEC to showcase the work of teachers within the AISA Community. Each workshop is a 60-minute, peer to peer learning experience where educators set the agenda and share what they are doing at their schools, what they have learnt and achieved. This is a great opportunity to demonstrate innovations, systems and structures that have brought about transformation and improvements that could be applicable in other schools in our region.

If you would like to make an IPS presentation on behalf of your school, kindly apply [here](#).

The deadline for submission is **20th September 2018**.

Please contact Graham [gwatts@aisa.or.ke](mailto:gwatts@aisa.or.ke) for any clarification.



## AEC 2018 AEC Institutes

FOCUS AREA	FACILITATOR	SESSION TITLE
Differentiation		Easy Is Boring - Impossible Is Depressing - Meeting Individual Needs Of All Learners
Highly Capable Learners	Ian Warwick	Gifted & Talented - Creating & Sustaining A Culture Of Excellence & Innovation In Your Classroom
Conceptual Learning	Tania Lattanzio	The Role of Concepts in Curriculum, Learning & Assessment
Inquiry		The Role of Inquiry in Teaching & Learning
Visible Thinking	Mark Church	Making Thinking Visible with Thinking Protocols
		Developing a Culture of Thinking in the Classroom
Student Engagement	Michelle Swanson & Kim Rayl	Student Engagement Through Project Based Learning
		Building Learners: Developing Engagement & A Toolkit Of Strategies As Co-Creators Of Quality Work That Matters.
Formative Assessment	Melissa Schaub	How To Build, Implement & Evaluate Effective Formative Assessment
		Embedding formative assessment with rubrics, self and peer assessment and student agency.
International Mindedness	Maria Hersey	Understanding Global-Mindedness for An Interconnected World
Social and Emotional Learning		Social and Emotional Well-Being for Living & Learning (confirmed title)
Integrating Technology into Teaching and Learning	Catlin Tucker	Blending Learning in Action: Station Rotation & Flipped Classroom
		Maximize Student Engagement with Blended Learning

## Introducing Micro-Credential's

Gaining recognition for learning is an important way to communicate to your current and future employee your commitment to continued learning, growth and development. To help you with that, AISA is piloting micro-credentials as an extension of professional learning after the [AEC2018](#).



AISA is offering this opportunity FREE of charge through our partner, Digital Promise.

For more information, see the AISA website [here](#).



## AISA Professional Learning Institutes

The AISA Design Team, a representative group of Curriculum Coordinators from AISA member schools, has collaboratively developed over 30 PLI's for AISA leaders, educators, co-professionals and administrators for the 2018-19 school year. This gives our member's a huge range of learning events to choose from, with events located all around the continent making it easier for you to access quality professional learning closer to your school.



For the Full Programme, see the AISA website [here](#).

### Upcoming PLI's

2018	EVENT	FACILITATOR	TARGET	LOCATION
24-25 Aug	<a href="#">AP Institute</a>	College Board	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>French Language</li> <li>World History</li> </ul>	Int School of Kigali, Rwanda
24 -26 Aug	<a href="#">Building a Culture of Efficacy: Leading Impact Teams</a>	Dr Paul Bloomberg	Teacher teams, Teacher Leaders, Coaches	AISJ Sth Africa
31 Aug – 2 Sep	<a href="#">Governance as Leadership</a>	Dr Bill Ryan & Chip Barder	Head of School, Director, Board Members	AISJ Sth Africa
13 – 15 Sep	<a href="#">Transforming Schools: Leading &amp; Learning in Complex Systems</a>	Fran Prolman	Teachers, Admin, Middle Leaders	ISK Kenya
17 – 18 Sep	<a href="#">School Safety &amp; Security</a>	Bruce Mills, Clearpath	Security & Facilities Managers, Leaders, Board Members	ISD Senegal
21 -22 Sep	<a href="#">School Safety &amp; Security</a>			ISK Kenya
22 -23 Sep	<a href="#">Using MAP Testing to Improve Student Learning</a>	Amanda DeCardy	Teachers & School Leaders	IST Tanzania
5-6 Oct	<a href="#">Co-Teaching: Classroom Partnership to Ensure the Success of ALL Students</a>	Marilyn Friend	PK-12 teachers, teacher teams, ELL/learning support teachers/coordinators, administrators.	ISK Kenya
6-7 Oct	<a href="#">Making Math Meaningful</a>	Dr Patrick Callahan Jessica Balli Solana Ray	K-12 teachers, administrators, and curriculum and assessment specialists.	ISCT Sth Africa





## IB Workshops for 2018



**AISA Host School: American International School of Lusaka (AISL)**

TITLE	PROGRAMME	LEVEL	DATE
The DP Core: Improving student engagement and performance in TOK, CAS and EE	DP	Cat 3	1-2 October, 2018
Inquiry in the PYP	PYP	Cat 3	5-6 November 2018
Approaches to Learning in the MYP	MYP	Cat 3	12-13 November 2018

For more information visit [AISL Website](#) or contact [Christine Kelly](#)



International School  
of Tanganyika

Challenge | Support | Inspire

**AISA Host School: International School of Tanganyika**

TITLE	PROGRAMME	LEVEL	DATE
Concept-based learning	PYP	Cat 3	26 June 2018
Arts-Visual and performing: Managing assessment in the MYP	MYP	Cat 3	3 November 2018



# MEMBER NEWS

## New Member Welcome

AISA is delighted to welcome our new **School Members**:

- Ecole Ruban Vert, Gabon



Braeburn Group of schools:

- Braeburn Nairobi (Gitanga)
- Braeside, Nairobi
- Garden Estate, Nairobi
- Mombassa
- Arusha



### New Associate Member

- Edumentum International
- Education City
- Truman Group

## Member Profile

**Name:** Megan Bagdonas

**School:** American International School of Lagos (Nigeria)

**Role:** Grade 5 classroom teacher



### 1. What is the best thing about living in Lagos

Lagos is a giant melting pot of African culture with vibrant energy. There is always something happening - be it art shows, music performances, food festivals, or sailing regattas. Sometimes it's not always easy to find, but it's always there if you look.

### 2. What is unique about your school

Lagos life can feel a bit hectic, frenzied and frustrating at times, but I think our staff does an excellent job of being there for each other - not just for school issues - but mental health issues. I felt welcomed from the beginning and try to pass that on to new staff. We don't compete against each other, we look after one another.

### 3. Briefly describe your journey into international education

I was originally a newspaper journalist. I was awarded a research fellowship to study in Tanzania for a year and I fell in love with this continent - it's variety, it's landscape, it's unique (and sometimes puzzling) outlook on life. I vowed to try and find a way to stay. Teaching came naturally, and I worked at various schools in South



Africa and Mozambique before deciding to make teaching abroad my life career and got a Masters in Education to work in major international schools.

#### 4. Favourite Book, Movie or TV series

Book: Cloud Atlas (David Mitchel)

Movie: La Vie en Rose (biopic on French singer Edith Piaf's)

TV Show: Modern Family, of course (My father and brothers work on the show!)

#### 5. Personal or professional goal for the next 12 months

Honestly, it keeps changing. I once wanted to get back to teaching higher level IB courses in the humanities, but am now really loving teaching 5th grade! I would like to move more into helping organize international trips, and perhaps get more involved in coaching.

#### 6. Favourite destination and why

I love Mozambique for it's expansive and varied coastline and all the fantastic islands. Also, they have the best prawns in the world!

#### 7. Work-life-balance - best tips? what works for you?

Make your home a place of beauty and a respite from the chaotic world around you. Create a space that smells lovely, looks as enticing as you are, and make your bed a heavenly dream. Sleep is so important! Take time to decorate and add flourishes that will make you proud of your living space. Think of your home as your foundation, or a showcase for the life you've earned and created for yourself.

## Associate Profile: EquipMySchool

**Name:** Andrew Schmidt

**Location:** US based – South Carolina

**Role:** US Director and Partner



### 1. Introducing Andrew

I joined EquipMySchool in 2012, opening the US branch in Charleston, South Carolina. I trot the globe checking in on our clients, facilitate all their needs and oversee US branch operations.

An Eagle Scout with a Russian History and Business Management degree, Andrew joined the team in 2012, opening the US branch of EquipMySchool. A unique sales force unto himself, Andrew trots the globe checking in on clients and also oversees US branch operations.

In off duty hours, when not preparing gourmet dinners for friends, Andrew enjoys practicing kajukenbo, a mixed martial art, and riding his motorcycles. He and his wife live in Charleston, South Carolina.

### 2. What does EquipMySchool do?

As a purchasing agent for over 260 International American and British curriculum schools worldwide, EquipMySchool works directly with our large network of partner suppliers to source and consolidate everything for your academic year. Everything from your playground equipment and gym flooring to your





Halloween decorations, and of course every book, chair, laptop, table and paintbrush... basically, if you were to turn one of our schools upside down and shake it out, everything that tumbles out is something we have supplied. We ensure all materials are in perfect condition and carefully consolidate them for international shipping, packaging them out by classroom, so that the unloading of your goods is as fluid as possible. We handle all freight and customs processes and ensure the timely arrival of your goods. One shipment, one invoice; on time, every time!

Quick, easy, convenient: we consolidate while you educate!

### **3. What are you best at doing? i.e. What problems/challenges do you solve for our schools?**

If the customs processes are notoriously difficult in your country, our years of experience with Customs will ensure your materials are delivered safely and on time, every time.

We love a challenge, and have satisfied clients in countries with some of the most challenging customs processes, including Eritrea, the DRC, Angola, Nigeria, Uganda, Egypt, Qatar, Kuwait, Oman, Morocco, Zambia, Ethiopia, Tanzania, Niger, Burkina Faso, Tunisia and Liberia.

### **4. How are you uniquely placed to support AISA member schools?**

EquipMySchool's dedication to boutique service at scale will exceed your expectations. Every item on your list is triple checked for quality control before leaving its originating country, mindfully consolidated to withstand rough transport while conserving costly space, and speed through all freight and customs processes by our team. We also source all the items on our clients lists rather than just settling for what's easily available. Best of all, we operate within the margins provided by our volume purchasing power, so you receive curriculum materials at the pricing you would in your home country.

### **5. Most memorable Africa experience?**

On our way from the AISA conference to the ISK school tour, our visit was pretty much cut short before it began. Our driver (ferrying a busload of leaders and associates) evaluated floodwater rushing across a city block... and gunned forward. As the dark water rose up the steps of our bus, we stalled out in the middle of the rising current. Trash began to whirl outside the bus windows and local residents appeared from surrounding apartment complexes to check out the bus full of trapped mzungu. Negotiations for our extrication began... as well as theories as to what might happen if we remained stuck in the rising water. After some rile and a discounted price, pants were rolled up and our bus was pushed free.

When we arrived at school, they'd even saved us some wine.

### **6. What do you always travel with/top travel tips?**

My international motorcycle license, a fistful of battery packs and boundless optimism. Always eat the local yogurt first upon arriving. Don't pass up a street vendor with a long line. Always try to find out where the locals go for fun. Our world is a spectacular place, full of endless possibilities!

### **7. Is there a special offer you could provide ASIA schools this month?**

EquipMySchool.com now additionally serves as an international marketplace, connecting all your favourite brands to over 260 International American and British curriculum schools worldwide. Register with us online and start building your order today!



## SPECIAL OFFER FOR AISA MEMBERS ONLY

EquipMySchool.com now additionally serves as an international marketplace, connecting all your favourite brands to over 260 International American and British curriculum schools worldwide. Register with us online and start building your order today!

- \* Place your first multi-vendor order over us\$25,000 with EquipMySchool and receive US\$1,000 cash back.
- \* New and current clients receive \$2500 cash back for new multi-vendor orders over \$50k placed on our website with a 10 week lead time from delivery.
- \* New and current clients utilizing our web purchasing platform for orders totalling \$300K or more with a minimum 9 week lead time will receive \$8000 cashback.

These offers are only good for AISA members, cannot be combined and are good only for a single use.

## School Focus

Want to share your school achievement, event or story with the AISA community? Submit your article to [chanel@aisa.or.ke](mailto:chanel@aisa.or.ke)

### ISK Club: Lending a helping hand....one print at a time

The **Hand Out Project** at the International School of Kenya (ISK) is a student led club that uses 3D printing technologies to create mechanical prosthetic hands for individuals who need them in underprivileged communities. The club is part of a larger global network known as Enabling the Future (ENABLE). Member groups of this network, which are set up in different locations worldwide, are known as chapters. In early 2017, we 3D-printed our first prototype prosthetic hand and shared it with engineers at ENABLE, resulting in our club becoming the first and currently only ENABLE chapter in East Africa.



Paul at ISK

Recently, Hand Out joined another service club, Operation Cure, on a service learning field trip to CURE Kijabe Paediatric Hospital.

During the trip, the students visited the prosthetic engineering department, one of the only ones in Kenya, where they were able to show some of their prosthetic prototypes to experts in the field and learn more about the needs and challenges faced by the hospital and its patients. During the course of the visit, the club learned about Paul, a 5 year old boy from Nyeri, who tragically lost his hand in an accident involving farming machinery. The experts at CURE Kijabe referred Paul as a possible candidate for a Hand Out prosthetic hand.

The Hand Out club arranged for Paul to come from Nyeri to visit us at ISK, accompanied by his mother Beatrice, and established that he could be supplied with an elbow powered prosthetic. In order to print the correct sized prosthetic, measurements were taken using a measuring tape, a 3D scan and scaled photographs of his arm. In addition, a cast of the limb was taken enabling the students to take further measurements and test printed products against a life-sized model without Paul having to make frequent trips to ISK. Paul then had an opportunity to choose the colours for his new hand. After some lengthy deliberation he chose a combination of the red, yellow and blue - great bright colours for a little boy!





Over the next couple of weeks students from Hand Out worked diligently on the construction and customization of the 3D printed hand for Paul. Students printed out all the parts needed to construct the prosthetic and they assembled the arm to ensure it fit the measurement constraints and the mould taken.

Last week, Paul came to pick up the prototype together with his whole family including his older sister. He could not wait to test it. Within the first 5 minutes he was able to pick up various objects, which was amazing for all of us to see! This is the prototype that he will be testing and providing ISK feedback on the design and construction. ISK students will then use this information to modify the final hand. During Paul's visit, the students already noticed a couple of changes that need to be made:

- more foam for the upper arm area
- shorten the wrist
- change angle of the wrist to allow for better gripping

He plans to come back in early June for the final fitting.

As a side project there are also a couple of students who are experimenting with the addition of electronics and sensors into the hand. At the moment they are focusing on integrating a waterproof flashlight into the palm. In many parts of rural Kenya electricity is scarce and having rechargeable waterproof light would be of great help.

Since Paul is young and growing quickly, he will have to come back for regular fittings and updates for the prosthetic. Here the true benefit of 3D printing is apparent. Students can continually customize the prosthetic to match Paul's growth rate. Furthermore, this can be done at a cost of only \$30- \$50 per prosthetic hand, compared to the \$1200 Paul was quoted from the hospital. Hand Out is committed to a life-long partnership with Paul, therefore it is imperative that the club continues to grow and maintain active members.

If you are inspired by Paul's story and would like more information about the club and Paul's journey please visit the club website <http://handoutisk.com>

Maciej Sudra - Design Teacher at the International School of Kenya  
Denzil Mackrory - Physics Teacher at International School of Kenya

