When the financial world converged on Washington . . .

staff news

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND

OCT.–NOV. 1983

THE CRUCIAL ROLE OF THE FUND in the current economic environment was stressed repeatedly by speakers during the Annual Meetings of the Boards of Governors of the Fund and Bank, held on September 27-30 at the Sheraton Washington Hotel. In this regard, the Governors strongly endorsed the Fund's new and expanding role in arranging financial aid packages —tied to sound adjustment programs and involving participation by official lenders, multilateral agencies, and private creditors— to help some of the most indebted developing countries service their external debt. At the same time, many Governors emphasized the catalytic effect of Fund lending and, in this context, recommended that Fund liquidity be expanded so that the institution may fulfill its enlarged role in an effective manner.

The world economic situation was, of course, at the forefront of all discussions during the meetings. The Governors welcomed the signs of recovery in the industrial countries and stressed the need to formulate a strategy that will permit the recovery to consolidate and expand to the developing nations. In particular, the Governors emphasized that a solution to the acute adjustment and financing problems facing the developing countries will depend on a resumption of sustainable and noninflationary growth in the industrial world.

One subject of particular importance for Fund members was the agreeement of the Interim Committee to recommend modified lending limits under the enlarged access policy. The new limits will enter into force once the increases in Fund quotas become effective. In general, the modified limits will give member countries access to the same total amount of Fund resources as at present. Special provisions have been made to permit a higher access to Fund resources in cases where the seriousness of a country's balance of payments need and the strength of its adjustment effort warrant higher lending limits.

Managing Director J. de Larosiere noted that the Governors' discussions were "wide-ranging, constructive, and fruitful..." and that there is now "a widespread recognition that the Fund is, in President Reagan's words, 'the linchpin of the system.'" In this same vein, Miguel Boyer, Chairman of this year's meetings and Spain's Minister of Economy, Finance, and Commerce, noted that there is now "an emerging sense of confidence that the situation is manageable..." This sense of confidence, he explained, owes much to the role of the Fund in mobilizing a collective response to cope with the severe strains to which the international monetary system has been subjected in the recent past.

As always, the smooth running of the meetings reflected the organizational ability of the Bank/Fund Conferences Office, under the supervision of Erik Friis. Orchestrating the 1983 meetings was made more difficult by the fact that all the preliminary meetings were held in the new Meeting Hall at Fund headquarters. As expected, this arrangement greatly complicated the registration and communications process, whose efficient operation can only be attributed to the competence of Michael Dennison and his staff.

The Annual Meetings always generate extremely large quantities of paperwork, but Gertrude Long and her staff ensured that all speeches and other documents were typed, edited and proofread, translated, printed, and distributed in the shortest time possible. And not only is there paperwork involved in the preparation of documents, but also in the handling of finances for the delegates. As usual, Robert Noe's finance office was one of the most frequented spots in the Sheraton, and his staff's ability to handle all kinds of request with equanimity and efficiency was welcomed by the delegates.

The task of designing seating plans, preparing signs, and generally taking care of all meeting room arrangements was entrusted to John Wharen and his staff, while Gulnar Djeddaoui and her team of assistants were responsible for handling meeting room services. The hectic but otherwise pleasant job of organizing social events was once again performed by Barbara Hughes and her staff, who spent many hours sending invitations and ensuring that all social activities ran smoothly.

Once again, Alex Governatori was in charge of transporting delegates and staff back and forth to the Sheraton.

Charles Bielaski and his team were responsible for handling international transportation arrangements, and this included providing any assistance needed by delegates as they landed at Dulles International Airport.

The meetings were well covered by the press, with 923 journalists from almost 60 countries presenting credentials; as in past years, all press arrangements were handled by Hellmut Hartmann and his staff. Of course, David Armour's Morning Press continued to be one of the most sought-after publications at the meetings, with the more than 20 editions issued during the week disappearing almost as soon as they were set out.

Many staff members contributed to the success of the meetings, but space limitations do not permit us to name them all. The collages on the front page and on pages 6 and 7 (by Violeta Lotuaco and Robert Frederick) give an overview of their activities.

THE BRETTON WOODS RECREATION CENTER has just ended another highly successful year. The mild winter, fine spring, and hot and dry summer, combined with a record membership, brought about the most intensive use of the Center since its inception in 1968. The Board of Directors, together with the seven committees responsible for running the Center, has been encouraged by the evidence that the policy decisions taken in the past two or three years to restrict the use of the Center by outsiders are yielding favorable results. The Board is now formulating plans for the future, with the aim of preserving what has been achieved so far but also adopting a flexible, open-ended approach to further development.

The overriding aim is to continue to expand membership, especially of Fund staff members. To this end, a variety of proposals are being considered to enhance the attractions of the Center. One proposal, that for installing a permanent tennis building over four hard courts, was approved by the Board and reached an advanced stage--even to the extent of obtaining permission for its installation from the County zoning authority. Unfortunately, a last minute and seemingly fatal defect in the arrangements to purchase a used tennis building has required the Board of Directors to re-examine the proposal.

Another tentative proposal, recently set out by the Golf Committee, is to install a nine-hole par-three golf course on the unused land on the east side of the property. The rationale for this proposal is that it would encourage families and non-golfers to take up the game in less formal conditions than are found on the regular golf course. A more ambitious proposal is to expand the clubhouse, so as to promote greater winter use of the Center, with the installation of a lounge or card room and possibly other amenities. A variety of other proposals are on the table. Up to now, however, the main constraint has been one of financing. Although the financial position of the Center is secure, most of the really desirable improvements would require financing in excess of what the Center itself could generate, and therefore would necessitate raising outside resources. These matters are to be fully discussed by the Center's Board of Directors, in consultation with the Committees concerned, in the coming months and will also be referred to the membership.

Over the fifteen years of its existence the Center has, of course, already undergone several transformations. In 1968, its undulating slopes of 283 acres were virtually treeless, except for the picnic area. It is estimated that some 7,000 to 8,000 trees have been planted since then. Other developments over this period have included the installation of a second main swimming pool, eight additional tennis courts and floodlighting on twelve courts, a second soccer field, and an expanded clubhouse.

The efficiency with which the Center is organized and run is due largely to the dedication of its operating staff. Basically, there are about sixteen permanent, full-time employees at the Center and about twice as many part-time workers. Many of the staff have been with the Center from its very beginning.

For the past nine years the day-to-day direction of the Center has been in

Thomas P. Yann

Andrea Chisholm

Virginia Jennings

Gloria Crampton

Gerald Gerard

the hands of Thomas P. Yann, the amiable and shrewd General Manager. Mr. Yann came to the Center after years of operational experience in several other clubs in the area. He has assumed the overall responsibility of supervising all phases of the Center's activities, including the golf course, swimming pool, tennis courts, summer camp, and grounds. Mr. Yann needs to be, and is, something of a "jack of all trades" and can be found wearing many hats over the course of the season. Despite his long days, he can have disturbed nights, since he lives on the property and one of his "chilling" functions is to investigate night-time intruders and marauders.

Mr. Yann is ably assisted by Andrea Chisholm, who has been at the Center for over ten years and knows its workings inside out. Ms. Chisholm is responsible for a vast range of detailed duties. These include all the accounting and banking that is done at the Center, the upkeep of membership files there, and the preparation of correspondence, reports, and monthly calendar; she also receives and answers most telephone inquiries from members.

Working closely with the General Manager is Virginia Jennings, the food and beverage manager, who has a staff of twenty part-time and full-time employees. Chief among these is Gloria Crampton, the head cook. The Center clearly does not boast of being a gourmet's delight, since its facilities are quite limited and its remote location does not encourage a large evening patronage. Nevertheless, the clubhouse can be charming in the evening, has a splendid view, and provides simple but good food. Of some importance, also, is the fact that the food and beverage operation is run at a small profit.

One of the crucially important tasks at the Center, that of maintaining the facilities in good physical shape, is the responsibility of the golf course and grounds superintendent, Gerald Gerard. An agronomist from the University of Maryland, Mr. Gerard has been at the Center from its start. He is assisted by a loyal team of co-workers, including Earl Lewis, Assistant Superintendent (who has also served at the Center for fifteen years); Earl Stine, golf course technician (twelve years); Earl Fox, irrigationist (ten years); William Beachley, greenskeeper (four years); Jerry Stine, tennis court technician (four years); and James Barnes, mechanic. The team is responsible for maintaining all facilities on the site--golf course, swimming pool area, tennis courts, and soccer fields, as well as the interior and exterior of all buildings. It is a highly organized and hard-working group, beginning its operations at 4:00 in the morning on weekends and at 6:00 or 7:00 on other days. To this team must go chief credit for the excellent order in which the Center is maintained. Beyond that, however, the careful siting of flower beds and the care with which they are tended is evidence of the concern with which the natural beauty of the Center is being protected and enhanced.

Gordon Murray

Bill Macones

Richard Shelly

Thomas Bichy

Terence Killen

Alberto DeVita

Another long-serving and outstanding figure at the Center is the golf professional, Gordon Murray. Born within driving range of St. Andrews, and recruited from the position of Assistant Teaching Professional at the Chevy Chase Country Club, Mr. Murray began operating his shop and services at the Center--from a caravan--in 1968, almost before the golf course was opened. Despite his years in the United States, he still speaks with a thick Scottish brogue and can, if asked, be disconcertingly penetrating and clear-sighted in analyzing golf swings. Together with his courteous and quiet assistant, Jim Napier, Mr. Murray has been almost entirely responsible for developing the Center's golf program and elevating it to the high levels that it has now attained. The other important member of the permanent golf triad is Bill Macones, the starter, who has succeeded in maintaining good order on the first tee with unfailing good nature and cheerfulness.

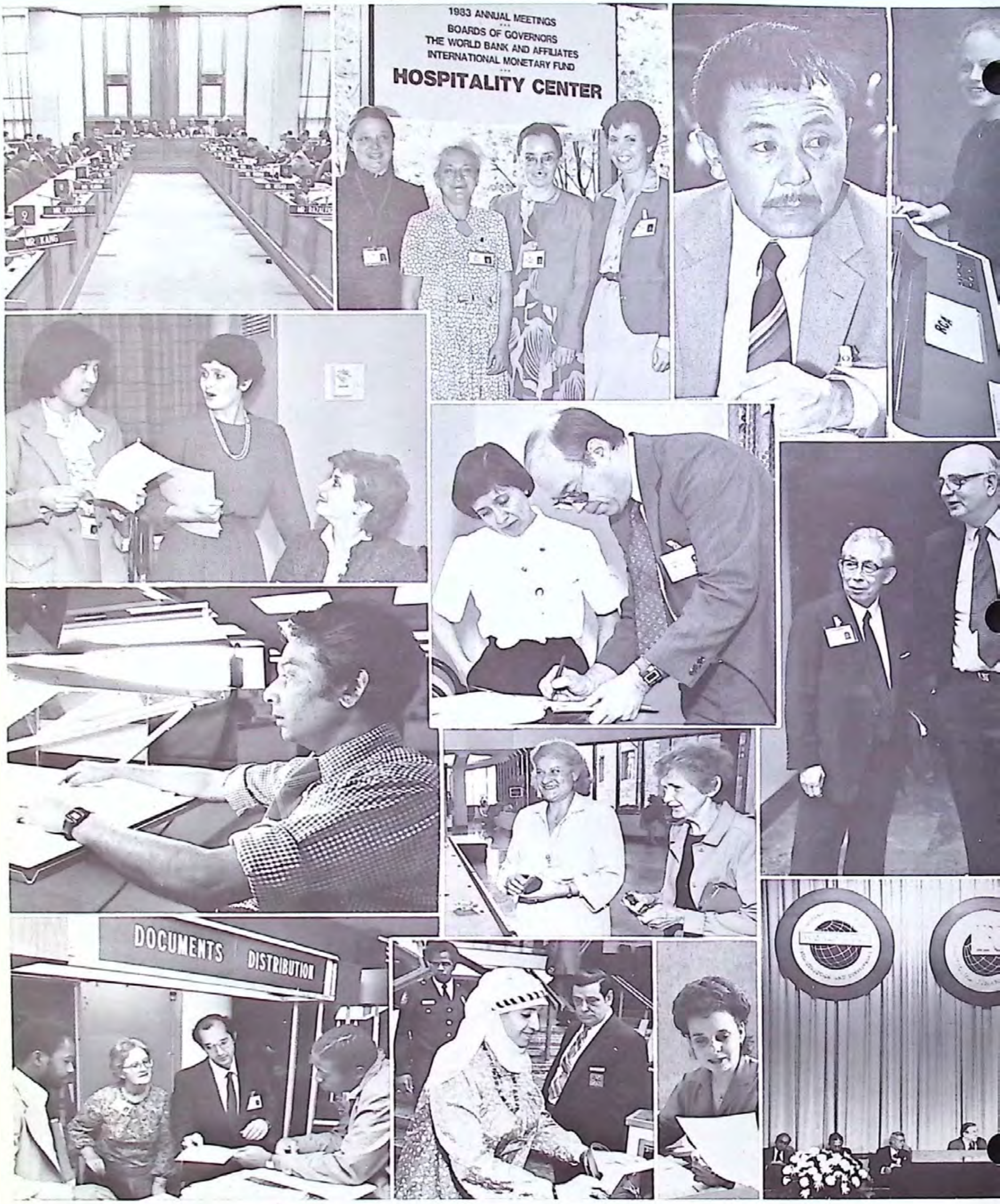
Richard Shelly, the Swimming Pool Manager, is yet another staff member who has been with the Center from its early days. An associate Professor of Health and Physical Education at Montgomery College, Mr. Shelly is in charge of opening and operating the pool in the summer months. With his two assistants, five lifeguards, and two desk clerks, he has managed to oversee the complex of pools and the diversity of its users with discretion, philosophy, and good humor.

One of the real family benefits offered by the Center is the Summer Day Camp, with its door-to-door bus service operating between the Fund and the Center. For the past six years, this immensely popular facility has been directed by Thomas Bichy, Associate Professor of Physical Education at Montgomery College. Together with his assistant Henry Danver and a team of six youthful Counselors, Mr. Bichy has devised an exciting and rounded schedule, including tennis, swimming, arts and crafts, fishing, hiking, and team sports, that has been much appreciated over the years by parents and children alike.

And lastly, the Tennis Professional, Terence Killen, is making a distinctive mark on members' tennis activities. He has proven to be a most effective tennis pro in his two seasons at the Center, actively promoting an expanded tennis program and encouraging full use of the excellent tennis facilities available to members. For many years the tennis program has been greatly helped by the services of the seemingly ever-youthful Alberto DeVita, the tactful and efficient Courts Superintendent.

All told, we are fortunate to be so well served by such a stable, experienced, and responsible group of staff. Many have a genuine attachment to the Center, know its members well, and give of their best to make it an enjoyable place for the pleasure and relaxation of others.

(This article was written by Norman Humphreys, President of BWRC and Chairman of its Board of Directors.)


MR. KANG
1983 ANNUAL MEETINGS
BOARDS OF GOVERNORS
THE WORLD BANK AND AFFILIATES
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND
HOSPITALITY CENTER
RCA
DOCUMENTS
DISTRIBUTION


PRESS
INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND
IDA

STEPHEN P. COLLINS replaced Nigel Carter as Personal Assistant to the Managing Director on September 19. A national of the United Kingdom who is on secondment from the Bank of England, Mr. Collins received his undergraduate degree in Economics from Cambridge University and his graduate degree from the London School of Economics.

Mr. Collins joined the Bank of England in 1972, and has since held positions in several departments of the institution. In 1980 he became Assistant Private Secretary to the Governor of the Bank, a position he held until his assignment to the Fund.

Stephen P. Collins is the new Personal Assistant to the Managing Director

SANTA'S VISIT TO CHILDREN'S HOSPITAL is a joyous and eagerly awaited occasion for the youngsters whose poor health prevents them from spending the holidays at home. But the Hospital does not have a toy fund of its own and has to rely on the generosity of the community to donate the toys the young patients will receive at Christmas time.

Once again this holiday season, the Fund intends to serve as a toy collection point. Staff members who wish to donate a gift for the benefit of patients at the Hospital may place it in the toy boxes located near the Christmas tree in the Atrium.

The Christmas tree will be decorated on the week of December 5, and the toys collected will be delivered to the hospital on December 14 so that hospital staff have sufficient time to make personalized gift selections for each and every child.

Donations should consist exclusively of unused toys or games (patients range in age from those just born to 19 years old), as well as wrapping paper, ribbons, tape, and tags. Staff members are reminded that gifts should not be wrapped since safety regulations require that even labeled gifts be checked. Wrapping of donated gifts will be done by hospital personnel.

WILLIAM H. WHITE, a Senior Economist in the Research Department, died on October 18 at the age of 61. A national of the United States, Mr. White studied at Harvard University, where he received his B.A., M.A., and Ph.D degrees in Economics. He first joined the Fund in 1948 as an Economist in the Research Department, where he remained until 1958. In 1959 he joined the Brookings Institution as a Senior Staff Member. Mr. White returned to the Fund's Research Department in 1961, and was made Senior Economist in its Financial Studies Division in 1967.

Margaret Garritsen de Vries, Fund Historian and a colleague as well as a personal friend of Mr. White's who knew him from the beginning of his career at the Fund, recalls: "Bill, as he was known to so many of us, was a man with an extraordinarily keen intellect and an unusual ability to analyze and penetrate complex relationships. He made significant contributions to economics, especially to the field of monetary theory and policy. Many of his papers were published in the Fund's Staff Papers, and other studies appeared in the professional

William H. White

journals of the academic community, where Bill was widely respected. His work was known for its thoroughness and scholarly rigor. He was also exceptionally well-versed in the theoretical literature --a regular user and friend of the Fund Library.

"Above all, Bill was an economist's economist. His views and comments on their work were continuously sought-after by his colleagues as well as by economists outside the Fund. He was acquainted with such a range of topics so as to be a 'fount of information.'

"As a person, Bill also had unusually fine qualities. He was decent and modest, with high standards of integrity. He was a prodigious worker who was always willing to help others --especially his younger colleagues-- and who was open to new friends. Many people in the Fund thus feel that they had a special relationship with him. For these reasons and more, he will be sorely missed in the Fund."

THE ATRIUM SPARKLED WITH THE COLORS OF ZIMBABWE on October 14 during the opening of an exhibit of works by Ann Lindsell-Stewart and the Tengenenge Sculptors. The exhibit was opened by the Zimbabwean Ambassador, who presented the Art Society with a bouquet of protea, the wondrously colorful national flower flown in specially for the occasion.

The more than 200 art enthusiasts who attended the opening were fascinated by Ms. Stewart's semi-abstract oils and wax-and-ink drawings. Born in London, she has lived in Zimbabwe for the past 33 years and her works express the special feelings she holds for her adoptive country. A self-taught artist, she has exhibited in London, Johannesburg, Cape Town, Paris, and Edinburgh, as well as in Mozambique, Zambia, and Zimbabwe; this was her first exhibit in the United States. In appreciation for the work of the Art Society Committee in arranging the exhibition, Ms. Stewart has donated one of her paintings to the Fund. The Art Society is arranging to display the painting in the Staff Lounge for everyone's enjoyment.

Ms. Stewart's paintings were a colorful backdrop to the smoothly polished stone works of artists from the Tengenenge School of Sculpture. Their sculptures of animals and mythical creatures reflect the ancient folklore of Zimbabwe and the religious rituals of its people. The Tengenenge School of Sculpture provides the artists with living and working quarters as well as with materials and tools; their medium is the native stone donated by a local quarry. The artists are encouraged to use their imagination, and thus their art is an expression of their own creativity rather than an imitation of conventional styles.

From left to right: Mariam Khoursheed and Sheila Odell (exhibit organizers), Dorcas Bankes (representing the Tengenenge Sculptors), the Ambassador of Zimbabwe, Paul Bankes, Ann Lindsell-Stewart, and Yves Gisse

Upcoming exhibits selected by the Art Society Committee include oils, watercolors, naive paintings, woodcuts, appliques, and tapestries and textiles.

The Committee is composed of Yves Gisse (President), Lelde Schmitz (Vice President), Sheila Odell (Treasurer), Charles Collyns (Secretary in charge of minutes and preparation of monthly meetings), Shiela Wright (Secretary in charge of correspondence and files), and the following members: Dominique Berthet, Patricia Chabrier, Benedicte Christensen, Martin Gilman, John Hicklin, Mariam Khoursheed, George Morgan, and Gertrud Windsperger.

THE 1983/84 STAFF ASSOCIATION COMMITTEE took office on November 1. The new Committee is composed of the following staff members: Patrice Guilmard (who was elected Chairman), James McKee (Vice-Chairman), John Surr (Secretary-Treasurer), and Committee members David Cheney, Ilse-Marie Fayad, Ali Salehizadeh, and Piero Ugolini.

The coming year promises to be one of historic significance for the staff as decisions to be taken on several key issues-- such as the career streams exercise, compensation, and the reviews of expatriate benefits and the Staff Retirement Plan-- might have a significant impact on each staff member's future career at the Fund, as well as on his or her retirement.

The new SAC is calling for the active and sustained participation of staff members through their involvement in the various subcommittees that have been established. These are: the Advisory Subcomittee, chaired by Patrice Guilmard; the Career Development Subcommittee, which will concern itself with the career streams exercise, promotion and vacancy lists, and mobility, and which is co-chaired by David Cheney and Ilse-Marie Fayad; the Compensation Subcommittee, which will address the comparator surveys and evaluations, and which is chaired by Piero Ugolini; the Expatriation Subcommittee, which will deal with the survey of expatriate benefits and problems facing G-IV visa holders, and which is chaired by Ali Salehizadeh; the Pension Subcommittee, which will be concerned with the imminent joint Fund-Bank review of the Staff Retirement Plan, and which is chaired by James McKee; and the Welfare Subcommittee, which will deal with benefits not covered by other subcommittees, the working environment, and grievance procedures, and which is chaired by John Surr.

The SAC is especially concerned with the need to resist staff fragmentation as potentially divisive issues are addressed and for staff to arrive at united positions, even if difficult compromises have to be reached. But such goals can be attained only if staff members actively voice their opinions and help to shape SAC positions.

Patrice P. Guilmard

James R. McKee

John V. Surr

David M. Cheney

Ilse-Marie Fayad

Ali Salehizadeh

Piero C. Ugolini

New Members of the Fund Staff


F. Charles Adams
Australia - EUR


Caroline Atkinson
U.S.A. - ETR


Edgar Ayales
Costa Rica - BUR


Jacques Baldet
France - FAD


David A. Brodsky
U.S.A. - EUR


Maria Lourdes Chuidian
Philippines - ETR


Stephen P. Collins
U.K. - OMD


Paul R. Cotterell
Australia - BUR


Diana M. Cunningham
U.K. - EUR


David Driscoll
U.S.A. - EXR


Patricia V. Edwards
Argentina - WHD


Mohamed A. El-Erian
Egypt - ETR


Miki Eran
Israel - OED


Ana M. Eyzaguirre
Peru - WHD


Roslyn Farrell
Australia - ADM


V. Govindarajan
India - OED


Jorge P. Guzman
El Salvador - WHD


Richard D. Haas
U.S.A. - RES


Nadeem Ul Haque
Pakistan - OED


Emilio S. Heredia
Mexico - BUR


Hans-Joachim Huss
Germany - EUR


Hirotaka Kobayashi
Japan - OED


Thomas Leddy
U.S.A. - TRE


Celia Porro
U.S.A. - ADM


Magdy M. S. Rizk
Egypt - BLS

SIMONE DELAVIGNE, who retired from the Fund in March 1980, died on October 3 at the Georgetown University Hospital after a long fight with cancer. Miss Delavigne joined the Fund in 1963 as bilingual secretary to then Managing Director, Pierre-Paul Schweitzer. In 1973 she became Editorial Officer in the IMF Institute, where she remained until her retirement. A memorial service was held on October 5 at the Epiphany Church in Georgetown. The family suggests that as an act of remembrance, friends wishing to do so could make a contribution to the American Cancer Society, 1825 Connecticut Avenue, N.W., Washington D.C.,20009.

Simone Delavigne

THIRTY-YEAR STAFF. Julio E. Gonzalez, of the Western Hemisphere Department, commemorated thirty years of service in September.

TWENTY-FIVE YEAR STAFF. Frances Wichin, of the Secretary's Department, commemorated twenty-five years of service in September.

TWENTY-YEAR STAFF. Ohal Hephzi, of the Office of Executive Directors, commemorated twenty years of service in September.

MARRIAGES. Argery Bitchakas, of the Western Hemisphere Department, married Bruce D. Cooke on August 20; Natasha Nababan, of the Secretary's Department, married Michael Minges, of the Bureau of Computing Services, on September 3;Isis Bengoechea, of the Administration Department, married Michael R. Calabrese on September 17; Hoe Ee Khor, of the Western Hemisphere Department, married Levy Punsalan on September 24; and Gina Avvakoum, of the Exchange and Trade Relations Department married Larry W. Britton on October 2.

BABIES. A daughter, Kristina Lorraine, was born on August 24 to Mr. and Mrs. Wayne E. Lewis; a daughter, Romina R., was born on September 13 to Mr. and Mrs. Romeo Bernardo; a daugher, Eleanor A., was born on September 22 to Mr. and Mrs. John McDonald; a son, Alexis S., was born on September 18 to Mr. and Mrs. Paulo Neuhaus; and a son, Paramat B. was born on September 28 to Mr. and Mrs. Pisit Leeahtam.

RESIGNATIONS. The following staff members resigned from the Fund in September: Luca Barbone, Michael Rahill, Kenneth Rogoff, Massimo Russo, Shlomo Tarab, and Martin Toro.

RETIREES. The following staff members retired in September: Joseph Chatelain, of the Western Hemisphere Department, V. K. S. Nair, of the Office of Executive Directors, and Alfredo E. Roldan, of the IMF Institute.

STAFF TRANSFERS. The following staff transferred during September: V. R. Bedrossian, from OMD to SSG; Erika Beyer, from BLS to ADM; Ooi Voon Chen, from BUR to ADM; Laszlo Garamfalvi, from ADM to FAD; Mohamed Hosny, from the post of Resident Representative in Sudan to MED; and V. Sundararajan from RES to CBD.

staff news
Published by the
Current Publications Division
of the External Relations Department
International Monetary Fund
Washington, D.C. 20431

Year 1983 - Issue No. 7