

# *The GPED Newsletter*

*July 2010*



**GPED Class Photo April 2010**



**VANDERBILT  
UNIVERSITY**

Dear GPED Alumni:

With this Newsletter, I bid you adieu as director of the GPED. The past two years in this position have been highly rewarding for me both at the professional and personal levels. Indeed, interaction with young Program students may have added a few years to my life! I also enjoyed greatly re-connecting with many of our alumni who were students with me at Vanderbilt many moons ago—the 2006 Nobel Peace Prize winner Muhammad Yunus from Bangladesh, Ali Ercelawn from Pakistan, Ow Chin Hock from Singapore, Ibrahim Eris from Turkey, Adolfo Figueroa from Peru, Jose Augusto Savasini and Luis Paulo Rosenberg from Brazil, Leonardo and Flor Cardemil from Chile, and Heraclio Atencio Bello from Venezuela. I hope to remain in touch with all the current and past students of the GPED. My Vanderbilt e-mail address [suhas.ketkar@vanderbilt.edu](mailto:suhas.ketkar@vanderbilt.edu) will work at least for another year.



Suhas Ketkar

The GPED has been blessed to have great leadership in the past. Professor James Worley was the Program Director for twenty-five years from 1963 to 1988. Following his retirement, Professors Sam Morley, Kathryn Anderson, James Foster and Andrea Maneschi helped sustain and grow the Program. The directors were ably assisted first by Marilyn Whiteman and Francis Rich and then by Mouzon Siddiqi and Marie Kelley. I am convinced that I would have found it impossible to do a half-way decent job of running the Program for the past two years without Mouzon's help. Thank you very much, Mouzon and Marie.

But any program is as good as the students participating in it. The GPED has been very fortunate in attracting quality students from many countries around the world. You the alumni have played a key role in advertising the Program. Please continue to keep in touch and urge the best and the brightest from your country to come to Vanderbilt.



Kamal Saggi

The GPED is now poised to scale new heights with Kamal Saggi set to join as Director in August 2010. He comes to Vanderbilt from Southern Methodist University (SMU) in Dallas, Texas where he was formerly Dedman Distinguished Collegiate Professor of Economics. His research interests include international trade and investment, economic development and industrial organization. He earned the B.A. degree from Ohio Wesleyan University and the M.A. and Ph.D. degrees from the University of Pennsylvania. Professor Saggi is currently Associate Editor of the Journal of International Economics and is widely published. He has held consultancies at the International Center for Trade and Sustainable Development, the Andean Development Corporation, SciDev.Net, the World Bank, the Commonwealth Secretariat, the IFC, and KPMG. He is married and has twins—a son and a daughter—who will enter 2<sup>nd</sup> grade in Nashville this fall. Professor Kamal Saggi's wife, Professor Rupi Saggi, also holds a teaching appointment in the Department and, in fact, will teach "Project Evaluation" for the GPED next spring.

## Former Directors

**Kathryn Anderson** is just “down the hall” from the Program so we get to see her often. She is still teaching the Thesis Seminar. She also teaches “Labor Economics” “Education and Economic Development,” and “Special Topics in Development Policies.” Her research interests take her to Kyrgyzstan, Kazakhstan and other countries in the area. This summer she is visiting Turkey and will meet GPED alumni there.

**James Foster** and his wife **Irene** have completed their first year as professors at George Washington University. The two of them attended our GPED Alumni Reception in Washington in March and we caught up on all the news. James is at Oxford this summer.

**Andrea Maneschi** continues to teach in the Department. Courses taught include “History of Economic Thought,” “International Trade” and the “Freshman Seminar: Adam Smith.” Andrea’s office is close by so we also get to see him very often.

**Samuel Morley** continues to work with the International Food Policy Research Institute (IFPRI) in Washington, D.C. We were delighted to see Sam and Monica at the GPED Alumni Reception in March 2010. They are both doing very well.

**Rendigs Fels (1917-2010).** Rendigs Fels, born in Cincinnati, Ohio on June 11, 1917, died in Nashville, Tennessee on January 24, 2010. He earned the Ph.D. at Harvard in 1948 and accepted an appointment at Vanderbilt in the same year. He twice chaired Vanderbilt’s Department of Economics. Professor Fels played an important role in creating the GPED and served as its first director.



## Former Professors

**Cliff Huang** sent us Holiday greetings last December. Here’s his letter with all his updates: “Last August I went back to Los Angeles after spending 14 months in Taiwan. However, I did not stay long—only four months in LA, before I came back to Taiwan again in early December. Currently I am doing research at the Academia Sinica in Taipei and will not be back to Los Angeles until mid-February. During the four months I was in LA, I did house hunting and bought a house in East Pasadena (on the border of Arcadia and Pasadena). However, I won’t move in until sometime in May because I will do a major remodeling when I get back to LA in February (of course I am not doing it by myself any more). I will have an open house in May and hope you all might visit me before I am scheduled to go back to Taiwan again in July for two to three more months.”

**Tony Tang** has recently moved to Austin, Texas and asked that we pass his address along to his GPED friends. I know he would love to hear from those of you who were in the GPED during his time at Vanderbilt. **His new address is: 11405 Viridian Way, Austin, Texas 78739. His telephone number is (512) 551-8824.**

### **Department of Economics Faculty and their Publications**

The current Economics Department Faculty and their publications may be viewed at this web site: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/Econ/faculty/faculty.html>

**Mouzon and Marie** The big news is that Marie and Mouzon are now on Facebook. This is a great way to keep up with them and send along news. If you want to visit them online, go to: <http://www.facebook.com/#!/profile.php?id=100001128254035> for Mouzon and <http://www.facebook.com/#!/profile.php?id=1096604505&ref=ts> for Marie.

Mouzon and her husband Sultan are both doing well. Sultan is now retired and has a little more free time. He enjoys getting together with GPED students and was thrilled when a group came to their house for Father's Day with food, cake, flowers, a balloon and card and a collage of pictures of him with many of the GPED students. Some of the students stayed later and watched the World Cup match. Mouzon plans to work a few more years. She says it will be very hard to leave the GPED when she retires. They go to Atlanta once or twice a month to visit Sherry, Steve and the two grandsons.



*(Left)* Mouzon and Sultan with GPED Student Muhamad Mat Yaakob's baby at the Awards Dinner in March 2010.

*(Right)* Marie and grandson Michael are pictured here.

Marie, her husband Pat, and their grandson Michael are all doing well also. Michael continues to be a top swimmer and will be competing in the Nashville City Swim Meet again this summer. He has been the "High Point" winner (first place) in all strokes he entered—Back, Breast, Butterfly and Individual Medley—in the meets he has been in this summer. "We believe he will do well again this year at the City Meet" Marie said. "We love to watch him; he takes off and flies!" All Marie's children and other grandchildren are doing well too: Brucker (16), Michael (14), Abbey (14), Bailey (11), Grace (9), Alexis (9), Kyla (7), Emma (7), and Taylor (2).



### **Current and New Students**

In the current class, we have several students from the U.S.—the second largest group following China. We also have our first student from Tunisia this year. Following a large class of 33 students in fall 2009 and one student in the spring, we are preparing for a class of 30 in August. China and the U.S. will continue to be the largest groups. We are also expecting students from Ethiopia, Honduras, Korea, Lebanon, Turkey, Uganda and Zimbabwe. As the number of applicants and students enrolling in fall has increased in the past 2-3 years, the GPED will no longer admit students in spring. The program is also looking at deadlines for applications—moving away from our rolling-admission policy.

### **Field Trip to D.C.**

We at the GPED depend on our Washington D.C. alumni to facilitate our annual field trip to the nation's capital. We always look forward to meeting many of you at the reception in D.C. As we were unable to take the trip in Spring 2008 (because of the financial crisis), we had an exceptionally large group on the trip this past spring—first and second-year students. It was a great trip! Not only did we have a large number of students, but an exceptionally large number of Alumni attended the reception. Some recent alumni are pictured below.



**Left to right: (Back Row) Patrick Jordan (2007-08); Olutola Oni (2006-2007); Mouzon Siddiqi, GPED Program Coordinator; Suhas Ketkar, GPED Director; Mekael Teshome (2006-07), Marie Kelley, GPED Program Assistant; Sait Mboob (2007-08); and Eissa Al-Rumaithi (2007-08). Front Row: Kirsten Funes Deras (2006-07), Ely Shabani (2007-08), Daniel Goodman (2006-07) and Marshall Carter (2006-07).**

**This photo includes current GPED Students also. Left to Right: (Back Row) Xing, Zhenhua; Tual Tuang; Raffi Garcia (2007-08); Mekael Teshome (2006-07); Dilip Rabha; Ely Shabani (2007-08); Sultan Siddiqi; Eissa Al-Rumaithi (2007-08); Marshall Carter (2006-07); Hiro Takao; (Second Row) Swizen Rubbani; Patrick Jordan (2007-08); Jonathan LeQuan. (Front Row) Zhao, Xuyang.**



**Alumni and former Directors who attended the reception (but are not pictured above) include: Vivian Agbegha (2004-05), Kofi Anim (2003-04), Teresa Deras (1990-91), Samir El-Khoury (1970-71), George Ferguson (2006-07), James Foster (former Director), Raffi Garcia (2007-08), He Shan (2007-08), Anna Ivanova, Ray Martin (1966-67), Sam Morley (former Director), Edgard Sevilla (1957-58).**



Visit to the Embassy of Malaysia, Washington, D.C.

**The highlight of the trip was our visit to the Embassy of Malaysia. (See pictures above.) Our entire group was invited for a wonderful evening which included dinner, dancing, entertainment, and a beautiful presentation of the country of Malaysia, its people and culture. We are deeply grateful to the Staff of the Embassy of Malaysia—and to our GPED students from Malaysia who coordinated the arrangements with Embassy personnel— for the delightful evening.**



**Teresa Deras (far left), Class of (1990-91) from Honduras and her daughter Kirsten (Class of 2006-07) also from Honduras who now lives in D.C., hosted a dinner for Sultan and Mouzon Siddiqi, Marie and Pat Kelley and Suhas Ketkar (who took this picture!) on our March field Trip to D.C. It was a wonderful reunion!**

## Alumni Notes

### Deaths

We were saddened this past year to learn of the deaths of four of our alumni: **Antranig Sarkissian** of Egypt (Class of 1959-60), **Hector Neyra** of Peru (Class of 1968-69), **Thomas Jefferson** of the Cayman Islands (1974-75), **Shaukut Ali** of Pakistan (Class of 1975-76).

## News Highlights

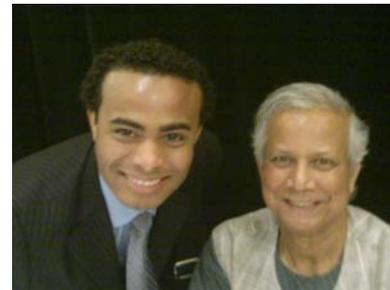
Shown below are some alumni highlights from this past year—a small sample of the news collected in the 2010 Newsletter (attached).

*(Right)* Just after the last Newsletter was sent, we heard the wonderful news that **Muhammad Yunus (1965-66)** from Bangladesh had been awarded the **Presidential Medal of Freedom** in August 2009 by U.S. President Barack Obama.



*(Left)* **Yunus** was in D.C. on May 14, 2010 to sign his new book, Building Social Business. Proceeds from the event were donated to the Fonkoze Foundation, a non-profit institution on the cutting edge of the delivery of rural financial services.

*(Right)* **Yunus** is pictured with GPED alumnus **Raffi Garcia (Class of 2007-08)** from Dominican Republic/U.S. who attended the D.C. book-signing event.



*(Left)* **Boubacar Sidiki Traore (Class of 1985-86)** from Mali, who has worked for many years at the African Development Bank (ADB)—first in Cote D’Ivoire and then in Tunisia—has been appointed by the President of the ADB to the position of Regional Resident Representative for Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. He currently lives in Libreville, Gabon.

*(Right)* **Sudarno Sumarto (Class of 1989-90)** from Indonesia. After serving ten years as Director of the SMERU Research Institute in Jakarta, Sudarno took a year off and is a Visiting Fellow at the Asia Pacific Research Center at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. His wife and three children are with him.





*(Left)* Pictured here with her son is **Meissa Dieng Cisse (Class of 1995-96)** from Senegal. We just learned that Meissa is working as an Evaluation Specialist for UNDP in the Democratic Republic of Congo.



*(Right)* **Iahli Patale (Class of 2004-05)** from Chad is currently working for the UNDP in Niger. She was previously employed by UNDP in the Democratic Republic of Congo. We wonder if she and Meissa knew each other there or if their employment overlapped.



*(Left)* For the past two years, **Ki-Sub Nam (Class of 1993-94)** from Korea has been busy directing two important departments At the Export Import Bank of Korea (Korea Eximbank): Personnel and Credit Policy. During the global financial crisis, his work doubled. In July he was promoted to Executive Director of the Bank. His wife, Hee Kyung, manages a consumer education NGO and lectures in college. Their daughter Soo-jin is in her second year at Harvard Law School; their son Sung-hyun will go to Boston University this fall.



*(Right)* **Eissa Al-Rumaithi (Class of 2007-08)** from the United Arab Emirates was recently named Chief of Staff, UAE Embassy-Cultural Division. Among his other duties, Eissa works with all students from the UAE who are studying in the United States.

**Sung Jae Lee (Class of 2002-03)**, who works for the Korean National Assembly is now posted with the National Assembly in Geneva. We also learned that Sung Jae earned the Ph.D. this year from Korea University.

### Alumni Visitors

Many alumni visited us during the year. Hopefully we have not left anyone out. If so, come to see us again and we'll promise to "get you in" the next time.

**Iahli Patale (Class of 2004-05)** from Chad. After graduating, she worked for the U.N. in Congo for two years and now works in Niger for the UN. Iahli came for three weeks—and it was just wonderful!

**Kadir Gunay (Class of 1972-73)** from Turkey and his wife visited with us this spring. They had been in Atlanta visiting their daughter. Andrea Maneschi, Marie, Mouzon and I had a delightful lunch together with them.

**Hernan Puentes (Class of 1965-66)** and his wife Beverly were able to stop by for a short visit on Monday after Thanksgiving. They were returning home from a trip to Dallas to visit their daughter and her family. It was wonderful to see them and catch up on all the news.

**Violet Wang Li (Class of 1980-81)** visited us last July. She was at Vanderbilt attending a Tai Chi Chuan Symposium on Health, Education and Cultural Exchange in the U.S. It was great to have her here!

**Aryan Wargadalam (Class of 1987-88)** and his wife were in Nashville for a conference. They came by the office and we had a very nice visit reminiscing about our Indonesian alumni and friends.

**Roberto Penalosa (Class of 1995-96)** and his wife Maria Agustina visited us in early October. They had lunch and a nice visit with Mouzon.

**Kakhramon Yusupov (Class of 1997-98)** was back in Nashville to finish his dissertation in the winter. He has now earned the Ph.D. in Economics. We are so proud of you!

**Olutola Oni (Class of 2006-07), Patrick Jordan (Class of 2007-06) and Eissa Al-Rumaithi (Class of 2007-08)** all came to Nashville (from D.C.) for Memorial Day weekend. It was just great to have them back!

### Acknowledgement of Contributions to the Worley Fund

We received during the year contributions to the Worley Fund from: **Tso-Yung Wang, Anis Salib, Jagadish Upadhyay, Hernan Puentes, Jane Yu Ho Li, Samir El-Khoury, Leonardo and Flor Cardemil, Sultan Hafeez Rahman, Yasmeen Mohiuddin and Muhammad Siddiqi, Jin-Tan Liu, Robert Mosko, Ebralie Mukarusagara Mwizerwa, Peter Redvers-Lee, Natasha Rumyantseva, Chenyu Zhang.**

## Nashville News

The big news for Nashville this year was not good news. Nashville experienced a flood resulting from 2 full days and nights of rain on May 1 and 2, 2010. First Mill Creek overflowed, then the Harpeth River and then the Cumberland River—the large river that runs through downtown Nashville. Pictured below (left to right) are: (1) Downtown Nashville (close to the river bank); (2) Charlotte Avenue, (3) Interstate 24 East close to Briley Parkway, and (4) the inside of Opryland Hotel. Twenty-four people in Tennessee lost their lives and many, many people lost their homes, animals, cars and possessions. All of us in the GPED were very lucky but we all knew people who were affected. However, Nashville is rebounding quickly. We greatly appreciate all our alumni who called or emailed us when they heard the news.



### **GPED T-Shirts**

Two years ago, students in the GPED designed a T-Shirt for the Program. Enclosed is an order form if you are interested in purchasing one or more. We are selling/shipping them at cost: \$10 per shirt (which includes postage). They are available in Vanderbilt colors: Black or Gold.

### **GPED Address Roster**

Instead of sending you hard copies of the address roster, this year we are up-loading the document to the GPED Website: <http://www.vanderbilt.edu/gped>. Perhaps we will save a few trees by doing so. Of course, if you would like to receive a hard copy of the address roster, please let me, Mouzon or Marie know and we will be happy to mail one to you.

Sincerely yours,

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## 2010 Alumni Newsletter

### 1957-58

**Edgard Sevilla** We were delighted to have Edgard at our Alumni Reception this past year at the Embassy Suites in D.C. It was wonderful seeing him and we all had a very nice visit with him. We hope that he will be able to come again next year!

**Tso-Yung Wang** Tso-Yung wrote us in early November after receiving the 2009 Newsletter. He sent us a very generous check for the Worley Fund. We want to thank him so much for his generosity and continued support for the GPED.

Then in December he sent us a lovely Christmas card. Tso-Yung, we want to thank you for remembering us at Christmas every year. We hope that we will hear from you during this upcoming year.

### 1959-60

**Sayed A. Baha** In early November we received a letter from Sayed. He was writing to Mouzon and congratulating her on the Commodore Award she won last year. He said he recalls his days at Vanderbilt and remembers Marilyn Whiteman and how much she did for the students during her days here. Mouzon holds the same position as Marilyn did. So those of you who were here when Marilyn was here you can relate to the type of person Mouzon must be. She loves the Program and gives it and the students her all. Thanks for writing such a nice letter, Sayed.

**Antranig Sarkissian** We were very saddened when we learned the news that Antranig had died this past fall, October 20, 2009. We learned the news from **Marianne Ziver (Class of 1961-62)**. He was Vice President of Citibank in New York, the eastern region of New York. Antranig is survived by his wife, two daughters, three grandchildren, his mother, two brothers, and three sisters. We send our heartfelt sympathy to his entire family.

### 1961-62

**U Hla Maung(Ambassador)** U Hla sent us another beautiful Season's Greeting Card this year from Myanmar this past Holiday Season. We are always so happy to receive a card from U Hla. We would love it if he could write us a line or two. Write us when you can U Hla!

**Marianne Ziver** Well it is always nice to hear from Marianne and like last year she sent us a very nice and long letter about all she had done in 2009. This was a letter sent to family and friends at Christmas. I will try to tell you most of her goings on.

In mid-April her nephew, Paul, flew from Sun City, Arizona to Bethesda, Maryland with his family. On April 18<sup>th</sup>, the Zivers and the Dittmanns celebrated the baptism of Taryn Maria, her nephew's second daughter. The church baptism was followed by late lunch at Taryn's grandmother's home. The menu was a typical middle-Eastern menu.

In May, the three oldest Ziver sisters took their youngest sister Marilyn to a restaurant in the heart of Bethesda to celebrate her birthday. Then in August they celebrated some more birthdays. Three of the Ziver sisters' birthdays are in the same month. They went to new restaurant in Baltimore, built on the inner harbor. There was a tall wooden lighthouse painted bright red and a water taxi stopped in front of their table. Sounds very interesting! Marianne said that of course they all ordered fish. I bet it was wonderful.

In late August they Ziver family rented a couple of SUV's and headed to New Jersey City, NJ for a lovely family wedding. The wedding hall at the Regency had an open hall that looked out on the Hudson River and a stunning view of the Manhattan skyline. She told us how beautiful it all was and I can just imagine. I am sure the whole wedding and reception was just wonderful!

The sad news Marianne shared with us is that one of our GPED Alums had died. **Antranig Sarkissian (Class of 1959-60)**, died on October 20, 2009. He had gone to the hospital for minor surgery and there was some complications and he died. We are so sorry to hear this news. Marianne said that he was a Vice President of the Citibank of New York. He received his MA in Economics at Vanderbilt in 1961. We were so sorry to hear this news. Marianne had known him for some time.

Marianne spent Thanksgiving and Christmas with her family and plans to spend New Year's with a relative there in the area and sink down and watch television and the watch New Year's ring-in all over the world.

Thank you for such a newsy letter. We hope 2010 will be a wonderful one for you! We also hope to see you in D.C. this year in March!

## **1964-65**

**Anis Salib** Anis sent his annual contribution to our Worley Award Fund again this year. We are so grateful to him for his kind and continuous support to the Fund. We have not heard from him otherwise. We would love to get a note from him. We hope all is well with him. Again, thank you so much for your contributions. We wish you well!

**Jagadish Upadhyay** We heard from Jagadish right after he received last years Newsletter. He said he always enjoys getting the Newsletter and reading the alumni news. He wishes to hear from more classmates. He told us that he is 91! He fondly recalls his days here at Vanderbilt. He also suggested that we write about the professors here. Actually in the Newsletter package there was a section on all the current professors here in the Econ Dept. It lists their papers and all they have had published in recent years. There are still a few of the professors who have retired around and they write us occasionally. Cliff Huang is living in California now, close to one of his children and he does go back and forth to Taiwan for periods at a time. He does some teaching there and/or does research and gives seminars. He is doing great! We do miss him here. Professor Tang lives in Florida and we hear from him at least once a year. Professor Westfield lives in Nashville and doing well. We hear from him from time to time. Professor Fels and Marilyn Whiteman are here in Nashville and doing well. I run into Marilyn at the grocery every now and then. So this is somewhat of a short summary on the professors I know about.

Jagadish, we also want to thank you again for your continuous support by your contribution to our Worley Fund. Thank you for writing and we always look forward to hearing from you. Maybe we will get to see you in D.C. in 2010.

## **1965-66**

**Aly Ercelan** Aly wrote to Mouzon in late September and hearing the news, from his wife Ann, regarding Mouzon Award. He congratulated her on the Commodore Award and wished Mouzon and her family the very best. Thank you Aly for your kind letter to Mouzon, I know she appreciated it very much.

Now, sometime it would be nice to hear from you about what you have doing in these recent years! Drop a note, we would love to hear from you.

**Hernan Puentes** Hernan wrote to Mouzon in mid-November congratulating Mouzon on her Award. He said, "I cannot think of a more deserving recipient with all that you do for GPED and its students!" This is very true!

They also told us that they plan to stop by the GPED for a short visit on the Monday after Thanksgiving weekend, on their return back from Dallas.

Sure enough on that Monday we were delighted that Hernan and Beverly were able to stop by for a short visit to the GPED on their return trip from Dallas, Texas. They spent Thanksgiving with their daughter's family and I am sure they had a wonderful visit with their grandchild. Unfortunately, I had taken the day off and did not get to see them.

Mouzon said they looked great and had a very nice Thanksgiving Holiday. I hope we will be able to see them on our Field Trip this coming year.

In late December we received a contribution to The James S. and Rosemary Worley Fund from the Puentes. They always remember the Worley Fund each year and we are so grateful for the continuous support of The Fund. Thank you so much Hernan and Beverly.

We were hoping to see Hernan and Beverly when we were in D.C. on our Field Trip but they told us that they would in Chile at that time. We were sorry that we would miss them this year. During that time the earthquake hit in Chile and we were most concerned about their welfare. We tried contacting them and of course the communication was down. We finally heard word from **Leonardo Cardimil (Class of 1972-73)** that Hernan and Beverly were okay. Later in April we received an e-mail note from them saying they were okay but that was one of the worst experiences they had been through. Then after the big one they slept in their car for a night or two and that was reassuring to them, since they live in a 4<sup>th</sup> floor apartment. We are just very glad that they were not injured and are safe!

**Muhammad Yunus** On August 12<sup>th</sup>, 2009 Muhammad Yunus received the Presidential Medal of Freedom. We watched it on our computers in our office. We, of course, are so proud of him and always especially happy when he wins these awards. I can't think of anyone more deserving than he!

We also got word from several of our Alumni that he was going to be in D.C. to discuss his new book, Building Social Business. The admission price was \$35.00, which included a copy of his book. That is a real deal! This was also a fund raiser For FONKOZE.

## **1966-67**

**Javier Gisbert** In December we received a very beautiful Christmas card from Javier and his wife Bobbie Sue. There was a sweet note inside saying that they hope the beauty of the Season will be with us throughout the coming year. Thank you so much and we wish the same for the two of you too.

**Arthur P. Guimaraes** Arthur wrote us and was requesting a copy of his thesis. He said over the years and several moves he lost a few of his papers, documents and his thesis. He was in hopes that we still have a copy and one send one on to him. I hope that we did do this for him. If we haven't I will see that we get to it right away. It was good hearing from Arthur.

**Raymond Martin** We were delighted when Raymond attended our Alumni Reception in D.C. this year. It was a pleasure having him there. We had such a huge turnout this year for the reception and we have so many GPED alumni now working in D.C. it was just grand. Thank you so much Raymond for attending, it was great having you there!

## **1967-68**

**Adolfo Figueroa** In late August 2009, our Director, Professor Suhas Ketkar received a copy of a book, **A United Theory of Capitalist Development**, written by Adolfo. Professor Ketkar appreciated receiving the book and looked forward to reading it. Congratulations, Adolfo on your book! Drop us a line sometime when you have a spare moment and tell us how your family is doing. We would love to hear from you.

## **1968-69**

**Heraclio E. Atencio Bello** Heraclio wrote a very nice letter to our Director, Suhas Ketkar in early January of this year. He told us that in 2009, the Fundacion Venezuela Positiva edited a book, a series of 13, into two volumes called Tierra Nuestra – 1498-2009. The book contains the 511 year history of Venezuela from 1498 until December 2009. Congratulations, on your book, Heraclio, I am sure it is very interesting!

Heraclio said he continues to work as an attorney and when possible as an economist. He told us that his family is well. His wife, Maria is an attorney dedicated to house affairs, is in good health but always preoccupied about the present and future for Venezuela. Heraclio's oldest daughter is an attorney too and she married a dentist and has given them two lovely grandsons. Besides being an attorney his oldest daughter has opened a shop in a renowned shopping center in Caracas where she sells bikinis she designs and manufactures along with other beachwear. Her business is going well and she is thinking about expanding to other locations in Caracas. Heraclio's second has graduated in Venezuela and studied Modern Languages. She is still single and has finished her Masters in Fashion Merchandising at Parsons School of Design in New York City. Currently she is the personal assistant in New York City to the President of Style.com. Wow Heraclio, you have some very talented daughters, I'm impressed! Heraclio's son happens to be just as talented as his sisters; he is a Graphic Designer and trained in Italy. He is working free-lance (incorporated company called CREATIUM). Heraclio said that his son is enjoying his single life and his profession.

Heraclio did offer his services to any graduates of Vanderbilt in need of a corporate lawyer in Venezuela. He specializes in mergers and acquisitions, tax issues, aviation law and foreign investment legislations. He would also love to hear from

members of his class, especially Fred Derby of Costa Rica and his wonderful Brazilian friends. So any of you out there, from Heraclio's class or those of you who knew him while he was here; he would love to hear from you. His contact information is in the address roster.

As always, Heraclio cannot write us without telling us how much he admired James Worley and he will never forget his act of kindness, wise counsel and good humored self. He also sent his best to Rosemary, Paul, Marilyn, Susan, Sam and the rest of the family. I think he remembered most of the family it seems to me! He also said that Jim Worley was an extraordinary and intelligent and honest man. He also sent warm comments about Marilyn Whiteman Fels stating, "She is the most wonderful person and a more than beautiful southern bell. Her splendid eyes and soft southern accent will never be forgotten by many." I am sure there are many of you out there that has always felt this way about James Worley, Marilyn Whiteman and Francis Rich!

Thank you so much for your very informative, newsy, and thoughtful letter. Suhas was kind enough to share it with us! We look forward to hearing from you again in the near future!

**Hector Neyra** In early November 2009, we received a letter from Hector's wife, Ana Maria. Ana Maria wrote us to inform us that Hector had died on June 5, 2009. She told us that when he returned from a business trip in early March he was in a great deal of pain and after seeing a doctor he found out that he had a terminal illness. Ana Maria also wrote Professor Andrea Maneschi about him and he forwarded the letter to us. She told Professor Maneschi that he was buried in Trujillo, Peru, the city where he was born.

Ana Maria told us that during his last years he worked as a Professor of Economics at Antenor Orrego, a private university in Trujillo. Previously he worked as a General Manager of BCRP, as an Advisor at the Republic Congress of Peru in Lima.

I wrote to Ana Maria and sent her a card from the GPED. We were so sorry to hear the sad news of Hector's passing. We sent her and all of Hector's family our heartfelt sympathy.

**Heh-Song Wang** Professor Suhas Ketkar received a letter from Heh-Song on October 9, 2009, after receiving our Newsletter. He requested that we put the following information in this Newsletter and we are happy to do so. He sent us all the information on what he has been doing over the years and his publications too.

He said in the past forty years, both during his tenure at the Asian Development Bank and since retiring from the ADB, he has pursued his passion for teaching Economics. He served as a visiting professor and special lecturer at the Graduate School of the University of Santo Tomas, Manila; the Graduate Institute of Southeast Asian Studies at Tamkang University, Taipei; the Graduate Institute of Banking and Finance, Kainan

University; the Taiwan Academy of Banking and Finance, and the Training Program of the Asian Development Bank. He currently is a Professor of Economics at the Graduate Institute of Finance, Fu Jen Catholic University, in Taipei, teaching “Financial Crisis and Financial Reform,” primarily to professional staff of domestic banks. He said it gives him a great sense of satisfaction to share his knowledge and experience with young bankers.

He has also recently written a book entitled, **Global Economic and Financial Crisis**, which was published by the Taiwan Academy of Banking and Finance, Taipei in September 2009. The book discusses the causes, development and effects of the global financial crisis, the responding policies adopted by the governments of the crisis-hit countries, and lessons learned from the crisis. Besides that book, he has had published another four books. They are: 1. **Economic and Financial Analysis of Project Financing**, 2. **Financial Analysis of Project Loans**, 3. **Financial Crisis and Financial Reform**, 4. **Current Financial Issues and Policies**. He said among these books the second book was published by the China Financial Publishing Company in Beijing and widely circulated in China.

Wow, Heh-Song, you have been **very** busy! Congratulations on all you have done, continue to do and all the books you have had published. Thank you so much with sharing this with us and I know many of your fellow GPED alumni will be interested in hearing about this.

We wish you the best in 2010!

## **1969-70**

**Jane Yu Ho Li** Jane sent us a contribution to the Worley Fund in early October. She must have sent it right after receiving our Newsletter. Jane continues to show here love and support of the GPED by making annual contributions to the Worley Fund. We want to thank her again for continuous support! We would love to hear from you, Jane. Drop us a note when you can and let us hear what all you have done over the past several years. We would love to hear from you!

**Anwar Shah** Last fall Mouzon sent Anwar a resume for one of our recent graduates and a very supportive letter for the student, for a job at the World Bank. Anwar replied back and thanked Mouzon for the resume but said that at this time he did know of any openings in that particular area and advised the student to look into the Young Professional Program there at the World Bank.

It was nice of Anwar to read her resume and respond. We would love to hear more from him. We did not get to see him in March this past year but maybe in 2011 he will be available to come to our Reception in D.C.

## **1970-71**

**Samir El Khouri** We were very happy to see Samir at our reception in D.C. this past year. We had a wonderful time visiting with him and the students also enjoyed speaking with him. We are so sorry that he has retired and he can no longer help us with the IMF but we do hope that he is enjoying his retirement. We do hope that he will be able to attend our reception again next year. We had such a wonderful turn out this past year.

## **1972-73**

**Leonardo Cardemil** In late August 2009 we had the pleasure of Leonardo and Flor visit us here in Nashville. We had a wonderful time visiting with them. The evening that they were here we got a group together and we went to Amerigo's Italian Restaurant on West End Avenue a block down from Vanderbilt. Among those attending the dinner were Professor Suhas Ketkar, Rosemary Worley, Andrea and Helga Maneschi, Sultan Siddiqi, and Pat and Marie Kelley. Mouzon was not present for the dinner as she had to go out of town. The Cardemils were sorry that she could not be there but they did get to see her earlier in the day. We all had a pleasant evening together. The Cardemils were happy being here in Nashville and made a tour around the campus and checked out where they use to live and even had the time to visit the Vanderbilt Bookstore. We all enjoyed having them here! We hope that they will be in D.C. when we take our Field Trip there this coming spring!

In December, Leonardo wrote to wrote to Mouzon and wished her a Happy New Year. They also congratulated her on winning the Commodore Award last year. He said he and Flor were looking forward to seeing us in D.C. in March, but they were in Chile when the earthquake occurred and they were unable to get out of Chile for some time. So we missed seeing them but maybe in 2011 we will get a chance to see them then!

In April, 2010 we received Leonardo and Flor's annual contribution to the Worley Fund. We want to again thank them for their continuous and generous support of the Fund. They included a note that said, "They were so sorry to miss the reception in D.C. again this year, and they hope they will be able to attend the one next year."

In early May, the Cardemils wrote us to check on us after hearing about the flood in Nashville. They were back in Chile and had just heard the reports. Thankfully we were all fine in the GPED and we appreciate the Cardemils writing and checking on us.

**Kadir Gunay** On February 28<sup>th</sup>, we heard from Kadir. He was planning on coming to Nashville for a quick visit with his wife. They were visiting with their daughter in Alabama and were driving to Atlanta then to Chattanooga and doing some sightseeing there and then coming to Nashville for a quick visit of the campus and the GPED. We were happy to hear from him and delighted that he was coming here. We took the Gunay's out to lunch at Vanderbilt Plaza and had a very enjoyable visit. Professor Suhas Ketkar, Professor Andrea Maneschi, Mouzon Siddiqi, and Marie Kelley were in attendance at the lunch.

Kadir served as Treasury Deputy Undersecretary, Vice Governor of the Central Bank and Deputy Undersecretary of The Prime Ministry. He is now retired.

It was great meeting Kadir and his wife. Thank you for coming to Vanderbilt, it was great having you hear. Keep in touch!

## **1973-74**

**Sultan Hafeez Rahman** In early December 2009, we received a generous and thoughtful contribution to the Worley Fund from Sultan. We want to thank him again for his continuous support of the GPED through his contributions. His thoughtfulness and all others too, who continue their support makes us very happy. To know that so many remember their days here and want to help someone else be able to have the opportunity that they had here. Thank you so much!

## **1974-75**

**Berati Arisoy** We heard from Berati, after telling him about **Yasmeen Mohiuddin (of this class)** and her upcoming trip to Turkey. He was very happy to hear from someone from the GPED. He provided his current contact information and gave us his schedule for June to give to Yasmeen. He would love to see her and help her in any way. He tells us that he alternates living in Izmir and Ankara every two weeks. Mouzon Siddiqi found Berati through "Facebook!" We would love to hear more about Berati, thanks for helping us!

**Ozer Guney** We found at least contact information on Ozer for Yasmeen. We actually have not heard from him personally. Hopefully if Yasmeen gets in touch with him or sees him she can give us updates on Ozer.

**Syed Muhammad Ahsan Hussain** Syed sent us his updated contact information after **Tola Oni (Class of 2006-07)** e-mailed him to see if he had any changes in his last address. He is currently a professor at Shaheed Zulfiqar Ali Bhutto Institute of Science and Technology. He sent his good wishes to all the staff in the GPED and his classmates. Thank you Syed for responded and giving us your updated information. Good hearing from you.

**Thomas Jefferson** Just recently (I am writing this entry on Dec. 31, 2009.) we learned of the death of our GPED alum, Thomas Jefferson. The Financial Secretary Office of Cayman Islands, where he worked sent us the notification. We were so sorry to hear of this death and we are passing this sad news on to all fellow GPED alumni; especially those who knew him while you were here. We send our heartfelt sympathy to his family and friends from all here in the GPED.

**Ishan Koksai** We contacted Ishan after getting a request from **Yasmeen Mohiuddin (of this class)** for contact information on alumni in Turkey. Ishan wrote us back and told us that he is now living in Rotterdam, Netherlands and has been for the last 25 years. He said that he goes back to Turkey in September and October for a visit each year. He sent his best to Yasmeen and said he is sorry he will not be around at the time she is in Turkey. He also sent us his updated contact information and that is good since we didn't have current information on him. It is nice getting back in touch with Ishan. Write us more about yourself next time!

**Yasmeen Mohiuddin & Muhammad Siddiqi** Yasmeen and Muhammad were in the same GPED class here at Vanderbilt and are married. Therefore, the news I am combining them. In late October they sent us a generous contribution to the Worley Fund. Muhammad and Yasmeen are continuous supporters of the Fund and our Program. We stay in close contact with them or at least we talk to them on the phone every now and then. We want to thank them for their love and support of the GPED. Maybe we will be fortunate and able to see each other in this coming year!

Yasmeen called our office in May from Shanghai and was there with a group from Sewanee, all boys. She will be going to Turkey and then later to Egypt. Yasmeen was asking for us to send her contact information on some of the GPED alumni living in Turkey. We followed through with the information for her and we hope to hear back from her after she returns to Sewanee.

**Maritza Salazar** Maritza wrote us a short note in mid-September 2009. He was confirming his address with us. He let us know that he continues to get the Newsletter from us yearly and how much he enjoys reading. He says that he is doing okay and that he is now partially retired. Thank you for contacting us with your contact information and it was nice getting a note from you. Please write us again and give us more about what you have been doing over the past few years. Also if you know any information about any of your fellow classmates, please pass that along to us too!

## **1975-76**

**Shaukat Ali** On June 7, 2010 we received a note from Nishat Fatima, daughter of Shaukat. She was writing to tell us that her father passed away on March 29, 2010 after a long battle with cancer. We were very saddened to hear this sad news. It was very hard for Nishat to write and inform us of her father's death. I will quote her last two sentences, "... he use to cherish his old times, he spent in Vanderbilt. He was a great economist, and a great, great father, I'm just speechless right now, as pain of losing him is beyond my staying power." We want to offer you our deepest sympathy and prayers. We wish Nishat the best always. We know he will be missed by many, especially his family.

## **1979-80**

**Sayed Muhammad Ahsan Hussain** Sayed wrote us in mid-August 2009. He gave us his updated mailing address. He sent his "Good Wishes" for the GPED staff and all his classmates. Thank you, Sayed for sending your updated contact information. We would love to have a note from you telling us what you have been doing over the years. We look forward to hearing from you.

## **1980-81**

**Violet Wang Li** Violet was in Nashville in July 2009 and was here attending a Tai Chi Chuan Symposium on Health, Education and Cultural Exchange in the United States. It was put on by Vanderbilt University, by the way. She called us and came by our office for a short visit. It was so nice getting to meet her and having her in the GPED Office! She took many pictures around campus and our office. Violet told us that she works for AT&T doing IT type of work. Maybe she will be able to return someday and have a longer visit!

**Jin-Tan Liu** Jin-Tan sent a contribution to the Worley Fund in November 2009. He is another alumnus who is very supportive of our Program and the Worley Fund. We want thank him for his support and caring! I know Jin-Tan is a very busy professor but we are in hopes that he will write and tell more about everything he has been doing since leaving Vandy!

## **1982-83**

**Djonifar, Abdul Fatah** Mr. Djonifar wrote to us after e-mailing him about his current contact information. He said he enjoys receiving the Newsletter each year and reading about all the GPED alumni. He said when he received the 2009 Newsletter he was happy to see his name mentioned by **Omar Al Madani (Class of 1991-92)**. He said he has met with him several times, once in Bali, Jakarta, and Morocco. This is nice to hear that the two of you get to meet with each other from time to time. We want to thank you for writing and for your new address and other contact information. Write us again soon!

**Nam-hun Park** Nam-hun sent us a recommendation letter for a 2010 applicant. This is the first that we have heard from Nam-hun in several years. It is always a nice surprise when receiving applications and occasionally we come across a recommendation letter from a GPED alumnus. Ham-hun is currently Dean of the Graduate School of Railroad at Seoul National University of Technology.

## **1983-84**

**Manthrigae Jacintha Jayatilake** Jacintha wrote us in late October 2009, requesting her transcripts to be sent to her. She told us that she wants to visit Nashville and see all of us. We would love it if she can. We do hope to see her in D.C. this coming March. Jacintha said that she looked up some of the professors she knew while she was here on our website and was very pleased to read about them.

Jacintha is teaching at Northern Virginia Community College as a professor of economics. Her husband, George, is Vice President of this college. She also told us that her daughter, Nadeeka is finishing her Ph.D. at George Washington University and she is

also working full-time as a senior consultant at Booze Allen Hamilton. Wow! That is very impressive. I am sure she is just brilliant and a whiz at what she does.

Jacintha also told us that she and her family were going to Sri Lanka in December, 2009 for a wedding. That sounds really nice and I am sure they will enjoy seeing family and friends.

Thanks so much for writing and we are looking forward to seeing you in D.C., on March 8<sup>th</sup>!

## **1985-86**

**Enver Gunay** Professor Kathryn Anderson contacted us and wanted to know if we have recent contact information on Enver. She tried to e-mail him but the e-mail did not go through to him. She will be in Turkey around the end of July and she would like to see him. She said especially his wife, Yavuz, who was Kathryn Anderson's son's babysitter while Enver was studying at Vanderbilt.

Mouzon used Google to find some contact information on him. He is currently Managing Director and Board Member at Unimar Yatirimlari A.S. (Oil and Energy Industry). In the past Enver also worked in the position of General Manager at Undersecretariat of Treasury, General Manager at Free Zones Directorate, and as Assistant General Manager at Free Zones Directorate all associated with the Oil and Energy Industry.

Professor was able to contact Enver and he wrote back to Professor Anderson saying he would be very happy to see her and if she hasn't made plans where she will be staying he would love for her to stay at his home.

Enver said that they have been living in Ankara since they returned to Turkey from here 24 years ago. He worked for the Turkish Government for many years but resigned in 1997, at that time he was General Manager of Foreign Investment in the Treasury. Currently Enver is Managing Director and Member of the Board of one of the foreign joint ventures with UK, Japan and Belgium Companies.

Enver told Professor Anderson that his daughter Fulya who was born in Nashville and is now in San Francisco for Master studies. He also has a son, Berkay who was born in 1990 in Ankara.

Thank you, Kathy for forwarding Enver's letter to us so that we could get all this information from him. We hope that when she meets with Enver in July that she can get him to write to us!

**Kouassi Ketempi** Kouassi called Mouzon on May 5, 2010. He was calling after hearing about the flooding in Nashville and see if everyone in the GPED were okay. Thank you, Kouassi for calling and checking on us.

Kouassi told Mouzon that he has a son in Missouri and he will be visiting with him soon. He promised to come here and visit the GPED after seeing his son. We hope that Kouassi does get to visit us. We would love getting to see him!

**Boubacar S. Traore** One of our current students, **Anis Mnif**, wrote to Boubacar and told him that he would be in Tunis in early June and would like to meet with him. Boubacar wrote him back and informed Anis that he is no longer in Tunis. Boubacar was appointed by the President of the African Development Bank, in January 2010, as Regional Resident Representative for Gabon and Equatorial Guinea. So he currently lives in Libreville, Gabon.

Boubacar did refer Anis to contact a dear friend of his and also an alum of the GPED, **Aminatta Jarra N'janko N'jie (Class of 1986-87)**. I feel sure that Anis contacted Aminatta, but I haven't heard as of right now. I am sure if Aminatta heard from him she will be happy to meet with him if she is available at the time he is there.

Boubacar sent his regards to everyone one in the GPED, especially his "cousin", Mouzon Siddiqi! Boubacar we hope to get a letter from you in this up coming year!

**Buthaina Shabany** We heard from Buthania in April of this year. She is doing okay but let's us know that the conditions are not going well in Palestine. The turmoil continues in that area of the World. A very sad situation! We all hope and pray that things will get better in that area of the world too!

## **1986-87**

**Abdiweli Ali** We found Abdiweli on the web-site of Niagara University. It was nice reading about all he has done since leaving Vanderbilt. He is currently a Professor Economics at Niagara University. He has a Masters of Public Administration from Harvard University, a Certificate of Taxation from Harvard Law School. He completed his Ph.D. in Economics at George Mason University. In 1998-99, Abdiweli was a Joel Leff Fellow of Political Economy at Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University. Also, before going to Niagara University he was a Research and Forecast Manager for the Commonwealth of Virginia. To learn more about Abdiweli's travels, courses he has taught and his publications; you can go to his website at: <http://www.niagara.edu/economics/showfaculty/143>.

Abdiweli, you have a very impressive resume! Congratulations on all you have accomplished since leaving Vanderbilt. If you get a chance drop us a note some time, we would love to hear from you!

## **1987-88**

**Syed Waqar Ali** Syed wrote us in January and gave us his new mailing address, he is now living in Canada. He also was telling us how much he enjoys reading the Newsletter each year and it takes him back to the past and his great time he had in the GPED. Thank you, Syed, for dropping us a note and updating us with your contact information. Write us again soon!

**Fikret Demir** Fikret wrote after we contacted him to let him know that Professor Kathryn Anderson will be in Ankara for a conference in July. He said he would be happy to meet with her. He sent us his contact information. We are in hopes to hear more from him after Kathryn Anderson meets with him.

**Aryan Wargadalam** Aryan came to our office and visited with us one day this past year. We were happy to see him. While he was here we gave him some GPED T-shirts to take back to several GPED alumni, whom he comes in contact with frequently.  
**Mouzon is going to add to this!**

## **1988-89**

**Ana Margoth Arevalo** Ana wrote us on May 6<sup>th</sup> right after she had heard about the flooding in Nashville and all of Middle Tennessee. She had seen some pictures on the news and wanted to check in on us and Vanderbilt. All of us here in the GPED were very fortunate and were not affected, but there were many people at Vanderbilt that were affected and even some of them lost their homes and some lost their cars, as well as their homes. The flooding was horrible and affected so many people in different areas of Nashville. Those who did not have major damage from the flooding seemed to reach out and help in anyway that they could. In all of this tragedy, there seemed to be so much good come out of so many people! Thanks for writing us, Ana!

**Kadir Aslan** Mouzon received a note from Naciye, Kadir's wife, in late December. She was writing to wish Mouzon a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Naciye said that the whole family was doing well. Naciye thanked us for the Newsletter and they always enjoy reading it. They were wondering where the Address Roster was because it was not enclosed. We were putting on our website but we have not had the time to do that. I have great hopes that it will get on the website this year! If anyone wants a hard copy let us know and we will mail you one. It was nice hearing from Kadir and Naciye this year!

## **1989-90**

**Jose Sulmane** We heard from Jose in mid April and he informed us that he was now in D.C. at the IMF. He sent us his updated address and other contact information. We look forward to seeing him next March on our annual Field Trip to D.C. and our Alumni Reception.

Jose daughters are both in college now and both are in the United Kingdom. His oldest daughter is in her second year of Marketing and Communications Strategies, and his youngest daughter is in her first year of college and studying International Law. He said he still has ten year old still at home.

It was very nice hearing from Jose and about his family. We are looking forward to seeing Jose and his family next March!

**Sudarno Sumarto** Sudarno wrote us a note last August telling us he is now in California. For one year Sudarno will be a Visiting Fellow at the Asia Pacific Research Center at Stanford University in Palo Alto, California. Sudarno will mainly be doing research. He said that he thought that he would take a break from being Director of SMERU, after ten years. He wanted more time with his family. He wanted his children to have a change of pace and live in another area of the world for a change. His oldest child is now 11, Jesita, Hanna is 9, and his son Adrien is 7.

We heard from Sudarno again in early May checking on us here in the GPED after hearing about the flooding in Nashville. Fortunately we are all fine. Sudarno said, he hopes he will be able to visit us here in Nashville before going back to Indonesia. We would love to see Sudarno! We also hope that his children have a good and safe experience while they are here in the U.S.

## **1990-91**

**Teresa Deras** Teresa wrote Mouzon in mid-September congratulating her on winning the Commodore Award. As Teresa stated and everyone agrees to this is “Well deserved recognition and an honor long overdue.” Yes, we were very, very happy that Mouzon received this award and no one deserves this more than she did!

On Mouzon’s birthday Teresa and her daughter **Kirsten Deras Funes (Class of 2006-07)**, and Teresa’s son Eric sent Mouzon a lovely vase of flowers. Teresa and Kirsten are always so sweet and thoughtful and Mouzon just loved the flowers.

We hear from Teresa from time to time and she is doing well. Thank you, Teresa for the Christmas and New Year’s greetings. We wish you the very best in 2010! Continue to keep in contact with us too!

Teresa surprised us when we went to Washington, D.C. this year. She had been traveling with her business, as she always does. She had written her daughter **Kirsten Deras Funes (Class of 2006-07)**, telling her that she was trying to make arrangements to come to D.C. while we were there. When we got to D.C. Kirsten invited us over to dinner at her apartment on the Sunday night when we arrived. She told us at the hotel that her Mom couldn’t make the flight connections to get there. We were so disappointed but of course we understood. Then when we arrived at Kirsten’s apartment, who was standing inside the door, none other than Teresa! To our happy surprise, she did make it! She had cooked a wonderful meal for us. Present for the dinner was Suhas Ketkar, Mouzon and Sultan Siddiqi, Marie and Pat Kelley and of course Teresa and Kirsten. We had a wonderful evening together and the food was delicious too. She had been in Brussels and brought us some yummy chocolate from Brussels and some Honduran Coffee too. Of course they also came to our Reception the following evening and we all had a great time. Professor Sam Morley and his wife, Monica were present and they also

enjoyed seeing Teresa too. That was one of the best receptions we have in D.C. in many years. We had a tremendous turn out of alumni and so many are very recent alumni of the GPED that were present and working in D.C. now. Then on the morning we were leaving to come home Teresa and Kirsten came by the hotel for a short visit before leaving. We just had a really great time this year and having Teresa there just topped everything off!

A week or so after we returned, we received an e-mail from Teresa. She was in El Salvador at that time. She had just had breakfast with **Ana Arevalo (Class of 1988-89)**. She also has spoken with **Alvero Trigueros (Class of 1991-92)**, but he had a meeting and he could not make the breakfast, and he did end up dropping by the hotel for a minute just to say hello.

Thanks you Teresa for all your updates and again it was just great seeing you in D.C. We always look forward to hearing from Teresa, and she is very informative regarding GPED alumni and we love it!

Teresa wrote us on May 12<sup>th</sup> after hearing about the flooding in Nashville. Thank you for your concern and kind thoughts. As I mentioned earlier Teresa keeps in touch with us on a regular basis and we are always very happy to hear from her. Thanks, Teresa for all your sweet notes and information you send us!

On Mother's Day, Teresa sent Mouzon and Marie Mother's day cards via e-mail. Thank you Teresa!

## **1991-92**

**Aster Rutibabalira Adams** Mouzon received a note from Aster last October congratulating her on receiving the Commodore Award. He said, as everyone has said, that no one deserves it more! We would love to hear more from you and how you and your family are doing.

We heard from Aster again in April. He said he and his family is doing very well. Regarding his children, Nelson is attending Daystar University in Nairobi and began there Fall of 2009 and he is now 20. He is very involved in a ministry for needy children. Aster said Nelson called home one night and said he was at the top of Mount Kenya. Marie-Paula is now sixteen and going for her drivers license soon. The "**The Big News**" on Marie-Paula is that she continues to be cancer free! She is in hopes of coming to Vanderbilt in a couple of years and Aster said that she is going to be really mad if she doesn't get to come here. She has been keeping a 4.0 GPA. That is wonderful and with

that GPA surely Vanderbilt will accept her. Liliane is now 24 and is living and working in Los Angeles. Gilbert is now 23 and living and working in Ohio. Aster also told us that Tatiana has just returned a couple of weeks earlier from some Nairobi, Kenya. We were sad to hear that Tatiana's brother passed away. We send our deepest sympathy to Tatiana. While in Nairobi she visited with some friends of theirs and visited Nelson.

Aster is doing well too and we do appreciate him sending us a newsy letter on his family. Continue to keep in touch with us, Aster!

**Suwareh Darbo** One of our current students wrote to Darbo and letting him know that he will be in Tunis in early June. He wanted to meet with Darbo and talk with him. Darbo wrote him back and told him he would be happy to meet with him. We will let you know how their meeting came out. Hopefully **Anis Mnif (our student)** will be able to give us some updates on Darbo!

**Swarna Gunaratne** Swarna sent the GPED staff a Christmas and New Years card again this year and a very sweet note came with it. She congratulated Mouzon on being awarded the Commodore Award. Swarna said, "You are the very right person to receive this award." She will never forget when she was here how nice Mouzon treated everyone. Mouzon was like a mother to them, she said not in age but she was always there for them. Thank you for your kind and true remarks about Mouzon and I am sure all who have been through the Program during "Mouzon's Reign" feels the same about her. I know your note to her meant a lot. Thank you for your note and your card to us. We look forward to hearing from Swarna again soon and maybe even before the Holidays next year!

## **1993-94**

**Ki-sub Nam** Ki-sub sent a Season's Greetings card to Mouzon this past Christmas Season. Inside the card was a very nice and informative letter to Mouzon.

Ki-sub said that for the last couple of years he has been busy directing two important departments; Personnel and Credit Policy. Due to the global financial crisis he had to experience twice as much work as he did during the 1997 crisis. Then because he did so well during that time, in July he was promoted to Executive Director of the Korean Bank.

He continued on to tell about his family. His wife, Hee-kyung has been lecturing at a college and managing an NGO, which is on consumer education. Ki-sub's daughter is Soo-jin, is now in her second year at Harvard Law School, and previously received a M.A. from Science Po, a well-known graduate school in Paris. Sung-hyun, who was very little when they were in Nashville is now a "a very big guy" now, is now serving in the Korean Army. Next fall (2010) he will be returning to Boston University. I know Ki-sub and Hee-hyun must be very proud of their children, and of course they should be.

Ki-sub said he still misses Vanderbilt and thinks about his days here often. He hopes to visit Vanderbilt some time in the near future. That would be great Ki-sub, we hope that happens!

## **1994-95**

**Carolina Avalos** It was nice hearing from Carolina this year. She wrote to Mouzon after hearing about the Commodore Award Mouzon received for outstanding and out of the ordinary actions she does with her job here at Vanderbilt. I know each of you know, at least those of you who have been through our Program since Mouzon has been here how she loves all the students and helps them in any way that she possibly can. Yes, we all Congratulate Mouzon!

Carolina is back in El Salvador working with the new government. She is working as a social advisor to the Secretary of the Presidency and collaborating in the construction of a Social Protection System. She said this is a “big challenge,” but we are very sure that Carolina will meet this challenge for El Salvador to the best of her ability and her ability is way up there! Another undertaking they are working on is to reactivate the economy and to strengthen the micro and small enterprise. We have all the confidence in the world in you Carolina and I am sure you will do will in whatever task you are handed.

Carolina told us that their daughter Andrea, is still in Buenos Aires and has one more year until she graduates from the university and she just turned 22 in October. Rodrigo started Theater in York University in Toronto and Diego is in the 10<sup>th</sup> grade. Carolina said they are all doing great and she sent her hugs and hellos to everyone in the GPED office. Thanks for writing Carolina!

## **1995-96**

**Meissa Dieng Cisse** In early October 2009 we received a letter from Meissa. She was writing to ask Mouzon if she could put Mouzon on her resume as a reference. Of course Mouzon was happy to do that.

After leaving Vanderbilt she got married in April 2000 and then went on to London for a MSC in Finance and Development.

Meissa told us that she is working as an Evaluation Specialist for UNDP in DR Congo. She is living there with her husband and 4year old son, Mohamed El Bachir Cisse.

She also sent us pictures and they were just wonderful. She seems very happy and a very busy lady too. It was great hearing from Meissa and getting all her news. She hopes to come to Nashville someday and bring her husband and son to meet us. We would love that! She sent her best to everyone here in our office and Kathy Anderson too. We look forward to hearing back from Meissa and maybe even getting to see her once again.

**Robert Mosko** In early December 2009 we received a contribution from Robert for the Worley Fund. We want to thank him again for his kind, generous and thoughtful donation. We didn't get a note from him but we are in hopes that we will hear some news from him over this upcoming year. We do know that Robert got a big promotion with Ford and is now living in Dearborn, Michigan. Congratulations on your promotion, Robert! We know you will go up the latter with Ford. I guess he must be enjoying all the snow they are having there this winter, at least I hope so! Write us Robert!

**Roberto Penalozza** Roberto and Maria were in Nashville in early October 2009 for a conference at Vanderbilt and just to visit friends in Nashville for a couple of days. They did have lunch with Mouzon at a close by restaurant. I was unable to go on that particular day. Mouzon said it was nice seeing them. They didn't have time to come by the office the next day so I didn't get to see them this time and they wrote and apologized for that but promised to come back soon, they hope to see us. They sent their hello's to everyone in our office and the Econ. Dept .too!

**Nirmal Shiwakoti** Nirmal wrote to Mouzon via Facebook last August asking Mouzon to be his friend. He suggested that she would have to join Facebook In May of this past year Mouzon did join Facebook and she has many friends now. That's what happens! It is hard to keep up with Facebook when you have e-mail too! At that time Nirmal wrote and said he is back in Nepal in his office. He had been working out of Sudan.

During the Holiday Season Nirmal sent Christmas and New Year's greeting to all of us here in the GPED. Thanks, Nirmal. He also sent us pictures on "Ten Tips for 2010." They were just hysterical! Thanks, Nirmal. Continue to keep in touch with us.

## **1996-97**

**M.D. Ashanullah** We heard word that Ashanullah received a promotion at the Bangladesh Bank and is now Executive Director. We received word of this from **Sujit Das (of this class)**. Congratulations to Ashanullah!

**Sujit Das** Das wrote us in early January and wished us a Happy New Year. He told us that he had been to Bangladesh to visit some of his relatives. During his visit he met with **Mr. Ashanullah, Razez Hasan, and Ebtadul Islam (of this class)**. They all work at Bangladesh Bank. This was nice that Das got to meet with his old colleagues.

**Peng Seng Gho** We heard a bit of news about Gho when **Iskandar Simorangkir (of this class)** phoned Mouzon on December 2, 2009. Iskandar met with Gho and said that he is doing well. Well, I told you we had a bit of news and that is the bit – we is doing well. Maybe if Gho gets this Newsletter maybe he will write us sometime in the upcoming year!

**Razez Hassan** Mr. Das told us that Razez had been promoted to Bank Executive Director at the Bangladesh Bank. Congratulations Razez!

**Ebtadul Islam** We heard news about Ebtadul from **Sujit Das** after Das's return from his to Bangladesh. Das said that Ebtadul received a promotion at Bangladesh Bank to Executive Director. Congratulations Ebtadul!

**Anna Ivanova** Anna's "**Big News**" over this past year is that she has a new baby, a girl this time and most importantly her name is Marie! I think that is a magnificent name. Anna sent us pictures of her little doll and she is a cutie!

When we were in D.C, Anna, her husband, and little boy came to our reception. It was just wonderful seeing Anna and meeting her husband, Akito and her little boy, who is just precious. We didn't meet the baby, as she was home with a nanny. Anna looks great and seems to be a wonderful Mom. We were so happy to see them and that they were able to come to the reception.

We hope that next year Anna will be available to speak to our group!

**Musa Jawara** Musa wrote last August and said that he is working in Tripoli with the Department of Higher Education. He helps to secure admission for Libyan students who have been awarded scholarships to pursue higher education in the United States for undergraduate and graduate students.

Musa contact us several times over the last year. Mainly he was trying to help the son of the Libyan Ambassador to the Gambia to come to Vanderbilt. The son wanted to go into Mechanical Engineering so we made contacts with the Department of Engineering here at Vanderbilt and sent them the information he needed. We have not

heard back from Musa whether he will be coming here or not. We do appreciate it when our alumni recommend Vanderbilt to prospective students.

**Sunil Ratnasiri** Ratna sent us some wonderful family pictures toward the end of December 2009. They were just great and we love getting pictures of everyone. His son has grown up and is so tall! You have a very handsome son, Ratna. Your daughter is quite the young lady too! Ratna wished us Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year too. We hope that 2010 has been a good year for you too Ratna. Thank you for the pictures. Please write us a note sometime and tell us how you are doing.

**Iskandar Simorangkir** I have a note from Mouzon telling me that Iskandar called on December 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2009. Thank you for calling and checking in with us. I don't know any other news from him as that is all have on him. He did mention as I wrote above, that he met with **Peng Seng Gho (of this class)**. I guess he just wanted to give us this news and to just say hello. We do love hearing from all our alumni. So you may call us an just say hello any time!

## **1997-98**

**Rosario Basay** Rosario now lives in Texas and is doing well. She wrote us to let us know she was coming to Nashville for a couple of weeks. Rosario was coming back to meet with the professors regarding her dissertation and she is planning to graduate in May 2010. Rosario also brought her daughter, Alejandra with her as a birthday gift to her to visit her friends in Nashville for her 15<sup>th</sup> birthday gift. I know Alejandra misses her friends and Nashville and that was really a big gift for her.

In late December Rosario sent Mouzon a Happy New Years card via e-mail.

In May she had wrote to check on us after the flooding here in Nashville. We appreciated your sweet note and concern.

We did get to see Rosario a couple of times while she was here and it was so nice having her here for a while. Rosario was planning on graduating in May but one of the professors could not be her for her defense so it had to be postponed and she will be graduating in August 2010!

. We will keep you posted on Rosario and her graduation.

**Ratbek Djumashev** When **Kakhramon Yusupov (of this class)**, was here finishing is Dissertation, he told us that Ratbek received a Ph.D. in Australia. Ratbek is now teaching in Kyrgstan. It was nice hearing some news about Ratbek.

**Zebudin Hat** Last August Zebudin wrote us and gave us his current/updated contact information. Thanks Zebudin! He told us his family is well and that his wife,

Sarina is still busy in NGO activities in their hometown. He is working as District Land Administrator at Tourism Island, named Langkawi Island situate in Kedah State, north of Malaysia. Sounds like a great job, Zebudin! It was great hearing from you!

We were very happy when we received a New Year's greeting card from Zebudin with a great picture of his whole family. It was an incredibly good picture and as we all do, his children have grown up into adults. A very handsome family! He said they will always remember their good times here in Nashville and especially the whole GPED family. He sent his best to everyone

**Dennis Hickey** Dennis wrote us in early September asking for information for the CDF in Tupelo, Mississippi, the Foundation we use to tour on our Southern Trip. I was able to send him contact information for them. I hope he got some good input from them. I haven't heard back from him regarding this matter. He told me the reason he wanted to contact them is because he has started a new business. He is a shareholder in an investment management firm he helped to start up. Good luck with your new undertaking! I am sure this will fly high for you.

Dennis also said he thinks of the GPED often and he hopes to return to Nashville some day and bring Brittni back to see Nashville again. That is her request, by the way. Brittni is now 13, gosh that is hard to believe too! Well, we are waiting to see you, so come on whenever!

**Jae Hong Song** We heard from Jae Hong in the fall of this year. It was actually a very short note requesting the title of his thesis and his advisor. Mouzon wrote him back and gave him the information. We have not heard back from him so I guess the information sent him made him happy. Maybe he will write us again sometime with information on how he is doing these days.

**Kakhramon Yusupov** Kakharmon was here this winter and was finishing his dissertation. It was so nice having him back here for the length of time he was here. He finished and now his Ph.D. We are so happy for him! Congratulations Kakhramon! Before Kakhramon returned home he took me and Mouzon to lunch one day. We had a very nice visit with him. When he returned home he would be teaching at a British University in Uzbekistan. We will miss Kakhramon so much, but just grateful we had time with him again for a while.

He told us his wife and his boys are doing well. I think his first son is thirteen already! The twins are doing fine and are typical little boys. His wife is teaching there in Uzbekistan too.

We heard from Kakhramon on June 8<sup>th</sup>. He had heard about the flood here in Nashville on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup> and was writing to check on us. Mouzon did not have any flooding to her property and neither did I. We were both very fortunate. There was so much flooding in a lot of locations in Nashville and all over middle Tennessee too. Thanks Kakhramon for checking on us.

He told us that he is teaching at Westminster University in Uzbekistan and teaching Micro and Econometrics and he is traveling extensively too. He also works for UNDP and that is where the traveling comes into play. He is involved in a cross country household survey for UNDP. This is a study of poverty.

We miss you here Kakhramon, please drop us a line from time to time!

## **1998-99**

**Arman Kashkinbekov** Arman writes us from time to time and gives us his updated contact information. He said he is always glad to get alumni updates. We appreciate Arman keeping us posted on his address changes.

**Jonas Mhlarhi** Jonas wrote us in August, 2009 and gave us some updates on himself and was asking about all of us here in the GPED. Jonas left the company SASOL some time ago and he is now working for ESKOM, a state utility company, based in Sunninghill, Johannesburg. He also gave us his new mailing address and e-mail address. You can find this information in the Address Roster, online.

It was nice hearing from Jonas and we wish him well in his new position and company! We look forward to hearing more from you, Jonas, when you can find a spare moment.

**Eugenia Mosko** Eugenia wrote us back after Mouzon had contacted her when we received her Newsletter back. Eugenia had moved and had not given us her new address. Mouzon happened to have her work e-mail and sent her the message. Eugenia wrote back with her updated address.

Eugenia asked about everyone in the office and hopes that we can get together for lunch or dinner some time so she can catch up on news from the GPED. We would love to do that and maybe we can get together soon.

Eugenia and her brother, **Robert Mosko (Class of 1995-96)** went home this summer and visited their parents in Albania. She said that they are doing very well. I am sure that their parents were delighted to see them as Eugenia and Robert as their parents to see them also. I know they had a great time being home for their vacation.

Thanks for your updates, Eugenia. Let's make those plans soon!

**Bagrat Tunyan & Lilit Davoyan** We received a very nice note from Bagrat and Lilit in October 2009. They were sending us their updated address. Although, they said that the address may change in a couple of months, so we don't know if they will update us again when they move or not. I think they will!

They are living in London, UK and they moved there in 2006, after finishing their second Masters degrees from Harvard. Lilit works for the European Bank for Reconstruction and Development. Bagrat works for the UK government on regulatory reforms.

They said that they are fine and that they remember the GPED often and they have very nice and warm memories of here. They sent their greetings to all who know them. We were very happy that they sent us a picture taken of them and their four year old son. They were vacationing in Barcelona, Spain at that time. Their son is very, very cute. Thank you again for sharing a picture with us.

**Yiqian ("Ann") Zhang** In early December we received a note from Yiqian (Ann) that she had mailed us a couple of catalogues to our office with prints of her recent works, printmaking and ink paintings. We received them and were very impressed with them. She had these in a solo exhibition.

She wrote us again in January and asked if we had heard from **Rosario Basay (Class of 1997-98)**, that Ann had been very ill most of last year. We had not heard the news and very sorry to hear this. Ann did not say what her illness was but the **good news** is that she has fully recovered and looking optimistic that it will not recur again! We are so sorry to hear this and very grateful to hear that she is well now!

Now that she is back on her feet Ann had a Photo Showing in March in Shanghai. She said that is a medium size gallery with a pretty good reputation. She just wanted to let us know that she is still doing what she likes to do! That is great Ann! Although she told us her mother wants her to job in the field of economics. She said she may do that sometime in the near future and she is proud of her Economics degree she got here at Vanderbilt. She said she thinks of her days here at Vanderbilt often with fond memories.

She closed by wishing us good luck and good health in the coming year in the year of the Ox. It was almost Chinese New Years when she wrote at that time. We all wish her a good 2010 with good luck and good health! We look forward to hearing back from Ann in the near future.

## **1999-00**

**Udeani Alawattage** A year ago last July, after we had cut off the Newsletter news for 2009, we received a e-mail from Udeani. It was nice hearing from him because

it had been a while! Udeani sent us a beautiful slide show of Sri Lanka. The scenery is magnificent. He also sent us health tips such as, “drinking warm water or hot tea following a meal is good for your heart etc, Thanks Udeani for keeping us on your mailing list!

**Alexia Kokin** Alexia and Irina dropped a line in December to wish us a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Valeria, their daughter, joined them and wishing us the same. They all said they hoped all of us are doing well. Thanks for thinking of us and we hope 2010 has been a good one for your whole family too. Write us again soon!

**Mercy Mathibe** It was a very nice surprise having Mercy return to the GPED for a visit and business in August 2009. He was doing well and seemed very happy. He has been for at the IMF for the past four years.

He was actually here at Vanderbilt to meet with professors Anderson, Maneschi, and Rosseau. He was talking to them and asking them to write recommendation letters for him as he was applying for Ph.D. study at the University of Cambridge.

It was nice having him here and we wish him the best in his pursuit of his Ph.D. study. We hope to be hearing from him and that he let's us know where he is studying.

**Raushan Tulepbyeva** Raushan wrote us and gave us an updated mailing address for herself. Thank you for your updated information. She said she continues to work between the U.S. and Kazakhstan. She is doing research with one of her professors. She hopes that it is completed soon because she stays busy all the time. She said that when she settles, whether it is in the U.S. or Kazakhstan, she will write us a nice long letter. Raushan, we are looking forward to that and we hope that you do get to settle down soon too!

## **2000-01**

**Ik Sang Lim** We heard from Ik Sang in early June of last year and he was writing to tell us hello . He and his family are doing well and he continues to job at Koreans National Assembly. Ik Sang was selected as a recipient of a two-year sabbatical leave granted by the Korean Nastional Assembly in 2009. Good luck with the sabbatical and let us hear from you!

**Aliya Ishmukhamedova** Aliya wrote us right after she heard about the flooding in Nashville. She said she knew Mouzon lives close to the Cumberland River and wanted to check and see if she had any flooding. Fortunately for everyone the river

didn't flood in that area, it did get a good part of the immediate downtown area up to about 3<sup>rd</sup> or 4<sup>th</sup> avenues and the Titans stadium but at that point of the river it didn't go any further. Thanks for writing and your concern, Aliya.

Aliya wrote us back after Mouzon replied to Aliya's letter. She told us that her son Alan is now 5 years old and will be starting kindergarten this coming fall. She said he is so smart and already knows how to read, write add and subtract, and knows all the planets! He is a little genius, I think! Very advanced, Aliya! You will have to stay one step ahead of him at all times!

Aliya also sent us a picture of Alan and herself outside by a snowman they had built after a snowstorm they had. Alan is a really cute little boy. Thanks for writing and sending the picture too.

**Ebralie Mukarusagara Mwizerwa** Ebralie was again very generous and thoughtful to send another donation to the Worley Fund. She remembers her days here and wants some others to get the opportunity that she did. We want to thank you again. We hope that we hear more from Ebralie in this next year!

We heard from Ebralie again on March 2<sup>nd</sup> right before leaving for our D.C. trip. She was excited as she had just received her citizenship in the U.S. Congratulations Ebralie! She said she is still loving her job. She will travel some this summer to East Africa and Southern Africa. In particular she will be going to Zambia and Zimbabwe. We hope she has a wonderful trip. She also sent us a lovely picture of herself with some of her closest friends here in Nashville. Thank you for the very good picture, Ebralie.

At some point she had been on campus for the Global Health Forum but did not get enough of a break to have time to come to see us. She said she would love to come to the office some time to see us and have a cup of coffee or go to lunch. We would love to see her and maybe when she gets the time we will be able to get together for a lunch or something. We will be here!

**Tatiana Mihairlovschi-Muntean** Tatiana sent an e-mail message to Mouzon last November, wishing Mouzon a Happy Birthday and also congratulating her on winning the Commodore Award. Tatiana said, "If it were up to them they vote her to win a Nobel Prize for you. You are SO great!" I know that many of you think that about Mouzon!

Tatiana told us that their daughter, Sabina is a freshman at McGill University (Montreal). She said that she is homesick but at the same time very excited about being there. Sabina loves the university and the city. Her husband, Sasha works for Chrysler and she works at Trent University teach Macro.

Tatiana sent us a lovely Christmas and New Year's card and wished all of us the best for 2010. It is always nice hearing from Tatiana. She always thinks of us and her kindness is appreciated very much by all of us.

**Peter Redvers-Lee** Peter wrote us in September 2009 with his new mailing address and some news. He told us that he is an instructor at International Development Program School of International Service at American University in Washington, D.C. Peter said the Program is like the GPED because the students are from everywhere. This is great hearing that Peter!

Peter said, his family loves it there and they are all doing great! Peter sent us a donation to the Worley Fund. Thank you again, Peter for your kind, generous and thoughtful donation.

Peter wrote in January asking for contact information for **Abbey Cordova (Class of 2001-02 and her husband, Dominique Zephyr (2005-06))**. He said that he couldn't find his GPED address roster at that time and he wanted to contact them. So we obliged and sent him the info.

In the same note he said he never congratulated Mouzon on her will of the Commodore Award she received last year. Peter said, "Why did they take so long to figure out how valuable you are?"

Write us again when you can, we love hearing from you!

**Natasha Rummyantseva** Natasha wrote us in late March. She was writing to give us updates on herself. She is now teaching in Southampton, England. She is a Lecturer in Higher Education Studies at the University of Southampton. She is teaching MA and PhD level courses and doing research. She says it is a very good job and she is very happy with it and she loves England too. Congratulations on your great job! We are sure you will be very good at it, Natasha and glad to hear that you are so happy.

Natasha also sent us a contribution to the Worley Fund via online. Thank you so much Natasha for your contribution; that was so sweet of you.

Natasha sent us updates on her new address and all contact information. This will be entered in the Address Roster.

**Emiliana Rweyemamu** Emiliana sent us Christmas and New Year's greetings this year. Thank you, Emiliana, for thinking about us. I sent her greetings also. She caught us just in time before leaving for the Holidays. We hope to hear more from this busy lady in this next year and report some news about her to you.

**Kurt Scheib** Kurt wrote in July of last year saying he had big exams and he passed all sections on the first try! Congratulations Kurt!

Then we heard from Kurt again in the Spring. His wife Mary, is a Opera singer and she was in two events around here in Nashville. Kurt was writing to tell us about it and inviting us to come. One event was at Covenant Presbyterian Church and the other was at Vanderbilt's Dwyer Observatory. We would have loved to come and hear her but both of those dates Mouzon and I were already scheduled for something else. The spring is such a busy time for everyone. We did appreciate Kurt telling us about the events. Maybe we can come to another one sometime. We hope he lets us know about any other events she may be having.

## **2001-02**

**Abby Cordova** The good news is that Abby is doing just fine. The day that the earthquake hit in Haiti we were worried to death about Abby. We knew she and her husband **Dominique Zephyr (Class of 2005-06)**, had left Vanderbilt and we knew they possibly might be in Haiti at that time. Well we sent her an e-mail and didn't hear immediately back from her and that made us worry even more. I contacted **Claudia Diaz (Class of 2003-04)** and she hadn't heard any news from her either. So finally after a couple of days we finally heard from her. She and Dominique were not in Haiti at the time. She was in El Salvador and Dominique was in Guyana. We were very, very happy to hear that they were safe and not in harms way!

**Natalya (Usseinova) Majoutko and Serguei Majoutko** We received a lovely Christmas card from Natalya and Serguei and their children Lesha and Sasha this past Christmas; wishing us a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. Thank you for the lovely card and thinking about us. We hope that 2010 has been a great one for your family!

Later we heard from Serguei when he was ordering GPED T-shirts. We mailed them on to them and we hope they are wearing them proudly!

**Doria Xu** Doria wrote us on May 3<sup>rd</sup> after she had been watching television and saw the flooding issues that were going on here in Nashville. She was checking to see if we were okay, which all of us in the GPED were fine, not true of a lot people in Nashville though. Thanks for checking in on us Doria.

When Mouzon wrote her back telling her we were okay, Mouzon asked her to write us about what she is currently doing and she did. She said that a lot of things have been happening in her life recently. Her "**BIG NEWS**" is that she is engaged! Her fiancé proposed to her on a hot air balloon ride on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2009. That is so neat! She and her fiancé also bought a townhouse together and she also got accepted to Georgetown University Law School's L.L. M. program to pursue her degree in Securities and

Financial Regulation (as a part-time student). Congratulations Doria on all your exciting news!

We were especially happy to hear from Doria, as we did not have contact information for her. So next time we go to D.C. we will be able to invite her to our reception. She was also glad to hear about all the GPED alumni now located in the D.C. area and she looks forward to meeting them at a get-together some time. We look forward to seeing Doria in March 2011!

## **2002-03**

**Kuban Kabayev** Kuban wrote to Professor Kathryn Anderson in April. He was telling her about things that were going on in his country mainly and also telling her about the project they are working on together. Kathy will be meeting up with Kuban this summer in Kyrgyzstan. I am sure Kathy will give us some news on Kuban when she returns.

**Sung Jae Lee** Sung Jae wrote us last June and told us that he is now in Geneva, Switzerland and will be there through March 2012. He is working for the ROK National Assembly in Geneva. He said his family is very happy there. He gave us his updated address there in Geneva.

Sung Jae's daughter, Na Kyung, is in an international school and is now 9 years old. His son Chan Myung is in public schools and is 5 years old. The public schools in Geneva use French as their language and he would like his son to go to an international school but they were full at that time but he was put on a "wait list", so maybe by now he is in one.

Sung Jae's "**Big News**" is that he received his Ph.D. in February of this year at Korea University. Congratulations, Sung Jae! We are so proud of you. Thanks for writing with such a newsy letter about you and your family.

**Alex Maisuradze** It was nice getting a Christmas and New Year's greetings from Alex this year. Thank you very much! Alex is in Kenya now and working for the UN on a short term assignment. Alex, please write us and tell us what you are doing now. We would love to get a note from you.

**Nadir Mardonov** Nadir came to see us last August to promote the bank he works for here in Nashville for our incoming students. Nadir continues to work at First

Tennessee Band in the Main Financial Center as Financial Center Manager. I don't really know if any of our new students went to him or not, but he sure gave a good stab at getting business. I guess we will get to see him again this coming August, we hope so!

**Osayi (Ovbiosa) Akinbosaye** The “**Big News**” from Osayi is that she has new little baby, her name is Zoe. Congratulations Osayi! We know you are very happy now with one of each. Right before the baby came **Lola Soumonni (Class of 2005-06)** gave a “Baby Shower (Party) for her. I know this little baby had everything she needs for some time to come. We haven't met her yet, but one day Osayi will bring her to our office, I hope.

**Raja Azhan Shah** Azhan drop Mouzon a line asking Mouzon to be his friend on Facebook. No other message, but at least we know he is out there. We only wish he would drop us some news about himself!

## **2003-04**

**Hussainatu Abdullahi** Hussainatu wrote us mid-January of this year and apologized for taking so long to get back in touch with us. She said that she continues to teach as a Senior Lecturer at UDUS (Usmanu Danfodiyo University in Nigeria).

After leaving Vanderbilt, Hussainatu wrote 2 text books titled: “Microeconomics: A Guide to Qualitative Economic Reasoning” (for beginners in economics) in 2007 and “History and Structure of the Nigerian Economy: Pre-Colonial Period to 2007 and Beyond” in 2008. Currently she is working on a 3<sup>rd</sup> book titled: “Monetary Economics: Theory and Policy versus the Millennium Global Crisis.” My goodness Hussainatu, you have been a very busy lady between writing, teaching and raising a family! Congratulations on getting your books published and we wish you the best with the upcoming one too.

Hussianatu told us updates on her family too. She has a daughter who is now 17 and she said she is taller than Hussianatu and her husband. She has two boys, one will be 25 in June 2010 and the other son will be 23 in July 2010. She and her husband plan on adopting two children a boy and a girl, she said “God Willing.” That is wonderful that you will be adopting!

Hussianatu closed the letter by sending her best regards to everyone in the GPED Family. Thanks for writing Hussianatu! It was great hearing from you, hearing about your family and what you have been doing since leaving Vanderbilt.

**Kofi Anim** Again, as I have been repeating myself a lot in this Newsletter, we had a wonderfully huge turnout for our Reception in D.C. this past year. One of those attending was none other than our own, KOFI. We were very, very happy to see him. We all just had a great time socializing! Kofi I hope that you will be able to come again next year.

In case none of you know this, Kofi works in the AERS Office at Deloitte & Touche, LLP. Very good Kofi, we know you are doing a good job there and will go high places in your future.

**Hojakuli Atakgavey** Hoja telephoned us to let us know that he was in Canada for about a month. I don't seem to have any more information exactly what he was doing in Canada but he was only going to be there for about a month. It was nice that he gave us a phone call though. Hope to hear back from him in this next year!

Well we finally did receive a great note from Hoja via e-mail on June 24<sup>th</sup> just as I was closing out the Newsletter for this year. So happy to hear from him!

His “**Big News**” is that he and his wife are expecting their 3<sup>rd</sup> baby in July! He has two girls now and he did not say whether they are expecting a boy or girl this time. Maybe they haven't found out and just waiting until the baby arrives, as we all use to do. We are very happy for them.

He sent us four wonderful pictures of the family. They were so good and there was one of he and his wife that was terrific, it looked like a professional photo. His little girls are just adorable too. Thanks Hoja for the great pictures we just loved getting them.

As most of you may know already that Hoja and his family now live in Toronto, Canada. They seem to be very happy there and the pictures they sent were taken in the spring and there was a beautiful flowering tree in the background. I would think that Canada would be a nice place to live. Of course you would have to love snow too!

He sent us his new address and he said they had just moved into a new apartment there. Now we know why he was in Canada! Hoja has gone back to school and is studying at York University in Toronto working toward a degree in Accounting. He wrote asking for syllabus and textbooks used here at Vanderbilt. He hopes to transfer some credits, but the University first needs to know more about the actual courses he took here. We are working on getting those to him right away.

He said he remembers his days here at Vanderbilt and the good times he had while here. He said he loves to read about the GPED alumni and updates on them. He sent his best to all of us here. I want to thank Hoja for his great letter and his updates on him and his family and especially the pictures! We look forward to hearing about your new baby in the next note from him.

**Claudia Diaz** We heard **BIG and EXCITING NEWS** from Claudia this year and it is that she was getting married! Claudia got married in El Salvador and planning on having a huge wedding party (celebration) this summer in California. I wish we could go and would love to, but the distance is a little too much at that time of year for us to attend. We are very happy for her and wish her the best always!

We also heard from Claudia when we e-mailed her inquiring about **Abby Cordova (Class of 2001-02) and (Dominique Zephyr (of this Class))** after hearing about the earthquake in Haiti. Claudia finally got through to her, as we did also. Thank you for helping us to get in contact with Abby, Claudia.

**Dong Ha Hwang** Dong Ha wrote us in January of this year and telling us that he continues to work for the Financial Supervisory Service of Korea. He was writing us and telling us about a friend of his who was applying to Vanderbilt to come as a Visiting Scholar. Dong Ha was promoting Vanderbilt to his friend to come here, but as it turned out his friend decided to go to North Carolina, Dong Ha said that his wife wanted him to choose N.C. So I guess he took his wife's advice. Thanks for trying, Dong Ha. Write again and tell us more about how you and your family are doing.

**Chiratus Ratanamaneichat** Chiratus wrote us this year and she is working in Bangkok. She is an Assistant Director at the research center at Kasem Bundit University. She said she mainly works on several research projects with teams. She teaches Microeconomics and Macroeconomics for international business students.

She said she did visit in the U.S. a couple of times this past year. She went to Hawaii and Seattle and is hoping that sometime there will be a conference in Nashville that she can attend. That would be super Chiratus, we would love to see you!

Chiratus sent us an e-mail in June of last year asking for us to fill out a survey issued by the Asian Knowledge Institute (AKI). She wanted it passed on to international persons. The survey was to find out how the public feels about Thai people to help to improve and renew Thai's image. I hope that we helped with this survey.

It was great hearing from Chiratus (Or Meow, her name she went by while she was at Vanderbilt.)! She also sent us some wonderful pictures of her graduation when she received her Ph.D. Sound like “Meow” is doing great and very happy!

**Honorata Sulilia(Black)** Honorata wrote us after Mouzon had sent an e-mail to GPED alumni in the D.C. regarding our upcoming trip to D.C. and our reception there. She wrote back and said she was so glad to hear from us but unfortunately she would be out of town the week we were going to be there. She said she hopes we would have a wonderful time in D.C. and hopefully she will be in town next year when we are there. We hope that she is around because we had a great reunion with so very many GPED alumni this past year!

**Dominique Zephyr** On the day the earthquake hit Haiti we were very afraid that Dominique and his wife **Abby Cordova (Class of 2001-02)** might be in Haiti. They had left Vanderbilt. It took us a few days to make contact with Abby and she finally wrote to us and told us that Dominique was in Guyana and she was in El Salvador. We were so happy to hear that they were both safe!! Abby did tell us that Dominique had heard about his sisters through someone else that had contact with his sisters and they were safe. He had not heard about his cousins and aunts. We hope that he did find them safe. That was such a catastrophic event and our prayers and thoughts are with the people of Haiti. Write us if you get a chance Dominique. We would love to hear from you!

## **2004-05**

**Zelalem Addis** Zelalem sent us his new mailing address this year. Thank you, Zelalem. We would love to get a note from you telling how you are coming along with your Ph.D. study and how your family is doing.

**Vivian Agbegha** We received a note from Vivian in early November in 2009. Vivian continues to work at the World Bank in D.C. and is a Consultant in the Office of the Chief Economist for the Africa Region. This is a new position for her and she is working on an enterprise development and industrial clusters report. She said that it is very gratifying to work on something of her interest. We are so happy that Vivian is doing so well!

In March, when we were on our Field Trip to D.C, Vivian came to our alumni reception. It was wonderful seeing her and she looked great. We had so many alumni at our reception. It was like a big reunion of many recent graduates. In fact the group didn't want the party to end at the end of our reception time so everyone just disbursed into the restaurant area of the hotel and continued partying!

We hope that we will hear more from Vivian again in this next year and see her again next year in D.C. We want to thank Vivian for sharing her news with us and coming to our reception too!

**Aarti Bajaj** Aarti wrote a very nice letter to Mouzon on June 9<sup>th</sup>. She said she left Vanderbilt four years ago and that she receives the GPED Newsletter every year and enjoys reading it so much. She said at that point she realizes she needs to write us and has been putting it off due to being so busy with her studies. She is now in her 4<sup>th</sup> year of the doctoral program in educational leadership and policy issues at Kansas University. She plans on graduating on May 2011. She said she had hoped to graduate in May 2010 but she was teaching, had research job, and had classes this past year and had to put her dissertation on the back burner. So now she plans to go gung ho on her dissertation!

She says that she misses Nashville and Vanderbilt a lot. She misses all the people. She said, "Being in the GPED program was unique because I got to meet people from all over the world." She said that is not the case at KU and especially in the School of Education. Most of the students in her program are from around the area of KU. She almost wanted to quit and apply elsewhere after her 1<sup>st</sup> year but decided it was too much trouble to apply again. I guess that was a good thing as the following year she meet someone special and he is a graduate student in the Economics program. She said he is her best friend and they have been together for 3 years. Good thing you stayed there Aarti!

Aarti said, "I may not write GPED as often as I should, but I do think of my time there fondly and think about how much you and everyone else that is part of the program really cared for us as students and as people."

Thank you for you nice and informative letter. It is nice to know that we are thought of fondly and you do think about us from time to time. We think of our students who have left here from time to time too and we do miss each and every one of you. Aarti, write us when you can and good luck with your dissertation!

**Alireza Ebrahim** We had a wonderful visit from Alireza. He is heading into his final year for Ph.D. study in Knoxville. His wife, Tahareh, is doing a residency in Internal Medicine at Baptist Hospital. They live in Nashville but Alireza spends time in Knowxville when school is in session. He will also teach this summer in Knoxville on Tuesdays and Thursdays so he will be there 3 days a week but have a long weekend in Nashville. We are so hoping they will make their home in Nashville when both settle down with jobs. Saba, their four year old daughter, is in pre-Kindergarten and doing well.

Alireza was asking about all his classmates. As it turns out, Iahli is here in town visiting from her job with the U.N. in Niger. Konstantin Egorov is also in Nashville, he has just completed his first year in the MBA program at Owen School. Lola Soumonni will begin her final year in Ph.D. study at Vanderbilt next fall and Kristen Kotter is a Biostatistician at the Vanderbilt Medical Center. We also told him we had seen Vivian

Agbegha on our D.C. Field Trip in March and talked about other member of his class. Marie and Mouzon really enjoyed seeing Alireza and reminiscing with him.

**Konstantin Egorov** Konstantin is back! We are happy to say that Konstantin has returned to Vanderbilt. He was accepted to the OWEN School and working toward a MBA degree. We saw him when he first arrived and have seen him only a couple of times since then, but it is nice having him close by. Congratulations on your acceptance to OWEN! We will keep you updated on Konstantin as we hear from him.

**Iahli Patale** It was good hearing from Iahli last November. I think so many of you write us after receiving the Newsletter each year and that is good! It kind of reminds you that we like hearing from all of you out there.

Iahli said she has a new job in Niger since July 2009, but she is still working with UNOCHA as Head of the Administrative and Finance Section. She also continues to say that she likes her new job in Niger and that it is a less stressful job and the people she works with are easy to get along with. I know that makes a big difference, Iahli. Glad to hear about your new job and nice to hear that you are enjoying it too!

Iahli plans on coming to Nashville on her vacation this year. She didn't say when that is but we look forward to seeing her whenever she arrives. She sent her best to everyone.

Iahli did come to Nashville for her vacation and was here for three weeks. It was nice having her here! We got to see her almost every day, except for a couple of days when she left here and went on a long weekend vacation with **Lola Soumonni (Class of 2003-04)** and other friends took off to Las Vegas. They had a great time! It was really nice having Iahli here with us. We hope Iahli will make vacation plans to come here again next year!

**Omolola Soumonni** Lola is a familiar friendly face that drops by our office almost every day. We are so happy that she is still here although not for too much longer. Lola passed her Proposal and will probably be finishing and graduating next May. We will certainly miss her around here. She always lights up our office with her smile and her comments.

She hosted a baby shower in January this past year for **Osayi (Ovbiosa) Akinbosoye (Class of 2002-03)**. Osayi was expecting her second child in early February. That was so nice of Lola to do this for Osayi!

In March Lola presented a paper during the Graduate Research Day at Vanderbilt. Her paper was entitled, "Pollution Abatement and Export Dynamics." This paper was given with one of our professors in the department, Joel Rodrigue. Good work Lola!

We will continue to keep you posted on how Lola is doing and where she will be going from here.

**Akihiro Yamamoto** Aki wrote us last August, after we closed out the 2009 Newsletter. We had contacted him asking for an update on his mailing address. He wrote us back with this information.

Aki said that after leaving Vanderbilt he went back to Japan and returned to his office the very day he returned. Then in 2006 he changed jobs and became the President of a Subsidiary Company. The company is a consulting firm of an administrative accounting (ABC, Activity-Based-Costing) for Japanese local banks.

Thank you, Aki, for writing back and giving some current information on you also about your job. Please keep it touch, it was nice hearing from you.

**Chenyu Zhang** Chenyu wrote us in early July and told us she was coming to Nashville the last weekend in July. We were very excited to hear this news. She was coming to Nashville to help celebrate her cousin's second son's first birthday. So she came and we were so happy to see her. She looked wonderful and doing quite well. She was here through the weekend but I was leaving on Saturday for our family vacation so I only got to see here that one day. It was very nice having her visit!

Then in February of this year we received a donation from Chenyu for the Worley Fund. Thank you, Chenyu for your kind and generous contribution. We look forward to hearing more from you in this coming year and maybe you will be coming back to Nashville again this year—that would be really nice!

## **2005-06**

**Hannah Acquah** Hannah called our office one day last September to check in on everyone. It was great talking with her. I think Mouzon was out that day or something so Hannah said she would just e-mail her. So Hannah wrote Mouzon on September 11<sup>th</sup>, 2009 and told her she has been in Nigeria for about one year. She has been employed at Bank PHB in Nigeria and her “**Big News**” is that she was promoted there to the Strategy and Business Transformation Department for the following regions, Abuja, Middle Belt and North. Hannah said that it is a tremendous task, lots of traveling, but loving it! Congratulations on your promotion, Hannah. I know it is well deserved!

**Visakha Amaraskere** Visakha wrote after receiving the Newsletter last fall and reading about Mouzon receiving the Commodore Award. Visakha wrote a very sweet and thoughtful note to Mouzon congratulating her on the Award. I think Visakha best describes everyone's feelings about Mouzon when she said, "You have always been the best Commodore to all of us," thank you and congratulations!"

Visakha wrote to wishing us all well and remembers her days here at Vanderbilt, "as the best!" She sent her warm greetings to all. Thanks Visakha for all your nice comments.

**Amir Ansari** Amir sent Mouzon and Sultan a Christmas card this year via e-mail.

**Gao Jie** Gao Jie wrote on December 31<sup>st</sup> wishing us a happy Holiday Season and wishing us well. She thanked us for the guidance and friendship we gave her while she was here and that she misses us very much. Thank you, Gao Jie for the sweet note and we miss you here too!

We just heard from Gao Jie this June. She found Mouzon on Facebook. Gao Jie apologized for not writing recently but things have been hectic for her. She lived in China for one year after returning from here and worked on some restructuring project for a network company. She returned to the U.S. in late March of this year and she is based in Los Angeles now, working for a small trading company temporarily. She wants to do economic research for international organizations. She said that she has been in touch with Ely, George, Daniel, and Tola to see if they can help and referrals. She would love to move to D.C. if she can get into one of the big organizations there. We feel sure that she will be able to get a really good job there in D.C!

Gao Jie said she browses the GPED website from time to time and she just loves reading the Newsletter and hearing the news on all her GPED friends. Thanks Gao Jie for such a nice letter and keep in touch!

**Xia He** Last August we heard from Xia after I wrote her asking for her updated address and all. She wrote back with it and told us she is doing fine in Indiana. She said they are living by a big grocery store and they are close to major shopping malls. So that is convenient enough for them to be able to take their son and walk to these places.

We heard from Xia again in October and she told us that she and Jisong are looking for a house to buy. Jisong stays very busy with school, teaching econometrics in the Ph.D. program there. Xia is trying to decide whether she wants to go back to work or

go back to school for Ph.D. Their son, Kylin is growing up fast and a very happy baby! That is always good to hear!

Then next we heard is that they had very “**Big and Exciting News**” Xia and Jisong are having another baby. The baby is due in June. We will let you know more after the baby arrives. Congratulations to the both of you! I guess this will make a difference for a while for Xia, about going back to work or going for Ph.D. study, right! We are looking forward to hearing your “Happy News.”

In early May Xia wrote and asked us about the flooding here in Nashville. We let her know that we were all okay. We want to thank her for writing with her concern.

We heard back from Xia and Jisong and their baby was born on June 1, 2010, he weighed 8 pounds and 1 ounce, and was 20.5 inches long. The baby’s name is Daniel. Both the baby and Xia are doing well! They also sent us pictures on the day the baby was born. Daniel is precious and thank you for the pictures. Congratulations Xia and Jisong!

**Jane Karonga** On November 17, 2009, Jane Karonga called to say that she had a new job. In December 2009, she will begin work as an Economic Officer with the Economic Commission for Africa – a part of the UN. She will be doing research and promoting development policy in African countries. Jane will be based in Ethiopia but her job will take her to many African countries to meet with heads of state and ministers for Finance, etc. to advise on development policy.

We are so proud of Jane--what a wonderful position and one where you can have a great influence in the implementation of development policies in many African countries. We are looking for great things!

We heard from Jane again on May 11<sup>th</sup>, a week or so after the flooding in Nashville. She was checking on us to make sure we were all okay in the GPED! Thank you, Jane for your kind thoughts and concern. We are all doing fine here in the GPED.

**Kristen Kotter** On June 25<sup>th</sup> I received an e-mail letter from Kristen and she gave me all kinds of news about herself. Actually, I had written her and asked her to give me information about her job and other news about herself. I knew she was still here at Vanderbilt over on the medical side of campus. Even though she is here we don’t get to see her, as she stays very busy. I thought I would just drop her a note and see if she would write me back and she did. I was very happy to see an e-mail from her when I got to the office this morning!

Kristen’s “**Big News**” is that she is engaged to be married! Congratulations Kristen! She is engaged to Chris Brent, he is the one she met and has been dating since she came to Nashville and Vanderbilt.

Kristen is working full-time as a master's level Biostatistician 2 at the Medical Center in the Department of Biostatistics. At the same time she is going for another master's degree part-time. So she said her life is pretty hectic and I am sure that it has to be!

Not only is Kristen doing all of the above, she now is taking in and fostering dogs and cats that are up to be euthanized. This is just great that she is doing this. Right now she said she has 3 dogs and 1 cat. She started out as a foster parent to the pets but fell in love with them and then adopted them. She did say that she has fostered several and found homes for them. She does plan to continue fostering the animals in need because it is so rewarding. We need more people in the world that will do this exact thing. Very proud of Kristen for doing this!

Thanks so much to Kristen for the wonderful newsy letter from her. Can't wait to keep up with her in this next year too!

**Siu Meng (Christy) Ng** We heard from Christy when we wrote to her about finding address information on **Qing Wu (of this class)**. We knew she was back in Nashville but that is all the information we had for her. She gave us a new e-mail for Qing Wu and we got through to her. Thanks, Christy for helping out. We hope you are doing well. Write us when you can!

**Ferhat Topkaya** Ferhat and Sanem have really "**Big News**" to share with us! They are parents of "**Twin Girls!**" The twins were born on July 16<sup>th</sup> 2009. Congratulations to the two of them for their 2 little bundles of joy! They sent us a family picture of the four of them. The picture is just precious! One little girl is named Naz and the other is named Nil. The picture was taken when the babies were about 5 months old. The babies came very early one weighing in at 4 pounds and the other at 4.5 pounds so they had to stay in the hospital for 14 days. This was a very hard time for them and then after they got home the job didn't get any easier! Ferhat said, "If you have not been around twins, believe me it is very, very hard to take care of two at the same time!" I am sure that is true and having twins for the first time having children has to be even rougher. I am sure they have things down pat by now and are doing just great. By now the babies must be about 1 year old by the time this goes out to everyone. Again, the GPED wants to say Congratulations to the two of you!!

Ferhat told me to say hello to all of those who know him around here and that he and Sanem always talk about Nashville days. They miss us too much. They hope to see us again some day and we would love to see them too. Thanks for your big news, Ferhat and keep us updated on your twins and send a picture from time to time.

Ferhat and Sanem wrote us in mid-May telling us they had heard about the flooding in Nashville. They were hoping that we were all okay, which we are and were. We appreciated hearing from them and they told us their prayers and thoughts were with

us. Thank you for all your kindness, thoughts and prayers, Ferhat and Sanem. Please keep us posted about your growing little ones!

**Althea Wilson** Althea wrote us in early September last year. She was checking out our website to see if you had our e-mails correct. She said she was so very impressed with our website. Thank you, Althea for your comments. The website is on going and we hope that we get the Address Roster on it soon! Things have been very busy here this past year with the large number of students that arrived here last August. I do hope that by the time this Newsletter goes out the Address Roster will be on it.

Althea said she is doing well. She moved to New York a couple of months ago, which I guess that was in July 2009. She said she located there because Althea got her “dream job” there. She works as the Operations and External Relations Manager for the African Leadership Academy Foundation. The Foundation was set up in the US to solely support the African Leadership Academy, which seeks to develop and support future African Leaders that would transform their communities and countries through education, engineering, politics etc. She says that it is pretty neat and she considers herself very lucky to be involved with them. Congratulations, Althea! Sounds like a very impressive position.

**Qing “Sally” Wu** Sally wrote us last August (2009) updating us with her contact information. Thanks, Sally for sending us your updates. As you may know, Sally is in Nashville and working at Cummins Inc. as a Credit and Collection Analyst. It is nice that Sally is living here in Nashville. Although she is living here we don’t get to see her. I am sure she is very busy with her job and when she is not working we aren’t either, therefore it doesn’t give her time to come by to say hello. It was nice hearing from her! Hopefully we can get together some time!

**Gao Xi** It was nice hearing from Gao Xi. He is currently working at Credit Suisse and has been there for about 3 years. He is currently working as a Product Controller in Equity Derivatives Division in North Carolina.

Gao Xi told us that he is considering going back to China for a career in Finance or perhaps getting a PhD in Economics/Finance. I think Gao Xi said he would be making this decision in the next year.

He told us that he has a cousin who is considering pursuing a Masters degree in Economics. Gao Xi said that if he decides to come to the U.S. for studies he hopes he can persuade him to come to our program. He said, “Vanderbilt is such a lovely place and the GPED has given him so many happy memories.” That would be wonderful Gao Xi, if your cousin can happen! Then maybe you would have a good excuse to come visit, right!

It was great hearing from you and we hope that 2010 is a good one for you and thank you for the Christmas and New Year’s greetings.

## **2006-07**

**Dana Aitimova** Dana wrote to Mouzon in early October after she received our Newsletter. She read about Mouzon receiving the Commodore Award and sent Mouzon congratulations on receiving the award. Dana's quote to Mouzon, "No one else deserves it!" Very sweet and very true! I know Mouzon appreciated your congratulations to her. Good hearing from you Dana, next year send us more information on yourself!

**Dana Alibekova** Well, it has been another big year for Dana, two years in a row. This past year on July 15, 2009 Dana gave birth to a baby girl, they named her Adelya. Congratulations Dana, we are so happy for you! Dana sent us many pictures of the baby. She is a beautiful little doll, but what can you expect from such a cute Mom! Thanks for sharing the news and the pictures with us. Continue to keep in touch with us from time to time.

Dana wrote us on May 14<sup>th</sup>, after seeing news and pictures of the flooding here in Nashville and all of Middle Tennessee on May 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>. We were very fortunate, those of us in the GPED, as we did not have any problems with the flooding. So many in certain parts of Nashville and many areas of Middle TN had so much devastation! Thanks Dana for your concern!

**Kerim Anuarov** Kerim wrote a very sweet note to Mouzon on April 3<sup>rd</sup>. First of all he congratulated her on winning the Commodore Award and he said that she was very deserving of the Award. Then he wished Mouzon and her family and Marie and her family a Happy Easter. That was so thoughtful of Kerim to think of us during our Easter Season. He sent his best to all of us here in the GPED. We hope to hear from Kerim again in this next year.

**Marshall Carter** We had a wonderful turn out for our Alumni Reception in D.C. this year. Marshall was there among many others who are now working in D.C. Marshall was one of our speakers at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. He did an outstanding job with his presentation for us. Very impressive, Marshall! Marshall is an Economist in the Division of International Comparisons in the Bureau of Labor Statistics. We look forward to seeing and hearing Marshall again next year!

One day this summer Marshall called our office. He just called to say hello and find out how things are going down here and see how we are doing after the flood. He was doing well and it was really nice just to sit and talk with Marshall. I especially

appreciated hearing from him, as it was a very slow day in the office and I had the time for a casual conversation. Thanks Marshall for calling!

**Kirsten Funes Deras** Well it has been really nice in the past year hearing from and seeing Kirsten. We had a wonderful visit with her in D.C. The Sunday evening when we arrived Kirsten came to our hotel and picked us up (Mouzon and Sultan and Pat and myself) and took us to her apartment for dinner. To our surprise when we arrived there, who opened the door but her Mom, **Teresa Deras (Class of 1990-91)**. Kirsten had told us that her Mom was going to try to make arrangements to be in D.C. while we were there, but Kirsten told us when we arrived that her Mom could not make the connecting flights. Well, she told us a little fib, but it was for our own pleasure and delight! When Teresa opened the door we were all just so excited to see Teresa. We had a great evening together and a wonderful dinner too. Both Kirsten and Teresa came to our Alumni Reception, as well as many other recent graduates, now working in D.C. Then the morning we were leaving to come back to Nashville Kirsten and her Mom came over to tell us good-bye. They are both so sweet and we just had a great time being with them.

Upon our return from the D.C. trip Kirsten e-mail us some great photos that she took at our reception. Thanks, Kirsten for the pictures, they are really and I treasure having them.

Kirsten also let's us know when Muhammad Yunus is in the D.C. area for a book signing or lecture or whatever and any other news she hears about other GPED alumni. We are grateful for great updates that she sends us. She is our "D.C. Correspondent!"

Kirsten keeps in touch all the time and remembers us on every occasion of the year. Thank you Kirsten for the flowers you sent on my birthday from yourself and your Mom and Eric and the flowers you sent Mouzon on her birthday. Kirsten sent us Mother's Day, Christmas, Thanksgiving, St. Patrick's Day, and general cards. As I said Kirsten is so thoughtful and kind to always remember us and we do appreciate it so much! It is so sweet that Kirsten stays in touch with us at all times.

**Daniel Goodman** Mouzon heard from Daniel in mid-September (2009) after he heard about Mouzon receiving the Commodore Award. He wrote to congratulate her on her far overdue Award.

Then in March when we were on our Field Trip in D.C. we had the pleasure of seeing Daniel while we were there. He and many of our recent GPED graduates were there for our reception. It was so cool seeing everyone. It was like a huge reunion. Everyone, including all the GPED staff had a wonderful and week in D.C. thanks to the out pouring of visits from our GPED folks.

Word has it that Daniel may be coming to Nashville for Memorial Day weekend, as well as a few others. I will let you know if we see Daniel this weekend. We are hoping so!

**Aknur Jumatova** At the end of March this year we received a very sweet note from Aknur. She was writing to see how all of us are doing in the GPED and she sent her warmest wishes and love to all of us. She said she is so happy that she was given the chance to know us and be around us for the two years she was here. Aknur, you were a pleasure to have here with your pleasant smile and participated in all we did here. We miss you here very much.

She told us a little about herself too. She is working at IFC (International Finance Corporation), which is part of the World Bank Group. She said she enjoys her job very much. Aknur gets to travel a lot with her job. She gets to see new countries and cultures, and gets a new perspective from these short frequent changes of landscapes. Sounds like a very good and interesting job Aknur and I am sure you are doing a splendid job in this position.

Thanks for writing and we appreciated the note so much. Keep us posted on all that goes on in your life.

**Mirzhan Karakulov** We heard from Mirzhan on August 7, 2009 with his “**Big News!**” His wife had a baby girl on August the 6<sup>th</sup> and he said, “I became a Dad!” Congratulations to Mirzhan and his wife!

He told us that he had changed his job. He is now heading Risk Management of the Development Bank of Kazakhstan. He said he is now trying to apply the knowledge he received in the GPED to his job. Congratulations on your new job too, Mirzhan!

Mirzhan also gave us information on other Kazak GPED friends from this (**This Class of 2006-07**). He said that **Nurzhan Turchikenov and DiyarMedeubekov** are both at investment companies. **Kerim Anuarov** is managing a small factory in Aktau, KZ and **Askar Abeuov** is working at the Investment Fund of Kazakhstan (a state owned company). He said that sometime back he heard from **Aknur Jumatova and Assel Abdrakhmanova**. Aknur is with IFC (World Bank Group) and Assel is with General Electric Representative Office here in Kazakhstan.

Mirzhan sent his best to all of us here in the GPED. Good hearing from you, Mirzhan!

**Jaehyeon Kim** Jaehyeon has called our office several times over this past year just to say hello and check on everyone here in the GPED. We love hearing from him and all is may be doing at the time that he calls.

On May 2<sup>nd</sup> he wrote us and told us that he was waiting to hear from Wilfrid Laurier University where he was applying for a Fellowship. He said for a back-up plan

he was applying to Pusan National University in Korea. This university requires students who have earned degrees in the United States to submit verification of their record of being there and degree etc. So he was writing to request some things sent to Pusan National University from Vanderbilt.

We heard again from Jaehyeon a couple of weeks later after he had heard about the flooding in Nashville. Actually, the day he wrote us about the above information was the second day of the flooding here in Nashville, I am sure he had know idea that it was going on when he wrote us that day. He called to check on all of us in the GPED and our families to make sure we were all okay. As it turned out, we were very fortunate and not one of us in the GPED was affected by the flooding. We appreciated Jaehyeon's concern for us.

Good luck with your applications to the universities and let us know where you end up going!

**Sun Bum Kwan** Sun Bum called us in late October to check on us regarding the H1N1 virus. Fortunately, the H1N1 never got as bad as they thought it might. We all took the H1N1 vaccination and Vanderbilt put hand sanitizers all over the campus buildings and even had people come in and sanitize door knobs and other things that are touched by many. Apparently all this helped to keep down the number of cases around here.

Sun Bum is working for the Federation of Korean Industries and doing well. His daughter Lucy is seven years old now. Sum Bum's wife received a Certificate in English while she was in Nashville and is now teaching English in Korea. The other news is that the Kwan family adopted a puppy, a Maltese! Congratulations on your adoption! I bet that the puppy is a cutie. Thank you for your concern for us, and it was good hearing from you Sum Bum. Always keep in touch with us!

**Xinghua Luo** Xinghua wrote around the end of November to wish us a Happy Thanksgiving. Thank you, Xinghua, for thinking about us during that time of year. He said he is doing well and in New York. Thanks for dropping us a note, write us more in this next year and tell us what you are doing.

**Nicky Mapa** Nicky wrote us last July and told us he is back with the Central Bank of the Philippines and he is in the Economic and Financial Learning Center at the Central Bank. He said he would like to market the GPED in the Philippines and requested for us to send him some brochures. I think we did send him some and that would be wonderful for him to work on getting us some more students from there.

Nicky wrote us in May and said that he is now applying to graduate school again and if he gets in the U.S. he will let us know. Thanks Nicky for writing and let us know

how it comes out with graduate studies and where you will be. We look forward to hearing more from you in the coming year.

**Diyar Medeubekov** Diyar wrote requesting a electronic soft copy of his corrected version of his thesis that he needed for his work. I am writing him to get a current address for him you will find it in the Address Roster whenever we get it on our website.

**Olutola Oni** Much to our dismay, Tola left here last December and headed to Washington, D.C. for a job at the IMF. She is very happy there and likes her job very much. We do miss her here very, very much! We knew her presence here wouldn't last forever but it would have been nice.

In March on our Field Trip to D.C. Tola came to our Reception and visited with us several evenings while we were there. We had so many GPED alumni come to our reception and visit us. It was just so much fun and truly a delight seeing everyone!

In April Tola sent our graduating students an e-mail note with an attachment regarding a job at the WB. Tola said she will keep her eye out for anything that comes up on internet of jobs at the WB that would be of interest to our students. Thanks Tola! See she continues to help GPED students even though she is not here.

On May 7<sup>th</sup> we heard from Tola when she dropped us a sweet note and telling us to have fun at our Awards Dinner that night. Then on May 18<sup>th</sup> she sent another e-mail note to all of the graduating students wishing them well and the best with their future endeavors. I know everyone appreciated her kind note. Tola has always been more than just thoughtful and sweet but has always looked out for other fellow GPED students current and alumni. We do appreciate all you have done for us and all you continue to do for us!

We keep in touch with Tola regularly via e-mail. We were very happy when she and **Patrick Jordan (from this class)** decided to come to Nashville during Memorial Day Weekend. They stayed at Mouzon's home and of course Mouzon had a get together for them. The party was really nice and several of those who just graduated and were still here when Tola was here came to the party. We all had a great time together. I know Tola enjoyed her weekend with Mouzon and getting to see a lot of friends too!

**Indrani Ray** We heard from Indrani a couple of times this past year. She e-mailed us in October and in December. In October she wrote to thank us for the Newsletter and how much she enjoyed reading it. She said she would have written us earlier but her baby daughter has her days and nights mixed up so Indrani is sleeping during the day and awake all night. This is always a tough route to take when babies get

their days and nights mixed up. She also said that she has given up on going back to work until Anushri grows up a little.

When she wrote us in December she was thanking us for the bound copy of her thesis. She was also asking about Professor Cliff Huang and wanted an e-mail address for him. I sent the information on to her.

She was also happy to tell me that she and her husband, Achinta, bought a new home and were getting ready to move into it shortly. Congratulations on your new home!

Indrani wrote us in June of this year telling us that she was recovering after having gall-bladder surgery. She said she is fully recovered now. She said she will be bringing the baby by for us to meet her. It has to be a day when her husband Acintya is free. He has a tight schedule and Indrani said she still has not learned to drive. We look forward to meeting Anushri whenever Indrani can get her here! Indrani did send us a couple pictures of their little girl and she is just precious. Thank you for the pictures.

**Youngwoo Rho** Youngwoo continues his studies here in the Ph.D. program and is doing quite well. He comes by our office from time to time to say hello and visit with us. It is so nice having him close by.

In March he presented a paper at the Graduate Research Day here at Vanderbilt. His paper was entitled, “The Opportunity Cost of Exporting”, and a professor here in the department co-authored the paper with Youngwoo. Congratulations on the presentation!

**Ted Skuchas** Ted came by our office on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. He came here for the Rights of Spring at Vanderbilt and he made sure he came by to see us. We loved seeing him. He is working at Systems Integration Consulting Accenture in Philadelphia. They have offices worldwide and will probably move somewhere else in the world at some point. Nice seeing Ted and appreciated him coming to see us.

**Ken Takada** Ken wrote us in mid-October and it was good hearing from him. He congratulated Mouzon on her Commodore Award and said he was happy to hear about that. He said he is doing well and working at the Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry. He is in charge of personnel issues at the Ministry.

Then Ken gave us his “**Big News,**” he and his wife are expecting a baby at the end of October and he would send us some pictures when the baby arrives. So on November 6<sup>th</sup> we received the news from Ken! They had a baby girl born on October 26<sup>th</sup>! He also sent along a picture of his “little bundle of joy.” She is a little doll. Thank you for the picture Ken and congratulations! Keep in touch and send some pictures when you can.

**Mekael Teshome** To our delight Mekael was able to come to our reception at our hotel in D.C. last March. It was just great seeing him. He joined in with the large group of recent GPED alumni and partied with everyone into the late evening hours. It was just great seeing Mekael and we hope to see him again next year. Maybe we will hear from him before then too!

**Lin Yuan** We get a call from Lin from time to time. He is doing well and seems to be very happy and comfortable with life. He is living and working in New York and working the Financial Sector. We are not sure of the company right now.

Lin wrote Mouzon in September 2009 and congratulated Mouzon on winning the Commodore Award. He said, "There is no one deserving this award more than you at Vanderbilt!" We all know that this is true and it was very nice of Lin to tell Mouzon this.

In December, Lin also mailed us a cute Christmas card and a very nice note inside. Thanks so much Lin. Continue to call us from time to time. We love hearing from you!

One day during the summer Lin called and was very excited with his "Big News"! He had just received word that he has now been hired at Black Rock in Asset Management and would begin working there on July 19<sup>th</sup>. Congratulations Lin! He said he had three job offers come to him at one time and he decided to go with Black Rock. I know things will go great for you Lin and don't forget about us and write us occasionally!

## **2007-08**

**Eissa Al-Rumaithi** We have been in contact with Eissa quite a bit over this last year. In July he called us and said he will be going to D.C. in October to study for GRE and was going to apply for Ph.D. study. Then when he e-mailed us in early October he was back in D.C. and gave us his mailing address. At this point he was studying English and applying for further study for 2010-2011.

As of this past spring Eissa began working at the UAE Embassy. He is Chief of Staff of Cultural Affairs at the UAE. He works with students from UAE that are studying in the United States. Congratulations on this appointment!

At our reception in D.C. Eissa did attend, as did so many others. It was wonderful seeing him. It was such a grand reception with so many there! We now hope to see Eissa at the reception again next year since he now works at the Embassy there.

Eissa sends us beautiful videos from time to time. We got to see him while we were in D.C. and this Memorial Day weekend he came to Nashville with his girlfriend from Colombia. We had a very nice visit with him at Mouzon's home, when she opened her home for a small get together. We all had a great time and it was great seeing Eissa! While Eissa was in town for Memorial Day weekend he did visit with Professor Maneschi on Monday, Memorial Day.

**Jong-Hyun An** When **Yan "Vicky" Zhang(of this class)** wrote to "Mr. An" to check on him since we haven't heard from him. She asked him if he disappeared or something. He wrote back and told us he almost disappeared! He said he is overwhelmed with his work and works very long hours. He is Deputy Senior Manager in the Planning Division at The Federation of Korean Industries in Seoul. He had now re-settled down back home and with his job.

Mr. An called our office in December. He said he was doing well. He asked about his other classmates and wanted to know how they are doing. Mr. An promises, that he will keep in touch with us frequently. We wish "Mr. An" well and hope that he does find the time to contact us frequently.

**Manoj Dora** Manoj wrote us on September 7<sup>th</sup>. He said he had just arrived at Maastricht on Saturday to begin his Ph.D. studies. The classes began on September 1<sup>st</sup> so he said he had a lot of catching up to do. I am sure we will be hearing more from him. Good luck in your studies, I am sure Manoj will do just fine

Manoj wrote to Mouzon congratulating her on winning the Commodore Award last September. He told her, "Your love and affection for GPED family is unparalleled." Very kind remarks, Manoj. Then in October he wrote and said he had just received the beautiful Newsletter. He said he was thrilled to read all the news from the GPED family. On November 5<sup>th</sup> he wrote to Mouzon again and wished her a Happy Birthday. He said he remembers how much fun he had last year on her birthday.

In March he wrote us with his new address and other contact information. He said that someone had sent him pictures of the alumni reception in D.C. and he enjoyed seeing them and happy that everyone seemed to be having a good time. In this note he told us he is now living and studying in Belgium. He got a job at Ghent University. He will manage a research project. The project will look into cost reduction techniques in food industries in 3 countries (Germany, Belgium, and Hungary). On completion of the project he will submit his Ph.D. thesis based on the project. The project will last for four years. Then he will graduate job cum Ph.D. position. Congratulations Manoj!

**George Ferguson** We were very happy to see George when we were in D.C. He was another GPED alumni of this class who attended our extravaganza reception. It really was a ball! George is going to school **Where/and working where? Please help!!!**

**Shan He** Shan sent us a very nice Christmas card and good wishes for the Holiday Season with a very sweet note inside wishing all of the GPED Family a very good 2010. Thank you for your kind words, Shan.

Shan sent us her address in New York and she is **WORKING WHERE?**

She was able to come to D.C. while we were there and she came to our Reception and went to the World Bank with us too! I cannot tell you how much fun we had in D.C. and what a big reception we had. It was a BIG Reunion in a way, so many are now working in D.C. who recently graduated from our program. I feel like in these next few years the reception in D.C. will continue to grow! What a party we had this past March! We just loved it!

Then in May, Shan came here for Commencement. Again, we were so happy to have her back here and get to watch her go down and get her diploma. We look forward to seeing Shan again next year in D.C., maybe!

**Raffi Garcia** We were so happy to see Raffi at our reception in D.C. this year! As I have mentioned over and over we had a wonderful and huge turnout for our reception this year and so many recent graduates. We loved seeing everyone and everyone just had a ball getting together.

Raffi attended and participated at the Summit of the Americas sponsored by the Organization of American State, April 17<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>. He submitted an essay which was selected for presentation. The title of his essay is **“Remittances: Stimulating Human Prosperity Through Micro-Enterprises in El Salvador.”** Congratulations to Raffi on being selected to present his essay!

In May Raffi e-mailed us about Mohammad Yunus being in D.C. to discuss his new book, **Building Social Business**, at a fundraiser for FONKOZE, Haiti’s Alternative Bank for the Organized Poor. He sent the e-mail to all of our students.

Earlier in May Raffi also sent our students a notice about Booz Allen, the company where he works. They would be doing hiring of over 1500 new employees in the next few months. We want to thank Raffi for sending our students leads when there are job openings around. This is very beneficial to those looking for jobs in D.C. I don’t

know if any responded or not but, you never know when there may be something out there that someone would like. Thanks so much Raffi!

**Hujiaabudula Hasimu** Hujia wrote us in July and gave us his most recent contact information. He said he is doing fine in the city of Chattanooga, Tennessee. He said he will try to make it up here to see us some time, but we haven't seen him yet. I believe he must be staying very busy with his job. Maybe in this next year we will get to see him!

Then in November Hujia sent us a note wishing us a Happy Thanksgiving. He also enclosed an article telling the history of the Thanksgiving Holiday. Thank you Hujia, we appreciated your thoughtfulness so much!

In January I wrote to Hujiaa after I received an e-mail request from a prospective student, who knew that Hujiaa had been a student in the GPED. She wanted his e-mail address but I e-mailed him first to make sure it was okay with him for me to give his e-mail address to her. He said he did not mind and so she wrote to him I am sure. He said he does not mind us giving out his e-mail to anyone who wants to talk to him about the GPED because, he said, "I want to tell them how proud I am as a GPED alumni." Thank you Hujiaa, for being so nice and willing to discuss with applicants questions they may have about our Program.

Again in April we heard from Hujiaa again. He had recently visited the Vanderbilt website and saw where Mouzon had won the 2009 Vanderbilt Commodore Award and wanted to congratulate her. I don't guess Hujiaa and noticed that or read the last Alumni letter telling about Mouzon's award or something. Anyway that was very sweet of him to send the congratulations! He also said in this note that he has wanted to come to Nashville to visit us but he said that he stays very busy all the time and just hasn't been able to get here. He said he still hope that he can get up here sometime in the near future. We hope that he can. We would love to see him! He sent his best to all of us in the GPED.

**Megat Iskandar Shah Jamil Rais** Iskandar wrote us in September and told us he has resettled in Putrajaya and has finally gotten use of driving on the left side of the road again! He said Dayang is doing well too and sent her hello to everyone. Glad to hear that the two of you have resettled, but we do miss you here!

On October 31<sup>st</sup> we received an e-mail note from Dayang, Iskandar's wife, telling us that she misses Nashville a lot. She was also wondering how many Malaysians we got last fall and the answer is two. They are very nice and they fit in here so well. Yayang recalls her days here in Nashville and was thinking about how pretty it is here in the fall when all the leaves on the trees are changing colors and the cool air starts to come. She said this is the time of year when she knows all the new students are going out and buying jackets, coats, scarves, and gloves knowing the upcoming winter weather. She also wished us a Happy Halloween too.

In November Mouzon received a lovely birthday card from Iskandar and Yayang. I know Mouzon appreciated it so much.

Yayang sent her best to everyone in the GPED. Thanks for writing and continue to keep us posted on your lives!

**Patrick Jordan** I guess everyone knows by now that Patrick is working at the Bureau of Labor Statistics. Thanks to Patrick this past March he made arrangements for a very good and interesting seminar for our group at the Bureau. He and **Marshall Carter (of this class)** each gave a talk about the Bureau and what they do there and how they got on at the Bureau. They did a splendid job in their presentations. The whole group enjoyed hearing them. I appreciate so much their help in getting us in the Bureau, as well as their presentations!

Of course Patrick came to our Alumni Reception there in D.C. and visited us about every night while we were there. We loved seeing and visiting with him and our second year class was also happy to see him.

On this past Memorial Day weekend he and **Tola Oni (Class of 2006-07)** came to Nashville for a visit. They stayed at Mouzon's home and on Saturday night while they were here Mouzon had a get together for them. They had a wonderful visit with so many from the second year students, those who were still here. We look forward to seeing Patrick in D.C. next March, if we don't see him again before then!

**Shabani Ely Katembo** We have heard from Ely several times over this past year. Ely wrote us at the end of July last year and told us he was hired at the World Bank for a short term appointment, and will be working in the Sustainable Development Network Information Service (SDNIS). He will be working on an amazing and ambitious project related to Geo-referencing climate change projects around the world. Ely said this will be a major project and will lead to a lot of opportunities.

Then Ely has sent us several notices for job opportunities for the World Bank, that some of our GPED students might be interested in applying for them. We do appreciate Ely thinking of the students here.

In February Ely wrote and told us about his new job at the World Bank. He is working at the World Bank Institute Economic Growth and Crisis Management Unit as a Consultant on Skills and Innovation Policy. He will help to design and facilitate E-Learning courses on Introduction to Education Statistics and Indicators as well as the Economics of Education for Policy makers.

Starting March 1<sup>st</sup> he will start a cross-support program WBI/IFC program with the Global Information and Communication Technology (GICT) program. In this assignment his main role will be to provide a technical assistance on issues related to economic modeling, legal and regulatory framework as well as the strategy related to the preparation and dissemination of a Broadband PPP Infrastructure project in Central Africa. He will also support a regional strategy for Internet penetration and domain name management. Very impressive Ely! Congratulations and we all know you will do a super job!

We were also happy that we got to see Ely while we were in D.C. He came to our alumni reception and we had a wonderful visit with him. I repeat again, that we had such a wonderful response from our most recent GPED alumni attending our reception. It was like having a family reunion or something.

To everyone's delight and pleasure Ely got to speak to our group at the World Bank. He did a super job and we were all very impressed with his talk and his professionalism. Thank you so much Ely for all you do for the GPED!

**Kim, Dong Kwan** In early August we heard from Kwan. He was settled in Athens, Georgia at the University of Georgia. He had met a friend of Sherry's, down there and said that she was very nice and helpful. We were glad to hear from him and hope to hear more from him again in the near future.

**Qingyun Kong** Kong graduated this May and was here for Commencement. It was wonderful having her here. She is working in MOUZON –WHAT AND WHERE?? What else is new with her????

**Neil Kutty** Mouzon had a party when Patrick Jordan and Tola Oni were in town for Memorial Day weekend. Neil came to party and enjoyed seeing everyone. He graduate this May too, so it was a celebrations for the graduates too, at least those who were still around.

**Juliao Matsinhe** Juliao wrote us a very sweet note on March 28, 2010. He had tried to call the office but we had a very poor connection. He gave up after a couple tires and then just decided to e-mail us. He wanted say hello and tell us the misses everyone and that all his family are doing well.

He did tell us that he is looking very hard for a new job. His contract is up with FGH on April 15<sup>th</sup>. I know Juliao will get a new and great job. Please let us hear back from you when you get a new job and tell us about it.

We certainly miss you too, Julia! I know you are very busy but we would love to hear from you again in the very near future. Please write us and tell us all about you, your wife and all of your children. It surely was a pleasure having you here and we miss your smile and your caring ways around here!

**Sait Mboob** Sait wrote us after returning to Gambia and he said it is hot, hot there! He said that when we retire we need to build a beautiful home on the beach there. That sounds really nice!

We heard from Sait again in August 2009 and he said things are just fine now in Gambia. He is busy getting back to work. He said his immediate supervisor is **Ismaila Jarju (Class of 2006-07)**.

In February Sait wrote and the first thing he said was that he missed us terribly and the second thing he mentioned is that he had heard that we had snow in Nashville. We did and it was beautiful. I think we had about 6 inches and that is the deepest snow we have had since 1993. He said in this note that he had just applied for Ph.D. study in Europe and perhaps he will be there later this year. The other news he had to share is that he has met a great girl and maybe he can bring her to Nashville for a visit one day. That would be super, Sait. I hope that you can. We would love to meet her.

Sait is an Economist at the Central Bank of the Gambia but, also on the job hunt. We were very fortunate that he happened to be in D.C. when we were there and we were fortunate too because we got to see him. He was there, as were so many others and we all just had a great big happy reunion! We look forward to hearing from Sait again soon!

**Byung Ki Park** Byung Ki wrote us last July and was thanking us for sending him his trophy and certificate. He said it reminded him how much he misses Vanderbilt and his friends he had here. He said even though it has been only one year since he left here he feels like it has been a longer time than that. He said he misses everyone here.

Byung Ki returned to his company KDIC. He was put on a Risk Surveillance Team of the Financial Market. This team monitors the financial market during the global financial crisis, which started with the subprime mortgage problem since September 2008. He told us what he learned here at Vanderbilt is very helpful in the work that he is doing.

Thank you for writing us. It was great hearing from you, Byung Ki. We miss you too here at Vanderbilt. Thanks for asking about everyone. Everyone is doing well here and we did tell everyone you sent your best regards. We look forward to hearing from you again.

**Rebecca Stricklett** We heard from Rebecca last July when she sent us her new address in Austin, Texas. She said it has been very hot there and been above 100 degrees every day since she got there.

We heard from Rebecca in April and May. She wrote and wondered if we are all okay after the flooding. Thank you, Rebecca that was sweet of you and your concern for us. She said she is still on the job hunt and has a couple of interviews soon. So we wish her the best and we feel sure that she will be getting a great job soon. Please let us hear from you Rebecca when you get the job you want. Keep us posted!

**Dali Wang** Dali has been working in New York doing Practical Training. He has called us several times during this last year just to check in with us and say hello. We are happy to say that right now, in June, he has returned here to finish his thesis this summer and will graduate in August. It is nice having back around here, even if it is for a short period of time. We will be sad to see him go when he leaves and he is returning to China. We hope he keeps in touch with us. He did give us a beautiful “wall hanging” for us to remember him by. We have hung it up in our student lounge. Thank you, Dali for the gift for our office. We will always treasure it!

**Lihong Yang** Lihong wrote us last August and gave us his “**Big News**”, he and Julie are expecting a baby in mid-January. He sounded very happy about it. Congratulations Lihong and Julie! Please write us when the baby gets here and also send us a picture.

He also told us that he was very happy because he passed the qualification exams on his first attempt in June. Congratulations on that too, Lihong! He is doing some research in International Economics with a professor.

Thanks for all your news Lihong and we will be waiting to here about your baby when it comes into this world!

**Lei Zhang** We heard from Lei around the end of November when he was writing and asking for his transcripts to be sent and recommendation letter from a couple of the professors here. He was very excited about a job that he was applying for and hopes to get. He was getting ready for his second interview with AIG, enterprise risk management group. Then we heard that AIG is taking him and that he will begin as a Junior Financial Analyst. Wow that is great and once you are in I am sure you will go far with AIG. Congratulations, Lei!

He sent a beautiful card at Thanksgiving and wished all of us a Happy Thanksgiving. He said he hopes to visit us here in some time. We hope that he does come this way!

**Ye “Joey” Zhao** Joey e-mailed us to give us his new address. He is living and working in Nashville. **MOUZON- DO YOU HAVE MORE ON JOEY???**

## 2008-09

**Jong Min Kim** We heard “Big News” from Jong Min and that is he was admitted to the University of Texas in Dallas. Congratulations Jong Min! Good luck and we hope that you will contact us from time to time.

**Mayila Mijiti** Mayila wrote Mouzon and wrote a very sweet note to her thanking her and telling her how much she appreciated all she did for her while she was here. She also sent some pictures that she had taken while she was here. That was very kind of Mayila.

**Edvin Masic** Edvin wrote to Mouzon in late September. His “Good News” he has for us is that he got married during the summer. Congratulations on your marriage, Edvin!

He told us that things are hectic right now with his work and his ultimate goal is to come back and finish his degree in the GPED. Right now though, the company he works for, Wachovia was bought out by Wells Fargo and that they are going through a lot of changes. He does have to wait until things settled down at his job before he can have the time to be back in school. We hope that things do calm down and Edvin can return to complete his ultimate goal, a degree from here!

He also wanted contact information for **Swizen Rubbani (of this class)**. We did forward the information on to Edvin.

We hope to hear from him in the near future and that he can return for his studies. We wish him the best of luck with his marriage and his job! Keep in touch, Edvin.

**Qi Xu** Qi wrote us with her mailing address after she arrived in West Lafayette, IN. She said she was doing fine and had settled down there. She also was requesting her transcripts to be sent to her.

In November Mouzon received Birthday greetings from Qi, which I know Mouzon appreciated. Then in late November, Qi wrote to Mouzon and sent her Thanksgiving wishes and said she misses her so much. Sounds like Qi is doing great in Indiana.

Toward the end of May Qi Xu wrote to check about the flooding in Nashville and asked about us here in the office. Fortunately, we were all okay.

**Yan “Vicky” Zhang** Vicky is doing great and will be graduating in August. Her complete recovery from her accident is great to see! You would never know how badly she was hurt by looking at her now. She is back to the bouncing, fast paced Vicky

that she is, thank goodness! She is working in our office and is doing a wonderful job. Vicky is always considerate and thoughtful to everyone and always ready to lend a hand. We will certainly miss her tremendously when she leaves here!