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October is a busy month at AISA. With **AISA professional learning institutes (PLIs)** happening across Africa almost every weekend, I find myself in the fortunate position of needing to make choices as to which of these I should try to participate in. But what a great challenge to have! For example, I've just returned from an exceptional **PLC at Work institute** at the International Community School (ICS) in Addis Ababa over the past weekend. Dr Tim Stuart and his team crafted a powerful 3 days of deep learning around the key principles that support Professional Learning Communities in international schools. My mind is buzzing around how AISA can support these key principles in our schools and, in time, encourage the fully articulated implementation of PLC schools within the AISA region. If you're wondering what all this about please take a look at the [Solution Tree website](#).

Among the many highlights of my time at ICS was the time I spent with the **Teaching Assistants (TAs)** who were in attendance at the PLC institute. I found myself gravitating towards them in sessions and at the breaks as I have not really taken the time to explore this important perspective of learning support in our schools. Their engagement, articulateness, proud sense of inclusion and the way they valued so highly the opportunity to learn that this event afforded them was such a pleasure to witness. Although we have included PL opportunities for TAs before in the AISA programme, I am working with the AISA team to explore ways that AISA might better support TAs across all our member schools on a regular basis. This will start with AISA designing (at least) one of our Webinar Series later this year with Teaching Assistants as the focus and to follow this up by establishing an online Community of Practice for TAs across the AISA region.

The other big event this month is the annual [AISA Educators Conference](#) taking place in Dakar later this week. This will be another rich learning experience for educators in our schools. I hope to see many of you there - but if you can't join us why not take a look here at what will be on offer. I'll let you know how it goes in the next eCircular.



**Dr Peter Bateman**  
Executive Director

# PROFESSIONAL LEARNING WITH AISA

## eTime: AISA's Webinar Series

The next webinar is on: **Building Leadership Capacity Towards Inclusion**

<b>When</b>	26 <sup>th</sup> September, 2018			
<b>Time</b>	GMT: 16.00	WAT: 17.00	CAT: 18.00	EAT: 19.00
<b>Presenter</b>	Simon Gillespie, TASOK Director			

This webinar will explore the role of leadership in building capacity in our schools towards inclusion of students with learning differences. The challenges we face in our unique international school contexts and how we can overcome these to provide the best possible support and learning environment for each of our diverse learners. The webinar will share first-hand experiences and research on the topic of leading inclusive schools along with examples of ways to build understanding, support and resources to support our students.

To Register in advance, visit: [https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN\\_zdYpN-TzQ-CCCTBGfcUgqg](https://zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_zdYpN-TzQ-CCCTBGfcUgqg)

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

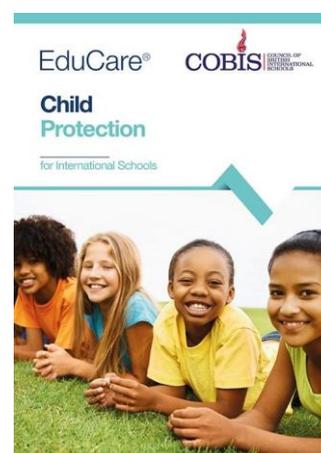
## Online Child Protection Learning with EduCare

AISA is committed to ensuring that member schools have access to child protection training that is relevant to the needs and contexts in which our schools operate. To ensure that all member schools can always access high quality training, AISA has developed a partnership with EduCare, a leading provider of online Safeguarding and Duty of Care training.

**EduCare®** | Experts in Safeguarding and Duty of Care Training

Courses provided by EduCare include:

- Safer Recruitment for International Schools
- Child Protection for International Schools
- An Introduction into Child Sexual Education for International Schools
- Child Protection in Sport & Active Leisure
- Preventing Bullying for International Schools
- The Prevent Duty
- Safeguarding Young People
- Online Safety for International Schools
- Equality and Diversity
- Data Protection
- Raising Awareness of Peer-on-Peer Abuse



## FREE COURSES FOR AISA MEMBER SCHOOLS

AISA is providing **80 online courses**, free of charge, to leaders and educators in AISA member schools.

Register your interest by **November 16th** to access this offer.

## Upcoming AISA Professional Learning Institutes

PLI's coming up – for the Full Programme, see the AISA website [here](#).



2018	EVENT	FACILITATOR	TARGET	LOCATION
19-20 Oct	<u>Student Agency: Personalised Learning</u>	Taryn Bond Clegg	Classroom teachers	AIMS Mozambique
26-28 Oct	<u>Taking the Complexity Out of Concepts – A Continuation</u>	Tania Lattanzio	Teachers, Coaches & Instructional Leaders	AISJ Sth Africa
2 -3 Nov	<u>Assessment: Reaffirming, Reworking &amp; Rethinking Assessment</u>	Tom Schimmer	Administrators, Teachers, Coaches & Instructional Leaders	ISK Kenya
9-11 Nov	<u>Service Learning 101</u>	Tara Barton	All educators	AISJ Sth Africa
10-11 Nov	<u>AISA Executive Assistants' Institute</u>	Angela Garry	Executive/personal assistants	ISU Uganda
28 Nov – 1 Dec	<u>Adaptive Schools</u>	Doreen Merola	Anyone who facilitates groups or wants to help teams become more collaborative.	AISJ Sth Africa



## STUDENT FOCUS



### AISA-GISS 2019

International School of Tanganyika, Dar-es-Salaam, Tanzania

16<sup>th</sup> – 19<sup>th</sup> January 2019



Welcome to our Annual student-led Global Issues Service Summit (GISS) for 2019. The 10th annual conference will be held at the International School of Tanganyika, Dar-es-Salaam Tanzania. The event will run from the 16th to the 19th of January 2019 with the overall theme of “Toa Mkono”. In the local tongue of Swahili, this means “lend a hand” and links back to the core values behind the GISS summit. This connects to the concept of sharing ideas in order to better deal with the issues that are seen in the various international communities.

To find out more go to the website at: [www.aisagiss.org/2019](http://www.aisagiss.org/2019)

## Margaret Sanders International Scholarship

The annual Margaret Sanders International Scholarship is open to graduating high school students from AISA full member schools. The scholarship provides financial support for the graduate to attend college or university (must be a 501 (c)(3), U.S. chartered, degree-granting institution) and may cover a broad range of educational expenses such as tuition, room and board, books, computers and the like.

**Award maximum:** To be determined by the Margaret Sanders Foundation each year (normally around US\$5,000)

### SELECTION PROCESS AND TIMELINE

Full Member AISA schools are invited to submit **one student** for consideration of the scholarship opportunity.

Scholarship details and the application form can be found on the AAIE website [here](#).

AAIE will forward all applications received from the region to the AISA Board who will choose one student to represent the AISA region. This applicant will then compete with candidates in other regions for this prestigious international award.

Applications are due with AAIE on **30 November**.



## MEMBER NEWS



### Learning through Adventure: Les Elfes International

Over the past decade the role of non-formal education/ overseas expeditions & adventure weeks has been prevalent in many government agendas worldwide and the development of many school curricular. To name just a few, we currently have: the UK “manifesto for learning outside the classroom” (2006), the Scottish “curriculum for excellence through outdoor learning” (2010), International Baccalaureate C.A.S. Programme, the American Curriculum “week without walls”, “challenge week” and the Duke of Edinburgh’s International Award which has continued to grow, now operating in school in 140 countries worldwide.

#### What can Les Elfes International offer your students?

##### OUR PHILOSOPHY

1. Provide adventurous activities built on a well-established foundation of professional and safe practices.
2. Inspire holistic personal development and an exploration of inter-personal identities through culturally diverse experiences.
3. Outdoor learning which enables young people to discover their true potential to be dynamic and prosperous in their future lives.

#### Not All Learning Takes Place in the Classroom

Outdoor adventurous activities provide a unique opportunity to frame learning experiences for students in which they have an opportunity to take risks, be self-reliant and to be physically challenged. A meaningful experiential learning opportunity should include all of these elements offering space for students to build confidence, break down barriers, begin to understand their own strengths in challenging situations and to form bonds with their peers to achieve extraordinary things. Through outdoor experiences students can develop holistically.

#### Holistic Learning at Les Elfes

- \* **Developing communication skills** – working in a team to find the right route while hiking or to belay effectively in rock climbing.
- \* **Building courage and taking risks** – supporting classmates in challenging situations and stepping out of their comfort zones. Students can leap off a bridge for the first time and swing 30m across a ravine or make their first turns on a red slope in skiing.
- \* **Forming the basis for a balanced and healthy lifestyle** – understanding the role and importance of physical activity for wellbeing and happiness and building lifelong healthy habits. Enjoying mountain biking or snowboarding and understanding that the outdoors provides opportunities for recreation, relaxation or even future careers.



- \* **Being curious, creative and connected** – developing a relationship with the natural world around us, exploring and being comfortable in wild terrain and finding new ways to enjoy being outside. Thinking ethically about our impact on the environment and having respect for and a principled attitude towards nature.
- \* **Forming an active part of a camp community** – caring for others, showing compassion, reassuring team-mates who are anxious or sharing knowledge and skills to help others progress. Taking an active role in creating a welcoming and supportive environment in the camp, embracing open-mindedness and meeting students from around the world.
- \* **Building resilience, confidence and independence** – being away from home students will need to manage their belongings, their timekeeping and dress themselves properly for the wild outdoors. They can build resilience in challenging weather or gain confidence in their own ability as they kayak further than they ever thought possible.

## Growing through experiences

### UPWARD PERSONAL GROWTH (REALISING POTENTIAL)

Realising potential and increasing confidence in students (Beames & Scott, 2008), more able and confident in leading group projects, building confidence in expressing opinions (Ewert & Yoshino, 2011) & increased perseverance and resilience (Sheldon, 2009).

### OUTWARD PERSONAL GROWTH (LEARNING ABOUT OTHERS)

Connectedness to others (Allison, 2005), being comfortable relying on others and allowing them to rely on you (Ewert & Yoshino, 2011), reflection of personal friendships and relationships (Allison, 2005).

### INWARD PERSONAL GROWTH (LEARNING ABOUT SELF)

A sense of equanimity (Sheldon, 2009), reflection of ones values, self, life and career (Allison, 2005) and a deeper personal understanding of dealing with adversity.

### DOWNWARD PERSONAL GROWTH (LEARNING ABOUT ENVIRONMENT)

Building an appreciation for the natural environment (Allison, 2005), linking classroom learning in geography and sciences to adventurous experiences (Allison & Higgins, 2002) and developing a personal investment in the natural world and learning in that field.

Through challenging outdoor learning students can push their boundaries and explore further stepping into frontier adventure and building memories with the peers under the experienced guidance of our Les Elfes team.

## Learn Even More with Les Elfes

### ADD THESE WORKSHOPS/ FOCUSES TO YOUR SCHOOL FIELD TRIP:

language lessons, leadership courses, emergency 1<sup>st</sup> Aid, expeditions/ camping, bushcraft workshops or sustainable tourism workshop.

Contact [Malko Alexandre Schraner](#)



## ISM Special Offer



ISM is offering all AISA member school a **FREE 3 month of Gold Membership**. Included in the Gold Membership are the following benefits:

- \* Online Ideas & Perspectives (I&P) advisory publication access for up to 45 people, including the complete archive of all I&P articles and ISM Theory and Research
- \* Print I&P for up to 15 people
- \* Up to **15% off** all ISM workshops
- \* **Free webinars (past and future):** This is a brand new benefit happening in January, but that I can give your members early access to. Currently, our Consultants run webinars each Wednesday for 34 weeks. These used to be paid webinars at \$156/webinar, but will now be free for all Gold Members. So each year, this is approximately \$5000 worth of webinars. Here is an archive of the types of webinars we run - [Webinar Schedule](#)
- \* **Free Stability Marker Snapshot** to assess the health and financial stability of your school
- \* **Loyalty Program:** I call this our Starbucks program. When you renew, go to a workshop, do a consult, etc...you earn credits. Those credits can then be used to pay for entire workshops, offset the cost of consults, and offset survey costs.
- \* **Exclusive LinkedIn Member Community** to connect with your peers and ISM consultants.

To find out more contact [membership@isminc.com](mailto:membership@isminc.com)

