

Introducing the 2018-19 Board of Governors

Together there is deep experience in governance/board work, finance, law, business management, project management, Ethiopian culture, financial investment, education, human resources, health, counseling, coaching, entrepreneurship and fundraising.

We proudly introduce your Board of Governors for 2018-19

Beate Leitermann

Beate is one of the two elected board members and will serve for one year. Beate is a professional coach, and has a broad expertise in education and coaching, currently teaching German at the Goethe Institute. In the past ten years she worked as a consultant to people with physical and / or emotional disabilities as well as with single parents' lives fraught with difficulties.



Cathy Xin Ma

Cathy has been on the Board for one year and will now serve two more years. She is a very engaged member of the community, helping Chinese families to settle in, leading the Chinese Mother Tongue group, and she also was the Chair of the Annual Fund program for 2016/2017. Her business background lies in Finance / Budgeting and Communication / Marketing.



Dawn Bryan

Dawn is a new member to the Board and will serve one year (with the option to extend). She lived in Ethiopia for many years, raised her three boys at Bingham (where she has been on the board) and speaks Amharic fluently. She actually created and executed 'Y-Illilta Mender', an Amharic show for children in ETV2. She was a consultant to ICS between 2013 and 2016 on a 3-year project regarding school climate. Back in the US since then, she works as an intercultural trainer and facilitator and engages with 'Families in Global Transition' (www.figt.org), a forum for globally mobile individuals.



Karin Steiner

Karin is the second elected and a returning member to the board where she has served in the last year. Karin will serve for two more years. She was member of the Governance Team, the Policy Task Force and the Board Appointed Member Selection Task Force. At ICS she is engaged in Mother Tongue, Scouts and is assisting the PCL at events. She has a business background in Communication / Marketing and Event Organization.



Melissa Varma

Melissa is the US embassy representative to the Board. She is a paediatrician, currently working at the Nordic Medical Centre. She has lived and worked internationally with her family for the past 15 years and has experience with international schools in Bangkok and Beijing. While living in Bangkok, she worked with the International Organization for Migration as the Tuberculosis specialist for refugees and at International SOS, Hanoi as a paediatrician. While in Beijing, she worked at Beijing United Family Hospital and consulted with the US CDC.



Most recently, she was living in New York City working in private practice. She has three children, one is attending University of Chicago and her other two attend ICS.

Michael Zink

Michael has just entered a new chapter of life dedicated to community service and mentoring (supporting individuals to be successful, to find their path and thus striving to make the world a little better), after a very successful banking career within Citigroup and a 27-year odyssey (including 8 years in Africa) around the globe with his wife and 4 kids. He also has a lot of governance experience as he was serving on the Boards of Citigroup and of a major research university. Michael will serve four years.



Mirafe Marcos

Mirafe is an ICS graduate of the class of 1992, and as an alumnus he has long been interested in exploring opportunities to engage his alma mater. After having studied in the US, he moved back to Ethiopia 10 years ago and is father to three boys who attend Lycée Guebre-Mariam. Mirafe worked for World Bank in Washington, Pakistan, Bangladesh and Ethiopia for ten years and is currently employed at ATA (Agricultural Transformation Agency) as a member of the Senior Executive team.



Patrick Scott

Patrick is an ICS-parent and a new member to the board, who will serve for 3 years. He has a broad financial and business management experience gained over 20 years in large multinational and small enterprise environments. Patrick previously served as a Board member at his child's primary school in Ireland and at a Mexico City based child welfare non-profit. He is also a member of the Institute of Directors in Ireland, an organisation dedicated to corporate governance excellence.



Sirak Solomon

Sirak is the longest serving member of the board (3 years) and will continue for one more year in order to guarantee continuity in the Board. He is a US qualified attorney and was employed in US law firms. Back in Ethiopia since 2010 he has worked as a compliance officer for Ethiopia Commodity Exchange, as a general counsel for a US start up and currently has a consulting practice.

