

Introduction of the US IE Consultants

Ken Wright is a retired teacher and school administrator from the Scott County School System in Georgetown, Kentucky, USA. During his tenure in the Scott County he was an elementary classroom teacher, elementary building principal, and elementary and secondary director of instruction. He has played leadership roles in community groups and has been recognized by the Georgetown/Scott County Chamber of Commerce for his service to the community.

Other endeavors include being an adjunct graduate professor for Eastern Kentucky University, extended background in working with quality circles in the Scott County School System through the guidance of Toyota Manufacturing of Kentucky, and coordinating the Hong Kong IE Project for the past several years. Ken has done numerous school reviews in Hong Kong of IE schools and has also received the IAIE William Stafford Leadership Award.

Marlene Wright is a retired teacher from the Scott County School System in Georgetown, Kentucky, USA. During her tenure in Scott County she was an elementary classroom teacher and served on various county wide committees. Marlene has presented various workshops in the United States and Hong Kong in effective teaching strategies. She has also participated in IAIE School reviews for both the Inviting School Awards and the Fidelity Award. As an active member of IAIE she has attended numerous IAIE World Conferences. Most recently she has attended the 2012 World Conference hosted in Hong Kong. Currently, Marlene is an active member of the Scott County Retired Teachers Association and a teacher in her church's children's ministry.

Presently, Marlene lives in Georgetown, Kentucky with her husband, Ken. She has one son and two daughters who are elementary teachers in the Scott County School System. Since retirement Marlene has spent time caring and enjoying her four grandchildren.

Dr. Jim O'Connor is currently Dean of the College of Education and Health Sciences at Touro University California in Vallejo, California. As an educational psychologist and educator for over forty years, Jim's work has focused on working with at-risk students and student-centered education based on the work of Carl Rogers. Jim is a former physician assistant, was a Center Fellow at the North Carolina Center for the Advancement of Teaching, and served as a faculty member at both Cal State University Bakersfield and the University of Iowa.

Geraldine (Gerry) Sawrey currently serves as Assistant Superintendent of School

Improvement for Cabell County Schools. She oversees the departments of Curriculum and Assessment, Special Education, Title Services and Student Support Services. Major initiatives of the division over the past eight years under her direction include building the district's Pre-K program, middle school reinvestment and redesigning the high school experience for 21st century students through rigor, relevance and relationships.

Mrs. Sawrey began her career as a classroom teacher for young students with autism with Cincinnati Public Schools, the first classroom for students with autism in the state of Ohio. She then became part of a United States federal autism demonstration project team in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Mrs. Sawrey also taught students diagnosed with behavior disorders, learning disabilities and mental impairments. After moving to Huntington, she was also privileged to start the first classroom for students with autism in the state of West Virginia. She later served as a special education supervisor for the school district, monitoring programs for children with autism, behavior disorders, moderate, severe and profound mental impairments, visual impairments, hearing impairments, traumatic brain injury as well as the preschool special needs program. Prior to accepting her current position, she served as the school district's Director of Special Education. She has served on the West Virginia Autism Training Center Board of Directors and has served her community by being on the Board of Directors of United Way, serving as its president in 2012.

Mrs. Sawrey, a native of Canton, Ohio, received both her BA and M.Ed. from the University of Cincinnati where she graduated summa cum laude. She and her husband, Robert, a history professor at Marshall University, have lived in Huntington, West Virginia for over 33 years. They have three grown children: Joe Sawrey in Sun Valley, Idaho, Jessica Sawrey Lander in Los Angeles, California and Graeme Sawrey in Huntington, West Virginia. She is a member of IAIE, attended the 2012 IAIE International Conference in Hong Kong and has had the honor of visiting schools throughout Hong Kong on behalf of IAIE in 2011 and 2012.

Parthenia Lafferty Wells graduated from the University of Kentucky with a Bachelor in Elementary Education, MSLS in Library Science, a Rank 1 in Elementary Education, and was working on Principal certification when her first child was born and changed things. She retired from Scott County Schools in Georgetown, Kentucky after 36 years of working as a Library Media Specialist and Drama teacher. Four of these years were serving two schools, Stamping Ground Elementary and Great Crossing Elementary (now Western Elementary). The other 32 years were with Garth Elementary. She has been president of the Scott County School Librarians, Corresponding Secretary of Central Kentucky School Library Association,

and Scholarship chairperson of the Eleanor Simmons Scholarship program with the Kentucky School Librarian Association. Parthenia has also been President of Scott County Education Association, secretary, vice-president, and building representative for the other Garth teachers. She has worked with the Kentucky Internship Program (KTIP) for beginning teachers, and served as mentor for new librarians.

At Garth Elementary Parthenia served years on the Technology Committee, being the chair numerous times. Garth Media Center was computerized years before the other libraries in the county because of her interest in technology. Since Garth became involved with Invitational Education, she served numerous years on the Peoples, and Programs Committee. She travelled to Hong Kong in 2005 with the Scott County delegation. Parthenia was also involved in the after school tutoring program, and directing numerous plays and performances with Garth students.

Michelle Lynch is responsible for the Offices of Undergraduate Admissions, Financial Planning, International Recruitment, and Adult/Transfer Admissions at Georgetown College. Prior to joining the Georgetown community, she served as Director of Recruitment at Winthrop University (SC) for six years and Director of Admission for Belmont Abbey College (NC) for two years. Michelle spent the first seven years of her career in Student Affairs where she gained experience in residence life, student activities, and international support services. When she's not traveling the world recruiting, Michelle spends her free time traveling the world with her husband, Chris. Together, they plan to scuba dive and golf their way through a different country each year.