



Winter Newsletter, December 2020

We hope this newsletter finds you healthy and safe. Our sincere thoughts go out to everyone affected by the coronavirus both in China and beyond. Stay strong and be well.

APATS 2021 “Virtual Library” Symposium

We are looking for presenters for the 2021 virtual APATS Symposium. We are looking for people to submit a 30-minute pre-recorded presentation on an interesting case study, topic, or research. The letter attached below will have more detailed information about the event. Proposals can be submitted [here](#). The submission deadline is December 10, 2020. If you have any questions, please email us at: apatsociety@gmail.com

LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to Jennifer Rizzo of Concordia International School Shanghai and Randen Morisako of the International School of Beijing for being selected as the new APATS coordinators. Jennifer and Randen will join Josh Euten as the three APATS coordinators.

Professional Development

This past year has been one for the books! It has brought on some very unique challenges to us all. This past spring in the wake of the pandemic, the APATS leadership had to make the difficult decision to cancel our annual symposium and opted to use The Brookbush Institute, in which APATS paid for a one-month membership for anyone that signed up. In addition, a group discount for FMS Level 1 course was organized and 7 of our members are now FMS certified. To all our members who decided to take part in either of these opportunities, Thank You for your dedication to growing in our field.

China during Covid-19, an experience by Randen Morisako

As many of us in China were preparing for the Chinese New Year Holiday, the news started reporting on a new “Sars-like” Disease originating in Wuhan, China. Covid-19 as they later called it spread quickly throughout China, causing many foreigners to flee China and wait out the disease. China had extended the official holiday 2 weeks and later closed their borders to foreign nationals in March. For many foreigners who had left would find that the next 6-8 months would be filled with anxiety, anticipation, and uncertainty. It would take a special visa invitation letter, work documents located in China, multiple Covid tests (I took 5 in 3 weeks), health declaration forms, a 4 to 6 thousand dollar one way plane ticket, and a mandatory, and I mean mandatory, 14-day hotel quarantine in order to return to China.

It has been over 90 days since the last local spread of Covid-19 in Beijing. With strict entry requirements, mandatory quarantine programs, close to 100% compliance for stay-at-home orders and mask wearing, China has recently seen some of the lowest rates of Covid-19. Many people still wear masks but there is no social distancing requirements and all stores, bars, and restaurants are open at regular capacity. As far as schools go, the International School of Beijing has been open for in school instruction since early August. We are down 10% enrollment and are required to wear masks while in buildings, except during PE and sports. Yes, we do have sports! We started practices in mid-October and are hoping to compete against local schools by the end of November. Temperatures of students and staff are taken and reported twice a day and any symptom of fever requires an absence from school and possible medical consultation. There is no need for social distancing, but all our policies are governed by the Chinese CDC and local education bureau.

WEBSITE & Social Media

Check out our ever-evolving website here, www.apats.org

Follow us on Instagram at: [APATSociety](https://www.instagram.com/APATSociety)



Dear APATS Members,

Due to world events and not knowing if any of us will be able to travel in the coming months, we are making the early determination that we will not be meeting in person for this year's annual symposium. In lieu of our annual symposium, our main concern was how and if we could provide some type of "educational product" for our membership. As you are aware, we are currently a fee-free organization and depend solely on generous donations from larger organizations. We understand the pandemic has affected companies just as hard as many of our own individual lives and so we have decided not to solicit for donations this year.

In the CEU reporting year 2021 we want to continue to support you. After a discussion of different options, we have decided on hosting a virtual symposium, where we will provide educational opportunities on multiple weekends during the months of March to May. We have come up with the idea of a "virtual library," posting presentations for a period of time for you to watch to earn CEUs. After watching the video, you will be offered a short "quiz" whereby you will then receive a certificate with the appropriate amount of Category D hours to be used for your BOC CEU reporting. This is similar to what organizations such as NATA and other states and districts did this past year.

So, with all that, we need folks who are interested in presenting a topic(s). Maybe you think you can't present something- well this is the perfect way to start. This is the perfect opportunity to present that case study that you have been saying you should present about! We ask that you complete an abstract and application to be completed on the attached Google forms document by December 10. At that point we will read over the abstracts and create a schedule for when your topic will be released on the website. You will then have until mid to late March to complete your presentation and submit it for posting. We ask that you also create a quiz for after. This way we can offer category D hours.

Details:

Abstract - Please complete abstract details using the attached Google form. (notice it is a Google document!) Abstracts are due by December 10, though earlier submissions are happily accepted. Submission of abstracts will be attached to the [google forms document](#).

Presentation - The presentation should be no less than 30 minutes in length. Slides with information about your topic should be clearly seen in your video. Videos may be screencast over a PowerPoint type presentation or as a video of the presenter presenting in person. Details about final presentation submission will come after presentations have been approved. Along with the video file, please create and attach a short 10 question quiz as well as the correct answers. Quizzes will be used for the completion of certifications of attendance so that those viewing and completing the quizzes can submit Category D BOC CEUs.

What will happen - Once all abstract submissions are complete, a schedule of release dates will be determined and the presentations will be submitted in their complete form no later than a week before their release date. Once the presentation is released, the quiz for that presentation will be active for two weeks. **After this two-week period the presentation will still be available, but the quiz for CEU credit will no longer be available.**

For more information or if you have any questions, please contact any of the APATS Coordinators at:
Josh - JoEut1722@yahoo.com
Randen - rmorisako@isb.bj.edu.cn
Rizzo - Jennifer.Rizzo@concordiashanghai.org

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