

CAMBRIDGE

Issue 1 2006

# outlook

**Thinking Internationally:  
why UK schools are  
offering Cambridge  
IGCSE**

**Why students  
would rather be  
entrepreneurs than  
employees**

**International  
Headmaster's inside  
view of CIE**

**Meet the Cambridge  
IGCSE 20th Birthday  
Essay Competition  
winners**



UNIVERSITY of CAMBRIDGE  
International Examinations

Your quarterly magazine from CIE



# Welcome to *Cambridge Outlook*, issue 1

**CAMBRIDGE**  
**outlook**

Issue 1  
[www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk)

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*Cambridge Outlook* is an important way of communicating with our Centres and contacts around the world.

We welcome articles and letters for inclusion in the magazine and look forward to receiving your contributions. If you would like to submit an article, please contact:

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**THE** start of a new academic year is an exciting time for Centres, teachers, students and CIE alike, as we all welcome and embrace new developments in the classroom and at Cambridge.

Thank you to everyone who shared their views and ideas in the last reader survey – we hope you like the changes. *Cambridge Outlook*, CIE's new-look quarterly magazine, remains international in flavour and continues to bring you news from around the globe, as well as supporting teachers worldwide and highlighting achievements from international Centres and students. New contents include regular columns such as 'Ask the CIE expert' on page 9 and 'My favourite CIE resource' on page 15.

Read about CIE's exciting new post-16 qualification, Cambridge Pre-U, an alternative to A Level on page 14. Another first is the new Cambridge IGCSE Korean first language qualification (page 15). It is the only IGCSE available of its kind and is supported by the Ministry of Education in Korea. Continuing with the worldwide success of Cambridge IGCSE, we celebrate with the winners of the Cambridge IGCSE 20th Birthday Essay Competition 2006 on

page 16. Find out how the judges selected the winners and read an extract from the winning essay.

Global best practice is very much part of the Cambridge philosophy. With this in mind, CIE hosted the first Global Best Practice with Cambridge international education conference for teachers and head teachers across South Asia (page 5). Presentations for the first ever Cambridge Inspirational Teacher Awards also took place at the event. Read about how The Perse School in Cambridge is thinking internationally (on page 12) and find out what happened when a head teacher from Thailand spent time at CIE in Cambridge on a sabbatical.

*Cambridge Outlook* shares your global perspective. This is your magazine from Cambridge and we really do appreciate your contribution.

Ann Puntis  
Chief Executive

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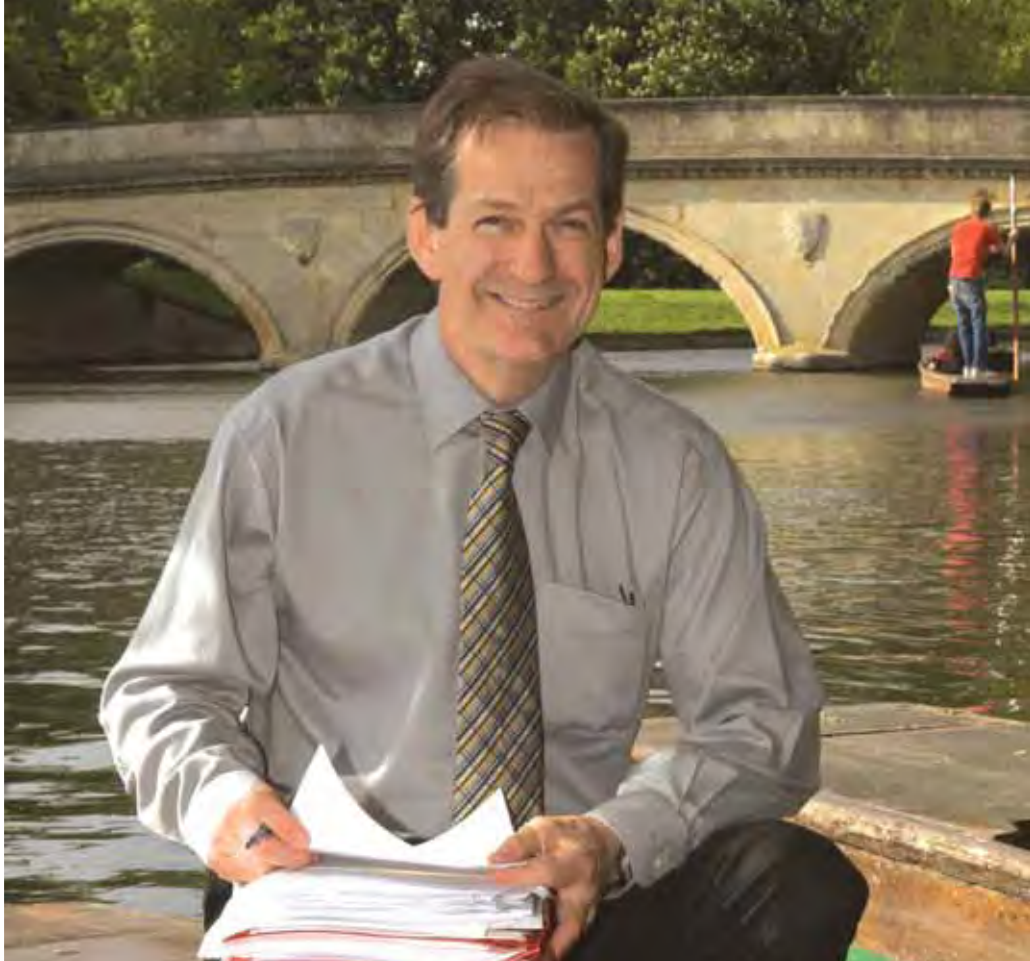
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**Can't wait to read the next issue of Cambridge Outlook? From 2007, issue 2 will be distributed at the end of January, issue 3 at the end of April and issue 4 at the end of September.**



## CIE consults on Cambridge Pre-U



CIE is consulting widely to find out how suitable and attractive teachers and students find the Cambridge Pre-U. Drafts of 14

Cambridge Pre-U syllabuses have now been sent to schools in the UK, internationally and to higher education institutes.

The 14 syllabuses are: Mathematics, Further Mathematics, Economics, Chemistry, Physics, Biology, English, History, Geography, Business Studies, German, French, Spanish and Classical Heritage. Heads of Department discussed the syllabus content face-to-face with the developers and with CIE staff in mid-October and meetings resulted in some very lively debate. As a result of the postal, online and personal consultation, syllabuses will be revised in the next few months.

If you would like to comment and have not received the syllabuses, or would like to add your name to the mailing list, email [consultation@cie.org.uk](mailto:consultation@cie.org.uk)

The remaining syllabuses from Phase Two, Art History, Latin, Greek and Sport Science, will be circulated in early 2007. Phase Three syllabuses have already been commissioned in Art & Design, Music, Religious Studies, Psychology, Mandarin Chinese and Government & Politics.

# Teachers provide preview of Cambridge Pre-U syllabuses

Teachers working with University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) on the new Cambridge Pre-U qualification gave an insight into the syllabuses they have developed at a seminar in September.

Around 100 head teachers from across the UK met at Robinson College, Cambridge, to hear about the new CIE qualification. Subject panel leaders – who are secondary teachers – and their panel higher education advisers, gave presentations for History, Mathematics, Chemistry, Geography, Modern Languages and Art History.

Cambridge Pre-U aims to give people the skills and knowledge they need to make a success of their university studies. It will enable students to hit the ground running during their first year at university.

Katharine Henson, Head of Sixth Form at Downe House, Thatcham, Berkshire, leads the team developing the Mathematics and Further Mathematics syllabus. She said: *'The Maths syllabuses will mark a return to real depth in the way questions are*

*presented. We will be introducing a mixture of short skills testing questions and longer, more challenging problems.'*

Dr Kevin Stannard, CIE's Director of International Curriculum Development, said:



*'Cambridge Pre-U has been developed in response to demand from schools and universities. For CIE it is about providing choice for schools. We hope to make Cambridge Pre-U as widely available as possible – and to that end, we are talking to QCA and UCAS.'*

**Learn more!**

Visit [www.cie.org.uk/cambridgepreu](http://www.cie.org.uk/cambridgepreu)



## CIE hosts first Global Best Practice with Cambridge conference in South Asia

CIE hosted the first Global Best Practice with Cambridge international education conference for teachers and head teachers across South Asia.

Over 350 delegates from schools attended the event. The conference included a series of workshops featuring case studies presented by international curriculum experts from Cambridge and British Council and other leading practitioners. Topics included an introduction to the Cambridge International Primary Programme from Vandana Lulla, Director, Podar International School, Mumbai. Chris Daw, CIE's Curriculum and Teacher Support Manager, held a workshop on Curriculum Support and Professional Development.

### Cambridge Inspirational Teacher Awards

The first ever Cambridge Inspirational Teacher Awards were presented to three winning teachers. The award recognises the achievements of teachers in Cambridge Centres across India. Teachers were nominated by their schools for outstanding teaching practices and their commitment to education.

Rod Pryde, Regional Manager, South Asia, British Council, presented one of the winners, Arun Shigopal Total, Maths and Physics teacher and Cambridge IGCSE Coordinator, Podar International School, with a trophy and certificate.

The Global Best Practice with Cambridge conference concluded the 7th International Children's Festival of Performing Arts, which was organised by Ryan International School and sponsored by CIE.

Main picture: Mrs Yasmeen Murshed, Chairperson, Scholastica, Bangladesh, speaks at the conference



Tom Austin, CIE's Director of Sales and Marketing, congratulates children on their excellent performances at the 7th International Children's Festival of Performing Arts



Vandana Lulla, Director, and Arun Shigopal Total, Maths and Physics teacher, both of Podar International School, India, proudly display Arun's Cambridge Inspirational Teacher trophy



Delegates read about the latest developments at CIE with a copy of International Outlook magazine

## CIE dates for your diary

### ECIS Annual Conference 2006, 16–19 November 2006

At this year's ECIS conference, CIE will run presentations and workshops on topics such as ICT in the classroom, new developments of Cambridge IGCSE syllabuses, and Cambridge Pre-U. To register, visit the ECIS website at: [www.ecis.org](http://www.ecis.org)

### Helping teachers to become better teachers, 15 April 2007

Dr David Hargreaves will deliver a professional development seminar for teachers in Mumbai, India. Previous seminars have looked at teaching and learning from the perspective of the learner. In the 2007 seminar, Dr Hargreaves will explore in more detail what this means for the teacher.

Full details of CIE's list of seminars, conferences and exhibitions, which are held throughout the year, can be found on CIE Online. Please refer to the events calendar and the regional web pages for details on how to register. **Learn more!** [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk)

## Enterprising idea is a winner

CIE's assessment online services have been recognised as being at the forefront of business innovation.

Oliver Griffin, CIE's Assistant Director Operations, Projects and Technologies, presented the marketing of CIE assessment expertise via the internet as a business project at University of Cambridge's highly prestigious Centre for Entrepreneurial Learning (CfEL) Summer School. Oliver survived a week of stiff competition, intensive seminars, and presentations to demanding venture capitalists to be awarded top marks.

Oliver said: *'Not only have I been able to validate my business project, I have expanded my skills.'*



*Oliver accepts his prize at CfEL Summer School*

## CIE Direct meets the needs of centres

CIE will soon launch further enhancements to CIE Direct, making CIE Direct a richer and more efficient experience for users. Centres will now be able to choose whether to receive certain documents electronically.

The changes also include: online Timetable Deviation, Special Arrangements and Special Considerations forms, and access to change CIE Direct passwords. Improvements will also streamline the uploaded files management system and provide Centres with a wider range of materials through CIE Direct.

The changes take place at the end of September and further developments are planned for 2007.

Contact the CIE Direct team at [international@cie.org.uk](mailto:international@cie.org.uk)

## Free online training for new Centres

New Cambridge International Centres, who register with CIE from July 2006 to January 2007, can enjoy Cambridge IGCSE online self-study courses for free.

For a limited period, these Centres can also register for seven online introductory courses. New self-study courses in International AS/A Level Business Studies, Chemistry and Economics will also be available from October.

## New bar codes

CIE prides itself on question paper security and now a new security feature has been added. During 2007 all question paper covers will incorporate a bar code.

Every cover will be electronically read as it passes through the packing machine, ensuring that the correct paper is packed in the correct quantities. The bar code is a key part of this vigorous checking process.



## Four students from Cambridge International Fellowship Centres have won scholarships



William Bickerdike presents  
Amna Awan with her scholarship

Excellent results in Cambridge International A Level examinations have earned four students scholarships of £3,000 each to fund their higher education. Each year, Cambridge International Fellowship Centres are invited to nominate students for the Cambridge International Fellowship Scholarship, which CIE awards to at least three students around the world.

This year's winners are: Mohamed Sadiq Mohammed Farooq of Arab Unity School, Dubai; Sara Hussam Mahmoud Gamal El Dien El Shaikh of St Fatima School, Egypt; Amna Awan, of Beaconhouse Garden Town, Pakistan; and finally, Nicole Ritsi of St Augustine High School, USA.



Tim Oates, Cambridge Assessment, Group Director Assessment, Research and Development, talks to Cambridge MP Andrew Lansley and Michael Fallon MP about education issues

## CIE at the House of Commons

In July, Cambridge Assessment's exhibition at the House of Commons provided Parliamentarians and other visitors with an insight into assessment issues. CIE's Ann Puntis attended the event and met with representatives from the Bangladesh High Commission. CIE also showcased its IGCSE Geography computer-based testing.

## American university visits Cambridge



Mrs Ghada Hazem, Director of Admissions, American University Cairo (AUC), discusses the university's admissions policy with CIE staff. A recent study she undertook has indicated that students with Cambridge IGCSEs do well in their undergraduate studies at AUC.

## Teachers train for the World Cup

When Argentina played Germany in the quarter finals, World Cup fever gripped CIE's trainer Tony Simpson's A Level General Paper seminar in Buenos Aires. Tony's presentation was interrupted with a live computer feed to provide big screen football so the delegates could watch the game!



## Script management re-locates

CIE has improved script management operation services by moving facilities to a new purpose-built location. All script management operation services will now be in one place, saving time and costs.

The new facilities are at Duxford (DC10), Cambridgeshire. The processing of marksheets and Forecast Grade sheets has also moved from 1 Hills Road to Duxford (DC10).

Please send all scripts, artwork, coursework, marksheets and Forecast Grade sheets to the following new address:

Cambridge Assessment DC10  
Hill Farm Road  
Whittlesford  
CAMBRIDGE  
CB2 4FZ  
United Kingdom

Centres should have received new address labels for the despatch of scripts, artwork and coursework, together with envelopes for marksheets and Forecast Grade sheets.

Please destroy all address labels that show the New Street address and any envelopes for 'Coursework Marksheets (MS1) & Forecast Grade Sheets (F1)' (Ref DP0185 2/97/IS) with the address 1 Hills Road, Cambridge.

Other items should continue to be sent to the 1 Hills Road address.

# CIE training calendar

## November 2006

**Location:** United Arab Emirates, Dubai

**Stage 2 Courses:** 'Computers in the Cambridge Classroom.' The 3rd Cambridge International Teachers' Conference

**Details:** Keynote speakers: Sue Brindley, Faculty of Education, Cambridge University. Keith Addyman, Parkside School, Cambridge, UK

**Subject workshops:** Diploma in Teaching with ICT, Cambridge International Primary Programme (Kate Ruttle), Biology (Hilary Tunnicliffe), Chemistry (David Lees), Mathematics (Douglas Butler), Geography (Steve Sibley), English (Julia Hubbard). Register through the CIE website

## January 2007

**Location:** United Kingdom

**Stage 1 Courses:** Introduction to Cambridge IGCSE in English as a Second Language and Mathematics

**Details:** Further details and booking form on website

**Location:** Egypt

**Stage 2 courses:** Ask the Examiner (Video conference)  
**NEW STYLE COURSE**

**Details:** In collaboration with the British Council Cairo and Alexandria. Details to be confirmed

**Location:** Bangladesh, Dhaka

**Stage 1 courses:** International AS/A Level Physics, Economics, Accounting

**Details:** Further details to be found on the CIE website

## February 2007

**Location:** China

**Stage and syllabuses to be confirmed:** Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics and English Second Language, International A Level Business Studies

**Details:** Refer to the website for more details

**Location:** New Zealand

**Stage 2 courses:** Syllabuses to be announced

**Details:** In collaboration with the Association of Cambridge Schools in New Zealand

**Location:** Kenya

**Stage 2 courses:** Cambridge IGCSE Mathematics, Biology and Business Studies

**Details:** Syllabuses to be confirmed. For further details please check the CIE website

**Location:** Saudi Arabia **NEW VENUE**

**Stage 1 Courses:** Cambridge IGCSE Physics, Chemistry, English Second Language and International A Level Mathematics

**Details:** In collaboration with the British Council. Syllabuses to be confirmed. For further details check the CIE website

**Location:** Jordan

**Stage 2 Courses:** Syllabuses to be announced

**Details:** For details check the CIE website

**Location:** Kuwait

**Stage 2 Courses:** Syllabuses to be announced

**Details:** For details check the CIE website

**Location:** Thailand

**Stage 2 Courses:** International A Level Art & Design

**Details:** For details check the CIE website

**Available three times a year from 2007 for Centres**

**Location:** Worldwide **Online Self Study NEW**

**Stage 1 Courses:** Cambridge IGCSE Biology, History, Business Studies, Chemistry, English as a Second Language, Mathematics, Physics

**Details:** Check the CIE website for precise dates

**Always Available**

**Location:** Worldwide

**Stage 1 Course:** Examinations Officer Training **NEW**

**Details:** Downloadable from CIE Direct. Beginner and refresher course to take Examinations Officers through the CIE examination administration processes

**Location:** Worldwide

**Stage 1 Course:** Invigilator Training for Examinations Officers **NEW**

**Details:** Downloadable from CIE Direct. An easy-to-use course to enable Examinations Officers to prepare Invigilators for the examination sessions at their Centre

**Location:** Distance Training

**Stage 1 Courses:** Cambridge IGCSE Coursework Marking Accreditation Training Packs (Coursework Training Handbook)

**Details:** See Publications Catalogue for subjects and details of how to obtain the Coursework Training Handbooks

This is an extract from the CIE Calendar of Professional Development for Teachers. There are many other courses and events throughout the year. Some are open to all International Centres, some are part of a CIE contract with limited registrations.

# Ask the CIE expert

In this issue of *Cambridge Outlook*, a CIE Examiner, Karen Borrington, answers your questions on Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies.

## Where can we find the grade thresholds for Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies?

Grade thresholds can be found in the examiners' reports which are available on the CIE Teacher Support website and the CIE Syllabus and Support CD-ROM.

## Would you recommend showing students the mark scheme when discussing past question papers?

Showing a simplified mark scheme that gives the answers you would expect from students, including local examples, may be more helpful.

Alternatively you can tell students what assessment criteria you are assessing and get them to write the mark scheme.

## A large number of marks are awarded for application of the answer to a given business situation on both examination papers. Many candidates find this very difficult to do or do not know how to do this. Do you have any tips on how this can be achieved?

'Application' is a skill and skills need to be practised to be developed. Using case studies in class activities that require students to put themselves in, for example, the position of the business manager will help students develop the skill of application.


One way to see if an answer has been applied is to cover up the name of the business within the answer and see if you can tell what the business produces. If you cannot tell what it is, for example, a sweet manufacturer (used in Paper 2, November

2005), then the answer has not been applied. It is a general answer and is unlikely to gain any application marks available.



Karen Borrington has been an examiner for nearly 20 years and is CIE's Principal Examiner and Moderator for Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies.

Karen is Head of Faculty, Business Studies, Economics, Vocational Studies and Enterprise Education, at Ecclesbourne School, Derbyshire, UK.



## Cambridge International Centres benefit from discounts on training events

### International AS/A Level Teacher Training in New Zealand

ACG Senior College, New Zealand, hosted a series of successful CIE Teacher Training workshops. They were attended by over 140 teachers from New Zealand, Australia, Tonga, Fiji and Papua New Guinea.

Seven International AS/A Level subjects were offered: Art & Design, Biology, Chemistry, English Literature, Mathematics, Modern Languages and Physics. New and experienced teachers took part in discussions on syllabuses, mark schemes and resources.

Cambridge International Centres, who are quick off the mark to register for training events, can benefit from 'early bird' discounts. Teachers save both money and time. As a result, CIE's Curriculum and Training Services (CTS) team have organised more events than ever in 2006.

CIE now offers around 30 worldwide events each year. Recent events in the Asia Pacific region have engaged teachers in lively discussion, and courses in Malaysia, Indonesia and New Zealand have been fully subscribed.

Teachers find it helpful to bring copies of their own syllabus and question papers to training events. This allows more familiarity with the Teacher Support website where the latest papers are held, ready to be accessed whenever needed.

### Get interactive at the 3rd International Teachers' conference

'Computers in the Cambridge Classroom' is the theme of the 3rd International Teachers' Conference being held in the UAE from 9 to 10 November 2006. Teachers can try out interactive whiteboards as well as take part in software demonstrations.

The conference will focus on subjects rather than on syllabuses, making them suitable for teachers of the subject at all levels. Subjects on offer are:

- Diploma for Teaching with ICT – Information Technology Education Programme (ITEP) in United Arab Emirates
- Cambridge International Primary Programme – Kate Ruttle
- Biology – Hilary Tunnicliffe
- Chemistry – Dr David Lees
- Mathematics – Douglas Butler
- Geography – Steve Sibley
- English – Julia Hubbard

Bookings can be made online at [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk)

This year's conference is in collaboration with ITEP. Visit <http://www.itep.ae> for further information on ITEP.



## CIE's Teacher Support website breaks all records

The 10,000th teacher to sign up to the Teacher Support website has been presented with a prize. Simmi Chahal, who teaches Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies at Al Dhafra Private School, Al Ain, UAE, received

a Teacher Support voucher for purchasing training or curriculum resources for the school. There are now a record-breaking 750 schools with access to the Teacher Support website.



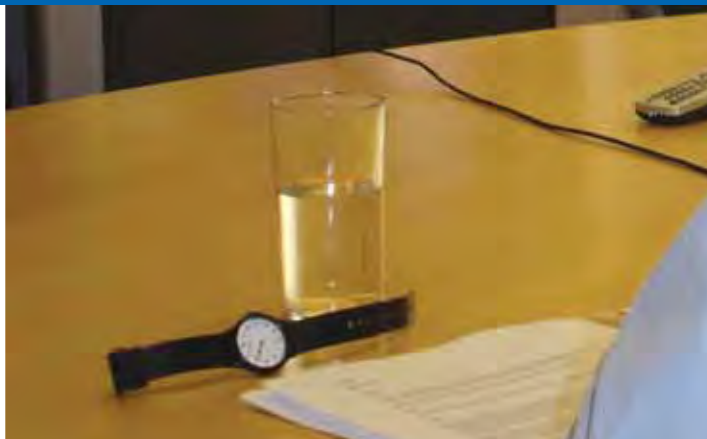
### Website facts

- Over 19,000 visits are received each month
- The busiest time of day is 8.00 – 9.00 GMT
- The most visited syllabus page is International A Level Physics
- Faster updates meant that the June 2006 question papers and mark schemes were published on the website on the same day as exam results



*Paul Beedle links up with Bangalore, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai*

## Cambridge's first five-city video conference



CIE has held its first video conference across five cities, at locations in Cambridge, Bangalore, Delhi, Kolkata and Mumbai. The conference marked the launch of the Cambridge International Certificate for Teachers and Trainers in India, as well as the accompanying textbook and workbook, written by Ian

Barker. Paul Beedle, CIE's Manager of Professional Development Certification, and Bob Burkill, Chief Examiner for the Certificate, answered questions from Cambridge, while Ian Barker presented his textbook and workbook from Mumbai. Delegates discussed the Certificate in their locations and provided feedback.

new from cambridge

# Thinking internationally

Michael Punt, Academic Deputy Head, The Perse School, Cambridge, UK, describes why the school has recently moved to Cambridge IGCSE syllabuses.



**O**ur school curriculum has become more varied in recent years to suit the needs and interests of our students.

The Mathematics Department argued that IGCSE Mathematics would be more suitable for our students than conventional GCSE, a better preparation for A Level and a greater challenge. After consultation with universities and with institutions representing future employers, we opted for IGCSE.

Our students first took the exam last year and their results were impressive. Early fears about IGCSE being much harder have proved to be unfounded and the experience of those who have been teaching IGCSE

Mathematics, and their pupils, has been very positive.

It was against this background, therefore, that our Science Department opted for Cambridge IGCSE Science which we started teaching in September 2005.

There is no lack of substance in our new courses and some would say that they contain more proper science. We are also keen to continue to emphasise the importance of practical work and Cambridge IGCSE supported this view.

**“ responding to enthusiastic questions is what makes teaching, and learning, fun ”**

Cambridge IGCSE provides the scientific rigour that interests and challenges our students and prepares them well for science at A Level and beyond.

We shall continue to teach beyond the syllabus – responding to enthusiastic questions is what makes teaching, and learning, fun.

# Achieving excellence

## at Yayasan Taman Mahatma Gandhi, Taman Rama School, Bali, Indonesia

Rajeev Singh, the school's Director and Examination Officer shares his views on how the Cambridge curriculum has resulted in outstanding achievements from students.



*Rajeev Kumar Singh, Director, Yayasan Mahatma Gandhi, Taman Rama School, Indonesia, with Cambridge International O Level students, Maxime (left) and Ryan (right)*

“One of our goals at the school is to provide learning that allows students to continue with a university education in Indonesia and other countries. The Cambridge International O Level and International AS/A Level examinations encourage us to maintain high standards, not only in subject knowledge, but also in the English language. The International AS/A Level offers a pre-university qualification to our students as they pave a clear-cut path to enter the universities around the world.

### Cambridge International Primary Programme

We have decided to teach the Cambridge International Primary Programme at six different stages and I am proud to inform that we are the very first Primary Programme school in Bali.

We can now link the primary years seamlessly with the Cambridge International O Level programme and subsequently with advanced qualifications like International A and AS Levels. Our students and parents demand a quality service and CIE helps us provide this through high-quality syllabuses and reliable assessment.

### Examination results

This year has been really eventful and progressive. The June 2006 Cambridge International O Level examination results have brought students excellent grades with 20 A grades and 36 B grades. The November 2005 Cambridge IGCSE examinations have been fruitful for Foreign Language Indonesian and Foreign Language German as students achieved 19 A\* and 10 A grades.

The next school year will bring greater challenges and we are confident that we will meet them all in good cheer. It is one of the strange ironies of this life that those who work the hardest, who subject themselves to the strictest discipline, who give up certain pleasurable things in order to achieve a goal, are the happiest people.



*Staff at Taman Rama School, Indonesia*



## New Cambridge International Fellowship Centres announced

Each year CIE awards Cambridge International Fellowship Centre status to Centres that demonstrate an outstanding commitment to CIE. This year we are pleased to announce that this status has been awarded to the following Centres:

- Braeburn College, Kenya
- Braeside High School, Kenya
- International School of Cape Town, South Africa
- Karachi Grammar School, Pakistan
- Lahore Grammar School, Pakistan
- Lomagundi College, Zimbabwe
- Macleans College, New Zealand
- Pinehurst School, New Zealand
- Simba International School, Zambia
- Speciss College, Zimbabwe
- St Alban's College, Argentina
- The Heritage Private School, Cyprus
- The Westminster School, UAE

We have also awarded the status to selected schools in the City School and Beaconhouse School chains in Pakistan. This now brings the total number of Cambridge International Fellowship Centres to 50.

In their applications, Centres outlined their support and commitment to CIE.

“Braeside High School is committed to offering Cambridge IGCSE and other qualifications due to the marked sense of professional organisation, efficiency and highly customer-oriented approach that we have continued to enjoy from Cambridge throughout our relationship.”

**Braeside High School, Kenya**

## Paperless exam gets MP's support

CIE showcased its groundbreaking computer-based examination at the House of Commons. The Geography 'Alternative to Coursework' paper – the first IGCSE examination to be taken on computer – generated a great deal of interest among MPs (members of the British Parliament) after a demonstration by Dr Matthew Richards, CIE's Development Manager, Projects Office. The pilot examination was taken in April by candidates in over 20 centres worldwide. Additional pilot examinations are planned for November 2006, and June and November 2007.

## IGCSE name change

The new Cambridge IGCSE Global Thinking will now be called Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives to reflect the multi-viewpoint ethos of the syllabus. Cambridge IGCSE Global Perspectives is currently with schools for consultation and specimen papers will be drafted by October 2006.

## New IGCSE from Cambridge

CIE has unveiled details of a new Korean first language qualification. The Cambridge IGCSE Korean First Language was developed in conjunction with the Korean Embassy, UK, and is supported by the Ministry of Education in Korea. It is the only IGCSE available of its kind and was developed specifically for students who have Korean as their mother tongue.

The new IGCSE is available for first examination in June 2007.

new from cambridge



## Fishing for marine biology experts

To develop a new subject that has never been taught as part of the school curriculum is always a challenge. For International A Level Marine Biology, CIE worked closely with a professional marine biologist to get it right.

CIE teamed up an internationally renowned examiner with years of experience in teaching biology at the right level, with a professional marine biologist with up-to-date subject knowledge. CIE's science assessment experts then provided input into the scheme of assessment which was designed to promote good teaching. Another challenge was combining aspects of economics, environmental studies, ecology and biology in one subject.

The draft syllabus was sent out for consultation to Ministries of Education in regions where the syllabus might be taught. Local experts and biology organisations advised on relevance. The result is the new International A Level Marine Biology syllabus.



## My favourite CIE resource

Teachers worldwide use CIE teaching resources to aid preparation in the classroom and beyond. Ms Simmi Chahal, the 10,000th teacher to sign up to the CIE Teacher Support Website, explains why she finds Cambridge teaching resources useful.

Simmi Chahal is enthusiastic about the CIE Teacher Support website and frequently uses resources such as past question papers and mark schemes, finding them to be invaluable in her classroom preparation.

She enjoys teaching Cambridge IGCSE Business Studies at Al Dhafra Private School, Al Ain, UAE, and feels very comfortable with the syllabus. *'The content is very comprehensive and it is an excellent preparation for study of the subject at a higher level,'* says Simmi.

Simmi is continuing her professional development with CIE and has registered on a CIE online course for further training.

Learn more! Visit [www.cie.org.uk](http://www.cie.org.uk)

Cambridge  
IGCSE  
Celebrating  
20  
years

# Cambridge IGCSE 20th Birthday Essay Competition winners celebrate

More than 150 Cambridge IGCSE students from around the world entered University of Cambridge International Examinations' (CIE) essay competition to win top prizes. The essay competition was part of the celebrations that highlighted CIE as the first exam board to develop the IGCSE qualification 20 years ago.

The Cambridge IGCSE 20th Birthday Essay Competition was open to Cambridge IGCSE students across the globe. Students wrote a short essay on the title: 'Modern Developments: Learning from the Past and Looking to the Future'. Judges included Mike Baker, BBC Education Correspondent, who was impressed with the high standard of entries. Mike commented: 'The judges were looking for impact when reading the essays – something that made you read on and hit you between the eyes.'

The essay competition inspired Cambridge IGCSE students to think about their place in the world and how they can contribute to it. Winning essays explored topics such as technology, education, telephone communications and changes in family life. The essays were strong in structure, communication and had a vibrant personal voice – all essential essay-writing skills.

*Main picture: Mike Baker, BBC Education Correspondent, was delighted to be invited to judge the essays, and was impressed by the calibre of entries*

*Opposite top left: Paul Beedle presents Natalia Sánchez Thompson with a memento from Cambridge*

*Opposite main picture: The Essay Competition judges discuss entries. Left to right: Tony Parkinson, Cambridge IGCSE textbook author, Sue Warren, CIE's International Communications Manager, Mike Baker, BBC Education Correspondent (forefront) and Paul Beedle, CIE's Manager of Professional Development Certification*

*Page 18: Steve Moran, CIE's Spain Representative, presents Ricardo Bocanegra Yebra with a certificate*

## The Cambridge IGCSE 20th Birthday Essay Competition winners

**Overall winner** **Natalia Sánchez Thompson,**  
**Hastings School, Madrid, Spain**

### Girls

**1st prize** Natalia Sánchez Thompson,  
Hastings School, Madrid, Spain

**2nd prize** Leen Juan Zaza, King Saud International  
School, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia

**3rd prize** Lauren Lee, Seneca Valley High School,  
Maryland, USA

### Boys

**1st prize** Ricardo Bocanegra Yebra, The English  
International College, Málaga, Spain

**2nd prize** Jeihan Lee, Mutiara International  
Grammar School, Selangor, Malaysia

**3rd prize** Henri Kari Palonheimo, Tianjin Rego  
International School, Tianjin, China



## Top prizes for overall winner, Natalia

As the overall winner, year 10 student Natalia Sánchez Thompson receives the following prizes: £500 in vouchers to take an educational trip, £250 in cash from the Arab–British Chamber of Commerce, and *The Cambridge Encyclopedia of the English Language* from Cambridge University Press. For her school, Natalia wins an electronic interactive Cambridge whiteboard from Hitachi Interactive, software from Cambridge–Hitachi, and books worth £250 from Cambridge University Press’s range for schools and colleges.

Natalia said: *‘It is a great honour as I never expected to win. These are wonderful prizes and my school is very excited as we don’t have any interactive whiteboards so this will be the first.’*

Mike Baker said: ***‘Natalia’s essay was a very mature piece of writing and for me a clear winner. It’s an imaginative idea and really stood out.’***

Natalia plans to take Cambridge International A Levels in Sciences, Spanish, Maths or French. After completing university she would like to pursue a career in medicine.

“I was cleaning out the dusty attic the other day when I found a letter written by my mother many years ago. I have not come up to this attic since I was a child. I never get bored of uncovering forgotten treasures, but I guess this one I missed, or didn’t interest me at the time. If only my father could have seen how what he started finished.”

The opening paragraph to Natalia’s essay.



# Essay on air travel flies in first

CIE held the Cambridge IGCSE 20th Birthday Essay Competition in celebration of the 20th birthday of Cambridge IGCSE, the international qualification first developed by Cambridge. Students studying for Cambridge IGCSE qualifications around the world took part in the competition to win prizes and international recognition.

Natalia Sánchez Thompson, from Hastings School, Madrid, Spain, is the overall winner of the Cambridge IGCSE 20th Birthday Essay Competition 2006.

Natalia's winning essay looked at the impact of air travel on culture and countries. Congratulations to all our Cambridge IGCSE 20th Birthday Essay Competition winners.

## Ricardo's first competition win

Ricardo Bocanegra Yebra's winning essay was in the form of a letter from a father to his son. The letter outlined 'what is important in life changes with history'.

Tony Parkinson, IGCSE textbook author and one of the judges, said: *'It was a very philosophic piece – a piece that you would want other children to read. In my school I never had anyone who wrote anything as good as this.'*

Ricardo said: *'I can't stop smiling, this is amazing news. This is the first time I have entered a major competition and the prizes are so spectacular.'*

## Students love Cambridge IGCSE!



'I think Cambridge IGCSEs open a lot of doors in the world, and can lead to further education. After my gap year I plan to study at university, either in the UK or back in Argentina.' **Leonardo Petricca, Lascondelas, Medosa, Argentina**

'I found my Cambridge IGCSE courses were interesting, in particular History and English Literature. They were all well structured and clearly explained in the syllabus.' **Natalie Louise Reynolds, International School of Paphos, Cyprus**



'It was a good curriculum that was set out in a way that made learning easier. They were the best courses to take to maximise my chances of studying in the UK.' **Omar Jazi, Amman Academy, Jordan**

'Cambridge IGCSE involves working to achieve a set of objectives, clearly defined and well chosen. The syllabi only include topics that are necessary for each field.' **Mohamed Luqman, Our Own English High School, Al Ain, UAE**



'Cambridge IGCSEs gave me guidelines and are strong preparation for further education.' **Natalia Sánchez Thompson, Hastings School, Madrid, Spain. Overall winner of the Cambridge IGCSE 20th Birthday Essay Competition 2006**



**1985 – Cambridge designs and launches IGCSE**

**1988 – First students take their IGCSE exams**

**1990 – British Council offices offer Cambridge IGCSEs to a wider range of students worldwide**

**1993 – Namibia adopts IGCSE as its National Curriculum**

**1998 – UCLES splits business into various divisions with University of Cambridge International Examinations (CIE) formed to handle international qualifications including IGCSE**

**2005 – CIE celebrates two decades of IGCSE**

# Spotlight on Pakistan:

## class of 2005, Roots Montessori & High School, Rawalpindi



CIE qualifications are taken in 150 countries and recognised by universities, education providers and employers across the world. Roots Montessori & High School Cambridge International A Level students show where they will be studying in the world. **CIE would like to congratulate them, their teachers and their principal on their outstanding results.**

### The Recognition Database

**Learn more! Visit [www.cie.org.uk/recognition](http://www.cie.org.uk/recognition).** The recognition section of the CIE website has a number of useful documents for you to find out more about where CIE's qualifications are accepted.

Now there is also a searchable database that lists education providers and employers around the world where Cambridge qualifications are accepted and valued.

From the main recognition page, click on the 'Recognition search' icon and then select the country and qualification you are interested in.

Name	University Entered	Course	Country
Saba Zaidi	Harvard College	Physics	USA
Bilhuda Rasheed	Princeton University	Physics	USA
Hira Siddiqui	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Engineering	USA
Sajeel Zahid	London School of Economics & Political Science	Economics	UK
Amna Sohail	The University of Sheffield	Medical Genetics	UK
Filza Satti	University of Texas	Engineering	USA
Jibran Bugvi	NUS	Economics and Finance	Singapore
Usman Jamil	University College London	Economics	UK
Zeeshan Shaukat	Gettysburg College	Economics	USA
Obaid Ur Rehman	Carleton University	Engineering	Canada
Samad Khurram	Harvard College	Economics	USA
Ahmed Zeeshan Bin Khalid	International Bremen University	Engineering	Germany
Jawad Zaheer	Massachusetts Institute of Technology	Engineering	USA
Syed Asad Zaidi	Agha Khan University	Medicine	Pakistan
Hamza Jawad	Agha Khan University	Medicine	Pakistan





## Students would rather be entrepreneurs than employees

A recent CIE survey shows that students worldwide would rather be entrepreneurs than employees.

Students worldwide were asked: 'Which business would you like to run in your country and why?' Enterprising business ideas included: opening a hospital; running mobile phone and computer companies; establishing educational organisations; buying real estate, and selling biomedical products.

### Cambridge Young Enterprise International Examination

Students who run their own business through the Young Enterprise Company Programme can take the Cambridge Young Enterprise International Examination. Taken in March each year, the exam recognises the experience and knowledge gained by students on the Company Programme.



**The syllabus standard is high and relates to the real world – something that our students find appealing. It's an innovative way for students to explore their potential and develop key skills, giving them a firm grounding for continued further education.**

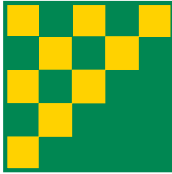
Annelise Lindheim, a teacher from Famna Gymnas, city of Bergen, Norway



*Maltese winners at the 17th JA-YE European Company of the Year Competition in Interlaken, Switzerland, in August, show off their Cambridge Young Enterprise International Examination branded rucksacks*

The Young Enterprise Company Programme is run by Young Enterprise, a business education charity whose mission is 'to inspire and equip young people to learn and succeed through enterprise.' The Programme gives students an opportunity to run their own business through the support of business volunteers.

**New developments**



From 2008 there will be changes to the Cambridge Young Enterprise International Examination syllabus. A £100 cash prize and trophy to the top performing candidate in the world will also be introduced.

The new developments were presented to a global audience at the 17th JA-YE European Company of the Year Competition in Interlaken, Switzerland, in August.

The Cambridge Young Enterprise International Examination syllabus, specimen papers, mark schemes, frequently asked questions, and links to relevant websites can be found on the newly created Young Enterprise page on the CIE website.

Learn more! Visit [www.cie.org.uk/cambridgeyoungenterprise](http://www.cie.org.uk/cambridgeyoungenterprise)





## International Headmaster's inside view of CIE

A Headmaster swapped school life in Thailand for working at CIE in Cambridge for nine weeks. Here, Dr Mark Hensman, Headmaster at Harrow International School, Bangkok, Thailand, tells us about his sabbatical.

*Photo: Dr Mark Hensman, Headmaster, Harrow International School, Bangkok, Thailand, with Tom Kendon, CIE's Business Planning Manager*

“ My first impression is the dedication and single-mindedness of CIE staff. They have a deep sense of responsibility and rigorously set about living up to their motto, 'global standards, global credibility'. To achieve this, CIE is exceptionally well organised, and in the assessment management domain, no stone is left unturned.

Second impression? It is complex. CIE is one of three streams that used to be UCLES and is now Cambridge Assessment. Within the CIE stream, there are many teams but they come under four main umbrellas: assessment, operations, international curriculum, and marketing and sales.

### Global standards, global credibility

Core business for CIE is assessment and at the heart of assessment, still, are examinations. CIE goes to tremendous lengths to get it right. They know that at

the heart of their credibility is accuracy; this means rigorously managed and appropriate examinations (be they written, practical or coursework). This is a tough job and they have to be tough. NO exceptions.

However, increasingly, CIE prides itself on the support given to Centres, teachers and students. They deal with hundreds of enquiries every week, mainly by email and their online teacher training programme is rapidly expanding.

I am impressed with the dedication, ardour, intensity, commitment and sense of responsibility that drives CIE staff. Many challenges face us in education and I am pleased, as a Head, that the journey towards them will be shared with CIE. ”

**There will be further opportunities for Principals worldwide to take part in CIE sabbaticals.**

## CIE welcomes...



**Dr Kevin Stannard** Director of International Curriculum and Development

I joined CIE as Director of International Curriculum and Development after more than 20

years as a teacher, including 12 years at Eton College, where I was Head of Geography and Higher Education Adviser. I studied Geography at Cambridge, and stayed to complete a doctorate in the History of Education. I have continued to research and write on topics in Geography and Education.

My tasks at CIE include overseeing the further development of our IGCSE provision,

building on a sound and successful base; and taking forward our new pre-university qualification – a genuinely new and forward-looking initiative in 16–19 education.

One of the striking things about CIE is just how serious they are about building sustainable relationships between examiners and teachers. I have joined a team that is committed to drawing new assessment strategies out of the knowledge and experience of all those involved in teaching and learning. We're all part of the same endeavour.

I'll be working to develop not just syllabuses, assessment strategies and qualifications, but also appropriate forms

of support for teachers and students. CIE has a wealth of experience in providing information, training and accreditation, and we are looking at ways of developing our online services, bringing us into even more productive partnership with our centres.

Another aspect of my job is to ensure that our qualifications continue to have a global reach and recognition, by working with governments and universities across the world.

I look forward to working with our partners in the world-wide Cambridge community, as we develop educational initiatives designed to meet the needs of students in the modern world.

## Staff profile...

**Dr Newman Burdett** Head of International Education



I studied Natural Sciences at Cambridge University and gained a PhD at the Department for Medicinal Chemistry, University of Cambridge, Addenbrooke's Hospital and went on to post-doctoral research in medical imaging where I developed an interest in cognitive testing and neuroscience.

I started working with University of Cambridge International Examinations in 1998 and have been a Product Manager looking after the Chemistry syllabuses and then Group Manager for Mathematics, Sciences and Technical Subjects.

Now working as Head of International Education, focusing mainly on ministry partnerships and national examination

and curriculum systems, I still maintain a keen interest in science and especially science education.

I work with ministries and awarding bodies around the world and am an *ex officio* member of the ECIS Curriculum and Instruction Committee, the Committee for Education in the Commonwealth as well as the Royal Society of Chemistry.

As well as having our own Centres in 150 countries, CIE works directly with ministries of education in over 36 countries and has strong partnerships with NGOs, national awarding bodies etc. Working with all these partner organisations, whether on day-to-day running of examinations, capability transfer and national change

programmes, or just getting together to share good practice and increasing access to high quality education, is a large and important part of CIE's work and one that many people are not aware of despite its scale. Education and assessment is a constantly evolving field and my role is a strategic one to ensure that, with all the conflicting constraints on CIE and our partners, we work together to continue to deliver the very best available.

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