

2021/2022 Staff Introduction

We are very pleased to announce our management and teaching lineup for the 2021/2022 academic year.

Management staff



Head of School - Dr. Lindsay Stuart

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Lindsay is an experienced school administrator with over 15 years experience working in education in Thailand. Lindsay hails from New Zealand, where he graduated from the University of Canterbury with Bachelor degrees in Arts and Science before completing a PhD in Information Systems. He also holds a Masters degree from Mahidol University in Thailand and a Postgraduate Diploma in Educational Administration from Massey University in New Zealand. Lindsay has an excellent understanding of educational administration, learning and technology and uses that knowledge to guide and shape exciting learning programmes for the students of UDIS.



Deputy Principal - Emmi Hines

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Emmi holds a Master's Degree in Administration of Education. She has over 19 years in education and 7 of those in the IB settings. Emmi has a passion for approaching students with creativity, flexibility, openness, care and compassion. She supports the ongoing commitment to UDIS teachers to be critical, reflective practitioners who value lifelong learning and this is reflective in her management style. Emmi is continuing her teaching journey for her 8th year at UDIS.

In her personal time, she enjoys traveling around the world to meet new people, loves reading all types of books and kicking back at the beach for some relaxation.



Thai Director - Sineenad Chamat

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Sineenard (Nard) comes from Khon Kaen and holds a Bachelors Degree in Computer Education from Rajabhat Institute of Suan Dusit in Bangkok. She also holds a Masters of Education from Khon Kaen University. She has over 18 years of experience teaching a range of subjects in Thai schools including Thai language, social studies, Thai history and computing. Nard is a patient, hard working teacher who is always willing to learn new things and pass those onto her students.



Middle Years Programme Coordinator - Jay Randall

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Jay is a qualified teacher from Canada with a Bachelors of Education degree from the University of Toronto and a Master of Arts degree from Humboldt University. He has many years of success in teaching and coordinating IB subjects and programs with past roles as MYP Coordinator and Assistant DP Coordinator, guiding learners through rigorous research projects, and collaborating with all elements of school communities in academics, leadership, and cocurricular activities. He has previously worked in Canada, Germany, Switzerland, Antigua and Angola. Jay is joined at UDIS by his wife Marie and daughter Simone. Outside of the classroom he loves to get involved with outdoor education, school trips, student exchanges, and athletics to help guide students to become active citizens, realise their holistic potential and to develop student leadership, engagement and community involvement.



Early Years Coordinator - Phibzia Siddiqui
[Video introduction for learners](#)

Phibzia holds a Master's Degree in Education (TEFL) from the National University of Laos. She has also completed a Bachelor of Arts (B.A) and an Advanced diploma in "Early Childhood Development" from ECD-Affiliated Edith Cowan University (Australia). She has 13 years of teaching experience around Asia and has training and experience in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP). Phibzia comes to us from a teaching position at Vientiane International School.

Phibzia has a passion and the energy for English language learning and teaching across all levels of students. She has been with the school for a number of years and brings an experienced, inquiry approach to our teaching in the Early Years.

Early years teachers



Preschool - Chananchida Sriwong

Chananchida (Dae) is our wonderful, new Preschool teacher. Dae has been with UDIS for over 5 years and joined us originally as a Teaching Assistant working with some of the best Early Years teachers we had at the school. Dae has both Bachelors and Masters Degrees in Humanities (English) and is a qualified teacher in Thailand having completed her Graduate of Teaching Diploma. Dae has a tremendous love for her learners and in Preschool works to settle them into school life and give them the skills they need to progress to K1.

**K1 - Phibzia Siddiqui****[Video introduction for learners](#)**

Phibzia holds a Master's Degree in Education (TEFL) from the National University of Laos. She has also completed a Bachelor of Arts (B.A) and an Advanced diploma in "Early Childhood Development" from ECD-Affiliated Edith Cowan University (Australia). She has 13 years of teaching experience around Asia and has training and experience in the International Baccalaureate (IB) Primary Years Programme (PYP). Phibzia comes to us from a teaching position at Vientiane International School.

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**K2 - Charlie Ramsey****[Video introduction for learners](#)**

Charlotte (Charlie) is from York in North Yorkshire, England. She completed her Primary Education degree at the University of Sunderland in the North East of England. Charlotte has taught in both primary and secondary schools including work in learning support settings for the last 12 years.

Charlotte is enthusiastic and passionate about teaching and learning. She has a love for music and drama, especially musicals and is currently learning to speak Brazilian Portuguese. Charlotte is also a keen traveller and has travelled throughout Thailand.

Charlotte is fully committed to providing essential learning opportunities and strategies to all children. Her favourite subjects to teach are Phonics and Mathematics. This will be Charlotte's third year at UDIS and she is incredibly excited to continue to work in K2 this year.

Primary years teachers



Year 1 - Mindi Greenberg

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Mindi is from the suburbs of Philadelphia, PA in the USA where she graduated from West Chester University of Pennsylvania with a Bachelors of Science Degree in Elementary Education. After teaching preschool, Kindergarten and 3-6 year olds with special needs in the Philadelphia area, Mindi began her international teaching career in Colombia in 2006. Over the following 14 years, she went on to teach in international and PYP schools in Dubai, Bangladesh, Albania and Myanmar. She has taught Kindergarten (Year 1) for 9 years as well as, Years 2, 4 and 6.

Mindi is a fun-loving and passionate teacher who enjoys watching students grow, discover new things and become independent learners. She is especially passionate about teaching English Language Learners to read, write and speak confidently in English. Mindi has travelled to Thailand often while living in Yangon, Myanmar and is excited to be working and living in Udon Thani.



Year 2/3 - John Kelly



[Video introduction for learners](#)

John was born in Glasgow, Scotland, where it is usually cold, wet and windy and lived there for the first 16 years of his life before immigrating to Australia with his family. In Western Australia he was awarded a Bachelor of Education at Curtin University. John has taught in Australia, England, Turkey, Thailand, Qatar and Kuwait over three decades. During his time in these countries he has taught all grades of primary school.

John considers himself an open, creative and friendly teacher who is a keen advocate for the development of community within a school. John believes that students must be engaged, challenged and able to reflect independently and collaboratively about their learning.

John has worked at UDIS for four years and is looking forward to his next two years at the school. He is the health and safety coordinator at the school and is also the school's Child Safeguarding Coordinator.

John is an active member of the Udon Thani community. He

	<p>plays football with the local police officers and basketball with the UMT basketball team in town.</p>
	<p>Year 4 & Learning Support Coordinator - Kane Fawcett Video introduction for learners</p> <p>Kane comes from New Zealand and he graduated from Victoria University of Wellington with a Bachelor of Science before completing his Post Graduate Diploma in Primary Education at Massey University. He has taught internationally in Thailand and New Zealand. Kane taught Years 2-6 for eight years in New Zealand before moving to UDIS where he has been teaching year 3 for 2 years.</p> <p>Kane believes that the best learning happens when it is authentic because it makes sense to children, and they want to learn. He is passionate about music and loves to play guitar and sing songs. He also has a love of science, mathematics, making movies, football and food.</p> <p>Kane is also the learning support coordinator here at UDIS and works alongside staff and students to provide programmes of support or extension for relevant students. He enjoys the challenge of supporting all students to reach their potential and to help them be the best that they can be.</p>
	<p>Year 5/6 - John Eastham Video introduction for learners</p> <p>John holds a Masters degree in International Education from Oxford Brookes University in the UK and has taught throughout the Primary age range (5 to 11) in the UK, Brunei Darussalam, Thailand and most recently in Myanmar. John has worked in a variety of roles including Principal, curriculum leadership and class teaching. He is delighted to be at UDIS at a time when it is developing its membership of CIS, and has become an IB Primary Years World School, as this will ensure quality internationally based learning for all UDIS students</p>

Middle years teachers



MYP Individuals and Societies, MYP Language Acquisition (English) - Jay Randall

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Jay is a qualified teacher from Canada with a Bachelors of Education degree from the University of Toronto and a Master of Arts degree from Humboldt University. He has many years of success in teaching and coordinating IB subjects and programs with past roles as MYP Coordinator and Assistant DP Coordinator, guiding learners through rigorous research projects, and collaborating with all elements of school communities in academics, leadership, and cocurricular activities. He has previously worked in Canada, Germany, Switzerland, Antigua and Angola. Jay is joined at UDIS by his wife Marie and daughter Simone. Outside of the classroom he loves to get involved with outdoor education, school trips, student exchanges, and athletics to help guide students to become active citizens, realise their holistic potential and to develop student leadership, engagement and community involvement.



MYP English Language and Literature - Mark Abbadessa

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Mark is a dual licensed teacher from America and began his teaching career in 2009. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Elementary Education with a specialisation in Special Education from William Paterson University. Mark has also achieved a Masters Degree in Literacy from the University of New England. He has attended additional postgraduate teaching courses at North Dakota State University. Mark has completed multiple PYP and MYP training courses as well as received his TEFL certificate. He has worked in both public and international school settings in the USA, China and Thailand and has taught children from Kindergarten up to Year 9.

Mark enjoys teaching in IB schools and uses a vast variety of technology platforms during teaching lessons to capture the minds of his students and to also build real world technology skills needed in today's society and workplace.



MYP Mathematics, Science and Design - Wouter Scott
[Video introduction for learners](#)

Wouter Scott (Barend) is a qualified and licensed Science educator from South Africa. He graduated in 2013 and started teaching as soon as he completed his Bachelor of Education in Natural sciences. In his 6 years of teaching, Barend has taught Mathematics, physics, natural science as well as English as a home and first additional language. He is very passionate about his profession and loves facilitating his students in becoming more knowledgeable and proficient in life. He has taught at multiple institutes over his career, most notably Assumption college Bangrak and Roong Aroon international programme in Thailand where he taught GCSE combined sciences and IB MYP Science and Mathematics.

As a lifelong learner, Wouter loves reading, gardening and exploring the natural world while hiking and travelling.

Specialist teachers



Visual arts
- Mark Abbadessa

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Mark is a dual licensed teacher from America and began his teaching career in 2009. He received his Bachelor's Degree in Sociology and Elementary Education with a specialisation in Special Education from William Paterson University. Mark has also achieved a Masters Degree in Literacy from the University of New England. He has attended additional postgraduate teaching courses at North Dakota State University. Mark has completed multiple PYP and MYP training courses as well as received his TEFL certificate. He has worked in both public and international school settings in the USA, China and Thailand and has taught children from Kindergarten up to Year 9.

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Performing arts and Library - Marie-Christine Rivest
[Video introduction for learners](#)

Marie-Christine (Marie) is a qualified teacher from Canada with a Bachelor of Education from the University of Montreal and a Master of Educational Management from Sherbrooke University. She is currently pursuing a Master of Education from the University of Ottawa. Marie has also studied music, specifically classical guitar, at Lionel-Groulx College. Marie has extensive experience at IB international schools in the leadership of language departments, language teaching and supervision of personal projects and extended essays. She has also been a school principal and a consultant for differentiation, gifted students, and language learning in Canada.

Marie has been involved in extracurricular activities such as volleyball, cross-country, outdoor expeditions and the Duke of Edinburgh Program. She has taken part in school drama and music productions. Central to her teaching philosophy is the importance of the teacher as a guide for her students. She also believes in the necessity of holistic education: as Aristotle said, "Educating the mind without educating the heart is no education at all." At UDIS she is joined by her husband Jay and their daughter Simone.



PSPE - Ranouver 'Xavi' Pereira

Xavi is a qualified teacher from Brazil and holds a Bachelor's degree in Physical Education from the Federal University of Ceará. He is a professional physical educator and swimming teacher who has over 8 years experience in Brazil, Thailand, the Philippines and Laos. Xavi is also a licensed football coach by the Brazilian Football Confederation (CBF) with experience in youth football in Brazil with clubs like Cruzeiro Esporte Clube and Grêmio Foot-Ball Porto Alegrense. He is also responsible for the Brazilian methodology of teaching football at the Cruzeiro Soccer School Asia which has branches in Thailand, Japan, Laos and the Philippines.

Xavi is a huge fan of football and sports culture around the world and also, he is very passionate and a great collector about music in general, from the Rock and Roll to Bossa Nova.



EAL Teacher - Liza Magbanua

Liza is a qualified teacher from the Philippines holding a Diploma in Teacher Education and a Bachelor's degree from the Philippines' last ecological frontier, Palawan. She has also completed her 120-hour TEFL certification and her level 1 PYP training. Liza has worked as an EAL teacher at different international schools in Bangkok including St Andrews International School at both 107 and Sathorn campuses and Rasami British International School.

Liza has been working as an EAL teacher for more than ten years and she has also gained a lot of experience supporting children with learning difficulties especially in Mathematics. Liza has also helped organise school events such as the World Education Games and Tournament of Minds to give learners an opportunity to demonstrate their collaboration and problem-solving skills in creative ways.



Thai Teacher - Sineenad Chamat

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Sineenard (Nard) comes from Khon Kaen and holds a Bachelor's Degree in Computer Education from Rajabhat Institute of Suan Dusit in Bangkok. She also holds a Masters of Education from Khon Kaen University. She has over 18 years of experience teaching a range of subjects in Thai schools including Thai language, social studies, Thai history and computing. Nard is a patient, hard working teacher who is always willing to learn new things and pass those onto her students.



Thai Teacher - Hattaya (Doum) Sirito

[Video introduction for learners](#)

Hattaya (Doum) holds a Bachelor of Art in English from Udon Thani Rajabhat University and a Graduate Diploma in Teaching from Santapol College. Doum is a Thai specialist teacher teaching Thai culture and language primarily to Early Years and Thai as an Additional Language (TAL) to Primary Years. She is familiar with a range of teaching strategies to differentiate her teaching to meet the Thai language needs of learners. Doum also brings a range of skills to the school and particularly enjoys drawing, Thai dance and handicrafts.



Thai Teacher - Saowarak Kaechawat

Saowarak (Must) holds a Bachelor of Art degree and has completed the Graduate Diploma in Teaching from Rajabhat Mahasarakham University. Must has worked as a Thai teacher teaching a range of subjects for almost 10 years. She has particular experience teaching Thia to Thai and international students and we are lucky to have her teaching Thai at UDIS.