



OUTWARD BOUND
INTERNATIONAL

ANNUAL REPORT

2017



CHAIR'S LETTER



David Kong and Andrew Smith - Chair and Vice Chair of OBI at OB Romania

It is my privilege, on behalf of the Board, to report on the activities of Outward Bound International (OBI) in 2017.

OBI was created to oversee i) licensing of new Outward Bound Schools; ii) risk management and programme quality standards for all Outward Bound Schools across the network; iii) brand management; and iv) the promotion of communications and networking amongst OBI members. Our mandate states that OBI exists:

To promote and protect the good name of Outward Bound throughout the world, and to assist in the establishment, development, and support of Outward Bound Centers able to provide safe, high-quality programs that fulfill the Mission of Outward Bound.

2017 was a year of transition for OBI:

- We held two Board meetings, one in Singapore (where we helped celebrate OB Singapore's 50th

anniversary) and one in Costa Rica.

Mary Thomson's period as Chair came to an end at the AGM in Costa Rica and I was elected as Chair of OBI.

- John Atkin (Australia), Pamela Fralick (Canada), Hilal Al Mawali (Oman), and Henry Morse (USA) were elected to the Board.

- Andrew Smith took over as Chair of OBI's Nominations and Governance committee.

- Sarah Wiley succeeded Jon D'Almeida as Chair of the Operations Committee.

At our meeting in Costa Rica, the Board and the Operations Committee recognised the enormous contribution that Mary Thomson has made to the work of OBI by presenting Mary with our highest honor — the Kurt Hahn Award.

During her time as Chair, Mary transformed OBI. She oversaw the Executive Director transition that resulted in the appointment of Iain Peter. She instigated the World Conferences, an opportunity for the network's strategic thinkers to get together every two years to think about how we can develop Outward Bound and she built a strong, focused, and committed Board.

It is with great pleasure that I tell you that, more recently, Mary was made a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order by the Princess Royal at Buckingham Palace in London in recognition of all that she has done for Outward Bound. We will miss Mary's wisdom, guidance, and commitment.



Mary Thomson is made a Lieutenant of the Royal Victorian Order by the Princess Royal at Buckingham Palace

Work Programs

Following on from our World Conference in North Carolina in 2016, OBI has been moving forward with the following projects:

- Development of our Global Portal platform for sharing ideas and knowledge between members
- Further definition around “What it means to be Outward Bound”
- Ongoing collaboration between Schools
- Researching: What does “Good Governance” look like in Outward Bound?
- Revising the system of Program Reviews

We have also begun a strategic planning process that will result in a three-year plan (2019–21) for Outward Bound International. It is our intention that members will have the opportunity to contribute to the development of the plan.

Licensing Matters

A central part of OBI’s core activities, along with brand management and risk management, is the provision of oversight for licensing activities across the network. No full licenses were awarded in 2017 and we continue to support Outward Bound Vietnam, who hold a Provisional Licence. Outward Bound UAE and Outward Bound Netherlands, upon recommendation from the Operations Committee, were awarded Provisional Licences. We will continue to provide support to these schools as they progress with their Outward Bound journey towards licensure.

CONCLUSION

Special thanks to Iain Peter, our Executive Director, and our Associate Director Rob Chatfield for their countless hours of travel and dedication. Thanks also to our Board and the members of the committees responsible for Operations, Risk Management, Finance, and Nominations & Governance.

The Board looks forward to the year ahead, starting with the World Conference in Oman, January 2019. We will continue to chart our course to make our worldwide network more effective and resilient.



David Kong
Chair, Outward Bound International

MISSION & SCOPE OF OUTWARD BOUND

Mission statement of Outward Bound International:

“We enable our member Schools to be more effective and more resilient and we promote and protect the name and trademark “Outward Bound”

Outward Bound International is on a global mission to help improve the effectiveness and fitness of its network of schools through a variety of ongoing and special initiatives. The following five priorities guide the organization's efforts in supporting Outward Bound worldwide.

1. Protecting & promoting the Outward Bound brand.

Outward Bound International ensures registration of the trademark in any country with current or potential Outward Bound activity, and manages the organization's reputation by monitoring infringements on names, marks, logos, and designs related to Outward Bound. In recent years domain name protection has received increased focus. To strengthen brand visibility, a website is maintained that serves as a global portal for those seeking information about Outward Bound.

2. Maintaining a focus on quality & innovation.

In the last decade, Outward Bound International has developed Risk Management and Quality Review systems. Every two years a detailed risk management assessment is made in each country in which Outward Bound operates, by teams of experienced Outward Bound staff trained by Outward Bound International. While this system is unparalleled in the adventure program field, Outward Bound International has developed a complementary process that systematically examines ways to improve the quality of service development and delivery processes.

3. Strengthening risk management standards.

Outward Bound International produces an annual Global Risk management Report on operations. Through its Program Review system, it also works with its member schools to continuously upgrade standards across the world.

4. Strengthening financial health.

Outward Bound International is continually trying to expand the number of sources from which charitable contributions are made to the organization. These efforts include offers of Guest Expeditions to interesting regions of the world for supporters who are willing to make a tax deductible contribution to Outward Bound beyond the trip cost; and the establishment of an endowment campaign to ensure the future of Outward Bound worldwide.

5. Fostering free & open communication and collaboration.

In partnership with the schools, Outward Bound International hosts events such as world conferences and staff symposia. Additionally, an annual journal, this one, is offered electronically and in print; and an expanding internal website, which offers many resources and ways for sharing them, is available to Board members and the network of schools.

Every year numerous requests are made to Outward Bound International from individuals and organizations interested in bringing Outward Bound to their country. This is a clear tribute to Kurt Hahn and those who have pressed on in service of his bandwagon.

BOARD OF DIRECTORS



David Kong
Chair (from Nov 2017)
Hong Kong



Mary Thomson
Chair (until Nov 2017)
Canada



Sarah Wiley
Chair, OpsCom
Canada



John Atkin
Australia



Pamela Fralick
Canada



Colin Maund
UK



Hilal Al Mawali
Oman



Tim Medhurst
Australia



Henry Morse
USA



Andrew Smith
New Zealand

SERVING OUTWARD BOUND



OBI Boards Worldwide

Each country in which Outward Bound operates has a slightly different board structure depending on the cultural norms and government structure for charitable organizations. The essential element is that each Outward Bound school serves a diversity of young people with a governing board comprised of volunteer, non-paid community members who oversee its mission and operations.

Governing Board

The Governing Board of Directors is given the legal corporate authority and responsibility for an organization's formation and operation, for its stability, and for providing links to other organizations and parts of the community. The board can mean the difference between public understanding and support of programs and public apathy or even antipathy. Boards that understand their role and fulfill their responsibility are essential to the well-being of not-for-profit organizations such as Outward Bound.

Advisory Board

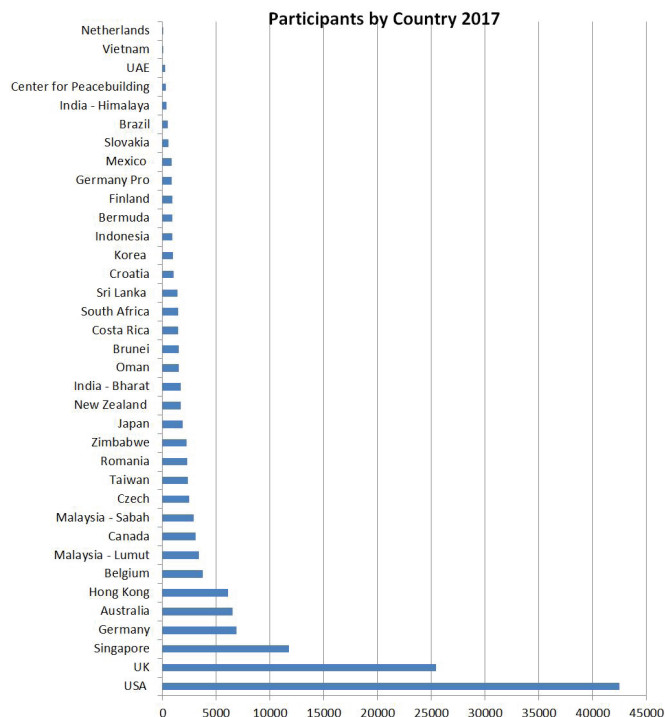
An advisory board is designed to assist the Executive Director and Board in making informed decisions for the organization and generally promoting the organization to a larger constituency. Some of its duties include: promoting better understanding of the purposes of Outward Bound and the objectives of its programs, maintaining standards consistent with accepted ones for similar agencies, and making useful recommendations on future direction to maintain the relevance of the organization.

Serving on a nonprofit board has its rewards, including helping to extend an organization's mission effectiveness and reaching out to underserved populations. The benefits, too, can be a powerful attraction: serving with a diversity of people toward a common goal and broadening your network of professional and social connections within your community. But what if your community is global? What if mission effectiveness means starting a school in another culture or on another continent? What if reaching out means crossing the international dateline? What if the underserved are school girls from the Sultanate of Oman, or street children from Johannesburg, or a group of corporate executives from Sri Lanka? What if your network includes people from every continent, except Antarctica? You'd be a board member at Outward Bound International, that's what.

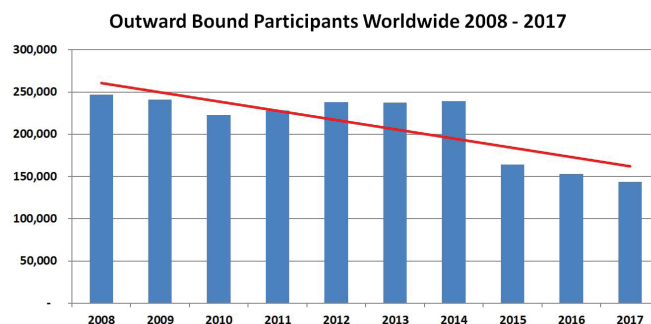
Outward Bound International is responsible for ensuring OBI's mission and providing governance to its staff and volunteers. The mission of Outward Bound International is to help improve, promote, protect, and extend the good name of Outward Bound, worldwide.



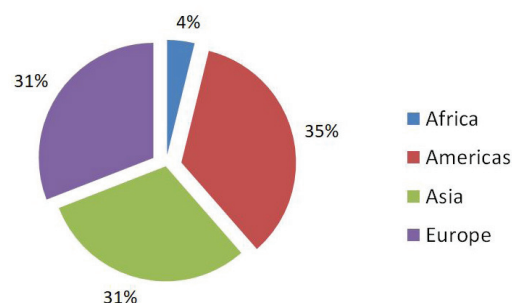
PARTICIPATION



Participant numbers after 2014 reflect a reduction of 70,000 due to the withdrawal of Expeditionary Learning from OB USA



Participants by Region 2017



OUTWARD BOUND SCHOOL'S WORLDWIDE

Australia

www.outwardbound.org.au

Belgium

www.outwardbound.be

Bermuda

www.outwardboundbermuda.org

Brazil

www.obb.org.br

Brunei Darussalam

www.kkbs.gov.bn/program.htm

Canada

www.outwardbound.ca

Costa Rica

www.outwardboundcostarica.org

Croatia

www.outwardbound.hr

Czech Republic

www.outwardbound.cz

Finland

www.outwardbound.fi

Germany

www.outwardbound.de

Germany Professional

www.outwardbound-professional.de

Hong Kong

www.outwardbound.org.hk

India-Bharat

www.outwardbound.org.in

India-Himalaya

www.outwardboundindia.com

Indonesia

www.outwardboundindo.org

Japan

www.obs-japan.org

Korea

www.outwardbound.co.kr

Malaysia

www.outwardbound.my

Mexico

www.obmexico.org

Netherlands (Provisional License)

www.outwardboundnetherlands.com

New Zealand

www.outwardbound.co.nz

Oman

www.outwardboundoman.com

Romania

www.outwardbound.ro

Sabah

www.outwardbound.com.my

Singapore

www.obs.nyc.gov.sg

Slovak Republic

www.outwardbound.sk

South Africa

www.outwardbound.co.za

Sri Lanka

www.obsl-lk.org

Taiwan

www.obtaiwan.org

UAE (Provisional License)

www.outwardbound.ae

UK

www.outwardbound.org.uk

USA

www.outwardbound.org

Vietnam (Provisional License)

www.obv.vn

Zimbabwe

www.outwardbound.org.zw

Outward Bound International

85 Grampian Road
Aviemore PH22 1RH
United Kingdom

Tel +44 (0)1479 812544

Mobile +44 (0)7836 642162

Email execdir@outwardbound.net



Australia
Belgium
Bermuda
Brazil
Brunei
Canada
Costa Rica
Croatia

Czech Republic
Finland
Germany
Germany-Pro
Hong Kong
India-Bharat
India-Himalaya

Indonesia
Japan
Korea
Malaysia-Lumut
Malaysia-Sabah
Mexico
New Zealand

Netherlands
Oman
Romania
Singapore
Slovak Republic
South Africa
Sri Lanka

Taiwan
UAE
UK
USA
Vietnam
Zimbabwe
OB Peacebuilding