

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES October 20, 2001

President Jana Fitting called the meeting to order at 10:10 AM. Roll Call was taken with an introduction of each Regional representative, alternate, and committee chairs. The September 15, 2001 minutes were presented. Cathy Null moved the minutes be approved with corrections. The following corrections were made: under Old Business: *Purpose* was changed to *Proposed*, the spelling of Cathy Null's name was corrected, and the spelling of Bergner's was corrected. Janis Fanning seconded the motion. Vote taken. Motion passed.

IMSA Administration Report

- q Principal Eric McLaren discussed the Crisis Response Plan that has been in place for a long time. This has resulted in a Crisis Response Team led by Bob Hernandez, Jim Bondi, and Eric McLaren. Since the last parents meeting and with the Anthrax scare, security awareness has been heightened. IMSA has initiated contact with the Aurora Police and the Kane County Police Dept. Two US Postal Inspectors worked with the IMSA post office staff and reviewed the IMSA process. Per the US Postal Inspectors, IMSA has been processing and handling the mail correctly. Eric also mention that any parent that would like to be on IMSA's email list or has an address change should email Ms Heinz at ehinz@imsa.edu
- q Bob Hernandez of Student Life reported that all crisis calls should come to Student Life at the 5009 or 5010 extension. His staff will respond. The Quarter ended Fri. (Oct. 19) and grades will be mailed out the end of the October. Homer Hickam author of October Sky: A Memoir will be at IMSA on Oct. 24. Marvin Minisky, one of the fathers of Computer Science and co-founder of the Artificial Intelligence Laboratory at MIT was recently at IMSA. Bob Hernandez reported that Red Ribbon Week (Drug and Alcohol Awareness) starts 10/21. There is a poster contest for Safety Awareness Week and a Red Ribbon Dance. He also asked the parents to remind their students not to tailgate (letting students or parents in the door). Brenda Bazan is the new attendance clerk. To check on your student's attendance, Parents can ask the RC's for a list or email Bob Hernandez or Brenda Bazan.
- q Gretchen Stauber is the new coordinator of College Counseling. She said she wants to increase communication. She hopes to have a web site in 2-3 weeks that will have weekly updates to seniors including deadlines and information for current students, prospective students, and colleges. IMSA just finished hosting eleven mini college fairs. The colleges praised the IMSA students for being polite and prepared. Twenty-five percent of the students are applying early with deadlines being 11/1 or 11/15. Three quarters of the class applied to U of I. They will know by December. Gretchen reported that all juniors were required to take the PSAT and it is the only way to qualify for National Merit. The test results will be available in December. Call counseling to get a copy of the PSAT.

President's Report

Jana Fitting, PAC President, thanked the group for coming. She mentioned that March would be our annual meeting with election of new officers. By December the selection of new committee chairs and junior and senior regional reps will have been decided. The nominating committee is Cathy Barnes, Billie Zabinski and Jana. Jana provided blue papers that people can use to write questions or information. Jana will collect them at the end of the meeting. She also reminded all Regional Reps that they have a duty to be a committee member.

Vice President's Report

Fred Hines, Vice President, checked to see who had received the newsletter. To get a newsletter by email,

send Fred an email to get on the list. One parent requested that we use IMSA in the subject line so that parents won't delete it.

Treasurer's Report

Don Cooper presented the Treasurer's report. He uses the end of the month as a cut off date for his report. The Parent Day Barbeque broke even. The following recurring items came in under budget: Athletic Trainer by \$200, Music Awards by \$500, and Student Handbook Planner by \$1700. Don said that if any committee chairs want an accounting of their fund, he could forward the information to you.

Secretary's Report

Ann Carpenter thanked everyone that has turned in a phone tree. There are only a few that have not turned in. All phone trees that have been turned in were given to Eric McLaren and Bob Hernandez. Ann explained the new notebooks for Regional Reps and Alternates were available and asked that everyone sign the distribution sheet. The new notebooks contained the 2001-2002 PAC Meeting schedule, the PAC directory list, and a list of the Representative's region sorted by class, an IMSA Staff Alphabetical Directory, and a set of mailing labels. Mailing labels for large regions 7, 8, 9, are in the Senior Representative book. Alternate Regional Representatives do not have mailing labels in their books. The Regional Representatives that had notebooks passed on to them from the previous representatives were given envelopes with the new information in it. Committee Chairs and Executive Committee will receive their new notebooks in December.

Committee Reports

- q **Academic Committee:** Dr. Betty Kay presented the committee's report. She thanked IMSA administration for all of their hard work. Eric McLaren gave an update on the curriculum. For the first time there are 2 science courses covering earth and space. A new course in historical and structural geology is being offered. The first in the Master works Chaucer and The Canterbury Tales is being offered. IMSA hopes to roll out additional master works as senior electives. The review cycle for IMSA this year is science and math electives. Currently IMSA has been directed to freeze the budget so there is no money for this review. There will not be an Academic Committee meeting next month.
- q **College Academic Counseling Committee.** Barbara Decker gave a brief history of the committee and its goals and objectives. She applauded the board and administration for getting selecting Gretchen Stauber as the new co-coordinator of college counseling. Currently the biggest problem is the parent's web site. There will be a March meeting on preparation with a panel of experienced parents. There will be no meeting in November.
- q **Communications.** Fred Hines reported that he is still looking for volunteers for this committee. He needs a chairman. Direct any names of candidates to Fred.
- q **Fundraising.** Cheryl Widman introduced the new fundraising co-chair Matty Kang. Fundraising has held 2 on-line meetings and they will be meeting today after PAC. They have set some goals. The main one is to raise \$60 per student (\$36,000). They are planning a phone-a-thon and a golf outing. They are looking for more people to help. Cheryl still has community coupon books available.
- q **Student Life.** Penny Newton reported that the committee has gone over the goals and what issues they need to focus on for 2001-2002. Student Life needs a lot of volunteers. They need help staffing the Student Union Friday nights especially for Friday November 30 and December 7 and 14. Student Life also needs a volunteer for the Food Committee to meet with Arbor (this is one meeting per semester). Also needed is a Religious Coordinator that can help coordinate transportation to religious services for students. IMSA can't provide transportation. Penny also listed the expanded hours for the Union (open Mon. 10-3 and Thurs. 11:30-3). The pool hours are Mon-Thurs. 8:30-10pm and Sat.

6-7:30pm. The Fitness center is open Mon. 4-7pm, Tues. 3-7pm, Wed. 2-7pm, Thurs. 3-7pm, and Fri. 4-10pm. There is open gym on Mon. from 7-8:30pm and Tues-Thurs 7-9pm.

- q **Technology.** William Blanchard reported that the committee is getting organized online and learning about IMSA's computing infrastructure (need to understand how it is changing and where it is going). They are studying online messaging/collaboration software and planning a demonstration by IMSA staff at the December PAC meeting. William did a poll of the full PAC attendees about who now uses messenger products to communicate with their children. Some parents would be interested in a tutorial. William mentioned his concerns about Tracking Systems for both IMSA and the PAC related to needs/desires/price/merits/comments/etc. Cheryl Widman and William Blanchard believe it is important to write down the PAC policy or what are appropriate PAC expenses in support of IMSA. **William Blanchard presented Jim Gerry's report.** First, the streaming video trial of Minsky's Great Minds lecture went extremely well. The on-site video quality was outstanding. Second, they have just launched the second mini application of the large Uni. Database project, which is student surveys. They will be meeting with the Powerschool designers soon to provide scheduling requirements for the software development team. They are still working with IBM to reach an agreement on their assistance with the web strategy development (for the rebuilding of IMSA's web space.) Jim recently assisted John Thompson's class with the technology components of the Buffalo and elk field research project. They used Handsprings to collect data in the field. This application was a complete success. An unexpected outcome for the students was their learning how to program databases to collect the data on these devices. Jim has given thought to the PAC question about parent purchases. The residential hall printers were scheduled for replacement this year. Due to budget freezes, the purchases are on hold. But the printers should be able to service all needs this year. Jim would like help on two VCR's that have just broken down. He estimates replacements would be around \$250 each. Jim would like to have more digital video cameras too. Finally, the first part of the PC order is due in by the end of the month. At that time, the machines will be available for student loan. Nine machines have been requested to date. Student council will be selling network cables for IRN.

Old Business

Next month's meeting will be held down state on November 10 at U of I. The weekend starts on Friday, November 9 at a reception with alumni. At 8:00a.m Saturday there will be a Breakfast Buffet. There will be a financial aid speaker at the meeting and a speaker from the Honors Programs of U of I. For details contact Cheryl Widman.

Dr. Betty Kay asked if there were any questions on the Position Statements. She asked that we please review them. A question was raised regarding the language. There was a discussion on inflammatory wording. Cathy Null moved to table this until after the New Year. Carson Robinson seconded. Vote taken. Motion carried.

New Business

The Parents Association Campaign letter has been sent. It is the major solicitation for the year. It is a tax-exempt donation and you can divide your funds. There will be a Phone-a-thon as follow up. It is important the all parents respond. Donors want to know what percentage of the parents participate in the donations. Any donation amount will count.

Matty Kang spoke about the transportation issues. She was concerned about getting an IMSA student to an SAT site if they are assigned to a school other than IMSA. Bob Hernandez suggested that the student talk to the RC. He also said they should come to Student Life. There is a bulletin board posted near CAC. He said the student should contact Kathy Bonie for information.

Parent Forum

A research committee was formed to resolve the day and time of the PAC meetings. The committee is

Don Driscoll, Janelle Cornell, and Matty Kang. They are to have this resolved by March.

Announcements

Sat. Oct. 27, Alum College Fair at IMSA. Parents are invited. It is from 12-4pm. For information contact Mia Markey,

\$116 was in the 50/50. The winner was Therese Taff. She went home with \$58.

Adjournment

Jeri Hagiwara moved the meeting be adjourned. Eunice Marriott seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 12:10pm