

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES

April 26, 2003

President Jeri Hagiwara called the meeting to order at 12:30 p.m.

IMSA Administration

Principal Eric McLaren stated that:

- Congratulations to Daniel Gulotta, a senior this year, on his selection to the United States Physics Team. He is one of the top 24 physics students in the nation for the second year in a row. The students on the Team are from schools all over the United States and will travel to the University of Maryland-College Park from May 16 to May 26 for the annual U.S. Physics Team Training Camp. There, Dan will engage in nine days of intense studying, testing and problem solving. At the end of that training camp, five students will be selected for the "Traveling Team" which will attend the International Physics Olympiad in Taipei, Taiwan.
- On Wednesday during the annual IMSA Blood Drive, IMSA students and staff donated 66 units of blood.
- All parents are invited to attend Presentation Day on Wednesday April 30th from 8:30 to 11:40

Eric also reported that graduation for the 2004 class will be one week later than originally scheduled. Graduation is typically the Saturday after Memorial Day. To make the adjustment in the school calendar, the winter break for 2003-04 will be three weeks long rather than two weeks.

He also stated that IMSA will participate in TOPOFF on May 15th, which is a nationwide drill to test for responsiveness to various domestic or foreign attacks. The Chicago test will simulate a biochemical attack and IMSA would be the distribution site for pharmaceuticals in the event of such an attack. IMSA students and staff members would have first priority for the pharmaceuticals. IMSA is working with city, county and state officials in preparation for the May 15th event.

Eric thanked the PAC for its enthusiasm and participation over the past year, stating that it was among the best he's seen over the last sixteen years. He also distributed roses to each of the PAC members and certificates of service to the departing PAC members (Lilia Yao, Janis Fanning, Cathy Null, Andrea Ema, Virginia Hess, Jacki Poulsen, Mike Doran, and Navreet Kang). The roses were a token of appreciation from the 2002-03 PAC Committee to the PAC representatives and committee chairs.

He also stated that, despite the state budget cuts, this has been a successful year for fundraising due to PAC efforts. Eric noted that the focus for the money raised should be student leadership development, student inquiry and research and general student issues. Potential funding opportunities included hiring a half-time choir teacher; paying for student travel to attend workshops and/or present their work; athletic and cocurricular programs, etc. He invited parents to provide feedback on specific items that should be funded.

Eric also noted that the program evaluations this year were on the Science Program (inquiry and electives) and Mathematics Program. However, the formal report and recommendations have not yet been finalized.

Jim Gerry (IMSA Technology Administrator) urged parents to attend Presentation Day on Wednesday, March 30th. He compared it to attending an adult scientific seminar. Two examples that will be presented that day are (1) the use of PDAs to collect data on a recent Costa Rica trip, and (2) the success of Justin Doran and other students to upgrade the Notes program for students and alumni. The upgrading of this system has been attempted at least four times in the past without success.

Jim also reported that eleven computer servers were compromised in late March by unknown individual(s). Fortunately, the staff only lost 4 hours of service, but IMSA did have to completely turn off the IRN and Shell Services (route to Notes) for the students. The system has been partially returned to service but will not be fully rebuilt until the end of the summer. IRN was turned on April 23rd but on a limited basis (no gaming, remote desktop or FDP). Shell Services will likely be reinstalled on May 2 on a limited basis. IMSA will gradually return some additional functionality for IRN and Shell Services over time. The issue is what services will be allowed versus the risk those open services pose to the integrity of the system?

Student Council Report

Urvi Purohit reported that the Student Council had sponsored a Spring Fling and the first-pool party on April 25th. Approximately 50 students attended this initial pool party.

Multi-Cultural week was April 7th -11th and the Student Council sponsored an event every night for the first time. On the previous Friday (4/4), each dorm had multi-cultural movies running all night.

The students will be voting on the Student Council positions this upcoming week. The new president and officers will attend the next PAC meeting on May 10th.

Urvi also commented that the Student Council's joint meetings with Jeri and Eric have been very helpful over the last year. The recent meetings have focused on roadblocks, goals and successes.

President's Report

Jeri introduced next year's Executive Council to the PAC membership. She also introduced the proposed PAC budget for 2003-04 school year which increased from \$13,393.56 to \$15,000.00. The most significant change is increasing the Student Life budget from \$1,000 to \$3,000.

Jeri noted that 850 people will be attending the Senior Banquet at the Carlisle. She stated that the senior class will have the highest participation rate ever – 86% of the class.

Vice President's Report

Cathy Barnes introduced committee chairs and regional reps for next year.

- Student Life – Kay Landers and cochair Patrice Onyiego
- Parent Partners -- Felice Berlanga and Deb Dirks
- Friday Fest – Jim and Ruth Blasingame
- Food Committee – Gordon Stiefel
- CAC – Nancy Delich
- Academic -- Weiren Chou (who noted that he would like to add 2-3 additional sessions and encourage attendance)
- Technology – Pierre Maloka
- Communications – Jacki Poulsen
- Multi-Cultural (a new committed intended to encourage diversity within the PAC and the school) – Yaw Ofosu

Cathy noted that she will be seeking Navigation volunteers for Navigation weekends this summer.

Announcements

The next PAC meeting is at IMSA, 10 am on May 10th (not May 17th as previously announced). The present Executive Committee will meet at 8 a.m. and the new Executive Committee will meet at 8:30 a.m. There will also be a Student Life meeting at 9:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Don Driscoll
PAC Secretary