

Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®

igniting and nurturing creative, ethical, scientific minds that advance the human condition

IMSA Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

May 16, 2012

8:00 a.m.-12 noon

Meeting Minutes

Call to Order

Chairman Isoye called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Ms. Veal called the roll.

Members Present: Steven Isoye, Jack McEachern, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, Erin Roche and Marsha Rosner

Members Absent: Jay Budzik (arrived 8:10 a.m.), Sheila Griffin (arrived 8:30 a.m.), Mary Kalantzis, Jacklyn Naughton, Luis Núñez (arrived 8:20 a.m.), Christopher Koch, Geoffrey Obrzut, George Reid and James Rydland

Absent a quorum, Trustees agreed to go into closed session as a Committee of the Whole.

Closed Session Held

Reconvene in Open Session

The Board reconvened in open session at 9:15 a.m.

Roll Call

Ms. Veal called the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Steven Isoye, Jay Budzik, Sheila Griffin, Jack McEachern, Luis Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, Erin Roche, Marsha Rosner, and Jim Rydland

Members Absent: Mary Kalantzis, Jacklyn Naughton, Christopher Koch, Geoffrey Obrzut, George Reid (arrived 10:00 a.m.)

Liaisons Present: Stephanie Pace Marshall for IMSA Fund Board of Directors, Ron Kimberling and Stuart Bloom for IMSA Parents Association Council, Aadi Tolappa and Kevin Zhang for Student Council, Dan Gleason for Faculty and Melvin Bacani for IMSA Alumni Association

Chairman's Remarks

Recognition of Student and Staff Achievements

Chairman Isoye turned the floor over to Dr. McGee who recognized senior Adam Kalinich, one of 40 national finalists in the Intel Science Talent Search competition. He thanked the

following coaches and championship team members for their work and phenomenal accomplishments during the year: Coach Peter Clancy and the Science Bowl Team, finishing ninth in the nation; Coaches Steve Condie, Michael Keyton, Micah Fogel, Mark Kammrath, Noah Prince and the state championship ICTM State Math Team (contest statistics were distributed); Coach Noah Prince along with Assistant Coaches Kristin Strey and Brad Fischer and the state championship IHSA Scholastic Bowl Team. The coaches briefly reviewed competition highlights. Trustee Rosner questioned team member Megan Chen about the limited female representation. Ms. Chen noted that more girls are beginning to participate on teams.

ACTION ITEMS

Recognition of Dr. Leon M. Lederman

Chairman Isoye noted that a formal presentation would be made later in the meeting. A motion was made by Trustee McEachern and seconded by Trustee Roche to approve the resolution honoring Dr. Leon Lederman. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Griffin, McEachern, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Rosner and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

Minutes April 11, 2012 Board Meeting Closed Session

A motion was made by Trustee Roche and seconded by Trustee Núñez to approve the closed session minutes of April 11, 2012. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Griffin, McEachern, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Rosner and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

Reports of Liaisons

IMSA Fund Board

Dr. Stephanie Pace Marshall spoke of exceeding the goal for unrestricted donations, increasing participation levels, solicitation training, and recruiting and building Board capacity for the future. She said the Fund Board was “slowing down” fundraising for FUSION and Energy Center until it had greater capacity.

Alumni

Melvin Bacani cited transitioning the senior class into their new role as IMSA alumni, working on current alumni events, and alumni weekend on July 20 and 21 including the Alumni Awards and Recognition dinner and class reunions.

Faculty

Dr. Dan Gleason welcomed Dr. Diana Sharp, discussed developing/tracking measures of significant learning by students, and noted that a full report will be presented to the Board in September.

Parents

Outgoing PAC President Stu Bloom thanked the Board and staff. He introduced the new PAC President, Ron Kimberling. Mr. Kimberling reported that JuliAnn Geldner will serve as vice president and that parents are working with administration on sophomore placement testing. Chairman Isoye thanked Mr. Bloom for his work to increase parents' donations and welcomed Mr. Kimberling.

Student Council

Aadi Tolappa commented that 56 students participated in an ALS walk to support Dr. McLaren. He thanked the Board for being so generous and open with him and he introduced new Student Council President Kevin Zhang. Chairman Isoye thanked Mr. Tolappa for doing a great job and welcomed Mr. Zhang.

Report of the Treasurer

Mr. Furlong spoke of the likelihood that not all of IMSA's appropriations for this year will be spent, along with the possibility that next year's appropriations will be reduced. He commented on issues with budget management, centralizing some purchasing processes, training for budget managers, dealing with the procurement process and actions IMSA was prepared to take depending upon the amount of a budget reduction. Trustee Reid, executive director of IBHE, said the "buzz" in Springfield was that FY13 appropriations for state agencies might be reduced by the amount of their lapsed FY12 appropriations, thus he counseled to spend appropriately for actual needs as much as possible this spring.

Report of the President

REFLECTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

Dr. McGee commented on the search and extensive interview process for IMSA's Principal and Chief Academic Officer (44 applicants, 11 semi-finalists, 3 finalists). He introduced Dr. Diana Sharp, citing her endurance, experience, resourcefulness, depth of thinking and problem-solving. Dr. Sharp said she "felt the energy level and heart of the students," adding "it feels like I'm coming home."

Dr. McGee spoke of the success of the IMSA 25th Gala celebration and thanked Trustee Griffin and IMSA Fund Director Gregory Jones for co-chairing the event, along with Britta McKenna and Megan Plain, for organizing a memorable evening. He invited the Board to attend IMSA's graduation on June 2, noted that IMSA would host the IBHE meeting on June 5, and congratulated the Girls Soccer Team for winning the championship.

Ms. McKenna presented to Dr. McGee a fingerprint painting of 25th Anniversary thoughts by senior Madison Rogers '12.

Dr. McGee briefly reviewed the "bleak" situation in Springfield and IMSA's activities to address SB 3397 (procurement), pension reform, and budget reduction scenarios. He spoke of the potential impact on programs and personnel a budget cut would have, the need to make strategic decisions and the importance of presenting IMSA in a position of mission-driven strength even with fiscal challenges.

ACTION ITEMS

Employment of Principal and Chief Academic Officer

Dr. McGee recommended the employment of Dr. Diana Sharp as IMSA's Principal and Chief Academic Officer at an annual salary of \$139,000, effective July 1, 2012, through June 30, 2013.

A motion was made by Trustee Griffin and seconded by Trustee Roche to approve the employment of Dr. Sharp as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Griffin, McEachern, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche and Rosner. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

Consent Agenda

Dr. McGee pointed out that while the Board usually reemployed most staff and faculty for the next fiscal year in May, this item would be delayed to the July Board meeting due to FY13 budget uncertainties. Trustee Griffin asked about the impact on employment between July 1 - 17; Ms. Veal cited Dr. McGee's authority to temporarily employ under Board Policy.

A motion was made by Trustee McEachern and seconded by Trustee Roche to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Griffin, McEachern, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche and Rosner. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays. The following items were approved:

Minutes

April 11, 2012 Regular Board Meeting

Personnel Items

Resignations

Amanda P. Gray, Emily L. Todd, Collin R. Webster

Retirements

Thomas J. Brandenburg

New Staff

Roy Aldaba, Emlyn M. Bertsche, Donna J. Eichelkraut, Matthew S. Gabrielson, Christopher R. Mackey

Change of Status

Ishmael E. Bew

Part-time Hourly Staff

Admission

Dwan Prude

Athletic/Co-Curricular/Sponsor - Stipends

Reuel Abraham, Quintin Backstrom, Maricela Ballines, Jim Bernardini, William Bueschen, Jessica Ehmler, Ralph Flickinger, William Gentzler, Branson Lawrence, David Lundgren, Briana Mack, Dylan Mack, Caitlin McMahon, Emma Miller, Allison Miner, Elizabeth Navis, William Navis, Brad Snead, Salvador Tamayo

English - Stipends

Nicole Trackman, Margaret T. Cain, Tracy A. Townsend,

Fine Arts

Suzanne M. Crookshank, Catherine Hummel

IRC

Kirsten M. Day

Marketing and Communications

Sharon K. McMurray

Science

Joseph A. Traina

Student Life – Residence Life

Ishmael E. Bew, Curtis Boyd, Michael D. Juell, Nancy J. Walser

Policies

New

Bereavement Leave, Paid Sick Leave, Personal Leave, Vacation Benefit

Rescinded

Accumulated Sick Leave, Leave of Absence Administrators, Leave of Absence 12 Month Faculty and Supervisors, Leave of Absence 10 Month Faculty, Leave of Absence Residential Counselors, Leave of Absence 12 Month Support/Leadership, Leave of Absence for Support Staff and Accomplishment Reporting Policy AG.

Reaffirmed

Academic Freedom, Ban on Receipt of Gifts, Leave for Jury Duty, Pre-employment Polygraph, Records Accident, Staff Participation in Political Activities

Legal Services Contact Renewal for FY13

Lobbyist Contact Renewal for FY13

Academic Calendar 2012-2013 Corrected

Board Meeting Dates for FY13

Regular Meeting – Wednesday, July 18, 2012

Executive Committee – Tuesday, August 14, 2012

Student Transportation Services Contract

Information Items for Discussion

Family and Medical Leave Proposed Policy - (1st Reading)

Mary Spreitzer reviewed changes being proposed to current policy to align it with the law and IMSA practices. Second reading and voting will be scheduled for July.

e-Learning Pilots

Dr. McGee briefly reviewed the December e-Learning Design Charrette, vision statement, primary customers, and potential partners. He thanked Trustee Budzik for his assistance in developing “Quick Wins” or “Fast Fails” focused pilots.

Dr. McGee presented the first model – “starting and running a student research program (course for teachers) and student research for students” – reviewing target audiences, revenue model and start-up costs. He commented on a potential partnership with Northwestern University.

Trustees discussed a myriad of issues such as market analysis, branding, value to students and teachers, pricing, evaluation and professional development. Trustee Budzik said that since IMSA now has data that Student Inquiry and Research impacts majors and career choices, it strengthens the case that it is good to do this with others. He commented that evaluating the impact of SIR online is the point of the first two years of the pilot. Trustee Rosner cited some concerns she has about IMSA’s SIR program and said these need attention. She also wondered if the excitement and motivation of why you do authentic scientific inquiry would be missed by students in an online course.

Dr. McGee noted the likelihood of the new Science Framework being adopted which would result in the potential for an expanding market. Chairman Isoye said he believes this is the direction IMSA should be going: “STEM conferences are growing each year and if IMSA does not do this, someone else will.” Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius recommended being thoughtful about the desired impact before proceeding. Trustee Budzik noted it might be easier creating an engagement process on-line rather than having to take time to bus students to and from physical research sites.

Aadi Tolappa recapped what he heard including the need to evaluate outcomes of SIR internally and that perfection is not necessary but establishing the importance and worth of the IMSA brand is.

Tracy Miller briefly reviewed the second pilot – Summer Math@IMSA Personalized Learning Program. She said this was a good way to increase and tailor learning time for students who come from diverse backgrounds with varying entrance skills. She said the wait list number for the program is twice as many as have been accepted.

Dr. McGee briefly reviewed the third pilot – Scientific Inquires Biology (SI Bio) Mastery - which is ready to launch this summer for 50 students between sophomore and junior years who receive Cs in SI Bio. He said that once it is proven at IMSA, it can be marketed to other schools/districts for a fee. He said the modules were developed by IMSA faculty members Don Dosch and Sarah O’Leary-Driscoll. Trustees spoke of the importance of process and content. Chairman Isoye emphasized that a big part of IMSA’s Problem-Based Learning is about the process.

Dr. McGee requested and received the Board’s endorsement of the focused pilots for IMSA’s e-Learning initiative.

FEATURED AGENDA ITEMS

Data Reports: Student Inquiry and Research

In the interest of time, and given that the SIR Program Review written report is not available yet, Trustees and staff agreed to reschedule this agenda item.

Strategic Plan: Strategy 3

Michelle Kolar referenced the e-Learning pilots conversation as one action plan in Strategy 3. She said some progress on action plan 3.1 does not show up on the Strategic Plan dashboard because of difficulties documenting and storing advocacy activities. She noted that many IMSA faculty and staff need professional development in e-Learning and cited technology deficits and procurement as other challenges.

Don Porzio, President of the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics, commented on STEM Advocacy in Illinois and IMSA's involvement with ICTM and the Illinois P-20 Council, hosting educators from across the region to develop pilot assessments for the new Common Core in Mathematics. He pointed out this was highly successful and assessments were submitted to the Illinois State Board of Education to become a part of their system to be a resource for Illinois teachers. In addition, they will be added to the Shared Learning Collaborative (SLC) and the Learning Resource Metadata Initiative (LRMI).

Trustee McEachern asked "What worked?" Dr. Porzio said IMSA's emphasis on "practice standards" more than "content standards" was well received.

Tracy Miller cautioned against online learning "replicating a system that does not work." Trustees conversed about core competencies, work on common core standards, the importance of content and structural changes, disparities between what is taught at which grade level, and developing international benchmarks. Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius cited a work regarding influence in education where Tom Loveless predicts common core standards will not make a difference.

Presentation of Resolution to Dr. Leon Lederman

Chairman Isoye welcomed Dr. Lederman to the meeting and presented the following Board Resolution to him:

"WHEREAS, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy was established to offer a uniquely challenging education for students talented in mathematics and science and to stimulate further excellence in mathematics and science for all Illinois schools; and

"WHEREAS, IMSA has authored an inspiring story of leadership, achievement, impact and hope since opening in 1986; and

"WHEREAS, Dr. Leon M. Lederman, Nobel Laureate and IMSA's *Founding Father*, has given generously of his time, energy and talent to advance the Academy's mission as well as science and science education worldwide; and

“WHEREAS, as our Resident Scholar, Dr. Lederman launched the IMSA Great Minds Program® in 1998 to provide IMSA students and faculty, Illinois educators and students, and the public with opportunities to learn from, interact with, and be inspired by the “greatest minds” of our time; and

“WHEREAS, Dr. Lederman’s extraordinary achievements and expertise challenged, inspired and nurtured IMSA students to ask profound questions, take risks, embrace possibilities and exceed expectations;

“BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy joyfully acknowledges the unsurpassed dedication and contributions of Dr. Lederman; that we deeply appreciate his stellar body of work; and that we will forever be grateful for his extraordinary vision, purposeful leadership, indelible mark and inspiring legacy.

“Adopted by the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy’s Board of Trustees on May 16, 2012.”

Dr. Lederman thanked the Board. Chairman Isoye invited Trustees to attend naming and dedication of the Lederman Science Wing for Creative Inquiry.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Roche and seconded by Trustee Rosner to adjourn the meeting. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Griffin, McEachern, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche and Rosner. The motion passed by 8 ayes, 0 nays.

The meeting adjourned at 12:02 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven T. Isoye
Chairman

Catherine C. Veal
Secretary