

# Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®

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

## **IMSA Board of Trustees Regular Meeting**

**Minutes  
July 13, 2011**

### **Call to Order**

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Isoye at 8:15 a.m.

### **Roll Call**

Mrs. Veal called roll. A quorum was present.

**Members Present:** Steven Isoye, Samuel Dyson, Jack McEachern, Jacklyn Naughton, Luis Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius and Erin Roche

**Members Absent:** Jay Budzik, Sheila Griffin (arrived during closed session), Mary Kalantzis, Marsha Rosner, Christopher Koch, Geoffrey Obrzut, George Reid and Jim Rydland

### **Closed Session**

A motion was made by Trustee Núñez and seconded by Trustee McEachern to go into closed session to discuss closed session minutes from May 18, 2011, and employment, performance and compensation of specific employees.

### **Closed Session Held**

### **Reconvene in Open Session**

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

### **Roll Call**

Mrs. Veal called roll. A quorum was present.

**Members Present:** Steven Isoye, Samuel Dyson, Sheila Griffin, Jack McEachern, Jacklyn Naughton, Luis Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius and Erin Roche

**Members Absent:** Jay Budzik, Mary Kalantzis, Marsha Rosner, Christopher Koch, Geoffrey Obrzut, George Reid and Jim Rydland

**Liaisons and Representatives Present:** Aadi Tolappa for IMSA Student Council, Stuart Bloom for IMSA Parents Association Council, Stephanie Pace Marshall for IMSA Fund Board and Matthew Knisley for IMSA Alumni Association

### **Chairman's Remarks**

Chairman Isoye commented on the dedication of those involved in arranging the successful ALS Awareness Night event on June 24, noting it was a great program for the IMSA-Project A.L.S.™

partnership, and a wonderful tribute to Dr. McLaren and his family. He spoke of research on ALS and noted that the family and IMSA's event are featured on the Project A.L.S. website.

Chairman Isoye also stated that one of his goals this year is 100% Board of Trustees' participation by *December* in the IMSA Fund FY12 annual fund and asked Trustees to help him meet this goal.

### **Trustee Comments**

Trustee Naughton, who attended the June 24 event, called it a "wonderful, classy, hopeful" tribute to Dr. McLaren and complimented those who organized it.

### **ACTION ITEM**

#### **Minutes of May 18, 2011 Board Meeting Closed Session**

A motion was made by Trustee McEachern and seconded by Trustee Griffin to approve the minutes of the May 18, 2011 Board Meeting closed session as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Dyson, Griffin, McEachern, Naughton, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

### **Reports of Liaisons**

#### **Students**

Aadi Tolappa spoke of students' summer research at Northwestern University and The University of Chicago, tutoring in SEAMS, EXCEL and Kids Institute summer programs, and a trip to Ecuador to help build houses in rural communities.

#### **Parents**

Stuart Bloom reported slightly missing the goal of 50% parents' participation in the FY11 annual fund; however, the monetary goal of \$100,000 was exceeded, with several large contributions. He mentioned that around 30% of parents never check their students' grades on PowerSchool and spoke of continuing to look for ways to more fully engage parents in the team effort to ensure the success of their children. Ms. Veal pointed out that Mr. Bloom's leadership has been instrumental in parent giving to the IMSA Fund.

#### **IMSA Fund Board**

Stephanie Pace Marshall noted that Jarvis Yeh, a board member since 2005, had stepped down due to extensive travel commitments. She said that at its June 8 meeting the Fund Board reaffirmed its preliminary commitment to raise money for the IMSA Energy Center, IMSA FUSION, and Endowment over the next few years. She referenced a \$1M pledge to the Marshall innovation endowment, noting the Fund Board's strong commitment to reach the initial goal of \$5M in total endowment so that the investment income could be used to advance strategic innovation projects at IMSA.

#### **Alumni**

Matthew Knisley spoke of a May 21 Chicago Center for Green Technology event attended by students, staff and alumni, a ceremony welcoming graduating seniors as the newest members of the alumni association, re-launching "notesfiles forums," and plans for alumni weekend. He said he would start a Ph.D. program this fall at The University of Chicago and would not run for a second term as President. He thanked the Board for the opportunity to participate in its meetings.

## **Report of the Treasurer**

Representing Patrick Furlong, Controller Kimberly Corrao reviewed FY11 financial highlights as of June 30. She noted the approximately \$476,000 unspent and unencumbered appropriation due to the difficult procurement process and the State's rejection of large purchases in the spring and early summer. She commented briefly on flat levels with investments and a \$100,000 increase in use of grant funds. She noted that IMSA is flat funded for FY12, this time from the Educational Assistance Fund rather than the General Revenue Fund.

## **ACTION ITEM**

A motion was made by Trustee Roche and seconded by Trustee Núñez to approve the FY 12 budget as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Dyson, Griffin, McEachern, Naughton, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

### **Education Assistance Fund:**

<b>Expense Category</b>	<b>Final FY11 GRF Budget*</b>	<b>FY12 EAF Appropriation</b>	<b>Increase / (Decrease)</b>
Personal Services	\$ 12,136,113	\$ 12,328,530	\$ 192,417
Medicare	187,260	178,870	(8,390)
Contractual Services	4,443,368	4,297,000	(146,368)
Employee Travel	137,406	144,000	6,594
Commodities	365,434	381,000	15,566
Equipment	700,264	645,000	(55,264)
EDP Equipment	79,900		(13,900)
Telecommunications	117,725	129,000	11,275
Operation of Automotive Equipment	47,050	47,000	(50)
Awards	1,880		(1,880)
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 18,216,400</b>	<b>\$ 18,216,400</b>	<b>-</b>

### **Income Fund:**

<b>Expense Category</b>	<b>FY11 IF Appropriation</b>	<b>FY12 IF Appropriation</b>	<b>Increase / (Decrease)</b>
Personal Services	\$ 2,261,900	\$ 2,261,900	-
Medicare	45,900	45,900	-
Contractual Services	294,700	294,700	-
Employee Travel	126,700	126,700	-
Commodities	143,200	143,200	-
Equipment	65,000	65,000	-
Telecommunications	80,000	80,000	-
Operation of Automotive Equipment	5,000	5,000	-
Refunds	27,600	27,600	-
<b>Total Appropriation</b>	<b>\$ 3,050,000</b>	<b>\$ 3,050,000</b>	<b>-</b>

## **Report of the President**

### **Reflections and Observations**

Dr. McGee commented on Trustee Naughton's "dynamite" online learning presentation to the President's Management Council meeting and the bill signing by the Governor at Aurora University permitting AU and four school districts to establish a selective admission STEM partnership school for upper elementary and middle school students, with unique teacher preparation and professional development components. He noted that Ms. Veal and others provided support and said Dr. McLaren would represent IMSA at the ceremony. Ms. Veal recognized Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius for her advice on student selection criteria and Past Trustee Dr. Sherry Eagle, the "driving force" behind this initiative.

Dr. McGee thanked Roger Spayer for returning to IMSA for this meeting and for his service as a leader for Strategies 1 and 4. He said Mr. Spayer was leaving "quite a legacy" and thanked him for his "human touch." Dr. McGee also thanked Jane St. Pierre, retiring on August 31 as director of marketing and communications, citing her great leadership of the integrated marketing team, great customer service, and great planning and execution of priorities.

### **ACTION ITEMS**

#### **Consent Agenda**

Dr. McGee recommended approval of the Consent Agenda.

A motion was made by Trustee McEachern and seconded by Trustee Griffin to approve the Consent Agenda. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Dyson, Griffin, McEachern, Naughton, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

The following items were approved:

#### ***Minutes***

May 18, 2011 Regular Board Meeting

#### ***Personnel Items***

##### ***Resignations***

*Sandra Mazuera, Resident Counselor*

*Suzyn Price, Vice President for Advancement*

*Roger D. Spayer, Executive Director of Human Resources*

*Roberto Suarez, College and Academic Counselor*

*Timothy J. Warren, Resident Counselor*

##### ***Retirement***

*Jane St. Pierre, Director of Marketing and Communications*

##### ***Termination***

*Antonio Gutierrez Jr., Security Officer*

### **New Staff**

*Michelle Banks, Resident Counselor*  
*Tiffany J. Cole-Stitt, Resident Counselor*  
*Jeffrey De Chavez, Resident Counselor*  
*Roderick (Rod) Echols, Helpdesk Lead and System Administrator*  
*Jessica M. Ehmler, Resident Counselor*  
*James M. Farrell, Accounting Technician – Local Funds and Travel*  
*Steven Robert J. Rogg, Instructional Program Assistant for Student Inquiry and Research*  
*Jared D. Sanders, Resident Counselor*  
*Kevin T. Satler, Resident Counselor*  
*Kathleen M. Schmidt, Professional Development Specialist for Problem-Based Learning*  
*Alice Taylor, Custodian*  
*Collin Webster, Resident Counselor*  
*Alex White, Resident Counselor*

### **Change of Status**

*Jennifer M. Spuehler, from Director of Development to Executive Director of Development*  
*Chevonne M. Totten-Garner, from Admissions Counselor to Coordinator of Admissions*  
*Catherine C. Veal from Vice President - Strategy and Innovation to Vice President – Strategy and Advancement*  
*Purva Rushi from Program Director for Legislative Relations and Strategic Plan Research to Director of Legislative Relations and Strategic Planning*  
*Chris Kolar from Coordinator of Research and Evaluation to Director of Institutional Research*

### **Part-time Hourly Staff**

#### **Placement Testing and Preparation Stipends**

*Nicole M. Hoffman*                      *Ricky W. Marshall*  
*Patricia A. Morris*                      *Amanda J. Sutton*  
*Ruth Ann Tobey-Brown*

#### **Re-Invitation Committee - Stipends**

*Paula Altekruise*                      *Micah Fogel*  
*Branson Lawrence*                      *Deborah McGrath*  
*Erin Micklo*

#### **SEAMS Summer Program - Stipends**

*Ed Caster, Faculty*  
*Daniel Gilford, Residential Life Coordinator*  
*David Lundgren, Student Development Coordinator*  
*Michelle McGhee, Academic Support Coordinator*  
*Emily Todd, Resident Counselor*  
*Nicole Trackman, Faculty*  
*Anita Connors White, Faculty*  
*Ed Caster, Mathematics Faculty*  
*Daniel Gilford, Resident Life Coordinator*  
*David Lundgren, Student Development Coordinator*  
*Michelle McGhee, Academic Support Coordinator*  
*Julie Polz, Science Laboratory Assistant*  
*Emily Todd, Resident Counselor*

*Nicole Trackman, Social Sciences Faculty  
Anita Connors White, Science Faculty*

### **Business Office**

*Christine Nelson, Temporary Office Help*

### **Custodial/Maintenance - Summer**

<i>Daniel Bowling</i>	<i>Laisha Lishman</i>
<i>Bradley Brandenburg</i>	<i>Kaitlyn Olson</i>
<i>Bradley Hartman</i>	<i>Kayle Rieger</i>
<i>Shane Holl</i>	<i>Mandy Rieger</i>
<i>Jacob Landreth</i>	<i>Kaylee Wilson</i>

### **Excel Program - Stipends**

### **Planning and Training for Residential Coordinator/Resident Counselors/Faculty**

<i>Amanda Gray</i>	<i>Michael Hoehn</i>
<i>Lauren Lutz</i>	<i>Erin Micklo</i>
<i>Sarah O'Leary-Driscoll</i>	<i>Donald Porzio</i>
<i>Anita White</i>	

### **Residential Coordinator, Counselors, Resident Counselors and Faculty**

<i>David Evenson</i>	<i>Amanda Gray</i>
<i>Michael Hoehn</i>	<i>Lauren Lutz</i>
<i>Deborah McGrath</i>	<i>Erin Micklo</i>
<i>Sarah O'Leary-Driscoll</i>	<i>Donald Porzio</i>
<i>Anita C White</i>	

### **Fine Arts**

*Matthew T. Gruel, 2011-2012 Academic Year Piano Accompanist*

### **Golden Apple Scholars Summer Institutes**

<i>Paula Altekruise</i>	<i>Janett Cordoves (2)</i>
<i>Karen Lopez (2)</i>	<i>Sue Styer</i>
<i>Roberto Suarez</i>	<i>Pat Trafton (2)</i>
<i>Branson Lawrence</i>	

### **Human Resources**

*Karen L. Misura, Human Resources Information System (HRIS) Analyst Trainer*

### **IMSA FUSION**

**Design and prepare a hands-on, inquiry based, 45-minute workshop session on Tessellations; Facilitate one 45-minute session at IMSA FUSION Pedagogy, Orientation and Planning (POP) Workshop, June 9, 2011**

*Edward Caster, Wendy Habel, Jean Gotkowski, Linda Pader, Pamela Penney, Mia Eddy, Peter Redden*

**Design and prepare a hands-on, inquiry based, 45-minute workshop on Supporting Your FUSION Program; Facilitate one 45-minute session at IMSA FUSION**

**Pedagogy, Orientation and Planning (POP) Workshop on July 7, 2011** Wendy Habel,  
Jean Gotkowski, Linda Pader, Pamela Penney, Mia Eddy,  
Peter Redden

**Information Technology Services (ITS)**

**Summer Help**

*Mitchell Bieniek, Elizabeth Knowlton, Benjamin R. Taylor*

**Kids Institute (KI) Summer Programs**

*Meghan Carroll, SSI Summer Assistant*

*Kristin DeBellis, SSI Residential Counselor*

*Brendan Dosch, SSI Summer Assistant*

*Brian Flynn, SSI Summer Assistant*

*Michael Hoehn, Summer@IMSA Residential Counselor*

*Abigail Lawrence, SSI Summer Assistant*

*Branson S. Lawrence, Summer@IMSA Faculty-Energy-Curriculum*

*Caitlin McMahon, SSI Residential Coordinator*

*Christopher Schreiber, Summer@IMSA Residential Counselor*

*Sarah Thevenin, Summer@IMSA Residential Counselor*

*Emily Todd, Summer@IMSA Residential Counselor*

*Timothy Warren, Summer@IMSA Residential Counselor*

**Summer@IMSA Faculty-Curriculum**

*Jeonghye Hwang (2) Branson D. Lawrence (2)*

*Vince Matsko (2) Noah Prince (2)*

*Megan Schrementi (2) Branson S. Lawrence*

**President's Office – Board Operations**

*Robert L. Hawkins, Contingent Hearing Officer*

**Principal's Office - Stipends**

*Janice Krouse, Grading placement exams, updating data bases, letters and attending meetings*

*Jakendra Williams, Chaperoning IMSA students and participating in the NCSSTMST/Keystone Youth Policy Summit in Keystone, Colorado*

**PSA – Summer 2011 Curriculum 50-528 - Faculty Stipends**

*Sowmya Anjur Mark Carlson*

*Dave DeVol Don Dosch*

*Bill Gentzler Michael Hancock*

*Branson Lawrence David Lundgren*

*Mary Beth McCarthy Mary Myers*

*Sarah O'Leary-Driscoll Megan Schrementi*

*Clay Sewell Joe Traina*

**World Languages Proficiency Testing for In-Coming Sophomores**

*Brenda Crosby – French*

*Deborah Sanders – French*

**Problem Based Learning (PBL) Coaching Institute Planning Agreement**

*Ashley Badger, Amy Barnes, Nate Campbell, Joe Cranston, Carolina Salinas,  
Marge Olszewski*

**Strategy and Innovation**

*Alexander Drummond, Web Collaboration Network Specialist  
Christopher Wallis, Web Collaboration Network Specialist*

**Student Life – Residential Program**

**RC Office Coverage**

*Lani Gordon, Michael Hoehn, Lauren Lutz, Kurt Schliep, Chris Schreiber, Tim Warren*

***Re-Employment***

July 1, 2011 through June 30, 2012:

*Jill Mosshamer, Coordinator for Advancement Services*

***Separation Agreement***

Separation agreement with employee #6174

***Athletics and Co-curricular Activities Recommendations for 2011-2012***

***Policies – Revisions***

*Investment of Funds Policy*

*Communicable Disease*

*Criminal Background Investigation*

***Policies – Authority for President to Name “Designee(s)” for HR Policies***

***Modification to 2011-2012 Academic Calendar - Minor***

***Textbooks for 2011-2012***

***Prevailing Wage Resolution***

**IMSA Pay Range Compensation Structures for FY12**

Mr. Spayer reviewed the history of the Compensation and Classification Study by Carlson Dettmann Consulting and the Implementation Report acted on by the Board in January 2009. He recommended increasing the salary structure ranges for FY12 by 2.7% which is consistent with the 2.7% increase in the Consumer Price Index (CPI-U) for the Chicago-Gary-Kenosha areas over the last 12 months (May 2010 – May 2011) before seasonal adjustment to ensure the schedule continues to move and does not become stale. He emphasized this was not about individual salaries but the overall structure.

A motion was made by Trustee McEachern and seconded by Trustee Roche to approve a 2.7% increase in the compensation structures. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Dyson, Griffin, McEachern, Naughton, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

### **FY12 Compensation Adjustments**

Mr. Spayer spoke of the compensation program instituted to support the Academy's strategic goals, maintain market competitiveness and address internal equity while providing flexibility to meet evolving needs. He reviewed the salary structure compa-ratio noting that suggested variable increases range from 0 to 4.8% depending upon how close an individual is to the midpoint of their salary range. He said the average increase for FY12 would be approximately 2.8%, comparable to the 2.75% increase average reported by two of six community colleges in the first concentric circle (other colleges have not determined or reported salary increases for FY12 yet). Trustee McEachern asked about a performance component of compensation. Mr. Spayer replied that this was still under consideration but on hold pending the successful implementation of performance management and enhancement systems and tools.

Chairman Isoye noted that Dr. McGee had elected to have his FY12 salary frozen at the FY11 level due to the State of Illinois' financial crisis and to help IMSA continue to implement the new compensation plan despite the challenging fiscal times.

Dr. McGee recommended approval of the variable salary increases for FY12 for eligible faculty and staff retroactive to July 1, 2011, as presented.

A motion was made by Trustee Griffin and seconded by Trustee McEachern to approve the FY12 variable salary increases as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Dyson, Griffin, McEachern, Naughton, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

### **CADRE Faculty Contract Revisions**

Dr. McLaren briefed reviewed the contract changes made last year as a result of the 2009 Charlotte Danielson program review, including adopting her Framework for Teaching for all teachers in the initial two contracts. He said another recommendation of the program review was to strengthen the self-assessment process and the Professional Growth Plan in the Continuing Contract, with the following changes being recommended now:

- The Three Year Professional Growth Plan (PGP) must be linked to the team work plan. A portion of the Professional Growth Plan must align with and advance the team work plan.
- The faculty member must share the PGP with other members of the discipline team.
- The PGP will be posted in a repository accessible to all faculty members.
- The formal written self-assessment is due at the conclusion of the three-year cycle. Notes and artifacts of the PGP must be compiled and submitted to the Principal annually. Teachers on the continuing contract will still meet annually with the Principal.

Trustee Roche asked: "How will teaching and learning be improved as a result of these changes?" Dr. McLaren said he expects that greater faculty team learning and sharing of their questions and professional practice will serve each other and students well. He said he wants to know how each faculty member has served as an advocate for an individual student, adding that faculty shepherding of students is essential to IMSA's success.

Dr. McLaren said he and Mr. Spayer worked in FY10 on potential salary increases for faculty based on performance but tabled it for the time being. Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius advised that if IMSA

decides to add a performance component, “we need to be clear about what we want to incentivize,” noting that what IMSA values may not be same as what the State or other educational institutions value.

A motion was made by Trustee Núñez and seconded by Trustee McEachern to approve the CADRE Contract revisions as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Dyson, Griffin, McEachern, Naughton, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

### **Strategic Plan Proposed Revisions**

Ms. Veal reviewed the proposed revisions to the Strategic Plan resulting from the March and June Planning Team update sessions and the work in between by several action teams, including: a minor edit to the Mission Statement; a revised Strategy 4 with new action plans to document, package and share “the IMSA way;” and new, modified and dropped action plans for the other Strategies. Of special note is a new plan proposed by Strategy 5 leaders, and moved to Strategy 3, to “design IMSA’s online learning presence” which eventually could become key to expansion efforts.

Dr. McGee thanked Ms. Veal for facilitating the June session and doing “a tremendous job moving us ahead.” Dr. McGee recommended approval of the proposed revisions.

A motion was made by Trustee McEachern and seconded by Trustee Roche to approve the Strategic Plan revisions as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Dyson, Griffin, McEachern, Naughton, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

### **Student Transportation Services Contract**

Dr. McGee reported that IMSA’s Student Transportation Services contract supports two major programs, Student Inquiry and Research (SIR) and Co-Curricular Activities, and this is the first full year under the new, five-year, annually renewable contract with RichLee Vans, Inc., which went out to bid and became effective last January 1<sup>st</sup>. Since the FY11 portion of this contract did not exceed \$100,000, it did not require Board approval. However, the amount of the one-year contract period that began on July 1<sup>st</sup> is \$130,000. This amount represents a significant reduction in the cost of these transportation services to the Academy. Dr. McGee said Tim Klomhaus had worked very hard to get this contract approved under the new procurement rules.

A motion was made by Trustee Naughton and seconded by Trustee McEachern to approve the Transportation Services Contract as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Dyson, Griffin, McEachern, Naughton, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 8 ayes, 0 nays.

## **FEATURED AGENDA ITEMS**

### **Data Reporting: Admissions and Academics**

Dr. McGee recalled that following up on the Board Data Retreat, a plan was developed to present selected data as the second featured agenda item at each Board meeting to address one or more “parts” of the key question: *What data and evidence will provide the Board with appropriate and sufficient information to improve our policies and practices, demonstrate return on investment to*

*Illinois taxpayers and other funders, achieve our strategic objectives, and ensure our innovation and leadership for the future?*

Dr. McGee reviewed the admissions, attrition and enrollment data on seven tables and encouraged everyone to be thinking: "Should the data trigger changes in policy or practices?" The Board discussed various reasons why students do not graduate including academics, discipline and personal. In addition, it was pointed out that "No Child Left Behind" had adversely affected the preparation of some students coming to IMSA, and in recent years students have additional distractions such as Facebook. Barbara Miller reviewed interventions and programs in place to help students, such as personalization, group sessions, social work, counseling and meetings with coordinators.

Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius recommended additional data on the relationship between admissions scores (SAT, RCE, GPA) and performance at IMSA as well as trend attrition data by gender and ethnicity to examine how successful IMSA is with "our key goal to retain underrepresented students because the numbers are smaller."

Ms. Miller noted that multicultural faculty and staff did an "amazing job" this past year mentoring, advocating and working with multicultural students. She emphasized that if sophomore students are on academic probation, they have a much greater risk of not graduating so structures are put in place as early as possible to help. She said interventions are data driven, both quantitatively and qualitatively. Dr. McGee said Strategies 1 and 2 were driving more and better interventions. Dr. Marshall wondered about the relationship between academic probation and course-taking, informal learning, and self-selection into STEM careers. Dr. McLaren said he and the faculty needed to be clearer with students and parents about prerequisites and thresholds for enrolling in advanced courses.

Trustee Dyson said he was unclear how integrated interventions are changing the longitudinal trajectory. He noted that African American students are among the smaller groups in the sophomore class, but they had the highest percentage and highest number on academic probation. He said he would like to know what happened to those students, how many stayed and how many changed their trajectory, along with data from multiple interventions for at-risk students. Trustee Dyson noted that summer is a great time for additional work and catch-up, adding that he'd like to see students "get off the moving sidewalk."

Dr. McLaren said one policy question to be tackled was how to intervene with C/C- students so they don't continue on academic probation, forever struggling. The Board discussed the possibilities of summer classes for rising juniors and seniors as well as blended learning including online components.

Mr. Bloom complimented Ms. Miller and the faculty and staff, noting how his daughter had benefitted.

### **Strategic Plan: Strategy 5**

Jim Gerry reviewed work on Strategy 5 – *We will develop innovation and entrepreneurial talent and capacity* – which he leads with Dr. McLaren and Branson Lawrence. He noted the successful operationalization of all the action plans and the Planning Team's and Board's approval of two new ones for FY12. He invited Board feedback on how the IMSA educational laboratory should do innovation and entrepreneurship – inside formal systems and/or outside formal systems? focus on

Illinois and/or expand beyond? etc. Joining Mr. Gerry were IMSA students Rahul Maheshwari, Mitch Bieniek and Chris Wallis. Mr. Gerry referenced the video (<http://vimeo.com/25779744> Password: strategy5) noting that CoolHub.IMSA had moved into Beta release with about 100 projects (mostly STEM) and received additional funding from the Tellabs Foundation for two years. Trustee McEachern pointed out that the video was fascinating and recommended that innovation and entrepreneurship be part of everything and expanded at least through Illinois in the beginning. Trustee Núñez said that IMSA was not a “typical population” and should have a higher percentage of innovators and early adopters than most other populations would have (ref: the Rogers diffusion). He said there is no protocol for innovation; rather, it’s the environment and whatever’s generated should be for the world, not just the classroom. “The sky’s the limit; run the horses wild,” he said.

Mr. Bieniek pointed out that several projects he’s involved in would not be possible without CoolHub (SIR sustainable energy, robotics and radio club). Mr. Maheshwari cited his United Nations of Youth project with various legislators and students from other countries, spurred by seeing Waiting for Superman and made possible by CoolHub. He said CoolHub inspires creativity and sustains it. Mr. Wallis noted that in CoolHub, members are and need to be ok with failure; there is a need to develop that type of environment, learn from failure and move on. Aadi Tolappa said that CoolHub is detached from the central curriculum where learning happens in classrooms, so there is no room to grade or put a number on it. He said the challenge is how to effectively grade a person’s participation when there is no guarantee of results and how to bring creativity, inspiration and performance together.

The Board discussed formal and informal classes, collaboration, innovation, research and creativity. Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius mentioned that innovation is a process and statics regarding how many students are doing something does not tell the whole story. Trustee Griffin noted a person can be creative, cannot always transfer this into the real world.

Trustee Dyson spoke of a PBS documentary, *New Learners for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century*, where teaching problem solving is present with a problem space. He wondered if CoolHub offered a “personalized problem space” that invited students in. He asked if students who were struggling academically were invited into a problem space.

Branson Lawrence spoke of an engineering class that he and Mr. Gerry teach, where students work with TALENT problems and need to come up with a prototype by the end of the semester; it has a formal structure but it only involves 40 students and it competes with SIR. Dr. Marshall cited creating conditions by design that make certain types of thinking more likely. Acknowledging that CoolHub is in its infancy, she said it is not clear yet what is learned in this space and what will be captured through projects and shared to promote transformation of STEM teaching and learning. Mr. Gerry wondered if personalized learning might enable a student to take a year off to do something very innovative and then return to IMSA to complete graduation requirements, or complete requirements in other ways.

Trustees thanked all the presenters for their leadership and accomplishments

## **INFORMATION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS**

### ***Financial Forecasting Tool***

Dr. McGee said that the forecasting tool was part of his goals and deliverables and was used this year to show what the impact would look like if IMSA’s budget had been reduced as the Senate

initially proposed. For example, a one year deficit of \$1 million becomes a \$10 million deficit in 10 years resulting in an 80% reduction of administrative staff. He acknowledged that reserves in the Local Fund and other resources could be used for short-term gaps, but they would not be sustainable. Trustee Núñez said he was confused about the use of the tool, thinking this was more to look at a strategic long-term view, that there were too many assumptions about specifics such as an 80% reduction 10 years out. Dr. McGee said the tool was both for strategic and tactical analysis and planning, with sustainability the primary goal. Ms. Corrao pointed out if IMSA leaders make assumptions of level funding in State appropriations and have goals that require more financial resources, other funding sources become more essential.

### ***IMSA25 Visual Identity and Brand Story***

Jennifer Spuehler gave a brief overview of work to date regarding IMSA's 25<sup>th</sup> anniversary year, July 1, 2011 - June 30, 2012. She spoke of working with consultants Fleishman Hillard to develop a brand story document and logo, meeting with constituents and IMSA 25 committee members to develop plans, and launching an IMSA25 website, [www.imsa25.com](http://www.imsa25.com), to promote news and activities and highlight the IMSA Fund's priorities for its fundraising initiative over the next several years: IMSA FUSION, Energy Center and Endowment.

Ms. Spuehler briefly previewed several special events. With regard to the spring gala, Ms. Veal said dates in Chicago had been checked by Laurie Sutherland for competing events; Ms. Veal asked Trustees to check their calendars for April 13, 14 and 20 and let her know if there were any significant conflicts. Trustee Griffin said she would like to volunteer to help with the gala.

### **Adjournment**

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

The meeting adjourned at 12:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven T. Isoye  
Chairman

Catherine C. Veal  
Secretary