

Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®

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

IMSA Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

November 17, 2010

8:45 a.m.-12 noon

Horwitz Conference Room

8:45-9:30 a.m. – closed session

9:30 a.m.-12 noon – open session

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Isoye at 8:47 a.m.

Members Present: Steven Isoye, Jack McEachern, Jacklyn Naughton, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius

Members Absent: Jay Budzik, Samuel Dyson, Sheila Griffin, Mary Kalantzis, Luis Núñez, Erin Roche, Marsha Rosner, Christopher Koch, Geoffrey Obrzut, Jim Rydland and Don Sevener

Closed Session

Absent a quorum, Trustees agreed to go into closed session to discuss closed session minutes, a matter relating to an individual student, and employment and performance of specific employees.

Closed Session Held

Reconvene in Open Session

The Board reconvened in open session at 9:40 a.m.

Roll Call

Ms. Veal called roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Steven Isoye, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, Sam Dyson, Jack McEachern, Jacklyn Naughton, Marsha Rosner, Jim Rydland, and intermittently via teleconference Jay Budzik, Sheila Griffin and Erin Roche

Members Absent: Mary Kalantzis, Luis Núñez, Christopher Koch, Geoffrey Obrzut and Don Sevener

Liaisons and Representatives Present: Stephanie Pace Marshall for the IMSA Fund Board, Dan Gleason for IMSA Faculty, Shawon Jackson for IMSA Student Council, Stuart Bloom for IMSA Parents Association Council, and Matthew Knisley for IMSA Alumni Association

Liaisons and Representatives Absent: Candace Mueller for Don Sevener, Brian Durham for Geoffrey Obrzut, and Joyce Krumtinger for Christopher Koch

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Isoye welcomed Mr. Gleason, who is replacing Diane Hinterlong, as the new IMSA faculty liaison to the Board. He noted that Dr. Gleason teaches English and is a co-leader for Strategy 4. He also congratulated Trustee Naughton on being awarded "October Scientist of the Month" by the Association for Women in Science. Chairman Isoye recognized Ms. Naughton's excellent reputation and dedication as a science teacher at Niles North High School where she has encouraged students to engage in research for the last 20 years.

The Chairman noted the videos that were provided in advance for the Strategy 2 deep dive and the Program Reviews snapshot, emphasizing that these were prepared to enable more time for discussion during the meeting.

ACTION ITEM

Minutes of September 15, 2010, Board Meeting Closed Session

A motion was made by Trustee McEachern and seconded by Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius to approve the minutes of the September 15, 2010, Board Meeting closed session as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Dyson, McEachern, Naughton, Olszewski-Kubilius and Rosner. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Reports of Liaisons

Dr. Gleason commented on the faculty's TIME committee progress to address perceptions of overburdened and overly tired students, especially sophomores, along with possible remedies including changes to the daily schedule (Strategy 1). He reported that IMSA will host its second annual Multi-county Professional Development Day on February 25, 2011 (advances Strategies 3, 4 and 5) and recognized Susan Bisinger in Professional Field Services who is organizing the event.

Mr. Knisley reported that the new IMSA Alumni Association web site was launched in early October with 250-300 alumni re-registering. He noted that the first College, Careers, Choices forum would be held that evening with a focus on engineering and architecture. He added that 35 alumni had volunteered to lead Intersession in January.

Mr. Jackson reviewed that students were drafting an Honors Statement to be presented to the Board of Trustees in 2011, submitting Intersession requests, and participating in multicultural events. He said seven students were selected as Regional Semi-finalists for the Siemens Competition in Math, Science and Technology; one student was also selected as a Regional Finalist and based on their exemplary research projects, three students were selected to present their findings at a science fair in Kyoto, Japan all in support of Strategy 4.

Mr. Bloom reported that a Parents Association Council ad hoc committee met with Dr. Hernandez and Dr. McLaren to review Strategies 1 and 2 and discuss ways parents could help advance these. He reported that contributions to the IMSA Fund were around 27% participation with slightly more than \$47,000 raised towards the goals of 50% and \$100,000.

Dr. Marshall discussed aligning the Board of Trustees and the Fund Board's strategic work and communication, engaging the Fund Board in strategic problem-solving and decision-

making that requires financial resources and creating a culture of inquiry and exchange between both Boards and the administration. She cited several recent examples of progress in this regard. Dr. Marshall previewed the Fund Board Retreat in February and announced that Jordan Koss, IMSA '89, would join the Fund Board. She reviewed both Boards' participation rates and actual contributions for FY11. She also pointed out that Julie Christman is proactively looking for grants, with \$109,000 received thus far.

Chairman Isoye reiterated the Board of Trustees' 100% participation goal and said he would send a reminder to those who had not made their gift yet.

Report of the Treasurer

Mr. Furlong referenced his Financial Highlights memo noting two things: 1) Because IMSA was given a lump sum appropriation, there is flexibility to move dollars between categories, and 2) Investments are flat, the Income Fund is one of two funds into which fees are deposited, and all revenues would be spent this year. He stressed the need to do this because of level state funding. Trustee Rydland asked about delayed State payments. Mr. Furlong said that Sodexo had not been paid this year and about \$800,000 was still owed to the company from last year. He added that IMSA was being charged for late payments, at \$85,000 with about seven weeks remaining.

Report of the President

REFLECTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

Dr. McGee noted a *Northwest Herald* article, "High Expectations: Students Experience Math, Science in Intense Learning Atmosphere," on inquiry-based learning featuring students Ty Bottorff, Ruchi Aggarwal, Rahul Maheshwariis and him. He said several IMSA faculty and staff presented at the National Association of Gifted Children Conference during which Dr. Paula Olszewski-Kubilius was recognized. He thanked the J. P. Morgan Chase Foundation for their \$30,000 grant of \$30,000 for Professional Services' *Science+Math=Teaching for Success* program in Chicago Area 15 Public Schools, complimented two IMSA students who testified to at the Illinois State Board of Education hearing regarding the importance of academic learning and IMSA FUSION, and recommended seeing the movie *Waiting for Superman*.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda

Dr. McGee recommended approval of the Consent Agenda as presented. A motion was made by Trustee Naughton and seconded by Trustee McEachern to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Olszewski-Kubilius, Dyson, McEachern, Naughton, Rosner and Griffin via teleconference. The motion passed by a vote of 7 ayes, 0 nays.

The following items were approved:

Minutes - Regular Board Meeting, September 15, 2010

Personnel Items:

Resignations

*Jeffrey Grant, Custodian
Ignacio Rojas, Jr., Security Officer*

New Staff

*Byron K. Bowling, Custodian
Jonathan J. Gray, Part-time, As Needed Security Officer
Steven R. Hartman, Maintenance Mechanic
Kurt C. Schliep, Resident Counselor*

Part-time Staff

Other Personnel – part-time employees, hired within the budgetary allocations for part-time, temporary services

a. Admission – Stipends

*Brenda Bazan, PROMISE Transportation Facilitator
Tracy Townsend, PROMISE Facilitator*

b. Athletic/Co-Curricular/Sponsor – Stipends

*Curtis Boyd, Rebecca M. Hallenbeck, Gwen M. Isola, Scorer/Timer,
James A. Mueller, Event Supervisor*

Schwartzwalder Classic Girls Volleyball Tournament

*Kimberly Corrao, Scorer
Richard Johnson, Scorer
James Linden, Supervision
Lauren Lutz, Scorer
Quinn Ryan, Supervision
Glenn Schwartzwalder, Scorer
Brenda Sumbry, Tickets
Jamie L. Tweedle, Supervision*

Athletic Stipends

*James Bernardini, Head Coach – Girls Tennis
William Bueschen, Assistant Coach – Boys Soccer
Linsey Crowninshield, Head Coach – Girls Volleyball
William Gentzler, Assistant Coach – Boys Soccer
Daniel Gilford, Assistant Coach – Girls Tennis
Bart Gregersen, Assistant Coach – Coed Cross Country
Michael Keyton, Head Coach – Coed Golf
Adam Kotlarczyk, Assistant Coach – Coed Golf
Dana Lamont, Assistant Coach – Girls Tennis
Daidra Marano, Head Coach – Girls Swimming/Diving
Caitlin McMahon, Assistant Coach – Girls Volleyball
Allison Miner, Assistant Coach – Girls Volleyball*

Vicki Morrow, Assistant Coach – Girls Swimming/Diving
James Mueller, Head Coach – Boys Soccer
Kevin Satler, Assistant Coach – Girls Swimming/Diving
Elizabeth Navis, Assistant Coach – Coed Cross Country
Will Navis, Head Coach – Coed Cross Country
Timothy J. Warren, Assistant Coach – Coed Cross Country

Co-Curricular/Sponsor – Stipends

Sonja Birthisel, Sponsor – Drama Club
Curtis Boyd, Sponsor – Junior Statesman of America
Vicki Burgholzer, Sponsor – Science Olympiad
Margaret Cain, Sponsor – Acronym
Steve Condie, Sponsor – Math Team
Peter Dong, Sponsor – Speech Team
Micah Fogel, Sponsor – Math Team
Robert Hernandez, Sponsor – Senior Class Club
Michael Hoehn, Sponsor – Science Olympiad
Minerva Juarez, Sponsor – Senior Class Club
Michael Juell, Sponsor – Model UN
Mark Kammrath, Sponsor – Math Team
Michael Keyton, Sponsor – Math Team
Dottie Krett, Sponsor – Junior Class Club
Janice Krouse, Sponsor – Mu Alpha Theta
Maria Magana, Sponsor – Hadron
Andrea Mason, .5 Sponsor – Model UN
Mary Beth McCarthy, Sponsor – Pep Band
Mary Beth McCarthy, Sponsor – Solo/Ensemble Contest
Mary Beth McCarthy, Sponsor – Strolling Strings
Michelle McGhee, Sponsor – Student Council
Keith McIntosh, Sponsor – Key Club
Keith McIntosh, Sponsor – Student Council
Kerby Mickelson, Sponsor – Sophomore Class Club
Jill Mosshamer, Sponsor – Future Problem Solving Bowl
Namrata Pandya, Sponsor – American Computer Science League
Pat Patankar, Sponsor – American Computer Science League
Don Porzio, Sponsor – Chess Team
Noah Prince, Sponsor – Math Team
Noah Prince, Sponsor – Scholastic Bowl
Judith Scheppler, Sponsor – Hadron
Judith Scheppler, Sponsor – Yearbook
Michael Sloan, Sponsor – Performing Arts Club
Jennifer Spuehler, Sponsor – Speech Team
Richard Stalmack, .5 Sponsor – Mu Alpha Theta
Sarah Thevenin, Sponsor – Literary Magazine
Emily Todd, Sponsor – Drama Club
Ray Urbanski, Sponsor – Science Olympiad
Sarah Wiggins, Sponsor – Madrigals
Sarah Wiggins, Sponsor – Solo Ensemble Contest
Sarah Wiggins, Sponsor – Sound F/X

IMSA-Abbott Fund CyberQuiz 4Kids - Stipends

*Micah Fogel, Problem Development & Technical Assistant
Margaret Hernandez, Coordinator
Vince Matsko, Problem Development Support*

c. College/Academic Counseling – Stipends

Diane M. Stegmeyer, SAT/ACT Testing Coordinator

PSAT Testing at IMSA on October 13, 2010

*Curtis M. Boyd, Kristen DeBellis, Kerby L. Mickelson and Jakendra Williams, Proctors
Tarra M. Cosgrove, 100% Extended Time Reader
Caitlin A. McMahon and Susan Wrona, Reader*

d. Fine Arts – Stipend

Amanda P. Gray, Piano Accompanist

e. Information Resource Center (IRC) – Stipends

IRC Circulation Assistant/Evening Study Supervisor, August 16, 2010 – June 30, 2011, (no more than 6 hours per week)

Sonja K. Birthisel, Karen Gholson, Tamara Lea Larson, and Timothy J. Warren

f. Principal's Office

2010-2011 Academic Year (First Semester) – English Faculty, Overload Stipends

Margaret Cain, Daniel W. Gleason and Erin C. Micklo

g. Student Leadership Development – Student Life – Residential Program

RC Office Coverage, September 1, 2010 – May 31, 2010, 13.50 per hour

*Ishmael Bew, Sonja Birthisel, Corey Dorsey, Sandra Mazuera, Samuel Pettigrew,
Quinn Ryan and Emily Todd*

h. Wellness – Stipends

*Daniel Hernandez, Program Assistant
James Linden, Fitness Center Evening Supervisor
Anne Victory, Pool Supervisor*

2011-2012 Academic Calendar

Policy Revisions - Minor

- Admissions - IMSA FUSION Policy
- Public Use of IMSA Facilities Policy

FEATURED AGENDA ITEMS

Deep Dive: Strategic Plan – Strategy 2

Strategy 2 leaders Dr. McLaren, Ms. Hinterlong and Dr. Hernandez reviewed their team's progress to date on four themes:

- 1) Core
- 2) Beyond the Core
- 3) Personalized Learning Plans (Advisory system to support plan) and
- 4) Senior year experience

Three questions were proposed to Trustees:

- I. Should students be given credit for non-IMSA learning experiences? (this would require a policy change)

The Board discussed enhancing the core, beyond the core and evaluating external courses to allow credits for external work. Dr. McLaren noted the relationship with North Central College and the Lederman Scholars, indicating that IMSA students were not interested due to the focus on the humanities. He pointed out that the more significant issues were in math where students take extra courses externally and get placement for them, but no credit. Trustees discussed substituting recognition for credit and pointed out many items related to this. For example, many universities have summer courses or on-line learning where students can earn college credits, but questions remain on how to evaluate these and apply credits. Several recommended that IMSA's priority be on exploring credit for the types of learning experiences that are aligned with "the IMSA way."

- II. Should every student have an advisor?

Trustees and staff discussed differences in "advisor" and "mentor" and how each might be helpful to students and to universities in recognizing and interpreting students' work. Dr. McLaren cited the importance of clear communication with parents, and Mr. Jackson emphasized the importance of students being able to seek assistance from multiple people including College and Academic Counselors and Resident Counselors. Chairman Isoye noted that some students need a lot of guidance and others do not.

- III. What kind of things do we want to see demonstrated from the students before they leave that are meaningful and manageable? Are we willing to go beyond the policy?

Several Trustees voiced their interest in credit for selected research experiences and other opportunities for students to create new knowledge and make fundamental connections not made before.

Chairman Isoye thanked the team its work and the advance video, <http://vimeo.com/16716210>
Password: Strat2

Snapshot: History/ Social Studies Review – The team and half of the Board relocated to the AC Pit for this discussion at 11:10 am.

Trustees and others then divided into two groups for the Program Review Snapshots.

Snapshot: English Program Review

Dr. Michael Hancock highlighted a new emphasis on common assessment criteria and interest in a longitudinal survey on college preparedness. Margaret “Peg” Cain said her primary indicator of success is if her students become “powerful, persuasive writers.” She said she sees significant changes from the sophomore year to the senior year. Dr. Hancock spoke about the “writing boot camp” and Literary Expectations 1 and 2 revisions and outcomes. Dr. Gleason highlighted: 1) diagnostic writing, 2) formative pieces basics and 3) synthetic paper and complexity of source materials. Dr. Hancock said he and his colleagues were discussing exchanging portfolios and grading each other’s papers noting that they are “more collaborative than ever before.”

The faculty discussed the importance of student presentations. Trustee Naughton inquired about electronic portfolios such as video tapes to view students’ growth. Dr. Hancock responded that sophomore students were advised at the beginning of the year to retain what they had written. Ms. Cain said that alumni feedback indicates that as students they were challenged to meet high standards.

Trustee Dyson encouraged the English team to articulate “you’ll know it when you see it” so that others in the profession can benefit. He also wondered about the value of the program review process for students who struggled. Trustee Budzik expressed interest in data on student engagement. Ms. Cain commented that in the last three semesters, students choose from electives and if an elective outlived its usefulness, it was retired. Dr. Hancock said course surveys were a rich source of information on student engagement in the core.

Snapshot: History/Social Studies Program Review

Dr. Christian Nokkentved and Dr. Rob Kiely said this team is characterized by “strong” personalities and “brilliant” people who recognize that they have autonomy within their classrooms, but still try to adhere to the reviewers’ comments.

Trustees McEachern and Rosner said they were uncomfortable with some of the reviewers’ comments, interpreting them as wanting to “shove IMSA students into a mold.” Trustee Rosner encouraged the History and Social Science Team to “sell” what it does, not “argue” what it does.

Mr. Knisley said that his classes “got him thinking” when he was a student. He said the team teaches students to read critically and recognize biases.

Chairman Isoye spoke to the challenge of finding the middle ground between forcing people into a mold and permitting unbounded autonomy. Trustee McEachern said he thought the reviews missed the Academy’s emphasis on ethical leadership development.

Trustee Rosner complimented the team for going to primary sources. She encouraged the faculty to focus on quantifying evidence of success.

The link to the History/Social Students advance video follows: <http://vimeo.com/16715864>
Password: EnglishHSS

INFORMATION ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Deloitte Consulting Project on Expansion Planning

Dr. McGee reported that both he and Ms. Veal continued to follow up with Mr. DiMarzio but that Deloitte had not yet named a project manager, consequently this item would be deferred to January.

Preview of Board "Data Retreat" Jan. 21-22, 2011

Dr. McGee previewed the retreat with a draft matrix on Student Inquiry and Research questions and SIR data reports. Trustees provided feedback, and Dr. McGee shared a note he had received from Trustee Kalantzis: "Data is interesting regarding demographics, participation and attrition, but we really need to also know something substantive about student performance across fields of study and perhaps even pathways if that data is collected."

Ms. Veal recalled that the Executive Committee had requested that questions behind the data be named. Dr. McLaren addressed the importance of staff knowing the Board's questions.

Trustee Budzik recommended comparison data if there were peer institutions. Trustee Dyson expressed interest in data on "struggling" populations. Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius pointed out several issues with the format of the data reports and encouraged a second look.

Dr. McGee thanked Board members for their feedback and said he and staff looked forward to the data retreat.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Rosner and seconded by Trustee McEachern to adjourn the meeting. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Olszewski-Kubilius, Dyson, McEachern, Naughton, and Rosner. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays.

The meeting adjourned at 12:05 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven T. Isoye
Chairman, Board of Trustees

Catherine C. Veal
Secretary