

**MINUTES OF THE FEBRUARY 2000 MEETING OF THE
1999-2000 IMSA PARENTS ASSOCIATION**

Bradley University
Peoria, Illinois
February 19, 2000

I. Roll Call

Quorum not present

II. Welcome

President Lorelei Riddle welcomed everyone to the meeting and extended a big thank you to the representatives from Bradley University: Dr. Richard Johnson, Dean of the School of Engineering and Technology and Mr. Bob Podlasek, Assistant Dean. It was also noted that Mr. Podlasek has been a past president of the IMSA Parents Association.

III. IMSA Administration Reports

Eric McLaren, Principal:

A. Eric reported that a mailing regarding graduation will be mailed to all senior parents next week.

B. The IMSA budget has been endorsed by the Governor with an additional \$400,000 added to the budget for the purpose of a math, science, and arts partnership with the country of Israel. The additional funds were added without the knowledge of IMSA and the details of this partnership continue to be defined.

C. Eric announced an external evaluation and program reviews involving certain programs at IMSA: History and Social Sciences, English, and Mentorship. Dr. Corrigan will be leading this process. Parents are invited to send comments, suggestions, etc. to Eric if you have thoughts regarding these areas of the curriculum.

D. A draft calendar for the school year 2000-2001 will be posted on the web.

IV. Officer Reports

A. President Lorelei Riddle:

1. Lorelei announced that herself and Dave Kinney will be attending the NCSSSMST (National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Math, Science, and Technology) on March 2,3 & 4 hosted by IMSA.

2. The nominating committee will be slating the PAC Officers for next year, and if anyone is interested, please contact Lorelei.

3. A big thanks went to Dennis Delfert , once again, for sending out a terrific newsletter. All Committee Chairpersons are asked to submit an article for each newsletter giving a committee report.

B. Dennis Delfert, Vice President; absent

C. Carol Berger, Secretary, no report

D. Dave Kinney, Treasurer ([see financial report](#)). Dave announced the Phone-A-Thon raised \$32,000.00 and the projected authorized expenditures totals \$45,000.00. We have sufficient carry over funds for the additional expenditures. Each year the recurring items total approximately \$25,000.00.

V. Committee Reports:

A. Academic Committee; Chairwoman Mae Lynn Morley (this month's committee meeting will take place after the general meeting). Last month's committee meeting included a discussion of the following items:

1. A Standards-Based Learning Assessment, a measure of student achievement, will take place under the direction of Dr. Dagenais who teaches calculus based physics.
2. Gateway Assessment - a diagnostic assessment; can be used to determine if a student could advance to the next level and/or used as a placement test.
3. Rhubics - a common bases of knowledge in a particular subject matter.
4. A new science curriculum is being developed that will include a pre & post testing to determine a benchmark as compared with students internationally and nationally. If a frequent lack of knowledge occurs among IMSA students in a particular area as compared to other high school science students, then the curriculum will be reviewed. The new science curriculum will include common courses for sophomores which will be entitled Scientific Inquiry.
5. Next month's topic for the Academic Committee will be teacher evaluation. All are welcome.

B. College and Academic Counseling ; Chairwoman Gail Peck

1. Gail's email address is Swim7@excite.com; Please contact her if you can help out at College Fair to be held April 29 . This is an event sponsored by the Parents Association, so everyone's help is needed.
2. There is a web page - <http://www.ecollegebid.org> - for colleges and universities who have not filled their quota by May 1 and are interested

accepting additional students and becoming price competitive. This is a new concept and parents who are interested with perhaps getting the most for their dollar for their student's education may be interested in this new web site.

C. Student Life; Sandy Ohler

1. Assisting downstate students with public transportation is a goal of this committee.
2. A revision of the Student Handbook for next year will be underway shortly. If anyone has any suggestions for additions, changes, etc., please contact Sandy.
3. There has been very positive feedback regarding the new lighting in one of the dorms, and a formal proposal to provide the same lighting in all the dorms will be made in March. The specs for the light bulbs which will be in the next newsletter to see if anyone is able to purchase these special bulbs at a reduced cost.

D. Technology: Wayne Schneidman

1. The new computers for the dorms continues to be studied by Matt Wicks.
2. The digital cameras have been purchased and are in use within the Grainger Lab. The computers have not been acquired yet.
3. The (Co)Chairperson(s) for the Technology Committee for next year will be Cheryl Widman, and perhaps Mike Doyle.
4. The Parent/Parent Handbook for next year needs to begin shortly to prevent a last minute effort this summer. Perhaps a committee is needed to see that this happens.
5. A web site is now available for Student Leadership Development:
<http://www.imsa.edu/team/sld>

F. Senior Dinner; Betty Dietrich - no report

G. Student Council; no report

VII. Old Business

A There was discussion regarding the reprinting of the new by-laws. It was decided that the possibility of printing the new By-laws along with the Parent Handbook

which would be distributed to the new Sophomore parents would be the most efficient.

VIII. New Business

A. Improving communication among the parents was discussed in great detail and ideas surfaced for next year. Using the List Serve and including all parents who submit their email addresses to IMSA was considered. Presently, 200 parents have signed up for list serve, but many more have email. The possibility of reaching all parents with email was discussed. The coordination of IMSA mailings was also discussed, but the majority of PA participants at the meeting felt that more is better than less, and IMSA mailings are welcomed.

B. The Horiwitz Lecture was announced by Eric McLaren and is entitled “Invisible Lines of Connection” by Rabbi Kershner.

C. Another thank you to Bradley University and the School of Engineering was given by Lorelei for their generous hospitality.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50.