

## IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES

May 11, 2002

Interim Vice President Jeri Hagiwara called the meeting to order at 9:40 a.m. Roll call was taken and a quorum was confirmed. Jeri requested that the minutes of the February and April meetings be approved. Caroline Pogue moved for approval of the minutes and that motion was seconded. Motion passed.

**President's Report**

No report.

**Vice President's Report**

Jeri stated that we are seeking a representative from Region 3 to assist during Navigation on July 6<sup>th</sup> and August 3<sup>rd</sup>. The PAC presentations will be from 7 pm to 10 pm on both evenings.

Cathy Null and Ann Carpenter will be updating and revising the bylaws this summer. Suggestions for changes to the bylaws should be emailed to them at [nullfarm@winco.net](mailto:nullfarm@winco.net) and [OAKLEYLF@aol.com](mailto:OAKLEYLF@aol.com)

The Parent to Parent handbook will be revised and ready by the beginning of the school year for distribution to IMSA parents.

Don Cooper and Ann Carpenter were available after the PAC meeting to answer questions regarding funding or organization of the summer PAC regional picnics.

**Treasurer's Report**

Don Cooper distributed a summary report for the April activity impacting the PAC funds. The Total Income in April was \$15,271 and total Expenses was \$7,919.54. PAC received \$14,490 for senior banquet receipts but a large payment will be made at the end of May to the Wyndham Hotel for the banquet. Don reported that the initial electronic transfers with Citibank worked very well and there would be a surplus at the end of the year.

The next item of discussion was the proposed change in the method of collection of donations for IMSA. Five options (including Option 1, which was maintain the status quo) were presented and Option 3 was recommended by the PAC Executive Council. Option 3 provided that, instead of a separate PAC selection in the IMSA Fund for Advancement solicitation envelope, have an annual contribution from the Fund based on PAC administrative costs and have input on the spending of funds for the benefit of students and PAC programs.

Sandy Prolman opened the floor to questions about the options for IMSA donations. In response to questions, Don Cooper explained that Option 3 was recommended because it allows the Advancement Office to pay the recurring items on a regular basis and allows the PAC to focus on more parent-related items (Sr. Banquet, Student Life, BBQ Family Day) that we would handle through our own bank account. Option 3 would also help PAC work better with IMSA administration since they can provide insights on what the students truly need. Finally, this partnership with the Advancement Office would allow them to better document the degree of parent participation

Several representatives raised concerns about changing the current system. It was pointed out that it has historically been a struggle for PAC to implement new ideas and this may insert another administrative layer. Another representative commented that PAC is more of an advocate for the students than the administration.

Eric McLaren stated that IMSA administration would work with whatever option was selected by the PAC.

A vote was taken and Option 3 prevailed by a vote of 13 votes to 12 votes (for Option 1). There was 1 vote for Option 5 (complete separation from IMSA by filing our own 501(c)3) and 0 votes for Options 2 and 4.

### **Secretary's Report**

Don Driscoll briefly reported the current results of the PAC parent survey which is not yet complete. He stated that, upon completion and tallying later this month, the survey results will be posted on the website.

He requested that representatives and committee members hand in their binders so that they can be updated over the summer.

Ann Carpenter suggested that representatives hand out phone trees at the regional picnics, as well as update the data on those phone trees at the picnics.

### **IMSA Administration Comments**

Gretchen Stauder thanked parent volunteers for their assistance at College Day assistance. She reported that the recent downstate meeting had been held in Edwardsville, with 6 current parents attending. Next year's downstate meeting will likely be in the fall. This was her first year as College Preparation coordinator and she thanked PAC for their assistance during the year. Gretchen noted that she will have a student assisting her next year to update the College Prep website and keep it current.

Eric McLaren noted that IMSA has been communicating to parents via letters and email regarding the state budget issues. During this process, it was discovered that IMSA's "listserve" had email addresses for 85% of the parents but the fields were not fully implemented so that only 1/3 of the parents received the initial email regarding the budget issue. However, that problem has been corrected. He stated that IMSA has a strategy and is working with the right people to influence the budget. There is a proposal to reduce IMSA's budget by 22% but he is confident that proposal will be appropriately addressed. There is no current bill effecting IMSA's budget. He will continue to communicate with parents via email.

With regard to the parent email issue, he stated that parents should inform Ellen Hines if they obtain a new email address.

Eric confirmed that the school in Germany with the recent shooting is not IMSA's German partner school. IMSA students will continue with their plan to go to Germany in June.

The final exam schedule has been posted. For the most part, science exams are on Friday (5/17), math tests will take place on Tuesday (5/21), and sophomore and junior exams are on Wednesday (5/22). Eric also noted that Wednesday (5/22) is Senior Recognition Day and he wants all students to attend.

Residence hall 1501 has been renamed Harris Hall in honor of Nelson and Bette Harris. A description of their generous support to IMSA over the years is set forth on the plaque in the main common area at Harris Hall.

Eric reported that he has received 250 responses to date on IMSA's own survey and IMSA will be developing action plans based on the survey results.

Bob Hernandez noted that 205 students (mostly seniors) will attend the prom tonight at the Hyatt. The students were planning on going on a boat ride unless there was lightning.

Bob emphasized that student attendance is a major problem now. Parents need to stress to their students to attend class. He has had to withdraw several students from class who had four unexcused absences.

Bob also stated that students should start sending things home NOW. They also need to start cleaning their rooms, scrubbing the bathroom, cleaning the carpets, etc to avoid cleaning charges. Students have to sign up for a checkout time on their final day. Parents should show up 2 hours ahead of that time. He noted that checkout time is not the final word on any cleaning charges. Tom Brandenburg will conduct a separate room check after the students leave IMSA for the summer.

Finally, Bob noted that IMSA would like to have email communications with 100% of the parents. If parents don't have an email account, they should be urged to do so at Navigation and PAC Picnics. IMSA can provide an email account for those who don't have an account.

### **Student Council Report**

Student Council reported that the Battle of the Bands raised slightly more than \$500. The students then challenged the teachers to meet that amount. The C Wings across the campus won the Clash of the Wings.

Student elections resulted in six new officers -- President Urvi Purohit, VP Elaine Khoong, Secretary Nisha Wadhvani, Treasurer Amit Nathani, Senior at Large Jeanne Lee and Junior at Large Brittney Andres.

The Student Council participated in competition at the district and state levels. The Council attended the spring district convention and IMSA student Nisha Wadhvani will be district secretary. The Honor Council book (a scrapbook of activities throughout year) received top honors and plaques at both the district level and state level. Brittney Andres was appointed the Convention Secretary in Waiting and will be hosting the 2004 spring convention. The Student Council's advisor (Dan Eidson) won a recognition award for advisors and was also elected as First Year Advisor at Large and will serve a two-year term on the state board.

### **Academic Committee**

Virginia Hess stated that she is currently a committee of one. She needs incoming junior and senior parents to join the committee.

Eric McLaren noted that a 4-page prerequisites list was handed out to sophomores for science courses.

### **College & Academic Counseling**

No report.

### **Communications**

No report.

### **Parent Fund**

No report.

### **Ad Hoc Fund-Raising Task Force**

Pierre Maloka reported that the Phone-A-Thon last week was successful. The parents response was very positive, including one donation of \$1,000. His current guess is that the total is over \$5,000.

Incoming treasurer Navreet Kang, who is a life insurance agent, mentioned that the IMSA endowment fund can be funded by seniors taking out charitable whole life insurance policy and making IMSA the beneficiary. The premiums are low and tax deductible.

### **Student Life**

Penny Newton stated that Student Life has been coordinating with the Student Council throughout the year. The fitness equipment has not yet arrived but will be available for students by the beginning of the school year.

Penny passed out a report reporting the outcome of the 2001-2002 goals for the Student Life committee. Notable achievements included hosting a Friday Fest for 1-2 Friday nights per month from August to May, weekend hours for the recreational facilities, new fitness equipment to arrive soon and a list of Aurora religious facilities will be available starting with the July Navigation.

Penny also noted that Mary Ganiere needs a co-chair for Parent Partners. Penny stated that parent volunteers have increased dramatically over the past three years (from 3 to 49). However, it is important to sign new parents up at Navigation and then work with them to remain active.

Gordon Stiefel and Janelle Cornelle will both work on the Food Services subcommittee.

Kay Landers and Ann Carpenter will be the co-chairs for Student Life next year.

Jeri Hagiwara requested an additional \$2,000 for the Senior Banquet 2003 in order to reserve a banquet hall immediately. Cathy Null made the motion. Penny Newton seconded the motion. Motion passed unanimously.

### **Technology**

Pierre Maloka ran the meeting from the website and took parent suggestions. Suggestions were to have links from the homepage to access the stream, allowing absent voting members to vote online, and storing selected video portions of the PAC meetings.

Jim Gerry reminded parents again that IMSA is using grant monies to purchase 10-12 computers for a wireless lab in the library in the summer. Parents Council has purchased computers in the past – 4 of them (sitting in common area) are outdated and need to be replaced. There is still no final word on ISN charges for next year for internet access.

### **Old Business**

None.

### **New Business**

None aside from the above issues.

### **Parent Forums**

No report.

**Announcements**

Jeri stated that reimbursement requests must be turned in by May 31<sup>st</sup> to Don Cooper.

Penny Newton moved to adjourn the meeting. Carson Robinson seconded the motion. The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted by,  
Don Driscoll  
2002-03 PAC Secretary