

IMSA PAC MEETING MINUTES

January 25, 2003

President Jeri Hagiwara called the meeting to order at 10:05 a.m. Roll call was taken. There was a quorum. Jacki Poulsen moved for approval of the December minutes. Janis Fanning seconded. Motion passed.

President's Report

Jeri displayed a plaque regarding the PAC's equipment contributions, to be hung inside the Fitness Center.

She passed out a new suggestion sheet for reps and guests to PAC meetings as a means for those individuals to ask questions or suggest topics of discussion.

Jeri also passed out a written information sheet regarding the nominees for next year's Executive Council. She noted that the treasurer position is open and sought volunteers. The Executive Council is also looking for an assistant secretary (preferably a sophomore parent) to assist Don Driscoll next year and train as the incoming secretary the following year.

Jeri also provided an update on Senior Banquet preparations.

Vice President's Report

Cathy Barnes stated that she will need parent volunteers for graduation weekend to assist at the Open House in the morning for parents of incoming sophomore students while their students are taking a test. Tours are also available for the parents.

Treasurer's Report

Navreet Kang reported that we have \$52,908 for IMSA fund for advancement of education. There are still some outstanding pledges that will increase that balance.

Secretary's Report

Don Driscoll distributed a list of IMSA students and parent contact information for each of the regions. He also requested that anyone interested in the assistant secretary position contact him.

IMSA Administration Comments

Eric McLaren passed out a synopsis of the administration reports today. There will be a Leadership Symposium on January 29th. Dr. Lawrence McBride is the keynote speaker for the Hollister Lecture. His report noted that 935 individuals attended the 18 different statewide informational meetings. This is a 17% increase from last year's attendance at 18 meetings and a 18% increase from the 55 meetings held the year before that!

Eric announced that Rob Flot has been hired to fill the vacancy for Coordinator for Multicultural Recruitment, Retention and Learning. Rob comes from Illinois State University and will start work on February 3rd.

Eric passed out the 2003-04 calendar which has been approved by the Board. In response to a question, Eric stated that spring break is a challenge because different parts of the State place it in the last week of March and other parts tie it to Easter. The 2003-04 calendar will be posted on the web.

Gretchen Stauder (College and Academic Counseling) stated that the Course Selection for sophomores will be from February 5th thru February 8th. Sophomores can sign up for a 15-minute discussion with CAC regarding their course selections for junior year. Sophomores are encouraged to attend College Day on April 26th. There will be a speaker from Cornell to discuss college selection.

There will be a meeting on February 5th for juniors about the college process. Juniors will have from February 19th thru February 28th to meet with CAC regarding their senior course selections. The ACT will take place in April and the SAT in May.

CAC has processed 1600 college applications this year, as well as 800 transcripts re seniors' first semester grades. College decisions will be coming in during March and April.

Jim Gerry (IMSA Technology Administrator) reported on the following topics:

- 1) IMSA did receive their \$1M grant from the state. The grant will be used to substantially revise the portal environment and website
- 2) The CNS has contracted to develop a Presentation Day application which will improve the process for the submission of abstracts and the development of the Presentation Day book.

Student Council Report

Urvi Purohit reported that the Student Council is working on a hall competition for "Best Hall" during the week of February 3-7, with a pep rally on Senior Night. Student Council is also working on having the pool open on Friday nights in unison with Friday Fests. The first open pool night will be January 31st. Student Council will have an open forum for students on February 20th to inform the Council of their concerns and requests.

Academic Committee

Dr. Adler explained that Virginia Hess was absent today due to her working on her dissertation. The Academic Committee has been sponsoring meetings with the science professors, math professors and assistant principal office re junior course selection.

The February 22nd meeting will focus on the Humanities Department and curriculum.

Communications

Jacki Poulson reported that the deadline for February newsletter is Monday, January 27. She is looking for a volunteer to take over the newsletter for next year.

Student Life

Ann Carpenter reported on the very successful Finals Fest in December. She stated that the students consumed 200 baked potatoes, 200 sandwiches, 7 gallons of coffee, 3 gallons of tea, and 3 gallons of juice in one hour! Most impressive, each student thanked the 18 volunteers as they were leaving.

Ann also announced that there will be a Super Bowl Fest party on Sunday for the students. Student Life is also adding more Friday Fests throughout the year. The theme for this Friday Fest is a Hawaii theme.

Technology

Pierre Maloka reported that IMSA has installed forum software and set aside a PAC section for parent input at www.imsa.edu/ubb. Parents can set up an account that allows them to post messages in a threaded discussion within that forum. Just hit the "Welcome" message and follow instructions to set up the account. Parents can post a question or start a discussion within that forum. One significant advantage is that the participants don't have to be in attendance simultaneously and, if they enter your regular email address, they will receive a notice whenever a response is sent to one of their forum postings.

There will be a special session after the February 22nd PAC meeting on Technology issues. Pierre invited parents to submit topics or questions to him at pmaloka@imsa.edu

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New Business

Jeri introduced Dr. Judith Scheffler who was hosting a special session on the Inquiry program. Students are expected to develop a project, work on it in conjunction with a faculty advisor and make a presentation on it in April. The Inquiry topics embrace a broad range of interests, including historical studies, science and math research, original artistic or literary compositions, etc.

Announcements

The next PAC meeting is at IMSA, 10 am on February 22nd. Special session after the meeting will be on Technology issues.

Kim Fassbinder moved the meeting be adjourned. Jan Siemens seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted by,
Don Driscoll
PAC Secretary