

Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®

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

IMSA Board of Trustees Regular Meeting Minutes April 11, 2012

Call to Order

Chairman Isoye called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Ms. Veal called the roll. A quorum was not present.

Members Present: Steven Isoye, Jay Budzik, Sheila Griffin, Jack McEachern, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius (via teleconference) and Erin Roche

Members Absent: Mary Kalantzis, Jacklyn Naughton, Luis Núñez, Marsha Rosner, Christopher Koch, Geoffrey Obrzut, George Reid and James Rydland

Closed Session

Lacking a quorum, by consensus Trustees went into Closed Session as a Committee of the Whole.

Closed Session Held

Reconvene in Open Session

The Board reconvened in open session at 10:00 a.m.

Roll Call

Ms. Veal called the roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Steven Isoye, Jay Budzik, Sheila Griffin, Jack McEachern, Luis Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius (via teleconference, left meeting at 10:10 am), Erin Roche and James Rydland

Members Absent: Mary Kalantzis, Jacklyn Naughton, Marsha Rosner, Christopher Koch, Geoffrey Obrzut, George Reid (arrived 10:35 a.m.)

Liaisons Present: Stephanie Pace Marshall for IMSA Fund Board of Directors, Stuart Bloom for IMSA Parents Association Council, Aadi Tolappa for Student Council and Melvin Bacani for IMSA Alumni Association

ACTION ITEM

Closed Sessions Minutes – Board Meetings Nov. 11, 2011, Jan. 20, 2012 and Jan. 21, 2012

A motion was made by Trustee McEachern and seconded by Trustee Núñez to approve the minutes of the November 11, 2011, January 20, 2012 and January 21, 2012 Closed Sessions as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Griffin, McEachern, Núñez and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Reports of Liaisons

Parents

Stuart Bloom reported that parents' donations to the IMSA Fund for FY12 are at a 38% participation level with total donations exceeding \$100,000. Mr. Bloom said he had enjoyed his service as PAC President and liaison to the Board, noting his successor would be Ron Kimberling, whose son is in the Class of 2013.

Alumni

Melvin Bacani highlighted the 25th anniversary challenge for cabinet members to find 25 donors to contribute \$25.00 each over 25 days which raised a total just shy of \$10,000. He also mentioned challenging students to donate \$5.00 to earn a free DJ for their Spring Fling Dance noting they raised \$1150.

IMSA Fund Board

Dr. Stephanie Pace Marshall spoke of Fund Board work on the \$5M initiative, adding three new Fund Board members and creating a "blue ribbon" Board recruitment team to help identify and actively recruit Fund Board prospects.

Students

Aadi Tolappa spoke of students' awards for IMSAloquium projects, spring break trips to engage in service, and TALENT's Power Pitch top prize winners, IMSA juniors Lydia Auch and Kenzo Esquivel, who won for their digital music reader idea.

Faculty

Reporting for Dan Gleason, Margaret Hernandez highlighted IMSA's third annual professional development day with 239 total participants. She noted the response to the day was very enthusiastic; 24 STEM presentations were attended by 197 visitors and 11 History sessions had 43 attendees.

Report of the Treasurer

Patrick Furlong briefly reviewed financials noting that some of the reports had a February end date because not all of the bank statements had been received in time. He said a lot of expenses need to be incurred before the end of the year and pointed out that grant funding had increased significantly. He thanked Trustee Budzik for recommendations to enhance the Grant Funding Report and said several would be incorporated. He said 36½ percent of the total grant money received comes from the IMSA Fund with special emphasis on CoolHub, FUSION and Problem-Based Learning.

Report of the President

REFLECTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

Dr. McGee commented on efforts by multi-state consortia to reshape assessments in mathematics and IMSA's recent workshop. He reviewed the common core standards, developed at the federal level and adopted by 30+ states including Illinois, and the emphasis on inquiry-based. He reported that states have teamed to develop new tests for K-12 and commented on the work of two consortia, PARCC (Partnership for Assessment of Readiness for College and Careers) and SMART (Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation). Dr. McGee said IMSA's work, led by Dr. Donald Porzio, mathematics faculty member and president of the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics, will go to the State Board of Education, then to multi-states and then to PARCC. He said the assessments were items teachers can use throughout the state right now.

Dr. McGee said he was "cautiously optimistic" regarding level funding for next year noting students' letters to the legislators were very powerful. He said the Senate is interested in having academic institutions pay some of the pension costs, thus IMSA could be required to pay a more significant share of the contributions, and said the Academy was closely monitoring its procurement exemptions bill, SB3397.

He complimented Margaret Hernandez for arranging the 1st Annual Leon Lederman Frontiers of STEM Symposium on Physics and spoke of the 25th Anniversary Gala Celebration on April 14, co-chaired by Trustee Sheila MB Griffin and IMSA Fund Director Gregory K. Jones, and coordinated by Megan Plain and Britta McKenna.

Trustees Rydland and Reid thanked Dr. McGee for his and IMSA's leadership in the mathematics assessments work. Several commented on the importance of better diagnostics and higher level thinking with more performance based items.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda

A motion was made by Trustee Griffin and seconded by Trustee McEachern to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Griffin, McEachern, Núñez and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays. The following items were approved:

Minutes

January 20, 2011 Regular Board Meeting; January 20-21 Board Retreat

Personnel Items

Resignations

Kevin A. Bab, Latasha Battie, Tiffany J. Cole-Stitt, Severiano Moreno, Paula D. Miller, John H. Stark, Alex R. White

Retirements

Deborah A. McGrath, Susan C. Styer, James V. Victory

New Staff

Kevin M. Broy

Change of Status

Carla D. Carreno, Michael R. Hoehn, Nicole M. Hoffman

Part-time Hourly Staff

a. Admission - Stipends

John L. Jaeger, David S. Lundgren, Michelle J. McGhee

b. Custodial/Maintenance

Donna J. Eichelkraut

c. English

*Margaret T. Cain, Daniel W. Gleason, Adam C. Kotlarczyk, Tracy A. Townsend,
Audrey J. Wells*

d. Energy Center

Harrison Max Pfingsten

e. Facilities

Robert E. Houston

f. Fine Arts

Ronald E. Spaeth

g. IRC

Samuel C. Pettigrew

h. Problem Based Learning (PBL) -

*Ashley Badger, Nate Campbell, Joe Cranston, Marc Deem, Drew Johnson, Marge
Olszewski*

i. Professional Field Services

Linda C. Lee, Steven L. Willis

j. Science

Maria M. Kamm

k. Security

Curtis Boyd, Dalia M. Nilles

l. Student Life – Residence Life

*Daniel T. Donohue, Tiffany J. Cole-Stitt, John L. Jaeger, Carmen Keldie, Samuel C.
Pettigrew, Anisa S. Razvi, Kevin T. Satler, Emily L. Todd*

Policies

Student Expression Policy JB
Grievance Procedure Policy GBM
Student Discipline Policy JG
Intellectual Property Policy GIP-JIP and Copyright/Patent Agreement
Intellectual Capital Policy GAA & JAA and procedures (Rescinded/Replaced by above)

Academic Calendar Modifications 2012-2013

Acceptance of FY11 Audit

Illinois High School Association (IHSA) FY13 Membership Renewal

Contract for Purchase of Computers

Dr. McGee thanked Trustee Budzik for his advance questions and indicated that Fine Arts would realize technology upgrades as recommended in the program review.

Dr. McGee recommended approval of a computer contract in the amount of \$203,588.04 to purchase 179 laptop/tablet PCs from Hewlett-Packard to replace “aging, ailing” computers. Arnold Crater reviewed the hardware purchase noting that software will be acquired separately under a different contract. Mr. Furlong pointed out this is the same procurement that was denied by the state procurement officer last year. Mr. Crater and the Board discussed choosing appropriate computer equipment, working with the City of Aurora on technology, waiting for a quote on fiber optics, increasing bandwidth to enhance IMSA’s system, reducing costs and connecting to other Aurora schools.

A motion was made by Trustee McEachern and seconded by Trustee Núñez to approve the purchase of computers as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Griffin, McEachern, Núñez and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays.

FEATURED AGENDA ITEMS

Dr. McGee said potential topics for next year’s featured agenda items will be shared at the June Executive Committee meeting and July Board meeting.

Strategic Plan: Strategy 1

Barbara Miller cited extensive sophomore support, including collaborative efforts and communications during the first week of school with students and parents regarding the importance of attending study sessions. She compared early intervention data and spoke of a reduction in at-risk student grades and increased retention.

Trustees discussed how the Academy’s learnings and successes might help others. Trustee Budzik encouraged staff to “figure out what’s working the best and focus on this more and figure out what’s not working and focus on this less.”

Ms. Miller reviewed the team’s recommendations: review sophomore workload/class load and redefine expectations; create online summer curriculum for entering students; provide Academy-

wide diversity education; educate faculty and staff on learning and developmental differences and emotional health needs in talented adolescents; and create additional health education experiences for students. Trustee McEachern asked how staff members assess the needs of students; Ms. Miller said there were 27 items on the Moodle site. Trustee Budzik noted that an online summer curriculum would “create community” before the students arrived on campus. Trustee Núñez asked how staff plans to measure the effectiveness of each activity. Trustee Griffin said the Board wanted “everyone to succeed.”

Adrienne Coleman spoke of a “black hole” at IMSA where the majority of African and Latin students socialize noting there was miscommunication because others thought they were not welcome in this space. She stressed that open communication brings about integration and positive change.

Dr. Marshall recommended looking at earlier inventions in some FUSION partner schools. Chairman Isoye pointed out that Strategy 1 was one of the strategies the Planning Team sent back to action and design teams for additional work

Data Reports: Innovation, Scholarship, and Knowledge Transfer

Innovation

Jim Gerry reviewed the CoolHub.IMSA data report, noting that CoolHub is a cloud-based platform for STEM innovation that supports all strategies in the strategic plan. He cited various statistics on membership and projects, visitor frequency patterns, project and content summary, presentations, early state deployment evaluation, collaborative partnerships and lessons learned in moving from alpha to beta to 1.0 release.

Trustee Roche asked how CoolHub differs from other collaborative spaces; Mr. Gerry cited its “one stop shop” nature (multiple tools available in one place) and its STEM teaching and learning focus. Trustee Budzik suggested collecting user data such as location and education during the registration process and leveraging existing systems.

Scholarship

Paula Garrett reviewed the Digital Commons@IMSA data report, noting that this platform communicates scholarship internally and externally. She said that in light of the fact that participation is voluntary, she and Jean Bigger had achieved a “good running start” to building content thanks to faculty and staff who are adding materials. She said they plan to expand the repository to include student scholarship, SIR projects and historical documents and are reviewing ways to increase discoverability.

Dr. Max McGee said one of his deliverables is to develop a Board Policy to encourage and support more scholarship by faculty and staff. Dr. Marshall asked about higher education resources: “How can we be an incubator and attractor for university sabbaticals?” Trustee Reid invited Dr. McGee to talk about this at the June BHE meeting which IMSA is hosting.

Information Items for Discussion

FY13 Board Meeting Dates – 1st Reading

Dr. McGee presented a proposed Board and Executive Committee calendar for FY13. Trustee Budzik commented that Friday meeting dates would be more convenient for him; Trustees agreed to consider this option. A modified calendar will be sent to the Board, the goal being to vote in May.

Personnel Leave Policies – 1st Reading

Mary Spreitzer briefly reviewed four proposed new policies to replace seven current policies:

Current Policy	Proposed Policy
GBVC – Accumulated Sick Leave	NEW – Vacation Benefit
GCC – Leave of Absence – Administrators	NEW – Paid Sick Leave
GCD – Leave of Absence – 12 Month Faculty and Supervisors	NEW – Personal Leave
GCE – Leave of Absence – 10 Month Faculty	NEW – Bereavement Leave
GCF – Leave of Absence – Residential Counselors	
GCG - Leave of Absence – 12 Month Support/Leadership	
GDBD – Leave of Absence for Support Staff	

She pointed out that the changes included rolling accumulative sick leave with individual classifications into one policy, eliminating the references to professional leave, splitting bereavement into its own policy, removing the references to the ASCME contract for support staff and including an accelerate vacation accrual benefit, and reorganizing to ease the administrative burden. Second reading and approval is scheduled for May.

Alumni Academic and Professional Accomplishments

Carolyn Johnson noted that this “quick look” information item report was rescheduled from the fall due to time constraints. She said the information was taken from the Academy’s alumni database and from a national database that Christopher Kolar can access. In addition to information on STEM degrees and careers and notable achievements, Trustee McEachern recommended attention to data on job creation by alumni.

Adjournment

With no further business, the Board adjourned by consensus at 12 noon.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven T. Isoye
Chairman

Catherine C. Veal
Secretary