

Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®

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

IMSA Board of Trustees Regular Meeting

March 17, 2010

Minutes

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Isoye at 9:00 a.m. Ms. Veal noted that a quorum was present.

Members Present: Steven Isoye, Jay Budzik, Samuel Dyson, Luis Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, Erin Roche

Members Absent: Sheila Griffin, Mary Kalantzis, Jack McEachern, Jacklyn Naughton, Marsha Rosner, Judy Erwin, Christopher Koch, Geoffrey Obrzut, Jim Rydland

Closed Session

A motion was made by Trustee Núñez and seconded by Trustee Roche to go into closed session to discuss student enrollment matters relating to individual students, closed session minutes, compensation of individual employees (faculty), and employment, compensation and evaluation of IMSA's president. Voting aye were Trustee Isoye, Budzik, Dyson, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Closed Session Held

Reconvene in Open Session

The Board reconvened in open session at 10:20 am.

Roll Call

Ms. Veal called roll. A quorum was present.

Members Present: Steven Isoye, Jay Budzik, Samuel Dyson, Luis Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, Erin Roche and Jim Rydland

Members Absent: Sheila Griffin, Mary Kalantzis, Jack McEachern, Jacklyn Naughton, Marsha Rosner, Judy Erwin, Christopher Koch, and Geoffrey Obrzut

Liaisons and Representatives Present: Diane Hinterlong for IMSA Faculty, Herbert Knight for IMSA Fund Board, Matthew Knisley for IMSA Alumni Association, Sid Sapru for IMSA Student Council and Karen Schwerbrock for Parents Association Council

Liaisons and Representatives Absent: Debbie Meisner-Bertauski for Judy Erwin, Brian Durham for Geoffrey Obrzut, and Joyce Krumtinger for Christopher Koch

Chairman's Remarks

Chairman Isoye announced that IMSA staff member and '90 alumnus Scott Swanson, who died in January, named the IMSA Fund a beneficiary of his life insurance policy through the State of Illinois. He said Scott's decision to honor IMSA in this way spoke volumes about his love and passion for the Academy's mission and work and served as a wonderful example of how individuals can remember IMSA as they make their planned giving decisions. He noted that the Muon Society was recently established to recognize those who name the IMSA Fund in their estate planning, and said that Scott was now a member of the Kaleidoscope Society which recognizes lifetime giving of five figures and up. He expressed the Board's gratitude and read a brief statement from Scott's mother, Gail Cotovsky:

"IMSA was near and dear to Scott's heart from his first days as a student in 1987 until his last moments with us on this Earth. I am grateful for the many IMSA people who enriched his life and mine and I thank you for hosting the moving Club Pseudo memorial event. I know Scott will always be with us in spirit, and his passion for student learning and innovation using leading-edge technologies will live on in the lives of current and future IMSA students who benefit from the Scott Swanson Fund."

Chairman Isoye also reported that Trustees had achieved 100% participation in the FY10 IMSA Fund annual giving campaign.

Mr. Isoye noted that one of the most important duties of the Board was to hire, retain and work with IMSA's President and he was delighted to recommend a second contract for Dr. McGee. He characterized Dr. McGee as "a visionary who is taking us to places we had not thought of before" and thanked Trustees for their work on the contract. Dr. McGee said it is his honor to serve and work with IMSA's extraordinary students and incredible staff in the environment of a teaching and learning laboratory. He cited collaborative efforts on the strategic plan, innovative ideas and "living our mission." He said IMSA was a "great academy for the teachers and students of Illinois and suggested reading IMSA 360 to learn more about the Academy's service and support.

ACTION ITEMS

Minutes of 11-18-09 and 1-23-10 Closed Sessions

A motion was made by Trustee Núñez and seconded by Trustee Roche to approve the minutes of the November 18, 2009, and January 23, 2010, closed sessions as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Dyson, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays.

President's Contract

A motion was made by Trustee Dyson and seconded by Trustee Roche to approve the proposed four-year contract, FY11-FY14, for Dr. McGee to serve as IMSA President. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Dyson, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion carried by a vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Reports of Liaisons

Matthew Knisley reported that Carolyn Johnson, Jennifer Spuehler and Suzyn Price attended the NCSSSMST professional conference in March and presented on various aspects of alumni engagement. He co-presented a session with Ms. Johnson on the history and activities of the IMSA Alumni Association (IAA). He briefly reviewed February's IAA retreat, organizing focus groups in Chicago on alumni fundraising, and past/future regional club events. He also invited the Board to attend Alumni Weekend, July 23-25.

Diane Hinterlong noted the success of the Mathematics and Science Professional Development Day in February, with more than 200 attending from four counties. She reported on faculty activities including recent presentations by science teachers Dave DeVol, Diane Hinterlong and Branson Lawrence at the annual convention of the Illinois Association for Gifted Children, history and social science team member Lee Eysturid's contribution to a chapter on the Austrian Army in the book Armies of the French Revolution, as well as Don Porzio and Janice Krouse's running for President-Elect and Director of Grades 9-12 respectively of the Illinois Council of Teachers of Mathematics. She said that as IMSA moves into next year, faculty members were aware of the potential need for budget reductions; however, they were asking for an institutional commitment to programs for students, looking beyond a fixed percentage budget decrease across all areas and protecting these programs whenever possible.

Sid Sapru reported this year's Clash of the Halls was one of the best ever with evening events attracting almost 70% of the student body. He said Student Council had been hard at work producing a student-written "College Guide" to assist rising seniors in the college application process as well as juniors and seniors in course selection. He mentioned efforts to increase usage of the Student Union and revise usage policies for IMSA's gym facilities.

Karen Schwerbrock said Dr. Leon Lederman was a "big hit" as guest speaker at a recent Parents Association Council (PAC) event. She mentioned the parents' work to obtain a new ice cream machine and to revamp the Student Union with a new sink for Friday Fest along with other new equipment. She commented that PAC officers had been on board for two years and elections for new officers would be held in May.

Herbert Knight said the "good news" was that IMSA Fund donors had increased from 682 (July 1, 2008 – February 28, 2009) to 962 this year, the "bad news" that the average cash gift was at a lower level. He congratulated parents for doing a wonderful job – increasing in both donor numbers and contribution amounts. He cited spring solicitation plans focusing on alumni; a \$20,000 matching gift challenge by Bob Malott and his daughter, Barbara; meetings with ITW, NICOR and Price Waterhouse among others; a request for Deloitte to do pro bono work on the feasibility study for potential additional IMSA campuses; and the importance of Julie Christman's roll as the new grant coordinator.

Report of the Treasurer

Patrick Furlong said the financial reports line were in line with previous reports. He said the Academy welcomed the Governor's recommendation for level funding in FY11 and emphasized the importance of diversified funding efforts going forward. Trustee Rydland inquired about delays in vendor payments. Mr. Furlong replied that the timing of payments continues to deteriorate, with smaller invoices being paid before larger ones, lengthy delays in disbursements and unhappy vendors. He noted that Sodexo (IMSA's food service provider), with a bill of \$90,000 a month, has not been paid at all in FY11, and that according to the State's Prompt Payment Act, vendors are entitled to receive interest on late payments, interest that IMSA is required to finance. Mr. Furlong reminded the Board that once IMSA invoices are submitted to the State, the Comptroller is responsible for the payments. Trustee Roche complimented Mr. Furlong and IMSA on having the foresight to put a number of things in place to help address the fiscal situation.

Report of the President

REFLECTIONS AND OBSERVATIONS

Dr. McGee commented on a number of items not included in his written "Reflections and Observations" such as the IMSA community rallying behind Shine On by shaving heads and raising \$8,888 for the Leukemia and Lymphoma Society, creating conditions where field services can work with academic program staff to impact teaching and learning beyond campus boundaries, and the success of the Mathematics and Science Professional Development Day on campus, supported by Abbott, attended by 200+ people, and with "resulting, amazing metrics" using five open-ended questions (responses were more than 90% agreeable to every question).

Dr. McGee added that Mark Carlson received the Illinois Science Teacher Association's ExxonMobil Outstanding Teacher of Science Award and Sid Sapru did an excellent job representing IMSA in Washington, D.C. and met the President. Dr. McGee circulated the Resolution by Congressman Foster honoring IMSA's Intel *Star Innovator* achievement. He concluded his comments by congratulating Chairman Isoye, a Teacher of the Year winner in 1998, on being named High School Principal of the Year this spring.

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda

Dr. McGee recommended approval of the Consent Agenda as presented, with special thanks to pending retirees Willa Shultz and Audrey Wells for their many contributions to the IMSA Community. A motion was made by Trustee Roche and seconded by Trustee Dyson to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Dyson, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays. The following items were approved:

Minutes – Regular Board Meeting & Retreat, January 22 and 23, 2010

Personnel Items

Retirements

Willa L. Shultz, World Languages Faculty, June 7, 2010
Audrey Wells, English Faculty, September 30, 2010

New Staff

Julie A. Christman, Grants Administrator
Terence R. Hemingway, Resident Counselor
Emily K. Sites, Part-time Circulation and Interlibrary Loan Assistant

Change of Status

*Roberto Suarez, College/Academic Counselor, salary adjustment for degree awarded,
Master of Arts School Counsel & Guidance*

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

Admissions

Taryn A.J. Bell, Transportation Facilitator
Kristen DeBellis and Minerva Juarez, Transportation Facilitator/Program Assistant
*Micah Fogel, Problem Development, IMSA-Abbott Fund CyberQuiz 4Kids Program
for Professional Field Services Professional Development Day*
Kandi Wilson, Transportation Facilitator
Danielle R. Wolfgang, Part-time Secretary

Athletic/Co-Curricular Program

William A. Bueschen, Scorer/Timer
John Kazmierczak, Scorer/Timer
Sharon K. McMurray, Ticket Taker

IMSA Excellence 2000+

Michael Sloan, Math Inquiry Workshops

President's Office

Jean Bigger, FY10 Green Team Leadership Responsibilities

Problem-Based Learning (PBL)

Margaret Olszewski and Carolina Salinas, PBL Coaching Institute (Sleuths) Program

Student Leadership Development – Student Life – Residential Program

Michael Juell, Michael McIntyre, RC Office Coverage

Policies

Student Records (revised)
Institutional Positions: Political Issues and Campaigns (revised)
Pregnant Students (revised)
Student Distribution of Materials (revised)
Meetings and Activities by Non-IMSA Sponsored Student Groups (revised)
Students With Chronic Communicable Diseases (revised)

IMSA Learning Opportunities/Courses for 2010-2011

Campus Models and Feasibility Study

Dr. McGee reviewed his rationale for considering additional IMSA campuses, citing connections to IMSA's Strategic Plan, the Illinois Board of Higher Education's Public Agenda and the changes to the IMSA Law in 2008. He commented on Senator Dillard's bill this session, SB3650, which would require IMSA to "develop an additional residential campus in a county with a population less than 400,000," noting that while it likely would not advance at this time, it showed continuing legislative interest in another IMSA campus.

He discussed options for the feasibility study, including the possibility that IMSA Fund Director Marty DiMarzio (IMSA '95) might be able to arrange for his company, Deloitte & Touche, to conduct this pro bono beginning after June 1. If Deloitte approves IMSA's proposal, the company would assign a project team. Dr. McGee said the study would "inform not dictate" his recommendations and the Board's decisions to come. He said this was not about simply establishing another campus, but determining if there is a market and what the impact would be on the current campus. He said he would like a record of Board approval to conduct a feasibility study on the models presented. He referenced the summary document prepared in response to Trustees' requests and counsel at the January 22-23 Board Meeting and Retreat, with additional input from the Executive Committee in February.

Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius asked if there was a particular organization in mind to conduct the study if the Deloitte possibility did not materialize. Dr. McGee responded no, but added that a recent feasibility study was done by Bentz Whaley Flessner for the Aurora Mathematics and Science Education System (AMSES) project in which Ms. Veal is involved and for which he was interviewed, saying the firm did a great job at a reasonable cost and might be a possibility. Mr. Furlong added that IMSA would need to go out for an open bid if the contract was going to be more than \$20,000.

Trustee Dyson asked when and how legislators would be involved. Dr. McGee replied that he had spoken to Jerry Stermer, Governor Quinn's Chief of Staff, and that both Mr. Stermer and Judy Erwin, Executive Director of BHE, had written letters of support to Deloitte. He said he had spoken with Senator Dillard and other legislators about potential additional campuses. Trustee Núñez said the Board's role was to decide and give direction, then involve legislators in a targeted way to maximize their time and effort. Trustees Dyson and Budzik concurred, citing the need to focus the conversation. Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius cautioned against "priming people for something we don't want." She said the Board and Administration should decide which models, if any, they want to pursue, informed by the feasibility study, then work to build legislative consensus for the institution's preferred path.

She recommended that the feasibility study "take into account a lot of factors and be objective, done mindful of political context but not beholden to it." Trustee Dyson noted that "some legislators may have their fingers on a pulse that we may not have" and said it was important for the Board to understand "what their interests are in the pre- and post-election context."

Trustee Núñez asked if the feasibility study would address questions related to business and financial models. Dr. McGee replied yes and said he would like Deloitte to talk with Board members. He said he had worked with the company once before and found their staff to be “incredibly thorough.”

A motion was made by Trustee Dyson and seconded by Trustee Budzik to approve conducting a feasibility study on four campus expansion models (expand current IMSA campus, establish a second IMSA residential campus, establish an IMSA middle school, establish IMSA STEM Centers) as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Dyson, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays.

Dr. McGee thanked Trustees for their support.

Laptop/Tablet PC Computer Purchases

Arnold Crater reviewed the proposed \$127,778 contract to purchase 79 laptop and tablet computers, including 60 for the "loaner fleet" for students with either a financial need or a computer requiring repairs, 12 laptop computers for professional development programs and other outreach events, and seven laptops for staff. He said the purchase would support the Academy's 1:1 computing initiative and noted that the contract was being awarded to the low bidder, GovConnection.

A motion was made by Trustee Roche and seconded by Trustee Núñez to approve the contract to purchase laptop/tablet PC computers as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Dyson, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays.

INFORMATION ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

Service Learning: Modification of Graduation Requirement (1st Reading)

Dr. Robert Hernandez reviewed proposed changes to the Service Learning Graduation Requirement, from 140 campus service hours and 100 community service hours to 200 combined service hours, 125 of which may be completed on campus and 50 hours of which may be completed out of state. Dr. Hernandez pointed out an additional change to the information in the Board packet, that 30 of the 125 hours must be completed on campus. He also discussed proposed changes to the grading method.

Dr. Hernandez spoke to issues with the current system including the inability to place all students in campus service. He also emphasized the Academy's desire to make the service learning program more “student centered” – more personalized and focused on their development and learning.

Trustees conversed about the value of several types of service, how to evaluate it, and the extent to which some departments depended or should depend on student workers. Trustee Budzik recalled that as a student he personally swept floors, and though he didn't like it, it was good experience. Trustee Dyson recommended development of a rubric to qualify and evaluate service learning experiences. Dr. Hernandez said that staff members were working on standards for service learning with experts at Northwestern University. Trustee Olszewski-

Kubilius recommended Rob Donohue at Northwestern as a resource for service learning evaluation tools.

Trustees requested that this item be on the regular agenda for additional discussion and action in May, not on the consent agenda.

FY11 Board Meeting Dates (1st Reading)

The draft calendar for FY11 Board and Executive Committee Meetings was presented for review and comment. Ms. Veal noted that with the Executive Committee's input, the proposed dates would remain on Wednesdays in the same months, with the extended Board Meeting and Retreat again set for January. Trustees were asked to notify Ms. Veal if changes were needed. It was recommended that Trustee Naughton be contacted to determine whether Wednesdays would be a problem for her.

The proposed calendar will be presented for second reading and action in May.

FEATURED AGENDA ITEMS

Strategies 3 and 4

Strategy 4 (Scholarship/Knowledge Transfer)

Strategy 4 implementation leaders Dr. Jeong Choe-Hwang, Paula Garrett, Dr. Dan Gleason and Roger Spayer reviewed background information, definitions, focal points and goals. Dr. Gleason stressed the importance of faculty and staff sharing their insights, remaining active in their fields and promoting IMSA. Dr. Choe-Hwang said faculty and staff need more time and recognition for scholarship work. Ms. Garrett referenced Dr. Ernest Boyer's definition of "scholarship" and said staff had tested open source and proprietary repository systems for collecting and accessing scholarship information. Mr. Spayer suggested several ways to support scholarship including offsetting copyright fees and removing obstacles so more research could be done. He announced the creation of the Lederman Scholarship program to recognize faculty and staff work and noted that the addition of Julie Christman, grants administrator, would be very helpful.

Trustee Roche wondered to what extent the focus of scholarship was explicitly related to IMSA's mission and strategic plan. Trustee Núñez highlighted the importance of publishing in world-class publications, noting that no such journals were on the list distributed. Trustee Budzik commented that significant scholarship would help with fundraising efforts. Mr. Spayer noted that IMSA has a broader definition of scholarship than publishing in peer-reviewed journals.

Strategy 3 (Expansion)

Strategy 3 implementation leaders Michelle Kolar, Dr. Don Porzio and Jane St. Pierre reviewed the context of the strategy and action plans for consulting services, existing programs for potential expansion, STEM policy advocacy, and professional development. Ms. St. Pierre emphasized the importance of experimentation and relationships for IMSA as a teaching and learning laboratory. She spoke of work with universities and Regional Offices of Education,

data-driven needs assessments, evaluation tools and logic models. She said that Dr. Purva Rushi would serve as IMSA's public advocacy coordinator.

Ms. Kolar reviewed establishing the process to assess consulting services requests, determining offerings and a developing a recovery-based fee structure. Dr. Porzio discussed potential expansion of existing programs and creating a review team to evaluate Excel. Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius asked whether IMSA has data to show how Excel students have done. Dr. McGee replied that as part of his goals he and Dr. Porzio have been tracking the number of students, how many have graduated from IMSA and what colleges they attend.

Trustees asked about diversified funding models for consulting services, ownership and sharing of materials and data, and mathematics programs (featured at the January Board Meeting) for expansion. Dr. McGee noted recent requests from Belleville and Taylorville.

Snapshot: Educator Programs

Dr. Susan Bisinger highlighted the work of the Office of Statewide Educator Initiatives, established to promote educator learning throughout Illinois. She cited professional growth opportunities for teachers through established programs such as IMSA Excellence 2000+ and Problem-Based Learning (PBL), as well as new offerings including Educator Energizers and the History of Science Seminars. She discussed programs for preservice teachers including the Golden Apple Summer Institute and the Teacher Candidate Institutes conducted in collaboration with SIU Edwardsville, SIU Carbondale and National Lewis University, along with other professional development programs like the February 26 Institute Day at IMSA attended by more than 200 educators from 4 counties. Dr. Bisinger presented a brief video showing clips of teachers' positive responses to programs in which they participated.

Evaluation plans, developing and writing logic models, identifying data to measure a program's impact, success indicators, data collection techniques and consulting services were discussed. Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius recommended focusing on high quality professional development models and limiting other offerings. Trustee Núñez said he would like more information on how different offerings are evaluated. Trustee Budzik cited the need to measure the teachers' responses which based on the video were "fantastic." Trustee Roche pointed out that good professional development data is difficult to obtain; he said Chicago Public Schools was tracking students' performance before and after teachers participated in professional development. Chairman Isoye noted that District 207 was working with IMSA and Problem-Based Learning.

Program Review Follow Up: Student Inquiry and Research (SIR)

Dr. Judith Scheppler reviewed improvements in the Student Inquiry and Research program since the last program review. She said SIR participation demographics closely reflected IMSA's demographics, with an overrepresentation in Asian Americans and an underrepresentation in African American and Latinos.

Dr. Scheppler discussed evaluating the success of the program through student recognitions, coauthors of abstracts and/or presenters at conferences. She reported an 88.4% participation rate in the Class of 2010 and increasing summer participation. She previewed the April 28 IMSAloquium, demonstrations of sophisticated research projects by IMSA students, and noted that ironically this was also the first day of Prairie State Exams, high-stakes standardized testing

for other Illinois students. She shared examples of sharing IMSA's SIR program, including the chapter written by herself, Dr. Sue Styer, Dr. Don Dosch, Joe Traina and Chris Kolar, titled "Student Inquiry and Research: Developing Students' Authentic Inquiry Skills" in the book Inquiry: The Key to Exemplary Science.

Mr. Knight asked if more mentors were needed; Dr. Scheppler replied no, that the need now was for more staff to assist. Trustee Núñez questioned whether there had been a study comparing students who participated in SIR and those who did not. Dr. Scheppler replied no, adding that staff would like to do this in the future.

Chairman Isoye thanked Dr. Scheppler, Dr. Bisinger, and all the Strategy leaders for their great work and progress.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Núñez and seconded by Trustee Roche to adjourn the meeting. Voting aye were Trustees Isoye, Budzik, Dyson, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius and Roche. The motion passed by vote of 6 ayes, 0 nays. The meeting was adjourned at 12:47 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Steven T. Isoye
Chairman

Catherine C. Veal
Secretary