



**Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®**

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

**Board of Trustees Regular Meeting  
Horwitz Conference Room  
1500 Sullivan Road, Aurora, IL 60506  
January 21, 2015  
Minutes**

**Call to Order**

Chairman Griffin called the meeting to order at 8:30 a.m.

**Roll Call**

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

**Members Present:** Trustees Sheila Griffin, Eric Brown, Jay Budzik (via teleconference), Steven Isoye, Leslie Juby, Mary Kalantzis (via Polycom), Carey Mayer, Luiz Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, Erin Roche, Steve Sims.

**Members Absent:** Trustees He, Rosner (arrived 8:35 a.m.), Anderson, Applegate, Craig and Koch

**Closed Session**

Chairman Griffin requested a motion to go into closed session to review closed session minutes from November 19, 2014, and Employment, Performance and Compensation of Specific Employees.

A motion was made by Trustee Brown and seconded by Trustee Isoye to go into closed session for these purposes. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Brown, Budzik, Isoye, Juby, Kalantzis, Mayer, Olszewski-Kubilius, Núñez, Roche, Rosner, and Sims. The motion passed by a vote of 12 ayes to 0 nays.

**Closed Session Held**

**Reconvene in Open Session**

The Board reconvened in open session at 9:35 a.m.

**Roll Call**

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

**Members Present:** Trustees Sheila Griffin, Eric Brown, Jay Budzik (via teleconference), Steven Isoye, Leslie Juby, Mary Kalantzis (via Polycom), Carey Mayer, Luiz Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, Erin Roche, Marsha Rosner, and Steve Sims.

**Members Absent:** Trustees Kathy He, Karen Hunter Anderson, James Applegate, Jeff Craig, and Christopher Koch.

**Liaisons Present:** Eric Hawker for IMSA Faculty, Vinesh Kannan for IMSA Student Council, Ross Hemphill for IMSA Fund

**Liaisons Absent:** Melvin Bacani for IMSA Alumni, Bryan Mathie for IMSA Parents Association

### **Chairman's Good News Items**

For Chairman Griffin, Trustee Juby reported good news items:

#### **First, Our Students**

Both of Illinois' Regional Finalists in the 2014 Siemens Competition in Math, Science & Technology are IMSA students, the Siemens Foundation announced recently. They are two of less than 100 Regional Finalists in the nationwide competition, selected from more than 4,500 entrants. IMSA was also well represented at the Semifinalist level, with five of Illinois' 12 students hailing from the Academy.

One of our juniors won a bronze medal in the 2014 Math Prize for Girls Olympiad. This is an elite competition among the 41 top students in the 2014 Math Prize for Girls Competition.

Another junior was named an American Council of Teachers of Russian "Russian Scholar Laureate" for 2014! She was selected for being one of the 30 most outstanding Russian students in the United States.

Three students were named as some of the top innovative high school students in Illinois by the *Celebrating High School Innovators* program. This program is sponsored by the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign and is endorsed by the Governor's Office of the State of Illinois, as well as organizations such as the Illinois Principals Association.

#### **Second, Our Alumni**

Two alumni were cited as authors of an exciting new paper published by Northwestern University for work they did while matriculated at IMSA. They participated in a research team that has developed a noninvasive MRI approach that can detect Alzheimer's disease in its early stages, well before any symptoms appear in a living animal.

And, at just 21-years-old, Sabrina Pasterski, IMSA Class of 2010, was named on the 30 under 30: Science list of "Young Scientists Who Are Changing the World" by *Forbes*. She is a Ph.D. candidate in physics at Harvard University and has published two lauded papers in her field.

### **Third, Our Staff**

Several of our English faculty published or presented recently, one in *Comics through Time: A History of Icons, Idols, and Ideas*, one in the 2014 *Notes on American Literature* (vol. 23), a publication of The National Council of Teachers of English Assembly on American Literature, and one during a roundtable presentation that was sponsored by the Conference of English Education (CEE) Commission on the Teaching of Poetry at the 2014 Annual Convention of the National Council of Teachers of English.

Christopher Kolar, director of institutional research and effectiveness, moderated a plenary special session regarding expanding opportunities for underrepresented populations, "Issues Relevant to Expanding Specialized STEM Schools in the US," at the National Association of Gifted Children (NAGC) Annual Convention on November 13, 2014 in Baltimore.

We're especially pleased that Dr. Torres is an invited plenary panel presenter for the first-ever convening of the principals of all 227 selective public high schools in the country. This summit, convened by the Jack Kent Cooke Foundation, will address *Closing the Excellence Gap: Nurturing Talent of High-Achieving, Low-Income Students*.

### **Resolution**

Chairman Griffin read a resolution honoring Trustee Kalantzis and expressed the Board's appreciation for her service. Dr. Kalantzis thanked the Board and Chairman Griffin, paid tribute to Dr. Stephanie Pace Marshall's vision and called IMSA "an impressive, successful experiment." She said serving as an IMSA Trustee taught her much about Illinois, the STEM domain and being a professional in this state.

### **Reports of Liaisons**

#### ***IMSA Student Council***

Vinesh Kannan highlighted the Innovation Hub Intersession, Chemistry Club National Competition and the Student Computer Science Initiative.

#### ***IMSA Alumni Association***

For Melvin Bacani, Paul Milano reported on summer reunion planning, communications, publishing their "Alumni – How to Reconnect w/IMSA" roadmap, and alumni returning to IMSA campus to teach classes ranging from "Martial Arts" to Nuclear Weapons and WMDs."

#### ***IMSA Fund Board***

Ross Hemphill reported on calendar year-end fundraising, the new corporate Council ("STEM Business Network"), a gathering of San Francisco Bay area alumni interested in the Innovation Hub, and an anonymous foundation's interest in the Innovation Hub and Science Labs. He also noted that several IMSA Fund Board members were able to take advantage

of an anonymous foundation's challenge grant offering \$1,000 to any board member soliciting three or more contacts for \$500 or more and also matching any gift received up to \$2,500.

### ***IMSA Faculty***

Dr. Eric Hawker spoke about the principal search committee, fall presentations at conferences, published articles and the National Science Teachers Association conference in March.

### **Board Business - Action Items**

#### **Minutes November 19, 2014 Board Meeting Closed Session**

A motion was made by Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius and seconded by Trustee Roche to approve the minutes of the November 19, 2014 Closed Session as reviewed in today's Closed Session. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Brown, Budzik, Isoye, Juby, Kalantzis, Mayer, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche, Rosner and Sims. The motion passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 nays.

#### **Resolution Honoring Retiring Trustee Dr. Mary Kalantzis**

Trustee Griffin presented the following resolution to Trustee Kalantzis for her commitment and expertise while on the IMSA Board of Trustees.

**WHEREAS**, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy was established to offer a uniquely challenging education for students talented in the areas of mathematics and science and to stimulate further excellence in mathematics and science for all Illinois schools; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academy has authored an inspiring chapter of leadership, achievement and impact in its almost three decades; and

**WHEREAS**, the Academy's success and sustainability depends in large part on the vision and strength of its governing Board; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Mary Kalantzis served with distinction as a Trustee from 2007 to 2015; and

**WHEREAS**, Dr. Kalantzis gave generously of her time, energy and talents to advance the Academy's mission on behalf of the People of Illinois; and

**WHEREAS**, her knowledge, skills and expertise, along with her high expectations, keen insights, sound judgment and professional candor, served the Academy exceptionally well;

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that the Board of Trustees of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy gratefully acknowledges the dedication and contributions of Dr. Mary Kalantzis; that we deeply appreciate her years of distinguished service to the Academy and People of Illinois; and that we look forward to working with her in new ways in the future.

Adopted by the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy Board of Trustees on January 21, 2015.

A motion was made by Trustee Roche and seconded by Trustee Budzik to adopt the Resolution for Dr. Mary Kalantzis. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Brown, Budzik, Isoye, Juby, Kalantzis, Mayer, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche, Rosner and Sims. The motion passed by a vote of 12 ayes, 0 nays.

### **Report of the Treasurer**

Kimberly Corrao reported FY15 financial highlights being consistent with the prior year's activity. Revenue and spending to date is typical for what we expect to see at this point in the year and spending remains within the levels established and approved by the Board at the start of FY15.

She noted the contribution report estimates FY15 expenditures from the Income Fund and Local Fund (LF) will exceed revenue by \$844,682. This shortfall is due to the planned expenditure of \$960,000 for completion of the exterior portion of the residence halls project. Excluding this expenditure the FY15 contribution report would report a breakeven budget.

Ms. Corrao stated the Grant Funding Report as of December 31<sup>st</sup> shows total FY15 grant funding and the investment report continues to reflect an average yield that is consistent with the rate reported by the Illinois Funds administered by the Illinois Office of the Treasurer.

Ms. Corrao stated that FY16 budget development by IMSA program area begins this month. She stated her goal is to have a solid draft budget in place which will then be revisited and adjusted based on the State's passage of its Fiscal 2016 budget.

Trustee Roche asked if the grant funding distribution was consistent; Ms. Corrao replied no, due to state grants for capital.

***Trustee Kalantzis left the meeting at 10:00 am.***

### **Report of the President**

Dr. Torres referenced the "Leadership Matters" section of his report, calling attention to recent meetings with legislative and educational leaders in Chicago and Macomb and IMSA's hosting of an Illinois P-20 Council meeting. Trustee Roche said now was a good time to help the Chicago Public Schools with high quality curriculum and assessment in STEM.

### ***ACTION ITEMS***

#### **Consent Agenda**

Dr. Torres recommended approval of the Consent Agenda as presented, with the removal of the proposed Academic Calendar 2015-16. A motion was made by Trustee Rosner and seconded by Trustee Brown to approve the Consent Agenda as modified. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Brown, Budzik, Isoye, Juby, Mayer, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche, Rosner and Sims. The motion passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays.

The following items were approved:

**Minutes**

- November 19, 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

**Personnel Items**

**Resignations**

Kirsty A. Montgomery, Faculty FT, History/Social Science; Kathleen M. Schmidt, Curriculum and Professional Development Specialist.

**Retirements**

Clay R. Sewell, Faculty FT, Fine Arts, effective June 30, 2015 (25 years); Catherine C. Veal, Vice President for Strategy and Policy, effective June 30, 2015 (29 years).

**New Staff**

Maricela Acosta, Custodian, effective January 5, 2015; Douglas A. Kotlarczyk, Part-time Faculty, History/Social Science, effective January 7, 2015 through June 3, 2015; Christine L. Moskalik, Statewide Student Initiatives (SSI) Specialist.

**Change in Status**

Daniel W. Gleason, Director, Academic Programs, compensation adjustment for degree earned

**Part-time**

**Athletics/Co-Curricular**

Jordan S. Davis, Clock/Scoreboard Operator; Robert W. Vandrey, Head Coach – Bowling.

**Professional Field Services**

Cathy Barnes, SSI FUNshop Teacher-Metro East Field Office.

**Learning Opportunities for 2015-2016**

**Supplemental Funding Policy** - minor revisions

**Separate Action Item – Academic Calendar 2015-2016**

A motion was made by Trustee Roche and seconded by Trustee Rosner to approve the Academic Calendar 2015-2016 as modified, removing the Parents Association Council meeting dates which could change. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Brown, Budzik, Isoye, Juby, Mayer, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche, Rosner and Sims. The motion passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays.

## **Information and Discussion Items**

### ***President's 90-Day Listening and Learning Plan Results***

Dr. Torres thanked Rich Harvest Farms for hosting IMSA's recent Administrative Retreat. He reviewed three broad pillars: STEM Teaching and Learning (recalibrate legislative charges #1 and #2 and conceive an international strategy); Operational Excellence (publish IMSA's expected outcomes, publicize results of the economic impact study, design and implement a sustainable fiscal model, execute on the Facilities Master Plan creatively); and Stakeholder Engagement (ensure effective governance, strengthen relationships with legislators and local communities, engage and partner with alumni and parents).

Dr. Torres stated IMSA is not broken and not a turnaround, but is not living up to its potential and "our calling." He said we have lowered our sights and "settled" and need to discover again our laboratory identity. He said change in a mature organization is challenging, but there is a need to reimagine, reinvent and create a clear vision for IMSA's future. He said IMSA needs to influence leaders who influence others.

Dr. Torres said he will establish three Presidential Committees:

1. Standards of Significant Learning -- update and align to integrate disciplines and design them into the life of the Academy and possibly faculty evaluation.
2. STEM Social Entrepreneurship -- design, implement and assess new courses focused on entrepreneurship, innovation and creativity, including social entrepreneurship.
3. Fiscal Model -- conceive, design, propose for implementation and assessment of a new fiscal business model that creates sustainable income for IMSA that allows the institution to decrease reliance on the State of Illinois for support.

Trustee Budzik said he thought IMSA could do a better job of integrating its two legislative charges. With regard to innovation, Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius encouraged Dr. Torres to start in the Academy, then take it out. She also recommended consulting with higher education admissions directors on how to evaluate today's students. Trustee Rosner expressed support for an economic impact study and better engagement of alumni.

Dr. Torres stated he will present 3-5 outcomes and a one-page strategy in March.

### ***IMSA's Innovation Hub***

Chief Innovation Officer Britta McKenna introduced IN2, Steve and Jamie Chen Center for Innovation & Inquiry, reviewing facility renderings, program plans, and connections with other innovation hubs.

Ms. McKenna said IN2 will house IMSA's TALENT program (Total Applied Learning for Entrepreneurs) and be a "home base" for other teens who already are or aspire to be STEM entrepreneurs. It will be a dynamic place to try out ideas where Entrepreneurs or Innovators in Residence provide both leadership and expertise. She said students will have the opportunity to learn while testing new and emerging technologies alongside our STEM partners who develop it, participate in a learning lab where computers science and coding classes are offered to equip learners as developers of new technologies instead of



consumers or use the clean room technology to rapid prototype your MVP with a 3-D printer. The Hub will be a hive of innovation where project collaborators are welcome and new ideas are conjured up at the Idea Bar or on a white board.

Ms. McKenna stated that there will be two main areas of impact: (1) entrepreneurship and innovation in STEM teaching, learning and talent development; and (2) STEM ideas and business development. Ms. McKenna said IN2 will become a new front door to IMSA for the Fox Valley Business community, both in its physical location, and what it will showcase. With a generous lead gift from alumnus and YouTube co-founder Steven Chen \$1 million lead gift for the development of a 6,400 sq. ft. dedicated space, the project will cost \$1.9 million with fundraising efforts for the remaining \$900,000 beginning in spring 2015. She said construction on the Innovation Hub is expected to begin in 2015 depending on funding and construction schedules coordinated with the State of Illinois.

*Dr. Torres and Ms. McKenna led a short field trip to the future site of IN2.*

After returning to the Horwitz Conference Room, Trustees and staff discussed plans and possibilities for IN2. Trustees were encouraged to stay afterwards for the public announcement and community reception.

Chairman Griffin announced that the next Regular Board meeting will be held on March 18, 2015, with the Executive Committee scheduled to meet on February 18, 2015.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Trustee Rosner and seconded by Trustee Budzik to adjourn the meeting. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Brown, Budzik, Isoye, Juby, Mayer, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche, Rosner and Sims. The motion passed by a vote of 11 ayes, 0 nays.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:40 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelia MB Griffin  
Chairman

Catherine C. Veal  
Secretary of the Board