



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
March 18, 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: Sheila Griffin, Jay Budzik (via teleconference), Leslie Juby, Carey Mayer, Luis Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, Erin Roche, Marsha Rosner (via teleconference), Steve Sims and Alfred Tatum

Members Absent: Kathy He, Eric Brown, Steve Isoye, Karen Hunter Anderson, James Applegate, Jeff Craig and Christopher Koch

Closed Session

Chairman Griffin requested a motion to go into closed session to review closed session minutes from January 21, 2015 and Employment, Performance and Compensation of Specific Employees.

A motion was made by Trustee Juby and seconded by Trustee Isoye to go into closed session for these purposes. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Budzik, Juby, Mayer, Olszewski-Kubilius, Núñez, Roche, Rosner, Sims and Tatum. 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 9:45 a.m.

Roll Call

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

Members Present: Shelia Griffin, Jay Budzik (via teleconference), Leslie Juby, Carey Mayer, Luis Núñez, Paula Olszewski-Kubilius, Erin Roche, Marsha Rosner (via teleconference), Steve Sims and Alfred Tatum.

Members Absent: Trustees He, Brown, Isoye, Anderson, Applegate, Craig, and Koch.

Liaisons Present: Dr. Eric Hawker for IMSA Faculty, Vinesh Kannan for IMSA Student Council, Bryan Mathie for IMSA Parent Association Council and Paul Milano, representing John Hoesley, for IMSA Fund.

Chairman's Good News Items

Chairman Griffin reported good news items:

First, Our Students

Five IMSA students had their original research recognized at the 2015 American Academy of Science (AAAS) Annual Meeting in San José, California, earning prestigious honors for their impressive work and receiving Lifetime Fellowship and Full Honors for "Outstanding Achievement at the National Level in Scientific Research and Leadership" from the AAAS, an international non-profit dedicated to advancing science for the benefit of all people. A team of IMSA students was named an Outstanding Finalist, the highest ranking possible, in the High School Mathematical Contest in Modeling (HiMCM) worldwide math competition. Out of 671 teams IMSA finished among the top 9, which marked the 9th time in the last 10 years that an IMSA team has achieved the highest possible ranking. Sophomore Isabella Spinelli, a member of the Chicago Youth Symphony Orchestras' Quattro Voci String Quartet, will accompany the Orion Ensemble in an upcoming performance at PianoForte Studios in Chicago.

Second, Our Alumni

Jason Orloff ('90) and his wife started a consulting company five years ago, ChE Statistics, that is focused on pharmaceutical engineering. He was just retained by the World Health Organization for the development of the newest generation of polio vaccines that will replace the oral polio vaccination and its inherent risk of causing a vaccine derived polio mutant. Lavina Jadhvani ('01) accepted the position of Casting Director for Lifeline Theatre, a Rogers Park theatre currently in its 32nd season. Jadhvani, who was named *Time Out Chicago's* Best Next Generation Stage Director, previously served as a volunteer for Lifeline Theatre and has worked as an Artistic Associate at Silk Road Rising and Oak Park Festival Theatre. She is completing a Master of Fine Art (MFA) at DePaul University's Theatre School. *Wharton Magazine*, a publication of the prestigious University of Pennsylvania Wharton School of Business, recently named Jason Wiley ('99) to their "40 Under 40" list of exciting young alumni. Wiley is the co-founder of Bridge Agency, a marketing and branding firm in New York whose work includes the HBO series *Game of Thrones*; ESPN; and a video series for Lil Wayne.

Third, Our Staff

At the National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) 2015 Chicago National Conference, held March 12-15, 2015, sixteen presenters and co-presenters from IMSA offered eleven sessions. Faculty and Professional Field Services Staff presented on topics that included Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS), science collaboration, developing partnerships, and learner-centered instruction.

Three faculty and staff were published in the annual 2015 *Illinois Association of Gifted Children (IAGC) Journal*:

- Leah Kind, "Spread Newspapers Around: Students Acting! The Invaluable Role of Modern Theater Class in a STEM Environment"
- Adam Kotlarczyk, "Tolkien and Gifted Students: Blending Creative and Critical Thinking"
- Adrienne Coleman and alumnae Kayla Ingram ('14), "Is STEM for All? Perspectives of Black and Latino Students on STEM Motivation."

Dr. Torres hosted an event of the Superintendents' Commission for the Study of Demographics and Diversity on February 20, 2015. Ten superintendents participated as a way to become familiarized with IMSA and discuss how we might assist their districts in stimulating further excellence in STEM education in their settings.

Welcome New Trustee

Chairman Griffin introduced our new Trustee, Dr. Alfred W. Tatum, and welcomed him to the IMSA Board of Trustees. She said she was thrilled to have him join us and looks forward to benefiting from his expertise and contributions. Dr. Tatum thanked Chairman Griffin and expressed his appreciation, adding that the Board has a reputation for being dedicated.

Reports of Liaisons

IMSA Student Council

Vinesh Kannan ('15) reported on three programs and events: LEAD, Med Night and Simulation H.

IMSA Alumni Association

Melvin Bacani ('90) reported working with Jasmine Kwasa ('09), who is with an alumni group raising awareness for minority recruitment and retention, to integrate that additional facet to the Student/Alumni Mentorship Program, an alumni event hosted by Cathy Veal and an upcoming alumni visit to Seattle.

IMSA Fund Board

Paul Milano indicated that the financial numbers for February are reaching their goals and that he's hopeful that a generous gift from an anonymous foundation will be directed to the IMSA Fund to support renovations for science laboratories and IN2. He noted the upcoming STEM Business Network launch and a new Fund Board member.

IMSA Faculty

Dr. Eric Hawker announced that a Faculty Forum was newly formed: that several faculty members presented the NSTA conference in Chicago, a science curriculum meet with Trustee Dr. Marsha Rosner and her husband, Dr. Robert Rosner.

IMSA Parent Association Council

Bryan Mathie reported there is a lack of engagement between the PAC Board and IMSA parents. He announced the upcoming voting for the PAC Board and said that PAC will debut a new website, a bi-weekly newsletter, and plans for increasing communications and engagement with parents.

Board Business - Action Items

Minutes January 21, 2015 Board Meeting Closed Session as corrected

A motion was made by Trustee Juby and seconded by Trustee Núñez to approve the minutes of the January 21, 2014 Closed Session as reviewed and corrected in today's Closed Session. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Budzik (via teleconference), Juby, Mayer, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche, Rosner, Sims and Tatum. The motion passed by a vote of 10 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. The Education Assistance Fund (EAF) budget appropriation was reported as follows: The FY15 expenditure budget for EAF has been updated to reflect a \$377,450 Appropriation reduction. This reduction was requested by the Governor's Office of Management and Budget (GOMB) to help address the State's current fiscal crisis.

- Original EAF Appropriation, July 1, 2014 - \$18,445,700
- Current EAF Appropriation, January 26, 2015 - \$18,068,250

Ms. Corrao stated that on March 2, the Academy began its annual EAF sweep for the purpose of reallocating the budgeted EAF funds that will not be spent before the Academy's year-end to projects which address the objectives of our legislative charges, highest priority outcomes or other under-funded needs. She stated as we approach the end of FY15, expenditures currently budgeted in other funds may be moved to EAF to achieve this goal.

She noted the contribution report estimates FY15 expenditures from the Income Fund and Local Fund (LF) will exceed revenue by \$829,017. This shortfall is due to the planned expenditure of \$960,000 for completion of the exterior portion of the residence halls project. Exiting cash reserves will be used to fund this expense. Excluding this expenditure the FY15 contribution report would report a surplus of \$130,983.

FY16 budget development by IMSA program area begins this month. The 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. Ms. Corrao stated the Grant Funding Report as of February 28 shows total FY15 grant funding of around \$1,573,000. A summary breakdown of grants is as follows: 31.6% from restricted or unrestricted individual contributions to the IMSA fund, 30% from government sources (ISBE, IBHE, DCEO, etc.), and 38.4% from private sources.

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.

Report of the President

Dr. Torres referenced the "Leadership Matters" section of his report, calling attention to IMSA's presence and leadership at National Science Teachers Association (NSTA) conference held March 12-15 in Chicago. Dr. Torres highlighted IMSA Talent Power Pitch 2015 and Professional Development Day, congratulated Dr. Krouse for her work with IMSA students on the Moody Mega Math Challenge, and remarked on upcoming Clash of the Halls. He also thanked Dr. Rosner and her husband for meeting with the faculty to address content and conceptual learning with Next Generation Science Standards (NGSS). Dr. Torres said he will be tapping the professional expertise of the Board members. He ended his report by stating that next week is Senate Appropriations and "we will do our best to represent IMSA and defend our request."

ACTION ITEMS

Consent Agenda

Dr. Torres recommended approval of the Consent Agenda as presented. A motion was made by Trustee Roche and seconded by Trustee Olszewski-Kubilius to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Budzik, Juby, Mayer, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche, Rosner (via teleconference), Sims and Tatum. The motion passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 nays.

The following items were approved:

Minutes

- January 21, 2015 Regular Board Meeting Minutes

Personnel Items

NOTE: Compensation rates vary depending on a number of factors including but not limited to an individual's education, an individual's previous experience, the complexity of the assigned responsibilities, and the duration of the work.

Separations

We thank the following individuals for their contributions to the IMSA community and wish them the best in future endeavors:

Reginald L. Johnson, Faculty FT, History/Social Science, effective February 19, 2015

Christopher Kolar, Director of Institutional Research and Effectiveness, effective January 31, 2015

Dhruti Patel, Energy Center Manager, effective March 5, 2015

New Staff

Michael A. Aviles, Part-time Security Officer

Thomas L. Fuerst III, Part-time Security Officer

Part-time

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

- a. IRC: *Katherine A. Hinterlong*, IRC Evening Study Supervisor and Circulation Assistant
- b. Professional Field Services: *Jonathan Loucks*, Allies Assistant Teacher, Statewide Student Initiatives (SSI)
- c. Wellness: *Devon C. Kosan*, Pool Supervisor

Professional Lobbyist Services Renewal for FY16

Legal Contract Renewal for FY16

Policy Revisions (2) and Rescission (1)

- **Goals, Objective and Purposes Policy (rescind)**
- **Board Rules for Conducting Business (amend)**
- **Release of Credit Information (amend)**

Illinois High School Association IHSA 2015-2016 Membership Renewal

Resolution #31914 – Authorizing Application for Grand Victoria Riverboat Funds and Execution all Necessary Documents

Information and Discussion Items

Policies – 1st Reading

Electronic Communication with Students (New)

Mary Spreitzer presented the Electronic Communication with Students policy and related Expectations. She said this addresses a longstanding need at IMSA and noted we have considered several schools districts' policies and procedures, as well as legal counsel recommendations. The guidelines will be reviewed on a regular basis, and the Policy provides the President or his designee with the ability to amend guidelines as needed.

She cited Resident Counselors' online gaming nights and two pages as potential areas for flexibility.

Selection of Schools – IMSA Fusion (New)

Dora Phillips, representing Michelle Kolar, presented this policy and stated the new policy shifts the focus from “admissions of students” to “selection of schools,” reflecting the fact that IMSA is responsible for selecting schools, not selecting students; the latter is the responsibility of our IMSA Fusion program sites.

Admissions Policy (Amend)

Kelly Lofgren stated summarized the policy review process: external review by LuAnn Smith and reviewed the proposed changes, including simplification and clarification of key terms and concepts related to eligible and qualified, review committee evaluation rating scale changes, addition of SAT-Writing scores for selection decisions, and different comparator demographics to be considered in selection. The Policy aligns well with our sister schools. Trustee Paula Olszewski-Kubilius recommended a minor edit on pg. 4 for greater clarity and also mentioned the importance of inter-rater reliability training.

IMSA’s Priority Outcomes

Dr. Torres began by thanking Trustee Roche for his support and Mary Sprietzer for a great job at the administrative retreat for reviewing and collating attendees’ comments. Dr. Torres emphasized the importance of the entrepreneurial mindset and identifying strong indicators and a dashboard to the Board of Trustees to show progress engaging our institution to in this direction. Foundational pillars and priority outcomes includes access, interest and fluency. He emphasized the need to strengthen our identity as a teaching and learning laboratory; to develop partnerships; and to write and publish our work. Trustee Rosner spoke about the gold standard for research and the importance of flexibility for new types of teaching and learning in an educational laboratory setting. Dr. Torres stated that IMSA’s six to seven year overall impact goal is that by 2022, “IMSA is a recognized global leader and catalyst in equity and excellence in STEM teaching and learning, innovation and entrepreneurship.” Dr. Roche suggested developing STEM educator proficiency and a program for badging; Mr. Mathie added there is integrity behind badging programs that is viewed for as beneficial. Trustee Sims commented on the value of real-time feedback form learners so teacher can adjust instruction and said this would be publishable.

Chairman Griffin announced that the next Regular Board meeting will be held on May 20, 2015, with the Executive Committee scheduled to meet on April 15, 2015.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Trustee Rosner and seconded by Trustee Núñez to adjourn the meeting. Voting aye were Trustees Griffin, Budzik, Juby, Mayer, Núñez, Olszewski-Kubilius, Roche, Rosner, Sims and Tatum. The motion passed by a vote of 10 ayes, 0 nays.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:00 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Shelia MB Griffin
Chairman

Catherine C. Veal
Secretary of the Board