

FALL/WINTER2008

News for Alumni and Friends of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy®

## Networks for Innovation and Growth

2008 IMSA Fund Annual Report



## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dr. Glenn W. "Max" McGee IMSA President

This issue of *IMSA360* addresses an important theme – IMSA and its networks and partners are making an enduring impact on education. By bringing together the best minds from all walks of life and by combining our resources, we accelerate the delivery of innovative programs that make a difference in the lives of students and teachers throughout Illinois and beyond.

In this issue, you will learn how IMSA and the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education, our 501(c)(3) not-for-profit entity, work with educational, business, government and entrepreneurial partners to develop, test and share innovative ways to enhance teacher skills and inspire children to excel in mathematics and science. For example, IMSA, the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity, the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, iBIO and others are partnering on Illinois Innovation Talent, a pilot project designed to promote innovation-centered education and to increase student achievement in mathematics, science and technology. Through a partnership with the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC), IMSA faculty and staff are developing and implementing an online professional development model for middle school mathematics and science teachers statewide with a federal grant through the Illinois Board of Higher Education. The UIUC partnership also includes joint research projects, student research opportunities and other initiatives.

IMSA and its corporate partners share an important common goal – extending IMSA's reach to provide teachers and students throughout Illinois and our nation with opportunities to experience deep conceptual learning through imagination and inquiry. Generous grants from the Motorola Foundation have enhanced IMSA's capacity to provide professional development in Problem-Based Learning (PBL) to teachers in central and southern Illinois and in Chicago. Support from ComEd, An Exelon Company enabled us to launch IMSA-ComEd CyberQuiz 4Kids, an exciting and challenging online mathematics and science quiz program to enhance the problemsolving skills of Illinois students.

Finally, you will learn that alumni, parents, staff members and friends are important members of IMSA's networks to stimulate excellence in education. Their personal giving makes a real impact. For example, in a recent ceremony, IMSA Residence Hall 1503 was renamed Alumni Hall to recognize cumulative alumni donations exceeding \$1,000,000.

In the 21<sup>st</sup> century, we must address enormous challenges with the economy, environment, energy supplies, national security and health care – all areas that benefit tremendously from the talents and skills of scientists, technology specialists, engineers, entrepreneurs and policy leaders. Together, IMSA and members of its extended networks and communities are fulfilling IMSA's mission to "ignite and nurture creative, ethical scientific minds that advance the human condition."

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The mission of IMSA, the world's leading teaching and learning laboratory for imagination and inquiry, is to ignite and nurture creative, ethical scientific minds that advance the human condition, through a system distinguished by profound questions, collaborative relationships, personalized experiential learning, global networking, generative use of technology and pioneering outreach.

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Photography Craig Watson Photography (unless otherwise noted)

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Send comments, questions or story ideas to: Brenda Buschbacher brenda@imsa.edu

## NEWS**HEADLINES**

News for alumni and friends of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy<sup>®</sup> (IMSA)

## Supporters Expand IMSA's Work to Ignite and Nurture Creative, Ethical Scientific Minds

#### Innovation Generation Grant From the Motorola Foundation Expands Professional Development

or the second consecutive year, the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education (IMSA Fund) received a \$100,000 *Innovation Generation Grant* from the Motorola Foundation to enhance teaching and learning in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics). The Motorola Foundation's continued support and generous gift enables IMSA to provide advanced Problem-Based Learning (PBL) professional development for teachers in a new site, in addition to those in central and southern Illinois and the city of Chicago.

#### IMSA Fund Meets Goal for J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation Challenge Grant

The IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education met the challenge grant offered by the J.B. and M.K. Pritzker Family Foundation. The grant matched dollar for dollar all donations up to \$50,000 from IMSA repeat donors for Fiscal Year 08 (until June 30, 2008). Another challenge grant - up to \$50,000 - applies during the current Fiscal Year 09 (July 1, 2008 until June 30, 2009). Donations support: student participation in national and international academic forums and competitions; statewide programs that enable children to discover the wonders of mathematics and science; professional development programs for Illinois teachers; and innovative projects that advance teaching and learning. To donate or learn about programs supported by the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education visit www.imsa.edu/giving.

#### Grants Support Programs for Underserved Students

IMSA is committed to serving underrepresented and underserved students who have talent and interest in



mathematics and science. Private supporters like the Polk Bros. Foundation enable IMSA to offer programs that help underserved students excel in academics. PROMISE – Summer Enrichment for Academics in Mathematics and Science (SEAMS) Program hosts 8<sup>th</sup> grade students in a two-week summer residential experience, and PROMISE – Early Involvement Program is a Saturday enrichment program for students in grade 9.

#### ComEd, An Exelon Company Renews Support for Online Quiz Program

IMSA-ComEd CyberQuiz 4Kids features challenging online mathematics and science brainteasers and word problems for Illinois students in grades 6-9. Students who correctly answer the problems become eligible for random prize drawings. Thanks to ComEd's continued annual support of \$27,000, CyberQuiz 4Kids has encouraged thousands of students from every corner of Illinois to develop problem-solving skills.



IMSA Alumni Association President Andrea (And Croll '97 unveil the new Alumni Hall plaque. (Photo courtesy of Bing Wang)

#### Residence Hall Naming Recognizes Alumni Giving

Residence Hall 1503 was renamed Alumni Hall to recognize cumulative alumni donations exceeding \$1,000,000. A featured speaker in the renaming ceremony held during 2008 Homecoming was John Hoesley '89 who serves as Treasurer of the IMSA Fund Board of Directors.

## Alumni Support IMSA Programs in Southern Illinois

Alumni believe in "IMSA for All" by helping to support IMSA's statewide programs. Alumni Henry Chong '92 and David Kung '89 targeted their support to the IMSA Kids Institute's first summer camp in Carbondale. Kids Institute programs help children to discover the joys of learning as they apply mathematics and science to solve real-world challenges such as building rockets, solving crimes, confronting local environmental issues and diagnosing diseases.

#### IMSA Serves as Key Pilot Site for National Study

IMSA is the key pilot site for developing the instruments for a large-scale, national research study by the American Psychological Association of the impact of specialized public high schools of science, mathematics and technology. IMSA's longitudinal cohort study and student data models are a backbone for the study which involves 30 schools and 6,000 students. IMSA staff members serve on several project advisory panels.

#### IMSA Faculty and Staff Contribute to Their Fields

IMSA President Dr. Glenn W. "Max" McGee was a featured participant of broadcast programs including serving on a panel about educational funding in Illinois on WBEZ 91.5 FM Chicago Public Radio's awardwinning daily magazine program called *Eight Forty Eight* and on WCIU-TV's public affairs program, 26 *North Halsted*. Also, Dr. McGee was featured in the metropolitan Chicago newspaper *Daily Herald's* twopart story profiling his first year as President at IMSA and his plans for the future.

IMSA Coordinator of Student Inquiry and Research Dr. Judy Scheppler and IMSA Coordinator of Research and Evaluation Christopher Kolar authored an article "Your IRB: Educating Students, Monitoring Student Research, and Safeguarding Students as Research Subjects" in the spring 2008 edition of *NCSSSMST Journal*.



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Dr. Stephanie Pace Marshall, IMSA founding president and president emerita, served as an expert advisor and reviewer on the new study, "High Achieving Students in the Era of NCLB (No Child Left Behind)." The report has been recognized in numerous national media outlets including the *Chicago Tribune*, *Chronicle of Higher Education* and *Education Week*.

IMSA Fine Arts faculty member Clay Sewell received a \$10,000 grant from BP's A+ for Energy program for his project, entitled, "Firing a Ceramic Kiln With Alternative Fuels." His proposal was one of more than 1,400 applications submitted nationwide.

## Students Excel in National and Global Venues

Nate Hausfater presented his research project and was confirmed a research scholar in the 2008 Students and Teachers as Research Scientists (STARS) program at the University of Missouri-St. Louis. The program, sponsored by Solutia Inc., Pfizer Inc., LMI Aerospace Inc., D3Technologies and The Solae Company, is designed to generate career interests in the fields of science, technology, engineering and mathematics. Under the guidance of Dr. Robert Marquis, of UM-St. Louis, Nate's summer research project was titled "The Effect of Chemical Defense on Caterpillar Predation."

Je-ok Choi was selected as a semifinalist in the 2008 U.S. Physics Contest. He was among the top 158

semifinalists nationwide who scored exceptionally well on a series of exams administered by the American Association of Physics Teachers (AAPT) and the American Institute of Physics (AIP). Faculty member Brooke Schmidt was recognized by AAPT and AIP for promoting excellence in physics education.

A team of IMSA students guided by IMSA faculty member Dr. Mark Carlson was one of only 16 teams nationwide and the only team from Illinois to receive a 2008-2009 Lemelson-MIT InvenTeam grant. The IMSA students' project, a low-cost, durable water filtration system, was recognized for its solution to the real-world problem of water sanitation in emerging countries. The Lemelson-MIT Program recognizes outstanding inventors, encourages sustainable new solutions to realworld problems, and enables and inspires young people to pursue creative lives and careers through invention.

Yaseen Jamal, Kelsey Lawhorn, Eric Shyu, Karthik Vantakala, and Anthony Yunker were named Regional finalists in the prestigious Siemens Competition. In addition, 10 other students were named semifinalists in the competition including Matthew Castillon, Hyunjii Cho, Kevin Crews, Anamaria Filipac, Bob Lee, Yize Leng, Jimmy Liu, Travis Mui, Suganya Rajendran, and Edward Song. The Siemens Competition was launched in 1998 to recognize America's best and brightest math and science students.

## ALUMNI-IN-ACTION



#### **Rising Star**

**Dr. Scott Gaudi '91** was featured in the 35th anniversary edition (August 2008) of *Astronomy* magazine as one of the "10 Rising Stars of Astronomy." Dr. Gaudi,

assistant professor in the Department of Astronomy at Ohio State University, has been featured in the *New York Times* and the journal *Science* for leading a team of 69 international astronomers in discovering a "scale model of our solar system."



#### Graduate Succeeds and Leads

**Dr. Jay Budzik '95** was appointed by Governor Rod Blagojevich to the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy Board

of Trustees. Budzik was formerly the founder and chief technology officer of Chicago-based MediaRiver (www. mediariver.com). MediaRiver was recently acquired by Perfect Market, Inc., a marketing services firm for publishers that specializes in "lighting up" underutilized web content and creating additional revenue from these assets.

Budzik is co-inventor of MediaRiver's core product, ClickSurge, and led the company's research and development efforts. He now serves as Chief Technology Officer at Perfect Market, Inc.



#### Bringing Home the Gold

For the second consecutive year, **Jenny Iglesias '08** was one of only eight young women selected to compete on the U.S.

team in the China Girls Mathematical Olympiad. This year, Jenny brought home a gold medal in the 2008 competition. In total, the U.S. team received two gold, one silver and five bronze medals in the 2008 Olympiad. Jenny was the only team member from the Midwest.



#### **Global Humanitarian**

Janessa (Stream) Graves '99 received the prestigious Gilbert S. Omenn Award for Academic Excellence, one of the highest graduate awards given from the

School of Public Health and Community Medicine at the University of Washington in Seattle. The award recognizes both exemplary academic achievement and significant contributions to public health. Janessa received her Master of Public Health degree and is now in a doctoral program to pursue studies in Environmental Health. She recently received a grant from the American Public Health Association and Colgate-Palmolive to conduct research on hygiene and hand-washing in western Kenya. This past summer, she worked with the U.S. Centers for Disease Control in Kisumu, Kenya to evaluate hygiene and sanitation curricula for primary schools.

#### **Scholarly Achievements**



Andrew Keller '05 received an Honorable Mention from the Goldwater Foundation and was one of only four nominees named from Michigan State University in the 2008

Goldwater Scholarship Program. The program, honoring Senator Barry M. Goldwater, is designed to foster and encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences and engineering. Andrew attends the Honors College at MSU and has dual majors in physics and East Asian languages and cultures. In addition, Keller serves as a professorial assistant for Dr. Georg Bollen in the National Superconducting Cyclotron Laboratory researching time-of-flight radio-frequency mass separation. He plans to pursue a Ph.D. in physics and has already been published as first author in the *International Journal of Mass Spectrometry.* 



#### **Research Revealed**

The research conducted by **Jenny Kang '06** during a summer mentorship at Drexel University in the Department of Materials Science and Engineering was published

in the Vol.9 No.1, 2008 issue of *Biomacromolecules*. The research, titled "Structurally Colored Thiol Chitosan Thin Films as a Platform for Aqueous Heavy Metal Ion Detection" was conducted in collaboration with several others.



#### All in the Family

Priya Srikanth '04 and Maya Srikanth '00 have both published articles in their respective fields

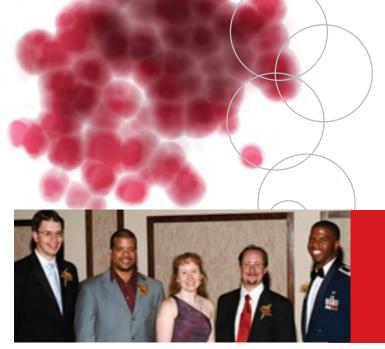
of research. Maya is a graduate of Dartmouth with a degree in genetics and is currently in the M.D./Ph.D. program at Northwestern University. She finished her first year of her Ph.D. studies after two years of medical school. Her research has been published in *The Journal of Biological Chemistry* and *Neuron Glia Biology*. Priya is a graduate of Washington University in St. Louis with a double major in biochemistry and women and gender studies. While there, Priya set three diving records and qualified for the NCAA Division III Swimming/Diving Championships for three consecutive years. Priya was awarded an NCAA Postgraduate scholarship, one of only 20 swimmers/divers nationwide to receive this honor. Her cancer research work while an undergraduate student was also published in *The Journal of Biological Chemistry*.

#### ALUMNI-IN-ACTION

#### 2008 Homecoming Honors Alumni Award Winners and Celebrates Alumni Hall Naming

On Saturday, September 27, 2008, IMSA hosted special Homecoming events for alumni and friends. It was a day full of activities for alumni, parents, students and friends of IMSA. The day started with a ceremony to rename residence hall 1503 "Alumni Hall" and included an unveiling of the Alumni Hall plaque. The plaque presentation was made by John Hoesley '89, treasurer for the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education Board of Directors. He thanked the 900+ alumni who collectively contributed more than \$1 million, resulting in the naming of Alumni Hall.

After lunch in a tented area near Yare, everyone was invited to watch the *Battle of the Smart People: Alumni vs. Students* in the auditorium. It was a fun quiz-style game show of five alumni vs. five current students. After a close game, alumni won 15 to 10. It was a great time and sure to be a Homecoming tradition. We extend our thanks to the students and alumni who participated, including our quizmaster Matthew Knisley '01; Stephanie Brandt '09, Kevin Colby '95, Katie Evans '09, Tiy Goddard '95, Kelsey Lawhorn '09, Troy Nelson '09, Sendhil Revuluri '90, Chris Sedlack '92, Katie Tu '09, and Maria Wilson '00.



Alumni Award recipients pictured include (left to right) Paul Strasma '94, Dr. Sanza Kazadi '90, Dr. Mia Markey '94, Scott Swanson '90 and Captain Kenyatta Ruffin '99. Not pictured are Steven Chen '96, Neal Groothuis '97 and Russel Simmons '95.

After a late afternoon roundtable conversation with Dr. Max McGee, IMSA president, and Steven Isoye, chairman of the IMSA Board of Trustees, alumni activities moved to Pipers Banquet Hall in Aurora for the Second Annual IMSA Board of Trustees Alumni Awards Ceremony and Dinner. Board members Steven Isoye, Dr. Mary Kalantzis, and Erin Roche '89 presented the alumni awards to this year's winners: Steven Chen '96, Neal Groothuis '97, Dr. Sanza Kazadi '90, Dr. Mia K. Markey '94, Captain Kenyatta Ruffin '99, Russel Simmons '95, Paul Strasma '94, and Scott Swanson '90. To view the Homecoming video, visit https://www3.imsa. edu/alumni/news\_events/homecoming.

### COMMUNITYNOTES

Jill Howk Gengler '89 is the Manager of Instructional Technology at the Graduate School of Library and Information Science at the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign. She states, "My husband and I welcomed our third child to our family on February 29, 2008. Margaret Carlyle joins older brothers Elliot Jacob and Henry Patrick at our home in Champaign."

Sendhil Revuluri '90 has moved back to Chicago after spending 10 years in New York and is now the Senior Instructional Specialist for mathematics in the Chicago Public Schools' High School Transformation project. He states, "I'm living in the South Loop and would love to catch up with other alumni in the area!"

Wanda Mahoney '93 states, "I just completed my Ph.D. in occupational therapy from Nova Southeastern University in Florida and started teaching in the occupational therapy department at Chicago State University." Virginia "Ginny" Ryan '98 states,

"This summer I graduated from the University of Oregon School of Law, took the Oregon bar exam, moved to Seattle, and started a job with the Office of Counsel of the Army Corps of Engineers, all within a nine-week period. We're still unpacking, and are trying to relax a little now that the craziness is over."

Adam Van Den Boom '98 is finishing his pediatric medicine internship at Naval Medical Center-Portsmouth in Virginia. He was assigned as the first ship's doctor aboard the USS New York (LPD-21), the ship with the bow stem constructed of 7.5 tons of steel salvaged from the wreckage of the World Trade Center towers and dedicated to the people of New York City. See www.ussnewyork.com for further details.

Carrie (Giordano) Eklund '99 states, "My husband Scott and I are currently serving our second year as Peace Corps volunteers in Jamaica. We are working with the Jamaican Ministry of Health to improve water and sanitation in the Western Region."

Kelly (McArdle) Sulo '01 is starting her Masters in Nursing at Lewis University with a focus as an Adult Nurse Practitioner. She states, "The twins, Fiona and Chiara, are 18 months old." They reside in Plano, IL.

## Contribute to Community Notes Online!

#### What's New in Your Life?

Let us and your fellow IMSA classmates/colleagues know about what you've been doing! Have you recently started a new job or been promoted? Are you involved in new and exciting community service projects or other activities? Have you recently been published, honored or elected? If so, please tell us about it at:

www3.imsa.edu/news/community-notes

IMSA**360** 

2008 IMSA Fund Annual Report

## IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education Donor Recognition & Financial Summary

#### What Is the IMSA Fund?

The IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit corporation that accepts and distributes gifts and grants from the private sector to support IMSA's mission and work. These contributions support programs and services for IMSA students and staff, other Illinois students, educators in Illinois and beyond, and activities for IMSA alumni and parents.

Corporations, foundations, small businesses and individual donors, including board members, alumni, current parents and alumni parents, staff members and friends, make possible numerous opportunities that otherwise would not occur. Gifts to the IMSA Fund are tax deductible to the extent permitted by law. Our Tax Identification Number is #36-3422778.

#### Thank You for Your Support!

Your support is crucial to achieving IMSA's ambitious and critically important mission. Public funding alone cannot "ignite and nurture creative, ethical scientific minds that advance the human condition." With your contributions, IMSA can continue to be an effective innovator that challenges the status quo, takes risks, breaks the mold and gets positive results. IMSA and the IMSA Fund represent a strong public-private partnership among education, government, business and individuals.

#### Your Contributions Support:

- Student participation in national and international academic forums and competitions.
- Statewide programs that enable Illinois children, especially the underserved, to discover the wonders of learning as they apply mathematics and science to build rockets, investigate crimes, confront local environmental issues, diagnose diseases and much more.
- Professional development programs that help Illinois teachers apply inquiry-based and problem-centered curriculum and instruction to their academic settings.
- Innovative and entrepreneurial projects that advance teaching and learning.
- Sophisticated equipment to advance research opportunities.

The IMSA Fund seeks forward-thinking, life-long private sector partners to help ensure that IMSA has the supplemental financial resources it needs to deliver on its promise to Illinois and its vision of hope and possibility for the world.



## Year-End Summary

	For the Year Ended June 30, 2007	% of total	For the Year Ended June 30, 2008	% of total	
PROGRAM SUPPORT AND OTHER EXPENSES					
Program Services	\$607,198.00	81%	\$587,769.00	80%	
Supporting Services					
Fundraising	85,402.00	11%	47,123.00	6%	
Management and General	56,423.00	8%	101,563.00	14%	
Total Expenses	\$749,023.00	100%	\$736,455.00	100%	

Management, general and fundraising expenses increased from \$141,825 in fiscal year 2007 to \$148,686 in fiscal year 2008.

The Fund disbursed \$587,769 and \$607,198 in fiscal years 2008 and 2007 in direct support to the Academy.

#### SUMMARY OF CHANGE IN ASSETS UNDER MANAGEMENT

Beginning Balance	\$3,099,630.00	\$3,803,170.00
Contributions, Pledges, Support	1,153,553.00	991,857.00
Other Revenue	299,010.00	115,087.00
Expenses	(749,023.00)	(736,455.00)
Ending Balance	\$3,803,170.00	\$4,173,659.00

Of the \$4,173,659 in Net Assets, \$1,773,455 is available for the management and operations of the IMSA Fund and for IMSA needs that cannot be funded in other ways.

The IMSA Fund is audited by the Illinois Auditor General. This summary is preliminary; final financial statements will be available after completion of the audit at www.state.il.us/Auditor.

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## The Kaleidoscope Society

The Kaleidoscope Society was created to recognize lifetime giving levels of \$10,000 or more. This Society was created to honor the diversity and generosity of our donors whose collective financial support facilitates the transformation of IMSA's vision and mission into reality. These donors are also recognized on the donor wall located inside IMSA's main entrance. The established donor recognition levels are as follows:

**Cyan Society** (\$5,000,000+)Magenta Society (\$2,500,000+) Violet Society (\$1,000,000+) Indigo Society (\$500,000+) Blue Society (\$250,000+) **Green Society** (\$100,000+)**Yellow Society** (\$50,000+) **Orange Society** (\$25,000+) **Red Society** (\$10,000+)

> ComEd, An Exelon Company Jean R. Finley Ford Motor Company Fund Paul Galvin Memorial Foundation Trust IMSA Alumni Parents IMSA Faculty and Staff Fred and Kay Krehbiel Mr. and Mrs. James R. Lancaster Michael McCool '91 James D. and Marlene F. Pearson Pittway Corporation Charitable Foundation Polk Bros. Foundation Robert Pritzker (Pritzker Foundation) The Searle Funds at The Chicago Community Trust Underwriters Laboratories, Inc. William J. and Jane S. White Jarvis and Tracy Yeh

#### Violet Society (\$1,000,000.00+)

The Grainger Foundation The Harris Family Foundation IMSA Alumni Association

#### Indigo Society (\$500,000.00+)

Anonymous Alumnus Anonymous Business Leader Andrew Corporation and its employees AT&T Foundation Lloyd A. Fry Foundation Hansen-Furnas Foundation, Inc. Mr. Robert H. Malott Alfred P. Sloan Foundation

#### Blue Society (\$250,000.00+)

Michael and Kay Birck BP Caterpillar Foundation Grand Victoria Foundation The Hitachi Foundation IMSA Parents Association Motorola Foundation Tellabs Foundation Toyota USA Foundation

#### Green Society (\$100,000.00+)

Anonymous Alumnus Abbott Laboratories Fund Albert Pick, Jr. Fund Alcatel-Lucent Ameritech-Illinois AMSTED Industries Incorporated Apple Computer, Inc. The Ball Foundation Bell and Howell Information and Learning Bell and Howell Foundation Virginia B. Cherry IMSA360



#### Yellow Society (\$50,000.00+)

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#### Orange Society (\$25,000.00+)

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#### Red Society (\$10,000.00+)

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## IMSA Fund Honor Roll of Donors Fiscal Year 2008 Giving Societies

#### Titans - (\$100,000.00 +) Motorola Foundation Paul Galvin Memorial Foundation Trust

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#### Memorial Gifts and Gifts Made in Honor of

Tributes are designed for a variety of uses at IMSA, yet they all have a shared purpose - to memorialize or honor a family member, friend or colleague.

#### FY08 Gifts were received in loving

memory of Polly Cousins Bernard C. Hollister Julie Namkung '91 Laura Spuehler, in honor of Jennifer Spuehler Mary Van Verst Scott Zager '06

Gifts were also given in honor of: Dr. Luiz Núñez, in appreciation for his leadership and service as Chairman of IMSA's Board of Trustees

#### Members of the Board of Trustees for their commitment to IMSA:

Sheila Griffin Steve Isoye Jack McEachern Marsha Rosner

Andrea Croll '97, for her many contributions as IAA President and as the alumni liaison to the Board of Trustees

The work and commitment of Stephanie Pace Marshall and Cathy Veal

Kathy Bonie's retirement Lisa Gloria '89 Vivian Gibson '98

#### FY08 Gift-In-Kind Contributions

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#### Michael and Kay Birck

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#### **Fiscal Year 2008 Annual Report Credits**

The work of the IMSA Fund Board of Directors and volunteers is supported by staff members in IMSA's Office of Advancement who serve four functions: Alumni Relations, Development, IMSA Fund Business Services and Advancement Management. Advancement Staff include Carolyn Johnson, Paula Miller, Jill Mosshamer, Jane Overstreet, Suzyn Price, Greta Salamando, Jennifer Spuehler and Tom Walter.

While we carefully prepare this donor list, we recognize that errors may have occurred. Please accept our apology if your name is not properly represented and contact the IMSA Fund at (630) 907-5040 so that our records can be corrected. Thank You!

### ALUMNI**CORNER** \/

## Alumni Lead and Learn on IMSA Board of Trustees and IMSA Fund Board of Directors

What happens when alumni are invited to return to the Academy with the power to shape its strategic goals and budget? The alumni who serve on the IMSA Board of Trustees (BoT) and IMSA Fund Board demonstrate that IMSA alumni are just as capable of shaping IMSA as leaders as they were as precocious students. There are nine alumni who have served on the Fund Board or the Board of Trustees. Presently, four alumni serve on the Fund Board: Vanessa Gage '95, John Hoesley '89, Chelsy Hopper '92 and Marty DiMarzio '95. Jay Budzik '95 recently joined Erin Roche '89 on the Board of Trustees. Both Hoesley and Roche currently serve in leadership roles.

Many students and alumni may not understand the role of these two bodies in the overall structure of IMSA. Hoesley admits that after joining the Fund Board, he learned that IMSA is "a much larger and more complex institution than [he] ever appreciated." Gage says that since joining the Fund Board, she has learned that "IMSA is very forwardlooking," much more so than she realized as a student.

Roche, on the other hand, represents students and alumni who perhaps have always understood IMSA's far-ranging scope, observing that "even as a student 20 years ago, [I] wanted to know about IMSA's influence on education throughout the state of Illinois." He said he became a trustee in part "to understand more deeply the connection between IMSA and school transformation efforts around the state and nation." Perhaps his long-term questions about education help to explain his current role as a principal in the Chicago Public Schools.

DiMarzio also believes that he was nominated for the Fund Board because he took the first step-writing a letter to then president Stephanie Pace Marshall, now founding president and president emerita, and then vice president for Advancement Cathy Veal, now vice president for Strategy and Innovation, providing constructive criticism and making recommendations on how the Academy should improve its relationship and reconnect with alumni.

Hoesley says that he joined the Fund Board "because [I] believed that [my] participation would ultimately help the Academy and its students." In his role as Treasurer, he states, "[I] review the Fund's annual budget, assist in developing fundraising programs and setting goals, review the mix and performance of investment assets and help raise funds." He does this to "help grow the Fund into a much larger entity that would be able to provide consistent funding for major capital purchases and programs not covered by the Academy's operating budget." Gage also observes that the Boards allow alumni who have chosen a path outside of math or science to still play a significant role in shaping IMSA. Gage says that before joining the Fund Board she was not sure how she could give back to IMSA as she did not pursue a true math or science career path, but that her position on the Fund Board has allowed her to realize "that there is some way that every alum can contribute or can give something back. Since alumni have gone in so many different directions, you have to find the options that IMSA offers where you fit, be that serving on the Fund Board, teaching at the Academy, or participating in Intersession."

All of the alumni serving on the Boards observed that they can provide a unique perspective. Roche says that although he cannot directly represent alumni on the BoT, he believes that "alumni representatives symbolize the importance of alumni to IMSA." Gage says alumni Fund Board members are in a special place to "see how things worked in the past and also have an insight in how students think." She also states that alumni bring a different perspective about the goals of the institution and how IMSA could be improved. Hoesley believes that their "firsthand experience at the Academy enables [alumni] to visualize what each initiative we are funding is expected to achieve." He further thinks that due to their personal experiences "alums have a vested interest in seeing the Academy continue its success." DiMarzio believes alumni will prove to be very valuable Board members as they "have a longer term connection to the Academy since it is an experience and a community that they have been involved with since they were 15 years old."

Overall, the alumni serving on the Boards truly seem to appreciate the opportunity to help shape the Academy by serving as IMSA Trustees and IMSA Fund Directors. Roche says through his experience, he has found that one of the roles of the BoT is "to create an environment that encourages difficult conversations and probing questions, and to engage the entire IMSA community toward its mission." Furthermore, Gage believes that "it takes a lot of behind-the-scenes stuff to make the IMSA experience what it is on a day-to-day basis," things that students never see, and she believes that her participation on the Fund Board helps IMSA to plan for a future that is yet to be imagined. With alumni like these helping to develop that future, it seems likely it will be a great one.

- Ande Croll '97



MSA and its public and private partners know that teachers are important mentors when it comes to helping children discover the wonders of mathematics, science and technology. That is why IMSA delivers research-based and practice-proven professional development programs throughout Illinois with a special emphasis on helping teachers who work in underserved communities. IMSA works with educators to provide curriculum and instructional practices that focus on imagination, inquiry, problem solving and integration.

## Support Leads to **Professional Development Expansions**

ABOVE - Teachers at the Miles Davis Magnet Academy for Children's Engineering in Chicago participate in an IMSA Problem-Based Learning (PBL) Design Institute.

BELOW - Teachers from IMSA's Excellence 2000+ program participate in hands-on professional development held on IMSA's campus.



#### Motorola Foundation Supports Problem-Based Learning

How can we design a public awareness campaign to promote radon awareness? How can we develop a model rehabilitation habitat for injured foxes? How can we inform the public about the environmental factors that impact Lake Michigan and our drinking water? These are just some of the real-life issues that make science come alive for Illinois teachers and students who participate in IMSA's Problem-Based Learning (PBL) Initiative supported by the Motorola Foundation.

For the second consecutive year, the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education received a \$100,000 Innovation Generation Grant from the Motorola Foundation to help spark Illinois students' interest in STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) fields.

IMSA's PBL Initiative provides advanced PBL Design Institutes, PBL Coaching Institutes or a Facilitator Academy to schools in central and southern Illinois and selected Chicago Public Schools. Problem-Based Learning (PBL) organizes curriculum, instruction and assessment around carefully crafted "illstructured" problems that are relevant to the learners. Students gather and apply knowledge from multiple disciplines as they develop skills to help them compete in the 21<sup>st</sup> century: critical thinking, problem solving and collaboration. Teachers learn how to incorporate the Illinois Learning Standards into designing, implementing and evaluating classroom units that address problems affecting their communities.

#### Illinois Teachers Deliver Challenging Enrichment Programs Thanks to Public and Private Support

Through the IMSA Excellence 2000+ (E2K+) program, teachers motivate students in mathematics and science at schools throughout Illinois. E2K+ is an after-school enrichment program for upper elementary (grades 4-5) and middle school (grades 6-8) students who are interested, talented and motivated in mathematics and science. The learning experiences which emphasize logic, mathematical thinking and experimental scientific thinking address real-world topics to increase student curiosity. "By showing students the real-world applications of concepts they learn in the classroom, Innovation Generation programs open their eyes to possibilities," said Eileen Sweeney, director of the Motorola Foundation. "Programs like IMSA's Problem-Based Learning Initiative develop students' confidence and skills to succeed in a sophisticated world and dynamic and competitive global marketplace."

> -Eileen Sweeney Director of the Motorola Foundation

Participating teachers receive specialized training in the content and instructional methods of the program from IMSA staff members. Students learn about the wonders of mathematics and science as they build rockets, use forensic science to solve simulated crimes and consider how earthquake concepts apply to Illinois and beyond. Additional IMSA activities such as field trips, workshops and online opportunities including the "Problem of the Month" and Webinars provide more ways to engage students.

E2K+ began in 2000 by serving seven schools. Thanks to public funding from the state of Illinois and private sector support by corporate, foundation and individual donors to the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education, the program now serves nearly 150 teachers and 1520 students at 58 schools in communities throughout Illinois including Carbondale, Chicago, Springfield, Waukegan and many others.

Significant support of both Excellence 2000+ (E2K+) and Problem Based Learning (PBL) has come from the Harris Family Foundation. Over the last 15 years, the foundation's generous gifts have grown to nearly \$2.2 million in support of IMSA, E2K+, and PBL– the most generous donations in all of IMSA's history.

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#### IMSA Graduate Anitra Sumbry: Giving Back Time, Talent and Treasure

"Going to IMSA was one of the best investments that I ever made," said Anitra Sumbry '01. "I learned valuable skills that have helped to get me where I am today." Anitra says it is only natural then, to give back to IMSA.

Today Anitra, a 2006 graduate (biology major) of Emory University in Atlanta, is an ORISE Research Fellow at the Center for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) in Atlanta, Ga. and also is working as a program analyst in the Department of Epidemiology at the Rollins School of Public Health at Emory.

In addition to giving to the IMSA Fund, Anitra also has generously given of her time and talents despite a busy travel schedule that often takes her across the country. "IMSA was such an integral part of my life that I feel passionate about giving what time I can." Sumbry said, "I have participated in an Intersession with Matthew Knisley '01, worked with the IMSA LEAD (Leadership Education and Development) program, and attended IAA (IMSA Alumni Association) meetings." In addition to her time, Anitra is also proud to donate to the IMSA Fund and says it is the act of giving that counts most rather than the amount itself.

"I am glad that I decided to give," she said. "When I go back and walk around the halls I am amazed at what IMSA has evolved into," she added. "... I may not be a big donor but my contribution, big or small, can still help."



## Support Ignites and Nurtures Young Minds on Campus and Throughout the State



IMSA360

ith the arrival of a new DNA sequencer, IMSA students and others throughout Illinois will be able to touch the future of personalized medicines, forensic sciences and biotechnology thanks to a grant from LI-COR's Genomics Education Matching Funds program.

This is just one of many examples of how support provided by donors to the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education nurtures and ignites creative, ethical scientific minds that will one day advance the human condition.

## Touching the Future: Matching Grant Brings DNA Sequencer to IMSA

A \$52,152 grant from LI-COR's Genomics Education Matching Funds program has enabled IMSA to secure a DNA sequencer and associated software for sequence analysis. Located at the Grainger Center for Imagination and Inquiry at IMSA, the sequencer will enable IMSA students and others throughout Illinois to study cell and molecular biology, including heredity, species relatedness, and evolution. Understanding gene sequences has been instrumental in personalized medicines, forensic sciences, and improving crops through biotechnology.

In addition, IMSA staff members are currently working on developing curriculum for professional development for Illinois teachers, which will include the history, chemistry, and applications of DNA sequencing as well as covering topics in bioinformatics.

Laboratory experiences will be developed that allow students to sequence DNA, examining polymorphisms (differences) within and between different species of organisms.

#### Living in a Greener World

The newly created IMSA Energy Center is bringing the "greening" of IMSA to everyday living and learning for students and staff. A number of innovative energy research projects are underway including working with Becky Arundale '03 and UIUC Professor Dr. Stephen Long on research using miscanthus and switchgrass as alternate fuel. In this research project, IMSA students will use plants from the UIUC site in various experiments to try and produce ethanol.

In addition, funding through the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education has provided two solar-powered laptop stations, another lesson in energy savings for students. The Energy Center is also working on a number of other initiatives such



Dr. Barb Hug, UIUC College of Education staff member, Rebecca Arundale, UIUC graduate student and IMSA class of 2003 graduate, and Branson Lawrence, IMSA science faculty member.



as the installation of alternative energy sources on campus (multiple wind generators, bike generator and bio-diesel lawn mower), energy seminars and conducting an energy audit and energy improvements of the IMSA campus.

## Learning to LEAD and Other Unique Student Programming

Thanks to support through the IMSA Fund, IMSA students have opportunities to learn beyond the classroom walls in ways that will leave a positive, lasting influence on their lives for years to come.

Students involved in IMSA's LEAD (Leadership Education and Development) program learn from real-world leaders who make presentations on leadership concepts as part of the annual student leadership symposium. In addition, students who participate in LEAD programming activities attend national leadership conferences including the National Association for Multicultural Educators (NAME), National Student Leadership Conference and National Leadership for College Students.

IMSA sophomores also have the chance to honor those former teachers who most influenced their lives by participating in the annual Teacher Recognition Program.

Finally, the IMSA Fund also supports unique student exchange programs with other countries and schools, including the Korean Science Academy and the Physical-Technical High School in St. Petersburg, Russia. In the past, exchanges have also been held with schools in Japan and Germany.

#### **Igniting Young Minds Throughout Illinois**

Every month, students in grades 6-9 throughout Illinois visit www.imsa.edu to take the IMSA-ComEd CyberQuiz 4Kids Challenge. Students who submit correct answers to these stimulating mathematics and science brainteasers and word problems become eligible for monthly prize drawings.

#### IMSA-ComEd CyberQuiz 4Kids is made possible thanks to the support of ComEd, an Exelon Corporation.

The IMSA Kids Institute® serves students in grades 4-9 through summer and weekend hands-on/minds-on enrichment programs grounded in mathematics and science. The programs are taught by IMSA students and staff and include IMSA on Wheels, field trips to IMSA, Saturday enrichment programs and summer camps.

For nearly 20 years, the PROMISE – Early Involvement Program (EIP) helps Chicago area African-American, Latino and economically disadvantaged ninth-grade students improve their mathematics, science and communication skills, as well as increase their competitiveness if they choose to apply to IMSA. Sessions are held in Chicago on Saturdays and include an all-day retreat to IMSA. Another one of IMSA's PROMISE programs for underrepresented minority students entering ninth grade in the fall is Summer Enrichment for Academics in Mathematics and Science (SEAMS). SEAMS, a residential learning experience on IMSA's campus, is designed to broaden minds and develop talent, interest and motivation for advanced studies in mathematics and science. IMSA360



# Strategic Partnerships Spark Innovation

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MSA forges connections with organizations in the private and public sectors to combine financial and intellectual resources that lead to new bodies of knowledge, services and programs. By working together, IMSA and its partners can make a greater impact in fulfilling a shared goal to stimulate excellence in science, technology, engineering and mathematics education in Illinois and beyond.

#### IMSA-UIUC "Winning Formula" Partnership Connects Flagship Institutions

In May 2007, IMSA and the University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) executed a "Letter of Intent to Begin Formal Collaboration," setting the stage for the design and development of a winning formula\* partnership to: (1) strategically foster, encourage, and support the work of our students and alumni; (2) promote and advance the greatness and endurance of our brands; and (3) use our natural linkages to respond to the State's needs for talent and leadership development in STEM education and innovation. Since then, IMSA and UIUC faculty and staff, with the support and leadership of Dr. B. Joseph White, president of U of I, Dr. Richard Herman, chancellor of UIUC, and Dr. Linda Katehi, provost and vice chancellor for Academic Affairs at UIUC, have been executing the winning formula agreement by:

- Jointly researching students' "state" of ethics, gender differences, and the impact of technology on learning.
- Developing and implementing an online professional development model for middle and high school mathematics and science teachers statewide with a federal grant through the Illinois Board of Higher Education.
- Arranging unique research opportunities for IMSA students at UIUC. Last summer, two students worked at the UIUC Center for Nanoscale Chemical-Electrical-Mechanical Manufacturing Systems (Nano-CEMMS), a pilot supported by IMSA Fund donors.

- Examining data on our shared alumni, including STEM degree attainment. Of note, 300 engineering degrees have been earned by the 618 IMSA graduates who completed Bachelor's degrees at UIUC.
- Participating in the Entrepreneurial Leadership in Science Teaching and Learning partnership (EnLiST) with a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant. EnList aims to develop and build a statewide Illinois community of highly qualified science teacher leaders who will effectively contribute to the transformation of science teaching and learning throughout the K-12 educational continuum in their districts. IMSA will provide Problem-Based Learning professional development to teacher leader participants.

Cathy Veal, IMSA vice president for Strategy and Innovation, calls UIUC an "essential thought and action partner" for IMSA's third decade. "With UIUC, we will learn, accomplish and provide to students, alumni, teachers and policymakers much more than we could possibly do on our own."

Contact: Kristin Ciesemier, Director of Strategic Institutional Partnerships, kciesem@imsa.edu, 630-907-5036

## The Golden Apple Foundation and IMSA Increase STEM Talent Pool

A \$341,000 U.S. Department of Education Grant enabled the Golden Apple Foundation and IMSA to launch Summer Institutes for aspiring teachers who are currently majoring in mathematics or science. Classes for the aspiring Illinois teachers (Golden Apple Scholars) were held on IMSA's campus last summer and were taught by Golden Apple award-winning teachers and by IMSA educators. The participating Scholars also gained hands-on experience by facilitating the learning of Illinois youths who were enrolled in IMSA's summer programs.

\*The term "winning formula" is borrowed from the 12/25/06 TIME magazine cover article in which PayPal co-founder Max Levchin said: "IMSA plus U. of I. is generally a very winning formula," producing "'hard-core smart, hardworking, nonspoiled' young engineers who are perfect for start-ups."

#### IMSA Parents Andrew Surasky and Gloria Ysasi-Diaz: Growing the IMSA Community



In the simplest of terms, Andrew Surasky and Gloria Ysasi-Diaz give to IMSA so that they, in turn, can give to others.

"We have been donating to the IMSA Fund since our daughter graduated from IMSA in 2004," said Ysasi-Diaz. "We decided to start giving because we believe that IMSA is a wonderful opportunity for students in Illinois and wanted to contribute to make it a little more accessible, especially for minority students."

Ysasi-Diaz says she is confident her support of IMSA is an investment in the future of our communities and future generations.

"We are glad and will continue to support IMSA," Ysasi-Diaz said. "It is an incredible gift from the state of Illinois to young people in Illinois and we want to do our part to see this particular community grow and thrive," she said.

Ysasi-Diaz has a message to share with other potential donors who remain undecided about their investment in IMSA.

"Improving education is the single most important investment that you can make to improve the future of our community," she said. "IMSA nurtures gifted young adults who deserve every opportunity for the best education that we have to offer regardless of their economic status," she added.

"They are the builders of our joint future; investing in this group is one of the best ways that we can think of to improve the world for all future generations."



As a longtime science faculty member and the parent of an IMSA graduate, Branson Lawrence can see firsthand how

Giving for the Future

investments in the IMSA Fund can ignite and nurture teaching and learning in the IMSA classroom and beyond.

For nearly 10 years, Branson has been regularly giving to the IMSA Fund through payroll deduction.

"Each year I try to increase my percentage," Lawrence said. "I give in memory of my close friend and colleague (former chemistry teacher)

. . . . . . .

Mary VanVerst who passed away in 2004," Branson said.

Lawrence said giving on a regular basis through payroll deduction, rather than an annual donation, allows IMSA to plan ahead for future innovative projects aligned with IMSA's mission.

"I feel that giving regularly allows IMSA to make plans for innovative projects such as the DNA sequencer and the Energy Center at IMSA," he said. "Even though we now have a grand tradition of education illustrated by our incredible alumni, our real mission is always to look to the future."



llinois college students who aspire to be mathematics or science teachers participate in the IMSA/Golden Apple Foundation Summer Institute.

"This unique program will develop teachers who have the knowledge, enthusiasm and spark to assure their students have rich opportunities to develop their skills and interests in mathematics and science and related careers," said IMSA President Dr. Glenn W. "Max" McGee. "We are deeply grateful to Senator Richard Durbin (who secured the federal grant) for his leadership and investment in the work of IMSA and Golden Apple."

The Scholars received \$2,000 to participate in the Summer Institute and \$2,500 university tuition. In return for the program's benefits, participants will teach for five years in an Illinois school designated as a school of need by Golden Apple.

#### IMSA Plays a Key Role in Illinois Innovation Talent Program

IMSA is playing a leading role in a statewide public/private partnership to promote innovation-centered education and increase student achievement in mathematics, science and technology. Educators and students from 23 Illinois high schools work as teams alongside industry, government and community experts from 29 business/organization partners to solve real-world problems.

Through workshops, on-site mentoring and on-site visits, IMSA is delivering professional development in Problem-Based Learning (PBL) to educators involved in the project. In PBL, students gather and apply knowledge from multiple disciplines in their quest for solutions or resolution to realworld problems. The process enhances critical thinking, creativity and collaboration, all skills needed to help Illinois compete in a competitive global economy.

The Innovation Talent Program was developed as part of a National Governor's Association policy academy. Innovation Talent's advisory board includes the Chicagoland Chamber of Commerce, IBIO, American Electronics Association (AeA), the Motorola Foundation, DePaul University, University of Illinois, Golden Apple Foundation, and Chicago LEADS. Government partners include Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity (DCEO), Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE), Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy (IMSA), Illinois Community College Board (ICCB), and the Illinois Board of Higher Education (IBHE).



#### JIUC Professor Dr. Lizanne DeStefano: Partnering for Transformative Education

University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign (UIUC) College of Education Professor and Associate Dean Dr. Lizanne DeStefano says the IMSA-UIUC *Winning Formula* partnership is the beginning of education that is both transformative and relevant to the state of Illinois. "What a powerful marriage to bring these two institutions together to try to

advance and improve mathematics, science and technology education throughout the state of Illinois," she said.

DeStefano, the executive associate dean for research and administration in the UIUC College of Education says the IMSA-UIUC partnership is powerful and unique because of its shared interest and goals. "I think that it is a new way of working for UIUC," DeStefano said. "We do have partnerships with other high schools in Illinois but for many years they have been 'researcher-subject' relationships," she said. "In this new generation, we're trying to find ways that are mutually beneficial to both UIUC and college preparatory programs because we realize that all sectors must work together to face today's educational challenges," she added.

DeStefano said the partnership has already produced results. "We've already accomplished a lot," DeStefano said. One initiative is funded through a National Science Foundation (NSF) grant which would enable IMSA to work with UIUC to provide problem-based learning to teachers in elementary, middle and high schools in Illinois.

"We think this project will be transformative and lead to highlytrained science teacher leaders at the local level," she said. "By working together in this powerful partnership, we can more effectively nurture and develop the STEM pipeline in Illinois."

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## FROM THE VICE PRESIDENT

Suzyn Price IMSA Vice President for Advancement

our generous gifts to the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education have enabled the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy to launch and expand innovative programs for students enrolled in IMSA's residential program and for teachers and students throughout Illinois. Included in this year's projects was the purchase of a DNA sequencer, an important addition to our advanced science program made even more critical considering that nearly 30% of our recent 2008 graduates intend to pursue studies in biomedical and bioengineering fields. The experiences that Illinois students have in the classrooms and labs of IMSA prepare them to excel in college and in their career fields.

#### Other projects funded by the IMSA Fund this year:

- Working with a lead physicist at Fermilab, IMSA students, faculty, staff and alumni created the IMSA Energy Center to study and research sustainable energy and energy policies. With funding from two competitive grants, the Energy Center is installing two solar-powered laptop stations and will also partner with a university to explore using corn, Miscanthus gigantus, and switchgrass as alternative fuel sources.
- In our quest to bring IMSA to <u>all</u> of Illinois, we started IMSA Kids Institute summer camp programs in Carbondale, Lake County and Springfield. They have had a strong impact on those communities as evidenced by the excitement of the students who participated. Additionally, our efforts to build an



increasingly supportive presence in Illinois have led to statewide participation in IMSA-ComEd CyberQuiz 4Kids, an online math and science quiz program, in summer residence camps and in other programs that increase student talent and interest in mathematics and science. In addition, we are opening some field offices in under-resourced areas of the state to assist schools and districts in efforts to transform their educational practices.

Thank you for your generous contributions. Your investments generate opportunities for students at IMSA and for students and teachers throughout Illinois. There is no better investment than that.

Gratefully,

Suzyn Price Vice President for Advancement

The internationally recognized Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy<sup>®</sup> (IMSA) develops creative, ethical leaders in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. As a teaching and learning laboratory created by the State of Illinois, IMSA enrolls academically talented Illinois students (grades 10-12) in its advanced, residential college preparatory program. It also serves thousands of educators and students in Illinois and beyond through innovative instructional programs that foster imagination and inquiry. IMSA also advances education through research, groundbreaking ventures and strategic partnerships. (www.imsa.edu)

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

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