



# IB INTELLECT



## NEW YEAR – NEW GOALS

Welcome back to Adams High School for another year of educational endeavor and achievement. We begin this issue by congratulating all the IB Diploma students who graduated and were awarded the coveted IB Diploma in July. We are very happy with the results, which included a school record 23 IB Diploma graduates from a pool of 31 candidates, resulting in a 74% success rate. There were a record total of 166 IB Certificates earned by junior and senior students. We had a total of 12 students who earned a perfect score of 7 on their course. Eleven of these perfect scores came from the Spanish SL course, and one student achieved perfection in the Mathematics SL course.

Overall, three courses scored higher than the rest of the world. Most notable in this list of successes were Spanish SL (5.63), followed by Visual Arts SL (5.08), French SL (4.90), and Math HL Online (4.50). Other relatively high scores were in Visual Arts HL (5.00), English HL (4.68), Spanish Ab Initio SL (4.50), Music Group Performance SL (4.33), Social & Cultural Anthropology HL (4.08), and History HL (4.02). These results provide us with a lot of good news, but also raise some concerns for other courses. We are aiming for another successful year. A growing number of Diploma and Certificate students will leave Adams High School with the best tools for furthering their higher education – an IB educational background! We look forward to this New Year, where growth is once again projected across the entire program. There are 48 IB Diploma Candidates and 114 Certificate students in the current IB senior class. There are 166 rising Juniors with 58 anticipated Diploma candidates, 203 Magnet Sophomores, and 232 Magnet Freshmen. Simply said – the IB is thriving at John Adams High School. Go IB! Go Eagles!



A record 31 Diploma Candidates stand in recognition at the annual JAHS Awards Ceremony in in early June. Photo courtesy of Mr. Juan Migliore

## NEW DEVELOPMENTS AT SCHOOL

New developments are taking place with the IB Magnet program. Perhaps the most exciting development is the adoption of **ManageBac**, the leading online learning platform for IB world schools. ManageBac enables efficient curriculum planning, assessment and reporting, while eliminating paperwork and enhancing communication to parents and students. Aimed at initially serving the IB Diploma students and their core Diploma requirements, the system will make record keeping and submission of written work much easier than in the past. With the guidance of our three CAS Coordinators (Hernandez, Stanton, Zablocki), the efficiency of the system will help everyone achieve better results.

Other developments include the purchase of the **Gale Virtual Reference Library** and **Questia** for the library. Questia is an online commercial digital library of books and articles that have an academic orientation, with a particular emphasis on books and journal articles in the humanities and social sciences. These resources will be invaluable to everyone at the school. Guidance on how this system works will be provided by our librarian Ms. Brady. For students working on their Extended Essays – look no further for sources – visit the library. Also, remember that we have a subscription to the **IB Review** magazine, which is aimed at *IB* students around the world, and will include academic articles relevant to all IB subjects in every edition. We look forward to an exciting year as all our students pursue a goal that is common to all – Quality Education for Every Student, Every Day!

## IB STUDENTS COMPETE AND WIN IN STATEWIDE FINALS OF INDIANA SCIENCE TALENT SEARCH



### CLASS OF 2015 IB DIPLOMA GRADUATES

Our graduating IB Diploma class was the largest in the history of the IB Program at JAHS. We recognize all 23 students below who earned the Diploma along with the school they are attending this fall:

Phillip Bigger – University College  
Dublin, Ireland  
Sarah Bowling – IU-Bloomington  
Christopher Carbonaro –Notre Dame  
Aubrey Curl – IU-Bloomington  
Madeline Doctor – Notre Dame  
Clare Driscoll – Notre Dame  
Caleb Geissler – - Purdue  
Nicole Gorman –Notre Dame  
Rhys Hamlet – Case Western  
Caitlin Hayner-Slattery -  
Northwestern University  
Sydnee Holland – Univ. of Tampa  
Seila Ibrulj – IU-Bloomington  
Sydney Imes - Purdue  
Tess Lesiuk – St.Mary’s College  
Miriam Lidinsky-Smith – Purdue  
Hannah Lindley – Northwestern  
Gabriel Meyer-Lee – Swarthmore  
Jessica Navarro – U.C.- Berkley  
Aaron Rea – Notre Dame  
Irvin Rozenblit – IU-Bloomington  
Chloe Sherry – Penn State University  
Rosemary Wisniewski – Marquette U  
Joseph Yeh –George Washington U.



A **big congratulation** goes to six senior John Adams IB students who were selected to present their research at the finals of the Indiana Science Talent Search at Indiana University Medical Center, October 11-12.

Only twelve high school student researchers across the state made this year’s final competition—and six of these students are from Adams! We proudly recognize IB students Katie Dyer, Joshua Isaacson, Alicia Porile, Colin Lofy, Aidan Reilly, and Anna Santiaguél for their accomplishments. The top three winners were John Adams IB students - Alicia Porile, Joshua Isaacson and Katherine Dyer. As noted by Mr. Longenecker, “*Never in the 40 year history of this competition have the top three winners come from one high school!*” Can you say “AMAZING”!

Alicia and Joshua will be presenting their findings at the American Association for the Advancement of Science Convention in Washington, D.C. in Mid-February. To enter, students wrote 25-page research reports compiled after completing investigations during their junior year. These research reports also serve as the students’ IB Extended Essays. Their reports, along with approximately 75 others, were evaluated over the summer in a “blind study” by a team of specialists in the Indiana Academy of Science from different science and engineering fields. Selection of the top students was based on the research report, a discussion of their poster, and an intensive interview. The Indiana Science Talent Search Competition was originated by Indiana University Medical School to encourage more high school students to enter the fields of science, mathematics, and engineering as careers.

### ADAMS FINALISTS AND THEIR PROJECTS:

—Alicia Porile “*Possible Effects of Altered ‘G’ Forces on the Behavior and Regeneration of Planarian Flatworms*”  
—Katy Dyer “*The Efficacy of Various Redox Mediators in Improving the Longevity and Power Output of a Membrane-less, Enzymatic, Glucose-Oxygen Physiological Fuel Cell*”  
—Joshua Isaacson “*The Classification of Basal Cell Carcinoma from Benign Tumors Using Promising Machine Learning Models*”  
—Colin Lofy “*The Effects of RD Nuverasa on the Regrowth of Tissue after Amputation in Planarian Flatworms*”  
—Anna Santiaguél “*Electricity Generation through Bioremediation using Wetland Water and Wetland Sediment in a Fuel Cell*”  
—Aidan Reilly “*Examination of the Aquatic Environment and the Genetic Identification of Hitherto Unknown Indigenous Bacteria Following Nutrient Supplementation on Hexane Bioremediation*”



Pictured left to right are Anna Santiaguél, Katy Dyer, Joshua Isaacson, Alicia Porile, Colin Lofy, Aidan Reilly.

## CONFERENCE THEME "EDUCATING FOR LIFE" EMBRACED BY SPEAKERS AND PARTICIPANTS

More than 1,900 educational leaders, decision makers and practitioners gathered in Chicago on July 23-26 for the sell-out 2015 IB Conference of the Americas. Closing words from Drew Deutsch, Director IB



Americas: *"I hope the conversations we have shared over the last few days have challenged your thinking about what skills are needed to create caring, inquisitive young people with a life-long passion for learning. Thank you all for being such enthusiastic contributors to the conversation and experience in Chicago."*

As for participation, an IB examiner commended our Spanish program this year by stating the following in regard to our submitted internal assessment projects to IB: *"I hope that teachers consider making a presentation at a conference on teaching foreign languages someday if they have not done before. I commend you for your work and all the success they've had with this group."* I certainly hope that our teachers will seriously consider attending the 2016 IB Conference of the Americas to be held in Toronto, Canada from 14-17 July, 2016.

## CECILIA STANTON HONORED FOR INSPIRATIONAL LEADERSHIP

Congratulations to our IB Spanish teacher Cecilia Stanton for being one of five winners of The 2015 Cann Awards. Established in honor of Promethean's founder Tony Cann, the Cann Awards honor the



best in teaching from around the world, celebrating exceptional teachers and their contributions to society. The five 2015 award recipients were recognized at the inaugural Outstanding Educators Luncheon on June 29 in Philadelphia, Pa. The five winning teachers for the 2015 cycle of The Cann Awards included teachers from Canada, France, Mexico, and the United States. (Source: <http://connectlearningtoday.com/prometheans-2015-cann-award-winners/>). For her achievement, Ms. Stanton was recognized by the Superintendent and SBCSC Board of Trustees at the August 3 School Board meeting. Bien hecho!

## UPCOMING TRIPS ABROAD

**2016 Spring Break** - Mrs. Elizabeth Drake (English) will lead a trip to Belize, Central America. So far, four students and a parent will explore the jungle and coastline, hike through lush forest, ride a riverboat, and snorkel in the Caribbean. If interested, you will want to check out the tour plans at <http://www.eftours.com/tour-website/1746303ER>

**2017 Summer** - Mr. Weaver will lead a group of students to Germany, Switzerland, Lichtenstein and Venice, Italy. For more information, check out [WWW.Explorica.com/weaver-3832](http://WWW.Explorica.com/weaver-3832)



Kirill Gillespie with friends at Skidmore College

## LIFE AFTER ADAMS

The *IB Intellect* welcomes updates from our IB graduates. This month we share the success of Kirill Gillespie, sophomore at Skidmore College, Saratoga Springs, NY.

*I love it here. The campus is beautiful (and not far from the Adirondacks), hundreds of programs are offered, and students and faculty are fun to be around. My professors seem to enjoy what they do and are easily approachable. I am involved with a lot of music stuff—there are many amazing musicians here who form string ensembles, jazz groups, and rock bands. I am also on the club ultimate frisbee team, which is a time consuming, yet fun way to take a break from academics and get great exercise. To sum up Skidmore, I would say that there is something here for everyone: Interdisciplinary studies, a hundred or more clubs, multiple options for campus housing, a variety of top-quality cafeteria food, and a diverse student body. I have to say that coming from the IB program gives me an advantage over some; I now realize how much high school prepared me for college courses (especially writing-intensive courses). Looking ahead, I know my academic/extracurricular opportunities and expanding friendships will make these the best four years of my life.*

(Source: E-mail from Kirill Gillespie to Dr. Mika, January 26, 2015).



Mr. Weaver and the European crew at the Tower of London

tubing. "It was great", said Mr. Weaver.

Mrs. Arney (Math Studies SL) went on a 12 day road trip to New England with family to explore their roots. Many of her ancestors were fundamental in the founding of many of our oldest cities from Boston, MA to Columbus, Ohio.



The EF group at Tiananmen Square, Beijing.

### WHERE DID YOUR TEACHERS GO THIS SUMMER?

Several teachers undertook trips abroad with students and colleagues. In June, **Heath Weaver** (Philosophy SL, History HL) – led a group of some 30 students and several teachers/adults (**Bryan Cline**, **Amanda Zablocki** and parents Mr. & Mrs. Johnson and Mr. and Mrs. Sibaja.) who spent three days in London and three days in Paris with Explorica Tours. Mr. Weaver also traveled to Costa Rica where he and his family spent two weeks driving around the country, staying in an Airplane Treehouse, bungee jumping, zip lining, waterfall jumping, spelunking, canyoneering, and white water



Mr. Cline in Paris



Dr. Mika on the Great Wall of China.

**Dr. Mika** led a second group of travelers to visit China. A total of nine people traveled to Beijing and included five students (Kendra Burdine, Jessica Craft, Georgia Ferdig, Cory Helmuth, Clare Tidmarsh,) and three parents (Mr. Craft, Mrs. Ferdig, & Mrs. Pilarski) traveled to Beijing and the Great Wall of China with EF Tours.

### TWO IB TEACHERS APPOINTED AS IB EXAMINERS

We congratulate Mr. Heath Weaver (TOK) and Ms. Emily Zablocki (Biology HL) for being appointed to the role of IB Examiners. Examiners play an important role in maintaining the quality of externally assessed work of all internally assessed components of the IB Program. The teachers will learn first-hand the strict guidelines for grading, and will help their own students in completing the best possible assignments in class to be submitted for IB examination. More teachers are encouraged to consider becoming an IB examiner. Please speak to our two examiners or Dr. Mika for details.

### STAY CONNECTED WITH THE IB INTELLECT

Stories from students and teachers are encouraged. Please submit materials to Dr. Mika. The deadline for the first issue of the next school year will be Monday, Nov.16 2015. If you would like to be added to the e-mail list for Adams IB Magnet families, please send your e-mail address to Dr. Mika at [mrainila@sbcsc.k12.in.us](mailto:mrainila@sbcsc.k12.in.us).



*The IB Intellect* is a Newsletter of the John Adams High School International Baccalaureate Programme  
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