



IB INTELLECT



STUDENTS JOIN TO FOCUS ON HEALTH

On November 13, a group of twenty IB students joined with Mr. Seitz and Dr. Mika in attending the annual Rotary International District 6540 World Affairs Conference at Indiana University – South Bend. Some eighty students from Marian HS, Clay HS, and Adams HS joined together to focus on the status of global health issues. Well known for its service projects, the Rotary's top priority is eradicating polio. The organization began an immunization campaign in 1979 when there were still 500,000 cases of paralytic polio every year. The organization's success led Rotary International to launch PolioPlus in 1985, with the goal of immunizing all the world's children against polio. The presentation also focused on measles and rubella.

The first guest speaker was Dr. Susan Reef, Rubella Team Lead for the Global Immunization Division of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention. Her presentation was a video recording that had been given two days earlier in Manchester University entitled “Global Health: Is there a Shot for That?”. The second speaker was Dr. Katherine Taylor of Eck Global Health Institute at the University of Notre Dame, who shared some of her experiences in Kenya and her career interests in global health. After the lectures, the students broke into smaller groups to discuss issues related to infectious



Students listen to Dr. Taylor of Notre Dame in the Wiekamp Auditorium.
Photo courtesy of John Pinter.

and chronic illnesses and vaccinations that many are concerned with as travel and interaction among people is easier than ever before. The event ended with a free lunch at the IUSB Grill and concluding remarks by all student groups.

Opportunities to hear from specialists dealing with current issues, and interacting with other students are great ways to learn – especially outside of the classroom. Last year, the conference focused on Global Warming. In 2017, the conference hopes to look at illegal migration. Many thanks to the Rotary Clubs, and one of our own parents - Mr. John Pinter - for putting these conferences together and for inviting students to participate. We look forward to returning in 2017.

IB STUDENTS GETTING NOTICED BY THE COLLEGE OF THEIR CHOICE

IB is excited to announce the launch of the IB Student Registry, a free service available exclusively to IB students to showcase their individual profiles and achievements to colleges and universities around the world. All IB students enrolled in IB courses are encouraged to take advantage of this new platform. Colleges are actively seeking IB graduates. No other tool offers college admissions officers this level of interactivity and outreach to IB students.

The IB Student Registry will benefit all IB students. You will be able to express your interest to universities you plan to apply to; browse IB credit and award policies; communicate directly with admissions officers; and present a portfolio of work including CAS projects and Extended Essay. The registry is open to students taking Diploma courses. Students can sign up and register for this website at <https://registry.ibo.org/> Also, students can search over 200 university recognition policies at: <https://registry.ibo.org/search?type=university>



Heather Mora with Dr. Mika

STUDENT FROM INDIA RETAKES IB TESTS

John Adams High School was happy to host an IB student from India, who visited with us in November to retake three IB exams in order to earn the IB Diploma. Our visitor was Heather Mora, who graduated from Lancers International School near New Delhi, India earlier this year. Born in Costa Rica, she has lived in six countries including Costa Rica, Haiti, Spain, India, Afghanistan, and USA. Her American born parents live in Afghanistan and Somalia.

"I took my IB exams while in India and wanted to retake some of my exams upon my return to the United States. I e-mailed every single IB coordinator, in the state of Indiana and the state of Colorado and was either never contacted back, or was told they do not provide November retakes. John Adams High School was the only one to respond, and willing to help me, for which I am thankful."

Asked about her reaction to the recent terrorist attacks in Paris, she noted *"In Afghanistan, there were six police stations around the country all bombed on the same day. Nobody prayed or paid much attention to that. It's all bad, but life goes on. Because of my life experiences, I just have a different perspective."*

IB SENIOR AIDAN REILLY TO JOIN THE NAVAL ACADEMY

Many thanks to our veteran Naval Officer Mr. Dan Walsh (Physics IB) for the following news: *"Congratulations to Aidan Reilly, who received a Letter of Assurance from the US Naval Academy on October 8, which essentially is an early letter of acceptance for a \$350,000 education. Only 1% of the applicants across the nation receive them. This year there were more than 17,500 applications for only 1200 slots in the Academy's Class of 2020. Now, he just needs to receive an official nomination from Senator Donnelly or Senator Coates, or from Congresswoman Walorski."*

NEW IB COURSES PROPOSED

With the success of the IB Program comes the quest of developing new courses that will attract students. Several courses are being proposed for inclusion in the IB Program. Some new course proposals that will need approval by the SBCSC Administration include **IB Sports, Exercise and Health Science SL**, which is a course that incorporates the disciplines of anatomy and physiology, biomechanics, psychology and nutrition, which are studied in the context of sport, exercise and health; and **IB Business Management SL** which is a rigorous and dynamic course that explores how business decision-making processes impact on internal and external environments. Other new possibilities include **IB German Ab Initio SL**, and the offering of **Physics HL** and **Biology SL**. New course decisions are made by SBCSC in the New Year, at which time we will follow up with more information.

NEW IB STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE FORMED

With the guidance of Mr. Mark Geissler, JAHS now has an IB Student Advisory Committee that was formed in order to help the program improve through interaction between members of the IB Steering Committee and our IB students. A group of some 10-12 students serve in this committee, usually meeting every two weeks before school begins to discuss issues that concern all students. Two student representatives - Santiago David and Sarah Konkey – participate and attend IB Steering Committee meetings. Our Principal, Mr. Seitz, and members of the Steering Committee are very happy to have student involvement in developing a better understanding among everyone involved in the IB Program, which ultimately is at John Adams High School to serve our students.

DR. MIKA NOMINATED TO SERVE IN INDIANA ASSOCIATION OF IB SCHOOLS

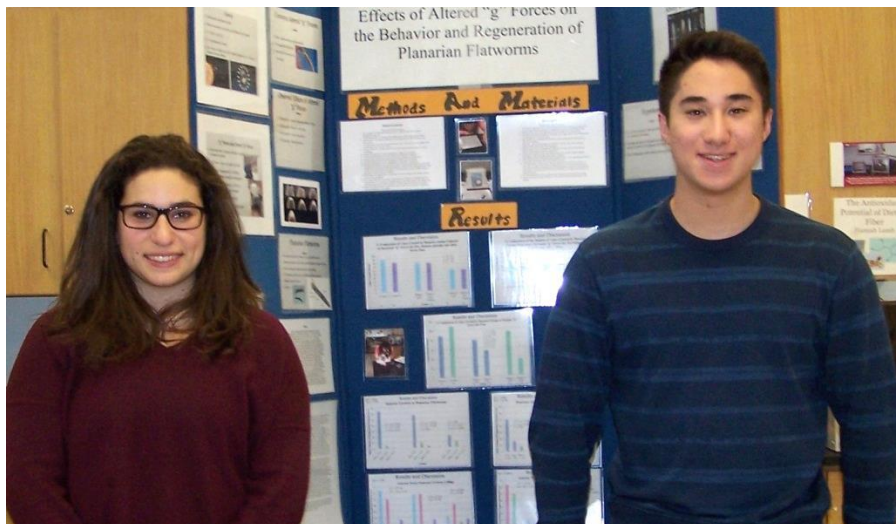
The Indiana Association of IB Schools involves school administrators, IB coordinators and IB teachers who gather twice a year in selected Indiana locations to discuss the affairs of the IB community across the state. Some of the previous events organized by the group include student-led IB conferences, as well as IB Teacher meetings and round-tables.

In the past, meetings have generally been held in the Indianapolis area, but other locations area always considered. Dr. Mika has been nominated and placed on the ballot to serve as the Vice President of the Association by outgoing President Shane O'Day (Principal of Gambold High School in Indianapolis). The electoral process will take place by online voting between December 4-11, and results will be known after December 11. According to O'Day: *"I look forward to possible collaboration with IB schools in northern Indiana, and would love to drive up for a visit and attend an association meeting in South Bend."* For more information on the Association see <http://www.indianaib.org/>

TWO IB STUDENTS TO PRESENT RESEARCH AT AAAS CONVENTION IN WASHINGTON DC

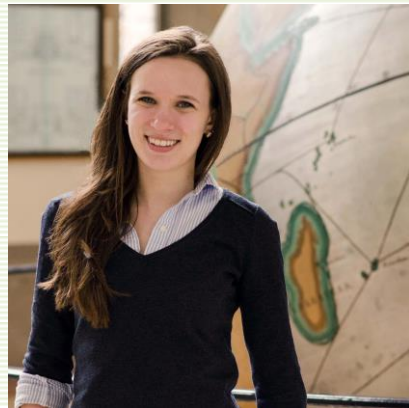
Joshua Isaacson and **Alicia Porile** were recently named the two top finalists in the Indiana Science Talent Search. The competition originated at Indiana University Medical Center and is an effort to encourage more high school students to enter the fields of medicine, mathematics, engineering and other allied health fields.

Joshua's computer investigation focused on **The classification of basal cell carcinoma from benign tumors using promising machine learning models.** Joshua explained that “*over the past year I studied how to create and implement machine learning algorithms to classify images of random skin tumors as either a cancerous basal cell carcinoma or a benign tumor. I created two computer programs to carry out this classification function, which focused on obtaining the highest possible accuracy in classifying the random sets of images. After running the programs, I benchmarked the two programs' accuracy with measures of specificity, sensitivity, and positive predictive value. My hypothesis: Implementing logistic regression and support vector machine algorithms will allow for a computer-based skin tumor classification system that has considerable accuracy. I concluded that in the near future, computer-based classification systems would reach a level of accuracy to a point where they could be a viable supplement to a physician's diagnosis.*”



Alicia's work focused on **Possible effects of altered “g” forces on the behavior and regeneration of planarian flatworms.** Alicia noted “*that gravity is a fundamental force that has been influencing all life since the beginnings of time. It is an attractive force that acts on all objects and relies on the relationship between the masses of the objects and the distance between them. Centrifuges and clinostats, as well as space shuttles, are used to study increased and decreased “g” forces. A research organism suitable for studying the effects of gravity is the planarian flatworm. Planarian move by using its cilia and twisting its muscle layer and the behavior of the worm can be assessed using a grid. In addition, Planaria have the unique ability to regenerate cells, similar to stem cells, called neoblasts that exist within the worms. The purpose of this investigation was to determine the effect that greatly increased gravity has on the behavior and regeneration of planarian flatworms.*” Two experimental groups, centrifuged at 7,000 g and 14,000 g for a ten-minute period, were assessed along with the control. Results showed that hypergravity detrimentally affected both the behavior and the regenerative capabilities of the planarian worms.

These students will represent Indiana and will present their research findings at the national convention of the **American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) in mid-February, 2016.** In addition, their investigations complete the requirement for the **IB Extended Essay.**



Pauline Stanfiel at Sarah Lawrence College.

LIFE AFTER ADAMS

The *IB Intellect* welcomes updates from our IB graduates. This month we share the success of Pauline Stanfiel (IB Diploma 2012).

“I started Sarah Lawrence College in New York in fall 2012. I concentrate in Politics, Economics, and Theater and will graduate in May 2016.

I spent last fall studying abroad at the British-American Drama Academy, one of England's best theater conservatories. As well as being my senior year this is my first year in SLC's five-year graduate program in Women's History; I will graduate with my Master's in May 2017.

Eventually, I hope to advocate for women's issues through public policy. In my spare time I work in SLC's Admissions office interviewing prospective students and directing, shooting, and editing promotional films for the school. I am also a research assistant for an Economics professor and a member of the cross country team, and played Dr. Frank N. Furter in SLC's most recent shadow cast production of the Rocky Horror Picture Show.”

(Source: Communication from Pauline Stanfiel to Dr. Mika, November 18, 2015).



Lisa Brady (front & center) with librarians in Houston

ADAMS LIBRARIAN RECEIVES IB TRAINING

In mid-October Lisa Brady joined nineteen other librarians from throughout the US, Canada, and Jamaica at Rice University in Houston for an IB Diploma Program Librarians' Workshop, Categories 1 and 2. The workshop included many activities and discussions to thoroughly acquaint the librarians with IB overall and what librarians can do to support DP at our schools. According to Ms. Brady *"One of the more interesting activities was scoring an Extended Essay. I am excited about improving JA's library collection to reflect IB guidelines, especially in regard to having books and magazines that mirror the native languages of our students and the languages taught in Group 2 (World Languages)."*

5th ANNUAL VISIT TO INDY BY MAGNET FRESHMEN

For the fifth year in a row, a group of Magnet Freshmen traveled to Indianapolis on Nov.6 to attend the 39th Indiana International Festival. Held at the Indiana State Fairgrounds, this largest pan-ethnic festival in the state is an opportunity for the freshmen to see the world without leaving the country. According to festival secretary Alma Smith, the festival draws students and families mostly from central Indiana, but as far as she can tell, South Bend brings students from the furthest away. This year, a record 41 ethnic groups had display booths of information, ranging from culture to cuisine. Stage performances included music, dance, and even zumba for exercise. Many thanks to the parent chaperons – Mrs. Salas, Mr. Kytta, and Mr. Rivera, who joined in this venture



Julilla Baer, Kate O'Brien and Kelly Horvath enjoying the day in Indianapolis



Students pose in front of the bus upon arrival in Indianapolis



Colorful costumes at the Mexican booth.

STAY CONNECTED WITH THE IB INTELLECT

Stories from students and teachers are encouraged. Please submit materials to Dr. Mika. The deadline for the next issue will be Monday, February 8, 2016. 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 mroinila@sbcsc.k12.in.us.



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HAPPY HOLIDAYS

