

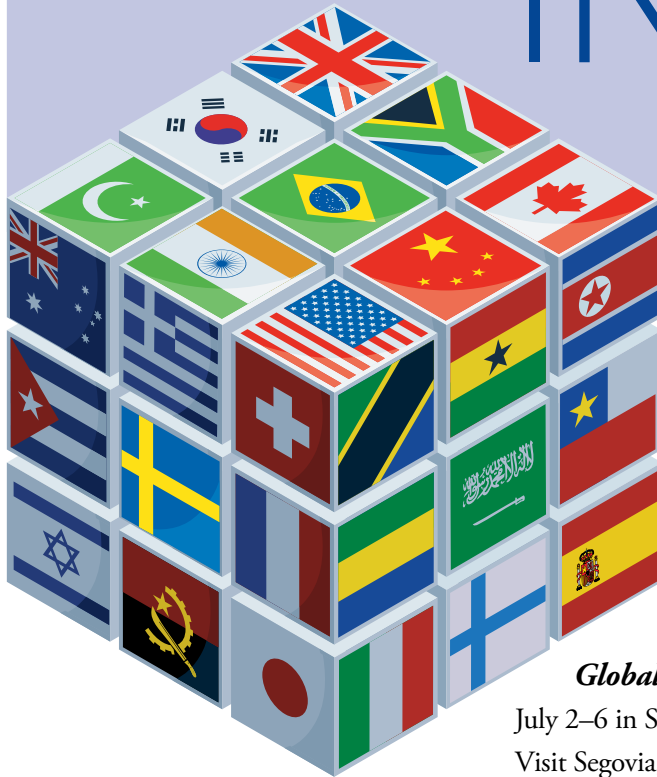
# IB

A NEWSLETTER OF THE JOHN ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL  
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

SOUTH BEND INDIANA USA

FEBRUARY 2012 VOL. 1 NO. 3

# INTELLECT



## IB WORLD STUDENT CONFERENCE Gather with students from all over the world

The International Baccalaureate Program offers IB Student World Conferences at two locations for juniors around the world. During the weeklong conference, participants experience a mix of cultures, build friendships with other IB students, engage with university faculty and guest speakers, and create action plans for CAS projects. For more information on these wonderful opportunities, go to [www.ibo.org/wsc](http://www.ibo.org/wsc). Registration is limited and space is going fast. If you are interested, please contact Dr. Mika.

### *Global Engagement Through Social Entrepreneurship*

July 2–6 in Segovia, Spain, hosted by IE University

Visit Segovia, north of Madrid, a city known for its Roman aqueducts and ancient architecture. Cost of registration, accommodations, and meals is \$795 (before May 1). Travel is not included. At present, round-trip airfare to Madrid from Chicago costs ~\$1400.

### *The New Sustainability: Making Things Better, Not Just “Less Bad”*

July 23–27 in Vancouver, hosted by the University of British Columbia

Visit beautiful Vancouver, a little closer to home. Cost of registration, accommodations, and meals is \$795 (before May 1). Travel is not included. At present, round-trip airfare to Vancouver from Chicago costs ~\$700.

## HAPPY NEW YEAR 2012!

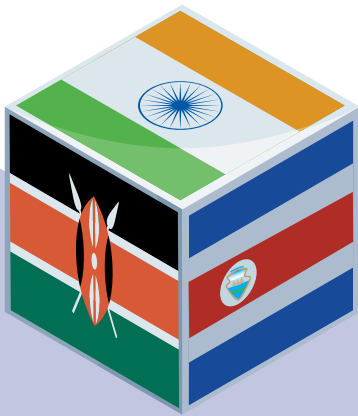
*Here at the IB Intellect, we hope that everyone had a good break and did well with final exams for the first semester. It's hard to believe that we have reached the halfway point of the school year already! A new semester brings new courses that will be exciting and challenging. We wish everyone much success as you move forward and continue to excel.*



Plaza Mayor in Segovia, Spain *iStock photo*

Vancouver, British Columbia, Canada. *iStock photo*





## LIFE AFTER ADAMS

The *IB Intellect* welcomes updates from our IB graduates.

This month we hear from Melina Yeh, an IB Certificate student who graduated in 2011 and is currently a freshman at Northwestern University in Chicago.

*I'm taking a Russian Literature class in which we read The Brothers Karamazov and Anna Karenina. The professor often referenced Crime and Punishment in his lectures, so having the background with Dostoevsky was extremely helpful. For the final, we had to write four essays in two hours given seven themes or quotes we could choose from. We were given little to no prompt and were told simply to "explicate." I just received an email from my professor that of the finals he graded personally, I received the highest grade. I just wanted to thank you and the English department for helping to prepare me for college. I honestly don't know how I would have managed without the writing and literature experience that I got at Adams. Somehow, all of the literature analysis and writing feels natural.*

-email from Melina Yeh to Mrs. Cwidak, December 2011.

A note on "no prompts" and "explication"—this form of questioning, along with the use of *Crime and Punishment* is covered in the senior level IB English class, which prepares students very well for college level work.

## Want to travel around the world? Join the club.

Travel opportunities in the US and abroad can expand our students' horizons. Advance planning and fundraising help to make these trips possible for all families. A group of our Spanish students are going to Costa Rica over spring break under the guidance of Spanish teachers Mr. Krueger and Ms. Stanton. Students began fundraising for this trip earlier in the school year and are excited to go! Dr. Mika will lead a group of 12 magnet sophomores on a journey to Toronto, Canada with stops in Detroit and Niagara Falls during the upcoming Spring Break.

In order to support travel opportunities such as these, Dr. Mika has organized the Adams Travel Club. This new organization brings students together to plan and fundraise for trips as well as to learn from guest speakers and each other. The group's first monthly meeting attracted 26 students! By participating in Adams Travel Club fundraising, members can reduce travel costs.

Be sure to join us for the next **Adams Travel Club** meeting, **Wednesday, March 7, at 3pm in the LGI** or talk to Dr. Mika for more information.

## IB students achieve National Merit Scholarship status

The December South Bend Community School Corporation School Board meeting was particularly crowded with friends and relatives of JAHS students when the School Board recognized the seven SBCSC students who earned the distinction of National Merit Scholar Semifinalists. Our new Superintendent Dr. Carole Schmidt and the School Board honored these students for their impressive performance. We are particularly proud that six of the seven students are our own JAHS students—and five of those six are IB students! Congratulations to Jeremy Doyle, Nick Hall (IB diploma), Grace Lidinsky-Smith (IB diploma), Emily Migliore, and Brian Sutter. Nicole Martin, an early graduate from JAHS, was also named as a Semifinalist. We applaud the hard work of these students and their IB teachers to prepare them for success ahead. Congratulations to everyone.

## New Social and Cultural Anthropology course offered



Men of the Samburu tribe in Kenya. *iStock photo*

We are pleased to announce the addition of a new IB HL course to our curriculum. Beginning Fall 2012, students can take Social and Cultural Anthropology HL, expanding the course selection options for Group 3 courses dealing with individuals and societies.

Social and cultural anthropology is the comparative study of culture and human societies. Anthropologists seek an understanding of humankind in all its diversity. This understanding is reached through the study of societies and cultures and the exploration of the general principles of social and cultural life. Social and cultural anthropology places special emphasis on comparative perspectives that challenge cultural assumptions. Many anthropologists explore problems and issues associated with the complexity of modern societies in local, regional and global contexts. Topics of anthropological inquiry include social change, kinship, symbolism, exchange, belief systems, ethnicity and power relations. Social and cultural anthropology examines urban as well as rural society and modern nation states (IBO). Look for this new course option this fall.

Indian children from Rajasthan, India. *iStock photo*





## Extended Essay introduces city planning as a career

by Susan Nace, Class of 2012

My interest in science was piqued during my junior year. I had Mr. Longenecker as an IB Biology teacher, but I knew that he also taught the Science Research class here at Adams. I saw the class as an opportunity not only to engage my interests in the sciences, but also as a chance to enhance my college applications. The class is a great way to conduct investigations before heading off to college and to explore other specific sciences that are not electives within our school. Students with whom I have shared the class performed investigations within ecology, psychology, engineering, computer technology, and molecular biology. The possible investigations, however, are endless.

The study I performed measured variations in wind velocity at pedestrian level and building pressure due to changes in building shape and orientation and fed the interest I have in city planning. The research paper that I composed to present my work was also a very convenient way of completing the Extended Essay necessary for the International Baccalaureate Diploma. By finishing the essay in my junior year, I have had less to worry about this year—which is an absolute blessing! I was also lucky enough that my research caught the attention of judges in the Indiana Academy of Science Talent Search conducted by Indiana University Medical Center. I competed in the competition this past fall and finished in the top four. My success in the research program here at John Adams is possible for any organized, hardworking student, even for one as busy as an International Baccalaureate student.



IB senior Susan Nace conducts tests using a wind tunnel in the science labs at Adams.

## WNIT produces promotional video about IB Program

Earlier last fall, WNIT television, under the direction of Mr. Angel Hernandez, visited JAHS to film and document the IB program. As noted in the November issue of the *IB Intellect*, the camera crew visited with Dr. Mika and the Theory Of Knowledge class (pictured below), interviewing several students to capture the spirit of the class along with information on the IB program. The completed DVD was submitted to SBCSC for possible release through the SBCSC website, and a copy of the DVD was forwarded to JAHS. The short promotional video is an excellent tool to use for promotional purposes, which will be used in upcoming Open Houses, school visits, and shadowing dates as eighth grade students visit classrooms.



The John Adams Girls' Swim Team celebrates their victory at the City Meet in December.

## ANSWERS TO IB QUESTIONS What is the "A" in CAS?

IB Diploma students are required to complete the components of the core of the Diploma Program, including the Extended Essay, the Theory of Knowledge course, and CAS: Creativity, Action, and Service.

How can students meet the **Action** requirement? According to IBO, action involves physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle, complementing academic work elsewhere in the Diploma Program. This includes not only participation in individual and team sports, but also participating in expeditions and in local or international projects. For example, running on the cross-country team, playing football, going on hikes and canoeing all count as physical activities.

Students should expect to spend at least three hours per week in various CAS activities. In addition, students need to complete one longer-term CAS project (3 months or more) which links two CAS components, for example, creativity and action. Upon reaching a balance between creativity, action, and service among the 150 required hours, the student receives credit for the CAS requirement.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

### Monday, February 13, 7pm John Adams Parent Group

School Board member Jay Caponigro will address budget matters. Director of Guidance Charan Richards will discuss course designations such as honors, AP, and IB—and how to choose what is best for your student.

In the LGI room.

### Wed., February 15, 6–7:30pm FAFSA Night

This presentation on the FAFSA (Free Application for Federal Student Aid, the form families complete when applying for ANY and ALL college financial aid) also includes information on other financial resources for college.

In the LGI room.

### Wednesday, March 7, 3pm Adams Travel Club meeting

All students welcome!

In the LGI room.



## JOHN ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL

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## The Class of 2016: an update on applications for incoming magnet students

All magnet applicants for the incoming freshman class were accepted into the JAHS IB Magnet Program. Late in December, it was determined that a total of 200 seats would be allocated for the incoming freshman class. As a result, all students and parents who submitted applications will soon receive letters from the SBCSC and JAHS informing them of their acceptance as well as information regarding scheduling and records transfers. We look forward to meeting the students and parents of the Class of 2016!



Mark Streeter works on research for his IB Extended Essay

## What's in a name?

by Mark Streeter

*Note: Junior Mark Streeter won a contest this fall to name the new IB newsletter*

I initially coined the title *IB Intellect* because of its meaning. I usually associate the word “intellect” with a person who is very knowledgeable, who demonstrates a strong use of logical reasoning and who is considered very intelligent. It was my belief that the IB Program exists to develop mature and independent thinking students; therefore naming the newsletter with such a prestigious title seemed a perfect “fit.” Of course, the monetary award was nice, too.

## NovaNET eases conflicts with students' schedules

by Mr. Dale Wiand, Physics teacher

IB students sometimes have difficulty fitting the required Health course into their schedule. Now, students can use NovaNET Online Courseware after school to complete the Health requirement at their own pace. NovaNET is also used by non-IB students to fulfill various academic needs in a wide variety of subjects. Currently, a total of eight students meet for NovaNET on Tuesdays and Thursdays. To find out more, contact the Guidance Department.

## Be a part of the *IB Intellect*

If you have time to write and submit a small story to the *IB Intellect*, please do so. Don't shy away from contributing to create YOUR newsletter. The *IB Intellect* focuses on stories, events, and news related to the International Baccalaureate Program at Adams High School. Please send your ideas and submissions to the *IB Intellect*, via Dr. Mika (see contact info at left).

The *IB Intellect* comes out each month. The deadline for the next issue will be Monday, March 5.