

IB

A NEWSLETTER OF THE JOHN ADAMS HIGH SCHOOL
INTERNATIONAL BACCALAUREATE PROGRAM

SOUTH BEND INDIANA USA

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INTELLECT



THE STATE OF IB AT ADAMS An overview of the academic year

by Dr. Mika Roinila, IB Program Coordinator

The Adams IB Program continues to grow and offer many opportunities for the best and brightest students in South Bend. Here are some highlights of this academic year.

Through collaborative efforts, we adopted a required IB Language Policy to promote recognition and understanding of our diverse student population. Several new courses will be offered this fall, including Social & Cultural Anthropology, Spanish Ab Initio, and German. The Theory of Knowledge (TOK) course shows great interest among students. With 49 students enrolled for TOK next spring, we continue to search for solutions that will enable the course to be offered during a regular class period.

The Adams IB Program ranks well in comparison to other public state schools. In 2011, Adams IB graduates ranked second in the state in number of IB tests taken as well as percent of graduates passing IB tests. Among all Indiana IB high schools, Adams ranked third in number of tests taken and fifth in percentage of graduates passing the tests. We plan to take this success forward by aiming for a higher percentage of graduates taking IB tests, directing students toward achieving higher levels of success, and ultimately increasing the number of IB Diploma graduates. Our teachers and administrators are working to improve courses, technology, and teaching methods. We continually support the training and retraining of our IB teaching staff.

Travel enhances the global component of the IB program. This year, Adams IB students took trips to Costa Rica and Canada over spring break and our freshmen attended the International Festival in Indianapolis. Dr. Roinila established the Adams Travel Club this spring to support future trips, such as the tour of Rome and Athens planned for summer 2013. Relationships with foreign exchange students prosper through organizations such as the Rotary Exchange Program and AFS.

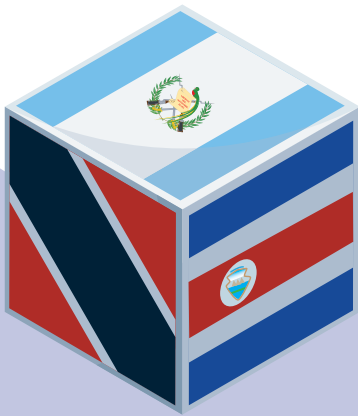
The development of this newsletter, the *IB Intellect*, helps to showcase the achievements of our students as well as to communicate news of the program with parents and the greater community. We intend to build on these accomplishments by encouraging more student involvement and increasing fundraising in order to strengthen the program.

Finally, I would like to thank all of the teachers, administrators, parents, and students who have supported my transition to the position of IB Coordinator this year. Special thanks to Cathy Hall for her help with the *IB Intellect*. I am looking forward to the successes of next year!

CELEBRATING A SUCCESSFUL YEAR

This year-end issue of the IB Intellect celebrates the many accomplishments of our IB program and its students as we head into the summer months for some well deserved rest and relaxation.

Have a safe and wonderful summer!



CONGRATS, IB GRADS!

We are extremely proud of our IB graduates. IB Diplomas and Certificates will be sent to students over the summer.

In the meantime, we congratulate the students who are expected to earn IB Diplomas and wish them well as they continue their education:

Lisa Bauer
Johns Hopkins University

Ashleigh Bush
*Cox Research Scholar
Indiana University–Bloomington*

Ruth Davison-Hernandez
Holy Cross College

Amira Francis
Boston University

Bethany Green
Indiana University–Bloomington

Nick Hall
Northwestern University

Kate Johnson
Reed College

Calvin King
Ohio Northern University

Charell Luckey
Butler University

Zamyra Magallon
Holy Cross College

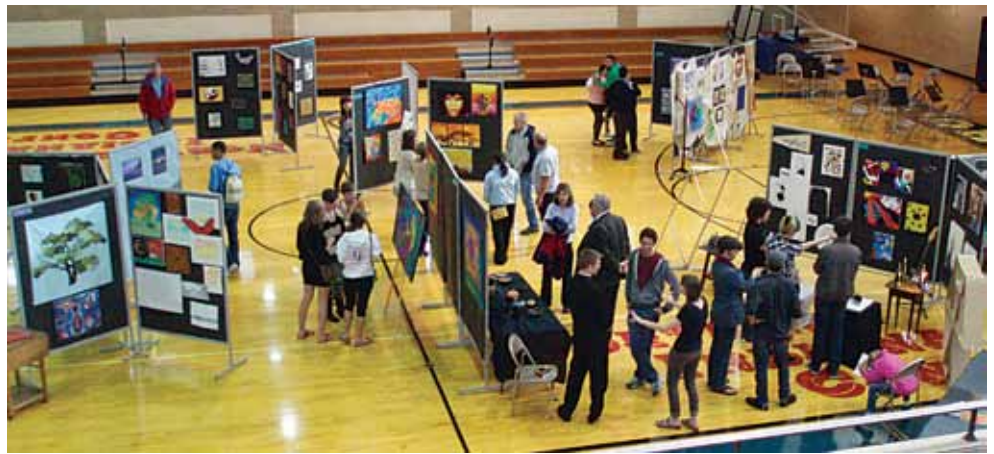
Kyle Rice
Georgetown University

Pauline Stanfiel
Sarah Lawrence College

Peri Stangas
Loyola University

Chrishana Stoner
Purdue University

Zayra Valencia
Holy Cross College



Exhibition showcases IB art students at Adams

In April, eighteen senior IB art students showcased their accomplishments to parents and the general public. Over a period of two days prior to the exhibition, students reviewed their artwork with the visiting IB Art Examiner from Indianapolis. As part of the IB course requirements, the visiting examiner reviewed the students' artistic work, including their workbooks that reflect the conceptual development of their art through research, insight, and reflection of cultural influences from around the world, and how it relates to their interest in different media. Thank you to the art teachers, Ms. Judi Kuckacki and Ms. Eve Woodward, for their commitment to the IB program and for guiding the students, and a huge thanks to Ms. Kathleen Kohn and the orchestra members who helped make the evening so enjoyable.



Sister school exchange

Bringing gifts from China to Adams Principal Mrs. Otha Reese are Principal Mr. Mao and English teacher Mrs. Miao (at left) from our sister school Jiangshan High School on May 8. Exposure to American schools and possible teacher and student exchange opportunities were discussed between the schools.

Mock Trial in New Mexico

Adams seniors (at right) Stephanie Egyd, Jeremy Doyle, Moshe Friedland, Cassie Taylor, Emily Migliore, Kevin Tidmarsh, and Grace Lidinsky-Smith traveled in May to Albuquerque for the National Mock Trial competition, placing eleventh overall among 46 teams from 42 states, Guam, Puerto Rico, and South Korea.



Model UN team competes

In February, Adams' Model UN 2012 representatives competed in Chicago (at left). From left to right: Gabriel Villavicencio, Isabel Bradley, Maria Caponigro, Sarah Villeneuve, Rose Karczewski, Amaryllis Adey, Amelia Guzik, Maggie Karczewski, Alex Reifenberg, Lily McNulty, Ian Nesbitt, and Mr. Kerry Cotter.

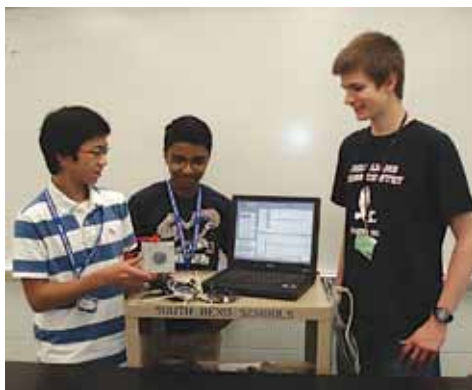


IB student to present research in Boston

IB certificate senior Eric Fein (at left) has been selected to present his science research work at the National Convention of the Wastewater Treatment Association during June 14–16 in Boston when he will receive the Stockholm Junior Water Prize for submitting the best evidence of outstanding research work from Indiana. Eric's research involves nanoparticle mobility in the environment. His findings could be used to protect groundwater from nanoparticle contamination.

Science research provides topics for essays

Adams IB students' Extended Essays (EEs) have spanned an array of topics, a large number of them in science. Presently, three sophomores have begun working on their EEs by conducting fuel cell investigations, continuing work begun at Adams in 2000. Following a worldwide trend toward finding alternative sources of energy, fuel cells will reduce our dependence on foreign oil, thus reducing political tensions with other countries. In addition to completing the EE requirement, Adams students working on fuel cells have garnered more than \$200,000 in monetary grants, awards, and scholarships over the past few years.



Sophomore Raymond Ham explains his cell modifications to sophomores Thaameran Sarveswaran and Andrew Henderson.

Yale University likes Adams' IB graduates

Eric Fein, one of this year's valedictorians, will join three other Adams graduates at Yale University: Frieda Fein (10), David Tidmarsh (08), and Joe O'Rourke (08). No staff member can recall a time when John Adams has been this well represented at Yale. In addition to these four undergraduates, Charles Hauch (05) is completing graduate work at the New Haven, Connecticut campus. Four of these students had a pronounced interest in science and science research at Adams and are currently pursuing careers in one of the sciences or engineering.

Adams graduates who attend (or will attend) Yale University: Eric Fein, Frieda Fein, David Tidmarsh, and Joe O'Rourke



ANSWERS TO IB QUESTIONS

What is the IB Extended Essay?

In addition to CAS (Creativity, Action, & Service) hours and the Theory of Knowledge course, one of the major core components of the IB Diploma Program is the Extended Essay (EE). This is an independent, self-directed piece of research, culminating in a 4,000-word paper. The EE provides practical preparation for college-level work, along with the opportunity for students to engage in an in-depth study of a topic of interest.

Emphasis is placed on the research process as the student formulates a research question, explores the topic, communicates ideas, and develops an argument. The process develops the student's capacity to analyze, synthesize, and evaluate knowledge with guidance from a supervisor, usually an Adams teacher.

Recent EE topics investigated by Adams students include military reforms in ancient Rome, the influence of Beethoven's sonatas on Romantic composers, fuel cell development as an alternative energy source (see article at left), and a comparison of the literary works of Whitman, Sandburg, and Ginsberg.



UPCOMING EVENTS

Friday, June 1, 8:30am
Senior Awards Ceremony
Auditorium

June 5, 6, 7
Final exams

Sunday, June 10, 2pm
JAHS Graduation
Gym A

Have a great summer!

Tuesday, August 21
Freshman/New Student
Orientation

Wednesday, August 22
First Day of School



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Spanish students travel to Costa Rica

Over spring break, thirteen Adams Spanish students traveled to Costa Rica for an ecotour and Spanish language experience.



Above, stopping to take pictures of the view looking into the Poas Volcano Crater are Ms. Cecilia Stanton and juniors Matthew Pozsgai, Becca Neal, Aidan Geissler, Celeste Crowell, and Quinlan McWilliams. In addition to hiking and other nature exploration, the trip included cultural experiences of art, music, and dance.



Above, sophomore Mary Kate Hall and junior Marie Becker enjoy a breakfast of fresh tropical fruit at Hotel Parador, overlooking the Pacific Ocean.

Below, Señor Joel Krueger, junior Celeste Crowell, Mary Kate Hall, and junior Becca Neal prepare to go zip-lining in the cloud forest of Monteverde.



IB students to travel to IB Experience conference

The second annual IB Experience conference will take place at Butler University on October 11–12 and Adams IB juniors and seniors will be there! The conference brings together hundreds of Indiana's IB students for general sessions, workshops, teambuilding activities, and community service projects all facilitated by current or former IB students. Watch for more details on this exciting opportunity.

Plan now for next summer: Rome and Athens

Travel with us on a nine-day journey to Europe on June 24–July 2, 2013. This exciting excursion will take us to Rome and Athens, with several points in between. The IB program promotes international understanding, and this trip will provide new insights into history, art, music, languages, anthropology, philosophy, and other courses studied in the IB program. In addition, international travel can help to open doors for future educational and career opportunities.

Check out the website for information on our tour, led by EF Travel (Education First): www.ef-tours.com/1192935. The total cost per student is \$3136, with details noted in this website. With advance planning and fundraising activities, we hope to make this trip affordable for students. Enrollment forms and answers to your questions are available through Dr. Mika Roinila. All Adams students are welcome.

What I did on my summer vacation

Keep a notebook or your laptop at the ready to write about your summer adventures. We at the *IB Intellect* would love to publish your 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 every other month. The deadline for the next issue will be Tuesday, September 4.