



## Personal Reflections

12/20/2018

Dear IMSA Community,

As 2017 comes to a close, I want to wish you and your loved ones happy holidays and a very happy New Year. For those who celebrated Hanukkah or Kwanzaa, happy belated holidays to you!

For me, the following three words exemplify the U.S. holiday tradition more than any others. Three little words. First, a four-letter word, then a three-letter word, followed by a five-letter word. If you're thinking "shop," "buy," and "spend," you would be incorrect. The three little words are "love," "joy," and "peace." I would encourage you not to get too "wrapped" up in the first set of words, but rather to focus on the true and more authentic words of love, joy and peace.

For this personal reflection, I want to take time to amplify our very important IMSA faculty. I have enjoyed the many one-on-one conversations with individual faculty members this fall. While I have not yet finished meeting with each one, I'm at number 42, my appreciation, esteem, and respect continues to increase for each of them. I have learned first-hand of their tireless efforts in teaching, preparing lessons, and mentoring the next generation of scientists, mathematicians, physicians, researchers, artists, entrepreneurs, etc. I could not think of a better way to thank them than to acknowledge each of them by name and department.

### **ENGLISH**

Michael Dean  
Dr. Michael Hancock  
Dr. Leah Kind  
Dr. Adam Kotlarczyk  
Dr. Devon Madon  
Erin Micklo  
Dr. Eric Rettberg  
Tracy Townsend

### **HISTORY/SOCIAL SCIENCE**

Dr. Lee Eysturliid  
Dr. Patrick Kearney  
Dr. Rob Kiely  
Dr. Clay Skinner  
Dr. Eric Smith  
Dr. Sheila Wille

### **FINE ARTS**

Mary Beth McCarthy  
Emily Sites  
Joyce Symoniak

### **MATHEMATICS**

Dr. Steve Condie  
Ruth Dover  
Julie Dowling  
Dr. Micah Fogel  
Dr. Jordan Hasler  
Dr. Janice Krouse  
Matthew McCutcheon  
Dennis Loo  
Dr. Thomas Meyer  
Carlo Ordoñez  
Namrata Pandya  
Dr. Pat Patankar  
Valentina Sorescu



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**SCIENCE**

Dr. Angela Ahrendt  
Dr. Sowmya Anjur  
Dr. Mark Carlson  
Dr. Peter Clancy  
Dr. David DeVol  
Dr. Peter Dong  
Dr. Don Dosch  
Dr. Joseph Golab  
Dr. Eric Hawker  
Dr. Laura Kopff  
Sarah O’Leary-Driscoll  
Dr. Crystal Randall  
Brooke Schmidt  
Dr. John Thurmond  
Dr. Anita White

**WELLNESS**

David Lundgren  
Mary Myers  
Daniel Hernandez

**WORLD LANGUAGE**

Anastacio Aranda-  
Rodriguez – Spanish  
Jonathan Besancon –  
Japanese  
Michelle Cheng –  
Chinese  
Dr. Maria del Carmen De  
Avila – Spanish  
Paavo Husen – Russian  
Joseph Marshall – French  
Agnieszka Michalak –  
German  
Dr. Nadia Miskowiec –  
French  
Christine Zhang –  
Chinese

I also want to thank our students for their curiosity and drive, their open minds to our learning laboratory, and their commitment to learning through inquiry. All of this is what makes IMSA a special, vibrant place to learn.

I look forward to working with all of IMSA: staff, including faculty, students, parents, and our partners as we make the New Year, 2018, a memorable one with new beginnings as we plan for our next 30 years at IMSA.

Respectfully,

José M. Torres, PhD  
President