Seventh Annual Alumni Awards Ceremony and Alumni Volunteers Recognition Dinner

Friday, July 19, 2013
6:30 – 8:30 pm
Hilton Lisle-Naperville
PROGRAM

WELCOME

RECOGNITION OF ALUMNI VOLUNTEERS
Ms. Catherine C. Veal, President
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy

DINNER

BOARD OF TRUSTEES
ALUMNI AWARD PRESENTATIONS

ALUMNI TRAILBLAZER AWARD
B. Scott Gaudi, Ph.D. ’91
Presented by Dr. Erin Roche ’89
Second Vice-Chair, IMSA Board of Trustees

ALUMNI DISTINGUISHED
LEADERSHIP AWARD
Gretchen E. Green M.D., M.M.S. ’92
Presented by Ms. Kathy He
IMSA Board of Trustees
Kathleen Plinske, Ed.D. ’97
Presented by Ms. Leslie N. Juby
IMSA Board of Trustees

ALUMNI TITAN AWARD
Dwan LaMar Prude ’97
Presented by Dr. Glenn W. “Max” McGee
Past Member, IMSA Board of Trustees

Thank you for joining IMSA and the Board of Trustees in this celebration and recognition of outstanding alumni accomplishments and support.
IMSA Board of Trustees

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Ben May Department for Cancer Research  
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The IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education is a 501 not-for-profit corporation that accepts and distributes gifts and grants from the private sector to support IMSA’s mission and work.
Board of Trustees Alumni Awards

Established in 2006, the IMSA Board of Trustees Alumni Awards are the highest honors bestowed to alumni in recognition of their accomplishments and contributions to their field of endeavor, to IMSA, and to the citizens of Illinois, our nation and the world.

Alumni Trailblazer Award

The Alumni Trailblazer Award is bestowed when merited and honors alumni who personify IMSA’s philosophy statement that there will be alumni who “create new intellectual worlds, cure a dreaded human ailment or in some other way significantly influence life on our planet.” The outstanding achievements of these honorees will have earned national or international prominence for a groundbreaking or sweeping initiative that has redefined and improved the way significant numbers of citizens live, learn or work.

Alumni Distinguished Leadership Award

The Alumni Distinguished Leadership Award, an annual award, goes to alumni who have made distinguished achievements or leadership contributions in their professional fields of endeavor consistent with IMSA’s mission. The awardees also may be recognized for significant civic or community contributions or for extraordinary courage and selflessness under challenging circumstances.

Alumni Titan Award

The Alumni Titan Award, an annual award, honors alumni, who through outstanding service to IMSA, advance the institution’s mission and work. The honorees are enthusiastic and energetic IMSA champions who dedicate significant time, talent and/or treasure to endeavors that help the Academy fulfill its role in developing talent and leadership in mathematics, science and technology for our state, nation and world.

For more information on award guidelines, nominations, or previous award recipients, visit www.imsaalumni.org/awards.
Alumni Trailblazer Award
B. Scott Gaudi, Ph.D. ’91

Dr. B. Scott Gaudi is an internationally acclaimed astronomer who has been involved with the discovery of nearly two dozen extrasolar planets. In 2008, Dr. Gaudi received worldwide media attention for leading a team of 69 international astronomers in the discovery of a “scaled-down” Solar System. This discovery, published in the journal *Science*, implies that Solar Systems similar to ours might be common throughout the Galaxy. Dr. Gaudi is an associate professor in the Department of Astronomy at Ohio State University. He was awarded the Helen B. Warner Prize for “significant contribution to observational or theoretical astronomy” by the American Astronomical Society and was named one of the “10 Rising Stars of Astronomy” by Astronomy Magazine. In 2011, Dr. Gaudi received the Presidential Early Career Award for Scientists and Engineers (PECASE), the highest honor given by the U.S. Government for science and engineering professionals in their early research careers. He also earned a National Science Foundation Early Career Development Grant in 2011, a highly-coveted award intended to propel outstanding young scientists by supporting academic research and outreach endeavors.

Dr. Gaudi has been an advocate of IMSA, providing media interviews and serving in a strategic advisory capacity. He credits his IMSA experience for giving him the “conviction” to reach for the stars, and he returned to Illinois in 2009 to share his love of science and the joys of discovery during two lectures at IMSA and the Adler Planetarium and Astronomy Museum in 2009. Dr. Gaudi was a recipient of the IMSA Alumni Distinguished Leadership Award in 2007. Dr. Gaudi has a B.S. in astrophysics from Michigan State University, and a M.S. and Ph.D. in astronomy from Ohio State University.

Alumni Distinguished Leadership Award
Gretchen E. Green M.D., M.M.S ’92

Dr. Gretchen E. Green is a physician leader who brings a combined focus on science and society to benefit her patients, fellow physicians, and the US population at large through her role as vice chair of the National Women’s History Museum Board of Directors. Currently an attending radiologist at Greensboro Radiology in North Carolina, Dr. Green has been actively involved in advocacy for women physicians and patients through research since graduating from IMSA. Dr. Green advocates for women undergoing breast imaging and obstetrical ultrasound, using her expertise as a radiologist and her background on the societal impact of imaging technology. An active member of her community, she promotes breast cancer education and frequently gives talks to the public on breast cancer. Through her work with the American Medical Association (AMA), she achieved a modification to the existing AMA policy to help cover mammography reimbursement for breast cancer patients.

Dr. Green’s current efforts are focused on educating physicians and patients on the technical and societal issues of imaging technology and to serve as a resource for companies looking to integrate the history of medicine into future development decisions. She has lectured nationally on women’s imaging topics as well as the history of women in medicine, and has co-authored two acclaimed medical textbooks on breast imaging with colleagues at Brigham and Women’s Hospital, Harvard Medical School. Dr. Green considers her time at IMSA to be the foundation on which all her future accomplishments have been built. Dr. Green has a Sc.B in neuroscience, M.M.S. in the history of medicine and pharmacology and an M.D. from Brown University.
Alumni Distinguished Leadership Award
Kathleen Plinske, Ed.D. ’97

Dr. Kathleen Plinske is a distinguished educational leader with a passion for providing access to higher education to traditionally disadvantaged students. At a young age of 32, Dr. Plinske serves as President of Valencia College’s Osceola and Lake Nona Campuses in Kissimmee and Orlando, Florida. Dr. Plinske is responsible for all academic, administrative and fiscal leadership of the campuses, and was responsible for overseeing the development of a new $45 million, 150,000 square foot building at the Osceola Campus. Recently named as the top community college in the nation by the Aspen institute, the Osceola Campus serves 12,000 students per term, about 45% of whom are Hispanic. Dr. Plinske uses her fluency in Spanish to communicate with students and their families. Prior to her work at Valencia, Dr. Plinske spent several years working at McHenry County College in Illinois. Her role began with working with faculty interested in developing online classes. From there, Dr. Plinske’s extraordinary talents and professional commitment were quickly noticed, and she was promoted into several roles. In 2009, she was selected to serve as the Interim President of McHenry County College and was named one of McHenry County’s “Top 10 Under 40.”

Dr. Plinske is vocal about her gratitude for the tremendous gift of her experiences at IMSA that were provided to her by the people of Illinois, and about the responsibility she feels to give back to her community. An enthusiastic member of her community, she serves as the President-Elect of the Rotary Club of Lake Nona in Orlando, and is an active member of several community organizations. She has been recognized for her leadership and accomplishments with several awards including being named the 2012 Outstanding Young Alumnus by Indiana University and “Woman of the Year” by the Orlando Business Journal in their 40 Under 40 competition. A first-generation college graduate, Dr. Plinske has a B.A. in Spanish and physics from Indiana University, an M.A. in Spanish from Roosevelt University, an M.B.A. from the University of Florida, and an Ed.D. from Pepperdine University.

Alumni Titan Award
Dwan LaMar Prude ’97

Dwan LaMar Prude has unselfishly, tirelessly and graciously shared his time, talents and Titan spirit with the IMSA community. From his strategic guidance to his mentorship of students, Prude’s dedication and commitment advances IMSA’s mission and work at every level. He has been a servant leader as he promotes IMSA, our PROMISE Programs, and the benefits of attending the Academy with great pride, passion and confidence. In 2012, Prude served as IMSA’s Convocation Speaker, kicking off the school year with a rousing and heartfelt speech that left students inspired for the new school year. That summer, he dedicated time to driving students from the Metro East area to/from IMSA, allowing their participation in the SEAMS program. In 2011, he co-coordinated an alumni mentoring and tutoring program in the Metro East area for 9th graders interested in math, science and IMSA. He has also shared his “IMSA story” with students enrolled in IMSA’s PROMISE and EXCEL programs, relating his experience to that of the students. Prude makes himself available to mentor students and lend a helping hand whenever needed. In addition, Prude regularly serves as an Admissions Review Committee member and also served IMSA in a three-day retreat held in 2009 to explore ideas for models to expand IMSA’s programs per the strategic plan. His experience, knowledge and insights have been an invaluable asset to IMSA.

Prude is a gifted coach, speaker, professional trainer, and team builder. He is currently employed at the Boeing Company in St. Louis as a Procurement Financial Analyst for the F-18 Platform. He is a member of Toastmasters International and is also pursuing membership to the National Speakers Association (NSA). An active member of his community, Prude serves as the Sr. Pastor of the Bride of Christ Church of God in Christ in East St. Louis, IL. He is also an entrepreneur as the founder and CEO of the IllinoisTown Media International, LLC. Prude has a B.S. in Engineering Management – Industrial Engineering and an M.S. in Engineering Management – Quality Engineering from the Missouri University of Science and Technology (MS&T). He is currently pursuing his Doctorate of Biblical Theology from the Midwest College of Theology (MCT) with an expected graduation in Winter 2013.
IMSA Board of Trustees
Alumni Awards Past Recipients

Alumni Trailblazer Award

2008
Steven S. Chen ’96
Russel E. Simmons ’95

2007
Yu Pan ’95
Rob McCool ’91
Ramez Naam ’90

Alumni Distinguished Leadership Award

2012
Alex (Dietrich) Greene ’97
Sam Yagan ’95
Winjie Tang Miao ’94

2011
Clara Shih ’00
Dr. Matthew Pritchard ’93
Dr. Frank Wood ’92
Dr. Ronjon Paul ’89

2010
Travis Schedler, Ph.D. ’98
Dan Frakes ’89
Lillian Kao, M.D. ’89

2009
Dr. Rebecca Willett ’96
Dr. Thandeka K. Chapman ’89

2008
Captain H. Kenyatta Ruffin ’99
Mia K. Markey, Ph.D. ’94
Sanza T. Kazadi, Ph.D. ’90
Scott Swanson ’90

Alumni Titan Award

2012
Amy (Timm) Kinney ’95

2010
Ray Stadt ’93
Mike McCool ’91

2009
Pooja K. Agarwal ’01
Joshua A. Gerlick ’99
Sendhil Revuluri ’90

2008
Neal K. Groothuis ’97
Paul J. Strasma ’94

2007
Andrea (Ande) L. Croll ’97
Douglas A. Pratt ’97
Michael H. Brody ’96
John B. Hoesley ’89
Recognition of Alumni Volunteers

During the 2012-2013 academic year, over 400 alumni from every class year generously shared their time and talents with IMSA. As program volunteers, these alumni helped with technology projects, recruited prospective students, served as mentors for current students, shared legislative contacts, and participated in media interviews and special events. They taught week-long Intersession courses, coordinated reunions and alumni gatherings, advised student clubs, worked with IMSA’s Statewide Student Initiatives and more. These alumni also provided strategic counsel to the IMSA Board of Trustees, the IMSA Fund Board of Directors, administrative and program leaders, and Admissions Student Review Committee.

IMSA would like to recognize members of the IMSA Alumni Association (IAA) Cabinet for their leadership in alumni volunteer programs and dedicated work to fulfill the IAA’s mission to “strengthen the bond shared by all IMSA alumni and the larger IMSA community through collaborative relationships, learning opportunities, stewardship, and mutually beneficial goals.”

IMSA Alumni Association Cabinet

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Alumni Volunteers

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While we carefully prepare this list of volunteers, we recognize that errors may have occurred. Please accept our apology if your name is not properly represented and contact IMSA’s Office of Development at (630) 907-5040 so that our records can be corrected.

Thank you!
The internationally recognized Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy® (IMSA) develops creative, ethical leaders in science, technology, engineering and mathematics. As a teaching and learning laboratory created by the State of Illinois, IMSA enrolls academically talented Illinois students (grades 10-12) in its advanced, residential college preparatory program, and it serves thousands of educators and students in Illinois and beyond through innovative instructional programs that foster imagination and inquiry. IMSA also advances education through research, groundbreaking ventures and strategic partnerships. (www.imsa.edu)