The IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education, chartered in 1986, is a not-for-profit 501 (c)(3) corporation that enlists private sector support of “margin of excellence” initiatives at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy. These initiatives include curriculum development projects, statewide outreach programs, minority recruitment programs, laboratory equipment purchases, special student activities and a permanent endowment.
September 30, 1993

Dear Faculty and Staff:

It is with great pride that I enclose a copy of the 1992-93 Annual Report of the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education. As the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy's not-for-profit corporation, the IMSA Fund is a critical link to external friends interested in making a difference in education throughout Illinois.

Last year was a record year for private support of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy. The accomplishments outlined in the enclosed report are a direct result of an ever increasing group of private sector investors that recognize the important role that education plays in directing our future.

The corporate and foundation support that the Academy receives is directly correlated to the number of parents and IMSA employees who support the Academy. Corporations and foundations are increasingly interested in what percentage of those closest to the organization support it. Each year, more and more IMSA employees and parents contribute to the Fund and, for this, I am extremely grateful.

After reviewing this year's report, I hope you share my sense of pride and admiration for this unique educational enterprise. I look forward to the year ahead and hope that you consider assisting IMSA to serve as the tide that lifts mathematics and science education for teachers and students throughout Illinois.

Sincerely,

James R. Thompson
President, IMSA Fund Board

JRT/dms
FROM THE BOARD PRESIDENT

Dear Shareholders of the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education,

As president of the IMSA Fund board of directors, it is my privilege to share with you, our shareholders, the 1992-93 annual report of the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education.

This was a record year for the IMSA Fund. For the first time in the Fund’s history, we raised more than $1 million in a given fiscal year, putting us over the $5 million mark since 1986. This is a remarkable achievement given the fact that many corporations and individuals are forced to make sacrifices during these difficult economic times. We are grateful that you view Illinois students as one of our most valuable resources... resources we must not shortchange.

While the 1992-93 total of $1,365,762 represents a 41% increase over last year’s total, it also represents something much more: a strong commitment to educational excellence for all of Illinois on behalf of our IMSA Fund board of directors, board of trustees, faculty, staff, students and parents; and the steadfast loyalty of you, our donors.

This year, IMSA students received some of the most prestigious awards in the nation and world. A 1993 graduate, Elizabeth Pine, won first place and a $40,000 scholarship in the 52nd Westinghouse Science Talent Search competition. Student Stephen Wang was one of only six students nationwide to compete on the USA Mathematical Olympiad team. These are just a few of many prestigious achievements.

IMSA also served thousands of Illinois teachers and students through external programs made possible in large part by generous gifts from our donors.

As the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education continues to grow, so does the role of our Fund board. I have the pleasure of working with these highly regarded leaders in our state who are dedicated to advancing the mission of IMSA and nurturing the state’s most precious resource: our children.

On behalf of the entire IMSA Fund board of directors, thank you for your outstanding commitment and generous sponsorship. Your support of educational excellence is an investment in Illinois students today and our world tomorrow.

Sincerely,

James R. Thompson
President
IMSA Fund Board of Directors
SAMPLING OF HIGHLIGHTS

THE YEAR AT A GLANCE

Friendraising Events

• A series of lectures at IMSA given by nuclear physicist Dr. Edward Teller was attended by 1000 students, teachers and residents from throughout Illinois.
• Prior to the second annual James R. Thompson Leadership Lecture, guests including donors attended a dinner at IMSA for Dr. Teller.
• Following the second annual James R. Thompson Leadership Lecture at IMSA, a reception was held for Dr. Teller attended by 350 friends of the IMSA Fund.
• A pre-curtain reception and special benefit performance of Miss Saigon, attended by 400 guests and friends of the IMSA Fund, raised $25,000.
• Illinois legislators, legislative staff members and other government officials attended a State-of-the-Academy reception held in the Illinois State Library Atrium in Springfield.
• Donors and members of the local business and civic community attended the dedication of the Grainger Inventors’ Workshop.

Fundraising Results

• Gifts of $1,365,762 (41% increase over last year’s total)
• Largest grant to date: $750,000, The Harris Family Foundation
• Gifts of $118,170 from IMSA Fund directors (100%)
• Parent contributions of $38,109 (supporting a wide variety of programs)
• $5 million mark surpassed (see chart below)

IMSA Fund Surpasses $5 Million

Harris Grant Heads Record Year

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<td>Gifts</td>
<td>$420,000</td>
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Program Partnerships...

- with The Harris Family Foundation for The Neison and Bette Harris Institute within the Center for Problem-Based Learning to advance the Academy's work in problem-based learning throughout the state and nation.
- with The Grainger Foundation for the Grainger Inventors' Workshop to support student research.
- with the Smithsonian Institution for staff to develop integrated curriculum models to share with other schools.
- with the Caterpillar Foundation for the Caterpillar Faculty Excellence Fund to support unique professional development opportunities for IMSA teachers.
- with Novell, Inc. for computer software to upgrade IMSA's networking capabilities.
- with Illinois Bell for fiber optic cable to increase IMSA's capacity for broadcasting classes, lectures, special events, etc.
- with IMCERA Group, Inc. for the Young Scientist Fund to help support the mentorship program and students attending the National Conference on Undergraduate Research.
- with Precision Scientific for science laboratory equipment to support classroom projects and student research.

An IMSA student builds and tests a circuit on the electronics work bench in the Grainger Inventors' Workshop. (Catherine C. Veal)

- with Abbott Labs to develop physics curriculum materials based on Dr. Edward Teller's lectures.
- with IMSA faculty and staff (matched by the IMSA Fund) to support their Innovations and Initiatives projects advancing IMSA's mission.

IMSA Board President
James Pearson (left),
IMSA Executive Director
Dr. Stephanie Pace
Marshall and IMSA Fund
Board President James
Thompson (right) present
Dr. Edward Teller with a
plaque commemorating
his visit.

(DIGIT Photographs)
“Corporate executives love a winner, and [the academy] is a winner.”

James R. Thompson, former Illinois governor
Chairman, Winston & Strawn
Chicago Tribune

“We think IMSA is a resource really for Illinois and our community. ... This is really a good partnership. It has the potential of everybody winning.”

Joanne Miller, Director of Software Development
Tellabs
Naperville Sun

“Today’s teaching will produce tomorrow’s corporate leaders, so it’s important that IMSA’s dedication to excellence be supported. That’s why we’re particularly pleased to expand our commitment, making it possible to establish the Caterpillar Faculty Excellence Fund.”

Terry Thorstenson, Director of Public Affairs
Caterpillar
The Decatur Tribune

“The Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy is a leader in providing progressive, innovative education.”

Yale Gieszl, Executive Vice President
Toyota USA Foundation
Chicago Tribune

TOYOTA USA FOUNDATION

WINSTON & STRAWN
A $750,000 challenge grant from Neison Harris of The Harris Family Foundation, the Academy's largest private sector gift to date, pushed the IMSA Fund over the $1 million mark in fundraising for the first time in a given fiscal year in 1992-93.

The grant supports the Center for Problem-Based Learning. Established by IMSA in 1992, the Center coordinates research, teacher training, curriculum development, evaluation and information exchange in this emerging field of innovation for K-12 classrooms. William Stepien, IMSA social science teacher, serves as its director.

The Neison and Bette Harris Institute within the Center provides staffing to develop and distribute problem-based learning materials.

Harris, chairman of the board and director of the Pittway Corporation in Chicago, was happy to provide venture capital for the Center and hopes others will follow. "I hope my challenge grant will leverage an additional $750,000 for IMSA and the Center from other corporations, foundations and individuals," he said.

Problem-based learning (PBL) first was used in IMSA's award-winning *Science, Society and the Future* (SSF) course, taught by Stepien and Dr. David Workman, physics teacher, and funded by the Hitachi Foundation. This approach organizes the curriculum around "ill structured" problems that require students to use knowledge and skills from many subjects in developing solutions.

PBL has its roots in medical education, and IMSA has emerged as a national leader in PBL for K-12 education. IMSA's work in PBL was featured in many national publications this year including *Physicians Lifestyle Magazine*, *Teacher Magazine* and *Educational Leadership*.

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**Some of the Center's activities for the 1992-93 year included:**

- working with IMSA's pre-admissions Challenge programs for underrepresented minority students.
- coordinating the academic activity for the student conference of the National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics, Science and Technology.
- refining the SSF program at IMSA.
- providing written materials to Illinois and out-of-state educators.
- holding a development institute for Illinois educators.
- participating in research on the effectiveness of PBL as an instructional system and publishing articles on R & D issues.
- presenting a session at the Singapore Annual General Meeting and Mini-Conference of the Association for Supervision and Curriculum Development.

"I am captivated by this highly promising teaching strategy, and am particularly pleased to support such a visionary institution committed to serving not only its own students, but also educators and students throughout the state and nation."

Neison Harris, Chairman of the Board and Director
Pittway Corporation
INVESTMENTS IN ACTION

Supporting Curriculum Research/Development

Center for Problem-Based Learning. During 1992-93, the Center answered more than 1200 requests for information including calls from the United States Senate Committee on Labor and Human Resources and the Smithsonian Institution. IMSA’s work in problem-based learning also was presented at the U.S. Secretary of Education’s Second Conference on Improving Math and Science Education.

Smithsonian Project. As co-beneficiaries of a congressional grant to the Smithsonian Institution, IMSA and the Duke Ellington School of the Arts in Washington, D.C. are developing curriculum models that integrate mathematics, science, the arts and humanities. In 1992-93, faculty from both schools developed pilot programs to test in their respective schools. Successful models eventually will be shared with other schools.

Dr. Teller Video Curriculum Project. In a unique educational partnership between IMSA and six Chicagoland physics teachers, a curriculum guide based on Dr. Edward Teller’s lectures at IMSA was developed. Entitled “A Trip Through the Secret Side of Physics,” it covers special relativity, general relativity and atomic physics.

Supporting Student Research

Mentorship Program. The mentorship program continued to expand in 1992-93 with 121 students working at 38 corporate, scientific and government laboratories in the Chicagoland area. Students conducted research in such areas as oncology, neonatology, public policy, and chemical engineering. As a result of her research in mentorship at the Field Museum of Natural History in Chicago, 1993 graduate Elizabeth Pine was awarded first place and a $40,000 scholarship in the 52nd Westinghouse Science Talent Search competition. (See photo below left).

National Conference on Undergraduate Research. For the second year in a row, IMSA was the only high school in the nation invited to participate in the National Conference on Undergraduate Research. This year, 12 IMSA students presented their research in fields such as ecology and evolution, physics, astronomy, computer technology and immunology.

Grainger Inventors’ Workshop. The Grainger Inventors’ Workshop opened in 1992-93, providing students with an area to “tinker” and build equipment needed for their research. Using tools in the workshop, students built projects such as an electronic scrambler for several state competitions.

Supporting Teaching Innovation

IMPACT II Teaching Grants. Thanks to support from the private sector, IMSA once again increased the number of IMPACT II grants awarded to mathematics and science teachers in Illinois. Nearly 800 teachers are now members of Illinois’ IMPACT II program which promotes excellence in K-12 education by networking teachers and their innovative ideas. For the first time, many IMPACT II teachers presented their award-
winning projects at a statewide Teacher’s Network Conference sponsored by IMSA.

Innovations and Initiatives Mini-Grants. For the second year, the IMSA Fund awarded mini-grants to faculty and staff to implement their creative ideas that support IMSA's mission. Some of the award-winning projects included a sign language class for the community, a peer educators group to help students explore multiculturalism, and a series of training sessions for area middle school teachers on software data collection and interpretation for interdisciplinary units of study.

Caterpillar Faculty Excellence Fund. With support from the Caterpillar Foundation, IMSA established this fund to support unique professional development opportunities for IMSA teachers—opportunities to help them develop innovative approaches to teaching and learning for use at IMSA and in other Illinois schools.

Supporting Minority Recruitment/Enrichment

IMSA Sloan Challenge Program. In the second year of a three-year recruitment/enrichment program for minority students in East St. Louis and Joliet, IMSA served 69 eighth graders—approximately 35 in each site—who attended 12 Saturday sessions in their home communities and a five-day summer retreat at IMSA. The program was funded by the Alfred P. Sloan Foundation.

Chicago Challenge. Supported by the Lloyd A. Fry Foundation, Illinois Bell and WMX Technologies this program for minority students served 62 seventh and eighth grade students and 12 teachers from seven Chicago public elementary schools. Students attended Saturday morning sessions and a summer session at IMSA in which they studied a case of lead contamination in a city's water supply. (See photo below).

Early Involvement Program (EIP). Supported by the Albert Pick Jr. Fund and the Polk Brothers Foundation, this program served 55 minority students in the ninth grade from 19 Chicago schools. Students attended Saturday morning sessions at the University of Illinois and a weekend retreat at IMSA. Students developed their research, decision-making and self-motivation skills while studying geometry concepts, investigating bioethics problems and interpreting poetry.

Supporting Technology Advancement

Fiber Optic Cable. Illinois Bell donated fiber optic cable valued at $25,000 to increase IMSA's capacity for broadcasting classes, lectures and special events to students and teachers throughout Illinois.

Computer Software. Novell, Inc. donated $54,000 worth of computer software to upgrade IMSA's networking capabilities. This will help the Academy better serve the IMSA community in addition to enhancing communication with teachers throughout the state.

Computerworld Smithsonian Award. IMSA was nominated in the Education and Academia Category of the Computerworld Smithsonian Award for a project which uses commercial software to link scientific issues and mathematical skills to the study of the past, present and future in an innovative social studies program.
FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Dear Partners,

It is my privilege, as executive director of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, to thank you for your generous investment in our pioneering educational community.

During the 1992-93 school year, IMSA was widely acclaimed in Illinois, as well as nationally and internationally for our work in problem-based learning and our unique partnerships with the private sector. Among the media that featured IMSA as a model for educational change and innovation were Physicians Lifestyle Magazine, BBC-TV's The Money Programme, and CNN's Science and Technology News.

Our ability to share our work in problem-based learning with other schools happens in large measure because of our Fund board's leadership. The board plays a critical role in providing "margin of excellence" investments to develop and support innovative education for Illinois. Board members are the catalyst and foundation for our growth; their participation sets the standards for and drives our success.

Because of their support, and the support of other donors and friends, IMSA enjoyed a banner year in 1992-93. A number of innovative programs were piloted, and service to other schools, teachers and students in our state and nation expanded significantly.

This year the Fund board welcomed five new members and bid a fond farewell to retiring members, Linda and Roger Anderson. Their leadership and dedication were vitally important and will be missed.

As we establish goals for 1993-94, we will depend on the foresight and vision of all Fund board members and on the continued support of you, our donors. On behalf of the board of trustees, faculty and staff, students, parents and alumni of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, thank you.

Sincerely,

Stephanie Pace Marshall, Ph.D.
Executive Director
Recognizing individuals, corporations and foundations that provided financial support to the Academy during the period July 1, 1992, through June 30, 1993.

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- The Harris Family Foundation
- Illinois Bell
- IMSA Parents Council
- Novell, Inc.
- Alfred P. Sloan Foundation
- Smithsonian Institution
- Toyota USA Foundation

**$10,000 to $24,999**
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- Amsted Industries
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