EXCEEDING EXPECTATIONS

Fund for Advancement of Education
Report to Our Investors
1999-00
Throughout its history the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education Board of Directors has worked hard to connect the vision, talents and ideas of the private sector with those in education to produce meaningful and measurable results. Through this work, the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy and its partners have created a laboratory for learning and teaching mathematics and science in Illinois that is second to none.

The strategic direction of the IMSA Fund is always guided by the Academy’s commitment that all students in Illinois benefit from IMSA’s programs. IMSA serves students and mathematics and science teachers throughout Illinois by offering a wide variety of programming that is available at three distinct sites to make them more accessible to the Illinois community:

- On campus resides at IMSA
- Regional resides at partner sites throughout Illinois
- Virtual resides in cyberspace

As proof that our results are raising eyebrows, the IMSA Fund secured more than $2.9 million in external venture philanthropy investments. These investments were based on solid business plans and innovative approaches/solutions to the most pressing issue facing our society in the new millennium, the education of our young people for the future economy and global competition.

It is with great pride that we share our results of this past year with you, our investors, in this annual report. Recognizing the rapid rate of change in our technology-based society, we believe that four areas illustrate IMSA’s unique ability to create replicable and sustainable learning environments for the new millennium:

- IMSA’s Student Inquiry and Research Program—helping students to look at learning from a hands-on, knowledge-generating research perspective.
- The IMSA Great Minds Program— connecting those on the frontiers of knowledge with Illinois students and teachers.
- The IMSA Kids Institute— linking IMSA “student teachers” with elementary and middle school students throughout the state to stimulate and nurture the curiosity and interest of children in mathematics and science.
- The Internet Information Fluency Project— helping educators acquire the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate and use information from the Internet to improve learning in today’s classrooms.

The best practice programs highlighted in this report represent a sampling of this year’s achievements and speak to IMSA’s commitment that “all students in Illinois benefit from IMSA.”

On behalf of the entire Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy community, thank you for your investment in the programs of the IMSA Fund. They allow us to move thoughtful intentions into ground-breaking results. We will work hard in the future to continue exceeding expectations.

Sincerely,

James R. Thompson  
Chairman

Michael J. Birck  
President
Exceeding Expectations Through:

**STUDENT INQUIRY AND RESEARCH**

IMSA's Student Inquiry and Research Program enables students to pursue compelling questions of interest, conduct original research, and collaborate with other students, mentors, scholars, researchers and inventors throughout the world. Students engage in scholarly and scientific investigation, as well as creative and artistic expression.

**Highlights in 1999-00 include:**
- Rebecca Elsenheimer of Lisle (Class of 2000) received the highest recognition given at Sakharov's Readings, a highly selective research conference in St. Petersburg, Russia. Elsenheimer delivered her research on the birth of the solar system in Russian. She and five other IMSA seniors were among 210 young student researchers from throughout the world who were invited by the Russian Academy of Sciences to participate in the conference.
- 19 students attended and presented at the 2000 American Junior Academy of Science (AJAS)/American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Annual Meeting and Science Innovation Exposition.
- Five students had the results of their research published in professional journals including the *Biology of Reproduction*, the *NCSSSMS Journal* (National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics, Science and Technology) and *Biographies 2000: Through the Years*, to be published by the Lee County (Illinois) Genealogical Society in October, 2000.
- 12 IMSA students and one student from Batavia High School have written biographies of famous living American scientists for a book geared toward exciting middle school students about science.
- Blaine Eubanks of Eldorado (Class of 2000) and Dustin Hendrickson of Biggsville (Class of 2001) built an apparatus for sonoluminescence, generating light from sound, in the Grainger Center for Imagination and Inquiry. This phenomenon may serve as a future source for clean, efficient energy.
- Five students presented their research at the Seventh Annual Student Research Symposium of the National Consortium for Specialized Secondary Schools of Mathematics, Science and Technology in June.

**THE GREAT MINDS PROGRAM**

IMSA's Great Minds Program is designed to "fan the imaginations" of young people about knowledge, creativity and future possibilities. Unique programs connect those on the frontiers of discovery with learners of all ages. By reconnecting mathematics and science to the human experience, the Great Minds Program helps to create conversations that matter and turn them into actions that make a difference.

**Highlights in 1999-00 include:**
- More than 2,500 guests attended Great Minds Program events hosted on the IMSA campus and delivered to some via distance learning technologies.
- More than 1,425 Illinois students and 655 Illinois teachers from 242 middle schools, high schools and community colleges participated in Great Minds Program dialogues held at IMSA. Topics included Science and...
Guest speakers included:

Malcolm Browne, New York Times, Senior Writer
Paula Apsell, Executive Producer of the award-winning PBS television series NOVA
Bill Kurtis, Executive Producer and host of the award-winning Investigative Reports with Bill Kurtis
Dr. Marsha Rosner, Director of The Ben May Institute for Cancer Research at The University of Chicago
Dr. George "Pinkey" Nelson, Director of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) Project 2061
Ms. Lynne Haeffele, Deputy Superintendent of the Illinois State Board of Education
Dr. Jane Butler Kahle, Division Director, Elementary, Secondary and Informal Education, National Science Foundation
Dr. Roger Schank, Director, Institute for the Learning Sciences (ILS), Northwestern University.

More than 500 people attended Great Minds Program community lectures held at IMSA. Speakers included Nobel Laureate and IMSA Resident Scholar Dr. Leon Lederman; Nobel Laureate Dr. Mario Molina; and Rabbi Lawrence Kushner.

**IMSA Kids Institute**

The IMSA Kids Institute was created to help increase the number of students interested in mathematics, science and technology. Programs for Illinois students in grades 3-9 are developed and taught by IMSA students and staff. Most feature hands-on enrichment activities that integrate concepts of science, mathematics and technology with the humanities. This program also helps IMSA students become leaders and consider becoming teachers.

**Highlights in 1999-00 include:**

- Programs greatly expanded to serve almost 300 Illinois students in the summer and 600 students during the school year.
- The IMSA Kids Institute hosted two new summer “camps”. In Math Explorers, more than 50 Chicagoland students cracked codes using cryptography, constructed mobiles using geometry principles, and designed fractals on computers.
- In Explorations in Biotechnology, sponsored by the Chicago Public Schools, students from seven Chicago schools worked in the Grainger Center for Imagination and Inquiry on bacterial transformation, DNA spooling, polymerase chain reaction, restriction enzyme analysis, and gel electrophoresis of proteins.
- The Kids Institute hosted two sessions of the third annual Science Explorers Program. In the first session, elementary students studied topics such as Environmental Science, Spectacular Stars, Geology and Fossils, Natural Disasters and Movie Magic. In the second session, students used a problem-centered approach to establish a colony on Mars in the year 2030. Students investigated and resolved transportation, industry, food and supplies, and community issues.
- In Summer Sleuths, more than 80 Illinois students tackled the problem, Resident Canada Geese: Sharing the Environment, in which they considered the viability of genetic engineering as a means to alleviate the nuisances associated with the overpopulation of geese in a suburban environment.
- 350 Illinois schools received a copy of the 1999 edition of the Real Science CD-ROM, funded in part by Nortel Networks. Real Science is an interactive science CD entirely produced by IMSA students for Illinois 3rd-5th grade classrooms. Its purpose is to help spark student interest in science at a younger age.

**Internet Information Fluency Project**

IMSA's Internet Toolkit has been in development since 1998. This powerful set of educational tools is designed to promote the integration of the Internet into the classroom. The IMSA Internet Information Fluency Project helps teachers and students acquire the knowledge and skills to locate, evaluate and use information from the Internet to improve learning.

**Highlights in 1999-00 include:**

- Expansion of Internet Toolkit teacher training initiatives to 30 teachers in 10 Chicago schools through the support of the Polk Bros. Foundation.
- Expansion of teacher training initiatives into East Central Illinois serving 10 librarians from 10 schools in partnership with the Central Illinois Distance Learning Consortium and the Lumpkin Foundation.
- A grant from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Community Affairs to take IMSA’s Internet Information Fluency Project online in 2001 to give 50 Illinois teachers and librarians “anytime and anyplace” access to training in use of IMSA’s Internet Toolkit in their classrooms.
In this report, we recognize cumulative giving of $125.00 and above during the period July 1, 1999 – June 30, 2000. We would like to also offer special thanks to the 416 friends that provided support of less than $125.00.

While we carefully prepared this donor list, we recognize that some errors may have occurred. If your name has been inadvertently misspelled or omitted, please accept our apology and contact the Office of Institutional Advancement (630) 907-5040 so that our records can be corrected.
Matching Gift Companies
The IMSA Fund sincerely thanks the following corporations that have matching gift programs. These are matched gifts from individual employees, retirees or board members and parents between July 1, 1999 and June 30, 2000.

3Com Corporation
Abbott Laboratories Fund
Aetna Foundation
Ameritech Foundation
Archer Daniels
Midland Foundation
Bank of America
BP
Chicago White Metal Casting
ComEd
General Re Corporation
GTE Foundation
Hamilton Sundstrand
Corporation
Hewitt Associates L.L.C.
Houghton Mifflin Company
W. K. Kellogg Foundation
Lucent Technologies

Memorials
Memorial gifts are designated for a variety of uses at IMSA, yet they all have a single purpose—to memorialize the loss of a close friend or loved one. Memorials were received between July 1, 1999 and June 30, 2000 in honor of the following people:

Chuck Aaron (’89) Julie Namkung (’91)
Vivian Ball Anne Price Pace

Development Fund Staff
Editor and Writer: Brenda Biesbacher
Director of Development: Juan C. Bustamante
Researcher: Marti Guarin
Coordinator of Advancement Initiatives and the Kids Institute: Britta McKenna
Coordinator of Development Programs: Christina Morkin
Gifts and Grants Manager: Jane Overstreet
Coordinator of Alumni and Parent Programs and Annual Support: Lisa Peck
Secretaries: Kathy Bonie, Paula Leifheit, Kathleen Long

Photo Credits
Front cover from top:
Students in lab coats—Britta McKenna
Students in computer lab—Miriam Berkley Photographs
Nobel Laureate Dr. Leon Lederman—Rich Malec Photography

Page one:
IMSA student speaker—Rich Malec Photography

Page two:
IMSA student with safety goggles—Tribune Photo by Mario Petitti

Page three:
Nobel Laureate Dr. Mario Molina—Rich Malec Photography
IMSA students in science lab—Britta McKenna

Page six:
Science Explorers—Britta McKenna
Overall 1999-2000 expenses represent 88% ($1.1 million) for Program Services and 12% ($146,000) on Management and General.

Center@IMSA $274,051 24%
Grainger Center $216,269 19%
Academic Support & Student Life $181,657 16%
Great Minds Program $171,790 15%
Information Fluency Project $108,338 10%
Underrepresented Populations $97,106 8%
Other $94,400 8%
Total $1,143,611 100%

Copies of the 1999-00 financial audit of the IMSA Fund are available by contacting the Office of Institutional Advancement at (630) 907-5040.
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<td>Director</td>
<td>Ted Parge</td>
<td>Vice President for Institutional Advancement, CEO, IMSA Fund</td>
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*Honorary Members

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Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy
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Aurora, Illinois 60506-1000

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Production made possible entirely by private funding