



From the Board

Our January IB Parent Meeting, although cold and snowy, was a great success! We had a *two-part evening*. During the first half of the meeting, a panel of four articulate young college women provided interesting insights about their college experiences, and the second half of the evening featured **Diane Schaefer** who presented an overview of how our students can identify and choose colleges that support and encourage them. The theme of the evening was college fit—in other words, how well a college meets a student's needs, interests, academic endeavors and curiosities. The girls were asked many questions pertaining to college life, and they all were quite frank. There are so many aspects to college life, and our panel illuminated several for the IB parents and students. **Martha Udelhofen** graduated from Univ. of Wisconsin in 2005 and is hoping to attend medical school next fall. Her time at this very large university enabled her to grow and develop hidden talents and interests. **Jaime Latcham**, a sophomore at William & Mary, shared her adventures as she took a "gap year" off between GW and college. She was positive about her time away from school. **Erin Shea** related her experiences at Tufts University, and talked about her decision to leave school, take a year off, and transfer to Pomona College, where she is a junior and loving the academic rigor, California 'attitude' and sunshine! **Becca Kaplan**, graciously gave her time before taking a flight to Spain for a semester, leaving her classmates behind at CU Boulder. **Thank you so much, Martha, Jaime, Erin and Becca!** Thank you, **Linda During** for arranging such a fantastic panel!

Dan Franklin, the college counselor hired by the IB Parents' Association and IB Foundation, is planning another college information evening for the *entire* school on **Thursday, February 1 at 7 p.m.** This session is intended for Juniors. Come and hear him share ideas about college choice, applications, funding, and admissions.

Our next **Parents' Meeting** is **Tuesday, February 13 at 7 p.m.** in the **GW Community Room** for 9th, 10th and 11th grade students and their parents. The evening will focus on CAS and travel opportunities including a speaker from Just Go Global who will address topics such as getting our student's passport, preparing our teen for international travel, representing the United States and George while abroad, choosing the right program, and immersion vs. travel. We will then break into groups and talk with representatives of trips to Costa Rica, France, and Italy. Bridge-Linguathec will be present to provide information about learning foreign languages. Please plan on attending this wonderful evening, and help put more *international* in the IB program.

The IB Parents' Association Budget for 2006-2007 is included on page 7. You will see that again, the IB Parents' Association gave \$100 holiday gift to each IB teacher, staff member and counselor. This was made possible by our voluntary dues campaign and proved to be an excellent way for the IB Parents' Association to express our appreciation for how much the IB teachers and staff do for our kids.

Now that we are into the second semester of the school year, it is time to begin thinking about Board positions for next year. Committed and involved parents are what make the Association such a successful organization and strong voice for the IB program. If you are interested in a Board position for next year, please let a Board member know.

Debra Roads and Andrea Shea, Board Co-Presidents

IB JUNIORS AND PARENTS OF IB JUNIORS

It's February. Do you know where your college plans are?

February 1 Dan Franklin will give a school-wide presentation on college admissions, at 7 PM in the Auditorium. All juniors and their parents are encouraged to attend.

ASAP All IB juniors should meet with Dan Franklin at least once on an individual basis. It is easy to make an appointment. Just sign up for a junior time slot in the schedule book in Mr. Franklin's office (next to Ms. Schmidt's, opposite Ms. Geimer's).

ASAP Consider doing college visits during Spring Break. If you have been working on your college list with Mr. Franklin, your visits will be better focused and more worth the time and expense.

ASAP Plan when you will take the ACTs, and/or SATs this spring. Do the colleges you are looking at require SAT Subject Tests? When will you take those?

***Ms. Schmidt is working to arrange **test prep classes** at GW, for a fee. Be alert for news as it becomes available.

April 10 Mandatory Meeting for IB Juniors and Their Parents, 7 PM. During the regular IB Parents' Association meeting time, juniors and their parents will receive essential information about the college application process including the logistics of completing college applications in the fall.

STAY ON TRACK. DO NOT MISS THIS EVENT!

April 29 College Fair, University of Denver, 1 – 4 PM.

Summer Rising seniors will diligently work on college essays, the 2006 Common Application School Report, and their final lists of 1 – 7 colleges.

August 20 Seniors will thrill Ms. Geimer and Ms. Schmidt by being prepared to turn in the fruits of their summer labors.



A Thank You and a Report on the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation Fundraising Campaign

The Friends of IB Scholars Foundation wishes to thank the many IB families, alumni and friends for their generous contributions to this year's fundraising campaign. We also want to thank The Grace R. and Alan D. Marcus Foundation for their contribution of \$2,000, and the anonymous contribution of \$10,000 from a private foundation of an IB family, which have been matched by \$12,000 from The Ebrahimi Family Foundation challenge grant, for total foundation contributions of \$24,000 to the IB Foundation. IB families, alumni and friends have contributed an additional \$11,570, bringing our total fundraising thus far to \$35,570. We plan to publish the list of donors in the March IB Broadcaster.

Last year, the IB Foundation was fortunate to have received over \$50,000 in total contributions. While our results this year have been excellent, we want you to know that there is still time to make a contribution to this year's campaign. Due to the generosity of IB families, alumni, alumni families, friends, and other charitable foundations during last year's fundraising campaign, the IB Foundation was

able to fund over \$50,000 of grants for the IB program, many of which are benefiting the IB program this year, including our IB college counselor, Dan Franklin; the summer enrichment program held this past summer for this year's freshman IB class; books, curriculum materials and equipment for IB classes; continuing education for IB teachers; honoraria for IB teachers advising students on IB extended essays; and many other benefits that enrich the IB program at GW. In order for the IB Foundation to continue to support the IB program at last year's level, additional contributions will be needed.

So, we hope that those IB families who may not yet have been able to make a contribution will consider a donation to the IB Foundation. Your donations remain a critical part of the continued success and excellence of the IB program at GW. Please consider a contribution of \$25, \$50, \$100, \$250, \$500 or more. Remember that the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization, and your gift can be tax-deductible. Please send your contributions as soon as you can to **Friends of IB Scholars Foundation, c/o Janice Thomas, Treasurer, 1634 S. Leyden Street, Denver, Colorado 80224.**

Please contact me at home, 303.759.1176, at my office, 303.539.3159, or by email at James.Kaplan@publicans.com, if you have any questions about the IB Foundation. Thank you for your continued support of the GW IB program.

**Jamie Kaplan, President
Friends of IB Scholars Foundation**

Web Site Building: Help Needed!

The CAS Parent Committee is seeking help creating a web site for students. It will include updates, requirements, forms for downloading, suggestions, examples and useful links. If you have expertise in this area and can offer some time and energy, please call Amy Wood at 303.321.0385 or email at amyhwood@comcast.net.

Many Pitch in to Make Breakfast a Success



On January 10, **Helen Atkeson** and **Lisa Haddox** of the IB Parent's Teacher Appreciation Committee hosted the annual teacher appreciation breakfast for all GWHS teachers and staff.

The breakfast, held in the Library, provided a welcomed treat for teachers during their first week back from the holiday break.

Many thanks to **Helen Atkeson, Lisa Haddox, Julie Lays, Kathleen Shea, Cathy Stamp** and **Mary Park** for being on hand to set up and clean up for the event. All breakfast items were donated by generous IB parents, including wonderful egg dishes, fruit plates, coffee cakes, bagels and Einsteins coffee. We greatly appreciated these donations from **Helen Atkeson, Julia Barry, Katherine Bayne, Kirsten Black, Terry Brandl, Diane Burkhardt, Eva Chan, Jeanne Dise-Lewis, Karen Dworak, Sayeeda Ghani, Lisa Haddock, Susan Hollander, Pam Jones, Toni Latcham, Julie Lays, Susan Lee, Anne Loopesko, Linda Meyer, Cate Monks, Mary Park, Nadine Popham, Debi Roads, Kathleen Shea, Debbie Skeen, Tom Smedley, Cathy Stamp** and **Sue Whitnah**. Thank you to **Mr. Williams** for his support of the festivities and also to **Amanda Schmidt** for her help in coordinating the breakfast.

IB Parent Volunteers Needed

The IB office is looking for up to 35 volunteers to proctor exams during the month of May. Exams begin May 2, and continue until May 23. Morning exams begin at 7:30 and may be 1-3 hours long. Afternoon exams start at 12:00 p.m. and can be 1-4 hours. The testing is done off-site, at the Community College of Aurora. Interested parents should call Suzi Geimer.



Mark Your Calendars



The IB Senior Brunch will take place on **Sunday, May 6**. Seniors will receive a bookmark with details during the first week of February. Start looking for a baby picture of your senior and fun photos from their years in the IB program! Photographs may be placed in an envelope in Mrs. Schmidt's office or e-mailed: wayneL44@hotmail.com.

Volunteers Needed for IB Welcome Fest

The IB Parent Board is pleased to announce the annual **Welcome Fest** on **Tuesday, March 20 at 6:30 p.m.** at George Washington. We are looking for IB students who are involved with extra-curricular activities and are willing to share their experiences. Anyone who wants to showcase their talents, clubs, competitions, honor societies, sports, and so on should contact Jennifer Ostrom. Free pizza will be served before the event for participating students!

This is a great way to recruit members and get a start on next year's membership! If anyone has art they would like to display or a performance they would like to try out, there is also room for you. In addition, we welcome 9th graders who would be willing to act as general hosts and interact with the prospective students as well as parent volunteers to help staff the event and/or provide baked goods. Please call or email Jennifer Ostrom: 720.748.1492 or jnfrcara@earthlink.net to volunteer.

Speech and Debate Competes at Arizona State and Hosts the Cherry Creek Chop

Nine members of the GW Speech and Debate team traveled to Phoenix, Arizona on January 10th for the ASU Southwestern championships. Varsity policy debaters **Zafar Moosajee** and **Aaron Bernhardt** finished 4-2, **Gabe Stein** and **Jordan Bernhardt** finished in the top 16. Gabe brought home a 9th place speaker award; Jordan received the 1st place speaker award out of some 200 competitors—quite an accomplishment.

The public forum team of **Mark Sharoff** and **Terrence Caldwell** finished with a 3-3 record, and **Granger Atkeson** and **Cody Troyer** made it to the quarter final round, tying for 8th place. Granger captured a 15th place speaker award. Freshman extemporaneous speaking competitor **Lawson Williams** made a fine showing at his first circuit tournament. Congratulations to all. Next stop on the national circuit is Cal Berkeley in February.

In addition, GW hosted a meet with Cherry Creek called the **Cherry Creek Chop**. Five hundred competitors from 32 schools entered the tournament. Thank goodness for the

volunteers: **Carla Foote, Susan Tuchler, Steve Epstein, Huyen Tran, Amy Wood, Jennifer Hulac, Candy Rusk, Jon Bernhardt, Jan Sharoff, Joann Stroud, Helen Atkeson, Lisa Hartman, Pam and Bob Troyer, Jenny Kempe-Biermann, Richard Wood, Lyda Gardiner, and Bill Crossen**. Instead of competing, most of the GW Speech and Debate Team helped host the meet. Team members manned the concessions tables, drove to get supplies, directed visitors, and cleaned up. GW students also ran the all-important tabulation room.



Varsity public forum debaters Granger Atkeson and Cody Troyer competed at the ASU Southwestern Championships in Phoenix, AZ in January during a record-breaking cold snap.

Save the Date!

On **March 19**, the newly formed **Alums and Friends of GW** will have its first reception at GW. Please plan on coming and joining as a Founding Member. Our mission is to gather, inspire, and coordinate the efforts of GW alums, parents, neighbors, and friends to support the students, faculty, and facilities that are George Washington High School. Principal Mario Williams will speak along with prominent alums. As the date approaches, click on the Alumni link of the GW website for more information.

Tennis Anyone?

Any girls interested in trying out for the girls tennis team are welcome to attend the first practice on Feb. 20th at 3:45 at the tennis courts. Coach Jeff Zinke asks that you e-mail him with any questions at jzinke957@comcast.net.



CAS Committee Organizing Spring Activities

The CAS Board is attending to several key activities slated for the Spring. For our **Seniors**, all portfolios must be in by the beginning of March. Volunteers will be reviewing them, making sure all required forms are signed, all essays have been completed, and the portfolios are ready. Once approved, peer interviews will be scheduled for mid-late March. All seniors must participate in order to receive the IB diploma. If you are interested in organizing portfolios, scheduling interviews, or even facilitating a peer interview session, please contact **Toni Latcham**: 303.331.0253 or ahlatch@msn.com.

We are also awarding two **\$1,000 Presidential Freedom Scholarships in May**. Seniors may self-nominate, or be nominated by a teacher, peer or parent. For more information, please visit the scholarship website at <http://www.learnandserve.gov/about/programs/pfs.asp>. Students interested in self-nomination



should send an essay to the CAS Board outlining why they feel they should be awarded the scholarship based on the criteria outlined on the website. Please send those to either **Toni Latcham** (contact info listed above) or **Gail Sigman**: 303.270.0461 or gsigman@ltgc.com.

Juniors will meet one more time to go over the requirements of the essays and hours. Their first essay, as well as activity sheets detailing how each has completed 75 of their required 150 hours, is due before school ends.

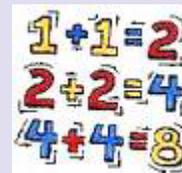
Sophomores will meet as a group to learn about the CAS program, its requirements, and how they can get started this summer. If you are interested in providing or serving refreshments or in helping collate CAS Portfolios to be handed out at that meeting, please contact Gail or Toni.

Our **Freshman Service Day** is slated for **April 25**. It promises to be a day filled with fun, activity and service toward others. Detailed information will be sent to freshmen and their parents. If you would like to volunteer to accompany the group, or help in some way, please contact **Gail Sigman** through the contact information listed above.

GWer's distinguish themselves at CSU's Math Day

GW's team of IB mathematicians made our school proud once again this year at CSU's Math Day.

Steve Lacks reports that out of the 324 participants who competed in the PROBE (Problems Requiring Original and Brilliant Efforts) Contest, GW's team of eleven distinguished themselves. Senior **Anna Bessesen** finished fourth overall while Senior **Jesse Morse** finished fifth. Both won \$4,000 scholarships for their achievements. Senior **Pierre Biscaye** earned Honorable Mention by finishing in the top 10%. All our students who were veterans of previous years scored in the top half overall. The rest of the team was: **Seniors Tiffany Chan and Clayton Dahlman, Junior Kevin Black, Sophomores Joanna Foote, Peter Lewis, Elliot Reaven and Sarah Taylor, and Freshman Bobby Huggins.**



The following is the budget for the IB Parent Association for the 2006-2007 school year.

Dues Received 2006/2007: \$8,995

Expense	Expenses 2006/2007	Budget 2006/2007
Broadcaster Newsletter	1,208.93	2,600
Special Student Activities (DI, NHD, Speech)		1,000
8 th Grade PSW Student Event		400
Freshman Orientation		300
Teacher Appreciation	3,391.93	3,800
Copying (Directory, Other)		300
Scholarship		0
Meetings/Speakers	808.98	600
Teacher Quick Response		1,000
Capital Items (Auditorium Sound)		2,500
Special Projects (substitute teacher time)		800
CAS		2,000
Total	5,409.84	15,300

IB Parent Association Calendar 2007

- ◆ The Parent Association Board meets on the 1st Tuesday of every month (exceptions listed below)
- ◆ Parent meetings are held on the 2nd Tuesday of every month (exceptions listed below)



February

- 1 All School College Information Night in Auditorium with Dan Franklin 7-9 p.m.
- 6 Board Meeting, 7 p.m. in Room 128
- 13 Parent Meeting focusing on 9th, 10th & 11th Graders, in the Community Room, 6-9 p.m.
Topic: CAS information/Summer opportunities/travel

March

- 6 Board Meeting in Room 128
- 19 Alums and Friends Reception at GW
- 20 IB Welcome Fest for incoming Freshmen: **All students and parents are encouraged to attend and help answer their many questions!**

April

- 3 Board Meeting in Room 128
- 10 Mandatory Juniors and Parents meeting -Community Room 7-9 p.m. **Seniors and anyone else interested can hear IB parent Anne Snead speak about preparing to let go of your college-bound high school senior. This should be a light-hearted, humorous and helpful presentation for parents and students alike. Light snacks and beverages — and tissues — will be provided.**
- 27 CAS Service Day

May

- 6 IB Senior Brunch