

George Washington High School's I.B. Broadcaster



World School

A publication of the IB Parents Association of GWHS

In cooperation with the Friends of IB Scholars Foundation

June/July 2011 – Vol. 23, Issue 8

From the Board

I hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the very pleasant weather lingering in our area and hopefully a refreshing break in routine.

It's been said, "Those who can, do. Those who can do more, volunteer." I would like to recognize and thank **Linda During** and **Gail Sigman** for doing more. Gail Sigman has been the driving force behind the highly respected CAS component of our program for the last eight years and Linda During has been the faithful chieftain of our admirable College Counseling Program (along with many other duties) for the last seven years. Their inspiring dedication and tremendous contribution to the vitality of the GW IB Program has been invaluable. It has been my pleasure and privilege to work with each of them. I have no doubt that they will both continue to share their time and talents to further the greatness of other exceptional endeavors.



I would also like to thank everyone who helped with the incoming freshman welcome reception on Thursday, May 19th. The reception was well attended by anxious and eager students and their parents. Current students toured the new 9th graders around the building and into individual classrooms to meet teachers. Parents met in the library where **Tom Zeiler**, President of the IB Foundation and I shared information about our organizations and answered questions. **Suzanne Geimer** gave a brief overview of what they should expect to happen this first year of the program and introduced some of the teaching staff. **Drew Sarmiere**, owner of Peak Learning Solutions, introduced his company and made parents aware of the tutoring services he offers, and an upper classmen panel made up of senior **Julia Murphy**, juniors **Nick Butkovich**, **Daniel McCarthy**, **Connor Gee**, **Erin Boyd**, and **Eleah Wilkerson**, and sophomore **Kevin Vargas** shared some of their early school experiences – each suggesting that parents encourage their students to get involved in sports and or clubs where their kids can meet new friends and balance the academic rigor of the program with activities they enjoy doing. Parents and students reunited in the



lunchroom at the conclusion of the reception. We welcome the 133 freshmen who have been accepted into the program.

The graduation ceremony on Monday, May 23rd was exciting and inspirational. The members of the 2011 graduating class were offered an astounding \$5.5 million in scholarships and aid. Patriot colleges include: CU, CSU, CC, DU, UNC, George Washington, American University, Stanford, Penn, Harvard, Swarthmore, Columbia, Tufts, Boston University, Boston College, Tulane, Harvey Mudd, Duke, Coe, Occidental, University of Aberdeen, University of Southern California, North Carolina, Lewis & Clark, Puget Sound and many more. See the list on page 10.



The school year ended on a positive note after many weeks of turmoil regarding the possibility of changes being made to the IB program. I am happy to report that there are no plans to make any changes to the program through the 2013 school year.

On Monday evening, June 6th, I was one of the 41 people who attended the final IB parents meeting scheduled to address the controversy surrounding the IB Program. **Principal Maas**, **Suzanne Geimer**, **Scott Springer**, DPS Executive Director of Post-Secondary Education, and **Antwan Wilson**, DPS Assistant Superintendent, were on hand to answer questions and comment on the rumors that transpired caused by the lack of communication between school leaders and the GW parent/student community. See the Community Letter on page 4

It is my sincere hope that the integrity of the GWIB Program will remain uncompromised for years to come and that dedicated people will continue to be responsive to the needs of the students to whom they have chosen to commit their work. It is also my hope that year after successful year will bring high rates of successes for all of our students — each and every one.



Sincerely,
Kristi Butkovich,
IBPA Board President

All IB Families
Annual Fall IB Picnic
 Wednesday, August 24
 5 – 7:30 PM, Creekside Park

This annual affair is a great chance to meet and mingle with returning and new IB families and faculty... and to try your hand at volleyball and Ultimate Frisbee. (More details will come via e-mail before the event.)



Summer Fun...

Did you know?

Repel garden pests without chemicals:

You thought the bunny you spotted in the garden was so cute... until he started using your garden as a snack bar. To keep the furry nuisance away, place two cotton balls soaked in white vinegar inside empty film canisters or pill bottles, poke a few holes in the caps and bury halfway in the soil near the nibbled-on plants. The vinegar's strong odor will ward off curious rabbits, cats, dogs, and raccoons and the plastic canisters will retain the scent for weeks.

Tomatoes ward off sun damage:

The lycopene in tomatoes boosts the production of pro-collagen, a compound that helps maintain skin's elasticity and structure to prevent fine lines and wrinkles. In addition, British researchers found that lycopene neutralizes harmful UV rays to reduce sun-induced skin aging by up to 33 percent.

Congratulations, Class of 2011!

"It is the mark of an educated mind to be able to entertain a thought without accepting it." —*Aristotle*

Bell Schedule for 2011-2012:

Period 1 will start at 7:30 AM, and period 7 will end at 3:10 AM.
Period 8 (for selected IB students) will end at 4:10 PM.
The Wednesday/Thursday Block schedule will end at 2:30 PM

Coming GWIB Events

- June 30 9th Grade Registration, 7:30-11:30 AM and 12:30-3 PM
- Aug 1-5 Freshman Academy
- Aug 3-4 10th-12th Grade Registration
- Aug 18 First Day of School for Freshmen
- Aug 19 First Day of School for Sophomores, Juniors, and Seniors
- Aug 24 IBPA Picnic
- Aug 25 Back-to-School Night



Congratulations:

Claire Baker, 2010-11 IB freshman, scored the top mark in Colorado for 9th grade students taking the SAT in writing. The test was administered to selected individuals through the Western Academic Talent Search. To qualify to take the test, students scored in the top 10% of CSAPs or they were identified as gifted through the Center for Bright Kids. Well done, Claire!

Donate to the Friends of IB Foundation online! Follow the fundraising link at www.georgelb.com

Late Breaking News:

Results from the National Speech and Debate Tournament, June 13-18, Dallas, TX

First Place in Policy and Cross Examination Debate goes to new **National Champions Sam Clark** and **Miles Owens**. The last time a student from Colorado won this event was in 1953, 58 years ago. The last time a student from Colorado reached the final round was in 1971, 40 years ago!

Sam and Miles debated sixteen rounds of competition to secure their national title, topping the 195 policy teams who attended the tournament. The photo below by Kevin Owens shows Miles and Kevin celebrating with head coach, **Maryrose Kohan** and assistant coach **Greg Sobetski** (a DU student).

This event is typically won by students from schools that travel the so-called "national circuit" in debate, and have



large budgets and coaching staffs. This victory is even more impressive in that it came from students who don't attend such a school. A big Woo-Hoo for Sam and Miles! You didn't make just your school proud, but your whole state.

In further National Debate news: **Matt Zavislan** achieved **fourth place** in Lincoln-Douglas debate, in a field of over 200 competitors. Matt made it to round 14 of the tournament. Well done!

Langston Williams was a **semi-finalist** in Congressional Debate. **Dan Morgan-Russell** made it to the **top 30** in International Extemporaneous Speaking, and **Angie Neslin** was in the **top 30** in Original Oratory. These events also started with over 200 competitors.

As a result of these outstanding achievements in CX, LD, and Congressional Debate, George Washington won the **School of Excellence Award in Debate**. This award is given to the schools that log more than 40 rounds of debate during the tournament.



More Award Announcements:



The Vaughn Aandahl scholarship has been awarded annually since 1988 to a student who embodies the best of what so characterized Mr. Aandahl: integrity, interest, and competency in mathematics, compassion and a reverence for the intellectual. Mr. Aandahl taught mathematics, then became a DPS administrator who returned to the classroom to follow his first love, teaching math. He was instrumental in founding the IB program at GW. For 2011, the award was given to two students, **Amelia Brunner** and **Julia Murphy**, pictured here together at the Senior Brunch (Julia L, Amelia R)|



2011 Colorado History Day GWHS Results:

On Saturday, May 7, 30 of our George Washington Patriots participated in Colorado History Day. This year's theme was "Debate and Diplomacy in History: Successes, Failures, Consequences." Of our 12 entries, 9 were in the finals, with 8 of our entries being awarded 1st, 2nd, and 3rd Place championships. Our 1st and 2nd Place champions went on to represent GWHS, Denver Public Schools, and Colorado at National History Day at the University of Maryland campus June 11 - 16. Congratulations to these Patriots!

Senior Research Papers:

3rd Place: **Michael Homiak**: "Shifting Sands: The Sykes-Picot Agreement of 1916 and the Modern Middle East"

Finalist: **Jillian Elisberg**: "Shedding Red Tears: Mao's Successes, Failures, and Consequences in Transforming China into a Communist Nation"

Senior Group Exhibits:

1st Place: **Sarah Pierce, Kaila Hood, Davis Berlind**: "Minutes to Midnight: Nuclear Negotiations during the Cuban Missile Crisis"

2nd Place: **Emilie Bickel, Emma Thompson**: "Camp David Accords: Unresolved Conflict or Peaceful Agreement?"

3rd Place: **Breann Pugnetti, Chloe Thomas**: "Kemalism: Turkey's Debate between a Theocratic or Secular Society"

Senior Group Documentary:

1st Place: **Anne Biermann, Allison Steele, Kayla McClelland, Angie Neslin**: "All Sanctions Short of War: Debate and Diplomacy during the Abyssinian Crisis"

Senior Individual Web Site:

1st Place: **Dan Morgan-Russell**: "Mismanaging the Holy Land: The Failures in Founding Israel from Palestine"

3rd Place: **Cassandra Duchan**: "Standing as One: The Arab League"

Senior Group Web Site:

1st Place: **Michal Tesfamariam, Enkhjin Myagmarsuren**: "The Emancipation Edict of 1861: Successes and Failures on the Road to Freedom"

Another job well done!

Dear GW Colleagues and Community,

We write to you with deep gratitude and a shared commitment to making GW the best that it can be for all students. Thank you for the time you have given over the last several weeks to express your concerns regarding the unfortunate miscommunication around GW's IB program. Together, we share with you the goal of maintaining the excellence and rigor of our nationally recognized IB program.

We heard you loud and clear in terms of a commitment to make no programmatic changes to the IB program before the 2012-2013 school year. Please be assured there is no intention, nor was there, to make any changes in that regard during the next academic year. Likewise, there are no building or district plans to change IB.

We also heard clearly your request to have Administrative and programmatic staff work more closely together. To that end, Mrs. Geimer and Principal Maas have made a commitment to work side by side.

Finally, a plan is now in place to address your requests to have more frequent communications with GW's principal over the course of the school year. Specifically, it is our intention to communicate with you around budget and staffing and GW's schedule for next year. Other future opportunities for communications include emails, newsletters, presence of the principal at IBPA and IB Foundation meetings, and an annual community update regarding George.

While this has been a difficult process, many valuable lessons will be carried forward not only into next year, but also for many years to come. Thank you for your patience and willingness to work with us as we build a better GW for all students. We look forward to ongoing communications and collaboration with you.

Have a great summer. Thank you,

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Shop at Our Fundraising Website for All Your Household Needs

Did you know that you can use a HOME SHOPPING LIST tool at www.marketamerica.com/georgeib?



It helps you identify things you use on a regular basis that are available through a single checkout (EZ cart) on the site. This way you can find out how to help the IB foundation by buying things you already use in your household. These stores offer great royalties to the IB foundation and you can also earn Cashback. Here's how it works:

- Near the top right corner on the home page you'll see a red tab 'HOME SHOPPING LIST'
- If you've never used the site before or if you're not signed in you'll be prompted to register on the site or login. It's free to register – don't worry!
- Once you're logged in and the HOME SHOPPING LIST area is visible, look at the main part of the page, to the right. Click on the different tabs for categories of product and check the boxes for any product types you use.
- Go through each tab to make sure you cover everything.
- On the left you'll see a list of each of the product types you've checked and above the list you'll see a 'START SHOPPING' button. Click on it when you're done with your selections.
- Next you can take a tour through your list to see what's available for each product type.
- If there are product types that you want to delete, click on the trash can next to that category on the left of the page.
- When you're done you can save the list or print it by clicking on the icons.

In addition to these EZ cart stores, there are couple of other partner stores with their own check out where I find things I use every single month:

Drugstore.com – This is where I buy toothpaste, paper towels etc. You get 2% Cashback through Market America for everything you buy and Drugstore.com offers its own drugstore dollars program and great coupons too.



There are a lot of different places to buy printer ink. My favorite is **123inkjets** because they offer 2% Cashback to you and a high percentage kickback to the IB foundation. The prices there are great.

Make a point of going online over the summer break to find out how you can help the IB foundation raise badly needed funds to help our students in need and support our incredible teachers and staff in providing the excellent education that we want for our kids. It'll take everyone doing a little bit to make the program work!

Please contact Amanda Halliday at 720-296-9185 or amandahalliday@comcast.net if you need any help with your shopping.

Six Daniels Fund Scholars at GW



Congratulations to IB students (left to right) **Kara Bausch, Valencia**

Watson, Laura Moore, and Philong Than, former IB student **Keleka Blair**, and traditional student **Sarah Campbell** – GW’s 2011 Daniels Scholars.

Daniels Scholars receive funding to attend the college or university of their choice. The scholarship is not "full ride," but is supplemental to all other financial resources available to the student. Successful applicants demonstrate strength of character, leadership, and a record of accomplishment in giving back to the community.

In all, 36 DPS seniors, from 15 schools, were awarded Daniels Scholarships: Bruce Randolph (1), CEC (1), DCIS (6), DSA (4), DSST (2), East (3), GW (6), Kennedy (2), Lincoln (2), Manual (1), MLK (1), Montbello (1), North (2), South (2), and West (2).

The Daniels Fund announced a total of 267 Daniels Scholarship recipients on April 25, including 184 from Colorado, 43 from New Mexico, 16 from Utah, and 24 from Wyoming.

GW Senior Earns Navy ROTC Scholarship

GWIB senior Patrick Tapp has been awarded a US Navy four-year ROTC scholarship to study Civil and Environmental Engineering at CU-Boulder starting in the fall.



Patrick’s time in DPS has been a record of solid achievement beginning with the Gifted and Talented program at Steele Elementary, followed by the International Prep magnet and Junior National Honor Society at Hamilton Middle School, and concluding with four years in the GWIB program. From 2nd

grade, he has been fully involved in scouting and is now an Eagle Scout.

Patrick is active in Army JROTC, serving as the Denver Brigade Training and Operations Officer, an “all-city” position. He is a Cadet Lieutenant Colonel.

The road to the scholarship has been trying. Patrick suffered a shoulder injury playing football for GW, disqualifying him for admission to the US Naval Academy. After a long process, Patrick was granted a medical waiver allowing the US Navy ROTC to offer this scholarship. As a result, he will be able to study at his top choice of college, and still earn a commission in the US Navy.

Patrick is exemplary of successful melding of athletics, JROTC leadership, and International Baccalaureate scholarship that is possible at GW.

More good news:

One Tuesday, June 6, 2011, **Julia Murphy** attended the Colorado Rush Soccer Club honor banquet. Her team, the Girls Under 18 Swoosh, won the overall award to the team with the highest GPA, with a 4.01 average. Julia was named to the Rush/Sylvan Academic All-Star team as a defender and she was the female recipient of a Rush Academic Scholarship. She was congratulated by **Conor Casey**, current Colorado Rapids Player, fellow Colorado Rush player, and a Denver Public Schools graduate.



Varsity Soccer Captain Julia Murphy, left

Dear IB Families,



I wish to deviate from my usual pleading (although *don't forget your dues and donations!!*) to address the recent turmoil over Principal Loan Maas's plans for the IB program. Let me be clear: I do *not* speak for the IB Foundation Board. These are my personal views, presented to you after weeks of involvement in this issue after Principal Maas formed the infamous "focus group" to explore the access into the IB program.

We parents mobilized quickly to obtain information. I was, and remain, proud to be part of this effort to ensure the integrity and excellence of IB - *forever*. I now urge us to move forward. Principal Maas has promised to be open and communicative with us. We should reciprocate by listening to her aims. Here's the foundation of her plans that she sent out to all of us on May 15:

"... most importantly, please know there is no intention to make any changes to the IB program. Likewise, there are no building or district plans to change IB over the summer (as some of you have asked). The IB program is strong at GW! My intent has never, and will never, be to lessen the rigor or excellence of the IB program. I have no other desire than to find ways to better support our minority students that enter the IB program so that they are able to remain in the program, to create a strong feeder system that prepares all kids for an IB opportunity, and to find ways to use the best practices (instructional) of the IB program in our other GW academic programs."

This is a clear message of support for *maintaining the excellence and highest standards* of the IB program, while it also seeks to improve the prospects for students whose educational backgrounds disqualify them from IB. I believe we all share the goal of making IB more accessible, as long as the program does not, in any way, undermine quality. By one iota! Principal Loan shares our goal of a *bridge to excellence* for all kids that provides opportunity within the framework of high standards.

My suggestion? Let's take a deep breath and back off the head-hunting, polarization, and even paranoia. IB cannot live in isolation from the rest of the school. Principal Maas, the leader of GW, has her ideas for change. We won't know their specifics until she and Ms. Geimer, along with input from the IB community (including us parents), arrive at a plan.

But, we can trust one person, above all, to ensure that bridges to excellence are built in a way that protects IB's strengths and integrity: Suzi Geimer. It's time to cease our independent lobbying and listen to her. Our Denver Distinguished Teacher Award Winner has the wisdom and experience to know what works for IB. She is also willing to embrace change as long as it does not alter the strength of IB. But make no mistake: she is listening. In the most important development of this entire saga, as I see it, Ms. Geimer and Principal Maas are in close, weekly consultation about the future of IB. So let's tone down the histrionics to let their dialogue flourish, for they – not us – will make the decisions about the future of IB, and for what is best for your daughter or son.



Tom Zeiler, President
Friends of IB Scholars Foundation

To donate:

https://secure.ggiv.com/cps_donors/index.php?key=friendsofib

Students Excel in CAS—By Gail Sigman

To receive an IB Diploma, students need to complete three additional components along with classroom work: an extended essay, a Theory of Knowledge (TOK) class and project, and CAS requirements.

Creativity, Action, Service (CAS) is at the heart of the Diploma Program. It involves students in a range of activities alongside their academic studies. The three strands of CAS, which are often interwoven with particular activities, are characterized as follows.

Creativity: arts, and other experiences that involve creative thinking;

Action: physical exertion contributing to a healthy lifestyle, complementing academic work elsewhere in the Diploma Program;

Service: an unpaid and voluntary exchange that has a learning benefit for the student.

CAS enables students to enhance their personal and interpersonal development through experiential learning. At the same time, it provides an important counterbalance to the academic pressures of IB. A good CAS program is both challenging and enjoyable, a personal journey of self-discovery. Each individual student has a different starting point, and therefore different goals and needs, but for many, CAS activities include experiences that are profound and life changing.

CAS activities must include:

- Real, purposeful activities, with significant outcomes
- Personal challenge—tasks must extend the student and be achievable in scope
- Thoughtful consideration, such as planning, reviewing progress, reporting
- Reflection on outcomes and personal learning

Juniors work with Mrs. Lane to document and reflect on their experiences in preparation of their final essays and portfolios due before graduation. This year's seniors presented evidence of over **20,000 hours** of CAS activities in the past two years. Their creativity took the form of writing, music, dancing, acting, leadership, debate, cooking, landscaping, and even problem solving in research labs. Our seniors participated in every single sport GWHS offers, often assuming a leadership role on the team. They worked locally and globally on service projects. If you ever thought that IB students would not have time to engage in activities outside the classroom, you need to simply look at CAS.

Two seniors were each awarded a \$500 Spirit of CAS



scholarship: **Isabel Hoyt** (pictured left) and **Amelia Kucic** (right). Amelia worked on the Surveyor as a columnist and centerfold editor, was co-captain of the JV Soccer team, played on a girls Club Rugby team, and served as the student

representative on the school's CSC committee. Her passion for education is evident as the founder of the Place Tutoring Club and through her work at Breakthrough Kent Denver. Although only one essay was required for each area (a total of 3), Amelia wrote a reflective essay for every single activity – turning in a record 7 essays!

Isabel is an accomplished pianist, was the captain of the girls Varsity Cross Country team, and worked with 25 first & second grade DPS students (mostly homeless and newly immigrated to this country) in an intense reading and English tutoring program. She pushed herself to overcome psychological and physical barriers and wrote essays that reflected an amazing understanding of herself as someone with various skills and abilities, some more developed than others, and an understanding that she can make choices about how she wishes to move forward as an adult.

The CAS program could not have succeeded this year without the help of numerous individuals. Heartfelt thanks go to **Carolyn Faselt**, who chaired the annual CAS fair last fall, and her steering committee, **Jennifer Janes, Christi Millar, Betsy McFarland, Cynthia Kouris-Wilkerson, Robin Kane** and **Gail Saxton**, and the many other parents who showed up that day to help. Additionally, a huge thank you to **Janice Thomas, Peter Thomas, Cora Neslin, Linda During**, and **Leslie Lily** for their help reviewing portfolios and facilitating senior interviews. Lastly, **Marjie Lane** deserves special recognition for all her administrative help in record keeping, student communication and coordination of the program.

CAS is a unique and wonderful part of the IB experience. If you are interested in helping with this initiative, contact Marjie Lane in the IB office to find out how you can become involved. Finally, parents of seniors: portfolios have all been reviewed and can be picked up from the IB office. Many portfolios contain one-of-a-kind souvenirs, programs, medals, etc. Please make arrangements for your student to retrieve his/her work.

Graduation Honorees Abound

Special congratulations to the following members of the IB Class of 2011 whose accomplishments were recognized at GW's graduation ceremony on May 23:

- IB Valedictorian **Sam Clark** (pictured giving his valedictory speech)
- IB Salutatorian **Izzy Gall**
- The remaining "Top Ten GPA" IB students: **Leorah McGinnis, Devon Stork, Sarah Tran, Hannah Fisher, Maddie Hughes, Julia Sigman, Nadira Matin, and Julia Murphy**
- "Outstanding Seniors"(named by faculty) **Isabel Hoyt** and **Grace Michaels**
- Student Leadership Executives **Isabel Hoyt, Grace Michaels, and Philong Than** and Senior Class Representatives **Ashley Ajayi, Karina Garcia-Gonzalez, Makeedra Hayes, Catherine Maguire, and Kate Rowe**
- National Honor Society Members **Ashley Ajayi, Elena Aragon, Kara Bausch, Alex Capaldo, Izzy Gall, Makeedra Hayes, Isabel Hoyt, Maddie Hughes, Shinji Kikuchi, Amelia Kucic, Leorah McGinnis, Julia Murphy, Rahwah Netsanet, AudreyMae Norlander, Allison Ortega, Pablo Pantoja-Quiñones, Alex Port, Takara Reed, Kate Rowe, Marjie Ruby, Katrice Ryan, Erin Semple, Julia Sigman, Nathan Simmons, Philong Than, Lemuel Vesselovskii, and Matt Webb**
- National Merit Scholars **Izzy Gall, Devon Stork, and Sarah Wolberg**; Finalists **Sam Clark, Ben Johnson, Amelia Kucic, and Matt Symonds**; and Commended students **Amelia Brunner, Tai Chen, Ben Holston, Maddie Hughes, Leorah McGinnis, Alex Port, Meagan Swisher, and Matt Webb**
- National Achievement Scholar **Rahwa Netsanet** and Outstanding Participant **Laura Moore**
- National Hispanic Scholars **Elena Aragon, Pablo Pantoja-Quiñones, Donovan Martinez, and Cristian Medoza-Espinosa**
- Daniels Scholars **Kara Bausch, Laura Moore, Philong Than, and Valencia Watson**
- Sachs Foundation Scholar **Kourtney Green**



The graduation program included an impressive listing of additional institutional and independent scholarships earned by this year's graduates, which we hope to scan onto the George IB website soon. The following IB students were included in that list: **Elena Aragon, Kara Bausch, Oliver Bawmann, Kyra Bebus, Ben Breyfogle, Xavier Brown, Alex Capaldo, Sean Chilelli, Sam Clark, Erica Czajka, Bemnet Dechasa, Jacque Enriquez-Sandoval, Laura Gabriel, Karina Garcia-Gonzalez, Darren Gardner, Chiara Gonzales, Kalah Haley, Callie Hitchcock, Ben Holston, Isabel Hoyt, Maddie Hughes, Shinji Kikuchi, Kara Klepinger, Amelia Kucic, Nadira Matin, Grace Michaels, Leorah McGinnis, Julia Murphy, Miles Owens, Pablo Pantoja-Quiñones, Camila Prado-Irwin, Alex Port, Allison Reser, Aido Rogonich, Katrice Ryan, Marjie Ruby, Julia Sigman, Devon Stork, Meagan Swisher, Patrick Tapp, Lemuel Vesselovskii, Valencia Watson, and Sarah Wolberg.**

The following IB students had the honor of serving as Junior Escorts: **Emily Bickel, Anne Biermann, Zach Busse, Olivia Czufin, Cassandra Duchan, Rachel Martin, Kayla McClelland, Dan Morgan-Russell, Angie Neslin, Sarah Pierce, Breann Pugnetti, Ben Reilly, Abigail Sheldon, Allison Steele, Perrin Tourangeau, Chloe Thomas, Emma Thompson, Laura Tran, Madeleine Weitzner, Eleah Wilkerson, and Jonah Wolf.**



CLASS OF 2011 COLLEGE CHOICES

As of this writing, the following are the college choices of our IB graduates,
subject to change in the case of wait-lists. Congratulations!

Ashley	Ajayi	Occidental C	Desiray	Malone	U of Colorado at Colo Spgs
David	Alpert	U of Colorado at Boulder	Carissa	Marsh	U of Colorado at Boulder
Elena	Aragon	Whitman C	Donovan	Martinez	Fordham University
Anil	Arora	U of Colorado at Boulder	Nadira	Matin	U of Denver
Kara	Bausch	Tulane U	Leorah	McGinnis	Colorado State U
Oliver	Bawmann	Santa Clara U	Cal	McIntyre	U of Colorado at Boulder
Kyra	Bebus	U of Aberdeen	Ethan	Melnick	The George Washington U
Cristina	Botello-Godoy	U of Colorado at Denver	Cristian	Mendoza	US Military Academy
Ben	Breyfogle	U of Colorado at Boulder	Grace	Michaels	Tufts U
Xavier	Brown	U of Colorado at Boulder	Natalie	Millar	Colorado State U
Amelia	Brunner	Columbia U	Laura	Moore	U of Colorado at Boulder
Kathy	Bui	U of Colorado at Denver	Julia	Murphy	Swarthmore C
Alex	Capaldo	U of Colorado at Boulder	Rahwa	Netsanet	U of Denver
Tailun	Chen	Duke U	AudreyMae	Norlander	Louisiana State U
Sean	Chilelli	U of California at Berkeley	Allison	Ortega	U of Tulsa
Samuel	Clark	Harvard U	Miles	Owens	U of Denver
Erica	Czajka	Coe C	Pablo	Pantoja	U of Colorado at Boulder
Bemnet	Dechasa	Emory U	Alex	Park	U of Colorado at Boulder
Jackson	Downing	gap year to work & travel	Brendan	Patrick	The George Washington U
Jacqueline	Enriquez	U of Northern Colorado	Alex	Port	California Inst of Tech
Zoe	Faselt	U of Oregon	Camila	Prado-Irwin	Brandeis U
Hannah	Fisher	Northwestern U	Takara	Reed	Colorado State U
Laura	Gabriel	Pitzer C	Allison	Reser	Colorado State U
Izzie	Gall	Tufts U	Aida	Rogonich	U of Colorado at Boulder
Karina	Garcia-Gonzalez	Regis U	Kate	Rowe	Occidental C
Darren	Gardner	Colorado State U	Marjorie	Ruby	American U
Kelce	Gerlits	Loyola U Chicago	Katrice	Ryan	U of Colorado at Boulder
Abigail	Godec	Washington U in St. Louis	Tanner	Sandoval	U of Southern California
Chiara	Gonzales	Regis U	Erin	Semple	Texas Christian U
Kourtney	Green	Colorado State U	Julia	Sigman	U of Pennsylvania
Kalah	Haley	Spelman C	Nathan	Simmons	U of Colorado at Boulder
Joshanna	Hayes	U of Colorado at Colo Spgs	Devon	Stork	Harvey Mudd C
Makeedra	Hayes	Spelman C	Meagan	Swisher	Colorado Ballet, U of Oregon
Taylor	Hine	U of Colorado at Denver	Matt	Symonds	U of California at Berkeley
Callie	Hitchcock	U of British Columbia	Patrick	Tapp	U of Colorado at Boulder
Ben	Holston	Stanford U	Thomas	Tarler	U of Denver
Isabel	Hoyt	Santa Clara U	Philong	Than	Boston U
Madison	Hughes	Vanderbilt U	Amel	Topic	Ripon C
Randall	Hurst	New Mexico State U	Sarah	Tran	U of Southern California
Kyлина	John	gap year then CSU	Lemuel	Vesselovskii	U of Southern California
Adrian	Johnson	U of Colorado at Boulder	Valencia	Watson	Georgia Inst of Tech
Benj	Johnson	U of Southern California	Matt	Webb	Lewis & Clark C
Lauren	Josephs	U of British Columbia	Zachary	Whalen	U of Colorado at Boulder
Shinji	Kikuchi	Rochester Inst of Tech	Sarah	Wolberg	Haverford C
Kara	Klepinger	U of Puget Sound	Victoria	Wolfe	Shippensburg U of Penn
Justin	Krier	Marines, then college	Jason	Yin	Gustavus Adolphus C
Amelia	Kucic	Swarthmore C	Jackson	Zeiler	U of Colorado at Boulder
Catherine	Maguire	Montana State U			

People You Should Know: RICHARD LEEDS

Although he has big shoes to fill, new IB History teacher Richard Leeds has proven that he is ready for the job. A South High School graduate and self-proclaimed history enthusiast, Leeds went on to attend the University of Colorado at Boulder to pursue his passion and major in history.

“My favorite thing about history is history itself. I am a big believer that history is stranger than fiction. I find the decisions made throughout history that have changed our world fascinating and learning how and why those decisions were made has always interested me.”

Once Leeds found out that he would be replacing beloved history teacher Bonnie Guggenheim in the fall of 2011, he immediately began preparing to teach the course. Under the wing of Guggenheim, there was no way he could go wrong.

“In order to prepare for next year I have been working with Bonnie Guggenheim preparing for the historical context of the course,” explained Leeds. “In addition to support with the curriculum Bonnie has also allowed me to guest teach several lessons with the junior classes and provided feedback to help prepare me for next year. I have also attended both the regional and state level competitions for National History Day and I will be attending National History Day in June. Attending these events will help me because NHD is a big part of the curriculum for the juniors and seniors.”

Furthermore, Leeds has obtained more knowledge about life in general from his teaching experiences.

“The most important thing I have learned this year is that nothing ever goes the way you envision it, said Leeds. “But the more prepared you are the better equipped you will be for whatever comes up. I have learned that you can never over prepare.”

Over the time that Leeds has been preparing with Guggenheim, he has grown fond of his future students.

“What I have liked most about the HL History class I have been in is the passion for history that all of the students have. The questions and insight made by the students has been extremely impressive. It is truly exciting to see so many young people so excited about history.”

Also known to the GW community as a favorite swim coach, Leeds has developed a close bond with those on the swim team. Also, coaching the Patriots swim team gives Leeds the opportunity to pursue his other passion of swimming.

“My favorite aspect of swimming is that the more work and time the swimmers put into the pool the better they will be. Swimming is a sport where the biggest and strongest are often not the best. The best swimmer in the pool is often the person that has worked the hardest. I think that the swimmers who learn this are not only successful in the pool but also in life.”

Although he loves coaching GW swimmers, Leeds will be sure to prioritize his time between teaching and swimming.

“I would love to be able to coach swimming next year but my number one priority is HL History and the success of those students. Because of the time demands of HL History I might not be able to work with the swim team in the same way I did this year but I would like to help the team in any way I can.”

Most importantly, what is Leeds looking forward to the most for next year?

“I am looking forward the new experiences and challenges that I will face next year. I am excited to get to work preparing and teaching this curriculum to students who are eager to learn.”

—Cass Duchan, IB Student Reporter



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