

IBARMS meeting November 18, 2006
Submitted by Glenda Nachtrieb, Secretary

Roger opened meeting with introductions and an overview of the day. Information was shared around the Continuum workshop in January and authorization issues for presenting an MYP Level 2 training. Clarification was given between the presentations of Symposia and Roundtable offerings for teachers.

Roger and Lori presented information on the newsletter idea and attaching it to the website.

The Sub-regional leaders meeting is scheduled for January and an overview of that meeting was given.

Roger talked briefly about block grants for levels and how those might be used.

Goals for the year were covered. Discussion was held around the need to increase “take home value” for those attending our quarterly meetings. The new format of having presenters at least twice a year was reviewed with the first being this meeting.

There was some discussion around needs of a legislative committee to keep concerns in front of the State legislature and how we might impact new legislation.

Treasurers’ Report: currently \$66,000 dollars going out for November conference bills so around \$30,000-40,000 still in account. Some expenses still to come.

A comment was made from the floor concerning trainings with Level 1 and 2 being offered together. This was to be discussed in level meetings.

Bob Poole from IBNA Vancouver spoke to the gathering. He gave an overview of the sub-regional groupings and what to expect at the SRL meeting in January. He spoke to the world wide growth of 19% IB, the hiring of Jeff Beard as Director General in order to bring a business perspective to IBO, the challenges of maintaining quality and the mission with such growth, and growth within the United States. Last year’s there was 80% growth PYP, 23% MYP, and 9% DP in North America. This included 915 new schools. There were 31,094 diploma candidates in 2006 with an 82% pass rate worldwide. Mr. Poole shared some concerns about emerging trends including the 70% of females receiving diplomas is much higher than males, gender bias, is school selection too early possibly, etc. Good food for thought. He shared other facts from around the world. The flow between levels is of concern—access by students and consistency within programs. IBO has hired a Diploma Program manager.

Vancouver staff is still constant though other offices have more changes.

IB is looking at the number examiners available. This is a struggle due to the growth of programs—carefully monitored, need qualified examiners, 5000+ worldwide. Applicants are needed but its not great pay.

Access issue—The goal is for broader access for students.

There is now an online option available to students. There are concerns with money issues, having students begin with single courses in authorized schools, HL Math offered to expand on programming, staffing issues, the Language B option. Lots to be worked out at this time. The advantages are in the areas of flexibility of programs and making the DP more available in rural areas.

Bob reminded us al that the OOC resource is valuable.

Fees are another area being reviewed. Expect some fee changes—DP subsidies, new schedule coming out, lower levels growing but costs effecting all, hirer fees may impact growth by slowing the process.

Bob pointed out that 2006 exam summary available as well as new information on recognition with universities. He suggested that the university information would be a helpful guide to use as a handout. Universities are concerned about giving credit because of concerns over first year information being missed in some instances.

IBNA is focusing more on diploma recognition across the country, states who are using IB tests for graduation purposes in lieu of state tests. There is also increased work to get more SL credit recognition.

An Oregon State University researcher is developing documentation on IB graduates.

Next we heard Helene Tremblay of Familles du Monde Families of the World project. She has traveled in most countries of the world where she has lived with families. She is from Montreal. She was an inspiring presenter.

She has publications available that picture families and homes from her travels.

Some quotes:

“Languages have a different road—stutter in one language and not others.”

“To know humanity, look in the eyes of people”

“What is important—clean, have things, clothes? Or Love in eyes and smile on face.”

“People are scared, need to live for those who will follow us, give back the planet.”

“Education is prevention. Some believe that education is protection for children.”

“The US and Middle East censorship is the same for my photos.”

“Education takes us to the well of our soul. Food of passion is learning.”

“The more you get to know the world, the more there is silence in you>

Less judging, new views, tradition.”

She is available to work within schools.

Roger reflected on our mission in IB and connections to Helenes’ insights.

We ate and went to level break out session.

DP Breakout session

Patricia called the meeting to order.

Introductions were made.

September leftover topics included:

Diploma students have to take CSAP—IB students bring up scores. We discussed if this was something to pursue in our state. Local control at this point seems to make more sense. Concern was expressed over parents having students opting out of tests.

Communication is key in this issue.

Dorsee addressed what has been done concerning legislation and legislative actions in the past. All agreed that scholarship and professional development dollars to district was something to consider but that it is an extensive process to get information to legislation.

Information and thoughts around being more active with legislative issues included the following: the University of Wyoming gives \$500 a scholarship to IB diploma students and 25 credits. Susie recommends starting with legislators we know. We would need lobbyist to help, extensive process, need committee if we were to become more active. Those in the Denver area would need to be most involved due to time at the Capitol and short notices to appear. Parents are most powerful. All agreed that this is a long term project. We discussed that there is no consistent research in Colorado and we need to build an information bank. We discussed how we might do that in our own districts. Chris suggested we look for statistics on how students have changed where they go, access through IB to programs and that we gather what we can from 2006 information-diplomas received, where students went to college, dollars received, etc.

There was a motion from Dan to come with data in February—instate with name, out of state with name bring additional years if you have it Boettcher as well.2nd—Susi motion carried.

Patricia will send an electronic template and gather the information.

Dan suggested those just beginning programs start data collection for future use.

Roundtables to be offered include:

English at Thornton Dec 4th

Checks to THS or bring. MYP and DP

Administration building

Visual Arts at Greeley West Feb 2nd

Teachers meet in morning, bring students, bring work and share, guest artist workshop in the afternoon, cost for supplies and pizza, \$5 for students and \$45 teachers

Cover some of the new changes.

Theater Arts at Poudre HS

Sharing of best practices. Held sometime between productions. Info to Chris, can send interested staff.

Chris asked for numbers and will check dates with staff next week

Language B is being looked at by either Poudre or Littleton. Information coming to Patricia

Psychology Poudre HS

Roger addressed the symposium. Honorarium of \$100 and travel expenses.. He suggested using local people whenever possible.

Dan—extra costs for roundtable may be helped from IBARMS.

We discussed how to use the DP allowance of \$2000 from IBARMS.

Dan had two ideas—legislator luncheon or lobbyist.

Arts is having a new curriculum—A level 3 special session in spring. Possibly bring a person in to Colorado in February.

There is a new science curriculum as well. Again, may want to look at people from Cardiff.

Theater, Business Manage also have changes coming up.

Dorsee suggested holding off on legislature ventures due to changes in the state government and possible graduation requirements proposed statewide..

Roger addressed the continuum and professional development. Richard Hood might be a resource person to look at.

Claudia brought up the role of coordinator and how to work more effectively with our faculties. Roger talking about a coordinator as a leader. It was suggested to have a resource person in April. The thought was to use a symposium format to do this training.

Susie suggested inspirational person for teachers—internationalism. Topics suggested to cover included moving teachers to the next level, development among teachers, strategies and facilitating for organizing professional development adult learning skills. Amanda suggested we do something the use of the IB Learner Profile as well.

Roger Proposed that we get all the meetings business done by email and come to training ready to focus on just that piece.

Claudia, Dan and Amanda will check on DU presenter piece.

Focus to be on internationalism and the Learner profile—how to do it without adding on to teacher. How to integrate and model the learner profile among our diploma faculties and how to lead professional development..

Creating vital meetings is an area all expressed would be helpful.

How to deal with heads of school, support for this position might be a future topic/focus.

Reactions today

Speakers were valuable. Bob added value with general information of the big picture.
Format with speakers and meeting was good.

Newsletter—submit to Patricia, information needs to pertain to IBARMS mission and IBO mission

Place to share information.

Need to be sure that all pieces are edited and ready for publication

Sub-regional Leaders Meeting

Showcase IB in Colorado—Dan taking care of this organizational piece and dollars to get students to Denver time will be looked at sessions.

Reception open to IBARMS members on Friday night RSVP will be emailed.

We're looking for ways to promote the continuum give ideas Roger know.