

Illinois Association of Student Councils

The Reporter

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From the Desk of President Saso

Hello, everyone! The first thing I would like to do is thank you for electing me as your President of the upcoming year. I promise to work as hard as possible for you and to better the Organization. As we enter into a complicated year what with a seemingly unprecedented presidential election and we cultivate our own independent thoughts about our country and become forward-thinking citizens, it is pertinent now more than ever to learn cooperation. Differences aside, what is best for your council? For your school? For your district? These are the questions you will face this year, as will the State Board. When asked during the candidate's panel what quality I thought was most important in a leader, my answer was respect. Whether you agree with someone or not, nothing gets truly accomplished without respect. As leaders, we will disagree-sometimes greatly. We must not be afraid to admit if we are wrong. In fact, we'll probably be wrong many more times than we are right. Thomas Edison once said, "I have not failed. I've just found ten thousand ways that don't work." Remember to be humble and kind in the upcoming year, and keep in mind that leadership is much more than merely a title. Anyone can be a president; not everyone can be a leader. Surprisingly enough, those aren't mutually exclusive (though hopefully, they are). Keep in mind that contentment is the enemy of growth. Take care of yourselves as you get back into the habit of school work and balancing your schedules. You can't pour from an empty cup. That being said, I am unbelievably excited to start this journey and see the work that you're doing across Illinois. From the bottom of my heart, thank you for electing me as your President and I will work arduously to ensure a successful year for the IASC.

Save the Date

2016

Dec 3: Fall Workshop, John Hancock High School (Chicago)

Dec 5: State Board Applications Due

2017

Jan 13-15: Advanced Workshop, Lake Williamson Center (Carlinville)

Jan 21: State Board Meeting, IHSA Office (Bloomington)

Feb 1: Honor Council Applications Due

Feb 10-12: LEAD Conference, Westin Yorktown Center (Lombard)

May 4-6: IASC State Convention, Westin Yorktown Center (Lombard)

IASC '16 Wrap Up

The 82nd Annual IASC State Convention*, held at the Wyndham Springfield City Centre from May 5-7, 2016, was the place to "Aim Beyond All Limits." Highlights from the 82nd Annual IASC State Convention include Shiloh High School Student Council's donation of 2,000+ toothbrushes to the American Red Cross, Kickapoo District holding onto the designation of #1 District, and Mrs. Janet Blade of Cumberland High School being named Advisor of the Year. Through icebreakers, motivational speakers, including A'ric Jackson, AJ Jackson, Karen Dawson and Ed Gerety, and roundtable discussion groups, aspiring student leaders were equipped with the skills necessary to harness their fullest potential to "Aim Beyond All Limits."



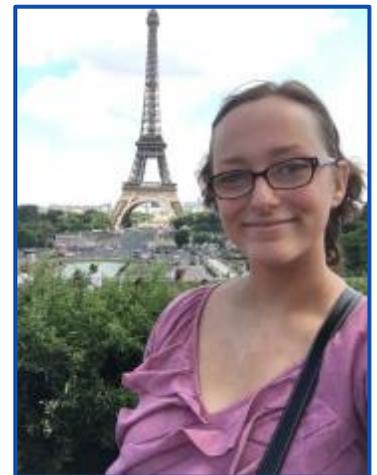
*Images from the 82nd Annual IASC State Convention, along with other IASC State Conventions, can be accessed by clicking the PHOTOS tab on the IASC website and entering "leader" where it asks for the password.

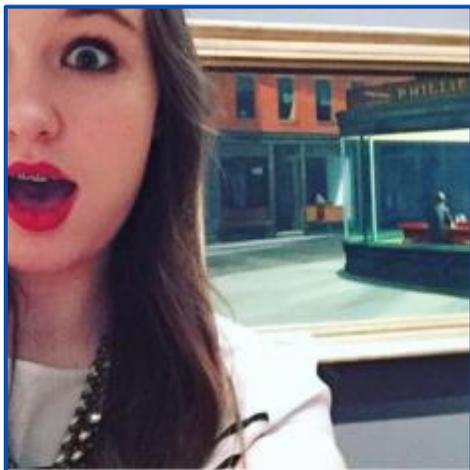
IASC '17 Preview

Join the Illinois Association of Student Councils for the 83rd Annual IASC State Convention to be held on May 4-6, 2017 in Lombard, IL at The Westin Lombard Yorktown Center. This year's theme, "Oh, the Places You'll Go!" was derived from Dr. Seuss' popular children's book under the same title. The IASC Executive Board is hard at work planning each and every detail of the convention. First and Second Vice Presidents Megan Walsh and Taylor Dickerson are in the process of sorting and assigning honor delegates to specific positions. Convention Secretary Amanda Shafer continues her work on the fine details that go into convention planning ranging from the location, the creation of an official schedule, the food and decorations, and the speakers. This convention will instill leadership, character, and service in even the best of leaders in Illinois. These tenets are applicable to any endeavor that you face whether you are still in high school or are only months away from graduating. The IASC Executive Board hopes you all are getting excited to explore "Oh, the Places You'll Go!"

IASC President Adriana Saso:

Hello all! I'm Adriana Saso, your 2016-2017 IASC State President. I go to Belvidere High School which is in the North Central District. I hope all of my fellow seniors are hanging in there with the college process. Student Council has brought so much light into my life! Because of Student Council, during the summer of 2016 I was able to intern at City Hall and take a two week trip as an ambassador to France. I also work at McDonald's and am involved in other clubs at my high school like NHS and Spanish Club. I also participate in choir and the annual musical. I love learning languages (especially French and Spanish!). This year I hope to maintain activity in all thirteen districts and I look forward to maintaining contact with district presidents and liaisons. I am excited to work on our State Service Project so that we can give back to Illinois what it has given to us! Stay passionate and strong, my peers.





IASC First Vice President Megan Walsh:

Hi! I'm Megan Walsh the 2016-2017 IASC First Vice President. I am thrilled to be a senior at Cumberland High School where I am not just involved in Student Council, but a multitude of other extracurricular activities including: Spanish Club, Drama Club, and Yearbook. I'm also super involved in the Eastern District, which is where I got my start in Student Council. In my free time I work at a BBQ restaurant in Effingham, Illinois (Witt's Smokehouse, if anyone wants to come visit!!) and "play" the ukulele. I love theoretical physics in particular astrophysics and Einstein's theory of general relativity or anything pertaining to space. I adore anything involving doges, Disney World, Star Wars, dinosaurs, and British television. I can't wait to see where this year takes me and the IASC! To end my bio, I'll conclude with a quote I try to live my life by: "In a world where you can be anything, be kind."

IASC Second Vice President Taylor Dickerson:

Hello IASC! My name is Taylor Dickerson, and I am so excited to serve as your 2016-2017 IASC Second Vice President. I am a senior at Abingdon-Avon high school where I am the president of my council as well as the Class of 2017, the treasurer of my Key Club, and the captain of my Scholastic Bowl team. I am also involved in National Honor Society, Art Club, and basketball. I love to read, listen to records, and travel. My role model is President John F. Kennedy, I aspire to someday be the leader that he was. I have been involved in Student Council since sixth grade and it has always been a huge part of my life, so I am so eager to take it even further with my new position. I can't wait to meet all of you and to have a fantastic year! We will accomplish great things!



IASC Secretary Adriana Costa:

Q: As a state officer, what are your goal(s) for the upcoming year?

A: My goal is to get at least 10 more Honor Books for the program.

Q: Where do you see yourself after high school?

A: Going to Iowa State University to study physical education and kinesiology

Q: Favorite Book:

A: *If I Stay* by Gayle Forman

Q: Favorite Color:

A: Gold

Q: Favorite Movie:

A: *The Cat in the Hat*

Q: Favorite Quote:

A: "Never Say Never" - Justin Bieber

Q: Favorite Subject in School:

A: English



IASC Treasurer McKenna Miller:

Q: As a state officer, what are your goal(s) for the upcoming year?

A: My goals are to raise membership school numbers so we can have more schools in our wonderful program!

Q: Where do you see yourself after high school?

A: Hopefully getting a degree in midwifery and loving college life!!

Q: Favorite Book?

A: *Me Before You* by Jojo Moyes

Q: Favorite Color?

A: Blue!!

Q: Favorite Movie?

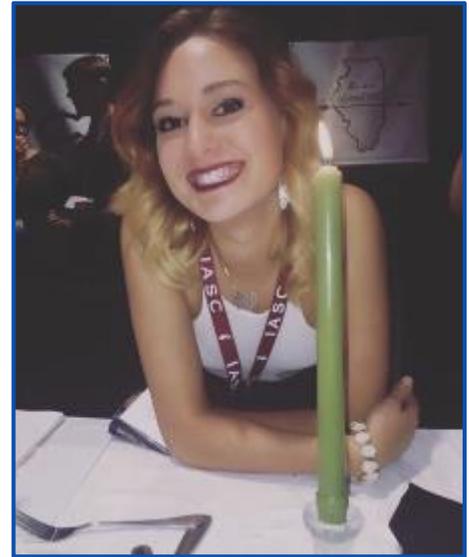
A: *21 Jump Street* for sure

Q: Favorite Quote?

A: "All I Do Is Win." -DJ Khaled

Q: Favorite Subject in School?

A: AP Music Theory



IASC Convention Secretary Amanda Shafer:

Hello, my name is Amanda Shafer and I'm excited to be serving as your 2016-2017 Convention Secretary! I'm a senior at York High School where I've been involved in StuCo since my freshman year. I'm also a part of many other clubs including National Honors Society, Women's Empowerment, and French Honors Society. Outside of school, I work at a chocolate shop, as well as intern at a local non-profit organization. I'm so proud to have the opportunity to serve as a leader in our organization, and I hope all of you can find that same passion in whatever leadership position you find yourselves in. As Emma Watson said in one of my favorite quotes, "I think that it is very important if you know what you want, understand where you are heading towards, and try your best to get it. It is only when we use our hearts to do it, and fall in love with what we are doing, then can we really get real determination."

IASC Assistant Communications Director James Leichty:

My name is James Leichty, and I am your 2016-2017 IASC Assistant Communications Director. I will be a senior at St. Joseph-Ogden High School in Saint Joseph, Illinois during my term in office. Before becoming IASC Assistant Communications Director, I was the Kickapoo District Association of Student Councils Webmaster. I felt that I was capable of taking on more responsibility, and I haven't looked back since! It is an understatement when I say that Student Council has played an integral role in my life. In addition to Student Council, I am St. Joseph-Ogden High School's National Honor Society Treasurer and I am a member of my school's Future Business Leaders of America chapter. When I am not participating in extracurricular activities, I work a part-time job. After high school, I plan to study accounting, economics, and finance, along with law in Illinois, Indiana, Massachusetts, or New York. My long-term goal is to become either a corporate accountant or a federal judge. I am looking forward to a successful year working with all of you!



The 83rd Annual IASC State Convention yet again provides all in attendance the opportunity to listen to amazing motivational speakers. From May 4-6, 2017, Heather Schultz, Ted Weise, and Kyle Scheele will speak to delegates, honor delegates, and their advisors. Each speaker brings a different dynamic of leadership to the table that culminates to form an opportunity for growth as a leader.

Heather Schultz works "to bring positive change to our world." Early on, Heather was an outgoing performer, describing herself as, "the annoying kid who performed at every family gathering." She got her start working as a youth director, "training youth leaders, writing and leading workshops, and planning and facilitating weekend retreats, and organizing an annual national conference." Heather has a passion for leadership, for personal power, and for achieving greatness, just to name a few. Her passion will resonate with each aspiring young leader in attendance.



Not only is Ted Weise a motivational speaker, but he is also an entrepreneur. Having started Weise Training and Development, LLC, "Ted is in the business of making students believe they can make a difference - and he teaches them how to do it!" At the end of his time speaking, the enthusiasm and humor of his presentation will complement his powerful message of how all in attendance can make a difference.

During his time in high school, Kyle Scheele served as his Student Council's assembly chair and later as its president, so it is safe to say that he knows the ins and outs of student government. After years of hearing speakers give advice as to what NOT to do, Kyle decided to change things up and speak about the opposite. He writes, "...I talk to students about the fact that our lives are defined by the things we DO..." After listening to Kyle, you will be empowered by what you CAN do to make an impact on each of your local councils and greater communities.



'16 IASC Summer Workshop

The IASC Summer Workshop held at Millikin University is a summer leadership camp that instills in current and future leaders the tools necessary to leave a lasting impact on their Student Councils, schools, and greater communities. The 2016 IASC Summer Workshop, led by IASC Workshop Director Mrs. Kari Ebens, Mr. A'ric Jackson, and more who worked behind the scenes, was a benefit to all who attended. The workshop span across four days and covered three respective categories: discovery of leadership, navigation of leadership, and innovation of leadership. Having identified their different leadership style(s) and learning how to apply tools obtained to continue their leadership journeys, delegates walked out as forever-changed leaders ready to change the lives of everyone they encounter.



For any student-leader, be you an officer on your Student Council, a member of National Honor Society, or a player on your school's sports teams, this camp has a place for you. Contact IASC Workshop Director Mrs. Kari Ebens* for more information regarding the 2017 IASC Summer Workshop.



A Lookback at Dynamics of Trust

Dynamics of Trust took place on November 12, 2016, at the Lake Williamson Christian Center in Carlinville, IL. This obstacle/low ropes course provided an opportunity for young leaders across Illinois to test their leadership by working as a team to accomplish various challenges. If you attended and are interested in a more rigorous course, read below to find out more about Advanced.

A Look Ahead at Advanced

If you attended Dynamics of Trust and are looking for something to further your leadership development, then the IASC's Advanced Workshop is for you. This obstacle/high ropes course will take place from January 13-15, 2017 at the Lake Williamson Christianson Center in Carlinville, IL. This workshop, a step up from Dynamics of Trust, allows attendees to leave with a new perspective on leadership. Anyone interested in either workshop should contact IASC Workshop Director Mrs. Kari Ebens*.

*IASC Workshop Director Mrs. Kari Ebens: kebens@byron226.org

Region 5 Conference

The Region 5 Conference is an annual meeting of state, Student Council executive boards from Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Nebraska, Ohio, and West Virginia. This year, the conference took place from August 26-28 and was hosted by Iowa in Rock Island, IL. This event-filled weekend gave each state's executive board the opportunity to hear and share ideas on how to innovate leadership at the state, district, and local levels of Student Council.



In our downtime, we were able to make some life-long friends. We had the opportunity to volunteer at the River Bend Food Bank where we bagged hundreds of meals for families in need. After volunteering, we toured the Figge Art Museum in Davenport, IA and then ended the night with dinner at Huckleberry's followed by a visit to ComedySportz Twin Cities. The time spent and the memories made with other up-and-coming student leaders from across the United States is one that the Illinois Association of Student Councils Executive Board will not forget!



IASC Local Council Feature

The Student Council at Hononegah Community High School in Rockton, Illinois hosted their fourth annual I Pink I Can 5K to raise money for the Making Strides Against Breast Cancer fund in the American Cancer Society. The event is a glow-in-the-dark run and begins as the sun sets.

Each year this event has been hosted, the Student Council has partnered with the Baking Club, the Girls Cross Country Team, the Men's Track coaches and the Booster Club to offer this community event. Each organization contributes their expertise to the event: the Baking Club provides after race snacks; the Men's Track coaches run the timing system; the Cross Country team sets and marks the course; and the Student Council handles the registration and the volunteers that staff the route acting as cheerleaders for the event.

The October 17 event drew 277 participants, and over half of them were community members. This year the event raised \$3100 and the four-year total donated to the American Cancer Society is \$19,700.



‘17-‘18 State Board Information

Are you interested in serving on the ‘17-‘18 IASC Executive Board? If so, you’ve come to the right place! Below you will find important information that will guide you through the process.

Applications to run for the ‘17-‘18 IASC Executive Board are available NOW and must be postmarked by December 5, 2016. Applications postmarked after the deadline will NOT be accepted. Your advisor(s) have applications and more information about the process. You can also find this material on the IASC Website: www.illinoisstuco.org.

Even if you are 100% certain that you intend on running for a position on the State Board, you may not publically disclose this decision to anyone or participate in any pre-campaigning until you have been interviewed by either the current State Board or the Credentials Committee; however, you may contact the officer holding the position you intend to run for to seek more information.

Information not covered in this article will either be addressed in the email your advisor will receive or you may contact Second Year Advisor at Large Mrs. Jerilyn Hawkins, who will answer any questions regarding the application process that you may have. Best of luck to all who are considering a run for the ‘17-‘18 IASC Executive Board.

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1st Vice President Megan Walsh

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2nd Vice President Taylor Dickerson

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Secretary Adriana Costa

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Treasurer McKenna Miller

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Convention Secretary Amanda Shafer

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Assistant Communications Director James Leichthy

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Second Year Advisor at Large Mrs. Jerilyn Hawkins

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The Reporter is the official, quarterly publication of the Illinois Association of Student Councils. Content you would like included in *The Reporter* along with any questions, comments, or concerns should be directed to Assistant Communications Director James Leichthy: assistantcommunications@illinoisstuco.org.

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