

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY ADVISORY COUNCIL UPDATE

Established in 2009, the Advisory Council continues to play a significant role in the improvement of the school through its contribution to the school Board of Directors. The objectives of the Advisory Council are to drive school improvement, expectations of the UAE National Agenda, guide development, monitor progress and hold the leadership of the school accountable for the quality of education delivered. The Advisory Council is fully representative of the school community including: parents, professionals from the community, members of higher education, DIA senior leadership, Innoventures Education group management and a Board Director. Feedback from stakeholders, including parents, staff and students, contributes significantly towards school decision making. The Advisory Council meets formally three to four times a year. The Advisory Council is also informed about various internal and external reports related to the school's progress including reports by accreditation bodies, external consultants, summary of parent surveys, the school improvement plan, and academic results. Parent inputs are also channeled through other forums including focus groups, formally scheduled parent gatherings and direct feedback.

Members of Advisory Council interacting with parents and staff on 17 January 2018



NATIONAL AGENDA PRIORITIES CHAMPIONS

The National Agenda Priority Champion has the key role of promoting ideas and modelling approaches that support the development of the relevant area. They work in partnership with other stake-holders.

Committees have been formed for each priority area, including an Advisory Council member, Academic staff members and parents. See table below.

NATIONAL AGENDA PRIORITY	ADVISORY COUNCIL CHAMPION	SCHOOL CHAMPION	PARENT CHAMPION
TIMSS and PISA	Mr. Alan Egbert	Hitesh	Haekoung, Eva
Emirati students	Ms. Sahia Ahmad	Pratibha, Jayne	Shafiq, Leanne
Moral Education and Social Studies	Dr. Lance De Masi	Marc and Candice	Farheen, Raafich, Souheir, Maria
Inclusion/SEND	Dr. Jaap Mos	Saima and Donna	Asma, Bridgitte, Rahaf, Vandana
Innovation	Dr. Herbert Pohl	Lewis, Maryam	Mariam, Floom, Surbhi
Reading Literacy	Ms. Sushmeta Pancholia	Holli, Andrea, Sally, Reda	Anusha, Heejo

On 17th January concurrent meetings were held on the school premises to discuss the progress the school has made in each of these priority areas and to create an Action Plan for further development. Selected students are invited to join the committees.

DUBAI INTERNATIONAL ACADEMY ADVISORY COUNCIL MEMBERS



AVISHESHA BHOJANI

Avi's professional career spans Marketing Services, Media, Private Equity, Investments and Government sectors. At the helm of the BPG Group (www.batespangulf.com) since 1991, Avi consolidates the Group's interests across advertising, public advocacy, public relations, design, activation, media asset management and digital verticals, in the Middle East and North Africa regions. He has also assisted in the conceptualization and execution of a number of strategic Dubai initiatives and has served the Government of Dubai while assisting with the development of Knowledge Economy hubs in Dubai. An Alumnus of the National Institute of Design, Ahmedabad and Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore, Avi is a founding Director of Endeavor UAE, PanIIM Alumni Network Gulf and the Advisory Board of Abu Dhabi Capital Management. Avi is also the Managing Director of Innoventures Education, General Partner of Montana Capital and AMEA Ventures Ltd, and is Chairman of International Management Ventures FZ LLC.

POONAM BHOJANI

Poonam is an Economics Honours Graduate with an MBA from India's premier business school, Indian Institute of Management, Bangalore. Prior to envisioning and cofounding Dubai International Academy, Poonam has had significant industry experience working on leading edge technology solutions with a range of organizations across India, Hong Kong, USA, Belgium, Sweden, The Netherlands, Oman and UAE. She is the CEO of Innoventures Education and has served as the President of the Middle East IB Association of Schools and is the Secretary of the Dubai Private Schools Group.

DR. LANCE DE MASI

Dr. Lance de Masi is the President of The American University in Dubai (AUD). His career bridges experience as an academic and practicing communications professional. Prior to joining AUD in 1997 he held various high-level management positions in the US, Italy, Spain, Cyprus, UK; and most recently, Dubai with IMPACT/BBDO where he served 6 years as Executive Vice President/Chief Operating Officer. Dr. de Masi's tenure as President has witnessed AUD's transformation from a small, up-start operation to an institution of higher learning of substantial size and credible academic reputation. In 1997, he was granted a Doctor of Humane Letters degree by Schiller International University. He currently serves as President of the UAE Chapter of the International Advertising Association (IAA).

DR. JAAP MOS

Dr. Jaap Mos has been involved with Dutch and international education for more than 30 years. He was the founding Principal of The International School of The Hague, Netherlands, and remained in this position until 2006. He has served as the Chairman of the Board of the Dutch International Secondary Schools and on the Board of Trustees of the European Council of International Schools. Currently he is Director of Rijnlands Education Worldwide, a subsidiary of the Rijnlands Lyceum Group of Schools, based in the Netherlands. REW offers and develops Dutch Language Education, integrated in international curricula, for the Dutch speaking community outside of the Netherlands. Since 2010 Jaap is a member of the IB Regional Council for Africa, Europe & Middle East. Jaap is living in Amsterdam, Netherlands.

TOBY HOARE

Toby has spent over 20 years in the international advertising business based in London. Fourteen years at Young and Rubicam, 7 as CEO, were followed by a short spell with them in New York, before joining Cordiant as Group Chairman of Bates Europe, Middle East, India and Africa. Since it was acquired by WPP in August 2003, Toby is the only member of its Executive Committee to have remained as now Global Client Leader and CEO of Team HSBC, and CEO JWT Europe. Toby enjoys both tennis and golf. He is also a Governor of Harrow School.

SAHIA AHMED

Sahia Ahmad, a Barrister, is the General Counsel of Department of Tourism and Commerce Marketing, Government of Dubai, the entity responsible for regulating the tourism sector and the marketing of Dubai as a destination. She is an Emirati, who completed her schooling in Dubai and studied Law at Kings College, London. As a member of Lincoln's Inn, Sahia is the first UAE National to become a member of English Bar. Sahia's career has included practising Law in the UAE for 20 years at Allen & Overy, as founding General Counsel of Dubai World, as a Partner in one of the world's largest law firms and as the General Counsel of Emirates Investment Authority, the Sovereign Wealth Fund of the UAE Federal Government. She has advised governments and multinationals through her career and involved in drafting many of Dubai and UAE Laws. Her four children study at DIA.

DR. HERBERT POHL

Herbert Pohl is the Managing Director of Jones Pohl Group. Formerly, he was a Director at McKinsey & Company. He has been with McKinsey since 1997, first in Europe, since 2007 in the Middle East. Before joining McKinsey, he worked as a lawyer. Herbert studied Law and Economics in Freiburg, Geneva, Munich, and New York, he holds a LL.M. from New York University and a PhD from Ludwig-Maximilians-University Munich. He is married with three daughters, the two older ones going to Dubai International Academy.

SUSHMETA PANCHOLIA

Sushmeta was born in India and has been a resident of Dubai for the past three decades. She has a Diploma from Swiss Finishing School and Masters from University of Wollongong, Dubai. Sushmeta is currently a working partner in the family business with interests in various fields including manufacturing, trading and real estate in India, Dubai, UK and Africa. She has one child at DIA who has been with the school since its inception.

ALAN EGBERT

Alan has been a Teacher, Teacher Educator, Educational Consultant, and currently is General Manager of the Australian Council for Educational, Dubai office and is responsible for the direction of a wide national and international programs in the UAE and Middle East region. He has extensive experience in working with schools and developing effective assessment programs for students and schools. Alan is currently also Project Director for the UAE National Assessment Program (UAENAP 2015). He is also a parent at DIA.

MICHAEL STEPHEN

Michael Stephen is a Chartered Accountant and has a Diploma in Portfolio Management with over 20 years' experience in consulting and industry. He was part of the core team of Innoventures Education that set up Dubai International Academy in 2005. Michael started his career in an accounting firm focused on audit, tax, corporate law, and business and investment advisory services. He is a Fellow of the Association of International Accountants, UK and has been on the faculty of a business school in Dubai.

MORAL EDUCATION CORE VALUES: SECONDARY SCHOOL



Secondary School Monthly Core Value Focus

HIGH SCHOOL	
January	Responsibility
February	Diversity
March	Independence
April	Creativity
May	Tolerance
June	Ambition

The International Baccalaureate® (IB) learner profile describes a broad range of human capacities and responsibilities that go beyond academic success. They imply a commitment to help all members of the school community learn to respect themselves, others and the world around them. Each of the IB's programmes is committed to the development of students according to the IB learner profile. The Moral Education Core Values complement the IB learner profile in developing students into strong, independent learners that are ambitious and balanced. Promoting and valuing diversity is central to the IB Philosophy of internationalism and the Moral Education Curriculum.

Core Value of the Month

Responsibility

The state or fact of being responsible, answerable, or accountable for something within one's power, control, or management.

This month we will be taking about the responsibilities and duties we have in relation to people in our daily lives, at school and at home.

We will be posting a Padlet, regarding *Responsibility*, for people to engage in discussion for the month of January. You can also visit the school website for information on National Priorities and the [Moral Education](#) website for more information on responsibility.

INNOVENTS—FOOTBALL TOURNAMENT

U18 BOYS

Date: 11 January 2018

Venue: Raffles World Academy

WINNERS U18

RWA - 1ST PLACE

DIA - 2ND PLACE

CAS—3RD PLACE



DIA - U18 Team - 2nd Place

INNOVENTS—NETBALL TOURNAMENT

U16 & U18 BOYS

Date: 14 January 2018

Venue: Raffles World Academy

WINNERS U12	WINNERS U14	WINNERS U16
DIA - 1ST PLACE	DIA - 1ST PLACE	RWA - 1ST PLACE
RWA - 2ND PLACE	RWA - 2ND PLACE	DIA - 2ND PLACE
	RIS - 3RD PLACE	



← U14 Winners

U12 Winners →



← U14 2nd Place

Upcoming Events

ACADEMIC YEAR 2017 - 2018



**Mark
Your Calendar!**

JANUARY 2018

Saturday, 27 - Sunday, 28 January	DoE Bronze Assessment
Monday, 29 January	Innovents Arabic Writing Competition @ RIS
Wednesday, 31 January	Innovents Quran Competition @ RIS

FEBRUARY 2018

Thursday, 1 February	Year 7-9 MR Reports to Parents
Sunday, 4 February	PADIA New Parent Coffee Morning
Tuesday, 6 February	Innovents Spelling Bee at CAS
Wednesday, 7 February	Year 6 Bodyology
Thursday, 8 - Saturday, 17 February	Innovents-GIVE-Nepal Trip
Sunday, 11 - Tuesday, 13 February	Staff Professional Development (no students in school)
Wednesday, 14 - Thursday, 15 February	Mid-Term Break
Saturday, 17 - Friday, 23 February	Year 5&6 Ski Trip
Monday, 19 - Tuesday, 20 February	Year 4 Camp
Monday, 19 - Wednesday, 21 February	SMT Year 11 DP Subject Options Interviews
Thursday, 22 February	International Evening
Thursday, 22 February	IVEI Cross Country – All age groups
Sunday, 25 February	Sports Day - Year 5, 12:40pm-2:40pm
Sunday, 25 February	Sports Day - Year 6, 10am-12pm
Sunday, 25 February	IVEI Secondary Tennis – U12, U14, U16 and U18 Boys and Girls @ DIA
Sunday, 25 February	IVEI Primary Tennis – U8, U9, U10 and U11 Boys and Girls @ CAS
Monday, 26 February	Sports Day - Year 4, 10:00am-12:00pm
Monday, 26 February	Sports Day - Year 3, 12:40pm-2:40pm
Tuesday, 27 February	Secondary School Sports Day
Wednesday, 28 February	Sports Day - KG2, 10:00am-11:00am
Wednesday, 28 February	Innovents Robotics Competition @ RIS
Wednesday, 28 February	Sports Day - KG1, 8:40am-9:40am
Wednesday, 28 February	Innovents Walk-a-thon

MARCH 2018

Thursday, 1 March	Sports Day - Year 2, 10:00am-12:00pm
Thursday, 1 March	Sports Day - Year 1, 12:40pm-2:40pm
Sunday, 4 March	IVEI Secondary Volleyball – U14, U16 and U18 Boys and Girls @ CAS
Sunday, 4 March	IVEI Cricket – U11, U14, U16 and U18 Boys @ DIA
Monday, 5 March	Innovents Primary School Debate @ CAS
Tuesday, 6 - Thursday, 8 March	Year 5 Camp
Thursday, 8 March	PADIA Movie Night
Monday, 12 March	Innovents - Science Fair @ RIS
Wednesday, 14 March	Early closing PD Day, students leave at 12 noon
Wednesday, 14 March	Innovents - DIAMUN hosted by DIA (Opening Ceremony)
Thursday, 15 - Saturday, 18 March	Innovents - DIAMUN hosted by DIA
Thursday, 15 March	Staff PD. No school for SS & PS students
Sunday, 18 March	IVEI Primary Swimming – U8, U9, U10 and U11 Boys and Girls @ CAS
Monday, 19 March	Year 4 Market Day
Tuesday, 20 March	YR3 and YR4 Musical
Wednesday, 21 March	YR5 and YR6 Musical
Thursday, 22 March	IVEI Chess – Primary and Secondary @ RIS
Thursday, 22 March	Innovents Literary Soiree @ RWA
Friday, 23 - Friday, 30 March	Year 5&6 Borneo Trip
Friday, 23 - Saturday, 31 March	Spring Break

APRIL 2018

Sunday, 1 - Saturday, 7 April	Spring Break
Sunday, 8 April	Students and staff return after Spring Break

PRIMARY SCHOOL NEWS

NEW PRIMARY SCHOOL SENIOR MANAGEMENT TEAM



Left to right: Donica Cuspard - Deputy Head Early Years, Candice Combrinck - Head of Primary School, Graham Walmsley - Deputy Head Primary , Manuela Watfa - Dean of Students, Pratibha Rao - Principal

SECONDARY SCHOOL NEWS

YEAR 10 CAREERS FAIR



On Tuesday, 23rd January, we were delighted to host the third annual DIA Career Fair, a joint parent/school management led initiative to provide students with an introduction to the various careers and professions in the world of work.

Year 10 students had the opportunity to engage with forty different professionals from a wide spectrum of career backgrounds and ask questions related to their work, education and qualifications. The professionals volunteered their time and commitment following communication from the school, with some – but not all – being parents of children at the school. Students were organized in a mini-seminar basis and visited professionals over four informative sessions.

It was a wonderful experience for our students. Students came away from the sessions very enthused about the different career prospects and definitely feeling like they got some inside-track information and insights.

DIA would like to thank the participants involved in helping make this event a huge success.

Fiona Turnbull
Head of Year 10

Robert Jennings
Deputy Head of Secondary School - Pastoral

Cecilia Braidy
Year 10 Parent Representative





DP 1 - CAS TRIP TO LAOS

19 DP1 CAS students ventured to lovely Laos before winter break. The main focus of the trip was the project work at the Free The Bears sanctuary (www.freethebears.org) in Luang Prabang where they build the foundation of the new enclosure. The sanctuary is committed to save Sun and Moon bears that are being held captive for their bile that is used in medicine all over Asia.

They students also immersed themselves in various local activities. They visited the Mandalao Elephant Sanctuary that caters to rescue elephants, took a swim in the Kuang Si Waterfalls, participated in a Tamarind Cooking lesson, visited local temples and markets and much more.

Students and staff alike had a fantastic time and now the countdown begins for the next CAS trip.



SECONDARY STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES IN DECEMBER

STAFF APPRECIATION CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND ANTI-BULLYING WEEK LUNCHTIME CONCERT



Teachers & support staff begin to arrive at the lunch



Student Council members lining up at staff appreciation lunch



Teachers and other support staff shocked by the great food



Student Council members handing out Christmas gifts to school support staff

SECONDARY STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES IN DECEMBER

STAFF APPRECIATION CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND ANTI-BULLYING WEEK LUNCHTIME CONCERT



Anti-bullying week concert - Entirely run and organized by the Student Council



Student Council raising funds for future campaigns



Selling shawarma, UAE-themed cupcakes, dates and other arabic food for UAE National Day. All proceeds were used for the staff lunch.

SECONDARY STUDENT COUNCIL ACTIVITIES IN DECEMBER

STAFF APPRECIATION CHRISTMAS LUNCH AND ANTI-BULLYING WEEK LUNCHTIME CONCERT



Ms. Ladan Mohr's (a teacher at DIA) Christmas lunch testimonial:

"It was a very well organized event. The food was fantastic, both in terms of quality and quantity. There was also a nice variety of dishes. I loved the music, it made everyone feel jolly and festive.

The students were amazing. They welcomed us, checked on us and asked if all was good and if we needed anything.

I was also impressed with how well organized the whole thing was."



Christmas gift-bags written testimonial by security guard Alimul Raji:

The gift has given from H-S students for all security and cleaners as like Christmas gift - we appreciate it. That was a very good gift for us. We prayed for all of you guys. Stay tune for this kind of good job.

Alimul Raji
Security

'The gifts given from the students to all security and cleaners were like Christmas gifts - we really appreciate them. They were very good gifts for us and we prayed for all of you guys [the Student Council members] - these things are why I love this kind of job.'



DIA's cleaners' Christmas gifts testimonial as translated by their supervisor:

"We really appreciate the gifts given to us and what the students have been doing"

COMPETITIVE SPORTS NEWS

CROSS COUNTRY RACE

12 DECEMBER 2017 - DASSA LEAGUE - RASHID SCHOOL FOR BOYS



19 students from DIA (from Year 7 to Year 10) participated in the first race of semi-long distances (2, 2.4 and 3 km).

Congratulations to them all, especially to Andrea Saxod who arrived 4th and Kyra Ortner who arrived 11th in their corresponding category.

NEWS FROM PADIA



Upcoming Events:



NEW PARENT COFFEE MORNING

We look forward to welcoming our new parents to our Coffee Morning to be held on Sunday 4th February in the Exam Hall from 8am onward. Come along and find out more about life at DIA, what PADIA does and how we can support your family during their time at DIA. We look forward to meeting you soon!

INTERNATIONAL EVENING 2018

It is that time of the year when we all get together to celebrate and share our respective countries' rich culture and tradition at our DIA International Evening. This year the event will be held on Thursday 22nd February 2018 from 5pm onwards and we are looking forward to another fabulous festival with our wonderful DIA families.

Country coordinators will be announced very soon so that you can contact them and join them in celebrating your country at International Evening. Let's make this the best one yet!!



coming
soon

COMING SOON!!!

Parent Community Wellness Events - we will be in touch shortly regarding this series of events for parents - watch this space for more updates soon!!