

# eBulletin, Summer 2001



[ISACS, 225 South Meramec, Suite 201, St. Louis, MO 63105](#)

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## News from ISACS

### John Braman begins work as ISACS president:

*John Braman* assumed his new role as ISACS president on July 1, 2001. Mr. Braman's first order of business was to locate a northern regional base in Chicagoland. Work is now under way to refurbish an office at the **Francis W. Parker School**, continuing the long tradition of school hospitality for ISACS administrative offices. St. Louis will still operate as the "central office" for operations, while Francis Parker will house the school accreditation process. A full-time administrative assistant has been hired. Starting August 13, the office will be up and running with *Ms. Debbie Holtzberg* assisting Mr. Braman and helping *Mr. Peter Wilson* coordinate the Evaluation Review Committee. To contact anyone at the Chicago base, please use the central office phone (314-725-2772) or e-mail ([john@isacs.org](mailto:john@isacs.org); [debbie@isacs.org](mailto:debbie@isacs.org)).

### *A New eBulletin Section*

Read John Braman's new column, "[The President's View](#)," a regular feature beginning with this e-Bulletin

### ISACS Schools Now Accredited by NCA:

In July, after lengthy negotiations with the North Central Association (NCA), agreement was finally reached! Every school with ISACS accreditation will now automatically be accepted for accreditation by NCA. This should remove any obstacles in the realm of athletic league participation and facilitate things with college admissions offices unfamiliar with the independent school world. ISACS will function as the "district" that manages all accreditation and reporting

matters. ***ISACS will pay the membership fee for all schools, and there will be no increase in dues at this time.*** Thus, ISACS schools currently also members of NCA will no longer pay NCA dues or any fees for reporting to NCA. It will take time for all of us to fully appreciate the benefits of joint accreditation. At this point, the NCA Commission on Schools does not inform the various state boards of education about membership. You may wish to initiate contact. The NCA has "public representatives" on each of the state committees, and these may ultimately provide liaison to the state boards. We will keep you updated. In the meantime, you may be interested in exploring the NCA web site ([www.ncacasi.org](http://www.ncacasi.org)).

### **New Spreadsheet for Visiting Team Member Nominations:**

This is the season for school heads to nominate outstanding personnel to energize one of the Association's most vital evaluation roles, the visiting teams. A new spreadsheet will make nominations quick and easy. School heads can expect an e-mail attachment by August 14. Virtually every VTM calls it one of the top professional growth experiences of their careers. They learn new approaches, gain perspective, and enjoy new friendships.

### **ISACS Teachers College:**

Once again, the ISACS Teachers College hosted more than 50 independent school educators for its acclaimed New Teacher Institute (NTI) and School Leadership Program (SLP). Held August 6-9 near Chicago, the New Teacher Institute introduced 32 beginning faculty to the world of independent education and gave them a "jump start" in preparing for their teaching assignments. ***Jeanne Snyder*** from ***Avery Coonley School (IL)*** organized the NTI and was assisted in facilitating the sessions by ***Tom Elieff*** of ***St. Mark's School (TX)*** and ***Pamela Buchanan*** from the ***Latin School of Chicago (IL)***.

The School Leadership Program ran alongside the NTI and attracted 25 school administrators and faculty leaders to its fifth annual session. Once again, the Ohio Association of Independent Schools (OAIS) offered scholarship support to three participants from Ohio schools. Designed to develop leadership at all levels of schools, the SLP focus on building self-awareness of one's leadership style, mastering the complexities of change in schools, working in and leading teams, and resolving differences. ***Patricia Hayot*** from the ***Columbus School for Girls (OH)*** chairs the SLP advisory committee and she helped facilitate the 2001 program along with ***Judith Schechtman*** and ***Marc Frankel*** from ***Triangle Associates (MO)***.

Mark you calendars now for the next NTI and SLP during the first week of August 2002!

### **Past New Teacher Institute Participants Take Note:**

We will be offering an on-line reunion experience to demonstrate how ISACS continues to search for ways to support and enhance the professional development of teachers, interactively in workshops and conferences and interactively in virtual space. Keep checking the "What's New" section at <http://www.isacs.org> for details (to appear soon).

### **ISACS Management Team Completes 2-Day Planning Session:**

President John Braman met with Peter Wilson, Director of Accreditation Services, Jill Webb, Director of Professional Development, and Association Managers Marc Frankel and Judith Schechtman from Triangle Associates, ISACS' association management firm, for an intensive

two-day planning session in Chicago. The team addressed several important issues surrounding ISACS conferences, accreditation, and the web site, and even found time for an architectural history cruise along the Chicago River. John, Peter, Jill, Marc, and Judy plan to meet regularly for planning in a rotation of their residential cities. Columbus, OH, will be their next meeting site, followed by St. Louis, MO. See group photo of the [management team](#) aboard ship.

## Alerts

### **ISACS Annual Conference Nears-Online Registration Now Open:**

The Annual Conference for 2001 will occur November 1 and 2, 2001, in Kansas City, MO (see online brochure). The conference, jointly sponsored by ISACS and the [Kansas City Independent Schools Association \(KCISA\)](#), features the theme, "A Journey Together: Networking and Advancing Careers." Sessions will be held at the headquarters hotel, the Hyatt Regency Crown Center, and at Pembroke Hill School. Of particular interest is the keynote presentation by Willard R. Daggett, Ed.D., on "Trends in Organizational Learning." Dr. Daggett is the president of the International Center for Leadership in Education, and will address the issue of how to further our schools identity as true learning entities.

Conference brochures are due to mail to school soon, but you can view an advance copy at <http://www.isacs.org/calendar/conference01>. Online registration is available for those paying with a credit card.

### **ISACS Heads Conference Features Ackerman and Poliner:**

Breaking news about featured presenters for January! **Richard Ackerman** and **Rachel Poliner** will be joining us in the Music City (Nashville, TN, January 23-26, 2002), each leading separate two-day sessions. Rachel is a leading expert in communications and conflict management. She is eager to guide us through the practical aspects of working with people when people are difficult. Rachel is the former director of Professional Services at Educators for Social Responsibility with extraordinary wisdom about schools, kids, curriculum, and conflict.

Richard is co-director of the International Network of Principal's Centers at Harvard and co-author of *Making Sense As A School Leader* (Jossey-Bass, 1996). His workshop is for the reflective practitioner willing to embrace leadership as a quest. It will coincide with the January release of his latest book, *The Wounded Leader*. Excerpts are soon to appear on the ISACS web page!

Watch "What's New" for more news about the Heads Conference. There will be a survey to tailor workshop content to your interests, an update on the leader of a third strand, and excerpted releases from Richard Ackerman's *The Wounded Leader*.

### **New Independent School Survey available from ISACS:**

The long-awaited revision of the ISACS Independent School Survey is now available! The new

version is significantly shorter and easier to use, requiring only 10 minutes for school constituents to complete. Schools wishing to administer the survey should contact the ISACS central office (314-725-2772 or [info@isacs.org](mailto:info@isacs.org)) to place an order. As always, this is a powerful tool for understanding how constituents view a school. The survey sells at a discount to ISACS members.

### **e-Staffing is ISACS' Strategy for Recruitment:**

e-Staffing is ready to go for administrators who want to browse for teaching candidates. There are already over 200 candidates registered, and they have completed the on-line interview and taken our EQ screening test. Here are the simple directions, but please call the ISACS office if you would like any assistance. Each ISACS school head has been sent an ID and Password to gain access for the site: go to the [ISACS website](#), click on Careers in Teaching and scroll to the bottom of the page to click on eStaffing. To see all candidates, click on Search on the right side frame and leave all parameters as "ANY," then click the SEARCH button on the lower right of the screen. To search for candidates by grade level or state or undergraduate major, change the Parameters, then click the SEARCH button on the lower right of the screen. There are already over 200 candidates registered on the site who have completed the on-line interview (and taken our EQ screening test), and we anticipate many, many more once the link between ISACS eStaffing and [Teachers-Teachers.com](#) is completed.

**STATSonline wins national award:** The *National Association of Independent Schools* (NAIS) announced that it was awarded an Honorable Mention award for its Stats Online initiative through the American Society of Association Executive's (ASAE) Associations Advance America contest, a program honoring creative ways that associations contribute positively to society. To quote the recognition letter, "Your program is a perfect example of how associations play a vital role in helping the nation adapt to complex and changing times. Contributions such as yours are vital and add real value to society." --Michael Olson, ASAE President and CEO.

STATSonline won this recognition in only its first year of operation, thanks to the tremendous effort of numerous school and NAIS personnel to get reams of data online. Look for even more exciting STATSonline tools in Year 2!

## **Resources**

### **12th Edition of the ISACS Accreditation Manual Available:**

The newest version of the ISACS Accreditation Manual is now available in paper copy from the ISACS office in St. Louis. The [online version](#) will be available soon. While anyone may download and print a copy from the website, all ISACS schools entering their self study year will receive a bound copy before the end of August--other schools will receive printed copies shortly thereafter. The 12th Edition streamlines some previously confusing language, includes more guidelines on how to use the ISACS survey to inform the self study, and adds a new accreditation standard regarding measurement of student development.

### **AskNAIS Debuts as New Information Source:**

Answers to commonly asked questions about independent education are available from a library of over 200 questions at AskNAIS from the National Association of Independent Schools. AskNAIS may be accessed by pointing your Internet browser to [www.nais.org](http://www.nais.org) and then clicking on the AskNAIS logo. If your answer is not in the database, you can type in your question and

submit it to NAIS for a response within 24 hours. New questions become part of the ever-expanding database.

## From the Bookshelf

### *Another New eBulletin Section*

called "From the Bookshelf" will highlight new books of interest and importance for independent educators. We invite readers of eBulletin to send along notes about particularly noteworthy reads. Please submit electronically to the editor ([info@isacs.org](mailto:info@isacs.org)) and include a few lines about how you think the author's concepts apply to schools.

## What's New on the ISACS Website

(click to access new monographs and bookmarks)

## News from ISACS Schools

(ISACS schools should add ISACS or [info@isacs.org](mailto:info@isacs.org) to their mailing list for school announcements)

### School Notes

Three ISACS school heads, *James (Gill) Leaf* of **Friends School (MI)**, *Mary Leonhardi* of **Detroit Waldorf (MI)**, and *Pete Pullen* of **Herlong Cathedral (MI)** have joined forces to create the Independent Detroit Schools. The consortium came together to cut costs while supplementing services, and plans numerous joint marketing and purchasing activities.

**Mountain Christian Academy (KY)** received a \$50,000 grant from the Farris Foundation, a socially responsible private foundation supporting various charitable, religious, and community projects.

*Bryan Arbuszewski*, a senior at **St. Louis Priory School (MO)** built and successfully tested a radio telescope. The project under the direction of science faculty member *Jim Dodds*, resulted in a device that can receive signals from both Jupiter and the sun, and brought Priory into the national Radio Jove project sponsored by NASA.

### Transitions

*Jeffrey J. Brengman* is the new president/headmaster of **Saint Thomas Academy (MN)**. Since 1997, Mr. Brengman has served as the principal of Aquinas High School in LaCrosse, Wisconsin. He was responsible for developing an endowment for technology and upgrading the music department, doubling the participation in choir and concert band. Prior to joining Aquinas High School, a leading Catholic high school in LaCrosse, he was the Assistant Principal at Lourdes High School, in Rochester, Minnesota. Now in its 115th year, and with a current enrollment of 700 students in grades 7-12, Saint Thomas Academy is the only Catholic, college preparatory, all-

male, JROTC school in Minnesota. For more information please contact the Academy at 651-454-4570 or check out the web site at [www.cadets.com](http://www.cadets.com).

**Bruce W. Galbraith**, headmaster at **Park Tudor School (IN)** announced plans to retire on June 30, 2002, after 15 years on the job. During Galbraith's tenure, Park Tudor has grown by a third, built or expanded six buildings, increased financial aid to students, and conducted a highly successful capital campaign.

**Charlie Sachs** was unanimously elected to serve as interim headmaster at **Pulaski Academy (AR)** following the departure of Arch McIntosh. Mr. Sachs most recently served as head at Barstow Academy (MO) and has held numerous other positions in independent education ranging from classroom instruction to the administrative offices.

**Thomas E. Elieff** was appointed as head of the upper school at St. Mark's School of Texas in Dallas. Mr. Elieff formerly was co-headmaster at **Lake Forest Academy (IL)**.

## [Upcoming Events: Conferences & Workshops](#)

(click to access events)

## [Corporate Sponsors & Consultants](#)

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