

Toyota Video Production Laboratory Dedication

May 15, 1992

Remarks by Dr. Stephanie Pace Marshall

Thank you, Walter.

On behalf of the board of trustees, faculty, staff and students of the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy, it is my privilege to welcome you to the dedication of the Academy's Toyota Video Production Laboratory.

This is indeed a very special occasion for our community.

Last year, we were fortunate to receive a grant of \$150,000 from the Toyota USA Foundation--a grant that enabled us to develop a state-of-the-art laboratory that provides students with access to technology almost unheard of in high schools or in many colleges and universities. This is critical to our goal of fostering innovative strategies in curriculum, instruction and assessment, as well as developing visually literate individuals who will be leaders in the information and technology age.

Grants from the Toyota USA Foundation are made primarily to educational programs, with special emphasis on precollegiate mathematics and science classroom projects.

We are especially pleased to form a partnership with a corporation that is now one of our Aurora neighbors. As you know, Toyota has built a new Midwest parts and training facility several blocks west of our campus.

Today we are here to celebrate this partnership, as we formally dedicate the Academy's Toyota Video Production Laboratory.

To date, the Toyota grant has enabled IMSA to purchase a studio lighting system, state-of-the-art production cameras, a studio intercom system, a production switcher, a new VHS editing suite and an electronic music system.

With this technology, students are producing video reports for class and projects for such activities as the Chicago Metro History Fair.

One of our math teachers was able to demonstrate cell construction after a student videotaped a three-dimensional modeling program at Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory.

Teachers are piloting the use of video-based assessments in several classes, and the admissions office is giving prospective students and their parents a picture of life at IMSA through videotaped testimonials by current students.

In addition, we have already started to serve other students and teachers in Illinois. Several mathematics and science classes are being broadcast via interactive audio-visual transmission, we have videotaped master teachers in action for statewide dissemination, and we have provided other schools with videotapes of Dr. Carl Sagan's lecture last fall.

These and similar initiatives will continue to expand in the years ahead. At the same time, students will become even more creative and sophisticated in their work.

For example, one of our next purchases will be a Commodore computer equipped with a special program called a video toaster. This will enable students to incorporate digital effects in their productions.

We are very grateful for Toyota's generous investment in the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy and we appreciate the corporation's commitment to excellence in education.

Private sector support is indeed critical for the Academy to achieve its mission and vision, and we are delighted that the IMSA Fund for Advancement of Education recently exceeded the \$3 million mark in total support.

The IMSA Fund, a not-for-profit corporation, enlists investments of corporate, foundation and individual donors in IMSA and its programs. These margin of excellence resources support curriculum development projects, statewide outreach programs, minority recruitment programs, laboratory equipment purchases, special student activities, facility enhancements and a permanent endowment.

We are proud to recognize the Toyota USA Foundation as one of our major donors, and we are delighted to formally welcome and thank corporate representatives who are here with us today.

At this time, it is my privilege and pleasure to introduce Mr. Marshall Johnson, general manager of Toyota Motor Distributors, Inc., who will share some of his thoughts about Toyota's commitment to IMSA and to excellence in education for all children. Mr. Johnson...