



## Successful Summer Extended Essay Workshop Held at DU

Twenty-eight rising DCHS IB seniors attended the first annual Extended Essay Workshop last June, held at the Penrose Library at the University of Denver. This four-day workshop was sponsored by the Huskie IB Parent Organization, to assist our students in creating a solid first draft of their Extended Essay over the summer, before the hectic fall school session begins.

For those of you not familiar with the Essay, it is a student-driven 4000-word research paper which is a requirement for the IB Diploma. Students work with a DCHS teacher as an advisor, and complete the paper completely on their own, outside of the classroom. At Douglas County High School the final essay is due October 31 of the senior year.

The IBPO engaged Ms. Becky Parnell to conduct this four-day workshop, which she has held for other area IB schools. Ms. Parnell, currently the librarian at Kent Denver, was formerly the librarian at Littleton High School, where she acted as essay advisor for many students, in various subject areas.

The essay process actually began in January, when Ms. Parnell conducted an orientation of the essay for the IB juniors. She also held a session for DCHS essay advisors, sharing many of her experiences and ideas. Students then had the spring to pick a subject area for their essay, choose an advisor, and hopefully, begin narrowing their topic ideas and conduct some preliminary research.

The workshop in June ran over four half-day sessions. On the first day of the workshop, Ms. Parnell provided the students with

a tour of the library facilities. She also used the library's computer training lab to show the students how to explore the library's catalog and additional online databases that are available for use. Students were also provided a DU library card enabling them to use the private university's library facilities and reserve books overnight for subsequent use the following day.

Each day began with a classroom session, during which Ms. Parnell discussed a particular aspect of the essay, and students participated in small-group activities. Students then spent the remainder of the time discussing their topics and research direction one-on-one with Ms. Parnell, and researching sources.

Also in attendance at the workshop was Leah Schultz, DCHS Honors English teacher, who will take over Extended Essay Co-Coordinator duties this coming year (along with Kim Clever). Ms. Schultz took an active role in assisting the students with topic and research discussions, and provided useful assistance to Ms. Parnell. After seeing the students in action and hearing their questions, Ms. Schultz has much enthusiasm for this component of the IB program, and came away with several ideas for improving the process for the students and advisors during the school year.

- *See related articles and pictures on pages 4 and 5*

### Upcoming Events

#### Junior IB Induction

Wed, Sept 26 6:30 pm, DCHS Auditorium

#### Prospective Student Meetings

October (dates TBA) Douglas County HS  
October 25 7:00 pm, Cresthill Middle School  
November 1 7:00 pm, Sagewood Middle Schl

#### IB Social / Information Meeting

November 15 (tentative) DCHS North Commons

### Inside —

- ⇒ More on the Extended Essay Workshop (pages 4 and 5)
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## Coordinator's Corner

by Steve Fleet, DCHS IB Coordinator

As I look through the new curriculum guides for all International Baccalaureate subjects, I see the influence of the recently introduced Learner Profile. International Baccalaureate leaders stated that the Learner Profile would become the driving force behind curriculum, assessment and policy, and they are making good on their promise. In this model, the learner drives decision-making. Educators are fond of saying, generally with the best intentions, that "we do what is best for students." Without a common understanding of how decisions can be energized by student needs, however, such statements too easily give way to what is convenient.

The ten descriptors of the Learner Profile: Inquirers, Knowledgeable, Thinkers, Communicators, Principled, Open-minded, Caring, Risk-takers, Balanced, Reflective offer an understanding of characteristics that enable learners to access information, personalize their learning and utilize it for the betterment of others. What I see in the new expectations is subtle but significant. The personalizing

of learning is a step that is all too often ignored in education. New expectations try to bring the learner into the subject by encouraging an activation of personal voice. This expectation is most noticeable in Theory of Knowledge where students are expected to analyze their learning as a means of better understanding themselves and their relation to the world. The activation of voice can be seen in all subjects where reflection upon learning is now an expectation. Students should comfortably acknowledge their own interpretation and how it relates to what they have learned. They should feel comfortable acknowledging what they do not understand as a means of asking the questions that will lead them further into the subjects that they study.

As a program, we encourage journal writing as a means of reflecting on subject; we offer assignments where students can use their perspectives as the principle tools of exploration. We use discussions in order for students to express their opinions in an open and safe environment. We offer options for stu-

dents to meet many of the criteria of the program. We are fortunate to have a staff that is prepared to listen to the needs of our students.

Parents often ask what they can do to help their children through the rigors of the program. I think that the most important step is to acknowledge the "risk-taking" involved in any meaningful educational system and then to engage in honest conversations about how to grow from every experience. Stress arises by seeing education as something outside of the self, as a series of hurdles that seem to be getting higher and higher. Education is more personal than that. Education is about understanding oneself; it resides within oneself and then connects to the outside world. The most important goals that one meets emerge from a strong understanding of the drives, the interests, and the knowledge that one possesses. The self that you interact with in the world is you and the more you interact authentically, with a real awareness of who you are, the more you see and the better you understand yourself.

### IB matters

#### Newsletter Comments, Suggestions, Articles

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#### Huskie IBPO Board

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## Freshman Ice Cream Social



Mr. Loewen, IB math teacher, along with other IB teachers, answers parents' questions in the auditorium at the Ice Cream Social on August 16.

# IB Council: Who We Are and What We Do

IB Council is a student organization dedicated to gaining recognition for and helping the students in the International Baccalaureate Programme at Douglas County High School. Activities we have been involved in so far include organizing the design contest for the DCHS IB emblem, the imagination murals in the South Building, welcoming freshmen at the ice cream social, and organizing the annual end-of-year IB senior picnic. Some of our ongoing projects include setting up IB teacher-student forums, getting an IB activity bus that will serve the Highlands Ranch and Parker areas, and setting up a forum that will connect DCHS IBers with students from other IB schools around the world. We are also available regularly during Advisement (in room 116) to answer any questions our fellow IBers may have about scheduling, course selection, etc.

We are currently comprised of 14 IB student leaders and are recruiting members to represent the class of 2011. All members

are moved into the IB Council advisement so we can meet regularly every other day. Advisors are Mr. Craven and Mr. Fleet.

## IB Freshmen Ice Cream Social

The Ice Cream Social was held on Thursday, August 16, 2007 at 7:00 p.m. in the North Commons to help welcome the IB freshmen into the programme as well as the school. At the social, IB Council went around and answered any questions concerning the programme that parents or freshmen had while they were enjoying their free ice cream.

Later on, the parents and students split into two groups so more could be accomplished during the remaining hour. The parents followed the IB teachers into the auditorium for a question and answer session while the freshmen remained in the Commons. During that time, IB Council and some of the seniors from the class of 2008 helped freshmen to get to know one another by playing a few ice breakers.

Later, the freshmen were split into three groups where they could ask any of the IB Council members or seniors questions they had about IB. This allowed for shy freshmen to feel less intimidated and ask any questions they had if they didn't earlier that evening, as well as allowed them to learn about the Extended Essay, CAS, IB classes, etc. The Ice Cream social ended with a positive note at 8:30 p.m., when some students stayed to chat with each other before they went home for the evening.

## IB @ DCHS Logo/Emblem

Last year, IB Council held a design contest concerning the future IB @ DC logo which was decided on at the end of last year. The logo is a symbol of the International Baccalaureate Programme at DCHS and will be used in the future to represent IB @ DC. The emblem was designed by Diana No, IB senior, and is shown on the front and back of this newsletter.

—by Kathryn Lam '08

## IB Bulletin Board

### 10th Graders—take the PSAT for Practice!

### 11th Graders—take the PSAT for Real!

Sign up to take the PSAT on October 24. For juniors, this is the test for determining National Merit awards. For sophomores, this is good practice for the real thing (no, it doesn't count!) And if you check off the student search box, your mailbox will fill with college solicitation brochures to ponder . . . Sign up in the Counseling office starting Monday, September 24, thru Friday, October 12, first come, first served! It costs \$20, with checks made out to DCHS. (Sophomores: note that the PLAN test for sophomores will be administered on the same day. If you take the PSAT instead, you will be administered the PLAN test at a later date.)

### Juniors and Seniors!

### See Extended Essay Info on Huskie IBPO Site

Seniors: See IBO comments on past essays by subject. See what mistakes not to make, and what you can do to get extra points.

Juniors: Start reviewing the IB essay timetable, and guidelines for allowable essay subjects. See some sample topics by past students. Read sample essays, so you understand the final product.

All of this (*and more!*) on the Extended Essay page on [www.HuskieIBPO.com](http://www.HuskieIBPO.com).

### Thank You to . . .

. . . **Renee Kurreck, Cheryl Monroe, Smita Patel, Barbara Quilliam, Julia Radtke,** and **Karen Soules** for helping prepare the IB newsletter for distribution in April.

. . . **Phil Daley, Julie Feuerborn, Brenda Ledger, Cheryl Monroe, Smita Patel, Barbara Quilliam, Julia Radtke, Karen Soules, Stephanie Stewart and Tammy Walter** for proctoring the IB exams last May.

. . . **Norm Byers, Smita Patel and Barbara Quilliam** for helping at the IB Check-In table at registration in August.

. . . **Beth Jacober, Trish Kakenmaster and Donna Schenck** for volunteering at the Freshman Ice Cream Social in August.

### IB Student Directory

Hopefully by the time you read this, the 2007-8 IB Student Directory will have been distributed to the students. If you would like an additional copy, contact Deborah Wick, IB Administrative Assistant at (303) 387-1109. Directory info is also available online on a password-restricted basis.

### Junior and Senior 2008 Exam Fees Due!

Students will be receiving IB exam registration forms in September. Fees will be due September 27.

# DCHS Extended Essay Workshop at DU

## What the Students Thought—

On the final day of the workshop, students were given an opportunity to evaluate the sessions, so we could determine the effectiveness of the workshop.

On a scale of 1-10 (with 10 the highest) students rated:

- 8.6 overall workshop**
- 8.9 DU Library research capabilities**
- 9.0 helpfulness in explaining essay process**

When asked if they had a good understanding of what was needed to complete their essay, 22 students said YES; 6 MAYBE.

### Best part of the workshop:

- one-on-one conferencing
- discussions of the rubrics for grading
- making the process more understandable
- receiving little hints and guides
- just getting started and finding resources

### Advice for next year's students:

- pick a topic and do some research before the workshop
- choose a topic that really interests you!

**Students unanimously said they would recommend the workshop to other students!**



Becky Parnell, workshop leader, utilizes the DU Library's computer training lab to explain how to effectively access the library's resources.

## Extended Essay Co-Coordinators



**Leah Schultz**, in her 5th year at DCHS, teaches English II Honors



**Kim Clever**, in her 4th year at DCHS, teaches Honors World History

## A Message from Leah Schultz—

I am often asked the question, "How much will this count toward my grade?" The idea that something has value only when attached to a grade is implicit in the question. It is a struggle to deconstruct this assumption. And, I would be remiss to ignore the obvious inclusion of a grading system in the academic world, but I do believe that if you look at the learner profile of the IBO, you will understand the nature of its philosophy: IB learners are naturally curious people who engage in activities that spur natural curiosity.

Whether willingly in attendance at the summer workshop or under the pressure of Mom and Dad, it was inspiring to see students working hard in the dead of summer. And while some of the attendees have ad-

mitted to not working on their EE since June, 100% of those in attendance have completed their research and 20% already have a rough draft completed. I believe that it was beneficial for these students to be around the academic buzz of other IB students and share in the learning process. They were able to take advantage of a multitude of resources and many of their concerns/fears were quelled during this time.

In talking to this year's senior class candidates, I've been told that the Extended Essay is probably the most elusive and nebulous element of the Diploma Programme. Kim Clever (my EE coordinator partner) and I aim to dispel the confusion that reportedly exists for current students. This task is a delicate one, however, in that

we want to keep the individual character of the Extended Essay experience in tact. It is a balancing act between supportive guidance and experiential learning. Kim and I have taken some steps to achieve this goal. Thanks to the generosity of our librarian, Peggy Cummings, we have been given space in the library to house several resources for IB students. We have sample, graded essays from a wide variety of subject areas in this area and we will also be displaying student essays in celebration of their completion. In the next couple of weeks, we will be visiting the TOK class to review expectations and rubrics for the EE and will also answer any questions the students have for their October 31<sup>st</sup> deadline.

Ms. Parnell (*left*) and Ms. Schultz (*right*) hold individual conferences with students on their essay topics and research.



Small groups (*below, left and right*) analyzed sample essays, giving students insight into both good and bad aspects of the essays.



## Reflections on the Workshop (the week after...)

*by Alex Byers '08*

What exactly is the Extended Essay? Even after knowing about it for the last couple of years, I still never really understood this “myth.” This workshop seemed to make sense of the essay, and Ms. Parnell aided in “demystifying” the process and simply the essay itself. In attending, I found that this essay CAN have direction to it, whereas before, it seemed to resemble a ten-thousand piece puzzle: I mean, where do I even start? And then, where do I go from there? These are issues that I feel I have no longer.

Despite that I may have benefitted more from this workshop had I really started the essay before coming, I feel like it was, in fact, a great place to start. After developing a focused research question, it comes down to the actual research, which is what this workshop most helped me to accomplish. In fact, I do believe I now have all the research I need to complete the entire paper and, with the help of Ms. Parnell, I have devised a plan (an outline) of how I am going to do this.

Another great aspect about the workshop is that it did take place at the Penrose Library (at the University of Denver), where I was able to find sources that I would have never even imagined to find otherwise. For example, I found an entire government document on cults (the focus of my essay is to analyze the motives of the Heaven’s Gate cult). So now I’d say that I feel quite “grounded” in my sources: a feeling of assurance it seems.



DCHS juniors research their topics on the library’s computers.

I would surely recommend that future IB students sign up for this workshop, especially those that feel as lost as I first did. Whether you (as an IB student) haven’t even started (although I recommend having a subject and a sense of a specific topic beforehand) or if you believe that you have already finished, this workshop is something worth attending. Simply, try it out. Maybe this “myth,” whether this is the essay itself or your specific topic, will seem less foggy.

## Huskie IBPO News!

**Student directory info and carpool lists by high school / area are now available online** in a "IB Members Only" area. Access is via user names/passwords emailed to all parents and students who provided their contact information to us in August.

For **updates to your email information**, or to be added as an IB Member, check our web-site. Registering **will allow you to receive IB email notices** throughout the year.

**You can still donate** to the IB Parent Organization . . . Bring a check to Deborah Wick, DCHS South Building (or mail to her at 2842 Front Street, Castle Rock, 80104) or . . .

You can now go onto our website, and **donate via PAYPAL**, using your credit card!

*We appreciate your generosity  
in helping us to enhance your and your  
student's IB experience!*

**www.HuskieIBPO.com**

## Diversity in IB

*by Dr. Christine Funk, IB Biology Teacher*

I was talking with students and found the following information very interesting. Eleven languages are spoken fluently in my first period class (IB Bio 1 with only 19 students). When I add my second period (IB Bio 2) class, we are up to 14 different languages!

**English** (on their better days!)

**Polish** (Magda Dankowska)

**Russian** (Carina Takh & Genia Kazantsev)

**Japanese** (Zach Nakib)

**Chinese Dialects**

— **Cantonese** (Alice Choi, Kathryn Lam)

— **Mandarin** (Alice Choi, Kathryn Lam, Dovina Qu)

— **Shoxingnese** (Alice Choi)

— **Shanghinese** (Alice Choi)

**Gujrati** (Serena Patel, Trishna Patel & Zenia Shroff)

**Arabic** (Omar Murib)

**Hindi** (Zenia Shroff)

**Spanish**

(Brandi Evitts, Nathan Tello, Alexis Hertz, Janelle Mayorga )

**Ukrainian** (Natalia Voinova)

**Amharic** (Rebekah Tribble)

**Korean** (Diana No, Kelly Heo, Rahmi Lee)

## Fall College Fairs

*See [www.collegefairsdenver.org](http://www.collegefairsdenver.org)*

### Colleges That Change Lives

Wed. Sept. 12, 2007 @ 7:00-9:30 pm  
Colorado Convention Center  
700 14th Street, Denver

*Information session and college fair*  
[www.CTCL.com/events/denver.htm](http://www.CTCL.com/events/denver.htm)  
(see website for attendees)

### Out-of-State College Night

Thurs. October 11th, 2007  
6:30 – 8:30 p.m.  
John F Kennedy High School  
2855 S. Lamar, Denver

### College Fair & Workshop

Saturday October 13, 2007  
10:00 a.m. - 2:00 p.m.  
Cherry Creek High School  
9300 E Union Ave, Greenwood Village  
*over 250 schools represented*  
*classes and workshops available on various topics*

## College Standardized Testing National Calendar

### SAT Reasoning / Subject Tests

[www.collegeboard.com](http://www.collegeboard.com)

*Register by*

October 6, 2007	Sept. 10
November 3, 2007	Oct 2
December 1, 2007	Oct 30
January 26, 2008	Dec 26
March 1, 2008 * (at DCHS)	Jan 29
May 3, 2008	Apr 1
June 7, 2008	May 6

*\* No subject testing*

### ACT Testing

[www.actstudent.org](http://www.actstudent.org)

October 27, 2007	Sept 21
December 8, 2007	Nov 2
February 9, 2008	Jan 4
April 12, 2008	Mar 7
June 14, 2008	May 9



# Where Did They Go?

## IB Graduates 2007

<b>Keith Arment</b>	CU—Boulder	<b>Rebekah Knappe</b>	Baylor University
<b>Aaron Bercellie</b>	Northeastern Univ	<b>Dhwani Kothari</b>	CU—Boulder
<b>Doug Bloomquist</b>	CU—Boulder	<b>Sapan Kothari</b>	Rensselaer Polytechnic
<b>Tallant Burley</b>	American University	<b>Camille Kurreck</b>	Franklin College, Switzerland
<b>Alicia Carney</b>	Cottey College	<b>Christopher Lee</b>	Colorado College
<b>Blair Carson</b>	CU—Boulder	<b>Bruce Lin</b>	CU—Boulder
<b>Karin Carter</b>	Coe College	<b>Jessica Metheny</b>	CSU
<b>Amy Chen</b>	CU—Boulder	<b>Kara Misheff</b>	CSU
<b>Phyllis Chen</b>	Univ of Northern CO	<b>Cody Monroe</b>	U.S. Naval Academy
<b>Daniel Chin</b>	CU—Denver	<b>Kelsey Moser</b>	London School of Economics and Political Sciences
<b>Noelle Compton</b>	CU—Denver	<b>Olivia Novosad</b>	CSU
<b>Patrick Cook</b>	Emory University	<b>Julia Oh</b>	Univ of South Carolina
<b>Michael DeCesare</b>	CU—Boulder	<b>Sarp Ozkan</b>	Univ of Chicago
<b>Colin Delargy</b>	Hampshire College	<b>Hannah Perkins</b>	Metro State College
<b>Joe DeLuca</b>	Southwestern College (TX)	<b>Benjamin Potter</b>	Mesa State
<b>Griet Devriese</b>	CO School of Mines	<b>Kent Quidachay</b>	CU—Denver
<b>Maria Diment</b>	Prescott College	<b>Megan Quilliam</b>	Regis University
<b>Keith Ellington</b>	Cornell College	<b>Holly Richardson</b>	Univ of Northern CO
<b>Elizabeth Empey</b>	CU—Denver	<b>Marcus Richtel</b>	Amherst College
<b>Samuel Feely</b>	CU—Boulder	<b>Hana Richter</b>	CU—Boulder
<b>Kristine Fong</b>	Harvey Mudd	<b>Alex Schaetzle</b>	Univ of Leicester, UK
<b>Erin Gager</b>	Univ of Michigan, Ann Arbor	<b>Erin Schaut</b>	Univ of Northern CO
<b>Austin Hancock</b>	Wagner College	<b>Basil Sharikov Bass</b>	Stanford University
<b>Elizabeth Hart</b>	CU—Denver	<b>Casey Shoemaker</b>	CU—Boulder
<b>Taraneh Hockley</b>	CU—Boulder	<b>Kate Spencer</b>	CU—Boulder
<b>Krista Hovde</b>	Univ of Northern CO	<b>Meghan Tschanz</b>	CU—Boulder
<b>Jia Hao Hu</b>	Univ of Pennsylvania	<b>Chris Turpaud</b>	CSU
<b>Thomas Hufendick</b>	Prescott College	<b>Brittany Via</b>	Univ of Northern CO
<b>Kelly Hutton</b>	Texas Tech	<b>Bora Yu</b>	CU—Boulder
<b>Lauren Jennings</b>	CU—Boulder	<b>Li Qi Zhou</b>	CU—Boulder
<b>Ashley Jerlow</b>	CU—Boulder	<b>Eric Ziskin</b>	Univ of Southern California
<b>Kyle Kissick</b>	Univ of Denver		

## ...and Where They Chose NOT To Go

*Our students were also accepted  
at the following colleges not listed above, but chose not to attend:*

Antioch	Loyola Univ, Chicago	Syracuse Univ	Univ of Rochester
Austin College	Miami University, Ohio	Univ of California—Davis	Univ of Southern Vermont
Bentley College	Ohio Wesleyan	Univ of Evansville	Univ of Tampa
Boston Univ	Pratt Institute	Univ of Hawaii, Manoa	Univ of Vermont
Carnegie Mellon	Rhodes College, Memphis	Univ of Illinois, Urbana- Champaign	Texas Christian Univ
Chicago Univ	Rhodes Univ	Univ of Miami, FL	Victoria University, New Zealand
Dickinson College	Rollins College	Univ of Missouri, Kansas City	Villanova
Fordham Univ	Rose Hulman Inst of Technology	Univ of Nebraska, Lincoln	Wagner College
Francis Marion, SC	Seattle Pacific	Univ of North Carolina, Chapel Hill	Washington College
Hawaii Pacific Univ	Seattle University	Univ of Oregon	Washington Univ, St. Louis
Kent State	Southern Methodist Univ	Univ of Richmond	Washington & Jefferson Western State
King College, TN	St. John's College		
Knox College	Stony Brook Univ		

# DCHS IB Calendar

## SEPTEMBER

- 12 Colleges That Change Lives (7 pm, Colorado Convention Center)
- 21 End of 1st 6-week grading period
- 24 PSAT Registration Begins (counseling office)
- 26 IB Junior Induction (6:30 pm, DCHS Auditorium)
- 27 IB Exam Fees Due
- 28 **NO SCHOOL**  
Homecoming Football Game
- 29 Homecoming Dance (Douglas County Events Center)

## OCTOBER

- 3 Parent/Teacher Conferences (3:30 pm)
- 11 Parent/Teacher Conferences (4:00 pm)
- 11 Out-of-State College Night (6:30 pm, John F Kennedy High School)
- 12 PSAT Registration Ends
- 12 **NO SCHOOL**
- 13 College Fair & Workshop (10 am, Cherry Creek High School)
- 15-19 **FALL BREAK**
- 24 PSAT Test at DCHS
- 25 Prospective Student Info Session (Cresthill Middle School)
- 31 Seniors—Extended Essays Due!!!

## NOVEMBER

- 1 Prospective Student Info Session (Sagewood Middle School)
- 8 School Advisory Council (SAC) Meeting (6 pm, DCHS Library)
- 9 End of 2nd 6-week grading period
- 12 **NO SCHOOL**
- 21-23 **THANKSGIVING BREAK**

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