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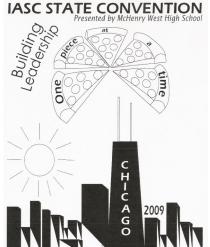
OASC Reporter

Volume 27, Issue III

Convention

I A S

Convention: a: the summoning or convening of an assembly **b**: an assembly of persons met for a common purpose **c**: usage or custom especially in social matters **d**: a rule of conduct or behavior (Webster's Dictionary)



On behalf of McHenry High School – West Campus, I want to extend a warm welcome to all of the delegates who will be attending the 2009 IASC state convention in Chicago on May 7 -9. Our Student Council is excited to be hosting this year's convention and hopes it will be both memorable and exciting!

The theme for this year's state convention is "Building Leadership....One Piece at a

Time." I hope you will think about those words as you participate in the many workshops, dinners and opportunities for networking in Chicago. Leadership is not something that just happens to someone. It is built one step....one piece....at a time. It is built when you take the risk to speak up in a group, to volunteer to chair a committee, to suggest an

idea, to build consensus toward the solution of a problem. Leadership is also built by listening to others, evaluating their ideas, and working together to build common ground.

The students who are attending this year's IASC state convention are building their leadership skills one step at a time. It is my hope that, as you participate in these three very exciting days, you take another step toward becoming a leader.....that you speak up, suggest an idea, share a solution, and build consensus. Most of all, I hope you take the time to listen to others......and learn from them.

Have a great three days, conventioneers!! Keep building those leadership skills.....one piece at a time!

• Dr. Barbara Small

McHenry West HS Principal

ADVISORS:

Special page dedicated to you! Pages 10







President

Chad Webster

Hello Illinois! I look back on the past year and think to myself wow where has the time gone? Then I realize that even though this year went by extremely fast, I have had a great time and the executive board has been very efficient in completing tasks and successful in our work. It will be an experience that I will never forget and I am so thankful I got the chance to participate on the IASC Executive Board. Now I would like to take a moment to thank some people that have helped me get on board and work while on board.

First I would like to thank my family. Without the support of my family there is no way I would be where I am today. I want to thank my mother and father for trusting me to travel to the conventions and workshops I have attended. Whenever I am feeling stress you guys make me feel better and I thank you for that, as it has come in handy this year. I love you guys very much!

Next I would like to thank my advisors. First I need to thank Mr. Mann. I thank you so much for stepping in this year as my advisor. I wouldn't be able to do it without you. Your knowledge of the IASC Board and its functions are immense and have been crucial to our success on board. I feel that we have become much closer and thank you for a great year on board. I also need to thank Ms. Dunlap, at my two years at Belvidere High School I had the privilege of having you as my advisor. If you were not my advisor I may not have gone to my first state convention freshman year, and probably would not be State President today. You also taught me a lot about the IASC and without you I may not have even known about State Board let alone ran for State Board President. Finally I have to thank the adults on the IASC Executive Board, I feel that our adult board members have been very helpful and have great knowledge of the IASC. I

would personally like to thank them all for helping me in the last year on board and at workshops in the last 3 years I have become very close with you all and am grateful to have been able to share this experience with some of the best!

I cant forget to thank the student board members after all, this year could not have happened with out you. In this year we had great meetings, and easily had fun together afterwards and at workshops. I feel like we have become much better friends and that we worked very well together. I could not have asked for better board members! We all helped each other where we could not figure out answers to our questions. Every time we were together as a whole or in small groups we always had a great time!

A special thank you has to be given to Tyler McDowell. Over the last four years you have been a great influence to me, and helped me to be so involved in the IASC. Whether you were giving me a ride to a workshop, or explaining to me functions of the IASC, you always put up with me and I have really enjoyed your company. Through the IASC we have become great friends and you have helped change from "the guy that is always with Tyler" to IASC Executive Board President. The lessons of the IASC you have taught me have been essential to me and I cant thank you enough.

Most importantly I need to thank the members of the IASC! Over the past four years I have met so many new friends and had the chance to easily network with great people. In my year on board I have had the opportunity to help many members of the IASC and meet tons of new friends at workshops and conventions. I have enjoyed having the chance to lead so many people! I would not give up my year as IASC President for anything, and will always treasure it!

VOLUME 27 ISSUE 11

PAGE 3

Krystal Rhodes

Greetings, IASC! Is it seriously May already? I wish I could skip the cliché tales of how seems just like yesterday that I took on this office, how much this experience has enriched my life, and used to have to walk to school in 2 feet of snow (uphill both ways of course.) Oh wait, that last one was a different story. Seriously, though, if anyone finds out where the last year or my sanity went, let me know! As I took the stage last year encouraging you all to make the Krystal klear choice and elect me as your First Vice President, I never could have dreamed that this position would bring me to where I am now. The IASC has taught me so much about school, student council, and life. There's so much to say, and so few words to say it in. In short, thank you, IASC, for giving me the honor of representing you as your First Vice President. To my **mother**: Thank you for your continuous support and help throughout this amazing journey. By the way, I'm terribly sorry that you couldn't see the dining room table amidst all the papers for such an extended period of time, but you can have it back now! Mrs. Walters, I'd like to thank you for your unvielding help, guidance, and encouragement throughout the past year. You have done so much for me, and I could never thank you enough. I don't know how you've put up with me the past year, so I guess you must be a saint. I've thoroughly enjoyed putting thousands of miles on the school vehicle with you and taking all of our "scenic detours." Mr. Clark: I'm sorry you had to experience my ditziness to such a profound degree, but I'm glad I could at least make you laugh! Ms. Demry: I think I might finally be learning how to properly capitalize in my board reports! Thank you for your patience. Mr. Gordan: you never fail to make me laugh. Thank you so much for brightening up meetings and for your constant belief in me.

Now to my student board: Chad: You are one crazy kid! It's been a pleasure to serve on board with you. Yes, even when you and David gang up to pick on me. This board definitely wouldn't have been the same without you. Good luck in all your future endeavors, Mr. President. **Keyana**: You have definitely made things interesting this year. You never fail to make me laugh. Never lose that spunk! Briana: You are one of the most funny people I've ever had the pleasure to meet, and I mean that in the best way possible. You always make my day; you are truly my sunshine. I will never forget our two years at NASC, and you better not either! I will miss you like none other. Mandi: Oh goodness, Mandi! There is never a dull moment with you. I've had a blast getting to know you over the past year, and I wish you the best of luck in life. By the way, I'm sorry if you ever received any of the death glares that come second nature to me. I know how much you love them. = David: This was our fate. Two years ago at nationals I got paired up with this weird kid for the Special Olympics. For some odd reason he and I became amazing friends. We started dreaming about state board, and the rest was history. Come to find out, that was you! Who knew? I'll never forget the good times of our extremely long phone convos or you thinking you were about to die as I drove you around the lake; don't you ever forget it either. You're the best. **Tori**: Ms. Demry didn't know it, but by pairing us in the same rooms for almost every workshop, she was creating a beautiful friendship! We dreamed about being on state board together forever, and now here we are! I feel truly blessed to have you as such a good friend. Thanks for putting up with me. (Yes, even the extremely hyper version of me.) You are an amazing person; never lose sight of that. Leslie: Girl! Before I really knew you, I was worried that you'd get annoyed with my outgoing self, considering you were so shy. Boy, was I a little off (ok, so maybe a lot)! Little did I know, I just had to get you started talking...then we had some really great laughs together. Thank you for saving my butt every time I need directions when I come to Normal. You're a lifesaver, as well as a great friend. Never lose that amazing giggle!

RHS StuCo: You guys have been amazing! Nathan and Karl, there's no way I could have survived my mailings without our footraces down the hall to the copy machine (I still say I'm the winner!), and our envelope stuffing parties! Karl, you deserve a trophy for the countless ways you've helped me throughout the past year (my rants, your paper cuts.) Mr. Evaul, you can do it! Good luck next year. Kyle and Zac: You two are amazing, don't be afraid to step up. You've both helped me more than you'll ever know. Josh, thanks for keeping it positive. Allison, you have tons of potential. Don't ever forget it!

There are so many other great people in this organization who have helped me out throughout my student council career, so here's a special shout out: Evan (my screaming buddy), Melissa, Brexton, Jessica, Mrs. Bierman, Tyler, Michael (one of the few people who can actually keep up with my sarcasm), Ana, Kristin (my laughing buddy), Jamie, Joe (like the vein), and Cori.

Once again, thank you all so much! This has been one amazing adventure that I would not trade for the world. Thank you, I'm Krystal Rhodes and I approve this message.

2nd V.P

Keyana Turner

At this time last year, I found myself wanting: wanting to challenge myself and wanting to find a way to challenge others. I found what I was looking for when I decided to run for the IASC office of Second Vice President, and further my experience as a student leader. This is a decision that I will never regret. Being an elected officer this past year on the IASC Executive Board has shown me so much, not just about the different demographics and levels of involvement in Student Councils all over Illinois, but it has also allowed me to discover so much about myself.

Though I cannot express all that I have learned, I know I am a better person for the experience.

For that I would like to thank you, IASC students, for all that I have experienced this past year. I would also like to thank the Board for being there and accepting me though I didn't have as much experience as most of you, all of the members of the Quincy Senior High School Student Council for all of your help with my office, Ms. Rossiter for allowing me to live, Paige and Gavin Schumacher for lending me your mother; Ann Marie Dalton my sister in all ways but blood for being there to lean on and listening even though its 2:30 in the morning and you would rather be sleeping, and most of all I would like to thank Mrs. Schumacher, my amazing advisor, for being there not just this year but for the past three, for not giving up on me and for always being there, thank you so much for everything.

This year has been one of the most memorable of my life. Thank you, IASC for helping to shape a senior year I could never forget.



Secretary

Briana Hanny

Wow! Where do I begin? This year has seemed to go by so fast! I can remember my freshman year sitting at my first IASC Convention General Session – I was absolutely amazed! I am going to miss EVERYTHING about student council - the work, long hours, decorations, pep rallies, dances, conventions, meetings, and FUN! You all have added to my wonderful experience being involved in student council for these four years, especially, this past year! Becoming involved in IASC is one of the greatest decisions that I have ever made. I would like to thank ALL OF YOU for your support and allowing me to be a part of such a wonderful organization. To my Mommy: I love you with all of my heart! You are amazing woman and you have always supported me. This was a rough one, but you never hesitated to drive me to the nearest train station or McHenry for a meeting or other event, although you barely understood where I was going or what I was going to do. To my advisor: Ms. G, you are the absolute GREATEST! You have been so supportive this year – being my advisor for State Board and out local student council advisor. We spent so many days preparing for meetings, workshops, and this year's convention. Although you were often stressed, you never complained – I appreciate you and all your hard work! Whitney Young Student Council: I am going to miss all of you guys so much! You helped me and calmed me down when I was overwhelmed with work. I love you guys! To all the IASC Executive Board Advisors: You all are an awesome group of people! You all have been so caring and generous throughout the year - helping me, answering questions, and reading my very long minutes! I appreciate you all. Finally, the Executive Board – I am going to miss you guys so much. I have developed such great and sure to be long-lasting friendships with you all. I love you guys and I know that you all have great things in store for you! Tori: You are such a sweetheart! You have helped me so much and invited me into your home with such generosity. I love you, girl! I found my first acorn in McHenry! And swung on a REAL tree swing! Thank you for being such a dear and wonderful person. Krystal: We're at CRACKELBARREL! Oh my gosh, all the fun times that we have had, all the jokes. You are so driven to do your best and I love you for that! You have been so kind and caring, offering to help me out even when you had so much work to do! You are truly brilliant young woman! I am going to miss you so much! Although I will be at Amherst, don't forget that Elmhurst is not far from my house! Manders!: You are so hilarious! One day I will make you some home-made chicken strips! You are such a fun and hard-working person! You always tell me that I make you laugh, but YOU are honestly one of the funniest people that I have ever come in contact with! I love you and I'm going to miss you! Leslie: You are so GREAT and talented! Your flare with the pink t-shirts made my heart smile! I am going to miss you so much! I enjoyed all the time I spent with you while being on state board and I look forward to continuing our friendship! Love ya! Keyana: It has been such a great year! We have had some great conversations and I remember all the fun we had at Nationals. I wish you all the best at school and I hope that we are able to keep in touch! I love you and keep all the good work! David: My love. You are so AMAZINGLY FABULOUS person and executive board member! You have done such an awesome job with the Reporter this year and I applaud you. You have been such a wonderful friend to me and so understanding. Thanks for all the rides I snagged from you and Mrs. Martin! I love you and I am going to miss you! Chad: The Chadster, Danny-boy! All the nicknames and jokes! You are great and going to be a very powerful person some day! I am so glad that I had the opportunity to know you and develop a friendship with you. I am going to miss you and all the best in college next year! Honor Council Committee Members: You are a great group of hard-working people! I wish all success in the future and hope you rock out next year! IASC Advisors: Thank you so much for all your support and patience throughout the year. Thank you to all the councils that participated in the Honor Council Program and I hope to see more participation next year! IASC: Again, I am so glad to have been in such a fantastic organization with such an excellent group of people! I hope that this has been as great a year for everyone as it has been for me! Everyone that I have met – I am glad that we have met you and keep in touch! Love you all and best luck next year!

Mandi Mushill

It seems like just yesterday was my first day of high school. I'll never forget about that day when I walked into Mr. Gordon's class room, little had I known he would soon take over my life and spark my interest in student council. Both he and Mr.



Clark, my other advisor, made me want to be so involved and interested in student council that it soon ended up as one of my top priorities. While being involved in student council I was also on the Kahok Dance Team and when it came down to choosing between the two, I decided on student council. It was one of the hardest decisions I ever had to make in my life considering I had been dancing since I was three years old, but if I were given the opportunity to do it all over again I wouldn't change my decision for anything. Mr. Gordon and Mr. Clark showed me all the doors of opportunities student council had to offer. Getting the opportunity to meet people from across the nation, listen to tremendous speakers, learn different leadership skills, and most of all I learned a lot about myself. I have no idea where I would be today if Mr. Gordon and Mr. Clark hadn't gotten me so involved. They have made such an impact on my life. They're not just teachers or advisors, but friends. They would always be the ones I could go to for advice if I had a break down or just someone to talk to. I would just like to thank both of you for all the hours you puts into our student council to make us a gold council of excellence and how truly grateful I am for the impact you have made on my life and for being my advisors.

I also want to thank my state board. There are so many memories we have shared together over this past year. I'll never forget our first meeting before nationals when I said "SHUT UP CHAD" for the first time. Who would've known that wouldn't have been the last time?! Sure enough it was pretty much our saying, a meeting didn't go by that one of us didn't say it and a couple of times Chad even told himself to



shut up, ha-ha. I just want to thank my whole board and their advisors for giving me so many good memories to look back on. I will truly miss each and every one of you and I wish you the best of luck in your future.

Next I'd like to thank my parents. They always encouraged me to do what I loved. I can't tell you how many sports I played, but they always wanted me to do what made me happy. When it came down to deciding between dance team and student council

they told me "No matter what your decision, we're behind you one hundred percent of the way." It didn't matter if I quit a sport I had been doing for fifteen years of my life to be more involved in an organization that I had only been interested in for two years, they would support me no matter what my decision and want me to be happy. It was with the support they gave me that helped me tremendously with my decision. I just want to thank you mom and dad for all the support and love you have given me over the years of my life and always encouraging me to follow my dreams and to do what I love. I love you both with all my heart and I couldn't have asked for two better parents.

I also want to give a special thanks to Collinsville High School, the Illinois Association of Student Councils, and My High School Student Council. Without them none of these of these opportunities would've been possible

CONVENTION

Tori Weinberg

My how this year has flown by so quickly! It has been a fantastic year, and I am proud to have served on your Executive Board. Student council has definitely provided many unforgettable memories for me. Being Convention Secretary has taught me so much about life and leadership. They are lessons I will never forget. I am so fortunate to walk away with so many experiences and memories that I have made with you all. I would now like to thank all who have helped me along the way.

To my incredible executive board:

Words cannot explain how brilliant and amazing all of you are. Working with you all was an honor and a privilege and I would not trade this past year for anything. As I may have said previously, I wish you all the best of luck in college and beyond, however I doubt you all will need any of it. I would like to thank all of you for the amazing experience and most importantly your friendship. I truly could not have done this without all of you. Love you guys!

To the adults:

Your hard work and dedication to the IASC is truly appreciated. I am not sure that anybody realizes how much you all actually do. Thank you for all of your help and guidance throughout this somewhat hectic and exciting year. We could not have made this convention possible without any of you. Thank you for putting up with us throughout the year. I am honored to have had the privilege to work with all of you.

Mr. Kennedy and Mr. Menke:

You two have dedicated so much time and effort towards this event. I appreciate every little thing that you have done for me. Words cannot fully explain my gratitude for you two. Thank you for everything!

MCHS Student Council:

All of you have done so much! Your dedication of time and energy is truly what made this convention possible. Your hard work has helped me immensely. I cannot thank you all enough!

Paige:

You truly are the one and only reason that I still have my sanity today. Thank you for absolutely everything that you have done for me and this convention. You are one in a million!

Garett:

You have made this year better than I have ever expected. Thank you for putting up with my late night phone calls, nervous breakdowns, and mood swings. I know you will do great things in life and you deserve the best no matter what others say. I love you!

Dad:

You have been there for me so much this year. The support you have given me with all of my activities is truly appreciated. I love you so much!

Special thanks go out to everybody else for putting up with me: Lindsey, Kristen, Tyler, Melissa, Erin, Justine, Jamie, Vikki, and all of the other great people that I have met over the past four years!

I will miss you all so much next year, however, it is extremely comforting to know that you all are just a phone call away. This is not goodbye!





Leslie Sabick

I can't believe I'm graduating in a matter of weeks! The past four years have flown by so fast. My high school experience would not have been complete without the IASC. I have gained so much from every one of you. I could not have done this alone. There are so many people I need to thank, so here it goes:

Mom and Dad: I love you. Thanks for always getting me to wherever I needed to be across the state.

Mrs. Maurer: Thank you for everything! I could never have accomplished so much in my high school years without your help. You do so much and are always there for me no matter what I need. Sara Vore: Girl, I don't even know where to start. I love you so much and could not have made it through this year without your help. I will miss you so much next year. Thanks for being my "go to girl" and always being there no matter what.

<u>Chad:</u> You did an outstanding job this year. I had a great time getting to know you better even though you were always picking on me.

<u>Krystal:</u> Thanks for cracking the jokes when I didn't even want to smile. I loved hanging out with you. You are so crazy.

Keyana: You are so silly. I had a great time with you this year. Good luck in the future.

<u>Mandi:</u> You are just ridiculous. I am going to miss you. We will have to hang out next year when I am home!

<u>Briana:</u> You are such an amazing person. Thanks for being my big sis! You are going to be so far away. I am going to miss you next year!

<u>Tori:</u> You are one of the sweetest people I have ever met. You did a great job this year. You will be missed.

<u>David:</u> Thank you for always being so understanding. You did a fantastic job this year. Good luck in your future endeavors.

<u>Jessica and all of the 2007-2008 IASC Board:</u> Thanks for inspiring me to be a part of such a wonderful organization. I have missed you so much this year. Keep in touch!

Mrs. Coppersmith & Mrs. Lawrence: Thanks for all your support. I know so many things were new to you this year and you did a good job.

Mr. Jelinek: Thank you for teaching me so much and answering all my website questions.

<u>Aaron, Tyler, and Zach:</u> You guys are great! I am going to miss all of you. I expect great things from all of you next year when I'm gone.

Alex: Thanks for always being there to listen to me when I am stressed out. I love you.

Matt, Kristen, Zach, Brexton, Evan, Melissa, and Mackenzie: You guys are truly amazing. You taught me so much this year. Good luck in everything that you do!

<u>Vik and Tyler:</u> Thanks for always being there to answer my questions. You guys know so much.

<u>IASC Advisors:</u> You all do so much for this organization. I have really enjoyed spending many weekends with you. You have taught me so many things. Keep up the great work!

<u>NCHS:</u> Thank you for all of your support. I have had so many great experiences with you over the past 4 years. Keep up the good work!

IASC Districts: You have all done an amazing job this year.

<u>IASC:</u> Over the past four years I have met so many new people. You are all so wonderful. This is a great organization. Stay involved, there are so many rewarding experiences to come!

Thank you to everyone! I have so many memories that will last a lifetime!

The Reporter

David Pileski



People ponder, "Should I go down this road or continue traveling down this street?" If you had met your self, four years younger, would they be happy or disappointed in who you became? It is hard to know why and how our lives shape before us. It simply is

Looking at my journey through Student Council with many of you is amazing. I have traveled to places I would never imagine going. I have met many people I would have overlooked and even underestimated. Most importantly, I have found who I am and refined my passion.

While we all gather at this convention it marks many occasions. For some, this is there first year in High School and are simply beginning there journey, while others are leaving to pursue other endeavors outside of our comfortable territory. Though we

are all at different stages in life we are all here together as one body of students. Each person here holds a unique perspective and deep insight.

I cannot help but to look back at this journey and remember my mistakes and my triumphs. However, there is no remorse and no regrets. This experience has been amazing and nothing will be quite like this again.

Thank you to the advisors at Lake Park for always working with me on various projects whether they were large or small. Also the member of Lake Park Student Council, though you may not have understood what I was doing and why you need to help me you always put forth the effort and helped me when I needed you.

The Executive Board, you have been the greatest coworkers and friends this past year. No matter what, we were able to work together and make this year great. Even with a sense of urgency and caution we were still able to produce the same quality, if not better, organization while maintaining a future for everyone. The responsibility and understanding that everyone held this year helped us make decisions for the good of everyone.

I know I have not listed everyone that deserves to be mentioned, you know who you are. Your support and help means so much to me and I do not know where I would be without it.

However, now the 2008-2009 executive board has finished their term. The future is yours to take and build upon the foundation you have been given. It is time for you to rise and leave your mark at your school, in your district, the IASC, and also your life.



Advisor make a world of difference in Council

By: Ms. Norma Walters IASC 1st Vice President's Advisor

The IASC gas been a part of my life for the last 19 years and has greatly enhanced my teaching career. As an advisor, working with students in Student Council has been a rewarding experience for me at the local level (Ramsey H.S), at the district level (Eastern), and at the state level (IASC). At each of these levels, I have had the privilege of working with bright, intelligent students and have been able to share in their enthusiasm for learning and life in general and have learned a great deal along the way myself. I have had the opportunity to travel to many places up and down the great state of Illinois as well as several rewarding trips out of state. Each of these experiences has enhanced my life more than words can express.

Many of you advisors reading this have experienced similar rewards. Some of the new advisors are just familiarizing themselves with the opportunities their students can participate in and are embracing what participation in the IASC can afford. I would like to encourage all the advisors, long Academy, and the state convention. timers and newcomers, to embrace all that the IASC has to offer and to be a part of the organization because **you** are truly needed.

Each advisor fills a unique position that makes the IASC run more efficiently. If you are missing, then one cog in the system is not functioning properly and the IASC does not function at its highest level of productivity. You, as an advisor, have first hand knowledge of the bright and intelligent students in your school and through your encouragement they can get involved and grow in ways that will benefit them for the rest of their life.

You, as an advisor, can participate with your students at so many levels that is each important in its own way. Not every advisor will have the opportunity to have a state officer or perhaps even a district officer, but every advisor can encourage students

to attend One Day Drive In's, Summer Leadership Workshop, Advanced Leadership Workshop, Leadership At each level your students interact with some of the brightest students across the state of Illinois and gain leadership skills that will follow them through out school and college and also be useful later in life.

So I would just like to encourage all advisors to keep up the good work of educating the best and brightest of Illinois and thank you for participating in the IASC and for all you do in making the IASC a stronger organization. Please know that **you are** truly needed and everyone of you deserve so much more than you will receive. Thank you for your service past and for your service to come. If you are not sure how to get involved please feel free contact any state board member, because with out you, out there doing your part, their job is much harder and the IASC want you to succeed so they can succeed.

Leadership is risen to new heights at NASC

By: Mr. Gary Clark IASC Executive Director

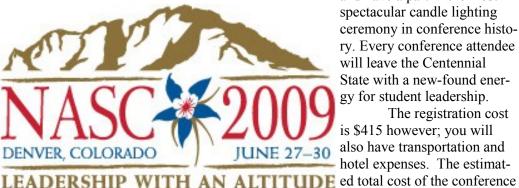
Since 1931 the goal of National Association of Student Councils has been to help all student councils become more effective organizations.

NASC represents middle level and high school councils nationwide. It seeks to provide a valuable partnership between students and their school. DENVER, COLORADO It creates the opportunity for students to become effective leaders, thus encouraging and

influencing a positive school climate.

In 2009 Highlands Ranch High School is the proud host of the national conference. Conference Attendees will

spend four days in the beautiful state of Colorado while participating in keynote speakers, student-led workshops, environmental community service projects at CU Boulder,



and have a part in the most spectacular candle lighting ceremony in conference history. Every conference attendee will leave the Centennial State with a new-found energy for student leadership.

The registration cost is \$415 however; you will also have transportation and hotel expenses. The estimatis \$1,000 to \$1,200. If you

are interested in participating in this year's conference please contact the IASC Executive Director, Gary Clark, at 618 580 7667 or by email at gclark51@yahoo.com.