

## Illinois Junior Academy of Science Region 5 Winter Mailing

February 2012

Dear Sponsors:

I hope your science fairs have gone, or are going, well! Our region has continued to do very well at State, so our quota for State Exposition projects has gone up once again! Kudos to all of you for your hard work and successes!

### **Important Dates for 2012:**

#### **Project Exposition**

- Deadline for Project Session Registration (projects \$15) – March 2, 2012
- Late Project Session Registration (projects \$20) – March 9, 2012
- Region V Project Exposition at Northern Illinois University – March 17, 2012
- Judge Data and Student State Participation Confirmation Deadline – March 22, 2012

#### **Paper Exposition**

- Deadline for Paper Registration and Paper Submission – February 15, 2012
- Region V Paper Exposition at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy – March 24, 2012
- Judge Data and Student State Participation Confirmation Deadline – March 28, 2012

#### **State Exposition**

- State Exposition at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign – May 4 and 5, 2012

### **Important Dates for 2013:**

- Deadline for Paper Registration and Paper Submission – February 6, 2013 (tentative)
- Region V Paper Exposition at the Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy – March 16 (tentative)
- Deadline for Project Session Registration – March 3, 2013
- Region V Project Exposition at Northern Illinois University – March 23, 2013
- State Exposition at the University of Illinois Urbana-Champaign – May 3 and 4, 2013

Included with this letter is the information you need to participate at the regional level project and paper expositions

1) Cover pages for all the information you are sending me, just to make sure I receive it all.  
Email or mail to: Judy Scheppler/Region V IJAS, Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy,  
1500 W. Sullivan Road, Aurora, IL 60506; quella@imsa.edu.

2) Regional Fair Map and Schedule for March 17, 2012.

This is for you to duplicate as needed for your students and judges.

3) Information that we will be sending to judges. This is for your information only, and you do not need to give it to them, but you may if you wish. As a reminder, we need one judge for every two projects. For one project, send at least one judge; for four projects send two judges, and so forth.

### **Region V Paper Session**

Paper Session and Essay Contest Registration is due **February 15, 2012** for the **March 24** Paper Session at IMSA. The cost is \$15 per paper. Judges will be mailed copies of the papers to read ahead of time. Please caution your judges not to mark on the papers since the papers will also be sent to the State IJAS if the student is selected for state exposition. Once we have all of the entries for the paper session, we will construct a schedule for presentations and email that to you. Dr. Steve Rogg (srogg@imsa.edu, 630-907-5980) from IMSA will be coordinating the paper session this year. (Essays will be judged later.)

### **Region V Project Science Fair**

This year the 2012 Northern Illinois Regional Science Fair is on Saturday, **March 17, 2012**, at Northern Illinois University in the Holmes Student Center, in DeKalb, Illinois. We are back in our “normal” location. Next year's date is March 23, 2013 at NIU.

You may enter up to ten projects or papers or 3% of your school's seventh through twelfth grade enrollment, whichever is greater. If you would like, please designate and add two projects and two papers as alternates. Once I get entries, if we have space, I will add alternates. Please list and designate alternate judges if you submit alternate projects or papers. This is the first year that I've tried adding alternates, so please be patient. I won't be able to let you know about alternate entries until after the March 2 deadline, so it will be at the last minute. However, we have had some extra space for papers and projects in the past. You need to schedule your own fair so I can get all registrations in by the **March 2 deadline**.

We will be working to get more awards for students to make the effort even more worthwhile. If you know of a business or organization that would like to donate money for special awards, please let us know!

Science project entry will consist of sending me a copy of the project's **abstract, safety sheet**, and any vertebrate or other **endorsements** (these will *not* be returned), **\$15 entry fee** per project (make checks payable to IJAS Region V), **judges** information, and **student information** in an excel spreadsheet. All of this information is due to me on March 2, 2012 and must be complete. Entries received March 3 - March 9 will require a \$5 late fee per entry. After March 9, only cancellations will be taken; we can't accept new entries. It is our goal to email you your students' project numbers the week of March 12.

We are continuing our digital registration this year to cut down on paper work, to be more efficient, and to be more environmentally friendly. You may email (quella@imsa.edu) me your student information and then send your abstracts, safety sheets, and endorsements separately. Send checks as soon as your office can get them. The excel spreadsheet in which you should record your student information (student names, grade of students, project title, category) is

attached, and was also sent with the fall mailing. Please do not reformat the spreadsheet, so that we can merge data and spreadsheets from all of the schools participating in the fair.

### **Judges**

You need to provide one project judge for every two projects entered. Send me their names, addresses, and email addresses. The spreadsheet for the judges' information sheet is also attached, and was sent last fall.

Judges' information should indicate:

- *Judging Category Preferences:* Behavioral Science, Biochemistry/Chemistry, Botany, Cellular and Molecular Biology, Consumer Science, Earth Science/Environmental Science, Health Science/Microbiology, Physics (*includes* Aerospace/Astronomy/ Computer Science/Electronics/Engineering/Mathematics/ Physics/ Materials Science), Zoology.
- *Lunch Preference:* beef, turkey, ham, vegetarian, or none (*project judges only*)
- *Judging Experience:* please indicate years judged at various levels (local, region, state, and so forth)
- *Judge's Background:* librarian, science teachers, engineer, farmer, pharmacist

### **State Policy and Procedure Manual and Safety Information**

You must access and download the Policy and Procedure Manual and other information by logging onto the IJAS site: [www.ijas.org](http://www.ijas.org). The documents will no longer be sent by mail. Please have all teachers and all students involved in science fair projects review the manual carefully. We occasionally have projects that use **bacteria and/or vertebrates** in inappropriate and/or unapproved ways. All projects that use **human subjects**, even surveys, need a human endorsement sheet filled out. Bacterial cultures from ground beef are not allowed; this is a culture from a vertebrate. This is written in the manual. The purpose of this is to protect students, since bacteria in meat can be very harmful. Also, in our region, **no wild cultures are allowed** - this means that a student may NOT do an experiment growing mold on food.

### **Project Board Reminders**

Please make sure there are NO student phone numbers or addresses on the abstract since it is displayed on the poster board. This is a safety issue, and protects the students. If you have a question about a project, please call me or contact the State IJAS safety committee. Abstracts and endorsements sheets need to be displayed on the board, and should not be reduced more than 75%. (This is a recent change; they can't be reduced 50% any longer.) Stacking the sheets on the poster board is more advisable.

### **NIU**

The NIU website with Region V information is: <http://www.niu.edu/clasep/Fairs/Science/>

### **Intel ISEF**

In order to be eligible for Intel International Science and Engineering Fair (Intel ISEF), students must submit their project information to me in the fall before the fair. It is now too late for this year. However, consider this for your top students next fall.

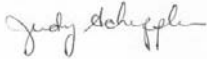
## State IJAS 2012

The State Exposition is May 4<sup>th</sup> for the paper session and May 5<sup>th</sup> for projects. There is no further cost if your student(s) is/are selected for the State Exposition, but I will need judges' information **right away**. This means letting me know at NIU on March 17, or the next week – March 23 - at the very latest. You need to provide one judge for every two projects or two papers entered into the State IJAS exposition. Also, you will need to let me know right away if a student selected for state exposition will **not** be able to make the State IJAS Fair. **No shows for the state fair cut down on our quotas for the next year!**

## Future State IJAS Dates

- May 3 & 4, 2013
- May 9 & 10, 2014
- May 8 & 9, 2015
- May 6 & 7, 2016
- May 5 & 6, 2017
- May 4 & 5, 2018
- May 3 & 4, 2019
- May 8 & 9, 2020

Thanks! I'm looking forward to seeing you on March 17, 2012, at Northern Illinois University's Holmes Student Center! If you have questions, please email [quella@imsa.edu](mailto:quella@imsa.edu), or call me at 630-907-5899.



Judith A. Scheppler, Ph.D.  
IJAS Region V Fair Director

Region V Project Session Coordinator  
State IJAS President-elect  
State Scientific Review Committee Chair  
State Cellular and Molecular Biology Category Judging Chair

## Attachments:

- State IJAS project scoring rubric – revised 2010
- State IJAS paper scoring rubric – revised 2010
- Excel file for submitting project information to Region V
- Excel file for submitting judges' information for project session to Region V
- Excel file for submitting paper information to Region V
- Excel file for submitting judges' information for paper session to Region V
- NIU map

**Note** – When you email a spreadsheet, please label it with your school name and IJAS number, plus ProjectJudgeData, StudentProjectData, and so forth: IMSA5048StudentProjectData.xls

## Region V Information

For religious reasons only, arrangements can be made for Friday 5PM judging at Northern Illinois University. Contact me, Judy Scheppler, by March 9 to arrange this.

<p><b>Region V Fair: Saturday, March 17, 2012 at: Northern Illinois University-Holmes Student Center</b></p> <p>Registration forms will be sent out in February.</p> <p>1. Please send <b>\$15 per project</b> by March 2, 2012 to IJAS Region 5. Entries received March 3 - 9 will cost \$20 per project. No projects will be accepted after March 9.</p> <p>2. Project and judge data must be submitted by email to Judy Scheppler using the supplied Excel spreadsheet. Please do not modify or reformat the spreadsheet cells. The data can be submitted no later than March 9 (additional \$5 for late entries).</p> <p>3. A copy of the abstract, safety sheet, and any microorganism and/or vertebrate endorsements used must be sent by US Mail with your application check. <b>These will not be returned to you.</b> (These can be submitted later than March 2 if necessary, but must be <b>received</b> before March 9).</p> <p>4. By December 1, 2011 you <b>MUST</b> have applied for waivers for work with vertebrates, and so forth. There is <b>no waiver needed if students are working in an approved lab, however you must send a copy of the approved lab procedures to the state.</b> See the State IJAS information/ mailing about this.</p>	<p><b>Paper Session: Saturday, March 24, 2012 at: IMSA</b></p> <p>See registration papers for this in this mailing.</p> <p><b>Papers must be new research -</b> not just the paper from last year's project.</p> <p>1. Send \$15 for each paper by February 15, 2012</p> <p>2. One judge for every 2 papers (Also another judge for every 2 essays.)</p> <p>3. Send four copies of the paper. <b>These will not be returned to you!</b> The paper maximum is 30 pages including everything – figures, tables, bibliography, and so forth.</p>
---	---

**Make checks payable to: IJAS Region V**

**Mail checks, abstracts, forms, papers and so forth to:**

Judy Scheppler/IJAS Region V  
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy  
1500 West Sullivan Road  
Aurora, IL 60506  
Phone: 630-907-5899  
Fax: 630-907-5939  
Email: quella@imsa.edu

***Illinois Junior Academy of Science Northern Region 5***  
**Semi-Final Exposition**  
**SATURDAY, March 17, 2012**  
**Northern Illinois University Holmes Student Center**  
**Schedule for the Day**

**7:30 - 8:30AM – Holmes Student Center Opens for Project Set-Up (Duke Ellington Ballroom and Regency Room)**

Project numbers will be posted. (We hope to get all this information out to sponsors early.)

**8:00 - 8:30AM – Judges Arrive and Sign In (Ellington Café and Hunt Room)**

Look for signs indicating the location of the judges' room. NIU is providing juice, coffee, and rolls for the judges. Box lunches will also be provided for the judges, once they have completed judging. **Thanks to NIU and Mark Pietrowski!** Judges should find their category; we will assign judging teams in advance. Judging is done in pairs; one experienced judge is partnered with one less experienced judge, and judges from the same school will not be paired together.

**8:30AM - Noon - Only Safety Inspectors, Judges, and Students Allowed in the Project Judging Areas**

Parents may leave the building or stay in the designated areas, but they will not be allowed in the project session areas with students.

**8:30 - All Students Set-Up and in Place Ready for Safety Inspection (Duke Ellington Ballroom and Regency Room)**

**8:30 - 9:00AM - Safety Inspection for Students**

Safety inspectors are putting out the judging forms for each student. A safety inspector should visit each project by 9AM. Please contact someone in the scoring room if this doesn't occur.

**8:30 - 9:00AM - Judges Meeting in the Judges Room (Ellington Café and Hunt Room)**

Judges will receive instructions and any last minute information.

**9:00AM - Noon - Project Judging (Duke Ellington Ballroom and Regency Room)**

There will be only *one* official judging conducted by two judges, together. At 9AM, or shortly thereafter, the official judges should stop by your poster to briefly introduce themselves.

**For Students**

Your project presentation should last no more than 10 minutes. Questioning from judges should last about 5 minutes, and then the judges will take your paper for review. Make sure that you get your paper back from them when they give you your comment sheet. Once you have been judged you may leave your project board. Your paper should remain with your board and be on display for the special judging, which *may* occur later.

**Noon – 2:30 PM - Science Fair Open to the Public**

Please leave your projects boards up and on display. Go to lunch.

**2:00 – 2:30 PM – Sponsors Meeting – Ellington Room, Holmes Student Center**

Agenda: 1. Review of the day; suggestions for improvement  
2. Preparation for State IJAS Fair  
3. Policy and Procedure Manual revision

**2:30 PM – 3:30 PM - Awards Ceremony – Carl Sandburg Auditorium**

Parents, sponsors, and other guests are invited. We will announce all outstanding awards!!!

**3:30 – 4:00 PM - Take down your display boards.**

The fair is finished. Any unclaimed boards will be discarded.

## Judges' Information

February 2012

Thank you for volunteering to judge our Regional Fair on Saturday, March 17, 2012. If you know someone else who is willing to judge, please have them come on Saturday. We always need extra help!

**Location:** Holmes Student Center at Northern Illinois University

**Date:** March 17, 2012

**Time:** Arrive between 8:00 – 8:30 AM

**Judges Meeting:** 8:30 AM

Attached is the general schedule for the day and a judging sheet for your review. Below are instructions about your responsibilities as a judge.

### **8:00 - 8:30AM - Judges Arrive and Sign In (Ellington Café and Hunt Room)**

Look for signs indicating the location of the judges' room. NIU is providing juice, coffee, and rolls for the judges. Box lunches will also be provided for the judges, once they have completed judging. **Thanks to NIU and Mark Petrowski!** Judges should find their category and sit in that area.

### **8:30 - 9:00AM - Judges Meeting in the Judges Room (Ellington Café and Hunt Room)**

Judges will receive reminders, instructions, and last minute changes. During this time, you will receive your judging assignments. Judging is done in pairs. We will usually pair one experienced judge with one less experienced judge; judges from the same school will not be paired together. Please make sure that you are not judging a student that you know.

### **9:00AM - Judging Begins (Duke Ellington Ballroom and Regency Room)**

Please remember to turn off all cell phone before judging!

1) **Visit** each of the projects you have been assigned to judge *before you begin judging* and let the students know you are their official judge. A safety inspector will have left paperwork for you to complete for judging at each student's display. Students who have *safety violations* will need to correct them before they get judging rubrics and comment sheet.

2) **Double check** to make sure that each project has been safety judged. Let us know in the scoring room if someone has not been safety judged, or if you have a question. In general, we will judge *all* projects, even if there is a violation that would prevent a student from participating in the State exposition. The fair director will discuss and address any disqualifications with the student(s)' sponsor; we are mindful of student feelings on this stressful day.

3) Let the students **present** their project, *before you begin asking questions!* Many of them may be nervous, so please listen, be interested, be polite, and be pleasant.

4) After you have **looked** at their paper and talked with the student(s), **fill in the judging rubric** completely. The rubrics will be given back to the sponsors, but not the student(s). You can give the students' sponsor suggestions for the future. Both judges will complete a scoring rubric; scores will be averaged. Students *will not* receive their judging rubric back; however they will receive your *comment sheet*, which you should give them. Do not tell the student their score from the rubric.

5) **Add the score correctly** and please double check it. In the scoring room, *we do not double check your math* – students *may* need over a score of 100 or more to advance to the State Exposition.

6) **Complete** the *comment sheet*, give it to the student(s), and please **be kind**. Make *constructive* suggestions, especially if the student is going to the state exposition. Let student(s) know *why* they did not receive an "Outstanding score" if there was something wrong. **Do not tell student what their rubric score is or give them their rubric.**

7) Do not keep a copy of their paper. Give it back to the student(s) after you have looked at it and reviewed it.

8) Give only your judging sheet to a student runner or turn it into the scoring room. Please, do not save these until the end of the day, so that we can begin recording scores.

### **Noon - Judging Ends**

When you are completely finished with judging all your projects, please **sign out** at the scoring room.

**Please - Hand in the index cards of the projects you judged!** This is important so we can document judging. Please let us know if there were students who did not show up.

**Thank you! Please pick-up and enjoy your boxed lunch, if you requested one.**

If you cannot make it Saturday, March 17, please find a substitute and let me know who that person will be. Email [quella@imsa.edu](mailto:quella@imsa.edu) or call 630-907-5899.

*Illinois Junior Academy of Science - Northern Region 5*  
**REGIONAL SEMI-FINALS – The Project Exposition at NIU**  
**SATURDAY, March 17, 2012**  
Cover Page for **Project** Entries

School \_\_\_\_\_ IJAS number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Head Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

We will email you the list of project numbers, the week of March 12, 2012.

**1. Number of projects you are sending on March 17, 2012: \_\_\_\_\_ (May be up to 10 or 3% of population).** Please send data (title of project, category, number of students doing each project, student names, and so forth) in the provided Excel file. For a group project, one student needs to be designated as the *primary* student. Any awards will be given to this student; they will be responsible for dividing monetary awards. Please double check spelling of the student(s)' full name(s) as what is provided is how the names will appear on their certificates. The primary student's last name is used to help organize our data.

**Projects requiring electricity need to specify this!!!**

**2. Enclose check for \$15 per project. Check should be payable to: IJAS Region V.**

Check Number \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of check enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Check is from: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Enclose copy of abstract, safety sheet, and any required vertebrate endorsements for each project you enter.** Staple the 2 or 3 pages for each project together with abstract on top.

**4. Number of judges you are sending on March 17, 2012: \_\_\_\_\_.** You must send at least one judge for every two projects that you are bringing. You cannot send a project without a judge! One project equals at least *one* judge! A judges' information form is included, but I would appreciate the information in the Excel file, if possible. I need the judge's name, address, phone, email, and background. Also indicate the judges' first, second, and third choices for category to judge. Please remind them to be at NIU on March 17, 2012 before 8:30AM.

**5. The entry deadline is March 2, 2012. (\$5 per project late fee for March 3-9)**

**No entries accepted after March 9, 2012**

**Send all of your entries to:** Judy Scheppeler/Region V IJAS  
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy  
1500 W. Sullivan Road  
Aurora, IL 60506

*Illinois Junior Academy of Science - Northern Region 5*  
**REGIONAL SEMI-FINALS - The Paper Exposition at IMSA**  
**SATURDAY, March 24, 2012**  
Cover Page for **Paper** Entries

School \_\_\_\_\_ IJAS number: \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Head Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

We will email you the presentation schedule.

**1. Number of papers you are sending on March 24, 2012: \_\_\_\_\_ (May be up to 10 or 3% of population).** Please send data (title of project, category, number of students doing each paper, student names, and so forth) in the provided Excel file. For a group paper, one student needs to be designated as the *primary* student. Any awards will be given to this student; they will be responsible for dividing monetary awards. Please double check spelling of the student(s)' full name(s) as what is provided is how the names will appear on their certificates. The primary student's last name is used to help organize our data.

**2. Enclose check for \$15 per paper. Check should be payable to: IJAS Region V.**

Check Number \_\_\_\_\_ Amount of check enclosed: \_\_\_\_\_

Check is from: \_\_\_\_\_

**3. Enclose four copies of each paper that you are sending.**

**4. Number of judges you are sending on March 24, 2012: \_\_\_\_\_.** You must send at least one judge for every two papers that you are entering. You cannot send a project without a judge! One paper equals at least *one* judge! Send judges' information in the Excel file provided. I need the judge's name, address, phone, email, and background. Also indicate the judges' first, second, and third choices for category to judge. Please remind them to be at IMSA on March 24, 2012 before 8:30AM. We will mail papers to the judges along with more specific paper judging instructions and information about the day.

**5. The entry deadline is February 16, 2012.**

**Send all of your entries to:** Judy Scheppler/Region V IJAS  
Illinois Mathematics and Science Academy  
1500 W. Sullivan Road  
Aurora, IL 60506