No Limits
Idea Shop and IPRO 2.0 Are Facilitating Limitless Learning
When I started teaching at the college level in 1971, there was little pedagogy to the profession except “smart in, smart out.” The emphasis was on course content and not on learning, which was assumed to be the responsibility of students. The fact is, learning is the responsibility of both students and faculty, and it doesn’t occur just in the classroom.

There has been much progress in college-level teaching since I started. No university teacher disputes the importance of gaining disciplinary knowledge; a student should graduate knowing something. However, now there is an appreciation that students learn in different ways, not just one way, and that teachers must try to reach their students using multiple approaches. There is a greater appreciation that out-of-classroom activities are very important to supplement in-class learning. Communication skills, the ability to work in teams composed of persons with different educational and social backgrounds, and embracing change as an opportunity instead of a threat—these attributes are also part of learning at the college level. Students tend to have difficulty in courses that involve open-ended problems where there is not a single correct answer or perfect solution; of course, their careers will be determined by how well they address such problems.

One of IIT’s priorities is to provide a distinctive education. To achieve this, we must develop an educational environment that prepares students for the first day as well as 20 years after graduation. Disciplinary, in-classroom teaching addresses the former, while open-ended project courses and out-of-class experiences help address the latter. The faculty of IIT is doing much to advance student learning in environments that go beyond the traditional lecture, taking advantage of rapid changes in technology. Below I mention two initiatives that are subjects of articles in this magazine.

The Idea Shop, the topic of our cover story, is a new facility on Main Campus where students will experience open-ended learning outside the classroom. Housed in IIT’s University Technology Park, the Idea Shop is now home to our Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program. Through both IPRO courses and entrepreneurial endeavors, students will use the Idea Shop to research and test their projects, aided by rapid-prototyping equipment and an open floor plan that facilitates teamwork and stimulates creativity. The Idea Shop will provide our students the freedom to learn from their mistakes as they work to develop better solutions to problems.

Secondly, IIT is incorporating iPads into the educational experience. All incoming, first-year undergraduates were provided their own iPad at the beginning of this academic year. While PowerPoint has become ubiquitous in educational settings, its main use has been as an on-screen chalkboard. iPads will take learning even further. These devices are being integrated into coursework, allowing instructors to increase interactivity through means such as instant quizzing. iPads break down the walls, both literal and figurative, that laptop use in the classroom often presents. Additionally, because all students and the instructor are using the same iPad software, notes and problem examples can be shared seamlessly.

Through new technologies and a fresh approach to pedagogy, IIT is providing students a more varied and engaging educational experience that will prepare them for long-term career success.

“Involve me and I understand.” This is the basis of the distinctive IIT education.

John L. Anderson
President
IIT MAGAZINE ONLINE-ONLY CONTENT!
A new Web-only component has been added to IIT Magazine online. Read extended coverage of stories featured in the print edition as well as special online-only content. Visit www.iit.edu/magazine and find more!
IIT Launches Fundraising Campaign

At its May 2010 meeting, the IIT Board of Trustees approved the launch of a six-year university fundraising campaign, which began officially on June 1.

The campaign is currently in the leadership and planning phase, during which many pacesetting gifts will provide momentum for the larger campaign. All gifts, large or small, given June 1 or afterward will count toward the campaign.

The philanthropic investment of the campaign will tie directly to the university’s strategic plan, Many Voices, One Vision, approved in May 2009. Campaign priorities were still being finalized as of press date, but are expected to focus on increasing scholarship across the university, strengthening our distinctive education, elevating our reputation in engineering and science, and promoting innovation and excellence throughout the university.

Two alumni, Alan “Bud” Wendorf (ME ’71) and Joel Krauss (MATH ’71), have agreed to serve as the national campaign co-chairs. Wendorf is chairman and chief executive officer of Sargent & Lundy, a Chicago-based company that provides professional services for electric power and energy-intensive clients. He is an IIT trustee and board member of the IIT Alumni Association. Wendorf is also on the boards of the Nuclear Energy Institute and the Construction Industry Round Table. As IIT donors, Wendorf and his wife, Suzie, have helped students succeed at the university through their endowed scholarship fund.

Krauss is managing partner and co-founder of Market Strategy Group, LLC, a Chicago-based business strategy consulting firm that helps organizations drive growth and improved profitability. He is a member of the Board of Overseers for IIT College of Science and Letters and serves on the IIT Alumni Association board. He has donated to IIT’s College of Science and Letters, providing scholarships and research funding.

The Advancement Committee of the Board of Trustees will work alongside IIT President John Anderson and the Office of Institutional Advancement to provide leadership for and monitor overall campaign activity, as well as supervise campaign strategies and policies.

“Alumni support will be a driving factor in the success of our campaign, so we are pleased that Bud and Joel have agreed to co-chair this effort,” says Anderson. “They represent IIT excellence and are excited about the future of the university. Their leadership will certainly inspire other fellow alumni to give back to their alma mater.”

As of August 23, $38,058,350 in leadership gifts had been raised. This includes $10 million from Trustee Craig Duchossois and his wife, Janet, to establish the Duchossois Leadership Program, which will create student-faculty partnerships through an elite scholarship program combined with an innovative faculty leadership and mentoring initiative.

More details about the IIT fundraising campaign are forthcoming in the winter 2011 issue of IIT Magazine. To follow the progress of the campaign, visit www.iit.edu/giving/campaign_for_iit.

Alumnus Shares Thanks, Ways to Stay in Touch

The training and professional experience and exposure I received at IIT was outstanding, preparing me well for the world I was planning to enter. I found the faculty to be receptive, supportive, and encouraging. Especially pleasing are my continued contacts with numerous of my classmates, who also seem to have valued their times at IIT. IIT Magazine is especially important to help people know about those they have known and wish to remain in contact with. There can probably be no greater importance to such a publication than to keep alumni informed and connected.

IIT and my experiences there come up frequently in discussions both personal and professional throughout the year.

Permit me to express my gratitude to IIT for the role it has played in the lives of so many people I know, and, of course, in my own. I remain always grateful and in your debt.

Sincerely,
Leon J. Hoffman
(M.S. PSYC ’69, Ph.D. ’70)
IIT Students Earn Fulbright, Boren Awards

Two IIT students were named as recipients of prestigious national scholarships. Peter Mathes (PSYC ’10) was awarded a Fulbright-Nehru Scholarship in the field of psychology to conduct research and study Marathi in India. Andrea Clatterbuck, a graduate student in environmental management and sustainability at IIT Stuart School of Business, was awarded a Boren Fellowship to conduct environmental research and study Japanese in Japan.

Mathes and Clatterbuck are the first IIT students in recent history to receive these awards, both of which support international collaboration and study.

As a Fulbright-Nehru Student Scholar, Mathes will explore the experiences of parents of children diagnosed with autism spectrum disorders (ASDs) in Mumbai beginning this August. Mathes notes a growing need in India to better understand ASDs and issues surrounding developmental disabilities in a family context. He hopes new perspectives on ASDs gleaned through his qualitative research, which will include interviews with parents/guardians and grandparents, will inform future researchers about aspects of the familial experience of ASDs, offering them direction when designing culturally sensitive interventions.

Mathes’s research will be facilitated under the supervision of a faculty member at India’s premier school of social work, Tata Institute of Social Sciences. In addition to support for his fieldwork, Mathes received a Critical Language Enhancement Award to learn Marathi.

“l am drawn to the human experience and naturally motivated to communicate across cultures,” he says, citing his parents, both social workers, as inspiration for many of his pursuits. Mathes adds that the diversity of IIT, and his Indian and Pakistani friends and their families, have enhanced his understanding of cross-cultural perspectives and reinforced his belief that education and cultural awareness both require immersion.

Clatterbuck will begin her research as a Boren Fellow in January 2011 at the Institute for Global Environmental Strategies outside Tokyo before studying Japanese at Yamasa Institute in Nagoya.

After earning her B.A. degree, Clatterbuck taught English in Japan for two years through the Japan Exchange and Teaching Program and at Hosei University. “I was amazed by Japan’s advanced environmental policies and became interested in returning to Japan to further study its environmental policies from an academic point of view,” she says.

Clatterbuck views her research abroad as an opportunity “to meet people from many different corners of the globe who are engaged in sustainability projects” in order to apply best practices in the United States, where she says environmental management and sustainability is a comparatively new field. After she completes her fellowship, she will work for the federal government for at least one year.
“Introducing Ethics, Word-by-Word”  
Winter 2010

IIT’s Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions Librarian Kelly Laas is participating in two National Science Foundation-sponsored projects. The first is NanoEthicsBank, a database conceived as a resource for researchers, scholars, students, and members of the general public who are interested in the social and ethical implications of nanotechnology. The five-year effort is part of the NanoConnection to Society project, led by Harvard University.

The second project is a collaboration with the Center for Engineering, Ethics, and Society at the National Academy of Engineering aimed at improving resources for ethics in science and engineering education. Dubbed the Online Ethics Center, this resource was developed to help universities meet ethics requirements under the America COMPETES Act of 2007.

“New Grid in Town” Spring 2009

IIT received an additional $5 million from the United States Department of Energy to support a total $12.6 million collaborative effort to establish a Smart Grid Education and Workforce Training Center at the university. The State of Illinois, partner universities, and other collaborating members are contributing the remaining $7.6 million in funding to complete the center within three years. The center will offer smart-grid technology courses and certificate programs for people of all ages via on-campus and distance-learning classes.

“Green Acres” Fall 2008

In April, IIT received The Princeton Review’s highest “green” rating among universities in Illinois, tied with University of Illinois at Urbana–Champaign. As one of the country’s most environmentally responsible colleges, IIT was selected for inclusion in The Princeton Review’s Guide to 286 Green Colleges. Developed by The Princeton Review in partnership with the United States Green Building Council, the Guide to 286 Green Colleges is the first free, comprehensive guidebook focused solely on institutions of higher education that have demonstrated an above-average commitment to sustainability in terms of campus infrastructure, activities, and initiatives.

Home Away from Home

Although the 2010–11 academic year has just begun, final exams will approach quickly. Pat Anderson, wife of IIT President John Anderson, wants to make sure there are no empty stomachs during test-taking.

Since the Andersons joined IIT in August 2007, the university’s first lady has been hosting a finals breakfast at the end of each semester as a way to personally connect with students and provide them with a morning break from an otherwise stressful period.

“The concept of a finals breakfast evolved as a way for me to personally wish the students luck with their exams and provide them with an opportunity for camaraderie,” says Anderson. “I want the students to know that the administration and all of us who are associated with the university really do care about their well-being.”

For the spring 2010 finals breakfast, doughnuts, fruit, coffee, water, and juice were provided on the first day of finals in five academic buildings on Main Campus. Pat and John Anderson, accompanied by their daughter and two of their young grandchildren [photo above], visited each building and socialized with the students, offering them best wishes before they entered the classrooms.

“I know from my experience with my own two children, and from talking with other parents of college-age students, how important it is for the students and their parents to know that there is a multi-layer support system on campus,” says Anderson. “I wanted to get the message across to the students that they have an extended family of people who care about them that is larger than they may realize.”

Anderson, who plans to carry on the tradition well into the future, shares one of her favorite memories of the breakfast to date. “I overheard one student proudly declare to another student who was surprised to discover the food set out in the lobby of Engineering 1: ‘Oh, yeah, we do this all the time!’”

—Tanya Pantone
IIT held its 141st Commencement ceremony on May 15, graduating 2,500 students from more than 100 countries. The keynote speaker was Andrea Berry (CS ’84), senior vice president of broadcast operations for FOX Networks Engineering and Operations [see story page 28], and the student speaker was Sarah Wahlstrom Helgren (BME ’10). Robert Nerem, professor and director of the Georgia Tech/Emory Center for Regenerative Medicine at Georgia Institute of Technology, received the Honorary Doctorate of Engineering.

It was a high-tech celebration befitting an IIT graduation. Students attending the ceremony posted digital photos from the event live to the photo-sharing website Flickr. The ceremony was also streamed live over the Internet.

The week of relaxing events leading up to Commencement included festivities for graduating students, their families, and IIT alumni. Students enjoyed a movie night and a barbecue-themed dinner, and went to a Cubs game.

“For me, since my parents have never been to Chicago to visit, it gives me a chance to show them the city and say goodbye to friends without having to worry about studying,” said Chris Lee (CE ’10).

A new event sponsored by the Alumni Association combined the fun of a lively night at The Bog with post-college information sessions for new graduates. Alumni were invited to join in the fun and swap stories about their student years with the graduates. Alumnus Paul Holzman (ARCH ’83, LAW ’98) said he appreciated having an on-campus event that brought together alumni and new graduates.

For Hannah Kolb (AMAT ’10), there was more than Commencement to celebrate. As Department Chair Fred Hickernell handed Kolb her diploma during the Applied Mathematics unit ceremony, he instructed her to read her diploma to the audience. Inside her diploma cover was a note from her boyfriend, Julian Spinoza (MMAE 5th year), which read, “Will you marry me?” Spinoza then presented her with a diamond and titanium engagement ring, which he crafted in the basement of E1.

www.iit.edu/graduation
IIT Welcomes New Trustee

At its May 26, 2010 meeting, the IIT Board of Trustees inducted a new member, Elzie L. Higginbottom, president of East Lake Management and Development Corp. and East Lake Management Group, Inc., a Chicago-based real estate firm.

University Technology Park at IIT recently received $1.2 million from the Illinois Department of Commerce and Economic Opportunity and $800,000 from the Illinois Board of Higher Education. Both grants are local match funding for the $4.5 million United States Economic Development Administration construction grant for the 28,000-square-foot Incubator-South building. Construction is scheduled to begin in fall 2010.

Three new companies now make UTP their home: Sword Diagnostics, MedTech Bioscience, and CGC Products.

In May, UTP hosted a reception for BioParks 2010: No Boundaries to Innovation, a conference organized by the Association of University Research Parks. Held in the Technology Business Center atrium, the reception showcased company development and IIT academic research taking place at UTP. BioParks 2010 was held in conjunction with the 2010 BIO International Convention, the largest global event for the biotechnology industry.

www.universitytechnologypark.com

High-Tech Education—There’s an App for That

When new students arrive on Main Campus, they receive an assortment of tools to help them maneuver university life—among them, a student handbook, orientation materials, and now, iPads.

As part of an initiative to integrate new technologies into the classroom and to encourage educational innovation among students and faculty, IIT presented each incoming, first-year undergraduate student with a custom-engraved Apple iPad at the start of the academic year.

This fall, students are using the iPads during the Introduction to the Profession courses, required courses where students explore the subject matter, concepts, and procedures relevant to a particular discipline. The university is also making available the mobile version of IIT Blackboard, allowing students to access the education portal remotely. Faculty information sessions are being held to instruct faculty in the ways to incorporate iPads into coursework.

In addition to providing iPads as a learning tool, IIT is integrating the devices into its emergency alert system. IIT launched a new emergency-alert application, IIT Alert Mobile, which was loaded onto the iPads. Developed by Information Technology and Management faculty member Valerie Scarlata (M.A.S. ITM ’06) and graduate student Soren Haurberg, the application will enable the university to send emergency alerts directly to the devices. This will enhance the existing emergency alert capability through SMS text, email, and voice messages.

IIT will continue to foster technology innovation at its new Idea Shop [see story page 16]. The new home for IIT’s Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, IIT’s Entrepreneurship Academy, and other entrepreneurial activities at the university, the Idea Shop will include space to support scientific computing and visualization, engineering graphics, mobile app development, team-based idea generation and communication, and a state-of-the-art digital fabrication lab.

This fall, IIT plans to launch its own application for use on iPhones, iPods, iPads, and Android phones, featuring links to IIT news, events, maps, course listings, and more.

www.universitytechnologypark.com

New students viewing their iPads
Like many college students, Jonathan Kobayashi (ECE 4th year) had an “electrifying” summer. But instead of sun and sand, the highlights of his break were new hybrid-electric vehicle technologies he researched through the Research Experience for Undergraduates (REU) Program.

Funded by the National Science Foundation, the REU program provides undergraduate students with independent-research opportunities that allow them to work alongside graduate students and faculty. REUs are held at universities nationwide, with each REU running for 10 weeks and involving 10 undergraduates from throughout the United States. Kobayashi first learned about IIT’s Hybrid Electric and Plug-In Hybrid Electric Vehicles REU as a participant on the university’s Formula Hybrid Team.

Working closely with recent graduate Omer Onar (Ph.D. ECE ’10), Kobayashi and his team researched alternative methods of propulsion and energy storage. Kobayashi helped to design and test an experimental bi-directional electronic converter that can be connected to a wall-based electrical outlet. As he explains, this converter allows a battery to draw power from future smart grids, and smart grids to take power from a battery.

Kobayashi also gained hands-on experience with converter interfaces for batteries and ultra-capacitors, working to combine the two to create a more efficient hybrid vehicle. “Batteries are capable of storing a lot of energy, but they cannot deliver energy very quickly in situations like rapid acceleration. Additionally, ultra-capacitors are not able to store as much energy as batteries, but they can handle large spikes in energy,” Kobayashi says. “By combining batteries and ultra-capacitors, we get high energy storage and high performance.”

The ultimate goal, Kobayashi explains, is to someday convert all of the vehicles on the road having poor efficiency and high emissions to electric vehicles. His REU was funded in part by the Department of Defense ASSURE program.

The director of the REU at IIT, ECE Assistant Professor Alireza Khaligh (Ph.D. EE ’06), explains that in addition to working on research teams with faculty members and Ph.D. candidates, students participate in group meetings, seminars, tours of industry facilities, and ethics training. Kobayashi’s group met weekly to discuss ethical issues related to its research, including topics such as mentor/advisor/student relationships, protection of intellectual property, conflicts of interest, and codes of ethics for engineering organizations. They were aided by IIT’s Center for the Study of Ethics in the Professions.

Because of the resources Kobayashi and his teammates had available to them at IIT, the team was able to conduct several experiments, including one in which they successfully injected power from a battery back into the energy grid.

“This REU experience has given me a glimpse into the exciting world of research and has made me more focused and enthusiastic about challenging work,” says Kobayashi. “Working on hybrid technologies has increased my awareness of the need for alternative energies. After completing the REU, I have decided that alternative energy research may be the topic I choose for my graduate studies.”

—Tanya Pantone
Though Kenley Mitchell is just a couple of months shy of her second birthday, her father, Enzley Mitchell IV—IIT’s new athletic director—is already envisioning her place within the IIT family. “I’m hoping that my daughter will be a student-athlete one day,” he muses. “As she grows up and is around IIT student-athletes, she’ll have role models and can look up to them. She’s a little young now for that,” he admits with a chuckle, “but maybe down the road.”

In his career shift to IIT, Mitchell’s own road has come nearly full circle. A Fort Wayne, Ind., native, he and his wife, Kendra, are now within a three-hour drive from most of their family. Before returning to the Midwest, Mitchell served as athletic director and head coach of the men’s basketball team at Northern New Mexico College. Proximity to loved ones was just one factor that led Mitchell to accept the position.

“IIT is a great academic institution; its reputation speaks for itself,” he says. “It was a good fit for where I am in my career and for what IIT administration is looking for in an athletic director. I had a good feeling when I visited the campus.”

Mitchell has 14 years of college and professional coaching experience—including a season with the Swansea Basketball Club in Wales, United Kingdom—as well as corporate experience in the financial services sector and as a vendor in the student loan industry. He credits the decision-making background he gained from sports and business with helping him to achieve his greatest professional accomplishment to date: starting an intercollegiate program from scratch at NNMC.

“We went from nothing to six sports in two years,” says Mitchell, noting that growing the sports program at IIT is also one of his priorities. He is especially interested in adding emerging sports such as bowling to the lineup. The National Association of Intercollegiate Athletics designates an emerging sport as any sport currently recognized by the NAIA that follows all rules and regulations but does not include official national championship competition.

Mitchell was a four-year letterman in a traditional sport—basketball—at Spring Arbor University, where he earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration. He also completed a master’s degree in recreation and sport management from Indiana State University. While his love of sports runs deep, Mitchell emphasizes that academics come first. The grade point average of NNMC’s varsity athletes during his tenure exceeded the average of the student body.

“The coaches and I will work together to make sure that every student-athlete has a first-class experience that supplements what they’re getting academically,” says Mitchell. “I look forward to tackling some of our department’s immediate issues, hearing any concerns from the coaches, mentoring as many of the student-athletes as I can, and seeing all of us have a great year.”
“Polymers are everywhere,” says Braja Mandal, referring to chains of molecules that form the basis of a wide range of useful materials. A professor of chemistry at IIT, Mandal has been teaching polymer science and organic synthesis methods to both undergraduate and graduate students for close to 20 years.

But when the time came to translate his storehouse of expertise into a textbook, Mandal at first hit a brick wall. “The first year of writing was a huge test,” he says, reflecting on his book *Polymer Synthesis: Strategies and Tactics* (Covalent Press), published last fall.

The idea for a comprehensive graduate-level text on polymer chemistry came to Mandal some 10 years ago. “My students were really the motivation,” he says. “When it came to graduate-level work, I couldn’t find a suitable book.” Mandal explains that his work provides a bridge, uniting foundational concepts in interdisciplinary chemistry with new developments in a field that has recently undergone explosive growth.

In the years 2000 and 2005, for example, the Nobel Prize in chemistry was awarded in polymer chemistry and organic synthesis. Electroactive polymers are being used in various molecular electronics, an area of nanotechnology. New organocatalysis methods are being applied in diverse areas—from biodegradable plastics to the design of polymer-based drug delivery systems better able to target diseased cells with high specificity.

Mandal’s own areas of research include solid polymer electrolytes, polymeric hydrogen storage media, high-dielectric constant polymer films, low-lattice energy lithium salts, and artificial photosynthetic molecules. In his February 2010 address as part of IIT’s Kilpatrick Lecture Series, he discussed recent developments in polymer chemistry and their practical impact in areas ranging from food storage, personal care, and agricultural applications to microelectronics, automobiles, biomedical science, and space research. The lecture also highlighted Mandal’s motivations for writing his comprehensive text.

The new work’s five chapters—containing more than 500 illustrations and 900 references—offer insights into the preparation of monomers and polymers, with an emphasis on devising novel polymerization reactions. Mandal describes his writing process as an odd mixture of premeditation and spontaneity. “Sometimes while driving I would think of a particular line I wanted to write,” he says, adding that the first 30 minutes of nightly sleep also provided time for contemplation and mental editing.

The introduction alone required a year and a half of writing and rewriting, but gradually, things began to take shape and the originally stiff prose became more supple.

Mandal stresses the symbiosis between teaching and writing. The comments, reactions, and questions offered by students in the classroom helped to guide his choice of essential materials for the book. At the same time, the solitary act of writing and editing scientific ideas strengthened his ability to teach these concepts in a lively and original manner.

*Polymer Synthesis* has already been adopted for use in graduate programs at the University of California at Irvine and the University of Alabama at Huntsville. Presently, Mandal is planning a follow-up book, an interdisciplinary text that he will write with several collaborators. The new book will provide undergraduates with a synthesis of chemical, mechanical, and aerospace engineering material.

—Richard Harth

**MORE ONLINE**

IIT Department of Chemistry: [www.iit.edu/csl/che](http://www.iit.edu/csl/che)

As a seventh-grade student, he wrote an essay about how he would one day design his own castle filled with beanbag furniture. After visiting the office of architect Harry Weese with his father—an urban planner—he bought an X-Acto knife, a metal triangle, and a pile of basswood, and began making architectural models. And when he was 18, he designed and built all of his own bedroom furniture.

Today, Paul Pettigrew, studio associate professor at IIT College of Architecture, is spreading his love of and sharing his expertise in furniture design with students in his course Architecture & Furniture. Four years ago, he began offering the elective each spring.

In 2008, Pettigrew and his students worked with Edith Makra, community trees advocate for the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Ill., to obtain wood recovered from trees infected by the emerald ash borer, an invasive beetle. In addition to furniture, students designed and fabricated items such as necklaces and bookmarks, which paralleled the Rising from the Ashes: Furniture from Lost Trees exhibit at the arboretum. The items are now on permanent display at several state and federal agencies. In a collaboration with Horigan Urban Forest Products, Pettigrew is now offering his Chop Shop tables, made from reclaimed ash wood, exclusively through Crate & Barrel’s CB2 stores.

Pettigrew’s latest effort will touch the lives of students at The Cove School, a private K–12 institution that provides highly individualized education and life strategies for children with learning disabilities. Pettigrew learned through his former employer David Woodhouse, a Cove board member, alumni parent, and architect who headed the school’s renovation in 2008, that the school had a wish list of furniture needs.

In May, Pettigrew’s students toured the school and met with faculty to discuss their needs. From that conversation arose the idea for “mini-coves,” student-sized structures that could provide a temporary haven for a nap or time-out from the classroom. Each of Pettigrew’s 17 students in the course created sketches and/or models for their own version of a mini-cove, which were presented to Cove administration in July.

Pettigrew hopes to continue The Cove School Project in subsequent semesters with the design and fabrication of built-in benches, lockers, and bulletin boards for each of the classrooms at Cove. Alexandra Argentar, the school’s director of development, says that fundraising plans are being considered to help defray the cost of both the mini-cove and built-in projects. Pettigrew has already secured the donation of shop time for furniture production and aims to approach home improvement stores and lumberyards about contributing construction materials. And one group has already surprised him with its altruistic response.

“More often than not, students want to make projects for themselves, something that they can put into their own homes,” says Pettigrew. “Architecture has the potential to create students who are slightly selfish about their work. It can take some convincing to get them to work another way.”

However, when he told his students that the items they would create would be given to students at Cove, the overwhelming response was one of sincerity and generosity.

“They basically said that this project would be even better than what they had envisioned,” says Pettigrew.

—Marcia Faye
Robert E. Brackett was named as the new director and vice president of IIT’s National Center for Food Safety and Technology in June.

Senior vice president and chief science and regulatory officer for the Grocery Manufacturers Association since 2007, Brackett has nearly 30 years of experience in scientific research in industry, government, and academia. His prior roles included senior microbiologist, then director, for the United States Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. His early career experience included professorial appointments at North Carolina State University and the University of Georgia.

Brackett is a fellow of both the International Association for Food Protection and the American Academy of Microbiology. He is a member of the IAFP, the Institute of Food Technologists, and the American Society for Microbiology. Brackett has been honored with the FDA Award of Merit, the IAFP President’s Appreciation Award, and the William C. Frazier Memorial Award for Contributions to Food Microbiology.
Everyday movements of the hand—drawing a line with a pencil or lifting a cup of tea—require precise synchronization of multiple delicate muscles. For individuals recovering from stroke, the loss of such fine-tuned grasping and pinching abilities presents formidable challenges in daily life.

Restoring hand function to stroke survivors is the focus of Associate Professor of Biomedical Engineering Derek Kamper’s research. Kamper also holds a dual appointment as director of the Coleman Neuromuscular Hand Rehabilitation Laboratory at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago. His investigations apply elements of robotics, control theory, and neuromechanics to the complexities of stroke recovery.

As Kamper explains, strokes fall into two broad categories. Occlusions, which represent about 85 percent of all strokes, are blockages in one of the brain’s blood vessels. Alternately, a hemorrhage or rupture of a blood vessel may occur. Both forms of stroke result in destruction of nerve tissue, and each can cause damage to the normal functioning of the hand. The resulting deficit may range from minor to severe, leaving some stroke survivors unable to work or care for themselves.

Over time, patients may experience incremental progress, due in part to a process known as synaptogenesis—a sprouting of new synapses among surviving neurons. “The nice surprise,” Kamper says, “is how plastic the brain is. We can see improvements even long after the stroke.” Researchers working to rehabilitate the hand hope to capitalize on this potential for regeneration. To do this, the patient must perform repetitive exercises targeting afflicted nerves and muscles so that the injured hand can gradually be retrained.

One of the challenges facing stroke survivors is that they lack the neuromuscular control necessary to carry out therapeutic exercises. “I’m trying to develop ways to help people practice,” Kamper says, describing a specialized device conceived in his lab. Known as the Actuated Hand Exoskeleton (AHX), this instrument has been developed with the help of several current and former IIT students, along with Nilanjan Sarkar, Kamper’s collaborator at Vanderbilt University. The research is supported by grants from the National Institutes of Health.

The AHX, a computer-aided robotic device that is attached to the hand, can be used to determine the best way to promote motor relearning after stroke. Previous studies have demonstrated that certain types of directed exercise provide feedback to the brain, influencing the architecture of neurons and fostering synaptogenesis. In this way, the brain’s ability to compensate for tissue damage related to stroke is enhanced.

The AHX consists of two primary components—one that controls the index finger, and another that controls the thumb—allowing manipulation of the two most functionally important digits. The AHX design permits these finger movements to be carried out with high velocity and torque, closely replicating natural movement, while permitting free motion of the arm for reach-to-grasp gestures. Continuous and discreet dynamics of thumb and finger movements can be modeled mathematically, and through such experimentation, the best strategies for rehabilitation can be tested and refined.

Ultimately, such research is expected to lead to an affordable device for clinical use.

—Richard Harth
Tricha Anjali, IIT associate professor of electrical and computer engineering, is working with Sanjiv Kapoor, IIT professor of computer science, and Gruia Calinescu, IIT associate professor of computer science, to explore ways to address these issues using the tools of applied mathematics, such as optimization and game theory. These tools can be applied to various strategic complexities, from global economics to the balance of nuclear terror.

As Anjali explains, current protocols for routing network traffic generally make use of single paths from source to destination. Such designs are highly vulnerable to network congestion, as the path may not be available. It’s a little like trying to use a congested highway during rush hour just because it is the best route during non-peak hours.

A new generation of high-speed networks could potentially replace single paths for data flow with multiple paths, along which packets of data may be efficiently routed, avoiding congestion and offering improved protection from attack. Anjali notes that while this multipath approach can be advantageous, new challenges, particularly in terms of path determination and security, must be addressed.

One way to envision the situation would be to imagine a truck carrying diamonds. If the truck follows a single path, it risks being stuck in traffic and also attacked, in which case all the diamonds would be stolen. If the precious cargo is broken up into several smaller shipments of diamonds, each shuttled along a different route, there is a greater possibility of at least part of the cargo reaching the destination in time. Although there are more targets for attack, seizing the entire cargo is more difficult.

In the current research, supported through the National Science Foundation, the team is investigating efficient techniques for the multipath determination and selection. The approximation algorithms and the heuristics demonstrate the effectiveness of the multipath approach.

Anjali stresses that in addition to providing a remedy for system congestion, especially for those networks now handling vast rivers of data in the terabyte or even petabyte (a quadrillion bytes) range, the multipath approach can also enhance security. The team is currently studying the use of game theory to treat the adversarial dynamics between network attacker and defender, in which each player must take into account the tactics of his opponent. Many of the iterative strategies modeled in game theory, including the designer-attacker game in the study, can reach a condition known as the Nash equilibrium—the mathematical solution of the game.

In the current study, a variety of network topologies are being evaluated, each composed of connection points or nodes and edges—the paths connecting these nodes. The next step will involve computer modeling, to see how these algorithmic solutions perform in real-time.

—Richard Harth

MORE ONLINE

IIT Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering: www.iit.edu/engineering/ece
IIT Department of Computer Science: www.iit.edu/csl/cs
Cheryl Hyman (CS ’96), the new chancellor of City Colleges of Chicago, would tell you that there’s no such thing as a free lunch.

But there was a time in her life when she did accept the generosity of a home-cooked meal, a shoulder to lean on, and a bed shared with her maternal grandmother.
Even at the age of 10, when she pounded out a letter to President Ronald Reagan in protest over the firing of thousands of striking air traffic controllers, Hyman aspired to run the world not just differently, but better. “We’re born with a certain spirit that will help to carry us to where we need to be,” says Hyman, still expressing some disappointment that she learned only a few years ago that her letter was never mailed.

That spirit—and, she would later acknowledge, something “much higher than anything on this Earth”—carried her through the tough times that began when Hyman realized her mother was sinking further into drug addiction and her stepfather into alcoholism. She began spending less time at home and more time in her car, where she tried reading her school texts while parked under a streetlight. Angry and searching for stability in her life, Hyman left her home on the West Side of Chicago.

She also left Orr High School during her senior year and took a full-time job at Kentucky Fried Chicken. Hyman was able to afford the rent on a studio apartment but soon realized that nothing would take the place of a high school diploma and college degree. She turned to a friend’s mother known for her generosity and kindness, who offered Hyman a place to live, a balanced environment, and the chance to return to school. She graduated from Orr at 19 and moved in with her grandmother.

Being reunited with a strong and comforting member of her family gave Hyman a feeling of security, allowing her to explore her educational interests further. Although her exposure to computers had been minimal, Hyman was drawn to technical subjects. She took a few vocational courses in computer science before speaking with an admission counselor at the local university she had heard was the best in her discipline of choice—IIT.

“One of the things I dearly would like is to learn the name of that counselor, to personally thank him for his help,” says Hyman, about the staff member who suggested that she first attend a two-year college. “He could have very well looked down on me, but he instead encouraged me to go to a community college first to ensure that it was a proper bridge.”

Hyman followed his recommendation and enrolled at Olive-Harvey College, one of the institutions she now oversees. After transferring to IIT, she quickly excelled, working with computer science faculty member George Smith to design laboratory tutorials on the C++ computer-programming language. She also obtained a position running a computer laboratory at the nonprofit Boys and Girls Clubs of Chicago, which would inspire her to become involved in community service work one day. Her heart began to open widely enough to even forgive her mother, Katherine McMurty, who came knocking on the door of the new apartment Hyman lived in while she was still an IIT student.

With her daughter’s support, McMurty kicked her drug habit and saw Hyman graduate on December 15, 1996.

The next day, Hyman began a career at ComEd that lasted for the next 14 years. From her initial position as a development analyst responsible for maintaining and enhancing nuclear-related legacy applications, Hyman advanced to external affairs manager, director of government and legislative affairs, and vice president of operations strategy and business intelligence. Along the way, she added to her academic credentials, earning an executive M.B.A. from Northwestern University’s Kellogg School of Management and an M.A. in community development from North Park University.

Throughout Hyman’s corporate climb, her desire to give back to her community only intensified. She established a mentoring program between ComEd and the Boys and Girls Clubs; ComEd also earmarked money for the purchase of laptop computers for at-risk students and expanded a computer laboratory at one of the clubs. She left ComEd for one summer as part of an executive-on-loan program and helped to obtain nearly 1,000 seasonal jobs for low-income youth in the Chicago area.

“Cheryl is a smart, hard-charging executive who takes nothing for granted,” says John W. Rowe, chairman and chief executive officer of Exelon Corporation, parent company of ComEd. “She is driven by her passion for results and her even larger passion for the community.”

While she also reached out through volunteer work at organizations such as The Night Ministry for the homeless and The Black Star Project for excellence in education, she became increasingly discontent with giving just a few hours of her time each week to a few select causes. Hyman spent her last year at ComEd in spiritual contemplation of what she felt was missing in a life that was seemingly full and complete. Then Mayor Richard M. Daley invited her to consider the chancellor role. She knew what her answer would be.

“If you really want to do something, be willing to walk away from your glorious life and put yourself into the solution,” says the forthright Hyman, about her decision. “I’ve never had such a big challenge, yet never felt so spiritually fulfilled. We get to a certain place in our lives and think that we are not obligated to help fix humanity’s problems. We put it on the police or on the legislators—we put it on everybody but ourselves. If anybody thinks they’ve been brought out of a situation like mine just for the sake of his or her own benefit, they are sadly mistaken.”

Hyman endeavors to have City Colleges of Chicago serve as both an academic entry point and source of vocational training for students. She maintains that in its dual role the system—which comprises seven institutions with an enrollment of more than 120,000 students—has the capability to be Chicago’s economic anchor. While she acknowledges enrollment is important, Hyman believes that numbers are not the only indication of success. What also matters is the time that individuals at the colleges can give to truly listen to the diverse needs of students and how well the institution has responded.

“Did the students complete what they came here for and did it fulfill their purpose? Did their lives improve?” Hyman poses these questions as qualitative benchmarks of success. With no less expectation for herself, Hyman also sets forth a personal gauge, one she will eagerly monitor.

“How much further do I need to go to help a student? I can now do everything I’ve ever wanted to do to change the life of a student. My job is the ultimate in service work,” she says with a broad smile. “I am doing what I love.”

“If you really want to do something, be willing to walk away from your glorious life and put yourself into the solution.” Cheryl Hyman

City Colleges of Chicago: www.ccc.edu
The Night Ministry: www.thenightministry.org
The Black Star Project: http://blackstarproject.org/action
endless possibilities

By Steve Hendershot

The first thing that strikes you when you see the new Idea Shop at IIT’s University Technology Park is the wide-open space—all 13,000 square feet of it. The area is designed to stimulate creative, team-based projects, so flexibility and roominess were core design principles. Clearly, there’s plenty of space for big ideas.
The expansiveness speaks directly to the purpose of the Idea Shop, which is to facilitate innovation and collaboration without constraint. The shop itself is a prime example of the sort of work it is intended to foster. By June, only a few months after the space became available, it was fully operational and already as high-tech a space as existed on Main Campus, with eight Mac mini-powered projectors mounted to the ceilings and every wall covered with a special writeable paint that allows students to scrawl their ideas directly on the wall.

“The space has helped tremendously,” says Alyssa Walther (ME 4th year), who is using the Idea Shop as part of a course in the Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, IIT’s 15-year-old, flagship team-based academic program that joins students from a variety of majors to study real-world problems. Walther and her classmates are attempting to design and market a new type of fishhook. “Right away, we had all four walls filled with information—dates, times, tasks. And the space is arranged so that we’re all facing each other, which is a big change from having to rearrange all of our desks [which would be necessary in a traditional classroom]. It saves time and is good for communication within our team.”

One of Walther’s instructors, Senior Lecturer David Gatchell, agrees and is excited about the arrival of additional rapid-prototyping equipment. (The Idea Shop already boasts two 3-D prototyping machines and a laser cutter, but more equipment is on the way.) Gatchell says the ability to generate product prototypes quickly will be especially useful for students, who, unlike professionals, do not work together all week and thus benefit greatly from enhanced productivity during their twice-weekly meetings.

“You can sketch things, you can do things theoretically, and you can model things computationally. But it’s not until you see that three-dimensional manifestation of an object that you can say, ‘Okay, I now see what we’re missing,’ and move on to the next step,” Gatchell explains. “Design is an iterative process, and if you can rapidly prototype and get that first mockup done, then you can rapidly...
move on to the second, third, and fourth prototype, until you get to that nth mockup that might actually be the one you’re looking for.”

The process that Gatchell and his students are pursuing is “design thinking”—a designer’s approach to innovation and creative problem-solving—something IIT hopes to emphasize at the Idea Shop and in its IPRO courses.

Design thinking “is a process of defining a problem, researching it, analyzing it, forming and synthesizing insights, and then coming up with ideas for solutions,” says Tom Jacobius, IIT’s director of interprofessional studies and the IPRO director. From there, “you prototype those solutions and plan a path forward to realize innovation.”

IIT’s leaders believe that design thinking is beneficial for and applicable to students in all disciplines—either as a primary mode of problem solving or, minimally, a complementary one. The university’s 2009 strategic plan envisions fostering a unique educational experience at IIT that is defined by creativity, leadership, entrepreneurship, innovation, and the design process. The plan emphasizes both interdisciplinary collaboration and more work that fuses education and research.

IPRO courses such as the one featuring the fishhook project are prime examples of that sort of experience, just as the Idea Shop exemplifies a space designed to cultivate such experiences. The educational method is called “open-ended, project-based learning”—something that IIT has emphasized in the past.

Open-ended learning refers to projects in which the student defines and pursues a path of exploration, often pursuing a creative means of solving a problem with no preconceived solution. Such work requires students to develop hypotheses, test theories, adapt to changing variables, and prototype and test potential solutions, which fosters advanced learning and cognitive development. In the process, students also develop teamwork and leadership skills.

The principles of open-ended, project-based learning incorporate many elements of design thinking, an area in which IIT has a strategic advantage. Design thinking is central to the university’s legacy, dating from the IIT tenures of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Laszlo Moholy-Nagy, leaders of the influential Bauhaus design movement of the early twentieth century, to today, at IIT’s top-ranked Institute of Design.

Because this style of learning is a focus of IIT’s academic platform, in some ways it is no surprise that the Idea Shop came together so quickly. Even though the university identified the Idea Shop’s ultimate home only this year, the concept of the shop dates back a decade. It received a jolt in 2008, when provost Alan Cramb joined the university and was given a tour by Mike Gosz, vice provost for undergraduate affairs.

During the tour, the pair visited the traditional campus highlights, but Gosz also took Cramb to an open space, off the beaten path on the fourth floor of Machinery Hall. It wasn’t exactly a showplace, but Gosz tried to instill a vision for the potential of a wide-open, collaborative student space. Cramb liked the idea and they began looking for a home for the Idea Shop. In February, when Wexford, the real estate developer of University Technology Park, approached them about an affordable available space in the lower level of UTP’s Technology Business Center that could be converted quickly, they jumped.

“In March, this space was nothing. It was an unfinished basement,” Gosz remembers. Now, he believes the Idea Shop is well on its way to serving a purpose similar to that of the Fab Lab (short for fabrication laboratory) at Massachusetts Institute of Technology, where students collaborate to develop and refine new ideas.

“This makes us distinctive and lets us show that this university is a home for entrepreneurs and innovators, a place that will cater to their needs,” says Cramb.
“We are showing with the Idea Shop that we are very serious about these values, and that this is a major focus for us, not just with words but with resources.”

The next step is to tweak the university’s courses to accommodate the dynamic learning the Idea Shop will facilitate. One way the Idea Shop will help to serve that goal is through a counterintuitive concept in higher education—larger classes. While an IPRO team typically has no more than a dozen members, two prototype IPRO sections this fall each will have 50 students. That will invite the broader perspectives of more students from different backgrounds and programs, and also accommodate a multidisciplinary teaching team as well as guest speakers. From there, the sections will split into the small teams that will work together on IPRO projects. That’s where the stations—the projectors sprinkled throughout the Idea Shop, with every square inch of wall space a functional white board—come into play. As the students head off to work in teams, each team will be able to access the features of a high-tech corporate conference room, not to mention the prototyping equipment.

The Idea Shop’s impact will extend beyond IPRO, Jacobius predicts. Although IPRO teams likely will serve as the Idea Shop’s anchor tenants, IIT’s Entrepreneurship Academy and other entrepreneurial activities will be housed in the shop. This summer, the space was used for the Exelon Summer Institute for first-year IIT students and a math camp for high school students.

“Our faculty and students will be inspired by this space,” Jacobius says. “This is going to be a resource that’s a little different than what you’ll find in the other labs on campus, which are also unique but maybe not as open as we envision this will be. And because of that, I think this will stimulate a lot of collaboration across the different colleges at IIT.”

The Idea Shop already is distinguishing IIT’s identity, and the university anticipates that there soon will be a more tangible, visible symbol of IIT’s commitment to creativity. The university is planning to rename the street in front of UTP, so that the road to the Idea Shop will be aptly known as “Innovation Alley.”

This fall, the IPRO program will begin to prototype a new IPRO 2.0 format—funded by a $50,000 Innovation Generation University grant from the Motorola Foundation. This will include new components focused on providing students with skills and experiences that will facilitate design thinking and innovation, as well as aligning students with projects that excite them, and allowing students to work on the same team and project for at least two semesters instead of one. IPRO 2.0 will also encourage more cross-disciplinary collaboration. (Currently, some IPRO teams are over-weighted with members from high-enrollment majors, but the IPRO ideal is a team in which each member plays a specific role based on knowledge and experience unique to his or her primary area of study.)

The long-term, team-based projects will better prepare students for life after college, according to John Stoner, an intellectual property lawyer who teaches IPRO courses as an adjunct faculty member. “This type of experience will facilitate the students’ transition from an academic environment to a professional one, where this mode of collaborative, multidisciplinary work is very common,” he says.
STEVEN POSTER’S CAREER EPIPHANY arrived in a vintage Jaguar, in the form of a pipe-smoking, bearded stranger who emerged from behind the wheel to survey the vacant lot next to Poster’s boyhood home. Hanging from a cord around the driver’s neck was an object the 14-year-old amateur photographer instantly recognized: a light meter. Already inspired by photography, home movies, and the technology behind them, Poster knew then what he wanted to be when he grew up.

“Morrie Bleckman was the coolest guy I had ever seen,” says Poster, about the newsreel cameraman for CBS Broadcasting, Inc., who was building a house on the property in Lincolnwood, Ill., and would become a lifelong mentor. “The moment I met him and found out what he did, I decided that I wanted to be a cinematographer.”

Today, Poster (DSGN ’67) has a reputation for being a skillful technologist with a repertoire of cross-genre film work to his credit. He has partnered with such directors as Ridley Scott (Someone to Watch Over Me), Richard Kelly (Donnie Darko), and Rob Minkoff, with whom he recently collaborated on the film Flypaper starring Patrick Dempsey.

During his final year at IIT Institute of Design, Poster began working first as an assistant and then quickly was asked to shoot commercials. He also had the opportunity to work with Herschel Gordon Lewis—the creator of “gore” films—who was based in the Windy City. Poster had one of his first Hollywood experiences when he served as second-unit cameraman for Close Encounters of the Third Kind.

A member of the American Society of Cinematographers, Poster is national president of the International Cinematographers Guild and is considered to be an industry spokesman for the changes in technology in the film industry. With the rise of digital and 3-D cinematography, Poster has mandated that guild members be trained to meet the industry’s needs. In 2009, the guild held 27 education programs in various technologies with the most popular...
this year being a course in 3-D techniques offered in conjunction with the Sony Corporation.

Poster says a one-size-fits-all approach is not part of the formula for creating the next Hollywood blockbuster. Flypaper is being shot digitally while this summer’s action-filled Cats and Dogs: The Revenge of Kitty Galore, which Poster worked on with director Brad Peyton, was shot in 35mm film but converted into 3-D.

“It’s complex and cumbersome to shoot in 3-D; it’s very technologically difficult,” he says. “It’s so difficult that none of us felt that the animals would respond well to that approach. The computer animation of the faces of the cats and dogs is just tremendous, however. The technology, in just 10 years, has come so far. It’s remarkable.”

**HIGH-TECH CINEMATOGRAPHY**

Steven Poster has been influential in the use of digital technology for the motion picture industry for more than two decades. In 1990, he was selected to perform a test shoot with one of the first High-Definition television systems for Japan’s NHK Television. Poster describes his selections for the top technological advances in cinematography in the past decade:

**IMPROVED FILM EMULSIONS**

“The quality and sensitivity has increased 1,000-fold over the past 10–15 years,” says Poster, noting that as a result of these improvements, more efficient digital technology has developed to reproduce high-quality motion picture images.

**DEVELOPMENT OF SINGLE-CHIP IMAGE-GATHERING TECHNOLOGY**

Poster says that until recently, the only way a color movie image could be made electronically was through the use of multiple chips, or light sensors, that were designated to represent red, blue, and green light, resulting in a color image when combined through a prism. “With new image-gathering technology that captures the full spectrum on a single chip, digital images can represent the high-quality images we are used to seeing on film,” he says.

**POST-PRODUCTION ENHANCEMENTS**

Poster says that the ability to both laser-scan images from film and run digital files through a color-correcting system is significant. “Almost every element of every single frame can now be manipulated,” he adds. “This allows us as cinematographers to complete our art, as if we were going into a darkroom with a black-and-white enlarger and making a print. The Holy Grail that hasn’t been achieved yet is end-to-end, device-independent color management like the printing industry has had for years, so that what you see is really what you get on the screen.”

**MORE ONLINE**

International Cinematographers Guild: www.cameraguild.com
American Society of Cinematographers: www.theasc.com
Office of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory of the Battelle Memorial Institute supporting multimillion-dollar research programs of the Homeland Security Department. He has done extensive community service, including 26 years as a commissioned reserve police officer.

Roy Grundy
(EE ’52), Naperville, Ill., helped to bring the 2010 American Solar Challenge to Naperville on June 26. Nearly 20 solar-powered cars built by university students competed in the 1,100-mile race from Broken Arrow, Okla., to Naperville.

Colin "Tom" Thomas
(ME ’55), Austin, Texas, retired from the Radian Corporation, where he was a principal engineer and lead failure investigator for large industrial equipment. He is now enjoying his grandchildren and his dogs.

1960s
Norbert “Pete” Pointner
(ARCH ’61, M.S. CRP ’62), Wheaton, Ill., had an article entitled “Planning for Green Infrastructure” published in the March newsletter of the Small Town and Rural Planning Division of the American Planning Association. He was a guest speaker at the Upper Mississippi River’s Conference held in August.

Thomas Gundlach
(LAW ’68), San Rafael, Calif., moved to San Francisco following admission to the Illinois Bar and has been practicing in the Bay Area ever since. Specializing in catastrophics injury cases, he tries cases over disputes ranging from defective products to professional negligence.

1970s
Roger Hawkins
(Ph.D. PSYC ’70), Johns Island, S.C., is author of the book Blindsided: Surviving Career Meltdown, which he wrote to help the unemployed move past the shock of job loss. He is an industrial/organizational psychologist with more than 30 years of experience.

See What’s New Through Velocity
The Velocity Initiative is revealing new and exciting information about your fellow classmates. In this and future issues of IIT Magazine, all alumni class notes that resulted from a Velocity interview are marked with the ➔ icon. To submit your own class note online, visit www.iit.edu/alumni or write to us at alumni@iit.edu.

Icon: To submit your own class note online, visit www.iit.edu/alumni or write to us at alumni@iit.edu.
backpacking, and an active outdoor lifestyle in Colorado and Arizona.

→ Jeffrey Weiner (LAW ’74), Miami, Fla., is a criminal defense attorney with a national and international practice. He and his wife, Bonnie, ride Gold Wing motorcycles as well as horses, and have four sons. Weiner is a trustee of the Riverside Military Academy in Gainesville, Ga.

→ Judy Koster (LAW ’78), Northbrook, Ill., has devoted her practice to immigration and naturalization law since 1999.

→ Mark Bilitz (DSCN ’79), Plymouth, Minn., is an industrial design and mechanical engineering consultant specializing in medical device design. He and his wife, Sarah, have five children, one of whom received her bachelor’s and master’s degrees in materials science and engineering from IIT.

Amy Lee Segami (ME ’79, M.S. ’82), Chicago, resigned as vice president of Basic International, Inc. She remains on the board and serves the company on a consulting basis for the waste-to-energy licensing program.

→ Mark Zolp (CHE ’80), Denver, is global vice president of environment, health, and safety for the Danaher Corporation. He is married, has one son, and spends much of his free time skiing, hiking, and biking in the Rocky Mountains.

→ Mary Beth (Treutlen) Halsing (CHE ’80), San Rafael, Calif., is director of financial analysis with Larkspur Hotels and Restaurants. She and her husband, Grant, have a daughter and are active in local community/regional theater.

→ Arlene Love (ME ’81), Chicago, is a senior project manager with the Health Care Service Corporation. She has a 15-year-old son.

→ Bruce Lund (M.S. PROD ’81), River Forest, Ill., is founder and owner of Lund and Company Invention, LLC and Lund Technologies, LLC. He has two children and enjoys motorcycling, roller-skating, scuba diving, and weightlifting.

→ Ralph Parker (EE ’81), Vancouver, Wash., is a vice president with Underwriters Laboratories. He and his wife, Doreen, have been married for 25 years and have three children.

→ Michael Dalton (CHE ’83), Racine, Wis., is author of the book Simplifying Innovation: Doubling Speed to Market and New Product Profits—With Your Existing Resources. He developed his innovation improvement framework over a 24-year career in product development, marketing, and executive leadership at the S. C. Johnson & Son, Inc. family of companies.

Paul Holzman (ARCH ’83, LAW ’98), Evanston, Ill., founded Holzman Design, LLC, an architectural firm, and Mackintosh International, LLC, a construction company, in 1998. More recently, he began Go Green Wilmette, a nonprofit organization established to educate people about how they can personally help the environment, and EcoSquared, a design initiative to assist in the greening of Chicago’s real estate market.

→ John Estes (EE ’86), West Bend, Wis., is project manager at We Energies. He enjoys volunteering with his wife at the local animal shelter and watching his 16-year-old son participate in high school football and wrestling.

→ Timothy Cavanagh (LAW ’87), Chicago, is the founding partner of Cavanagh Law Group. He and his wife, Stacey Feely Cavanagh, are parents of two sets of triplets, ages 3 and 2.

→ David Edwards (PH.D. CHE ’87), Boston, Gordon McKay Professor of the Practice of Biomedical Engineering at Harvard University, has invented Le Whif, an inhalable way to experience chocolate. The product made its statewide debut in March.

→ Arthur Liberty (LAW ’87), North Ridgeville, Ohio, is developing the introductory course in a newly accredited emergency-management graduate degree program for the University of Maryland University College, where he is also an associate professor in the graduate Homeland Security Management program. His first grandchild, Cadence Anne, was born in February.

→ Kenneth Goetz (LAW ’89), Springfield, Ill., represented clients in chapters 7 and 13 bankruptcy petitions in Urbana until August 2009.

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Gregory Baranivsky (M.B.A. ’96), Excelsior, Minn., is a managing director of national accounts at First American Funds. He and his wife, Heather, have two daughters and a third child on the way.

David Ben-Dov (LAW ’98), Chicago, is a partner specializing in commercial litigation at Deutsch, Levy & Engel. He and his wife, Dana, a physician specializing in internal medicine with Park Avenue Associates in Internal Medicine, have two daughters, Talia and Rachel, and a black Labrador retriever puppy, “Henry.”

Kelly Bennett (LAW ’98), Aurora, Ill., left the Chicago litigation firm of Ciardelli and Cummings in 2004 and opened his own practice, Bennett Law Offices, which focuses primarily on personal injury, workers’ compensation, and defense of criminal charges. He and his wife celebrated the birth of their fourth son in November 2009.

Christina Bonner (LAW ’98), San Francisco, is the senior manager of intellectual property licensing for Dolby Laboratories, Inc. She also volunteers for several nonprofit organizations.

Christine Brown (LAW ’98, M.B.A. ’99), Chicago, is a director at Minn, a legal-process outsourcing company.

Mark Cumbaa (LAW ’98), San Diego, joined Petit Kohn Inggrassa & Lutz, PC in August 2009. Cumbaa also serves as treasurer of the Filipino American Lawyers of San Diego for 2010. He and his wife, Deborah, have two daughters, Liliana “Lilly” Grace and Isabella “Bella” Lauren.

Maria (Di Stravolo) Elliott (LAW ’98), Lititz, Pa., is a partner in the law firm of Barry Snyder, LLC. She and her husband, Matthew, have three children, Thomas, Petro, and Cristina. Elliott also is a cantor at St. James Catholic Church.

Judy Martinez Faye (LAW ’98), Chicago, experienced several exciting life changes in 2009. She became engaged to and married her husband, Mike; gave birth to their son, Rigo; moved; and began a new position as commissioner of the General Services Department of the City of Chicago, overseeing the daily operations of approximately 600 employees and a $260 million budget.

Thomas Hatz (M.B.A. ’98), Carol Stream, Ill., is president of Hatz Technology, Inc., an IT consulting firm. The company achieved Certified Six Sigma Black Belt status from the American Society for Quality.

Colleen (Young) Helenhouse (LAW ’98), Glen Ellyn, Ill., left McGuireWoods, LLP in 2006 and is now a stay-at-home mother of three children. Her husband, Jim, is an attorney with Fletcher & Sippel, LLC.

Howard Huntington (LAW ’98), Mount Prospect, Ill., was named income partner at Williams Montgomery & John, Ltd. His article “Dangerous Territory: How the Indian Arts and Crafts Act Can Ruin Your Business” was published in the winter 2010 issue of In-House Defense Quarterly.

Jacqueline Lentiini McCullough (LAW ’98), Geneva, Ill., has opened a solo practice concentrating in business employment immigration. She is also “of counsel” to the law firm of SmithAmundsen.

Jennifer (Foley) Mulcrome (LAW ’98), Vernon Hills, Ill., has been working for the Walsh Company as a senior attorney in the Corporate and Transactional Law Department, Real Estate Law Group, for the past seven years. She and her husband have two sons and a Labradoodle, “Coco.”

Michael Newman (LAW ’98), Victoria, Minn., is chief counsel of Ameriprise Financial, Inc. in Minneapolis and is responsible for intellectual property, technology, and procurement contracts. He and his wife, Pam, have been married for nine years and have a daughter, a set of twins, and a yellow Labrador retriever.

Peter Qu (LAW ’98), Chicago, began his own law firm 11 years ago, concentrating on business litigation, corporate transactions, business deals, and immigration. Since 2007, he has been serving a local chamber of commerce as chairman of the board and is a member of the International and Immigration Law Section Council of the Illinois State Bar Association.

Leopoldo Robledo Jr. (ARCH ’98), Chicago, is a principal with UrbanPoint, LLC. He and his daughter, Alexandra, enjoy biking along the lakefront and frequenting the various cafes Chicago has to offer.

Julie Soderna (LAW ’98), Chicago, is the director of litigation at the Citizen’s Board. She and her husband, Andrew, who is an attorney for Motorola, Inc., have two sons and a baby daughter.

Li Wang (LAW ’98), Norcross, Ga., is a solo intellectual-property practitioner and the sole agent for Acer, Inc. for patent application matters before the United States Patent and Trademark Office. He travels regularly to Taiwan and China.

Adam Weiss (LAW ’98), Glencoe, Ill., has been with Schiff Hardin for 10 years and remains a partner in the Intellectual Property Group. He is a member of Hyde Park Angels, an organization that provides a forum for entrepreneurial-minded members to invest in early-stage businesses. Weiss is married and has a son and a daughter.

Wendy Butler (LAW ’99), Atlanta, Ga., was appointed to the board of the State Road and Tollway Authority by the Office of Georgia Speaker of the House of Representatives in January 2010. She is a partner at Coleman Talley, LLP, where she heads the firm’s Zoning, Planning, and Land Use Practice Group.

2000s

Mitchell Gold (Ph.D. PSYC ’00), Overland Park, Kan., is managing principal and an industrial/ organizational psychologist for Pivotal Talent, LLC, a human-capital consulting firm that helps companies with all phases of the talent lifecycle.

Evelyn Nackman (LAW ’00), Alexandria, Va., was promoted to the rank of major in the United States Air Force in 2008 and is currently serving in Washington, D.C., at the USAF Environmental Litigation Center. In July, she assisted in processing the Guantanamo Bay detainee cases.

Alison Buchanan (LAW ’01), San Jose, Calif., was made a shareholder at Hoge Fenton Jones & Appel. She is an active member of the Santa Clara County Bar Association, serving on its civil practice and finance committees.

Siddharth Chhokar (LAW ’02), San Diego, is managing partner of Chhokar Law Group, P.C. In 2008, he established the firm, which focuses on estate planning and asset protection. Chhokar is married and has a son.

Bryan Koontz (LAW ’02), Arlington, Va., is working in Washington, D.C., after having been on military tours in Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Iraq, and Afghanistan.


Kaitrin Valencia (LAW ’03), Chicago, is a deputy chief probation officer and legal advocate with the Circuit Court of Cook County Juvenile Probation Department. She and her husband, a pastor at New Life Covenant Church, have two children, Noah and Kaila, and are expecting a third.

Jessica Kimbrough (LAW ’04), Chicago, was appointed as a member of the Illinois Labor Relations Board on an interim basis by Governor Pat Quinn in April; her permanent appointment is subject to confirmation by the state Senate. She began her career as an assistant corporation counsel for the City of Chicago in the labor/employment law division and for the past year, has been associate general counsel in the Office of the Governor. Kimbrough also serves as a member of the IIT Chicago-Kent Alumni Board of Directors.

Darcy Lewis (M.B.A. ’04), Denver, started her own fashion design boutique, Tongue In Chic Design. She also works in the health care field and does international consulting.

Indrani Medhi (M.Des. ’05), Guwahati, India, is an associate researcher in the Technology for Emerging Markets group with Microsoft Research India. She was one of three employees who earned a patent for text-free user interfaces designed to help illiterate and semi-illiterate individuals learn how to easily use computers.

Wenzhao Song (Ph.D. ’05), Ridgefield, Wash., an assistant professor in the School of Engineering and Computer Science and director of the Sensorweb Research Laboratory at Washington State University Vancouver, received a National Science Foundation CAREER award to build networks of sensors that work reliably in harsh environments.

Stephanie Caparelli (LAW ’07), Chicago, and Zach Jacobs (LAW ’07) were married on October 24, 2009. Caparelli is a trial attorney in the Lake County Public Defender’s Office. Jacobs is an associate at Edelman, Combs, Latturner & Goodwin, LLC.

Garrett Nielson (EE ’08, M.S. Cand.), Chicago, is an assistant coach for IIT’s Scarlet Hawks baseball team. While a student, he spent three of his four years as the starting first baseman.

Adam Nizich (CE ’09), Reno, Nev., received the SOM (Skidmore, Owings & Merrill) Foundation’s 2010 Structural Engineering Travel Fellowship for his essay “Iconic Form: High-Speed Railroad Structures.” A student at the University of Nevada, Nizich will use his award for travel to China, Japan, Western Europe, and across the United States.
In the past 20 years, IIT has received $30 million in bequests that have helped more than 31,000 people graduate.

“"If it weren’t for people like your parents, then I wouldn’t have been able to come back to school.”" — Malisa Ismail (CHE ’10), upon meeting Bette Coulson, daughter of Robert and Eleanor

Raised in Singapore, Malisa met her husband while she was studying in Australia. When the two moved to Chicago for her husband’s job, Malisa wondered if she could afford to finish her degree. The scholarship package she received from IIT made it possible.

Robert M. (ME ’31) and Eleanor Krause

Meet Robert and Eleanor Krause. Their bequest created the Robert and Eleanor Krause Endowed Scholarship, which provides support for many grateful IIT scholars. As an alumnus, Robert knew the importance of supporting his alma mater, and together, he and Eleanor wanted to help give back to the places that helped them achieve personal and professional success.

Don’t keep your gift a secret! If you have named IIT as a beneficiary of your estate, please let us know so we may properly thank you and include you as a member of our esteemed Gunsaulus Society.

To discuss how you can provide vital support for IIT through your estate, contact Elaine Clay, assistant director of planned giving, at 312.567.5028 or plannedgiving@iit.edu.

Gunsaulus | Society
Chicago Transit Authority President Richard Rodriguez (LAW ’97) has his parents to thank for his position as head of the nation’s second-largest transit system.

After all, Manuel and Ligia Rodriguez met on a CTA bus. “On multiple occasions, my mom recalls, a young and handsome man would get on the bus and make eye contact but would never speak to her,” says Rodriguez. He notes that as destiny would have it, his dad finally got up the nerve to talk to her on the last day she rode the Ashland Avenue bus to work at that hour. “He’ll deny this and insist that my mom was the one who made the first move,” he adds, laughing. “Whose version is right? I don’t know. But it happened on a CTA bus.”

While his parents’ early courtship unfolded on a city transit route, Rodriguez’s life and career trajectory can be likened more to a round-the-world expedition that he continues to relish.

Born in Chicago’s Humboldt Park community, Rodriguez was sent to live in Puerto Rico with his paternal grandparents at age 8 to escape negative influences in his neighborhood. His three years in the rural and remote setting, where he wore shoes only to church and school, further instilled in Rodriguez the importance of family and how to be happy with simple means. When he returned to the United States, Rodriguez had his first exposure to diverse cultures and ethnicities at Von Steuben Senior High School, and developed a broader sense of what Chicago was really like.

Rodriguez had not planned to attend college but took a few classes anyway and enjoyed the experience enough to graduate from Loyola University Chicago with degrees in sociology and communications. During his senior year, a friend who was clerking at a law firm asked him to fill in for a few days. The partners not only offered Rodriguez a full-time position but also encouraged him to enter law school.

Following graduation from IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law, Rodriguez accepted his first job offer, as legal counsel to the governor of Guam, and after Super Typhoon Paka hit the island in 1997, he was named deputy director of the Disaster Recovery Coordination Office. The following year, he served as a field attorney for the Federal Emergency Management Agency’s 24-hour disaster team, living weeks at a time out of a suitcase on sites where wildfires, floods, and tornadoes occurred.
After he married, Rodriguez settled down in Chicago and began working for his home city, first as a manager for Chicago Public Schools and the Chicago Housing Authority; and then in a series of positions for the City of Chicago, including executive director of the Department of Construction and Permits, and commissioner of both the Department of Buildings and the Department of Aviation. Mayor Richard M. Daley named Rodriguez as his choice for CTA chief on February 26, 2009.

“Rich possesses a unique skills set,” says CTA Chairman Terry Peterson, who served as the CHA’s chief executive officer when Rodriguez was employed with the organization. “He’s a hands-on person with the ability to grasp complex issues in a short period of time and who is ready to roll up his sleeves and work hard.”

While Rodriguez acknowledges that the CTA’s capital need of $10 billion is significant, he is committed to managing through the crisis, continuing to increase ridership, and ensuring that the number of CTA advocates grows.

“I haven’t set a limit to what the possibilities might be,” says Rodriguez. “I love being able to help Mayor Daley help the people of the city. It’s really been a great adventure. I have no idea what’s in store for the future, but this is my challenge now. And I’m really enjoying it.”

—Marcia Faye
Andrea Berry (CS ’84), senior vice president of broadcast operations for FOX Networks Engineering and Operations, admits that all the way up to her third year as an electrical engineering major at IIT, she felt she was an artsy person trapped in a technical person’s body. Or vice versa. Either way, a computer graphics course—and a conversation with Martha Evens, professor emerita of computer science—helped her to realize that she could satisfy both the left and right sides of her brain if she switched her major to computer science. Berry did, and the rest, as they say, is history.

Her unique educational background, more than 20 years of hands-on media experience, and can-do attitude helped put Berry into the record books with a feat that she and her team accomplished on September 12, 2004. It was the first time in broadcast history that six National Football League games were televised in the then-new High-Definition technology by one network on a single day. Over a period of seven months (and while on maternity leave), Berry led the way in creating the specifications for building field trucks capable of producing and transmitting the HD game broadcasts. She and her team also configured the transmission of the broadcast at the various NFL stadiums, all of which were not set up to transmit the HD signals from the mobile production units.

Berry’s career was launched with a college internship at Chicago’s WMAQ-TV, where she learned alongside media pros such as Greg Gumbel and Deborah Norville. She spent 12 years at CBS, where she received Emmy awards in 1991 for technical team remote coverage of the World Series and in 1994 for Winter Olympics coverage, before beginning her current position at FOX. Now Berry says she’s ready to shift gears.

“I’m at the stage of my career where anything that I do, I want it to be really meaningful,” she says. “And so now I am trying to get engineering and computer students to understand that broadcast is an option for them.”

In addition to mentoring young adults one-on-one, Berry has partnered with the National Society of Black Engineers on two annual conventions that featured panel and roundtable discussions addressing new-media and broadcast industry opportunities for students.

Nate Thomas headed IIT’s Early Identification Program, which ran from the mid-1970s to the late-1980s with the goal of developing minority engineering students, and counts Berry among his talented pool of graduates.

“If you needed something done,” says Thomas, “Andrea was the person to see. She had great people skills, was extremely bright, and served as a leader among the students.”

A plainspoken and petite woman whose stature belies her intensity, Berry is picking up a torch passed on to her by Evens, Thomas, and other individuals who have guided her along the way.

“We have to be creative as technologists, educators, and industry people, and not so old school in our educational approach,” says Berry, noting that finding effective ways to engage youth can be a challenge. She adds that besides having a solid education, one other important factor that grabbed her from the early days of her career and that continues to resonate may also have the same influence on today’s students.

“I believe if many kids today find something like I did—that is cool to do—it will give them incentive to finish school, develop their passion, and build a longstanding career.”

—Marcia Faye
IIT Alumni: Help Identify the Next Generation of Undergraduates at IIT

To uphold the tradition of excellence in undergraduate education, we’re asking our alumni to help connect IIT with the brightest and most promising future students. You can be a valuable partner in our future—and theirs.

If you know a talented prospective first-year or transfer undergraduate, please email or call Stephani Stachniak, admission counselor (slawren3@iit.edu, 312.567.3965). The student will receive a letter indicating that you referred him/her, along with our viewbook about the undergraduate programs at IIT.

In addition to the fine merit- and need-based financial aid programs at IIT, we are pleased to renew our commitment to the following initiatives:

Alumni Referral: Admitted undergraduate students referred by IIT alumni are eligible for annual awards ranging from $1,000-$2,500. For more information, please contact Stephani Stachniak, admission counselor, at slawren3@iit.edu.

First-Semester Book Voucher: New first-year or transfer students who enroll at the university upon the recommendation of IIT alumni will receive a $100 book voucher in the alumnus/a’s name toward the purchase of their first-semester’s books. Last year, IIT alumni helped us to award 36 vouchers. Thank you!

Referrals and applications for admission are welcome for January 2011 (spring term entrance) and August 2011 (fall 2011 entrance).

There is no better testimony to the quality of an IIT education than the endorsement of its alumni. Thank you for lending your support to this important alumni initiative.

Your gift helps keep the lights on.

Give a little or give a lot. Either way, you’re helping generate bright ideas.

You don’t need a fortune to make a meaningful gift to IIT. Thousands of alumni make gifts to the IIT Fund and IIT Alumni Scholarship Fund in support of scholarships, laboratories, and, yes, even the cost of energy-efficient light bulbs to keep our students out of the dark. Whether it’s $10, $100, or $1,000, your gift helps students make new discoveries and hit on the kind of bright ideas that IIT grads are known for. Visit www.iit.edu/giving or call Jason Smith at 312.567.7112 to learn more about supporting IIT students through the IIT Annual Fund and IIT Alumni Scholarship Fund.

Give a little or give a lot. Either way, you’re transforming lives.
For information about upcoming alumni events listed below and other alumni activities, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 312.567.5040 or alumni@iit.edu.

2010 IIT Stuart Illinois Executive of the Year Award Ceremony and Luncheon
Friday, September 24, 2010
11:30 a.m.–2 p.m.
Hyatt Regency O'Hare
Rosemont, Ill.

This special event honors the 2010 IIT Stuart Illinois Executive of the Year James Reynolds Jr., co-founder, chairman, and chief executive officer of Loop Capital Markets. The ceremony will be held in conjunction with the 24th Annual Friends of IIT Stuart Luncheon, sponsored by Power Construction Company. Cost is $400 per person or $3,000 for a table of eight; a discount rate for alumni is available. Registration is required. Visit www.stuart.iit.edu to learn more and to register.

Robie House and S. R. Crown Hall After Hours
Thursday, September 30, 2010
6–9 p.m. (Trolleys will leave from Robie House and Crown Hall every half-hour beginning at 7 p.m.)

Robie House
5757 South Woodlawn Avenue, Chicago
Crown Hall
3360 South State Street, Chicago

Gather with friends for an open house featuring two of Chicago's modern marvels, Frank Lloyd Wright's Frederick C. Robie House and Ludwig Mies van der Rohe’s S. R. Crown Hall. Enjoy a festive evening exploring both spaces with cocktails and hors d’oeuvres in a casual, social setting. Start at either location and enjoy a guided tour or simply wander on your own. Transportation between the two sites will be provided. For more information about this event, please visit www.miessociety.org.

Sixth Annual Pumpkin Launch
October 2010
IIT Main Campus
Chicago

Student groups show off their contraptions. See which one can hurl a pumpkin the farthest.

Martin Cooper Alumni Reception
Friday, October 1, 2010
5:30–7:30 p.m.
Cosmos Club
Washington, D.C.

IIT alumni in the Washington, D.C. area and alumni who are National Academy of Engineering members are invited to an IIT alumni reception honoring Martin Cooper (EE '50, M.S. ’57) prior to his induction into the NAE.

For additional information, please contact Marian Quirk at quirk@iit.edu or 312.567.5017.

Alumni Association Marathon Group
Bank of America Chicago Marathon™
Sunday, October 10, 2010
7:30 a.m. (marathon start time)

Attention athletes! Are you running in the 2010 Chicago Marathon? Tell us who you are so we can cheer you on as you pass IIT! A banner featuring the names of competing students, faculty, staff, and alumni will be on display along the marathon route through Main Campus. Runners will also be recognized in IIT Today, the university’s weekly e-newsletter.

Darsh T. Wasan Lecture
Wednesday, October 13, 2010
4 p.m.
IIT Main Campus
Chicago

This year's lecture will feature keynote speaker Susan Solomon (CHEM '77), senior scientist with the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration. The first person to explain how chlorofluorocarbons destroy the ozone layer, Solomon shared in the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize for her role as co-chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

2011 Alumni Awards Nominations Due
Friday, October 15, 2010

You can complete the nomination form online at http://alumni.iit.edu.
President’s Lecture
Wednesday, March 23, 2011
IIT Main Campus
Chicago

Plan to join members of the IIT community at the inaugural lecture of this annual series covering topics of wide-ranging interest.

Alumni Admission Program
Calling all Hawaii, San Diego-, Phoenix-, and Seattle-area alumni: We need your help recruiting at upcoming college fairs!

As an alumnus/a or friend of IIT, you have a distinct connection to IIT through your personal experiences. Sharing your IIT knowledge during the college selection process can be helpful to prospective students and parents. The Alumni Admission Program offers volunteer opportunities for you to share IIT facts and stories. The time you invest is up to you.

For additional information, please contact Marian Quirk at quirk@iit.edu or 312.567.5017, or visit www.iit.edu/undergrad_admission/alumni.

Homecoming
Friday and Saturday, September 24–25, 2010
IIT Main Campus
Chicago

Join alumni, friends, and current students to celebrate more than a century of Tech Traditions! Homecoming weekend activities include:

Gather in The Bog!
On Friday, September 24, join students and alumni for an alumni-sponsored happy hour in The Bog from 5–8 p.m. Informal networking activities will be from 6–7 p.m., and The Bog will remain open until 1 a.m.

Gunsaulus Society Breakfast and Seminar
Join the Gunsaulus Society for breakfast in Paul V. Galvin Library at 8:30 a.m., Saturday, September 25, followed by a brief seminar on planned giving opportunities at IIT.

Presidential Space Dedications
Honor IIT past presidents Henry Linden, Thomas Martin, and John Rettaliata on Saturday, September 25 at a space dedication for each. The event will begin at 10 a.m. in Paul V. Galvin Library to honor Thomas Martin; move to Perlstein Hall, where Henry Linden will be recognized; and conclude at Hermann Hall with a champagne toast and ribbon cutting following the dedication of the John Rettaliata space.

Golden Society Luncheon
The Golden Society Luncheon will take place in Hermann Hall at 11 a.m. on Saturday, September 25. This reunion recognizes alumni who are celebrating the 50th anniversary of their IIT graduation. Members of the Class of 1960 will receive Golden Society medallions, be recognized for this anniversary milestone, and have a chance to visit with former classmates and current students.

Tour the Idea Shop
Tour IIT’s exciting new innovation playground where faculty, staff, students, alumni, and organizations collaborate to transform ideas into prototypes through IPRO projects and other ventures. Interact with students on current IPRO teams through demonstrations and discussions to gain insight about their team project experiences.

Women’s Soccer Game
Show your school spirit by cheering on the women’s soccer team as it takes on the women from Davenport University at 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 25. Concessions will be available.

Carnival
Bring the whole family to the Cirque du Soleil-themed Carnival on the Quad at 5 p.m. on Saturday, September 25. Interact with current students and catch up with old friends while enjoying food, games, and the annual golf cart parade. It’s a Tech Tradition!

Scarlet Hawks of a Feather Flock Together
(To Arizona, Florida, and California)

Snowbirds, send your winter home address to IIT and you will be invited to alumni events near you. Please contact Marian Quirk at quirk@iit.edu or 312.567.5017. Also, stay in touch and reconnect with friends via the IIT Alumni Association Online Community at http://alumni.iit.edu.
Bannockburn Get-Together
Don Wrobleski (ARCH ’54), Tom Sullivan (CE ’62) and his wife, Patricia, and Suresh “Doc” Pinjarkar (M.S. CE ’65, Ph.D. ’69) enjoy a Sunday afternoon gathering at Wrobleski’s Ludwig Mies van der Rohe-inspired home in Bannockburn, Ill.

Santa Monica Place
IIT alumni toured the renovated Santa Monica Place with their hosts John Genovese (ARCH ’83) and David Piper (ARCH ’90), both employed by Macerich, one of the country’s leading owners, operators, and developers of major retail properties.

Morton Arboretum Outing
Joel Chupack (LAW ’82) and family enjoy breakfast in the Gingko Room before heading outside to enjoy the Morton Arboretum in Lisle, Ill.

James Kuhik (EE ’92, M.S. ’93, Ph.D. ’98) and family enjoy the Children’s Garden at the Morton Arboretum.

Scott Conwell (ARCH ’91) and family join Anwer Hussain (ME ’92) and other IIT alumni, friends, and families on a guided tram tour of the Morton Arboretum grounds.
**AIA Reception**

James Williams (ARCH ’73), IIT College of Architecture Dean Donna Robertson, and Jong S. Kimm (ARCH ’61, M.S. ’64), member of the college’s Board of Overseers, at a Miami American Institute of Architects reception in the Ludwig Mies van der Rohe-inspired home of Terence Riley, former architecture curator of The Museum of Modern Art in New York.

**Miramar Tour**

President John Anderson, Eric Soldau (M.A.S. ARCH ’96), Life Trustee Martin Cooper (EE ’50, M.S. ’57), and Larry Hoeksema (ARCH ’71) join other IIT alumni in a tour of the Marine Corps Air Station in Miramar, Calif.

**Sox Thirsty Thursday**

IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law alumnus Joel Weisman (LL.B. ’69) and a friend meet other alumni in The Bog before the July 8 White Sox game.

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**Congratulations to the Class of 1960 on the 50th anniversary of your graduation from IIT!**

We are proud to honor such a commemoration by welcoming you to the Golden Society.

Every fall, IIT marks the induction of a new class into the Golden Society, an honorary society established to recognize alumni who have celebrated the 50th anniversary of their graduation from IIT. Old friendships are rekindled, new ones are formed, and many happy memories are shared as the Golden Society reunites on campus.

**But why wait a whole year in between reunions to reach out to your peers?**

The IIT online community is here for you 365 days a year. Connect today to share photos, send messages, hear what your friends and classmates are up to, and view the alumni directory. The online community allows you to register for events in your area, learn about services for alumni, and stay up to date on Alumni Association programs and activities. Log on before the reunion to see who’s coming and after to relive the celebration. Get a head start on welcoming the Class of 1961!

**http://alumni.iit.edu**

Rediscover your alma mater.
The Velocity Initiative, IIT’s alumni-reengagement program, made steady progress during the summer months. More student ambassadors worked full-time interviewing IIT alumni about their experiences at the university. In total, 20 student ambassadors interviewed alumni last summer, focusing their efforts in Chicago and its suburbs, Seattle, and Portland, Ore.

Also key to the summer progress were two young IIT alumni who joined the Velocity team in May as full-time ambassadors, Joseph Carbon (ITM, PTC ’10) and Ryan Witthans (CHEM ’08). The full-time ambassadors visited Connecticut, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Houston, Detroit, Indianapolis, San Francisco; Phoenix, Ariz.; Tampa, Fla.; and Washington, D.C.

http://alumni.iit.edu/velocity

obituaries

Keith E. McKee
CE ’50, M.S. ’56, Ph.D. ’62
Industrial Technology and Management Programs

With five decades of service to IIT and in his role as founder and director of Industrial Technology and Management Programs, Professor Keith McKee was considered by many as the university’s “Champion of Industry.”

McKee’s career at the university began in 1954 at Armour Research Foundation (now IIT Research Institute). Over a span of 30 years, he served as director of engineering research and manufacturing research, established the Manufacturing Productivity Center, and helped hundreds of Chicago-area manufacturing companies become more productive and competitive.

Dedicated and driven, McKee established INTM programs after he retired from IITRI in 1993. Author/editor of six books and more than 200 publications, McKee received numerous honors including fellowship in the World Academy of Productivity Science, the Society of Manufacturing Engineers’ Gold Medal, and the IIT Alumni Service Award.

McKee is survived by a son, a daughter, and four grandchildren. He was preceded in death by his wife, Sally.

Steingrímur Hermannsson
EE ’51

From 1983–87 and 1988–1991, Steingrímur Hermannsson served as prime minister of Iceland. After graduating from IIT, he obtained a master’s degree from California Institute of Technology and worked as an engineer for five years.

Hermannsson then held scientific administrative positions before becoming a member of the Icelandic Parliament in 1971. As prime minister, he hosted the Reykjavik Summit attended by then-Soviet Premier Mikhail Gorbachev and President Ronald Reagan.

In 1994, Hermannsson was appointed governor of Iceland’s Central Bank and served in that position for four years. After his retirement, he became involved in environmental issues. Among the honors he received was a Professional Achievement Award from IIT in 1991.

Hermannsson is survived by his second wife, Gudlaug Edda Gudmundsdóttir, and six children.
Paul E. Fanta
Department of Chemistry
Professor Emeritus Paul E. Fanta joined the IIT faculty in 1948, following a Ph.D. in 1946 from University of Rochester and one year on the chemistry faculty at Harvard University, and retired from IIT in 1984. He had a productive research and publishing career focused on the synthesis of heterocyclic organic compounds, which included yearlong fellowships at four international chemistry laboratories in London, Prague, Moscow, and Nottingham, England. He was also respected as a caring and skilled instructor and received the IIT Excellence in Teaching Award in 1978. In retirement, he served on the board of the Friends of Oak Park Conservatory.

Fanta is survived by his wife, LaVergne, two sons, and a sister.

To make a gift to IIT in Fanta’s memory, please contact James Sison in the Office of Institutional Advancement at 312.567.5000.

Jeffrey D. Bierig
Office of Communications
While Jeffrey D. Bierig was widely known throughout the IIT community for his leadership skills as associate vice president of communications, he was also recognized and lauded by many professionals in Chicago’s media and public relations sectors. Before joining IIT in 2006 as director of media relations, Bierig was director of media relations at the Chicago Tribune for 20 years and helped to promote the 150th anniversary of the newspaper.

Bierig began his lifelong media career in the early 1970s as a radio director and producer, then crossed over to public relations, working at a number of high-profile Chicago agencies. He was also active with the nonprofit Community Media Workshop group and served two terms (1996–98, 2001–03) as president of the Publicity Club of Chicago.

Bierig is survived by his wife, Linda, a son and daughter, and a brother.

Paul E. Fanta
Department of Chemistry

Jeffrey D. Bierig
Office of Communications

in memoriam

Milton Adamson
CE ’28
Laguna Woods, Calif.

William Fiech
ME ’47
Arlington Heights, Ill.

Louis Marn
CHE ’52
Palm Coast, Fla.

Philipp Kalchthaler
LAW ’66
Plymouth, Wis.

Theodore Irion
ARCH ’34
Oshkosh, Wis.

Joseph Odehnal
EE ’47, M.S. ’48
Kalamazoo, Mich.

William Porter
FE ’52
Perkasie, Penn.

Herman Bauermeister
CHE ’37, M.S. ’41
Charlotte, N.C.

George Hilgendorf
LAW ’48
Fort Collins, Colo.

Edward Schell
FPSE ’52
Clarendon Hills, Ill.

Ervin Simek
FPSE ’37
Barrington, Ill.

Frank Wright
LAW ’48
Judson, Texas

Edward Thomas
CE ’52
Libertyville, Ill.

Margaret May
HE ’38
Palos Hills, Ill.

Jack Burger
IE ’49
Tinley Park, Ill.

Stanley Jones
DSGN ’53
Coeur d’Alene, Idaho

Robert Harmon
FPSE ’41
Denver

Robert Galloway
ME ’49
Springfield, Va.

Ronald Wagenblast
PHYS ’54,
M.S. MT ’64
Highland, Ind.

David Whittingham
ME ’41
Denton, Texas

Richard O’Laughlin
IE ’49
Evanston, Ill.

James Weed
EE ’55
San Jose, Calif.

Martin Kraegel
ME ’42
Fort Wayne, Ind.

George Cebula
IE ’50
Boulder, Colo.

Arthur Payton
CHEM ’56
Salem, Ore.

Harry Nelson
ME ’43
Glennview, Ill.

William Dassie
ME ’50
Greenville, S.C.

Robert Ritzie
BE ’56
St. Louis

Robert O’Donnell
ME ’43
Park Ridge, Ill.

Henry Fallerius
IE ’50
Mansfield, Ohio

Robert Rierson
BE ’72
Rancho Cucamonga, Calif.

Robert Arndt
M.S. MECH ’46
Racine, Wis.

Lester Sachs
PHYS ’50, Ph.D. ’61
Randallstown, Md.

John Ruppel
M.S. EE ’80
Keller, Texas

Jack Pocock
ME ’46
Columbus, Ohio

Robert Crabbe
ME ’52
Lombard, Ill.

Michael Rogers
LAW ’89
La Grange, Ill.

Donald Arenson
MATH ’47,
M.S. MECH ’50
Skokie, Ill.

Arnold Kaplan
EE ’52
Northbrook, Ill.

John Stevens
LAW ’89
Chicago

Ernest Klimeczak
ME ’45
Kalamazoo, Mich.

Joseph Kroll
EE ’52
Chicago

Robert R. Willard
ME ’60
Grayslake, Ill.

Robert Rierson
LB. ’58
Paradise Valley, Ariz.

Robert O’Donnell
ME ’43
Park Ridge, Ill.

Lester Sachs
PHYS ’50, Ph.D. ’61
Randallstown, Md.

Harvey Lubelchek
IE ’59, M.S. ’65
Northbrook, Ill.

Arnold Kaplan
EE ’52
Northbrook, Ill.

Paul Willard
ME ’60
Grayslake, Ill.

Joseph Kroll
EE ’52
Chicago

Leonard Kowal
EE ’65
Scottsdale, Ariz.

Robert Crabbe
ME ’52
Lombard, Ill.

Vernon McKinnon
EE ’65
Bellwood, Ill.

Fred Luborsky
Ph.D. CHEM ’52
Niskayuna, N.Y.

Michael Melnick
LAW ’71
Tolland, Conn.

Jack Burger
IE ’49
Tinley Park, Ill.

James O’Connor
BE ’72
Chicago

Richard O’Laughlin
IE ’49
Evanston, Ill.

Ford Bacon
M.S. DSGN ’68
Chicago

M. S. ’38
Palos Hills, Ill.

Robert Galloway
ME ’49
Springfield, Va.

Ronald Wagenblast
PHYS ’54,
M.S. MT ’64
Highland, Ind.

James Weed
EE ’55
San Jose, Calif.

George Larson
ARCH ’42
Branford, Conn.

Arthur Payton
CHEM ’56
Salem, Ore.

Henry Fallerius
IE ’50
Mansfield, Ohio

Louis Marn
CHE ’52
Palm Coast, Fla.

Donald Arenson
MATH ’47,
M.S. MECH ’50
Skokie, Ill.

William Porter
FE ’52
Perkasie, Penn.

Edward Thomas
CE ’52
Libertyville, Ill.

Herman Bauermeister
CHE ’37, M.S. ’41
Charlotte, N.C.

Margaret May
HE ’38
Palos Hills, Ill.

Robert Harmon
FPSE ’41
Denver

David Whittingham
ME ’41
Denton, Texas

Martin Kraegel
ME ’42
Fort Wayne, Ind.

George Larson
ARCH ’42
Branford, Conn.

Harry Nelson
ME ’43
Glennview, Ill.

Robert O’Donnell
ME ’43
Park Ridge, Ill.

Ernest Klimeczak
ME ’45
Kalamazoo, Mich.

Robert Arndt
M.S. MECH ’46
Racine, Wis.

Jack Pocock
ME ’46
Columbus, Ohio

Donald Arenson
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“Going Greek”—university-speak for membership in the campus fraternity or sorority system for undergraduates—has been part of IIT’s history since shortly after the founding of Armour Institute.

Greek Week, first held on Main Campus in 1958, is a springtime event that gives students from all of the fraternities and sororities the chance to come together and participate in activities that are fun, informative, and philanthropic. For example, during Greek Week 1961, students battled it out in an all-fraternity tug-of-war challenge and fire-hose water fight, participated in the presentation “Communist Menace in American Colleges?” and collected money for the American Cancer Society.

The Greek Week tradition continues today. This year, students created a Rube Goldberg machine and built a Can Castle of nonperishable food items that were donated to the Greater Chicago Food Depository. During the spring 2010 semester, 341 students, or 14 percent of the undergraduate population, were members of the Greek community. IIT’s seven fraternities comprise 221 members and its three sororities claim 120 members.

Do you have a favorite Greek life tradition at IIT? Send us your anecdote at iitmagazine@iit.edu.
Do you know a talented prospective first-year or transfer undergraduate student?

Illinois Institute of Technology students will be the future leaders who drive change in areas of global significance: energy independence, improving people’s health, protecting the environment, and strengthening national security. Beginning with fall 2010, the IIT STEM+ (Science and Psychology, Technology, Engineering, Mathematics, Business, and Architecture) Educational and Scholarship Initiative will provide financial scholarship assistance to qualified students pursuing an IIT undergraduate degree.

We also offer guaranteed housing, a low student/faculty ratio, plus our unique Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program and brand new Idea Shop facility, where students work with other IIT students from various academic disciplines to tackle a real-world problem.

Referrals and applications for admission are welcome for January 2011 (spring term entrance) and August 2011 (fall 2011 entrance).

HAVE QUESTIONS? Contact Terrika Worthon (ME ’09) at 312.567.3015 or tworthon@iit.edu, or Stephani Stachniak at 312.567.3965 or slawren3@iit.edu.

DON’T MISS OUR FALL ‘DISCOVER IIT’ DAYS!
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 16 AND SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 6
Looking for a way to stay in touch after homecoming? There’s always a way to connect at IIT!

Welcome to the neighborhood!
Did you know that many IIT alumni have profiles at the university’s online community? You can read or submit marriage and birth announcements, update professional news, post and view photos, send messages to other alumni, and view the online alumni directory—and much, much more! Register today at http://alumni.iit.edu.

Do you want to do career networking?
Let us connect you to alumni in your area—or strike up a conversation with more than 1,300 alumni on IIT’s LinkedIn page. Also look for a networking event in your area this coming year!

Share your story!
We want to know your Tech Traditions—what made IIT memorable for you? Visit www.iit.edu/community/tech_traditions and tell us your tales!

Spread the word!
IIT’s Alumni Association is on Facebook, and we want you to join us! Become a fan of the IIT Alumni Association or create a fan page of your favorite student group, affinity, or class year, and let us know about it. Look for special events on the Facebook site, as well.

Make your voice be heard!
IIT has a number of volunteer and mentorship programs, and we’re establishing a Young Alumni Council. For more information, contact alumni@iit.edu.

Short on time and want your IIT fix?
Check us out on Twitter for your daily dose of IIT in 140 words or less. Find us at: twitter.com/iitalumnissn, /illinoistech, or /iit_today.