HELP IIT GROW!
Become an Admission Ambassador.

Who knows us better than you, our alumni? Why not share your story with prospective students? We are seeking IIT alumni to:

• Refer students to IIT
• Attend an admission reception in your region
• Contact admitted students (by phone, mail, and email)
• Represent IIT at college fairs
• Visit local high schools

Don’t miss these upcoming on-campus volunteer opportunities. Speakers and panelists are needed.

Discover IIT Days
Saturday, April 20, 2013
Saturday, July 27, 2013
Saturday, August 10, 2013

Learn more and sign up to be an Admission Ambassador by visiting www.iit.edu/admission/alumni or by contacting Tim Lipman (PSYC ’10), 312.567.6933, tlipman@iit.edu.
When Mark Twain wrote of “that astonishing Chicago” in *Life on the Mississippi*, he described a city “contriving and achieving new responsibilities.” It was 1883, the same year that Chicago conducted a trial run of the world’s first elevated electric railway at the Chicago Railway Exposition. This innovative transportation solution, developed by Thomas Edison and Stephen D. Field, boasted improvements such as reduced noise and pollution over its predecessor, the steam locomotive. According to Frank Lewis Dyer and Thomas Commerford Martin in their biography *Edison: His Life and Inventions* (Harper Brothers 1929), New York City initially had been hesitant to adopt this new technology into its railway system until after it was successfully demonstrated elsewhere. Chicago won the technology race when it launched the world’s first permanent elevated electric railway several years later. The rest of the world followed in Chicago’s footsteps.

Many great innovations—the cell phone, architectural invention, and wireless remote technology—are tied to Chicago and IIT. It’s no surprise given the creative energy and entrepreneurial, pioneering spirit that abound in this city. Chicago is often called the Second City, which is apropos when one considers the city’s drive to be the best. Call it Hungry City—Chicago’s endurance is unflappable. Like any great city, Chicago experiences phases, and right now a heightened sense of new possibility is palpable here. The new digital-startup facility 1871 [see page 4] has opened downtown, so named for the year of the Great Chicago Fire, after which the city rebuilt itself and became greater than before. The city’s new investment in both its infrastructure and the education of its people—as exemplified by its partnership in IIT’s construction of the Innovation Center on Main Campus [see page 2]—points to a new phase of innovation and technological discovery that is underway. More broadly, IIT Institute of Design Dean Patrick Whitney describes how we are beginning a third Industrial Revolution [see page 18]; institutions such as IIT that develop innovative solutions for design and technology will be at the forefront of this revolution.

IIT has a long history of noteworthy contributions to Chicago’s greatness, and we are poised to chart and achieve new responsibilities in this next era of invention. From educating tomorrow’s leaders and innovators to creating a hub that will lead to products and processes that will improve our lives, we will lay the groundwork this year for bold new prophecies that, even when outgrown, will continue to astonish.

**John L. Anderson**
President
IIT’s alumni, students, faculty, and research are making Chicago our kind of town.

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IIT Magazine Online-Only Content!
Read extended coverage of stories featured in the print edition as well as special online-only content at www.iit.edu/magazine
IIT Forms Steering Committee for Innovation Center

As announced in the previous issue of *IIT Magazine*, the university is in the first stages of planning for the new Innovation Center on IIT’s Main Campus. It will be the first new academic building to be constructed on Main Campus in nearly 40 years. A steering committee has been created to guide the development of the Innovation Center. Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs Alan Cramb is heading the steering committee, with Bruce Watts, vice president for Facilities and Public Safety, serving as liaison.

Look for more coverage of the Innovation Center in the upcoming issue of *IIT Magazine*.

GOT FUEL?

We know our alumni do great things—at work, at home, and in the community—that are changing the world in big and small ways, every day. We want to find IIT’s innovators! How are you or someone you know “fueling innovation?” To tell us, email innovation@iit.edu or visit iit.edu/innovators.
FUELING INNOVATION:
AN UPDATE ON THE CAMPAIGN FOR IIT

IIT’s six-year fundraising campaign, launched on June 1, 2010 and currently in its public phase, reached a giving total of $131,575,181 as of January 15, 2013.

The IIT community gathered on Main Campus on February 7 and 8, 2013 to kick off the public phase of the campaign [following press date]. The celebration included the unveiling of the Armour Society wall in The McCormick Tribune Campus Center, the launch of the campaign website with stories of how IIT community members are fueling innovation, and the presentation of plans for both the new Innovation Center and the transformation of the E1 and Life Sciences buildings. Full coverage of the celebration will appear in the next issue of IIT Magazine.

The public launch of Fueling Innovation is an opportunity to introduce alumni, friends, donors, and other supporters throughout the community to stories about excellence at the university. The stories capture students and faculty whose research projects and academic endeavors are shaping new ideas and innovations in their fields. Read more at fuelinginnovation.iit.edu.

GET INVOLVED!

As individuals with a special relationship to the university, IIT alumni are encouraged to help fuel success with the campaign and IIT. The opportunities to make a difference are far-reaching—everything from making a gift to sharing your personal story about IIT to getting involved locally by recruiting, hiring, or mentoring students. Alumni are rallying for their alma mater by giving back, and every gift counts. So far, 6,378 alumni have given to the campaign.

For more information about a gift to Fueling Innovation, call Susan Faraone, associate vice president for development and campaign director, at 312.567.7149, or visit the campaign website, www.iit.edu/giving/campaign_for_iit.

PROGRESS

IIT was pleased to announce that it exceeded its $125 million leadership goal toward the $250 campaign total. Due to this success thus far, the university’s list of campaign goals is within closer reach. Campaign priorities include:*

Create a Transformational Innovation Center
Goal: $40 million     Progress: $2,926,101
The first academic building built on campus in more than 40 years, the Innovation Center will create a hub for IIT’s innovation and entrepreneurship programs, and bring together all of the creative elements of an IIT education.

Revitalize Core Campus Buildings
Goal: $25 million     Progress: $18,648,842
Campaign initiatives will renovate classrooms and laboratories throughout campus, as needed.

Pursue Answers to Society’s Urgent Challenges
Goal: $85 million     Progress: $56,847,908
Gifts to the campaign will create 20 new endowed chairs; support graduate and professional fellowships, and transformative faculty and student research; and create centers of research excellence at IIT.

Open the Door to a Twenty-first Century Education
Goal: $40 million     Progress: $20,121,812
The campaign will increase accessibility to a STEM-focused IIT education for talented undergraduate students, including those from under-represented communities, through increased endowed and expendable scholarships.

Build IIT’s Distinctive Academic Programs and Enhance the Campus Experience
Goal: $30 million     Progress: $18,816,761
IIT will broaden the scope of its flagship programs such as the Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program and the Entrepreneurship Academy.

Grow Resources for Strategic and Operational Capability
Goal: $30 million     Progress: $13,575,697
Build IIT’s strength through the Strategic Initiatives Fund and other annual funds, which allow university leaders to address priorities and respond to changing needs.

* Reflects progress through January 15, 2013; additional gifts have been received whose purpose is still to be determined.
Nik Rokop, managing director of the IIT Knapp Entrepreneurship Center, and Darya Ivankina (BA 4th year) discuss a project at 1871.

1871
Places IIT in the Heart of Creative Chicago
The Great Chicago Fire of 1871 is typically remembered for its devastating effects on the Windy City. For the nonprofit Chicagoland Entrepreneurial Center (CEC), the fire is remembered as a time when the city was rebuilt—for the better.

That spirit of building and rebuilding is behind the CEC’s 1871, a new facility located in the Merchandise Mart in downtown Chicago. 1871 was designed as a “co-working center” to provide digital startups with affordable workspace and access to mentors, programming, educational resources, potential investors, and a community of like-minded entrepreneurs. American Public Media’s “Marketplace” described 1871 as an attempt to create the next Silicon Valley in Chicago.

Individuals or businesses can select from a membership package that includes everything from access to basic services at 1871, such as Internet and storage lockers, to more all-inclusive services such as desk space and unlimited access to conference rooms. In less than a year, more than 200 startups have joined 1871.

IIT is one of four area universities with a presence in 1871. Others include Northwestern University, University of Chicago, and University of Illinois. So far, IIT is offering workshops in iOS applications through the Department of Computer Science, symposia on innovation sponsored by IIT Institute of Design, and mentoring sessions through the Knapp Entrepreneurship Center and the Entrepreneurial Law Clinic.

David Baker, vice president for external affairs at IIT and a member of the CEC Board of Directors, oversees the IIT presence at 1871. “We are excited to be part of Chicago’s newest innovation space,” says Baker. “We plan bring our students here to support the companies and even launch their own ventures. 1871 literally pulsates with inventive activity.”

www.1871.com
Heart and Soul in His Community

While the Scarlet Hawks understand the importance of teamwork, new assistant basketball coach Orlandus Thomas plans to advance that concept in a new direction by next season.

“One of the main things I’d like to contribute to IIT basketball is helping our student-athletes understand the importance of being part of a community,” says Thomas, referring to the core concept of Change for the Better!, a nationally recognized fitness and nutrition initiative in which he hopes to involve IIT’s players. “Community service is my mission, the heart and soul of everything I do. I believe that when you’ve been blessed with opportunities you can have a powerful impact by sharing that with other people.”

Thomas, physical education and health teacher at Gary Comer College Prep in Chicago’s Grand Crossing neighborhood, and business partner Tony Czapla co-founded Change for the Better! in 2006 to help community members of all ages foster healthy lifestyle habits. A nonprofit organization, Change for the Better! has attracted the attention of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute (in collaboration with three other National Institutes of Health divisions) as an award-winning community site under the We Can! program, a children’s anti-obesity initiative.

Thomas’s program, which has been operating on a shoestring budget, was the recent recipient of a $10,000 Best Buy Community Grant. It also has partnered with local Best Buy stores that provide the program with jumbo flat-screen TVs that Thomas uses to run video games for the aerobics portion of Change for the Better! live events. A typical event can last up to four hours and features several distinctive components: a fitness demonstration, such as how to tailor an athlete’s training regimen to a particular age group; an aerobics session, which focuses on Thomas’s signature hip-hop aerobics moves or Xbox Kinect workouts; and a cooking class, with participants preparing whole-wheat pizzas and turkey chili alongside a local chef.

Inspired at age 10 by his physical education teacher, Thomas leads his Gary Comer students by example, taking groups of them to Change for the Better! events, where they help teach the fitness and aerobics portions. Thomas’s eldest son, Xavier, 9, joined his father in bringing Change for the Better! to the 2012 Tri-Masters triathlon summer camp for youth.

“Orlandus is one of the best coaches I’ve worked with over the past 20 years,” says Bernard Lyles, who founded the Chicago Chapter of Tri-Masters in 1990. “He’s been a real asset to me and to the kids in my program.”

Chicago-area senior citizens have also benefited from Change for the Better! Thomas is a monthly guest on “Senior Talk with Clara Hubbard” (WBGX 1570 AM), providing health and nutrition tips.

“What drew me to Orlandus is his immediate energy and his passion for helping people meet their fitness goals,” explains Hubbard. “He really is serious about people changing for the better.”

The dynamic Thomas not only energizes community members, but entertains them as well. For the past six years he has sung baritone/tenor with The Voices, a popular Motown and R&B tribute group that has opened for Gary Sinise and the Lt. Dan Band, and performed at various other venues across the country.

Orlandus Thomas leads a Change for the Better! event.

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Editor’s Note: This past fall, men’s basketball made its comeback to IIT with a home-opener weekend in November. Joining Orlandus Thomas on IIT’s basketball coaching staff are Head Coach Enzley Mitchell IV, Assistant Coach Craig Shaman, and Director of Basketball Operations Mike Vander Heyden.

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Change for the Better! video: www.youtube.com/watch?v=cjFwsJD0sEs
Scarlet Hawks basketball: www.illinoistechathletics.com/sport/0/2.php
The Voices: http://thevoices.ws
Our city has been called many things—the Windy City, Second City, the City That Works, and the City of Big Shoulders. At IIT, we call it home.

During the university’s nearly 120 years, IIT has touched every fiber of its hometown—from civic organizations and government to technological inventions and the skyline. Today, IIT’s alumni, students, faculty, and research continue to make Chicago our kind of town.

[Photo] Rani Shah (CHE 3rd year)
“Chicago is more than a home to me. Chicago has been my inspiration, my playground, and my motivation for the past 20 years. This city is a giant spark of innovation, constantly buzzing and changing systems to best accommodate the modern world. My photos are my attempts at capturing that. They’re filled with fleeting vehicles and people just trying to fit into the landscape. Chicago is a place where even though it’s dark outside, the lights around somehow make it happier than daytime. Experiencing nighttime Chicago is simply magical.”
Zhang's current research, supported by the Great Lakes Fishery Commission and the Great Lakes Fishery Trust, focuses on olfactory memory formed during development of lake sturgeon in the Great Lakes. The future of the largest fish in the Great Lakes—prized for both their meat and eggs—is imperiled, as overfishing, pollution, and habitat loss affect their lifecycle and long-term population levels.

Zhang believes an additional factor may be undermining efforts to restore self-sustaining populations of lake sturgeon to the Great Lakes—inadequate imprinting. "Olfactory imprinting is a complex and fascinating phenomenon. There are enormous questions about the underlying mechanisms involved," she says.

Species imprinting, which may involve any of the five senses, usually occurs during early development. Re-exposure to the sensory stimulus can provoke particular behavioral responses essential for survival. In fish, olfactory imprinting leaves an indelible trace in the nervous system, retained throughout the fish's lifespan.

Zhang notes that, recently, the lake sturgeon population has improved in the Great Lakes after the fish were listed as endangered, and replenished through hatchery raising and release into lakes. But questions remain as to how well lake sturgeon are naturally rebounding. "The concern is that in Lake Michigan, the stocked sturgeon either may move elsewhere or are not reproducing if they were imprinted by unexpected cues from other water bodies," Zhang says.

This is of special concern as sturgeons are slow-growing fish, requiring 8–19 years to fully mature and reproduce. Mistakes in breeding and development may manifest themselves only over lengthy time periods, leaving the full extent of the problem unrecognized for many years.

The current project seeks to establish the precise time frame of olfactory imprinting so that sturgeons receive the proper sensory cues. (One strategy would involve hatching the fish in the proper lake water.) Zhang believes this crucial period occurs in the first year of life and involves molecular, biological, and morphological changes to a brain structure known as the telencephalon.

A subtle interplay of rapidly proliferating neurons in the olfactory cortical and memory centers and a period of high thyroid hormone activity are associated with the window for proper olfactory imprinting, which closes again as specific regulatory genes are reduced in expression.

In addition to its detrimental role for fish, improper sensory imprinting may be responsible for a range of human maladies and has recently been implicated in certain symptoms of autism.

—Richard Harth
Their Kind of Town

[Above and Right]

**Alice Rogier**
(ECE graduate student)

“When I first saw Chicago, I was stunned. The buildings, the dynamism—everything is placed at a higher level! All my photos try to illustrate the magnificence of Chicago, this incredible city, seen by a girl from the South of France.”

[Opposite Page, Top Left]

**Dan Lee**
(PHYS 3rd year)

“I love photography and purchased a wide-angle lens last summer. I then went to Cloud Gate and took this photo in black and white. I love Chicago, mainly because it’s a city and it’s always lively but not too busy like New York. It’s not too quiet, like certain areas of the States, and there are many interesting places to see here.”

[Opposite Page, Top Right]

**Aeisha Smith**
(ARCH graduate student)

“Millennium Park is one of my favorite places in Chicago. Despite its chaotic surroundings, it can be a peaceful retreat.”

[Opposite Page, Bottom]

**Satwik Nadkarni**
(ECE graduate student)

“The architecture in downtown Chicago is visually stunning, with many iconic buildings located there. This photo taken at the Adams and Wabash CTA station shows the beautiful effect created by the towering buildings on both sides of the tracks and the glow from the street lights below.”
[Top Left] Raul Bressan (BIOL 4th year) “This photo is from a series of photos taken of the MTCC, SSV, and University Technology Park buildings, part of the photo portfolio that I made for the course Digital Photography taught by Lucasz Kowalczyk.”

[Top Right] Mahek Rana (M.S. EE ’12) “For me Chicago is culture, art, architecture, blues, and a perfect city to live and explore new things. Whatever I have learned, explored, and experienced while living here will inspire me for the rest of my life.”

[Above] Anike Moreno (ARCH 4th year) “This is a photo of the first snow day of 2012 in Chicago, an amazing city!”
It’s an early November morning in a crowded Starbucks in Chicago’s Loop, and Katherine Darnstadt (ARCH ’05) is laughing. The sound rises above the hiss of the latte machine and jazzy vocals of the piped-in music, providing a robust and rolling soundtrack to the coffee shop. Darnstadt’s unrestrained laughter bubbles forth as easily and rapidly as her words describing her views on her profession, service to society, and architecture education. She can hardly get in a breath.

Founder and principal architect of Latent Design and director of Architecture for Humanity Chicago (AfHC), Darnstadt is explaining how she remains unruffled when a client tells her “no.” She instead mines such rejection as an opportunity for introspection and growth. After all, it was a “no”—as in, no job, when she was...
laid off in 2009—that propelled her to put her passions into action, first by volunteering with AfHC, then opening her own collaborative architecture firm whose projects focus on making a social, economic, and environmental impact beyond the bricks and mortar.

“I'm passionate about architecture and design, and the built environment; I can't decouple people from that,” says Darnstadt, her face framed by a multicolored scarf and wavy hair that cascades over her shoulders. “The built environment is an intersection of design and policy. Historically, as architects we constantly look at the building and that's what we see. We stop there; once the building is owned and occupied, we're done. But I believe our role can begin before pre-design and continue after occupancy.”

Thinking critically about the long-term societal contributions of design came easy and early to Darnstadt, who grew up in Chicago's southwest suburbs observing her father working on buildings as an electrical contractor. When she entered Illinois Institute of Technology, the Bronzeville community surrounding Main Campus was in the midst of revitalization. That climate, which included the razing of the nearby Robert Taylor Homes public housing complex, influenced Darnstadt to focus her future career on affordable housing.

After graduation, she worked for three years as an architect for a local firm whose interests included affordable housing projects before she was laid off during the economic downturn, when unemployment in the industry averaged 25–30 percent. Seeking volunteer opportunities, she got in at the ground level of the Chicago Chapter of the global nonprofit Architecture for Humanity. She helped to lead Fresh Moves, an affordable and innovative solution to Chicago's food deserts—areas with limited access to fruits and vegetables—via a mobile produce market in the form of a retrofitted CTA bus.

“She's an architect, but her lens is much bigger,” says Steve Casey, board president and a co-founder of Fresh Moves, noting that Darnstadt and her team designed the first bus for Chicago's Austin and Lawndale neighborhoods, and also recruited and managed volunteers to convert two additional buses for the South Side of Chicago. “The project is a testament to her as a leader who is extremely customer service-oriented and friendly. I can call upon her with a simple or complex problem. It's hard to believe that she provides all of these services pro bono.”

Pro bono services for clients in need are just part of the social conscience behind Latent Design. Darnstadt took cues from her social entrepreneur peers, nonprofit clients, and AfHC when structuring her firm, which also sets aside 10 percent of its profits to pay employees who have agreed to work for a reduced fee. Additionally, employees receive a finder's fee for bringing in new projects. Many of Darnstadt's clients come from her AfHC partnerships; nearly all of her clients seek out Latent Design from Darnstadt's collaborations within the nonprofit sector.

On some projects—such as Femme 2 STEM—Darnstadt serves as educator and design guide, empowering clients to solve their own challenges. In 2011, the nonprofit organization Demoiselle 2 Femme selected Darnstadt's firm to design a 28,000-square-foot community center for young women ages 12–18 in Chicago's Roseland neighborhood. Discussions with the client and a
focus group of potential users yielded ideas about after-school programming in art, business, and science. Out of that conversation, Latent Design helped a group of teenage girls develop STEM-based program assessment and design skills needed to convert a vacant lot into a play space. In summer 2012, the young women designed and built the Climb, Jump, Leap, and Imagine Playground in an intensive two-week workshop.

“It’s been such a rewarding experience to work with someone who can see the intersections between what our organization stands for—public health, community, education—and design,” says Sherida Morrison, chief executive officer of Demoiselle 2 Femme. “Katherine engaged our girls to go on a journey of creative design. The playground mimics the Swiss Alps, and represents a place of peace and tranquility in a volatile area.”

Climb, Jump, Leap, and Imagine took the Grand Prize in the Metropolitan Planning Council’s 2012 Space in Between placemaking contest. Also that year, Darnstadt received the IIT Young Alumni Award and the AIA Illinois R. Buckminster Fuller Service Award for her humanitarian efforts. Darnstadt was named as one of 15 recipients of the 2013 Young Architects Award from the AIA.

A teacher at the School of the Art Institute of Chicago and an advisory board member and studio professor at the city’s new Integrated School of Building, she encourages colleagues to consider how design education could be transformed to best prepare the next generation of students. Darnstadt also advises colleagues to heed what youth can teach them.

“Our profession has always been very hierarchical and top-down, but now there are more opportunities for bottom-up movement,” she says. “This shift is allowing for leadership at the level of the emerging professional. You have to acknowledge it.”

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MORE ONLINE

Latent Design: http://latentdesign.net
Architecture for Humanity: http://chicago.architectureforhumanity.org
Demoiselle 2 Femme: www.demoiselle2femme.org
Fresh Moves: www.freshmoves.org
In 1937, László Moholy-Nagy founded a cutting-edge design school in Chicago: the New Bauhaus. Rooted in a guiding principle behind Germany’s influential Bauhaus—that intelligent design could improve the world—the school attracted faculty and educated alumni who were iconic figures in photography, graphic design, and communications. Over the years, the New Bauhaus evolved to become the Institute of Design and made important strides in computer-supported design and product design.

Dean Patrick Whitney joined the Institute of Design in 1982 and became head of the school in 1986. Under his leadership, IIT ID has become one of the top graduate-level academic institutions in the world focusing on human-centered design, user research, and design strategy. In a conversation marking IIT ID’s 75th anniversary, Whitney discusses the past, present, and future of the school that has shaped design in Chicago and across the globe.

**New Bauhaus Influence**

While ID today does not carry on in the “craft” tradition of the New Bauhaus, what we do carry over is the belief in experimentation. Most design schools would say they do that, too, but our experimentation is broader, going beyond the arts. That spirit of experimentation has been evident through all of its 75 years. In the early years of the school, there was no formal research; it was all individual experimentation by faculty with marginal funding from companies and foundations. Today, it is much more evident to company and foundation leaders why ID’s approach is worth funding.

**Growing into Leadership**

We’ve achieved a significant number of milestones over the past 25 years. As the school began to develop increasingly advanced methods, a decision was made to close the undergraduate design program and focus on Ph.D. and master’s programs. This has evolved into numerous high-level offerings, including a two-year option for professional designers, a three-year option for those from other fields, a dual-degree Master of Design/M.B.A. program, and an executive format master’s for mid-career innovation leaders. Our most recent milestone is the short courses for executives. ID is one of only two or three schools that offer this type of program.

During this time, we grew research to the point where every tenured or tenure-track faculty member has outside funding to support their work. I’m sure we’re the only design school in the world that can say that.

**Hometown Advantage**

About only 10 percent of our students come from the Chicago area. But we’re a huge contributor to Chicago. If 10 percent of the students come from Chicago, probably 20 percent stay in Chicago after graduation, so we add to the growth of very bright people coming into the city. It’s one of the main ways that we contribute to Chicago—as a net contributor of talent. We bring an international flavor to the city.
Looking Toward the Future of Innovation

I think we’re in the earliest stages of the third Industrial Revolution, where we have seen information technology is augmenting old industrial processes, helping companies do things faster and cheaper. When the invention of photography was a new technology, it copied the forms of painting for decades before photography became its own medium. If you look at the first uses of television, it copied the forms of vaudeville. The first uses of computers were as calculating machines. All new technology in its first phase is used to help the old technology do things faster and cheaper. That’s how computing is being used now in manufacturing and communications. Larger changes are on the horizon.

One example is we will likely move from a consumer economy to a producer economy. People will be customizing the final product, information, or service for themselves. The designer’s role will change from designing final products and information, and instead focus on designing the systems to allow people to figure out the final product themselves.

From New Bauhaus to New Leader

All fields start out as informal practices of informal bodies of knowledge. We are one of the leaders in the world—certainly not the only one but one of the few schools in the world—that is building a body of knowledge, formalizing the body of knowledge, in the field of design.
Kwame Raoul is ready for the next step.

It’s been eight years since he succeeded Barack Obama in the Illinois Senate as a Democrat representing the 13th District on Chicago’s South Side. And just as now-President Obama moved on after eight years in Springfield, Sen. Raoul (LAW ’93) is considering his next move as well. Perhaps it will be a run for a statewide office such as attorney general, should current attorney general Lisa Madigan run for governor, or a run for the United States Senate if Dick Durbin retires in 2014, as Durbin has hinted.

If it’s the U.S. Senate job, then Sen. Raoul would again be following in President Obama’s footsteps. Sen. Raoul isn’t committed to using his predecessor’s career as a blueprint, though; in fact, he was leaning toward a private-sector career until he received some unexpected encouragement from his teenage son last year.

It was a surprise because the same son, as a 7-year-old in 2006, told his dad he hoped he wasn’t reelected because he wanted him to spend more time at home. Six years later, the son’s tune had changed. “He said, ‘Dad, when you first started, I didn’t particularly like you being gone so much. But over the years, I’ve come to appreciate the work that you’ve done, and I think it’s kind of cool when people come up to you on the street and say thank you,’” Sen. Raoul recalls. “He started crying, I started crying, and I made an about-face right then.”

So while Sen. Raoul did change jobs in 2012, joining the Chicago office of Milwaukee-based law firm Quarles and Brady as a partner in the labor and employment law group, it was understood that he would continue to devote much of his time to public service. (He had a similar arrangement with his former employer, Detroit-based law firm Miller Canfield.)

Sen. Raoul’s legacy in Springfield extends far beyond labor law. In 2011, three significant bills he sponsored were signed into law by Governor Pat Quinn: one abolished the death penalty in Illinois; another reformed Illinois’s workers’ compensation system; and a third, the Illinois Voting Rights Act, guards against political gerrymandering.

Sen. Raoul has also established a reputation for working across political lines, forging friendships with Republican colleagues such as John Millner from west suburban Carol Stream, who retired in January 2013.

“We’re able to listen to each other, able to craft meaningful dialogue, and that leads to meaningful legislation,” says Millner. Sen. Raoul “is willing to take positions that are politically difficult if he knows it’s the right thing to do, and that says a lot about his character and integrity. He’s a true statesman of the legislature.”

In 2008, Sen. Raoul took a group of 50 Chicagoans to rural, downstate Jefferson County as part of an exchange program that he designed with the Illinois Farm Bureau. Sen. Raoul and his guests visited a local school, hospital, and even a shooting range. A few weeks later, a similar group from Jefferson County visited Raoul’s district in Chicago. Then the 100 participants gathered for a town-hall-style meeting.

Raoul says the experience helped him understand the gun-control debate in a more nuanced manner, and that it was meaningful to interact with gun-rights advocates outside the polarized atmosphere of Springfield.

That spirit of compromise hasn’t always defined the Illinois Senate during Sen. Raoul’s tenure, however. His early days in the state legislature under then-Governor Rod Blagojevich were marked by stalemate. The memory of that feeling of ineffectiveness influenced Sen. Raoul’s decision not to seek Jesse Jackson Jr.’s seat in the U.S. House of Representatives. He briefly considered a run, but concluded, “I don’t want to go to the bottom of a seniority base of a hierarchy that is dysfunctional, in the minority, where potentially I’m never going to be able to advance any legislation or public policy during my entire tenure.”

Sen. Raoul grew up in Chicago’s Hyde Park and Kenwood neighborhoods; his parents are immigrants from Haiti, and Sen. Raoul serves on the board of International Child Care (ICC), a nonprofit that promotes health care for children in Haiti and the Dominican Republic. He traveled to Haiti in 2011 with a team from Chicago’s Lurie Children’s Hospital in hopes of rebuilding an ICC-run children’s hospital in Port-au-Prince that was destroyed by a 2010 earthquake. The Chicago team is returning to Haiti in 2013 for the next phase of the project.

The cross-cultural partnership is reminiscent of the Jefferson County exchange, and points to the sort of bridge-building that Sen. Raoul hopes will define his political career. That strategy isn’t traditional Chicago politics, of course—but neither is Sen. Raoul.
ONE STEP TOWARD THE JOURNEY

by STEVE HENDERSHOT
From Chicago’s South Side to the North, from Armour Institute to IIT College of Architecture, from high schools to skyscrapers, and from Ludwig Mies van der Rohe to Alfred Caldwell to John Ronan, IIT has left an indelible mark on the city’s architecture.

The infographic on the following two pages captures just a handful of the many notable Chicago buildings—John Hancock Center, Willis Tower, Marina City—that are affiliated with current or former IIT students, alumni, faculty, or firms. *IIT Magazine* thanks the College of Architecture at IIT for its assistance with this infographic, which includes the year each project was completed.
In 1921, Ludwig Mies van der Rohe sketched a glass tower for a competition to design Berlin’s first skyscraper on a triangular plot in a busy shopping district. While his idea did not come into fruition, 30 years later and nearly 4,500 miles away, Mies came close to his idea by instead designing Chicago’s iconic 860–880 Lake Shore Drive Apartments, setting a standard by which other glass-and-steel skyscrapers of the period were measured.

The twin buildings—characterized by their sleek International Modernist style, lack of ornamentation, and the first use of glass-and-steel curtain walls—would further inspire Mies to design the Seagram Building (1958). The glass-and-steel foundation laid by 860–880 Lake Shore Drive can be seen in structures ranging from New York City’s Lever House (1952) to Chicago’s Inland Steel Building (1958), Lake Point Tower (1968), John Hancock Center (1970), and Willis Tower (1973), and continues to influence the Windy City’s skyline.
“EINSTEIN WITH SWIM GOGGLES”

The man with the short grizzled beard and blue goggles is one of several swimmers doing mid-morning laps in the IIT Keating Sports Center pool. His arms move methodically in the rhythm of the freestyle—stroke, stroke, stroke-breathe. Stroke, stroke, stroke-breathe. These days, his pace is a leisurely one mile per hour. But in 1967, retired chemistry and physics teacher Ted Erikson (CHE ’52, M.S. CHEM ’59) was nearly twice as fast, a human projectile in a harrowing long-distance swim whose record still stands.

That year, Erikson swam 26.4 nautical miles in 14:38 between California’s Farallon Islands and the Golden Gate Bridge. The water was notable for its cold temperatures, strong currents, and deadly creatures, specifically, great white sharks, orcas, and jellyfish. It was his third attempt to conquer the Farallons channel, as his second attempt the previous year resulted in a small snag—his temporary “death” due to hypothermia.
“I was swimming, but I wasn’t conscious,” says Erikson, in typical good humor and wearing his favorite T-shirt with the motto “Old swimmers never die—They just wade away.” No longer in the pool, he continues to make swimming motions from a bench in the Keating gallery as he talks. “They pulled me out of the water, wrapped me in a blanket, and finally got me to stop swimming. After I began to relax, the nurse didn’t feel a pulse and reported me dead.”

Erikson’s resilience is a combination of self-described eccentricity, stubborn determination, and his rejection of the mainstream. Whether exploring panpsychism—the view that all matter, including water, has awareness—or fighting to preserve the shoreline of his beloved Hyde Park neighborhood sun and swim sanctuary, Promontory Point, Erikson is a true force, both in and out of the water.

“Ted is one of the most unusual people on the planet,” says Vito Bialla, co-founder of the Farallon Islands Swimming Federation (FISF). “He swims in order to shut his mind down and stop it from racing through mathematical problem-solving. Quite the brilliant man, he is an Einstein with swim goggles.”

Born in Chicago at “a hospital near 39th and the Lake [Michigan],” Erikson has lived near a body of water his entire life except from ages 6–14, when his family moved to his stepfather’s ranch in land-locked Montana. But even there he thought about water, or more specifically, the lack of it, when drought hampered his family’s farming and cattle operations. His father suggested he return to Chicago to attend what is now South Shore International College Prep High School. After graduation, Erikson entered the United States Navy. Water drew him to submarine service, then to Key West, Fla., where he joined his first swim team.

After the military, Erikson enrolled at IIT. During registration, he met the swim coach, who invited him to participate in a meet that evening. Erikson took first place in both events he entered, the 220- and 440-meter swims, and later was named swim captain while an undergraduate.

While in graduate school, he became employed as a senior chemist at IIT Research Institute and dove into marathon swimming in earnest, competing in the 1961 Chicago-to-Michigan City, Ind., swim (“I took first because I was the only one to finish; everyone else dropped out.”) of 36.75 miles in 36:37; a 50-mile swim of 35:37 from Chicago to Kenosha, Wis., in 1962; and a 60-mile swim of 37:25 from Chicago to St. Joseph, Mich., in 1963. Taking second in the latter two events
motivated him to beat the record for the double-English Channel swim between Dover, England and Calais, France, which he did in 1965, on his third attempt. His son, Jon, followed in his wake with seven channel crossings over 1969–1981, breaking his father’s double record held for a decade and setting the first record for the triple-channel.

Another member of the record-holding family was the late Umbra, a black Labrador-greyhound stray that earned “Wonder Dog” status for her swimming accomplishments in a series documentary filmed by National Geographic Explorer. The dog made her aquatic debut at the Point, a naturalistic peninsula designed by Alfred Caldwell that is part of Chicago’s Burnham Park. Erikson has been frequenting the Point for more than a half-century and was arrested twice in the 1980s for swimming in deep areas away from beach access. After staging a “swim-in” and circulating a pro-swimming petition, Erikson and his fellow swimmers were able to keep the entire Point swim-accessible.

In 2001, Erikson was among a group of concerned South Siders who met with city officials and members of the United States Army Corps of Engineers about their intention to replace the Point’s shoreline of picturesque limestone blocks with a sheer concrete-and-steel seawall. The controversial erosion-control project is still under debate.

What is not being contested is Erikson’s Farallons Island record, though other swimmers are eagerly throwing their neoprene caps into the ring. In 2011, two six-person relay teams coordinated through the FISF failed to beat Erikson’s time. “What Ted accomplished swimming from the Farallons has never been done before, yet several have tried,” says Bialla. “I hope he lives long enough to have someone do what he did. He would enjoy sharing that accomplishment. He is that type of guy, a prince of a man.”

MORE ONLINE
Ted Erikson’s website: www.sdogv.com/swim.html
“To Seek Unknown Shores”: http://fqxi.org/community/forum/topic/1409
Wonder Dog Umbra’s “Precis”: www.youtube.com/watch?v=v8P_SmkuxAXA

Activating the Vacant Lot
What do community empowerment and a game of tic-tac-toe have in common? An underutilized area redesigned and rebuilt for positive gatherings.

Led by Monica Chadha, adjunct assistant professor of architecture, a group of IIT students helped to transform part of a vacant lot as part of their Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program course Neighborhood Placemaking: Focus on Bronzeville. After surveying residents about their ideas for the space, which borders Bronzeville’s historic Forum Hall, the students created “urban activators”—a set of portable lightweight furniture, including chairs, game tables, and furniture storage bins that convert into refuse receptacles. Community members tested and helped to paint the pop-up furniture at a July 2012 launch party. The furniture is currently in storage in the Forum awaiting the return of warmer weather.

“The students worked with the local community at every step and incorporated suggestions and responses to refine each design,” says Chadha, who focuses much of her work on community-based participatory design. “This project would not have been possible or successful without the integrated approach that we followed during the IPRO.”

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1950s

Robert Bragg
(PHYS ‘49, M.S. ’51, Ph.D. ‘60), Emeryville, Calif., was honored by the IIT African-American Alumni Association with the Trail Blazer Award at the African-American Alumni Association Homecoming Honors Gala.

Gregory Haugen

Marvin Newman
(M.S. PHOT ’52), Jersey City, N.J., had his work featured as part of *The Radical Camera: New York’s Photo League, 1936–1951*, the first comprehensive museum exhibition in three decades of the famed photography group’s work, history, artistic significance, and cultural, social, and political milieu.

Robert Krupp
(M.S. PHYS ’56, Ph.D. ’65), Plainfield, Ill., authored *Laura and Grandpa—Discovering Science Together*, which received a Mom’s Choice Award for Children’s Picture Story Book. Krupp is a retired professor of physics at Wilbur Wright College.

Ray Metzker
(M.S. DSGN ’59), Philadelphia, had his work featured as part of *Gettys Presents the Photographs of Ray K. Metzker and the Institute of Design*, organized in collaboration with the Nelson-Atkins Museum of Art in Kansas City, Mo.

1960s

John Watson
(BIOL ’64), Daly City, Calif., was honored by the IIT African-American Alumni Association with the Professional Achievement Award at the African-American Alumni Association Homecoming Honors Gala.

Nicholas Thomopoulos

1970s

John E. Kane
(CHE ’70), Northridge, Calif., is chief operating officer at Tamlin Software Developers.

Patricia Carroll
(M.S. DSGN ’72), Chicago, exhibited her latest series of photographs, titled *Anonymous Women*, at the Chicago Cultural Center.

Nancy Grant
(M.S. SI ’72), Fairfax, Va., is senior director, risk management and network administration, at NACHA.

Tadaaki Chigusa
(M.S. IE ’73), Tokyo, is chairman of Tokyo Bay Network Company, a cable TV company that covers the central part of Tokyo.

Ajva Taulananda
(Ph.D. IE ’73), Bangkok, Thailand, is vice chairman of Charoen Pokphand Group, one of the largest conglomerates in Thailand, and vice chairman of True Corporation Public Company Limited, Thailand’s integrated communications solutions provider.

Kyle Schroeder
(MGT ’77), Denver, is president at Team A.T.E.

Christopher Yep
(M.S. REHB ’77), Lemont, Ill., is founder, president, and chief executive officer of the family-run business Triune, which Crain’s Chicago Business named as one of Chicago’s “best places to work.”

Mohammad Ansari
(M.S. IE ’78), Frederick, Md., is a senior mechanical engineer at Bechtel Power Corporation.

Alan Druschitz
(MET ’78, Ph.D. ’82), Blacksburg, Va., is associate professor at Virginia Tech and the director of Virginia Tech Foundry Institute for Research and Education.

Kevin Peterson
(MET ’78), Herndon, Va., is principal at Innovative Protection Solutions.

Mark Cleaver
(MGT ’79), Chicago, and his company, Light Technologies, developed SpellBrite, a do-it-yourself sign system that combines the brilliance of neon with the efficiency of light-emitting diodes, or LED. SpellBrite took home the award for Best New Product at the International Sign Association’s 2012 expo.

Jonathan Jaffe
(MGT ’79, M.S. OTM ’97), Gallatin, Tenn., was granted a patent for “Indigenous Authentication and Searching System and Method” US 8,219,545. It was his fifth patent in diverse fields of information theory, financial equities investment selection, and advanced designs for railway ties.

1980s

Elliot Mednick
(EE ’81), Salem, N.H., is principal member of the technical staff at AMD Research.

John Swan
(EE ’81), San Jose, Calif., was recently awarded the Meritorious Service Award by the IEEE Computer Society.

John Planek
(MGT ’83), Oak Park, Ill., was named athletic director for Lewis University.

James Stapleton
(ARCH ’83), Cincinnati, was appointed a principal at FRCH Design Worldwide. He is vice president in charge of operations and architecture design in the company’s Hospitality Design Studio.

John Kerin
(EE ’84, M.B.A. ’90), Park Ridge, Ill., was named executive vice president and chief executive officer of the Chicago Stock Exchange.

Julius Washington
(ARCH ’84), Great Lakes, Ill., retired from the United States Navy. He is a qualified surface warfare officer and spent most of his career in the Navy’s Civil Engineering Corps.

Joel Gershbein
(M.S. PSYC ’85, M.B.A. ’89), Vernon Hills, Ill., is the chief executive officer of Owlish Communications, a company that specializes in LinkedIn education.

Prakash Teli
(M.S. CS ’85), Sharon, Mass., is senior director of product management at FirstFuel in Lexington, Mass.

Miroko Martich
(ME ’86), Lisle, Ill., is a partner at McKinsey & Company.

Loretta Moore
(M.S. CS ’86, Ph.D. ’91), Jackson, Miss., was appointed associate vice president for research and scholarly engagement at Jackson State University.

Adam Yala
(M.S. CE ’86, Ph.D. ’93), Schaumburg, Ill., was promoted to vice president in the Chicago office of Thornton Tomasetti, the international engineering firm.

1990s

 Ratna Dalal

Tyler Duvall
(M.B.A. ’90, LAW ’91), Henderson, Nev., is the owner of Duvall Legal and Capital Management Group.
Ken Taylor’s IIT education helped him discover his talent for psychology and gave him the confidence to pursue graduate school in the field. Now a retired community college faculty member, he included IIT in his estate plans so today’s students can develop their interests for a lifetime of professional fulfillment as he did.

“I found my educational experience at IIT extremely valuable and am glad to help provide this type of education to others in the future.”

KEN TAYLOR (BE ’63, M.S. PSYC ’66)

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.

Visit www.iit.edu/giftplanning to begin learning how you can benefit from these giving methods and more. Contact Stuart Gold, director of gift planning, at 312.567.5020 or giftplanning@iit.edu.
Catherine O’Connor (M.S. ENVE ’93, Ph.D. ’03), Chicago, was appointed as the first female director of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago.

Carol Ferrari-Gerbetz (M.B.A. ’92), Maynard, Mass., is vice president of marketing and community at Indorins.

Odin jurkowski (STH ’92, M.S. TCID ’97), Warrensburg, Mo., was promoted to full professor at the University of Central Missouri.

Kirk Woolford (M.S. DSGN ’92), Brighton, U.K., is senior lecturer at the University of Sussex.

Kwame Raoul (LAW ’93), Chicago, was honored by the IIT African-American Alumni Association with the Civic Engagement Award at the African-American Alumni Association Homecoming Honors Gala.

American Alumni Association Homecoming Honors Gala.

Sundaresan Bandepalli (M.S. CS ’94), Rolling Meadows, Ill., is principal of The Adeza Group.

Jimmy Akintonde (ARCH ’95), Chicago, was among the awardees at the 2012 Coalition for United Community Action–ORTC gala.

Donald Commare (M.B.A. FIN ’85, M.S. MCOM 100), Broomfield, Colo., was promoted to vice president of marketing for Inovonics.

Cheryl Hyman (CS ’96), Chicago, was among the awardees at the 2012 Coalition for United Community Action–ORTC gala. Hyman also was honored by the IIT African-American Alumni Association with the Education Award at the African-American Alumni Association Homecoming Honors Gala.

Michael Siem (CHE ’96), Brooklyn, N.Y., recently joined Baker Botts as special counsel.

Paul Smith (EE ’96), San Francisco, was honored by the IIT African-American Alumni Association with the Distinguished Young Alumni Award at the African-American Alumni Association Homecoming Honors Gala.

John Abramic (CHE ’97, LAW ’01), Naperville, Ill., a shareholder at McAndrews, Held & Malloy, was named one of the “40 Illinois Attorneys Under Forty to Watch” for 2012 by Law Bulletin Publishing Company.

Valerie Mason-Robinson (CHE ’97), Piscataway, N.J., was honored by the IIT African-American Alumni Association with the Young Entrepreneur of the Year Award at the African-American Alumni Association Homecoming Honors Gala.

Michael Richter (M.Des. ’97), Waukegan, Ill., is co-founder of iconmobile, located in Berlin.

American Alumni Association Homecoming Honors Gala.

Patrick Rush (FM ’97, M.B.A. ’98), Whitsett, N.C., was named a principal of Triad Financial Advisors.

Steven Avadek (M.S. EM ’98), Northbrook, Ill., is now head of global sustainability at Citibank.

Thomas Poulos (CER EWED ’98, M.A.S. STE ’99), Park Ridge, Ill., was promoted to senior principal in the Chicago office of Thornton Tomasetti, the international engineering firm.

Frank Gruger (DSGN ’99), Highland Park, Ill., is vice president of user experience at Semmx, where he is developing a new social-knowledge platform.

Kley Cardona (M.S. CS ’99), Waltham, Mass., is senior development engineer at Raytheon.

Sandra Le (CHE ’99), Washington, D.C., is an associate attorney with law firm R.E. Bushnell & Law Firm. She and her husband, Justin Spears, welcomed their third child, Violet Spears, in February 2012.

Arun Prakash (AE ’99), Austin, Texas, and his wife, Anita, are happy to announce the arrival of their son, Arman. Prakash is currently with Virgo Capital, a private equity firm focused on software company acquisitions in the lower middle market.

Mae Cheri Whiteside (CE ’99), Chicago, has her own business, Cheri K. Lewis Engineers.

2000s

Janice Gronvold (M.S. MCOM ’00), Irvine, Calif., is the owner of Spectrec in Orange County.

Denis Weil (M.Des. ’01), Chicago, is vice president of concept and design at the Innovation Group at McDonald’s.

Friday, April 19, 2013
11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Hermann Hall
IIT Main Campus
Chicago

Join fellow IIT Alumni Association members to celebrate the accomplishments of our distinguished alumni. A complete list of 2013 winners, along with registration details, is available at http://alumni.iit.edu/awards.
Umashankar Mukkara (M.A.S. TSEC ’02), Bangalore, India, is a co-founder of CloudByte, a one-year-old cloud startup focusing on storage virtualization.

Jagdeesh Prakasam (M.S. FIN ’03), Issaquah, Wash., is portfolio manager for Rotella Capital Management.

Sreekanth Rao Belpu (M.S. CS ’03), Westborough, Mass., is director of product portfolio and implementations at iKaSystems.

Kei Hoshi (M.Des. ’04), Zurich, Switzerland, works as a researcher at the University of Zurich.

Darcy Lewis (M.B.A. ’04), Denver, started her own fashion design boutique, Tongue In Chic Design, specializing in “classic clothing with an offbeat sensibility.”

Jennifer McDaniel (ARCH ’04), is a project manager at Kenney Architects.

Sean Phillips (M.Des. ’04), South Lancaster, Mass., is principal at Rocket Strategic Design.

Lance Pickens (MBB ’05), Emeryville, Calif., is the co-founder of MadeSolid, which creates 3-D printed molecular models directly from scientific data.

Brandon Seaton (EE ’06), Bellwood, Ill., is an electrical designer at Exelon Nuclear.

Jorge Mihalopoulos (LAW ’04, M.S. EM ’06), Chicago, is a senior assistant attorney in the environmental and employment division of the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago’s Law Department.

Snehil Solanki (M.A.S. MAE ’06), Colorado Springs, Colo., is a senior mechanical design engineer in the Security Technologies sector at Ingersoll Rand.

Jeremy Ehly (M.A.R. ARCH ’07), Denver, married Lindsay Grote last July. He is a lecturer in urban design and landscape design and architecture at the University of Colorado Boulder. He and his wife started their own business, The Design Couple, doing design, architecture, and interior design.

Evan Jahn (M.S. EM ’10), Chicago, married Julie Elizabeth Smith last year.

Nikki Pfarr (M.Des. DSGN ’10), Seattle, married Joshua Grochow last year.

Guillermo Kroblit (M.B.A./M.Des. ’11), Chicago, is co-founder of the digital educational products company Peapod Labs.

Nashrah Noor (ARCH ’11), Costa Mesa, Calif., joined the Building Performance team of Thornton Tomasetti, the international engineering firm.

Jessica (Shaw) Marks (PSYC ’11), Chicago, married Matthew Marks.

Junyoung Yang (M.Des. ’11), Goyang City, South Korea, is co-founder of the digital educational products company Peapod Labs.

Jan Seyberth (Attendee), Chicago, is head of innovation consulting at Stylepark AG in Frankfurt, Germany.

**Q. WHEN DOES 1=2?**

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ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY
alumni news
1. Cho Chair Investiture  IIT Armour College of Engineering Dean Natacha DePaola [left] and Provost Alan Cramb [right] congratulate Vijay K. Ramani after officially investing him as the new Hyosung S. R. Cho Endowed Chair in Engineering.  Photo: Michael Goss Photography

2. Rowe Family Chair Investiture  Leon L. Shaw, Rowe Family Endowed Chair in Sustainable Energy [center], was feted by [left to right] Zhenguo “Gary” Yang, IIT President John Anderson, Chairman of the Board of Trustees John W. Rowe, Jeanne M. Rowe, IIT Armour College of Engineering Dean Natacha DePaola, and IIT Provost Alan Cramb at Shaw’s investiture.  Photo: Bonnie Robinson Photography

3. Darsh T. Wasan Lecture  Distinguished Professor Darsh Wasan [center] is flanked by [left to right] Professor Emeritus Dimitri Gidaspow (Ph.D. GT ’62), Sanjay Srivatsa (M.S. CHE ’79), Jeffrey Perl (CHE ’77, M.S. ’79, Ph.D. ’84), and Daniel Huang (Ph.D. CHE ’85) at the fifth annual Darsh T. Wasan Lecture. The event featured keynote speaker Subra Suresh, director of the National Science Foundation.  Photo: Bonnie Robinson Photography

4. China Alumni Association  University leaders and Chinese alumni celebrated the formation of the IIT China Alumni Association.  [Left to right] Darsh Wasan, vice president for IIT International Affairs, is joined by IIT Provost Alan Cramb; S. R. Cho (M.A.S. CHE ’66); Paul Mak (CHE ’81), chairman; Chien Zhangliang, president of the Western Returned Scholars Association; IIT President John Anderson; Jeffrey Li (M.S. MET ’88), honorary chairman; and Victor Lo (DSGN ’73).

5. Beijing Visit  IIT President John Anderson and Provost Alan Cramb met with Hu Haiyan, president of Beijing Institute of Technology [left of Anderson], and other administrative officials during a visit to China in fall 2012. Also pictured is Darsh Wasan, IIT vice president for International Affairs [right of Cramb].  Photo: Beijing Institute of Technology

6. 4A Honorees  The IIT African-American Alumni Association (4A) recognized alumni in the areas of professional achievement, civic engagement, education, entrepreneurship, and technology at the Homecoming Honors Gala, held on September 22, 2012. Awardees included [left to right] Paul D. Smith (EE ’96), Maurice Haynes (representing Robert H. Bragg [PHYS ’49, M.S. ’51, Ph.D. ’60]), Valerie Mason-Robinson (CHE ’97), John A. Watson (BIOL ’64), and Kwame Raoul (LAW ’93). Also honored was Cheryl Hyman (CS ’96).  Photo: Carl Lewis

7. Seattle Gathering  Dognime Coulibaly (M.S. CS ’05); Tim Lipman (PSYC ’10), IIT admissions officer; Susan Faraone, associate vice president for Institutional Advancement; Jeffrey Engel (CS ’10, M.S. ’12), and Kadambari Sinha (M.S. ’09) joined Trustee Frank Brod (MGT ’75), corporate vice president of finance and administration and chief accounting officer at Microsoft Corporation [second from left], who hosted the IIT Seattle Alumni Chapter event this past fall.  Photo: Melanie Blair Photography

8. Golden Celebrants  Members of the Class of 1962 take a break from their 50th Golden Reunion activities for a group photo.  Photo: Bonnie Robinson Photography

ALUMNI EVENTS

For information about the upcoming alumni events listed here and other alumni activities, please contact the Office of Alumni Relations at 312.567.5040, alumni@iit.edu, or alumni.iit.edu.

IIT COLLEGE OF SCIENCE AND LETTERS SPRING LECTURES
February–April
IIT Main Campus
Chicago
Join IIT College of Science and Letters for its spring lecture series. For more information, please visit alumni.iit.edu/csl_lectures.

ALUMNI EVENTS

ARIZONA ALUMNI GATHERING
Wednesday, March 20, 2013
Taliesin West
Scottsdale, Ariz.
Join IIT President John Anderson for a reception and program at this National Historic Landmark to learn more about how the university is fueling innovation.

IIT COLLEGE OF PSYCHOLOGY NAMBURY S. RAJU LECTURE
Friday, March 8, 2013
Hermann Hall
IIT Main Campus
Chicago
You are welcome to join IIT College of Psychology for the lecture “Emerging Trends in Leadership Assessment” presented by John C. Scott, chief operating officer of APTMetrics.

NATIONAL SOCIETY OF BLACK ENGINEERS ALUMNI RECEPTION
Thursday, March 28, 2013
Indianapolis
Please join us for a reception held in conjunction with the National Society of Black Engineers Annual Convention.

MIES’ BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION
Wednesday, March 13, 2013
S. R. Crown Hall
IIT Main Campus
Chicago
Celebrate with the Mies van der Rohe Society at the annual birthday party for Mies! Tickets are $50 per person. For more information, contact Justine Jentes at 312.567.7146 or miesmembership@iit.edu.

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA ALUMNI GATHERING
Wednesday, April 3, 2013
Jonathan Club
Los Angeles
Join IIT President John Anderson for a reception and program to learn more about how the university is fueling innovation.

CONGRATS, GRADS! PARTY
Thursday, May 16, 2013
The Bog, Hermann Hall
IIT Main Campus
Chicago
Join us for food, drinks, games, and friendship as we congratulate the Class of 2013 and welcome them into the Alumni Association.

YOUNG ALUMNI SOCIAL
Thursday, March 14, 2013
Headquarters Beercade
Chicago
Join other alumni from the past decade in celebration of Pi Day 2013.

WASHINGTON, D.C. ALUMNI GATHERING
Wednesday, April 10, 2013
Cosmos Club
Washington, D.C.
Please join IIT President John Anderson for a reception hosted by David Silver (CHEM ’62).

NEW YORK ALUMNI GATHERING
Tuesday, April 9, 2013
World Trade Center
New York
Please join IIT President John Anderson for a networking event and hard-hat tour hosted by John Genovese (ARCH ‘83).

NORTHERN CALIFORNIA ALUMNI GATHERING
Tuesday, April 16, 2013
Linkedin Headquarters
Mountain View, Calif.
Please join IIT President John Anderson for a networking event hosted by Albert Wang (M.Des. ’07).

ALUMNI AWARDS
Friday, April 19, 2013
11 a.m.–1:30 p.m.
Hermann Hall
IIT Main Campus
Chicago
Join fellow IIT Alumni Association members to celebrate the accomplishments of our distinguished alumni. The day will begin with a reception at 11 a.m. followed by a formal luncheon and presentation of awards at noon. To register, visit http://alumni.iit.edu/awards.

COMMENCEMENT
Saturday, May 18, 2013
IIT Main Campus
Chicago

ALUMNI ASSOCIATION
While Madison Allen “Al” Self possessed a quiet confidence and was simply listed as “M. A. Self” on Illinois Institute of Technology materials, he was among the greatest benefactors in the university’s history. His contributions, along with those of the late Robert W. Galvin and Robert A. Pritzker (IE ’46), were so substantial that in 2005, the IIT Board of Trustees honored the men with a new position—Regent of the University. Perhaps Self’s most lasting gift to students was his contribution that led to the creation of IIT’s Self Leadership Academy.

“This unique program has elevated the entire campus,” says IIT President John Anderson. “Not only does it develop outstanding leadership skills in those students directly supported by the scholarships Al and his wife, Lila, provided, but it also reaches hundreds of students each year through the activities of the Leadership Retreat and the leadership programs on campus. We all talk about leadership; Al Self did something tangible to encourage its development. The Selfs will never be forgotten at IIT.”

Self maintained a lifelong interest in education, which began in a one-room grade school he attended in his native Kansas. He went on to become high school valedictorian and graduated with a bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering in 1943 from the University of Kansas, where he met Lila. Four years later, Self acquired Bee Chemical Company in Lansing, Ill., growing the company internationally and serving as its chief executive officer for 37 years before its sale to Morton Thiokol, Inc.

He then founded Allen Financial, Inc., a private investment company, and was its president up until the time of his death. In 1989, Self co-founded Tioga International, Inc., a diversified research and development company, and served as its chairman and chief executive officer. Tioga was sold a decade later.

Self believed that universities, beginning at the undergraduate level, could serve as crucibles of inspiration, producing society’s leaders. At IIT, his philanthropy supported leadership studies, student scholarships, the Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, and entrepreneurship, among other areas. Self joined the IIT Board of Trustees in 1980 and was elected a Life Trustee in 1994 before becoming a University Regent. In 1998, IIT awarded Self an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters and Science degree.

Self is survived by Lila, his wife of 69 years, his daughter-in-law, Anne, and two grandsons. His son, Murray, preceded him in death.
Elmer Burack  
M.S. BE ’55  
Northbrook, Ill.

After receiving his bachelor’s degree in chemical engineering and working in the field for several years, Elmer Burack enrolled in the master’s program in chemical engineering at IIT but soon discovered his true calling: business management. He switched majors and after graduating from IIT became a consultant with Booz Allen Hamilton. He also served on the IIT faculty for more than a decade, teaching courses in business and industrial management.

Burack was a recognized authority in human resource management and wrote several groundbreaking books on the subject, including Human Resource Planning: a Pragmatic Approach to Manpower Staffing and Development. He also wrote books on career planning for women and organizations. On the faculty of the University of Illinois at Chicago, Burack also served as head of the Department of Management, and later, was granted professor emeritus status.

Burack is survived by Ruth, his wife of 59 years, three sons, and several grandchildren.

A. Sidney Katz  
EE ’62  
Chicago

Although A. Sidney Katz would go on to earn his J.D. and become a prominent intellectual-property attorney, he never forgot his time hosting a student radio program as an IIT electrical engineering undergraduate. In 2011, the university’s radio station studio—WIIT 88.9-FM—was renamed the A. Sidney Katz Radio Station Studio in recognition of Katz’s generosity to IIT.

After graduating from IIT, Katz worked as an engineering technician and also as a patent examiner with the United States Patent Office in Washington, D.C. He completed his juris doctorate at The George Washington University Law School and returned to Chicago, where he worked with two firms before co-founding Welsh & Katz, which grew to become a full-service, international intellectual-property firm. In 2008, Welsh & Katz merged with Husch Blackwell; Katz served as managing partner of its Chicago office and was a member of its Partner Board and chair of its national intellectual property practice group.

A life member of the IEEE, Katz is the recipient of many honors, including the Torch of Learning Award from Hebrew University and the Judge Learned Hand Human Relations Award from the American Jewish Committee. His daughter Michelle S. Katz Rosenblum (LAW ’00) is an alumna of the college.

Katz is survived by his wife, Sheela, a son, two daughters, and six grandchildren.

Robert F. Christy  
Department of Physics  
Los Angeles

Manhattan Project physicist Robert F. Christy taught for a short time in the Department of Physics at IIT and performed research at the University of Chicago under Enrico Fermi before joining the historic team of scientists at Los Alamos, N.M., in 1943. Christy played a critical role in the project with his design of the solid-core triggering mechanism for the first atomic bomb. After World War II, Christy opposed further nuclear development and became a part of the National Research Council Committee on Dosimetry, which studied the effects of the bombs’ radiation on Hiroshima and Nagasaki.

Christy also was a Caltech faculty member and administrator for 40 years, obtaining professor emeritus status in 1986. He performed astrophysical research at Caltech and in 1967 was awarded the Eddington Medal of the Royal Astronomical Society for his investigations of outstanding merit in theoretical astrophysics.

Christy is survived by I. Juliana Christy-Sackmann, his wife of 39 years, two sons, two daughters, and five grandchildren.

Jacob R. Matijevic  
MATH ’69  
Los Angeles

Many millions of miles from Earth, on the planet Mars, are two natural structures named after Mars Rover mission engineer Jacob R. Matijevic: a pyramid-shaped basalt rock encountered by the rover Curiosity and a hill that rover Opportunity has been investigating.

Matijevic taught mathematics at the University of Kentucky and the University of Southern California before joining the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in 1981. For his first five years there, Matijevic oversaw design teams as a control systems engineer and then worked in the area of telerobotics from 1986–1992. In 1992, he began work on the first of three Mars rover missions in which he would play prominent roles. Matijevic was considered to be an expert regarding the overall rover system.

Matijevic is survived by his mother, Helen, a brother, and two sisters.
Sidney Robbins  
CE ’37  
Northbrook, Ill.

During World War II, Sidney Robbins, a member of the United States Navy’s elite Seabees engineering corps, volunteered to join a new unit—the Underwater Demolition Teams—or frogmen, so named for their work in clearing obstacles for amphibious landings in the Pacific region. He was eventually promoted to commanding officer and in 1944, was awarded the Silver Star.

When his military service ended, Robbins began his lifelong career in the construction industry, building thousands of structures—homes, apartment buildings, shopping centers, and industrial parks. Two of his most notable businesses are Chicago’s Water Tower Place and the 900 N. Michigan Avenue building, now known as the 900 North Michigan Shops.

Robbins is survived by his wife, Victoria Bumagin (his first wife, Lois, to whom he was married for 55 years, preceded him in death), three sons, a daughter, and nine grandchildren.

Erdmann Schmocker  
ARCH ’59, M.S. CRP ’61  
IIT College of Architecture  
Chicago

After graduating from IIT, where he studied under notable Bauhaus faculty such as Ludwig Mies van der Rohe and Alfred Caldwell, Erdmann Schmocker taught at North Dakota State University and Kent State University before joining the faculty of IIT College of Architecture. He also taught for a brief time at IIT Institute of Design and altogether, was with the university for more than 30 years. While teaching, Schmocker also worked as an architect and in 1968, was architect and city planner for the Public Building Commission in Chicago.


Schmocker was preceded in death by his wife, Kim Chau Nguyen (CRP ‘82), who taught at IIT College of Architecture.
Where the Glass Was Never Half Empty

For the regulars of “Cheers”—the fictional Boston bar made popular in the eponymous television sitcom—their neighborhood watering hole, headed by bartender Sam Malone, was a place to unwind, enjoy a few beverages, and maybe meet a future mate. Decades earlier, students from both IIT and Michael Reese Hospital and Medical Center had their own Chicago hangout—Angie’s, owned by Birdie and Bruno Angelica, and located on the northwest corner of 29th Street and Cottage Grove Avenue.

“For most IIT Dels (Delta Tau Delta) of my era, Angie’s was an institution, a coming-of-age ritual, and what we needed to make our college days complete,” says Gale Hovey (BE ’54). “It was warm, welcoming, safe, and had lots of members of the opposite sex to interact with, such as the Michael Reese student nurses.”

At least one former student nurse felt similarly about Angie’s, where she first laid eyes on her future husband, Paul Schutt (PHYS ’55).

“He was jitterbugging with a cast on his leg,” recalls Suzi Schutt with a laugh, from the Schutts’ home on Amelia Island, Florida. “I said to my girlfriend, ‘Who is that crazy guy?’”

Now married for 56 years, the Schutts look back on their time at Angie’s with great fondness, especially for the tavern’s caring owners who saw the students as an extension of their own family.

“Birdie and Bruno were very parental and treated all of us like their own children. Michael Reese had curfew hours—midnight on Fridays and Saturdays—and Bruno either closed then or made sure we were all back on campus,” explains Suzi Schutt.

After the building that housed Angie’s was demolished to make way for urban revitalization, the Schutts visited Birdie at her home in Chicago’s western suburbs; Bruno had since passed away. Birdie took the couple down to her basement rec room where a nostalgic surprise awaited: the old jukebox from Angie’s as well as some of the tavern’s booths, including the one the Schutts frequented.

“The jukebox played from a selection of a dozen 12-inch records, and booths were on the periphery of a dance floor that was just the right size,” recalls Ed Hille (ME ’53). “Beer was 25 cents a bottle and in lean times, a glass of Keeley Half and Half was available for 10 cents. Ordering one might bring on some laughter and some always polite—and maybe philosophical—discussion of just what was in the other half. Even lessons to live by might have evolved.

“Angie’s was a happening unique to the times and the circumstances,” he adds. “We were fortunate to have experienced it.”
When Mark Twain wrote of “that astonishing Chicago” in Life on the Mississippi, he described a city “contriving and achieving new responsibilities.” It was 1883, the same year that Chicago conducted a trail run of the world’s first elevated electric railway at the Chicago Railway Exposition. This innovative transportation solution, developed by Thomas Edison and Stephen D. Field, boasted improvements such as reduced noise and pollution over its predecessor, the steam locomotive. According to Frank Lewis Dyer and Thomas Commerford Martin in their biography Edison: His Life and Inventions (Harper Brothers 1929), New York City initially had been hesitant to adopt this new technology into its railway system until after it was successfully demonstrated elsewhere. Chicago won the technology race when it launched the world’s first permanent elevated electric railway several years later.

The rest of the world followed in Chicago’s footsteps. Many great innovations—the cell phone, architectural invention, and wireless remote technology—are linked to Chicago and IIT. It’s no surprise given the creative energy and entrepreneurial, pioneering spirit that abound in this city. Chicago is often called the Second City, which is apropos when one considers the city’s drive to be the best. Call it Hungry City—Chicago’s endurance is unflappable.

Like any great city, Chicago experiences phases, and right now a heightened sense of new possibility is palpable here. The new digital-startup facility 1871 [see page 4] has opened downtown, so named for the year of the Great Chicago Fire, after which the city rebuilt itself and became greater than before. The city’s new investment in both its infrastructure and the education of its people—as exemplified by its partnership in IIT’s construction of the Innovation Center on Main Campus [see page 2]—point to a new phase of innovation and technological discovery that is underway. More broadly, IIT Institute of Design Dean Patrick Whitney describes how we are beginning a third Industrial Revolution [see page 18]; institutions such as IIT that develop innovative solutions for design and technology will be at the forefront of this revolution.

IIT has a long history of noteworthy contributions to Chicago’s greatness, and we are poised to chart and achieve new responsibilities in this next era of invention. From educating tomorrow’s leaders and innovators to creating a hub that will lead to products and processes that will improve our lives, we will lay the groundwork this year for bold new prophecies that, even when outgrown, will continue to astonish.

John L. Anderson
President

Trading Innovation

In 2006, Hazem Dawani (CPE ’01), an IIT Leadership Academy scholar, co-founded OptionsCity Software, a leading provider of electronic trading solutions, with two other IIT alumni. As CEO of the company, Dawani takes a creative approach with trading solutions and has garnered much attention. Freeway, the firm’s breakthrough multi-asset algorithmic trading platform, won the 2012 Chicago Innovation Award, and Dawani was recently named one of Crain’s Chicago’s “40 under 40.”

It’s time to let the world know how IIT is fueling innovation.

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Wednesday, March 13, 2013
S. R. Crown Hall
Chicago

Arizona Alumni and Friends Gathering
Wednesday, March 20, 2013
Taliesin Wills Scottsdale, Ariz.

Southern California Alumni and Friends Gathering
Wednesday, April 3, 2013
Jonathan Club
Los Angeles

Washington, D.C. Alumni and Friends Gathering
Wednesday, April 10, 2013
Cosmo Club
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Northern California Alumni and Friends Gathering
Tuesday, April 16, 2013
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