

TechNews

STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SINCE 1928

McCormick Tribune Campus Center
Room 221
3201 South State Street
Chicago, Illinois 60616

E-mail: editor@technewsiit.com
Website: <http://www.technewsiit.com>

TechNews STAFF

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Our mission is to promote student discussion and bolster the IIT community by providing a newspaper that is highly accessible, a stalwart of journalistic integrity, and a student forum. TechNews is dedicated to the belief that a strong campus newspaper is essential to a strong campus community.

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SUBMISSIONS

TechNews is published on the Tuesday of each week of the academic year. Deadline for all submissions and announcements is 11:59 p.m. on the Friday prior to publication. Articles, photos, and illustrations must be submitted electronically to the TechNews website at technewsiit.com.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The editors reserve the right to determine if submitted material meets TechNews' policy and standards. For more information about our editorial standards, please email assteditor@technewsiit.com.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor may be submitted by anyone, but are subject to review by the Editor-in-Chief. All letters-to-the-editor become the property of TechNews upon submission. TechNews does not accept or publish anonymous letters or stories.

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Carr Chapel Rededicated

Shireen Gul
COPY EDITOR

On Wednesday, October 1, 2014, the Robert F. Carr Memorial Chapel at the Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) hosted a rededication of Ludwig Mies van der Rohe's chapel in partnership with the Mies van der Rohe Society.

Carr Chapel was dedicated in 1952; now, 62 years later, IIT and the Mies Society came together to re-dedicate this unique and important space, and thanks to the many donors whose generosity enabled IIT to complete much-needed renovations. Led by T. Gunny Harboe of Chicago's Harboe Architects, the restoration replaced a leaking roof and hundreds of cracked exterior bricks, redid mortar joints, repaired corroded steel frames, refinished the terrazzo floor, cleaned and repaired interior brick, and refinished wood doors and benches.

The rededication included statements by T. Gunny Harboe (the project's restoration architect), Barbara Donnelley (a Mies van der Rohe Society board member), Lynne Meyer (Director of Spiritual Life at the Illinois Institute of Technology), and Aron Dunlap (Assistant Professor at Shimer College). The program concluded with a chamber music performance by the Civitas Ensemble and a closing reception.

TechNews was lucky enough to interview Lynne Meyer after the rededication to find out about her thoughts and excitement for this event. "One of my favorite portions of the program was the opportunity to enjoy a performance by the incredibly talented Civitas Ensemble," said Lynne Meyer, Director of the Office of Spiritual Life and Service Learning. She added further, "The chapel, as it turns out,

has amazing acoustics," and the music filled the space beautifully.

Upon questioning how students of IIT can be a part of this Chapel, Meyer replied, "First and foremost: Use the chapel. Carr is available for students to use, not only for worship, but also for meetings, social events, and more, and students of all religious and non-religious backgrounds are both welcome and encouraged to use it."

Meyer also stressed that one of the chapel's features that makes it an interfaith-friendly space is the fact that there is very little that visibly marks it as Christian; this is in keeping with Mies' vision that the chapel be welcoming to people of different faiths. Even the cross can be covered by the curtain placed behind it. If a non-Christian group plans to use the chapel and wishes to have the cross covered, it's simply a matter of letting Campus Life know this when booking the space, and Event Services will take care of it.

"We're all so busy here at IIT. Many of us, at one point or another, find ourselves overwhelmed with stress, or becoming isolated from others because we're working so hard and not tending to our inner needs," explained Meyer when asked how such events can bring change in IIT. She further added, "On an urban campus like ours, places of refuge and quietude become especially important. We all need to take some time once in a while to go within, to seek community and support with others, and think about who we are, why we do what we do, and how we may bring our best to the world around us. Our health—spiritual, emotional, and physical—benefits when we do so."

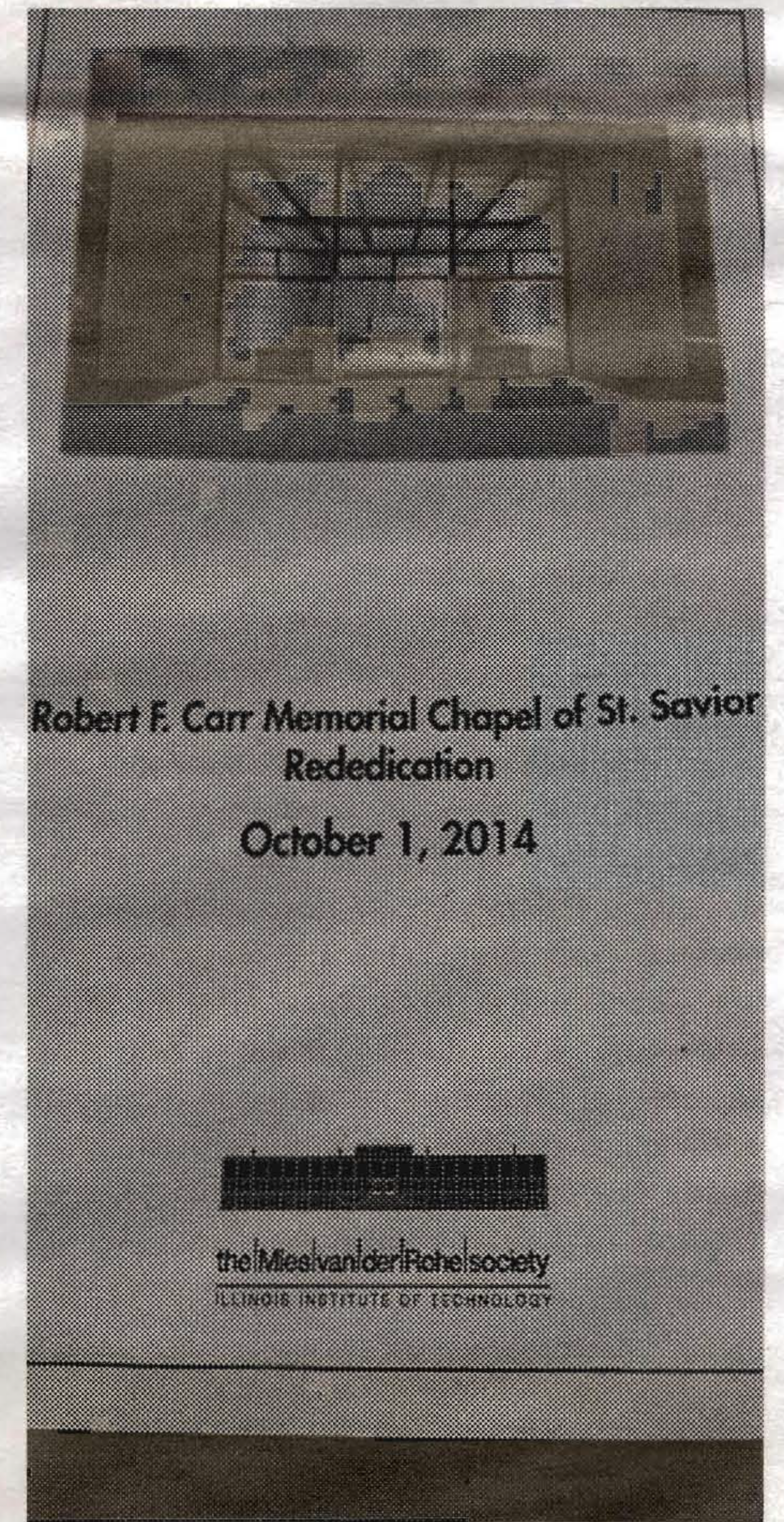
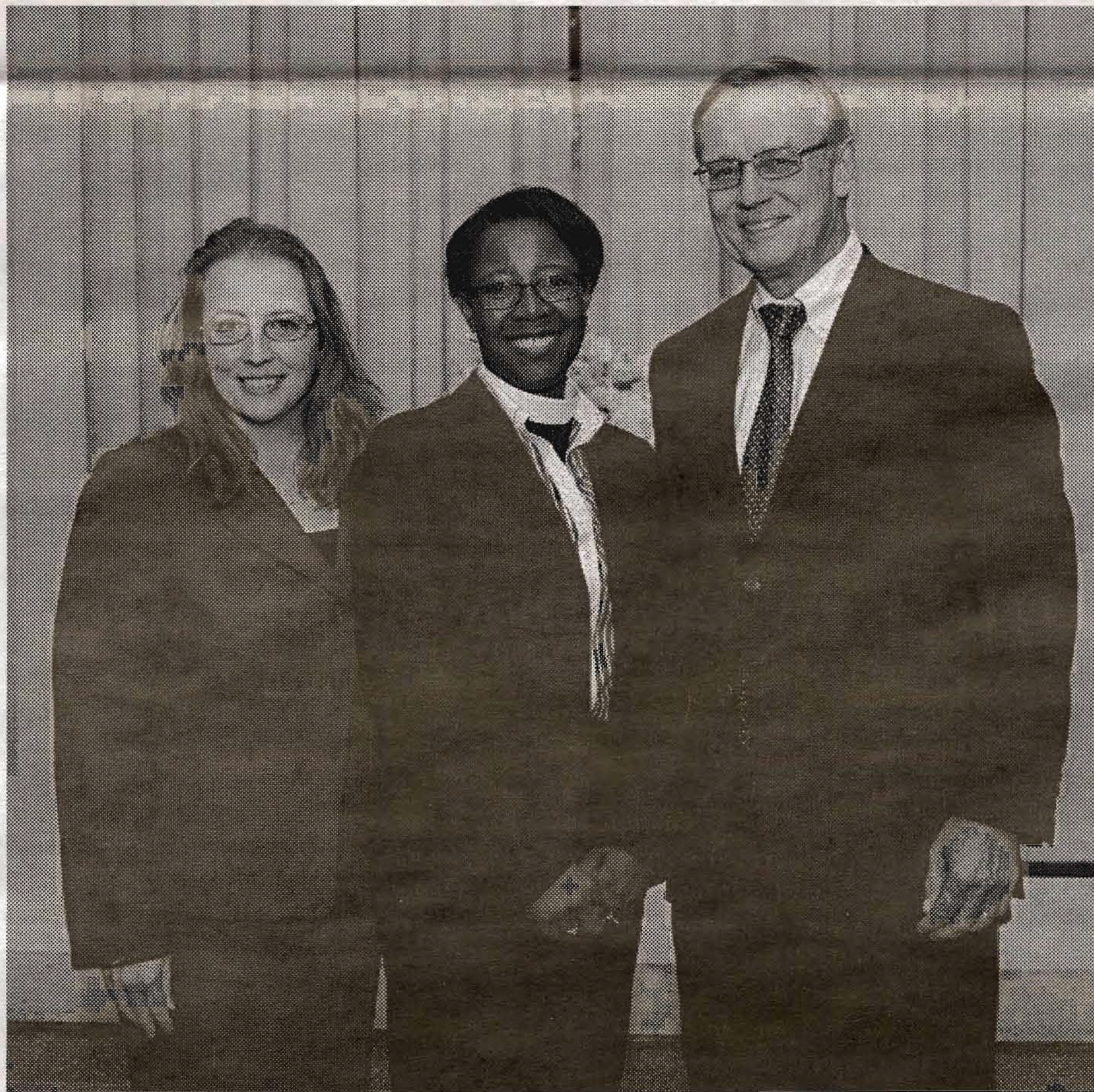
The simplicity and quietude of the chapel makes it a space that encourages self-reflection and discovery. Mies specifically "intended that visitors would feel 'the hope of finding oneself' in the small space." Meyer

was really excited to be a part of this event and wanted everyone to understand not only the importance of Carr Chapel but also to know that how important self-reflection and socializing is, "One does not find oneself solely through prayer or reflection, of course. We also find ourselves through relationship with others, and so the social aspect of the chapel is equally important. This small, simple space is especially conducive to conversation, and it's a great place for students to come together and become friends."

She ended her interview with closing remarks for the speech which she made for this event; "Albert Einstein, in an essay in 1937, wrote: 'All religions, arts and sciences are branches of the same tree. All these aspirations are directed toward ennobling man's life, lifting it from the sphere of mere physical existence and leading the individual towards freedom.'" There is, perhaps, no better testament to the truth of his words than Carr Chapel.

For 62 years, this chapel has nobly served the students of Illinois Tech, providing generations of scientists of all faiths with a spiritual home and a place at which to reflect on the deepest of life's questions. Students and alumni have been married here, had their children baptized here, and memorialized lost loved ones. Every week, students gather to pray, to celebrate, to challenge one another to grow to become their best selves. In this place, they are offered a reminder that they need not choose between their academic aspirations and their spirituality; here, they may be in their wholeness.

The goal of this sacred space remains the same as it was when it was dedicated so many years ago, to engage the student body "in the search for virtue while we become proficient in the search for things."



Photos by Shireen Gul

IEEE@IIT Second General Body Meeting Coming Up

Vijai Baskar
COPY EDITOR

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers at IIT (IEEE) will be hosting their second general body meeting on Wednesday, October 22 at the Engineering I auditorium (E1 104) at 12:50 p.m. The guest speaker for the event is a professional from Siemens. This will provide a great career opportunity for students as Siemens is looking to hire a large number of engineers over the year. As always, lunch will be provided for attendees of the event.

Elections for the Program Chair position took place over the weekend. Applications for the position were received from late September. The candidate bios were put up on

the IEEE website for students to decide on who to vote for the position. The results of the election will be announced at the General Body meeting and a fresh face will come on board the Executive member body of the IEEE at IIT.

The organization is also planning to host a barbecue event, which will be held on Friday, October 31 in the Siegel Field at 12:30 p.m. This will be a great mid-semester get together event and students will get a chance to talk and mingle with professors and executive board members. It is a great opportunity to get an idea of what they do and how they carry out events throughout the semester.

The Professional Engineering (P.E.) Workshop for Computer and Electrical Engineers will take place on Saturday, October 25 from 9:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. at Sargent and

Lundy Company, 55 East Monroe St 35th floor, Chicago. This workshop will focus on the benefits of becoming a P.E., provide tips and steps to prepare for becoming a P.E. in the field of Electrical and Computer Engineering. Lunch will be provided for the participants of the workshop.

The IEEEExtreme 24 hour programming competition commenced at 7 p.m. on Friday, October 17 and went through the next day. Around 1,700 Teams from all over the world participated in this competition, which involved hackers finding solutions to a number of challenges that were given to them, two at a time, with a gap of two hours between every release. Three teams from IIT participated in this competition and they were well placed among the competitors.