

IIT students attend SWE convention in Los Angeles

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Twenty-six members of the Society of Women Engineers (SWE)'s Illinois Institute of Technology chapter departed for the SWE National Convention in Los Angeles, California on Thursday, October 23. The Convention is a three-day event that is held annually in varying locations. It has been a SWE tradition for over 60 years. SWE members and non-members from around the world gather in one location to grow, learn, and inspire each other. The opportunities for growth and success that this convention provides are immeasurable.

The convention was kicked off with a keynote breakfast and presentation by Elizabeth Bierman and Gwynne Shotwell. This presentation was the appetizer to the delicious entree of workshops and tours that followed. There were over 50 workshops. Some notable speakers included Elaine Schomburg-LaFleur, Cheri Chappelle, Boma Edyang, Marcia L. Howes and SWE-IIT's own Marcella Vaicik.

Workshops and tours were not the only things the convention had to offer; there was also the career fair. There were over 275 companies present at the two-day career fair event. Companies like Barclays, Boeing, CIA, FBI, Cummins Inc., Toyota, NASA, Turner

Constructions, Google, Goldman Sachs, Kimberly Clark, Visa, Shell, and Exelon were present. It was particularly interesting to meet with IIT alumni Krystal McDoom, Emmanuel Klu, and Julie Hill, who were present recruiting for and representing companies like Mortenson Constructions, Google and Capital Controls. They gave SWE-IIT members tips that would help leave a good impression on recruiters they planned to talk to. Of course, the elevator pitch and resume critique session that members were provided with by CMC's own Sara Dell before leaving for Los Angeles also played a huge part in the organization's success at the convention – about 85 percent of SWE-IIT at-

tendees were able to get interviews with their dream companies.

It would be sad for anyone to go to a beautiful city like LA and not explore the city. So with the help of LA native Nina Townley and CSULA students Claudia Garcia and Sara Sallam, SWE-IIT was able to organize some fun sight-seeing experiences for its members. All in all, the convention was a great experience. Karlene Gibbs, a SWE-IIT attendee, said, "This is one of the best conventions I've ever attended in my entire college career."



Photo by Adedoyin Adeniji

Pakistan Student Association joins Taste of IIT

Shrieen Gul
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IIT celebrates its diversity and global opportunities by participating in International Education Week (IEW) every year. As mentioned on IIT's website, "The worldwide celebration of IEW offers a unique opportunity to reach out to people in every nation, to develop a broader understanding of world cultures and languages, and to reiterate the conviction that enduring friendships and partnerships created through international education and exchange are important for a secure future for all countries."

IIT hosted different events on campus to promote their diverse environment on October 20 through October 24. The week started with Taste of IIT, which is one of most famous events of IEW as this is the time when students gets to try different countries' food for a good, cheap prize. Students don't have to struggle from one place to another to try food

from different countries, they get everything on the MTCC Bridge.

Many student organizations were part of Taste of IIT, such as Caribbean Visionaries, Indian Student Association, Black Student Union, Society of Women Engineers, Vietnamese Student Association, Alternate Spring Break, African Student Organization, and many more.

This year we also had a new addition to the family, the Pakistan Student Association (PSA), which took part in Taste of IIT. They had window décor with their home country flag and the initials of their organization in white and green (the colors of their flag.) They served chicken biryani, vegetable biryani, shami kababs and gulab jamun. Chicken biryani is the most famous dish of Pakistan and no one can resist it. They had a huge line in front of their table before the event started and they were the first ones who sold out all their food.

"We knew that everyone loves biryani so we ordered that in bulk," said Irshad

Hussain, marketing chair for PSA, and added with excitement, "but we had no idea that it will be sold out quickly." There were many people who really wanted to try their food but had class during that time, and by the time lunch break arrived their food was already sold out and many people couldn't try it. "We are planning to organize a kick-off party for PSA," said Samreen Kalani, treasurer for PSA, "and we will serve biryani there so all those people who couldn't enjoy our food get a chance to try it." So, all those people who missed out on the opportunity to enjoy some authentic Pakistani food should watch out for their party and get some free biryani!

Finally, don't forget to join them on HawkLink and like them on Facebook under the name of 'IIT Pakistan Student Association.' They will also be on the MTCC Bridge every Monday during lunch (12:45 p.m. to 1:45 p.m.). Stop by to ask any questions or grab some free goodies.



Photo by Shrieen Gul

Food truck flash mob hits main campus

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Food trucks are a staple of the Chicago culinary experience, however, it is rare to see them south of The Loop; the density of downtown provides abundant business for such establishments. On Tuesday, October 21, however, three well-known food trucks parked on 33rd Street between SSV and MTCC to sell their goods to hungry IIT students over lunch time.

The three food trucks present showcased a wide spectrum of food. Haute Sausage,

which operates a physical location at 335 South Franklin in Chicago, offered several premium sausage options. A popular choice from Haute Sausage was their 'bacon guacamole,' a huge bacon sausage covered with poblano and grilled corn guacamole and cheddar cheese.

Another food truck, La Cocinita, also joined IIT's campus for lunch. La Cocinita serves food with a variety of Latin American influences. The truck offered a few options for build-your-own meals as well as a few specials, including their Caribbean Bowl, which included pork, cabbage, plantains, rice, and black beans.

The third food truck on the scene was that of Bridgeport Pasty, which also operates a physical location about a mile west of IIT at 3142 South Morgan Street. Bridgeport Pasty, a neighborhood favorite for the many IIT students who reside in Bridgeport, offers several varieties of pasty, best described as a small handheld pot pie.

All of the food trucks on campus offered affordably-priced meal solutions to students, but one addition made the situation even more favorable. All three food trucks were giving out limited quantities of free gift cards through Giftie, a relatively new mobile

application that allows merchants to release limited quantities of gift cards to users. The application normally comes with an annual subscription rate, but all three food trucks offered introductory \$5 gift cards for their food, adding up to a total of \$15 of free food for students who acted early.

All three food trucks offered some delicious offerings for lunch at a price that couldn't be beat, and the three mobile restaurants surely gained some new fans among the IIT student body.



Photo by Kori Bowns