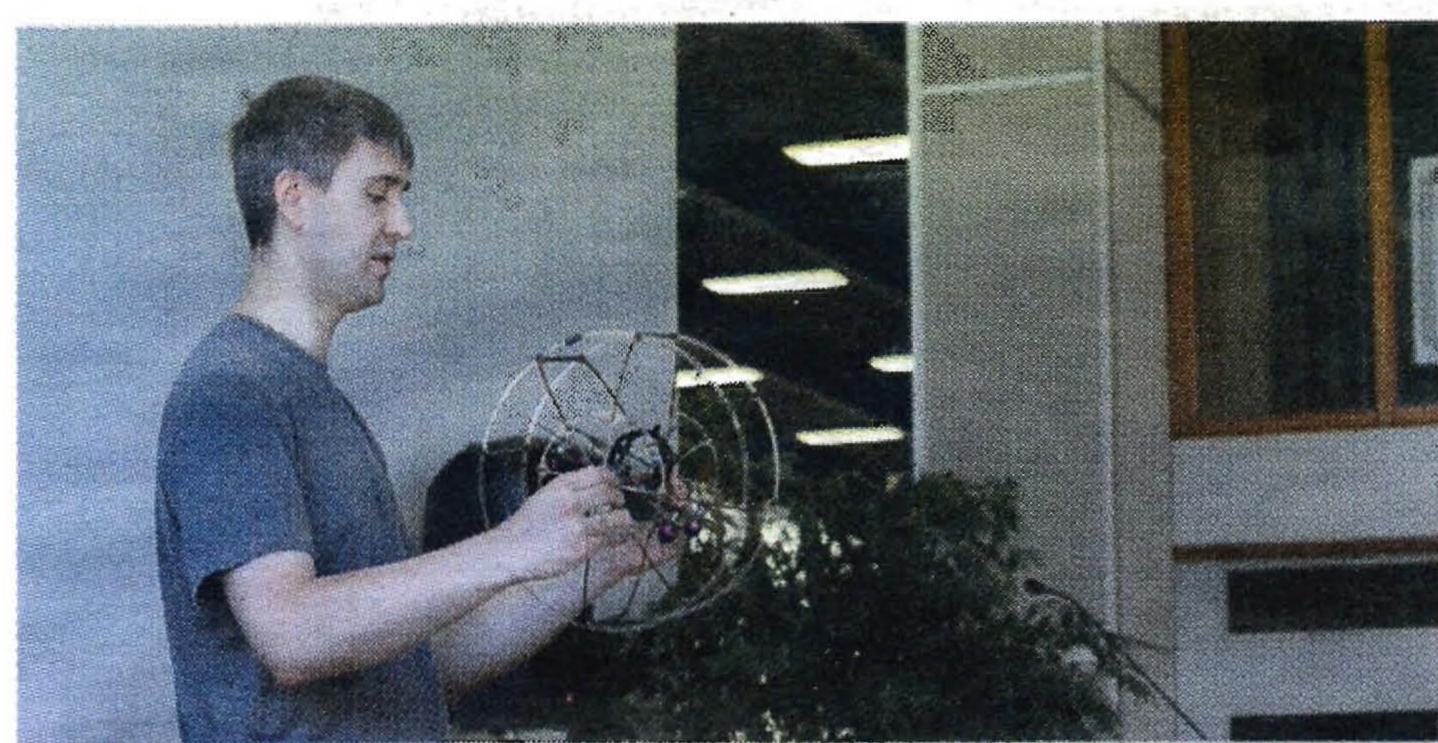
Engineering Career Day showcases STEM opportunities









Human Library on campus this April

Jonathan Hui **TECHNEWS WRITER**

A library is powerful. It is powerful not for being a center of authority, but for being a nexus of ideas. Its influence derives from its ability to expose individuals to fresh ideas, unexplored perspectives, and unseen possibilities. A library helps readers not only appreciate the grandeur of the cosmos, but the nuances of their own individual existence as well. Now, all this is possible with only patterns of ink on paper or pixels on a screen. Imagine the possibilities of introducing the human element.

IIT Residence and Greek Life's Diversity and Service Learning Committee, in partnership with Human Library Chicago, is proud to present the first ever Human Library IIT this April. The event will take place on Thursday, April 16 from 11:30 AM to 6:00 PM in the MTCC Black and White Lounge (adjacent to Global Grounds Café and IIT Bookstore.) The Human Library is entirely free and all community members are welcome to take part.

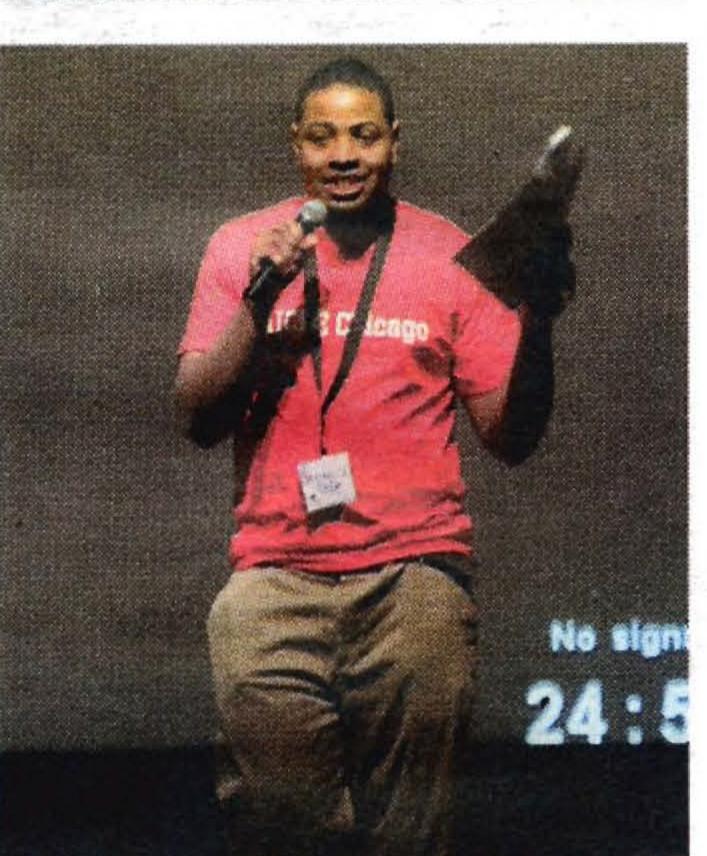
IIT is fortunate to have a very diverse and engaged student body. However, despite the ubiquitous diversity on campus, it is still often challenging to discuss issues related to this topic. The Human Library is an event that aims to start conversations regarding stigma, prejudice, and discrimination.

While an ordinary library is stocked with printed books and journals, the Human Library features individuals from the community who serve as "books." The books come from all walks of life with unique experiences of stereotypes and prejudice. Human Library IIT will be featuring 15, (selection will vary throughout the day) whose titles include transgender, undocumented, and veteran books. Visitors or "readers" can "borrow" a book for a twenty minute appointment during which they can listen to the book's life story, inquire about the book's experiences, and learn more about that particular identity. Trained volunteers from Human Library Chicago will be on hand to facilitate these experiences as needed and to guide readers through their explorations

Sharing stories can be a powerful way to highlight what individuals have in common and understand the challenges unique to each label and stereotype. The Human Library is a great venue for learning more about the community and to engage individuals in a meaningful, impactful way. Make sure to come by this event to begin your own conversation.







Photos by Katy Banks

