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TechNews

Student newspaper of Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

Illinois Tech breaks ground on Kaplan Institute, first academic building addition in 40 years

Anoopa Sundararajan
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In the presence of several members of the Board of Trustees, the Mayor of Chicago, the President of the university, faculty, staff and students, Illinois Tech ceremoniously conducted the groundbreaking of the first academic building addition to the Main Campus in 40 years, the Ed Kaplan Family Institute for Innovation and Tech Entrepreneurship.

Ed Kaplan's \$11 million gift and challenge grant was announced to the Illinois Tech community in February 2014 and was followed closely by the announcement of the design and programming architects at a press conference with the Mayor in March 2014. On Thursday, August 25, 2016, the official groundbreaking ceremony was conducted at the Hermann Hall Expo. In his introductory speech, Bud Wendorf, Chairman of the Board of Trustees called it, "a wonderful and very special day," celebrating a "landmark endeavor" for the university. Alan Cramb, President of Illinois Tech, brought attention to the fact that Ed Kaplan, through his gift for the new building, had become the second largest alumni donor in Illinois Tech history.

The Kaplan Institute will house Illinois Tech's Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, Idea Shop, M. A. and Lila Self Leadership Academy, Entrepreneurship Academy and Jules F. Knapp Entrepreneurship Center. The Institute of Design (ID) faculty and staff will play an important role in incorporating design principles into undergraduate programs, while the graduate school will remain at the university's downtown campus. According to the official website for the Kaplan Institute, the mission of this endeavor is to "nurture the advancement of creative ideas, foster interdisciplinary and external collaboration, and create a culture that enables innovation and tech entrepreneurship to flourish."

At the groundbreaking ceremony, Rahm Emanuel, Mayor of Chicago, congratulated Illinois Tech on their close collaboration with Von Steuben High School as part of the city's mission to bridge the gap between high schools and universities, and commended the relationships fostered therein. Of the Kaplan Institute he said, "this building represents the things that make Chicago great -- incredible architecture, philanthropy, innovation."

The building has been designed

by John Ronan Architects, a Chicago-based architecture firm. The lead architect, John Ronan said, "the world no longer cares what you know. It cares what you do with what you know" and went on to say that the Kaplan Institute would serve as an "idea factory" to encourage "creative collision," leading students to be able to "transition fluidly between thinking and making." Ronan also talked in detail about the design of the building, highlighting that the second floor of the building will be enclosed in Ethylene Tetrafluoroethylene (ETFE) foil cushions, varying the amount of solar energy entering the building, a sustainable method that will allow the building to respond to changes in weather in real time, a method that is being used for the first time in Chicago. Ronan ended his speech by pointing out that Mies van der Rohe had three distinct styles of spaces - classrooms, laboratories and communal spaces for all, adding that the Kaplan Institute will be a space that serves as all three.

Provost and Vice President for Academic Affairs, Frances Bronet recognized that Illinois Tech students "know how to think, and they know how to make," emphasizing that the Kaplan Institute would be a space to hone those skills, helping students and faculty

alike "spark each other's entrepreneurial spirit." The President of the Student Government Association, Hamze Sukkar said that the new building would be a catalyst to both attract the best and brightest students to the university, as well as ignite the minds of those already here to continue effective collaboration, ideation and creation.

Ed Kaplan, the primary donor for the building, talked about the building, expected to be completed by the end of 2018, as being a space that will foster "human collisions" and encourage "collaboration, cooperation, relationship building." He also highlighted that the building will have glass walls so that all members of the campus will be witness to "the next great invention coming to life."

Murewa Oguntade, a fifth year architecture student present at the event shared her thoughts with TechNews, saying, "As a student at Illinois Tech, you learn pretty quickly the significance of architecture in the school's history, and it just feels great to be able to witness the continuation of that legacy."

More information on the Ed Kaplan Family Institute for Innovation and Tech Entrepreneurship can be found on the university's main website at this link: <http://web.iit.edu/provost/kaplan-institute>



Photos courtesy of Institutional Advancement at Illinois Tech

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High expectations for 2Sense Improv

Reno Waswil
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

In the Netflix series "Garfunkel and Oats," which presents a fictionalized account of the career of the popular comedic songwriting duo composed of Riki Lindhome and Kate Micucci, Micucci tries to convince someone that although he claims to like Jazz, he doesn't really. She argues that the only enjoyment from Jazz comes from the idea of playing it, and to everyone that is not or does not play it, there is absolutely no appeal. As someone that would claim to appreciate Jazz, I would say that it, like most negative critiques of entire music genres, is an incorrect oversimplification. I do admit, however, that in as far as Jazz is an experience to listen to, the listening experience is greatly amplified by a certain vicarious appreciation of the people playing it, and furthermore, truly cannot compare to the joy and power of playing it in a way that I don't think is nearly as potent in any other musical genre.

The reason for this is the natural reliance of Jazz, as a musical art form, as a medium for syncopated, often team-centered improvisation: working off of and with others and within certain intuitive confines to do whatever you feel like. The use of improvisation does not, however, limit itself to music. Improv Comedy, or simply Improv, is a popular method of using improvisation in a performance art setting, typically in groups of two or more people, to elucidate humorous ideas and relationships, and surprise: it is really fun; It's fun to watch, especially live, and it is fun to do. All it really requires from a basic level is confidence and creativity, and there are all different methods of doing it.

I love Improv, and am the Chair of 33rd Street Productions Improv team 2sense Improv. In its current form, we focus on long-form, storytelling scene-based Improv with

short-form, or the "Who's Line is it Anyway's" style slightly less focused on. Because Improv in these terms is still so broad, what you see is crafted a lot by what tricks and tools are used in building a scene or conducting a game, along with the practice and wherewithal to use them. Unsurprisingly, an Improv show is even more so shaped by how an actor learned it and who they are improvising with (troupe being so great because they know each other so well), and that is where 2sense Improv comes in.

It is at our weekly meetings that we practice and personalize our technique with casual but still structured and productive Improv. Perhaps you'd like to give it a try but might want to know what to expect. I will thus give a breakdown of how I plan to conduct these meetings in hopes that it seems less weird or alienating.

Each will begin with a warm-up game. If you are unaware of what these are, warm-up games often take the form of ice-breakers you may see which are designed to "bring you out of your shell." Even from an Improv point of view, I despise these sorts of games with a passion. In practice they tend to focus a great deal on training action/reaction skills and are often needlessly embarrassing. Although you need to have confidence in both acting and improvising, it doesn't need to be embarrassing if you don't make it so. Improv may be a little embarrassing at certain points, but I think those can be dealt with in a manner that doesn't take it out of the context of what we are doing, which is building a good scene.

I will try to make these games, therefore, practical, fun, and not alienating, while heavily encourage creativity. The primary reason for this last part is that what these games will do, in addition to "warming up," is provide some creative fodder to be used in generating the bread and butter of our style of Improv: the long-form scene. Games, suggestions, and real life stories are some of the more popular

method of inspiring scenes, and I've decided to work this fundamentally into the procedure of the practice. The structured nature of the game offers a prime opportunity to experiment with humorous ideas and situations, from which the actors are free to, when compelled and feel justly prepared, break out of the game to initiate the scene.

The meeting will follow this consistent pattern of games followed by scenes inspired by those games. The games will change form as the night progresses and a number of scenes may be drawn from any given game, or even from previous scenes themselves. My only unique responsibility as the Chair will be in choosing the games. We all will share the responsibilities in drawing ideas from games, initiating and contributing to scene, and critiquing each other's work. The first game will always be something akin to a warm-up game as I have described, and following games will be more of the short-form kind, or possibly scenes with more simplified narrative forms. As per tradition, we will end each meeting with the game "World's Worst."

Our ultimate goal in all of this, besides of course doing it to strengthen our acting, confidence, creativity, and just for the immense fun of it, is putting on at least one larger show in the Spring, and possibly some smaller live shows if we get around to it. It is not a requirement of being part of 2sense Improv to take part in any of the live shows, or even every aspect of our meetings for that matter. But if you are interested at all--if you like acting but don't like memorizing lines, like role playing but aren't too particularly fond of commitment to characters, or just like comedy and friendship---I suggest you take part. Email us at 33rd.iit@gmail.com or stay alert to our meeting advertisements. You can come to our meetings to watch, help, play, or all of the above.

Change is in the air: What's new at Illinois Tech this Fall?

Soren Spicknall
COPY EDITOR

Anybody who's visited a place after leaving for a long while knows the feeling of discovery that comes with finding something new there. For students who've been away from Illinois Tech for the summer, that feeling is bound to pop up at least once or twice in these first few weeks of classes. Here are a few things around campus that you might notice as you settle into this new academic year:

Somebody, somewhere, is attempting to popularize the abbreviation JTREC (pronounced "JAY-trek") for the recently renamed John T. Rettaliata Engineering Center, previously officially known as Engineering 1. Like many faculty and staff members have had trouble mentally switching away from the convenient nickname "The Hub" for Hermann Hall, which was historically named the Hermann Union Building, it's plausible that the popular acronym "E1" will remain in popular speech for some time as the preferred nomenclature for the renovated center of engineering courses on campus.

Illinois Tech Dining Services have switched from blue corporate Sodexo uniforms to a red motif, part of an overall pivot toward integrating themselves more effectively into the mental fabric of the university as a part of the community, rather than a separate entity existing within it. This uniform switch has been accompanied by the annual reshuffling of Dining Services staff across different dining locations, in addition to some big changes to dining options in the

Commons like the addition of a new entree for each meal period at the building's northwest edge and the introduction of a grab-and-go "express meal" program within the Commons itself. Previously express meals were available in Pritzker Club and The Bog for those who missed dinnertime (used mostly by athletes), but this new program is quite different than that prior offering.

On the day of first-year student move-in, the ground floor of Lewis Hall flooded. This is in stark contrast to last Fall, when on the day of first-year student move-in, the second floor of Lewis Hall flooded.

There is now an official public notice of renovation plans posted on the northern door of Main Building, kicking off a pre-season of sorts for building as the building's private developers enter the permit-gathering and plan-drawing phase of their work. As opposed to the beginning of last year, when WIIT and ITMR still held facilities in the building and were permitted occasional access, no students are allowed in the building any longer.

In other construction news, the new Ed Kaplan Family Institute for Innovation and Tech Entrepreneurship has undergone groundbreaking and is slated to begin rising soon from Morton Park. If you are unaware of the project at this point, it's possible that you are living in an alternate universe. There's no word yet on the fate of the cool wooden amplifier that was built in the park last year as a public performance space by an IPRO team.

Former SGA VP of Communications Subarno Saha has graduated, despite his best efforts to appear to the contrary.

The general atmosphere of student organizations at the beginning of this semester seems to be very positive, as the determined structural improvements made by many last year have turned into marked progress toward recruitment and retention. Unfortunately, everyone seems to have caught onto the convenience of a lunchtime meeting during a weekday, thereby making it inconvenient because everybody has scheduled their meetings during the same five hours of the week.

A new Jamaican Jerk Chicken place has opened at the corner of 35th and Indiana, bringing the total number of chicken-based restaurants on 35th between Michigan and King to six (exceeding an average one per block). Despite this, those who claim there are "too many" chicken stops on 35th are still wrong, and always will be.

Hopeless cynics and hopeless apologists continue to battle it out on ITSC. But hey, some of the faces are new.

Shimer College is winding down their presence on campus as they prepare to be integrated into North Central College in Naperville, leaving us without anybody to make T-shirts that say "illITerate" and leaving IPRO497-312 (Shimer + Illinois Tech + Community Forum) in a very awkward spot.

For some reason, the faculty, staff, and students of a tech school still continue to read a physical newspaper each week to find out what's going on around them.

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Student org feature: Society of Physics Students

Alexandra Detweiler
TECHNEWS WRITER

The group is known across campus for winning the accuracy award for a whopping seven foot launch at last year's 11th annual BMES Pumpkin Launch, but the Society of Physics Students (SPS) does much more than compute the paths of flying orange projectiles. SPS' primary goal is to prepare students for jobs after graduation through workshops and other events as well as foster a positive and driven community within the physics department. However, students of all disciplines are welcome to attend SPS' events. In fact, according to SPS President Adam Denchfield,

"It's not just physics students. Anyone is free to participate in SPS events free of charge. We are an inclusive community." This year there are about 20 active members in SPS, which is an increase from the previous year. It is no surprise that as the number of physics students at Illinois Tech increases, so does the SPS community.

Acquiring the skills necessary to get a job after graduation is the job of every college student, and it is also exactly the goal of SPS. In the past, SPS has organized a number of workshops and activities for Illinois Tech students to attend. In just this past year, the group has put together Python workshops headed by Melanie Cornelius, collaborated

with IBM's Quantum Computing group, trained members in telescope use as well as Scanning Electron Microscopy (SEM) imaging, and built an electromagnetic levitator.

If there's one student organization that excels at giving students the connections and skills they need to succeed after graduation, it's SPS.

According to SPS Secretary Ian Gustafson, "Every active member of SPS who wanted research over the summer got it." Among others, Gustafson had the opportunity to conduct research this past summer, working with Dr. Bryce Littlejohn researching the Reactor Antineutrino Anomaly in only the summer of his freshman year.

This coming year, SPS will continue to be just as active as active. The group has plans to start microelectronics workshops co-hosted by Varrick Suezaki and Yonas Gebre, visit the Trinity Test Site in Los Alamos, bring in graduate students and professors to talk about their research, attend an American Physical Society conference, and build yet another pumpkin launcher.

Interested in becoming involved? General body meetings are in the Life Sciences Building Room 152 on Tuesdays during lunch (12:50-1:40 p.m.) or sign up through HawkLink for more information.

Armour College of Engineering showcases summer projects at R&D expo

Steven Moreno
TECHNEWS WRITER

Over the summer, while many of us were kicking back and taking in the warm summer days, others were hard at work to create what they believed to be the next big step in innovation and design. These undergraduate students had done research over the summer and were now ready to show their work and results at the 2016 Summer Armour Research and Development Exposition, which took place on August 25 at the Rettaliata Engineering Center Atrium. Students, professors, and professionals alike

were in attendance and listened with extreme interest as each participating student explained their work and the implications their work could have in the field.

"I think [the expo] is really good," said expo participant Brigitte Temple. "It allows other students to see the work that their peers have done during the summer and it hopefully gets them interested in research here at Illinois Tech." Brigitte Temple—like other undergraduate students—had entered the expo as a requirement for the research grant she had received the previous spring semester. "I was working with my professor, Dr. Matthew Spenko, during the last school year and he suggested that I try to get the peer grant so I

could get funded research for the summer." Research opportunities for undergraduate students is somewhat unique to Illinois Tech, as many other universities in the country offer little to no research opportunities to their undergraduates. "I was really interested that Illinois Tech was funding undergraduates for research, normally not a lot of people do that and I applied and got it. [The Expo] was one of the requirements for the program." Roughly a dozen other undergraduates were awarded the grant last school semester.

Brigitte Temple's research built off of work done in Dr. Spenko's lab, which examined the characteristics and abilities of Electrostatic Dry Adhesive Pads. These pads

had the tendency to collect dust while in use over a period of time. The hope of the research was to discover a practical way of removing the dust from the pads without manual cleaning. So far, the results look promising and Brigitte Temple is planning to continue her research in the coming months. All research topics at the expo focused on one of the four Illinois Tech Engineering Themes: Health, Water, Energy, and Security. Other topics seen at the expo included research in both cancer and diabetes treatment. The hope for all of these students is to have their work bring meaningful change to their respectful fields.

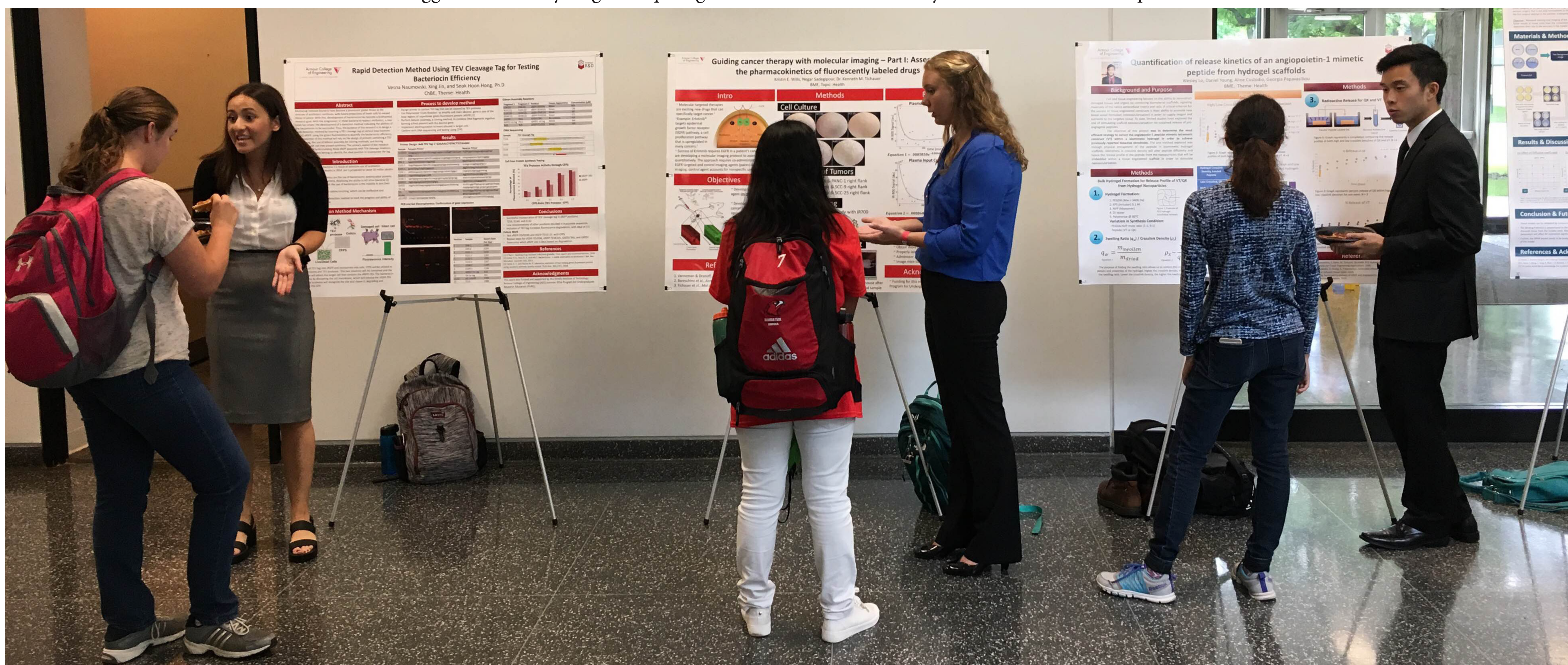


Photo by Steven Moreno

Undocumented Students and Allies launch United Minds Inspiring Innovation scholarship

Egle Malinauskaitė
TECHNEWS WRITER

Undocumented Students and Allies (USA) welcome you to a new semester at Illinois Tech! USA is a student organization committed to raising awareness about undocumented students within our Illinois Tech community and beyond while providing these students with an environment where they can safely and openly express themselves. USA is also involved in community outreach to provide other undocumented students with support and encouragement to pursue higher education regardless of their status.

During the 2015-2016 school year, USA created the United Minds Inspiring Innovation (UMII) Scholars Fund to support undocumented Illinois Tech undergraduate students who demonstrate financial need but do not qualify for federal aid (FAFSA). After a five month campaign with about 800 signatures collected from the undergraduate student body, the scholarship initiative was passed with a referendum vote held in conjunction with the Student Government Association executive elections. On May 19th, USA presented UMII to Illinois Tech's Board of Trustees, highlighting its message

of philanthropic innovation. The presentation centered around a seven minute video featuring a number of powerful stories from within our approximately 150 undocumented student body. Thanks to 5 generous donors, the fund has over \$11,000 to be awarded in scholarships this semester. Also, starting this semester, Illinois Tech students have the opportunity to opt-in to the \$4.50 UMII Scholarship Fee on their student accounts and help fund Spring 2017 scholarships. Additional donations can also be made at alumni.iit.edu/umii-scholarship. All donations are tax-deductible.

On August 22nd, the fall 2016 scholarship application went live on the new portal for undocumented student resources located within the Illinois Tech OneStop website (web.iit.edu/onestop/undocumented-students). Fall semester applications are due September 9th and spring semester applications are due December 16th. Applicants must have completed at least one semester at Illinois Tech, but USA encourages new students to reach out to Leticia Moreno, Senior Financial Aid Counselor & Special Student Group Resource Liaison, in the Office of Financial Aid (lmoreno2@iit.edu or 312-567-3422) for consideration of special circumstances. Scholarship notifications

will occur in October. USA also encourages the Illinois Tech community to save the date for the 1st Annual UMII Gala on the night of December 16th! The event will showcase the success of this semester's scholarship recipients, as well as the diversity of Illinois Tech's undocumented student community with a number of performances and guest speakers.

Illinois Tech follows in the footsteps of Loyola University, Prescott College in Arizona, and Marquette University in Wisconsin in creating such a scholarship, and is the first tech school in the country to do so. Yusra Sarhan (4th Year co-terminal BME/CHE, USA Vice President) stresses that "the UMII Scholarship extends beyond technological innovation and serves as a catalyst to increase social awareness on Illinois Tech's campus." Daniel Maya Chavez (4th Year EECE, USA member) agrees that "UMII is not just another scholarship. It is a gift provided by the Illinois Tech community. It is an example to the student receiving it of what a community can do once united, and how a small contribution in said community can make a big difference."

USA is proud to continue building this right to education movement. On April 15th, 7 USA members were interviewed

about the scholarship initiative for a morning segment aired on Univision Chicago. On June 10th, Luis Gomez (4th Year BIOL, USA President) joined representatives from Loyola and Prescott to present the scholarship campaign to immigrant rights activists from across the U.S. in a "Mobilizing Student Power" breakout session at the United We Dream Congress 2016 in Houston, Texas. USA is now collaborating with other universities, including the University of Chicago, to create similar scholarships on their campuses.

This ground-breaking student-led scholarship would not be a reality without the collaboration between various departments, including the Office of Financial Aid, Student Accounting Office, Controller's Office, and Office of Institutional Aid. More importantly, USA would like to thank our fellow undergraduate community members, as well as generous private donors, for supporting Illinois Tech undocumented students as they pursue higher education. Questions can be directed to USA through email (usa@iit.edu), Facebook (@UndocumentedIIT and @UMIIFUND), or Twitter (@USA_IIT). We hope you enjoy your second week of classes, Scarlet Hawks!

Senate back in session for Fall 2016 semester

Soren Spicknall
COPY EDITOR

Illinois Tech's Student Government Association (SGA), the organization which is charged with representing the general opinion of the student body to top university administration and engaging in projects to improve the student experience, witnessed a short-term record turnout during its Executive Board elections this Spring. Those elections, which resulted in the appointment of Hamze Leo Sukkar to the position of student body President, set an optimistic tone for the level of continuing engagement between SGA and the students it represents, and discussions were held by the organization's new Executive Board over summer to establish how best to proceed with changes that could increase SGA's effectiveness in its activities.

Those discussions within the Board resulted in a formal proposal of amendments to SGA's constitution, slated for introduction at the first Senate meeting of the semester, and the important business for that meeting did not end there. Sung Min Choi Hong, the new Chair of Finance Board, was present at the Wednesday night meeting to put forward his new Finance Board Advisor nominees, and San Dinh, Sukkar's nominee for Judicial Board's Chief Justice, was scheduled to speak and be voted into that position, replacing Gina Qualter (who was concurrently one of the nominees for a Finance Board Advisor position). While some of the decisions from that meeting could largely be considered formalities (San Dinh's nomination was originally intended to be confirmed last semester, and each Finance Board nominee had already been vetted by a selection committee composed of a subset of the SGA Senate), all the topics considered were of great importance to the inner structure of SGA, which in turn reflects on the organization's ability to efficiently carry out its work.

The crucial nature of the debates and votes scheduled for Wednesday's meeting did not prevent SGA from suffering in the face of an annual challenge: keeping engagement high among a body of Senators whose terms were coming to an end in less than one month. At the 9:15 start of the meeting, only ten of the group's twenty-four Senators (who represent their academic colleges or specially-designated groups like the Graduate Student Association, Greek Council, and Residence Hall Association) were present. To make matters worse, after a full summer away from SGA business, there was nobody present who could present a definitive answer about which of those twenty-four Senate seats were

considered active, and whether the number of Senators present constituted the quorum necessary to carry out votes. In fact, largely unstructured debate over quorum took up more time than any other topic during the meeting, weaving its way in and out of the agenda between planned items. Eventually, after in-person and online consultation with former Executive Vice President Mete Morris, former VP of Communications Subarno Saha, and outgoing Chief Justice Gina Qualter, it was determined that quorum consisted of half the Senate, but that since one Senator was on an exchange program, two had resigned, and one had graduated, the ten individuals present at the meeting's start were just enough to constitute a constitutionally permissible voting group.

Asked to remark on his motivations for seeking appointment to the position of Chief Justice, nominee San Dinh admitted that he was not much for public speaking, and chose to talk mostly about his history of membership in SGA (including his time as a Judicial Board justice) and his commitment to the organization's future. The speech was very brief, and after being asked to leave the room for discussion and a vote of the Senators present, he was quickly brought back in after the Senate agreed to ask further, more specific questions of him. Questioned about where he thought Judicial Board held weaknesses and how those weaknesses could be addressed, San Dinh pointed to the often hectic way that hearings had been arranged in previous semesters, frequently causing low total turnout among Justices at any particular hearing, or even frequent rescheduling before a single hearing could be held. When asked about whether he felt prepared to tackle SGA constitutional issues should they arise (a relevant topic of inquiry, since Judicial Board's business deals largely with student organization appeals of Finance Board decisions), the candidate said he had only a passing familiarity with the organization's constitution at the moment, but would be committed to delving deeply into any policies that were brought into question.

A vote was held on the topic of San Dinh's confirmation, but results were postponed for the majority of the meeting while quorum information was being determined. At the meeting's end, it was revealed that his appointment had been approved, officially relieving Gina Qualter of her duties to Judicial Board.

Next, the Senate heard briefly from Sung Min Choi Hong, presenting all but one of his Finance Board nominees. Each candidate was given the chance to speak individually, revealing diverse backgrounds and levels of experience with SGA systems and finance in

general. One, notably, was a graduate student in Finance at Stuart School of Business, hoping to join Finance Board in part as an extension of their education. The one major parallel between those who were present, though, was their willingness to admit that they had been largely unfamiliar with Finance Board rules and processes prior to their nominations, a point that prompted remarks from Sung Min Choi Hong about the intensive training the group had undergone in the preceding weeks to acquaint them with the workings of Finance Board.

While the present Senators largely seemed confident in the present crop after a brief Q&A session, they were stymied by a portion of SGA's constitution which requires Finance Board advisors to be voted in as a slate, meaning that they would need to vote the absent nominee through as well if they wished to carry out the vote that day. Because a motion had been made and seconded to bring the question to a vote prior to anyone remembering the slate rule, Executive Vice President Sonia Kamdar eventually chose to restore order by reminding the Senate that the same vote could be brought forward at a future meeting. While this would be disadvantageous for Finance Board (which currently lacks the minimum required membership to vote on its own internal matters), it would allow the Senate to consider and discuss the final candidate at its meeting on the 7th of September. Finally, the slate was handed a "no" vote for the time being, though it was broadly understood that the Finance Board Advisor nominees in attendance were considered qualified for the position.

The final substantial discussion of the night came when covering the SGA Executive Board's proposed constitutional amendments, which had been emailed to Senators two days prior for consideration. The proposed changes included the elimination of the position of Parliamentarian, which had not been filled the previous year, and its replacement with a general Secretary by the President. The Vice President would also assume some of the Parliamentarian's prior duties under the new constitutional language. Additionally, the VP of Academic Affairs had duties added to their position regarding attendance at meetings of the University Faculty Council (initially misnamed "Undergraduate Faculty Committee" in the version of the amendment that was emailed to Senators) and Undergraduate Studies Committee, attendance that had been established in the past but never codified.

Aside from simply bringing the organization's laws in line with its traditional activities, though, some of the proposed

changes dealt with more significant matters. Two new sections, 3.3.1 and 8.4, laid out plans for an "Events and Publicity Committee", headed by an Executive-level position appointed by the SGA President, meant to be focused entirely on planning and executing SGA-hosted events such as Town Halls and the President and Provost Forum. In presenting the concept, Sukkar argued that expecting each existing SGA committee to individually curate events related to their scope had led to confusion over planning in the past, and that the strategy of appointing a single Events Chair to manage such actions last year was not enough to do the job properly. After questions, clarifications, and open discussions among Senators, it was agreed upon that the words "and Publicity" would be struck from the proposed committee's name in order to avoid a conflict of expectations with the organization's Communications Committee, which carries out SGA's promotional campaigns and external relations work. More importantly, the Senators reached a consensus requiring the position of Events Chair to undergo a confirmation vote after nomination from the President, rather than the direct appointment presented in the amendment's original language.

Though the pre-meeting email sent to Senators on Monday implied that a vote would take place on the constitutional amendments presented that Wednesday, such an action would have violated Article 11 of the constitution, which requires amendments to be reviewed at one regular Senate meeting and voted on at the next. Given the time elapsed during the night's discussions, though, it's unlikely that the tweaks agreed upon by the Senate would have been made in time for a vote that night anyways, so those changes will be considered once again on the 7th. With the clock ticking toward 11:30, Senate adjourned without discussing a final agenda item: a proposal to introduce a two-tier student organization system that had been formulated and discussed last semester and over the Summer in the group's Slack team.

SGA Senate meetings happen every other Wednesday at 9:15 p.m. in Stuart Building 112, and are open to all students of the Illinois Institute of Technology, VanderCook College of Music, and Shimer College. Its committee meeting happen on alternate Wednesdays at the same time, in MTCC's colored conference rooms. SGA's members are reachable on Slack at iitsga.slack.com.

Why you should not run for student government senator in the upcoming SGA election

San Dinh
TECHNEWS WRITER

Nominations for Student Government Senate are open, and your Facebook notifications are flooded with invitations from either the Student Government Association (SGA), who tell you to nominate yourself because they don't know who you really are but at the same time have faith in your power to make a difference within one year, or from that one friend who is running and is asking for your endorsement.

As a member of the senate election committee this fall, I wanted to write an inspiring and motivational article that as soon as you finish reading, you would believe that

you want to do this "SGA thing" even though you are taking 18 credit hours, have a part time job, and regularly procrastinate on your homework. However, I soon realized that I am not that talented, so instead, I made it easier for myself by telling you why you should NOT run for SGA's upcoming election.

First of all, the pain might not outweigh the prizes. Senators are not the "cool" guys like the Greek people, nor are they the outgoing ones like people on Union Board. They are the ones that the student body blames for not working hard enough to improve their lives at Illinois Tech, and they are also the ones that some staff members feel annoyed by because they try too hard to deliver the requests from the students. At the end of your

senatorial term, you walk away with only a line in your resume saying you were trusted by the students, and if you actually invest at least 5 hours per week doing SGA work, you might have a 2 minute pitch to convince the recruiters in your job interview that you have leadership, communication, and interpersonal skills.

Secondly, you are only here at Illinois Tech shortly, so why try making it a better place? Similarly, you don't necessarily have to make the world a better place, since you only temporarily live here. Additionally, you don't need to be very successful or happy because you can only live for a few more decades. After all, the good news is "everything is temporary", but the bad news is "everything is temporary".

Last, but not least, if elected, you will most likely give up your senatorial duties half way through. There is no consequence at all for not fulfilling your SGA work, or not showing up at the mandatory meeting. Worst-case scenario, you are bored and resign, or you are removed from your seat, but since you only work half-heartedly, that doesn't bother you at all. In the past 2 years, the first Senate meetings of the Fall semester barely had quorum. I assume you are just like most of the past senators, irresponsible and perfunctory, but I really want to see you prove me wrong.

If I failed to convince you to not run for Senate, submit your nominations to sga@iit.edu or <http://tinyurl.com/iitfall2016election>

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Reviews:

Les Étoiles come full circle on "Alight, Alight"

Soren Spicknall
WIIT STATION MANAGER

Eight years after the quiet 2008 release of his debut album 'Never to Alight', UK native David Fitzpatrick begins his latest release with a refrain of the closest thing that first LP had to a title track, "Empty Carriage." While a back-to-back listening of both the original and the new version, titled "Empty Carriage (Return Journey)," reveals a significant increase in production value over the course of the last decade, it also demonstrates how remarkably stark Fitzpatrick's work has become under the moniker Les Étoiles. The 2008 recording already seems minimal when first heard, accented only by quiet guitar strumming, atmospheric keyboard, and somber bells, but the reimagined recording released as part of this summer's 'Alight, Alight' is even more sparsely composed, with only a piano keeping the melody company. This introduction serves as a blueprint for an entire album to come, a quiet release even in the career of an artist primarily defined by his music's dreamlike qualities.

Released like every Les Étoiles album before it, on London-based netlabel Records on Ribs, home to artists as diverse as the academic Hip Hop of Talk Less, Say More and the all-out psychotic break of genre-hopping "dreamy noise" group Strap The Button, 'Alight, Alight' is the artist's fifth to date. Les Étoiles' basic formula has always been reliable: Fitzpatrick's masterfully controlled baritone washes



Image courtesy of Les Étoiles

over a foundation of minimal minor-key piano, the former often layered against itself for a symphonically intimate effect. What's most remarkable here is that those two building blocks encapsulate the entirety of this album's sonic landscape, free from the experiments with guitar, synthesizers, and unobtrusive electronic percussion which punctuated previous works from Les Étoiles. The emotional intent here seems to be reflective both in style and content, its songwriting scope localized and its pared-down accompaniment permitting a focus on lyrics. 'Alight, Alight's' entire tone seems to bring a mental close to each of Fitzpatrick's previous albums, a possibility hinted at in its name and its description on the artist's Bandcamp page, which declares it "the closing of a circle, or the completion of a long journey home."

While Les Étoiles has never found significant recognition beyond the small community which surrounds Fitzpatrick in England, the project's discography will always stand on its own as a testament to the potential of new beauty to be found in piano minimalism, a facet of music that some would consider played-out. Some fans may prefer older albums for their more fleshed-out instrumentation, but 'Alight, Alight' is proof that Les Étoiles remains compelling even in David Fitzpatrick's most basic form. 7.1/10

Union Board's Hawks Coffeehouse continues into its fourth year, now on Wednesday nights

Reno Waswil
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

For those uninitiated with Campus Life, Illinois Tech's premier event programming organization, Union Board (UB), has been a historic presence on this campus and promoter of its goal "to have fun" since its founding in 1938. UB is known for putting on what is by far, the most, and some of the biggest and best events every semester, thanks to the deep dedication of its members and its communal experience and know-how. Although not as big as what are referred to as their "Traditions" events, (e.g. Homecoming, Spring Formal, and MTCC Late Niite) Hawks Coffeehouse has been one of the most consistently popular and longest-running periodic events, enough so to bring it into its fourth continuous year this Fall 2016 Semester.

Although it has seen changes in its names, logo, and a few other features throughout the years, the mainstays of the event have stayed the same and have been passed down from lead-programmer to lead-programmer: UB's Music Committee recruits student, local, and national, usually pop and folk-styled musical (and poetry) artists to do performances for anyone in the student body who wishes to attend. This is paired with hot drinks (e.g. coffee, tea, hot chocolate, apple cider) and usually a sweet treat of some kind. Every other week, from 7 to 8 p.m., students gather in the MTCC Welcome Center (the area off to the side of the State Street doors into the MTCC) to drink in the music or what have you, the good spirits, and the coffee and let the day wind down. Thanks to Alien Sound and Lighting's consistently reliable and expert support, Hawks Coffeehouse (often called

"Starhawks" or just "Coffeehouse") has never failed to be an enjoyable experience to those lucky enough to be able to attend, who come to watch, do homework or read, and respectively socialize.

One major change that was decided last year by the UB Executive Board for the event as it enters this new academic year is that instead of having it on Tuesday nights as it has been since its conception, it is now going to take place on Wednesday nights 7-8 p.m. According to Union Board's Music and Dance Chair, Citlali Bueno, the change occurred because students were consistently unable to attend the event for a set of the same regularly timed classes. It was deemed worth changing it for at least one semester to see if the new time would be a better fit, as well as to better coordinate this event with other regular on-campus UB event, "Wishflix" a monthly movie

event on Wednesdays at 9 p.m. in the Wishnick Hall Auditorium.

The first performance is scheduled for Wednesday, August 1, 2016 featuring multi-instrumental "looping-artist" Noah Hoehn to kick off the start of the biweekly event. The following performers are scheduled to be a set of student performers (still being worked out) on September 14, Nelly's Echo on September 28, Lakin on October 12, Poet Neil Hilborn on October 26, Dan Henig on November 9, and what UB hopes to be a Hawks Coffeehouse Student Performer Cabaret for the last event this semester on November 23. Those interested in taking part either this semester or in future semesters are advised to email music@ubiit.org.

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数独

The word Sudoku, above, is actually the abbreviation of "Suuji wa dokushin ni kagiru," meaning "the digits must be single" or "the digits are limited to one occurrence."



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Hidden Angels

Angels hide among the crowd,
 Not known to the public,
 They reach a guiding hand,
 To the weakened, fallen souls,
 Hope is not a blinding light,
 But an unseen warm embrace,
 For these unsung heroes' deeds,
 Are only known by those who hear,
 The soft voice,
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 To call amidst the darkness.

- Hina

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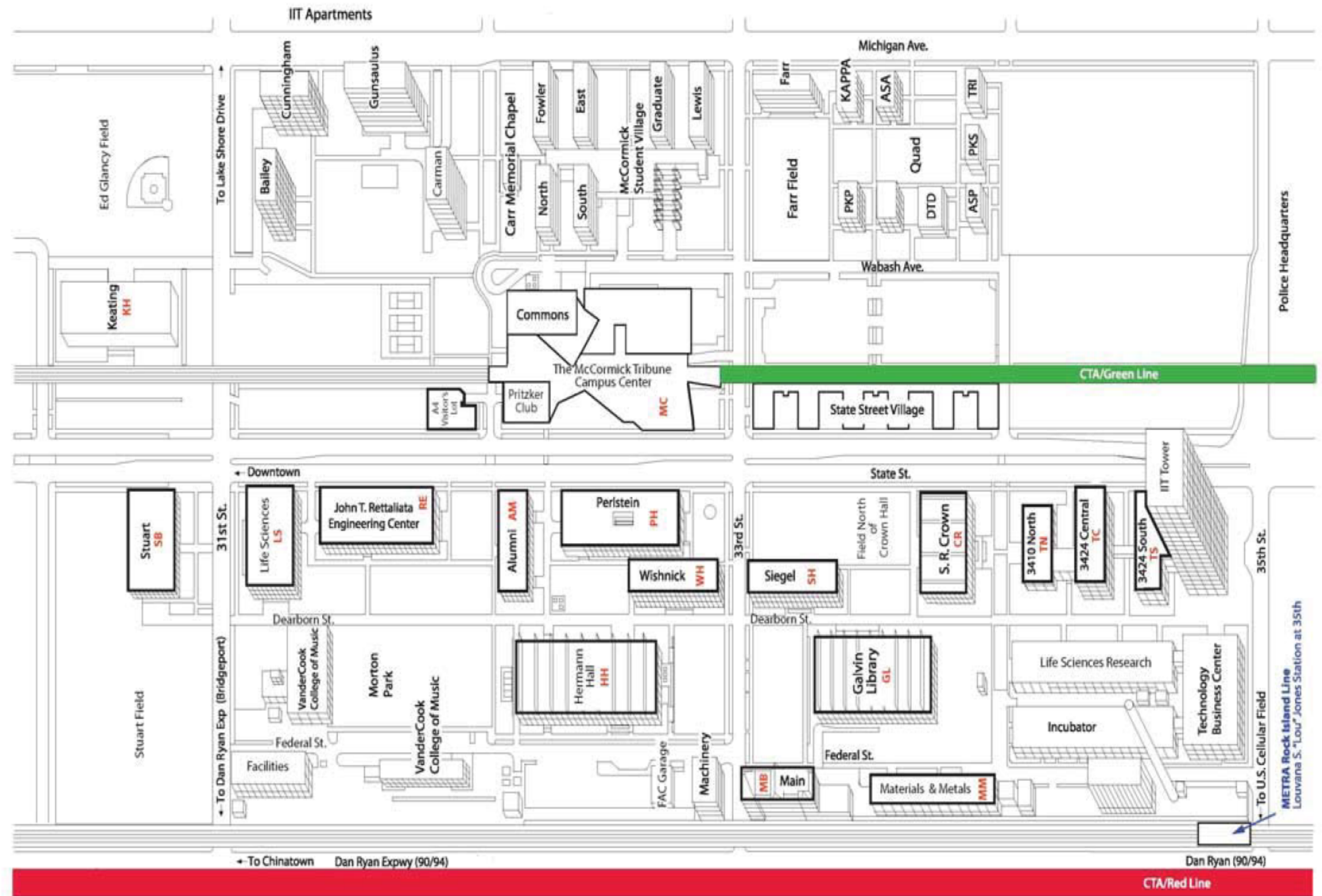
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CHICAGO NEIGHBORHOOD HUNT

Hello Everyone! I hope you all had a great first week of the new Fall 2016 semester. As a means to get students more familiar with our campus, I've created this puzzle that takes two games that a lot of people have tried, crossword puzzles and scavenger hunts, and put them together. Games have always been an important part of our social lives, but now with the advent of social media and mobile devices, they are more useful as a social tool than ever. I recognize this, and believe that traditional games like the ones we grew up with have the potential to not only engage a community, but advance it in ways we had never before thought possible. This week's puzzle focuses on IIT's Main Campus. Stay tuned every week for a new puzzle exploring other neighborhoods in the Chicagoland area.

Created by: Kayla Hacker



Rules of "The Bronzeville Heritage Hunt"

- 1.) You start with a clue that will bring you to a certain location in Bronzeville.
- 2.) Once you travel to that location, you then scan the QR Code found next to the clue in the newspaper. This QR Code will give you an image that you must find at the site. Take note that the image will have a blackened out word.
- 3.) Once you find what the image is displaying at the site, you look for that blackened out word. That's the answer for the puzzle!
- 4.) Be the first person of each month to finish the entire puzzle to get your picture displayed in Tech News!
- 5.) Don't be afraid to use Google - but if you don't have to, that's an accomplishment all by itself!

Across

3. Blow off some steam at our school's gymnasium and join one of IIT's 13 competitive sports teams.
6. Show off your creativity in this innovation hub that features computer visualization tools, a rapid-prototyping lab.
7. The crowning architecture of our campus.
8. You can't miss this building with the 530-foot-long stainless steel clad tube that sits directly above the building's roof.
9. I guarantee you'll find your country's flag hanging from the roof of this building on your walk to the Bog.
11. This newly renovated building provides engineering students with hands-on opportunities to conduct research, experiment, coll
12. This man has been in reserve for 40 years, but still wants you to go visit him.

Down

1. This 20-story concrete and glass building is the only mixed-use, high structure of its kind in this area.
2. You don't have to be a kid to play in this park between classes.
4. This is the only building that Mies van der Rohe designed for religious purposes.
5. You'll find yourself going to this building quite often to visit the beloved Financial Aid office.
10. This building provides two rings and nearly 300,000 book titles for students.

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Obama Sweeps to Historic Victory

Nation Elects Its First African-American President Amid Record Turnout; Turmoil in Economy Dominates Voters' Concerns

By JONATHAN WEISMAN
AND LAURA MECKLER

Obama

WASHINGTON—Sen. Barack