

# TechNews

Student newspaper of Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

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## Faculty, staff, students prepare for Homecoming 2016

**Olumurewa Oguntade**  
 TECHNEWS WRITER

Annually at Illinois Tech, there are two main departments that work together to program events for the week-long Homecoming celebration. The first is the Office of Campus life, which focuses mostly on weekday events for students, many of which are co-planned by Union Board. This year includes a movie screening, a Hawks Coffeehouse event, a Scavenger Hunt, Laser Tag, and the Homecoming Carnival on Saturday. The other department, the Office of Institutional Advancement and Alumni Relations, is in charge of the actual Homecoming events for alumni that take place over the weekend such as the Young Alumni Reception, the 50th Reunion Breakfast with President Alan W. Cramb, the Golden Society Reunion, the All-Alumni Party and Spirit Day celebration, and the 25th Reunion Gathering.

In addition to these separate events,

in the celebration of Homecoming at Illinois Tech, there are a few events that unite both students and alumni, ranging from general admission events to exclusive events, which require preregistration.

The most noteworthy, considering its status as a recent addition and its accessibility to the most students, is the 'Open Houses and Tours' event, scheduled to take place from 3:30 to 4:45 p.m. on Saturday. Alumni will be shown around the various schools on campus, their respective facilities, and will be briefed on the college's history at the Galvin Library Archives. This provides them the opportunity to learn about the latest happenings in the colleges, their curriculum and facility developments, and may provide them the chance to view student work. For students, it will be an opportunity to network with professionals in their respective fields, and since this year's homecoming includes the celebration of the 1st Reunion of the Class of 2015—another recent addition to the program—there is the possibility that these professionals will be old

friends and classmates.

Also providing room for alumni and student interaction, though on smaller scales, are the events hosted by alumni affinity groups. These include the Leadership Academy Gathering, the Camras Scholars Reception, the School of Applied Technology Fall Barbecue, the Reunion and Greek Life Barbecue and the African American Alumni Association (4As) Gathering. While the first three are restricted to current members and their alumni only, the others are not.

In addition to formal events, various social and sporting activities are open to attendance by all students and alumni. Among these are the open hours at the Bog, the Women's Volleyball Game on Friday, the Men's Soccer game and the Women's Volleyball Tri-Matches on Saturday. Even the traditionally student-targeted Homecoming Carnival will feature alumni presence at the Spirit Day prize wheel from 46pm. The Second Annual Spirit Day celebration also features a 'Show your Spirit' Photo Contest where students

and alumni get to view and vote on submitted photos; the contest began yesterday and runs daily through to Saturday, September 17.

Though Homecoming is generally meant to celebrate the return of alumni, students have a higher possibility of participation this year due to the coinciding class of 2015 reunion. The class of 2015 reunion means that there is a greater chance of being invited as a guest to accompany an alumni friend to some exclusive events. Kellie Fields, Director of Alumni Relations, encourages students to engage with alumni to any degree they can. She says: "The number one thing I'd encourage students to do is to stop and talk to alumni, because they love that. They like to know what the students are doing and how things have changed since their time here"

For detailed information about homecoming events, visit the Alumni page on the Illinois Tech website.

## Carving right through campus, the 31st street bus is back

**Soren Spicknall**  
 COPY EDITOR

Prior to 1997, residents of some of Chicago's most culturally distinct neighborhoods were connected by the 31st Street bus, a route that started way out west in Little Village, made its way through Bridgeport and the southern edge of Chinatown, and eventually terminated here in Bronzeville. As some of those neighborhoods fell out of fashion during the golden years of America's love affair with suburbia, economic decline set in, and ridership had dropped so low that the Chicago Transit Board (the legislative body of the Chicago Transit Authority) voted to close the struggling route.

Since the very moment of the closure announcement, activists from across 31st Street corridor neighborhoods have been attempting to lobby the city to restore

the #31 bus route. For more than ten years, their calls went without response, but after gathering some data which showed potential for increased ridership, the CTA piloted a program in 2012 to extend the 35th Street bus up to 31st street for a portion of its route, with the stated intention of using it as a template for further re-establishment of bus infrastructure along 31st. At the time, that pilot program was a point of frustration for most activists, since it only covered a small portion of the old #31 route and did little to connect the vast majority of those who could ride the old route.

Though the 2012 pilot program largely disappointed those pushing for the re-establishment of the 31st street route rather than placating them, it had the unplanned effect of vastly increasing their numbers and organization. Teaming up with a similar effort to bring back an axed portion of the #11 Lincoln Avenue route on the north side,

a coalition of neighborhood organizations stretching from as far south as Jackson Park and as far west as Little Village rallied around the concept of a much larger pilot route for the #31 bus, and starting last week, those cries were officially answered. Following a November 2015 decision by the Chicago Transit Board, a route was constructed stretching from the westernmost edge of Bridgeport over to King Drive here in Bronzeville, connecting two communities historically isolated from each other once more with expanded public transit infrastructure.

Though the pilot program (which is scheduled to run for 6 months to assess the feasibility of making the route permanent once again) is a huge step forward for the CTA31 / CTA11 Crosstown Bus Coalition, it includes a number of route compromises that have drawn criticism, leading some activists to claim the route is "set up to fail". Specifically, the route

doesn't run past 7PM, buses make a detour to 35th along Wentworth Avenue and State Street (meant to pick up customers connecting from the red and green line stations there), and the 31 terminates before reaching 31st Street Beach, a destination for many Bridgeport and Bronzeville residents. Proponents of the current route argue that ridership would be much lower without the L station connections, and that the cool season trial period of the bus route means that a terminus at the beach would only end up costing the CTA more money and make its overall return on investment look worse on paper.

Only time will tell whether the route will succeed, but for now, if you find yourself headed over to Bridgeport, consider hopping on a westbound #31 bus to see if it's worth your while. You can find more information about the route at [transitchicago.com/31pilot](http://transitchicago.com/31pilot).



More Photos on Page 4

Photos courtesy of The Bridgeport Alliance

## TechNews

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## MISSION STATEMENT

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 a dedicated to the belief that a strong campus newspaper is essential to a strong campus community.

## GENERAL INFORMATION

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## SUBMISSIONS

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## Faculty resolution on diversity, a criticism

Reno Waswil  
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

It is quickly approaching one year since the previous Illinois Tech Provost, Alan W. Cramb, was inaugurated as the ninth president of the university, picking up the baton from John L. Anderson, who had held the position since 2007. Having been a student enrolled at the school for two years before the inauguration, I had, naturally, noticed a few changes that could be linked to the changing holder of the position, as one might expect from a new president trying to make a defining mark. A few of these changes I found somewhat minor and humorous, such as the renaming of the coffee, fruit, and pre-packaged pastry spread in the lobbies of the academic buildings on Mies (previously Main) Campus on the first day of Final's Week from "Pat Anderson's Finals Breakfast" to "Mrs. Anna Cramb's Finals Breakfast;" it makes sense, sure, but the politics of it seem a bit chuckle-worthy.

Then, some of the changes seemed significant. It may only be my singular evaluation of things, but Cramb, at this point in his presidency, seems much more open and available to students and student concerns than was Anderson. There is always room for improvement, but Cramb's establishment of the President's Student Advisory Committee (PSAC) as a transparent, and, ultimately, student-chosen group of individuals, as well as the influx of emails from the President's Office since Cramb's inauguration to keep student's generally more informed of administrative changes and business are just a few attestants to my evaluation.

And I would cite more updates from the President for the purposes of keeping students, faculty, and staff more in-the-loop of administrative news as a beneficial method of creating a larger sense of school community, which is why I make a point to read them when I do receive them.

It was because of this that I took a keen notice to the curious email from President Cramb last week. For those paying attention, several factions of the school (or at least many of the students) actually received a total of three emails from President Cramb last week, and although I did form opinions about the other two (one of which was a celebration of fulfilling donorship goals and the other was an announcement to students wishing to vote in the election this November), I was compelled only by the third one, received last Monday morning, to generate some commentary. This email was part of a series of emails which

include the header "President's Updates," and shared a resolution on diversity and respect that was passed at the last Faculty Council meeting of the spring on April 21.

The email was short, and the resolution went: given President Cramb's commitment to respect within the university community "regardless of gender, race, background, country of origin, religious affiliation, immigration status, orientation..." as was affirmed in his "University Update" on November 20, 2015, as well as Illinois Tech faculty's observation that respectful diversity strengthens us as a community, that the faculty would, therefore, remain unwavering in their commitment to "welcoming students, faculty, and staff, whomever they may be."

What got me about this email was the stark dichotomy of how little the statement actually meant to the deal that was being made of it. The only message I could takeaway from this email was that the faculty "is still pro-diversity, and that won't change," which is an absurd thing to make a point of saying without any context. The resolution, passed unanimously, now actually appears as its very own tab, under the header "Faculty Statement on Diversity" on IIT's "Office of the President" webpage. Navigating to the website, in addition to this new tab, I also see what I assume to be a pre-existing "Commitment to Diversity" tab, which leads to a page harping on basically the same point.

Before I continue, I'd like to restate that I do see more announcements like these as a beneficial practice in increasing the interest of students in taking an active part in the Illinois Tech community. However, I see it as only being beneficial if these announcements, somehow, allow us feel including and responsible in the decision processes and not just as outsiders being fed down patronizing news, and furthermore, that these updates don't be of a nature that allows them to be, more or less, meaningless, and to fade into aggrandizing noise. These are two criticisms that, I argue, can be fairly levied about this particular update.

Why was news, may I ask? Am I to understand that, prior to this, there was not an expectation of respect regardless of affiliation among our faculty? This seems contrary to what I have been told time and time again, enough to cement this already almost universally supported idea of a university-wide "commitment to diversity" in my mind as meaningless noise. Perhaps there was some explanation for this resolution in context of specific issues in the school (a few having been

brought up by students at the last President and Provost Forum), or plans for real-world effects or enforcement of said policy in the future. This was not made clear in this email, and these issues still remain, with or without this new resolution, as contentious as they was before.

Additionally, I may be mistaken, but the only other email I received with any reference to the Faculty Council was in a "President's Update" email from October 16, 2015. In this email, there was, actually, what I believe to be meaningful information conveyed. There was never, however, any establishment in that or any other update I recall that resolutions made by such a council merited the publicity that this one did. This was, in fact, the first resolution of this council that I've ever heard of, and the implications of these or other resolutions that may or may not have been made in the past is a mystery to me.

According to Soren Spicknall, the TechNews writer assigned to cover Undergraduate Studies Committee (UGSC) meetings, this "respect and diversity" topic was actually also discussed within the UGSC last spring stemming from the poignant discussion had at the last President and Provost Forum around the topic. There were, however, administrative barriers to making any immediate concrete changes to university policy, and I may speculate that such barriers resulted in the final Faculty Council resolution to emerge in the way that it did. Although this may have been the case, I was, sadly, unable to find any reference to this in last spring's UGSC minutes to offer any details or proof.

Despite this realization, I am still unsatisfied. I comment President Cramb putting such a focus on communicating with the students body and expending so much time to do so, but I am unsatisfied by some of the methods he chooses to do it. I do understand that asking for active student representation in administrative decisions is an idealistic request, and that, perhaps, we can expect nothing more than occasional self-applause of the university's positive features in the forms of mass emails for the sake of shallow advertisement. I prefer to think of the reality of the situation as somewhere between these two extremes, and hope that the school comes to progress towards the former. In doing so, I invite any response to my questions posed about the nature and meaning of this resolution, and hope to receive a public response in this paper.

## Office of Campus Life hosts first leadership development event for Fall 2016

Alexandra Detweiler  
TECHNEWS WRITER

Were you curious about the picture of Kim Kardashian and Taylor Swift that was posted by the IIT Campus Life page on Facebook? Were you drawn towards the sound of Taylor Swift music coming from MITCC's Executive Conference room last Thursday? You may be interested in learning about the new leadership activities that are happening this year.

Over the summer, Patrick Fina with the Office of Campus Life was tasked with "revamping the leadership program." Because of this, Fina is kickstarting a series of leadership workshops that will use pop culture as a method to talk about what leadership is and what makes a good leader. Using real life examples will not only be more applicable to students' lives but will provide the opportunity to talk about tough decisions that people such as celebrities have to make. The first leadership workshop of the year was on Thursday, September 8th. It yielded a surprising turnout of about 20 people and tasty sandwiches were provided for all.

At the beginning of the luncheon, Fina addressed us by asking who could define leadership in two seconds or less. None of us stepped up to the plate. Leadership is a hard concept to define, vague and indefinite, and Fina understood this. After letting individuals share their own opinions, Fina said that his

own definition of leadership was "that feeling you get in your gut when you know you're making a hard decision. Where you're worried you might disappoint someone. Where you're worried that you're going to make the wrong choice. Or maybe you're so nervous because you know you're making the right choice, but it's going to come with consequences."

Speaking of consequences, we discussed how Taylor Swift learned about consequences over the summer. For those of you who don't know--and care enough to learn--Taylor Swift and Kim Kardashian (on behalf of her husband Kanye West) were recently involved in a heated feud over social media where Kardashian fans ignited the Twitter hashtag #KimExposedTaylorParty and Taylor released a single statement asking to be excluded from the drama.

Regardless of which celebrity was actually in the wrong, we discussed our opinions on who was acting like the "leader" in the situation throughout the lunch. After all, it is sometimes the leader's job to step out of the drama and sometimes the leader's job to step up to defend your family. In the end, the group decided that both Swift and Kardashian had acted as the leader in their own way.

We examined how our perception of a leader is shaped by the identities they hold. For example, both Swift and Kanye are artists; that's why we're paying attention in the first place. In addition, their racial backgrounds differ as well. There's Taylor, a white, former

country music artist from Nashville, Tennessee suburbs, and, according to Fina, "Kanye, who claims he is god, from the Southside of Chicago." It was interesting to analyze how the identities that different leaders have can shape their actions.

The workshop as a whole was very enjoyable; the atmosphere in the conference room was warm and welcoming. All ideas were accepted and discussed. However, I was not well versed in the drama involving Swift and Kardashian beforehand and felt lost throughout parts of the discussion. Some aspects of the ordeal were explained, but it was assumed that the audience already knew a substantial chunk. So if you're like me and aren't a pop culture guru, brush up on your celebrity drama before attending the next leadership event.

Keep a lookout for other events like this one. The "Day of Be a Better You" will be from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. on Saturday, September 24. RSVP through HawkLink and you will be eligible to take a Strengthsquest, a tool that helps you identify where your natural skills lie. The next leadership luncheon will be on Thursday, October 13 from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. This event will involve the concept of vulnerability and discussion will be centered around Drake and Rihanna.

## Do you know the difference between UNICEF and Circle K?

Alexandra Detweiler  
TECHNEWS WRITER

If your freshman self was anything like mine, a lot of things confused you about Illinois Tech. What were the random wooden benches scattered around campus? What was the deal with "less is more?" Why did everything have to be an acronym?

But among other things, one thing that had me scratching my head was the difference between UNICEF and Circle K. During this year's student involvement fair, I spent some time squinting between the two booths and trying to discern what made each unique. Two groups of nice, enthusiastic college students looking to do volunteer work. How was anyone expected to make a decision on which to be involved in? A coin flip?

Fortunately, both organizations' presidents were willing to meet with me and

help me understand the difference.

Martae Marshall, president of Circle K, understood my confusion. He pointed out that "the objective [of each] is not different. The way UNICEF is structured is different than Circle K." There are several "tiers" of Circle K that differ as one grows older. Builder's Club is for those attending middle school, Key Club for high school students, Circle K for college students, and Kiwanis International for those older than that.

In the past, Circle K has done a multitude of volunteering activities, such as going to the Ronald McDonald house to read and do activities with the children and helping out at the city farm to pull weeds and plant crops. In the future, Circle K has a myriad of new projects planned, all of which involve outreach events like cleaning up the city and teaching children.

UNICEF, on the other hand, focuses

mainly on children. In fact, UNICEF stands for the United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, and it has been at Illinois Tech for only three semesters. However, the organization already has an impressive track record. One volunteering highlight of UNICEF's past is Keen Chicago, where UNICEF members spent the day playing with children with disabilities to keep them active. Last year, UNICEF attended the national conference in Washington, DC. Out of about 75 organizations, they won most knowledgeable organization, in only their second semester.

According to Wildalene Serin, president of UNICEF, "Every day, about 17,000 children die from preventable causes such as poor water conditions and malnutrition. UNICEF's main mission is to make that number zero." Each month, UNICEF has a country and an issue of the month. Their three committees--

education, fundraising, and public relations--work together to organize and advertise this event. All proceeds from the event will be donated to the cause in that specific country. This month, UNICEF's country is Mali and the issue is underage child marriage. So expect a fun event before the month ends that will help combat this issue.

However, while Circle K and UNICEF do have their differences, I was surprised to learn that the national chapters actually work together when their issues overlap.

Interested in joining one or both? Circle K meetings are on Thursdays in Wishnick Auditorium from 12:50 to 1:40 p.m. UNICEF meetings are also on Thursdays, from 12:45 to 1:30 p.m. in LS240. Look up UNICEF @ Illinois Tech on Facebook for further updates.

## The Bog, after an over two-year run, will no longer be open on Saturdays

Reno Waswil  
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Illinois Tech's signature recreation area, bowling alley, and bar, The Bog, located in the basement of Hermann Hall, has been a casual meeting and lounging spot, venue for musical and performance acts, and space for group parties and get-togethers for years. During weekdays when classes are in session, The Bog is host to the Commuter Lounge: a period when The Bog's recreation area, stocked with video and board games, pool and ping pong tables, and amenities like a refrigerator, microwave, etc. is open for students to visit at their leisure. During regular hours, the bar and bowling alley are open for use, and attendees are welcome to partake in the occasional special events that may be hosted in the area by any number of student organizations and sponsored by Union Board.

The goal of maximizing the usefulness of the space to the student populous has resulted in adjustments to The Bog's

hours of operation over the years. Some may recall that, prior to spring of 2014, the Bog's regular hours were exclusively Thursday and Friday evenings from 5 pm to 1 am during the school year. However, in an attempt to give students more weekend dining options, The Bog's management extended hours to include Saturday nights from March 1 to April 5, 2014.

The following two academic years, Saturdays during the months between October and March were added to The Bog's semesterly schedule--September and April being deemed as having moderate enough weather that students would more likely seek off-campus dining options if inclined. This trend was believed to continue into this academic year as well, though inklings of unsatisfactory attendance had already surfaced. It wasn't until this past summer when management decided against continuing the Saturday operations, and they elected to return to the Thursday and Friday schedule as it had been previously.

Correspondence with the leading OCL member involved in The Bog's

operations, Alex Carlson, helped uncover the factors behind the change. "The decision to cancel Saturdays" she writes, "was a joint effort between Campus Life and Sodexo, based on the lack of attendance we both saw over the semester."

Although efforts were made to increase attendance to the Bog on weekdays--such as the introduction of Union Board's weekly instructional dance event "All the rITe Moves" last year--attendance remained modest. "On Thursday and Friday nights, our hourly counts normally peak with at least 100 students," Carlson elaborates, "on Saturdays, we rarely saw more than 40 students." However, as a side-note, "All the rITe Moves" is expected to continue this year on a different day.

Union Board, which began booking student organization reservations of the space for the fall last semester, sent all of the organizations that requested Saturday bookings emails notifying them of the change in July. They were given the option to reschedule their events for another date, for

which there was still a number of openings available from which to choose. According to Carlson, all of the funding that Union Board was given to cover programming of The Bog on Saturdays was returned.

When asked if the change would at all impact the workers at the Bog, Carlson explained that no additional staff was hired over the summer, knowing that there was a chance of The Bog's hours decreasing, and so, "our student staff should not see much of an impact on this."

Although unfortunate, this was not a decision made lightly, nor was it made temporarily; Carlson concludes, "this year we will go back to regular hours of Thursday and Friday. I do not anticipate a change in the future." With any hope, students that did regularly use The Bog as an on-campus dining option on Saturdays in the past will be able to adjust without too much trouble, and student organizations will be able to fit their planned events in with the space's new schedule.

## Corrections

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

In the previous issue, I wrote an article about Union Board's (UB) bi-weekly performance event, Hawks Coffeehouses, changing from Tuesday to Wednesday nights this semester, but I had some of my information wrong. I claimed in that article that one of the reasons behind the change was "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." After speaking again with UB's Music and Dance Chair, Citlalli Bueno, I learned that, in fact, the movie event was being changed to Tuesday evenings, and that Hawks Coffeehouse was changed to Wednesdays so that the two did not correspond. Additionally, I learned that the

location of said movie event was being changed to the Perlstein Auditorium, and that it would, as a result, heretofore be called "Pearlstein Premiers." The following dates of both events will be, for Pearlstein Premiers, 9 p.m. on September 13, when the movie "Deadpool" will be shown, and for Hawks Coffeehouse, 7 p.m. on September 14, with student performers. I apologize and hope that no one who read the article was misled too much.

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

The front page article in Issue 1 of TechNews which came out on Tuesday, August 30, mistakenly stated that the Institute of Design (ID) will remain at the Downtown Campus following the completion of the Ed Kaplan Family Institute for Innovation and Technology Entrepreneurship. In fact, ID will have a home at the Kaplan Institute on Main Campus, where its graduate programs will reside, whilst also continuing to have programs based at the Downtown Campus. TechNews offers its apologies for the error and any inconvenience it may have caused.

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# Staff Spotlight: Ken Chatman, Post Office

**Khaleela Zaman**  
TECHNEWS WRITER

If you stopped by the post office in MTCC at all in the past year, you surely saw him. But you probably don't know much about him. His name is Ken Chatman, a fourth year computer engineering student at Illinois Tech. Last year, one week before school began, he was searching for job opportunities on campus in Jobs4Hawks and sent in his resume for a job at the post office. To his surprise, he got a call just one hour later. They were looking for someone immediately, and he got an interview on the Monday of the first day of classes, and we all know the outcome of that interview.

Chatman's job entails giving out packages and running errands of mail to various offices on campus. However, his favorite part about the job is interacting with the people who come to the post office window. He has met so many interesting, new people at that counter. If you have interacted with Chatman, then you know how friendly he is. He may be a little soft-spoken, but that ever-smiling face is always able to brighten a



Photo by Khaleela Zaman

day. Rude customers are "probably the one thing [he does] not like." Those line skippers—the ones who just walk right up to the window while all the other people are waiting in a long, long line—those are the ones he is referring to. Other than those people, his favorite part about Illinois Tech is definitely the "friendly environment." The people are willing to help; "it's like a shielded world from the real world." Chatman has truly "enjoyed the time [he has] been here."

Ken Chatman is an exemplary member of the friendly community of Illinois Tech, always willing to help anyone who might walk up to the post office, whether they are just picking up a package or they have a more involved question. Next time you are passing by, consider saying more than just spitting out your mailbox number, because more might come out of a simple conversation than just the transfer of your package. If anything, Chatman's smile will leave you smiling.

# Technology improvements for the new school year

**Office of Technology Services**

Welcome Back! The Office of Technology Services (OTS) has been hard at work over the summer to make your academic experience at Illinois Tech even better in the 2016-2017 school year.

Before shining a light on some of those improvements, though, OTS wants you to know about HAWKi, Illinois Tech's free mobile app for both Apple and Android devices, which debuted in March of this year. From August 15-25 alone, HAWKi was downloaded over 1000 times with more than 17,000 visits. HAWKi enables students to access their grades, class discussions, class schedules (which can be synced with their devices' calendars), class rosters, Illinois Tech news, events, and more. HAWKi is the first student mobile app at the university that combines the services of both Banner and Blackboard in one app. Best of all, OTS partnered with the Student

Government Association (SGA) in the design, content selection, and naming of the app.

As for work done on behalf of students over the summer, OTS once again teamed up with the SGA to explore the look, feel, and content that Illinois Tech students wished to see on the myIIT portal. As a result of this collaboration, many new services/links are accessible via the portal, specifically: MyRoom, handling the management of room assignments, board plans, and housing updates; MyParking, handling the management of parking accounts; HawkLink, connecting students with activities and events happening on campus; Sprintax, providing free federal tax preparation services to international students; and Cbord, providing students with a dashboard on their current balances for Board, TechCash, and Bonus Points.

All OTS-managed PC labs have been upgraded to Windows 10. Additional PC kiosks and printing release stations were introduced at the Downtown Campus, together

with a full refreshment of the PC's in computer labs in Alumni Memorial and Crown Hall on the Mies Campus.

OTS deployed yet another useful Blackboard application, Blackboard Community, which allows professors to target information for students on a specific subject or field of study. Blackboard Community allows for the sharing of data/content without the need for shared drives or emails.

In response to students' complaints, OTS focused on two process enhancements: it streamlined the university's billing practices for housing and meal plans and the student Jobs4Hawks hiring process.

Ophir Trigalo, Vice Provost and Chief Information Officer for OTS, comments, "I am pleased OTS was able to bring so many technology improvements to our Illinois Tech community. OTS prides itself on being a service division of the university, and our staff works hard to continuously make processes smoother and transactions easier for our

students, faculty, and staff."

Finally, there are two important tips to keep in mind. First, Illinois Tech and OTS will never send you an email or call to ask you for your username or password. Occasionally, members of the Illinois Tech community will receive deceptive emails claiming, for example, that their password is required to ensure that they will be able to continue to send and receive emails. This is a scam. Report such fraudulent emails to the OTS Support Desk.

Second, speaking of the OTS Support Desk, which is located on the second floor of the Galvin Library, please remember that Support Desk staff are available to help you with your technology-related concerns, 24-hours a day, Monday through Friday, and over 20 hours on the weekend. If you have any questions or need assistance, either stop by the library, go to <http://support.iit.edu>, call 312.567.3375 (on campus x7DESK), or email [supportdesk@iit.edu](mailto:supportdesk@iit.edu).

# Carving right through campus, the 31st Street bus is back



Photos courtesy of The Bridgeport Alliance

# Illinois Tech MSI summer interns inspire thousands of guests

**Kori Bowns**  
TECHNEWS WRITER

Well over one million guests visit Chicago's Museum of Science and Industry (MSI) in the city's Hyde Park neighborhood each year. While many Illinois Tech students are aware of the museum, fewer know the unique opportunity they have to get involved with the museum's mission to "inspire the inventive genius in everyone."

Each semester, undergraduate students from IIT have a service learning opportunity at the Museum of Science and Industry through the MSI Internship Program. Students apply to spend a few days during the semester volunteering at the museum, leading science demonstrations to the museum's general audience. Volunteers who complete a required minimum number of volunteer hours at the museum also qualify to apply for a paid internship at MSI over the summer.

While the majority of Illinois

Tech students were on summer break, seven undergraduates joined MSI as paid full-time interns where their responsibilities primarily included presenting science demonstrations to over 20 thousand guests. Each day, the interns could be seen on the main museum floor interacting with MSI's wide audience, including families, tourists, school groups, and other guests of all ages and backgrounds. The "live science experiences" shows, presented by interns, vary every year. This year, the interns' experiences included guiding guests through dissecting a cow eyeball, a live chemistry demonstration, a play about digestion, and more!

For nearly a decade, Illinois Tech students have reported incredible increases in their confidence and public speaking skills as a result of participating in the MSI internship program. Wildalene Serin, 3rd year engineering management major, worked as an intern at MSI this summer. "I feel more comfortable talking to people about science

concepts, which I wasn't very comfortable with before," she said. "I think it will be very important for me to be able to explain science and engineering concepts to other people; to be able to not just do engineering but to be able to speak about it." Participants in the volunteer and internship program continually say that their work at MSI empowered them to be better communicators and leaders in their science and engineering fields; they have found the practice in communicating their knowledge to be a boost to them academically and professionally.

Participants have also enjoyed having the opportunity to share their passion for science and engineering with others in a hope to inspire them to pursue a technical career. Liza McQueney, 2nd year mechanical engineering major, said, "My favorite part of working at MSI is getting to inspire young kids. I was inspired to go into engineering by a museum exhibit, so it's really important for me to be able to pass that on."

After being selected through an application process, Illinois Tech students who volunteer at MSI choose several days in the semester to volunteer. On these days, they are trained at the museum to present small-scale live science experiences and practice their presentation skills. After improving over the course of the semester and presenting a variety of demonstrations alongside other volunteers, they become eligible for a full-time paid summer internship.

The MSI-IIT internship program is only open to IIT undergraduate students. In order to apply, interested students must attend information sessions, which will be held this week on Tuesday, September 13; Wednesday, September 14; and Thursday, September 15. All of the information sessions will take place at 12:45 p.m. in Rettalata Engineering Center room 102. Contact Patrick Fina, Coordinator of Campus Life, at [pfina@iit.edu](mailto:pfina@iit.edu) with any additional questions.

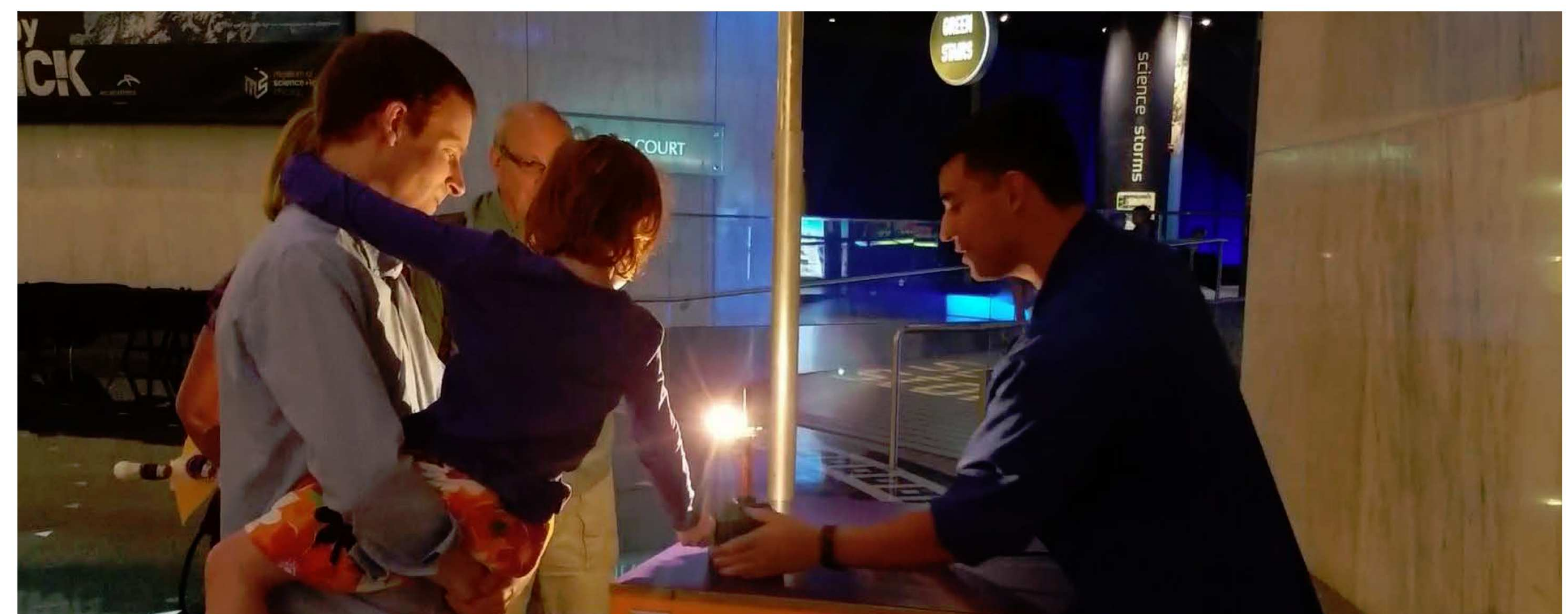


Photo by Kori Bowns

# Chicago Transit Authority Station Review: Harrison Red Line

Soren Spicknall  
COPY EDITOR

Situated between two popular transfer points just outside the Loop, the Harrison Red Line station is one of the lowest-traffic CTA train stations in the core of the city. The Roosevelt Red, Green, and Orange line station receives the bulk of traffic headed toward the hot South Loop and the semi-combined Jackson Red and Blue line station fills up with office workers at the beginning and end of each weekday, leaving Harrison as an awkward middle child with no available transfer points and a mix of housing, businesses, and cultural institutions that lacks the sheer density of more central CTA stops like Randolph & Wabash or State & Lake. Its only major crowding occurs when Jones College Prep, one of CPS's largest physical buildings, lets out from classes each weekday afternoon. Condition - 13/15

Like many stations along the Red Line, Harrison recently underwent thorough renovations. In 2014, the entirety of its flooring was replaced with new granite tiles, and significant waterproofing work was undertaken. Additionally, the stairs leading into the station at both its main entrance and its auxiliary Polk Street entrance underwent repairs to aid leveling, and lighting was upgraded to full LED bulbs, a first for any CTA

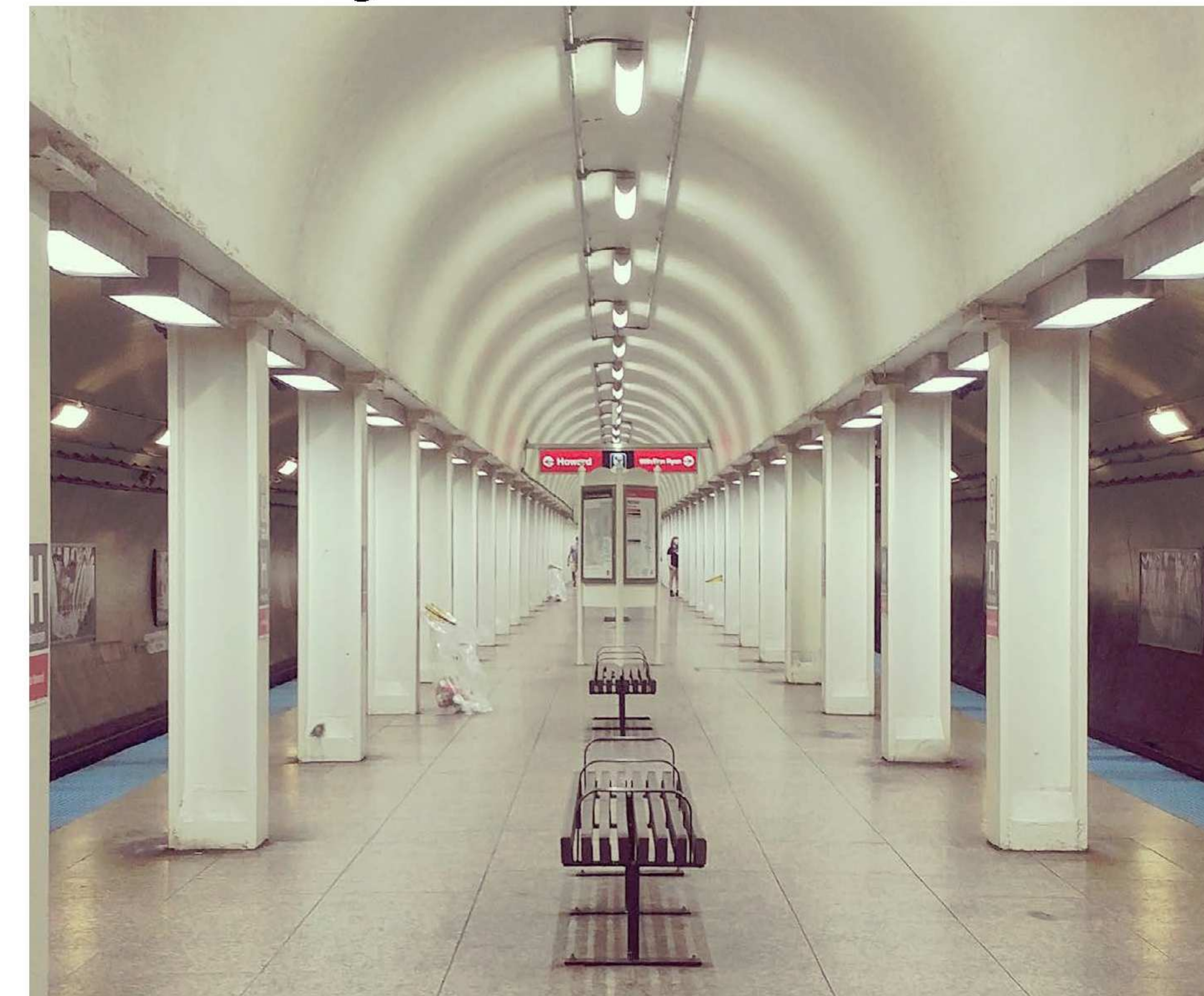


Photo by Soren Spicknall

station. Despite all those changes, though, a few small issues still exist with the station's physical condition. The newly leveled main entrance stairs are still worn enough from previous

years that they can't possibly be completely fixed, and columns on the station platform still exhibit small leaks (though not on nearly the same scale as in the past). Appearance - 11/15

During 2014's renovations, the CTA stated that a number of unique design strategies would be employed in the station to reflect the neighborhood around Harrison. Random tile patterns were employed for an up-to-date atmosphere, and the station's primary entrance takes the form of a contemporary glass box today, meant to correspond to the body design of Jones College Prep nearby. All surfaces inside the station are remarkable clean and well-maintained, especially in comparison to neighboring stations Jackson and Roosevelt, a product both of the renovation and Harrison's low traffic. Convenience - 8/20

While Harrison's location along State Street inherently places it near important buildings like the Harold Washington Library, and its proximity to the Loop automatically means it's a go-to for certain commuters, the station is hurt significantly by the stature of the other CTA stations that are near it. Without any transfers, Harrison isn't very useful for those who don't live or work in its immediate proximity, since anybody going further afield than Lou Malnati's or Jones College Prep is better served by another station. It's close to a huge number of important Chicago destinations, but it's often not close enough to be worth stopping at. That said, the station's low overall traffic does make it convenient for the times when you're headed specifically to its immediate surroundings.

# Hot air balloon festival takes flight in Harvard, Illinois during Labor Day weekend

Steven Moreno  
TECHNEWS WRITER

The quiet town of Harvard, Illinois sprung to life this Labor Day weekend, with the town's first annual balloon festival. The event, which took place on Sunday and Monday this holiday weekend, did have some difficulties when it came to the balloons themselves. With each hot air balloon being at the mercy of the weather in which it finds itself, the conditions had to be just right to ensure the balloons did not land in Lake Michigan, nearby antennas, or near any other equally dangerous locations nearby. The balloon-maestro (yes, that was his

official title) had ordered all balloons grounded in the afternoon when the eastern blowing wind picked up. Everyone who had paid for a ride was refunded, but there was still hope for a fun evening as the operators resorted to what they referred to as "Plan B".

This Plan B was the night balloon glow, which was to be the balloons being filled and lit with the intense fire that kept them aloft. Due to the no fly order, the balloons had to be anchored down with cars, weights, and people to keep them from lifting off. Not all of the balloons were set up; instead, their baskets and heat emitters were left out and turned on to emit flames that soared over 20 feet into

the air. Once the balloons and fuel sources were secure and protected, the public was free to roam the set up area and see up close the balloons and the equipment which keeps them aloft.

While the balloon operators were busy setting up their equipment, vendors and food trucks gathered across the parking lot to serve and entertain the crowds. Musicians and artists gathered to sell their products and perform to the crowds waiting for the balloon display to open to the general public. One entertainer even dressed up as a Velociraptor and roamed the park, posing for pictures and scaring any kids that crossed his path.

Harvard, Illinois is one of the farthest towns serviced by the Chicago Metra and can be reached by the Union Pacific Northwest Metra line, which leaves daily from the Ogilvie Transportation Center. Due to the far distance, one of the best times to reach Harvard and other nearby locations is during the weekend, when Metra provides a discounted price for tickets which are good for the entire weekend and Monday whenever it is a federal or state holiday such as Labor Day or Columbus Day. The transportation center is serviced daily by the CTA Green Line, CTA buses, and by the IIT Shuttle Bus on weekdays.



Photos by Steven Moreno

# Auto show and more during Labor Day weekend in Kenosha, Wisconsin

Steven Moreno  
TECHNEWS WRITER

There was no lack of events in Kenosha this Labor Day weekend. From a classic auto show, to sailboat rides and farmers' market, Kenosha was one of the best places to be this holiday weekend. Being in Wisconsin, the state which is best known for its dairy, the event was so eloquently dubbed the Kenosha "Cheezapalooza". From Cheese Curds, to Green Bay Packers merchandise, there was no doubt that you had entered America's well known dairyland.

Throughout the town's downtown area were classic cars and roadsters from

across the Midwest. These cars were proudly displayed and some were even up for sale to anyone who was willing to barter with their owners. As the day progressed, more and more cars began to pack up and leave their spots on the sides of the road, but these car enthusiasts were not done just yet. For the last few hours of daylight, the classic cars and roadsters drove around the town at slow speeds, so that onlookers could watch these works of art in motion.

Meanwhile, by the town harbor was the main festival area, where local farmers, artists, merchants, food trucks and vendors had set up shop. In addition to the cheese curds, these vendors and food trucks served

numerous festival classics such as shaved ice, roasted corn, and deep fried Oreos. In the middle of the market area were multiple concert stages, where locals and visitors alike listen to some of their favorite songs as many of the musician were open to requests from the crowd.

In addition to the events that occurred this weekend, the town of Kenosha has a multitude of events and attractions that occur and remain open throughout the year. The town is home to several museums such as the Museum of the Civil War in Upper Midwest, the Kenosha Public Museum, the Dinosaur Discovery Museum, and the Kenosha History Center. A farmers' market

will be open in Kenosha every Saturday till the end of October and several art galleries will be on display across the town throughout the year.

Though the city is located in another state, the journey to Kenosha is much easier than one would think. Kenosha is the only station in the state of Wisconsin serviced by the Chicago Metra and is the terminus for the Union Pacific North Metra line, which runs to and from the Ogilvie Transportation Center in downtown Chicago. The transportation center is serviced daily by the CTA Green Line, CTA buses and by the IIT Shuttle Bus on weekdays.



Photos by Steven Moreno

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## Get to know some of the candidates for SGA Senate



Kislav Bhagat

Armour College of Engineering

No efficient and fair form of government can be run without debate, and every debate needs to have people that will challenge the popular belief if there is some problem with it. I am ready to be that person.



Jacob DiGiorgio

Armour College of Engineering

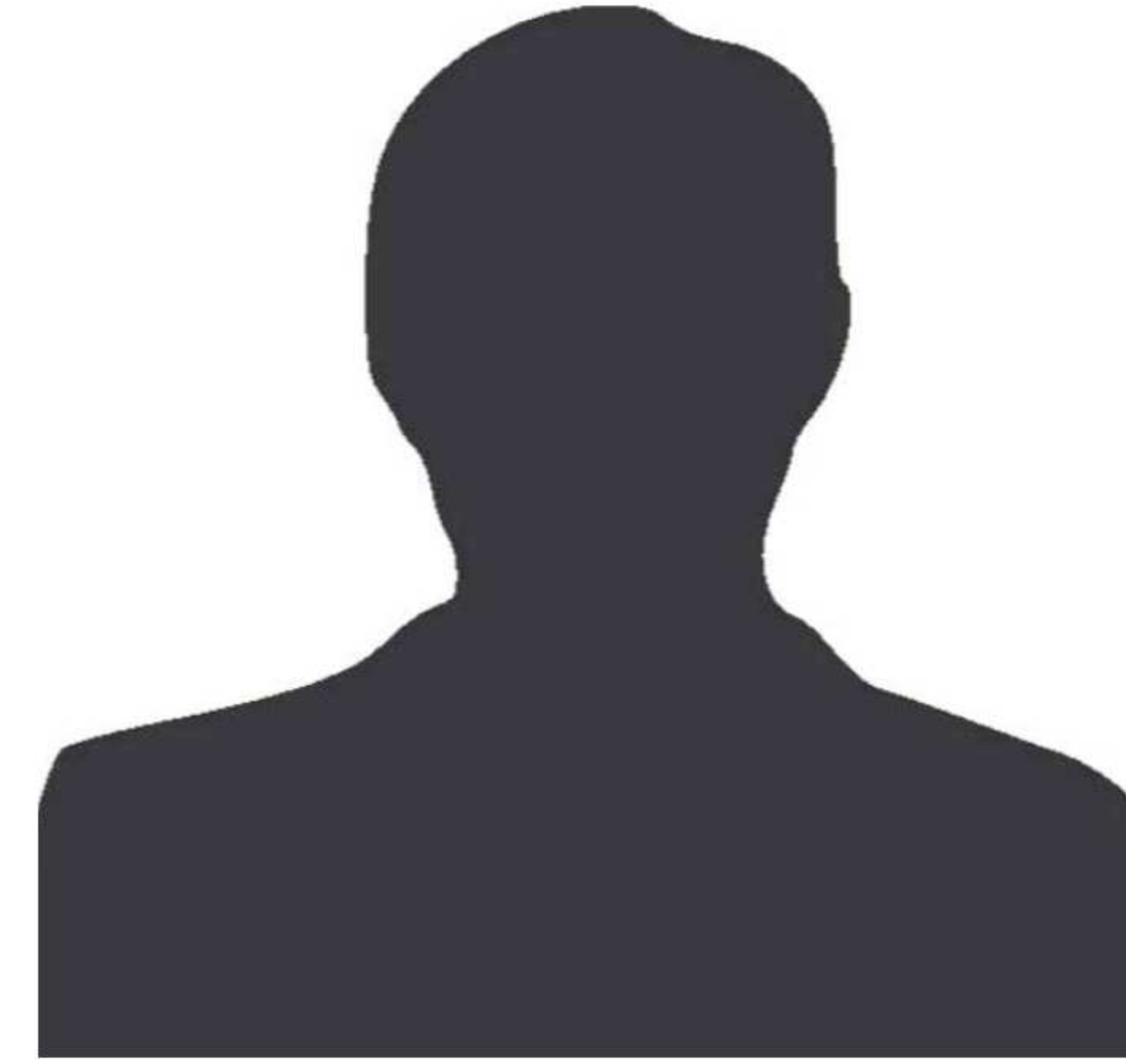
I believe that I am the best candidate for this position because I will do whatever it takes to make IIT a better place and give my best effort...I also bring in a different way of think being a student athlete and involved in multiple clubs.



Jillian Edwards

Armour College of Engineering

Coming from a small island with not many schools or colleges like IIT, I see so much potential as it relates to the resources available to students and student organizations here and I believe that I have the drive to maximize the use of these resources.



Aditya Bisht

Armour College of Engineering

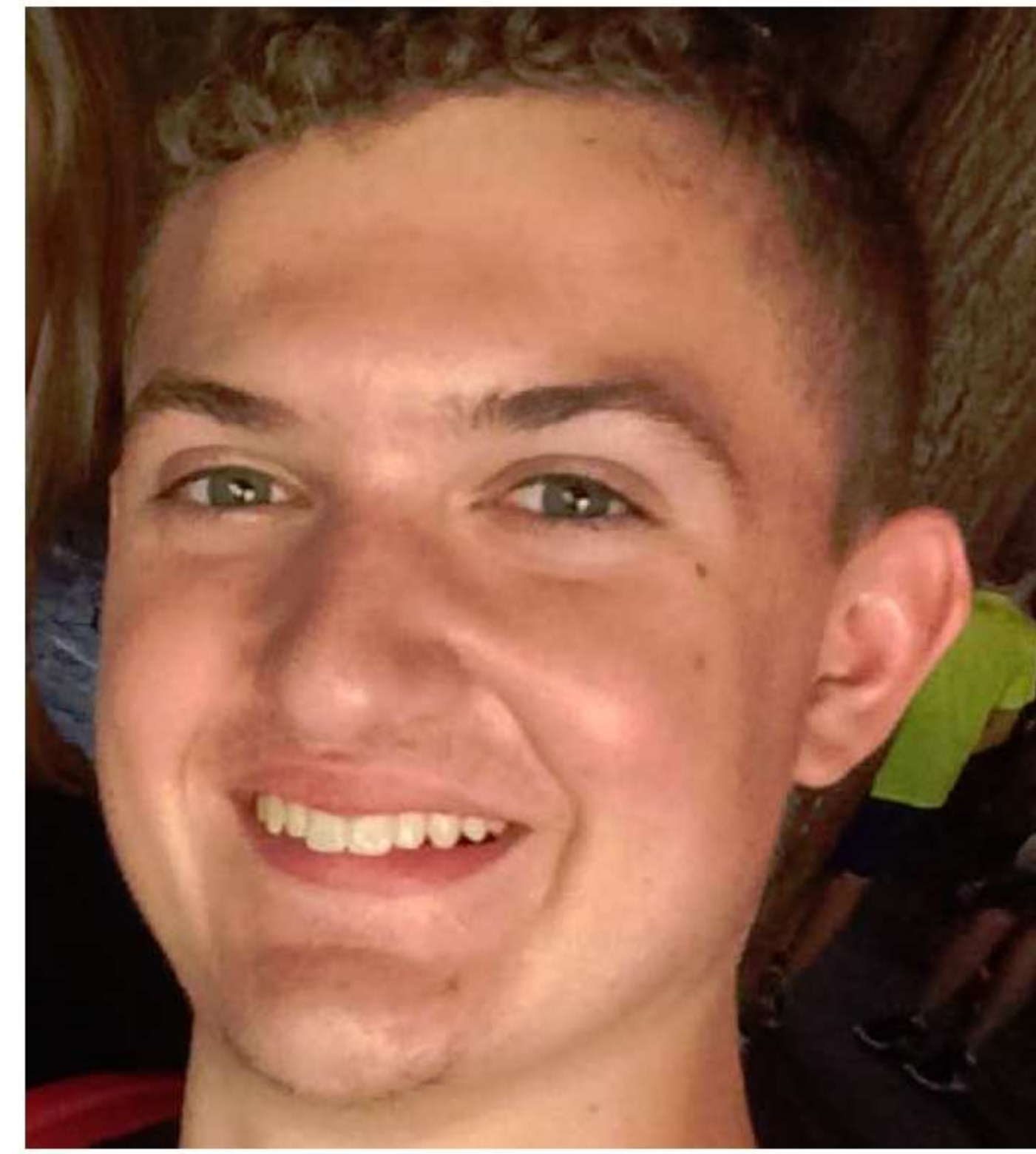
I will ask students to join and help sga by giving their valuable opinions by which we can organize various programs or help them in their problems by knowing their opinions.



Kian Madani

Armour College of Engineering

There are so many qualities that a candidate must have; however, the two crucial and basic parts of them are to have some insight to see the subject of dispute and have the courage to put the issue into discussion with authorities.



Nathan Jones

College of Science

Do not let your dreams and goals wash to the wayside, but capture them, visualize them, and together, we can make it a reality. My name is Nathan Cooper Jones and I am running for your SGA Senator for the College of Science, and I hope you vote great by voting Nate.



Gina Oberoi

College of Science

I understand how important it is for everyone to be on the same page when working to solve issues and how to play off of everyone's strengths to come up with the most practical and efficient solutions. When working on a team of senators as well as working directly with students and faculty, I believe these principles are just as important.



Miles Thompson

Stuart School of Business

Hearing students say negative things about IIT is never great, but being able to actually have power to fix problems is the reason I'm running. I'd like to make IIT into a more attractive school for our students and prospective students. My leadership and persistence to achieve a goal would help student get problems fixed.



Ethan Castro

Stuart School of Business

I believe there is still much that can be done in terms of promoting the face and avenues of SGA to every student. SGA needs to be both reachable and desirable for students to come to with any concerns about their college experience, and that is the issue I wish to dedicate my efforts towards.



David Sobel

School of Applied Technology

I can say that when it comes to putting forward and discussing ideas and coming up with solutions, you can bet that I'll be one of the first to do so.



Caitlin Simpson

School of Applied Technology

The most important issue would be what ever IIT students feel is crucial at the moment. I would prioritize any issues that have not yet been addressed, or at least one that we have not yet found a solution to.

Check out the rest of the SGA Senate candidates on sga.iit.edu

## SGA Senate gets down to business in final meeting before elections

Soren Spicknall  
COPY EDITOR

On Wednesday, September 7th, the outgoing Student Government Association (SGA) Senate met for the final time before elections the week of the 12th were set to change its makeup drastically. Though turnout was still fairly low among the Senators (whose terms hadn't yet technically ended), it was higher than two weeks before, when debate over the interpretation of quorum rules took up much of the meeting since so few voting individuals were present. The agenda for the meeting was fairly wide-ranging, the group having come off its first committee meetings the previous week with plenty to discuss. In addition to committee business, there was plenty else to consider as well both in the realm of internal organization and external projects.

Starting off, the gathered Senators and Executive Board members of SGA heard presentations from two prospective organizations, an essential step in their approval. These were the first such presentations of the new semester, meaning that both organizations had completed their required formulation steps with the Office of Campus Life either over summer or during the end of the spring semester.

First up was the proposed Graduate Student Association - Chemical and Biological Engineering (GSA-ChBE), an organization which had already existed informally and even hosted some events already at the beginning of the fall semester. The group presented an organization structure consisting of five current student board members, two faculty advisors, and 11 student membership signups, with the purpose of connecting graduate students in the fields of Chemical and Biological Engineering to professional and social opportunities with others among them at Illinois Tech. They outlined a vision for their organization which involved an active social media presence and more events to come, providing a preliminary budget for a typical set of events modeled after those which had been funded by their academic department already earlier on.

During questioning from members

of the Senate, the group clarified that their department funding was meant as temporary, and would disappear following their approval (or denial) as an official student organization. Some among the Senate latched onto the beginning of the organization's name and suggested that they make their group more general-purpose, reviving the currently dormant Graduate Student Association. While the members of SGA-ChBE didn't seem entirely unopposed to the concept, they reiterated that they were applying for student organization status specifically to provide a community for graduate students in their department, not graduate students as a whole. Some further questions and suggestions followed from Senators, including one about reaching out to the group's undergraduate counterpart which was received well.

Next, an organization by the name of Soccer Super Fan Club presented a short breakdown of their intention to be a booster club of sorts for Illinois Tech's soccer teams, highlighting the well-documented ambivalence that many of the university's students have toward attending athletics events and keeping up with their teams. While the organization itself lacked a defined structure, its presenter did put forward plans to reserve space on the MTCC Bridge for promotion and arrange giveaways for games as strategies to increase turnout.

Following the initial presentation, Senators had a number of urgent questions for the members of Super Soccer Fan Club. Chief among them was one regarding the existence of Hawk's Nest, a unit of Union Board which is charged with being a general promoter for Illinois Tech Athletics. When asked whether they thought their role could fit within the fold of Hawk's Nest, or whether they had contacted that group, the presenter admitted that they had not made active contact (though they were ambiguous about whether they had reached out yet), but that they had generally noticed the Hawk's Nest did not pay much attention to soccer games. Given that Finance Board typically does not fund pure giveaways, the organization was cautioned that they would likely need to build a relationship with Hawk's Nest (which derives its giveaway funding from other sources) in order to conduct much of its

proposed business.

When members of the group were asked to leave the room and Senate discussed the proposal privately, the debate focused primarily on related issues, attempting to figure out whether a student organization tied specifically to the identity of another was really worth approving on its own. None present denied that athletic spirit at the university was an issue worth tackling, but Super Soccer Fan Club's inherent funding limitations led to doubt over whether they would actually be aided at all by an official student organization designation, and whether having two separate booster organizations might actually be a detriment to the overall ability of each to function as intended.

On the strength of their organization and purpose, GSA-ChBE's status as an official body passed Senate by a vote of 12 in favor, 0 against, and 2 abstentions. In the end, Super Soccer Fan Club's specific focus on soccer (rather than athletics in general) helped them edge over the threshold for passing, with a final vote of 7 in favor, 6 against, and 1 abstention.

Next up were reports from SGA's Executive Board, elected back in Spring. President Leo Sukkar briefly discussed changes that were made to a set of proposed constitutional amendments following debate at the previous Senate meeting (covered in the August 30th issue of TechNews), and a vote was held on the new language which was intended to establish and define the official existence of an Events Chair, Events Committee, and Secretary, among some other smaller changes. The amendments passed unanimously. Sukkar also briefly discussed the impending first fall meeting of the President's Student Advisory Council, a group of designated representatives of different portions of the student body which meets with President Cram approximately once per month to provide direct input on university actions and formulate projects to benefit students.

The Vice President of Academic Affairs, Akash Raina, briefly presented an update from the University Faculty Council, the legislative body of Illinois Tech's faculty. He highlighted ongoing issues with Career Services' unwillingness to accept resumed outside a narrow scope of visual formats, an

issue being worked on by UFC, in addition to feedback about academic advisors' investment in students' success. Next, Communications VP Jelani Canty recapped the contents of his committee meeting the week before, emphasizing his commitment to having the committee organize and participate in community service, interact with WIT and TechNews productively through Media Advisory Board, and finish work on the Liaison Project, intended to connect SGA Senators and student organizations in an ongoing, positive relationship. After Canty, Student Life VP Qianran He spoke about her committee's ongoing efforts to reevaluate the structure of Illinois Tech's Student Discount Card program and student input on the campus safety video quiz shown to incoming students.

As an extension of the previous meeting's business, Finance Board Chair Sung Min Choi Hong presented a reduced slate of candidates for the position of Finance Board Advisor, a role that interacts directly with student organizations and forms Finance Board's legislature when making budgeting decisions for the Student Activities Fund. One additional candidate was present and one had dropped their candidacy, and after an explanation from President Sukkar regarding the committee approval process which led to each individual's nomination, the slate was passed unanimously, in time for the first Finance Board hearing of the year the next Saturday.

The final portion of the Senate meeting, Open Floor, was composed of less structured discussion of two issues: the theoretical establishment of a two-tier student organization system (in which some organizations would have a simpler application process, but fewer privileges, than others) and general ideas for how Senate should be conducted. While each discussion was lengthy, a consensus was not immediately found on either issue, and those topics will likely be discussed once again in the future.

SGA Senate meetings take place every other Wednesday at 9:15PM in Stuart Building 112.

# TechNews

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## 数独

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



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## PUZZLE

The World's Greatest Mini-golfer:

The world's greatest mini-golfer never misses a putt; they always go as far as he wants them too. Yet, strangely, he can only putt distances of 1, 1.5, 2, and 3.5 meters and they all stay on the ground.

Today, the golfer finds himself on a flat hole, 6 meters away from the hole. What is the fewest number of putts the golfer can make to get the ball in the hole? Note: If he aims for the hole and putts a distance further than the hole, the ball will always go over the hole.

Hint: The 3rd Dimension is the golfer's best friend.

The answer will be posted in the next TechNews issue's slipstick.

WE ARE ALWAYS ACCEPTING SLIPSTICK SUBMISSIONS  
COMICS CROSSWORDS PUZZLES POEMS  
email editor@technewsii.com

## European Champions League Draw 2016 predictions

Mete Morris  
TECHNEWS WRITER

It is close to that time of the year where the best teams all over Europe battle for the most prestigious title of the continent. Before we get into the excitement of the knockout stages we have to endure the group stages. Let's take a general look at some interesting Groups.

I am looking forward to Guardiola v2 vs Guardiola, aka Barcelona vs Manchester City. Luis Enrique has achieved a lot in the Catalan giant but he is currently under the shadow of former manager Guardiola. Group C will be a good chance for Guardiola to solidify his place as one of the greatest and Enrique to show that he can overachieve his predecessor.

Although I am not a supporter of Borussia I always enjoy seeing them succeed in the big stage. They are the ultimate underdog

team and just seeing their fans' passion makes you want to root for them. This year they are up against Los Blancos under Zidane. Dortmund in the past have shown that they can fare well against Madrid eg. 2012-13 Champions League Semi-Finals. I am really looking forward to this game to see if Zidane can continue his European Stage success and how Dortmund will adapt to life after losing Hummels and Gundogan.

When you have a look at groups, perhaps the most "boring" looking one would be Group G which features Leicester City, Porto, Club Brugge and Kobenhavn. Although the group looks kind of dull I think it has the chance to be the most entertaining. I am really curious to see how Ranieri's Leicester plays in Europe and whether or not they can cope with both Premier League and UCL at the same time. Porto who has essentially been

the talent factory for some of Europe's biggest clubs and I am looking forward to see which talents they will showcase for us this year. Club Brugge, although not being majorly successful in the UCL so far, have consistently been in the European stage for more than 8 years in a row. Perhaps the weakest team in the group can be noted as Danish club Kobenhavn, but if they share some of the Viking blood with Iceland's national team from Euro 2016, this will be a very interesting and hard to predict group.

And lastly Arsenal. This is possibly the last year Arsenal has under Arsene Wenger's management. The first 5 years of Arsene in London has been as glorious as possible but the remaining was underwhelming. If Arsenal wants to leave the club as a legend, he either needs to have some success in UCL or BPL. As a Liverpool fan, I would rather him to focus on UCL so it is easier for Liverpool to overtake

them in the league. They will be facing Paris St Germain, Basel and Ludogorets and it would be a huge disappointment if Arsenal cannot proceed to the Knockouts.

And for my predictions, with the deadliest striker partnership of all time, Messi, Neymar and Suarez, backed with Rakitic, Iniesta, Alcazar, Turan, Denis Suarez and Andre Gomes, my brain says Barca, but my heart wants to see a Ludogorets vs Legia final just for the LOLs.



Wednesday, September 14

Women's Soccer  
@Benedictine  
7 p.m.

Men's Soccer  
v.s. Ripon  
7 p.m.

Women's Volleyball  
@ North Park  
7 p.m.

Friday, September 16

Women's Volleyball  
v.s. Moody Bible  
7 p.m.

Saturday, September 17

Women's Volleyball  
v.s. Rockford  
11 a.m.

Women's Soccer  
v.s. Beloit  
1 p.m.

Women's Volleyball

v.s. St. Mary's (Ind.)  
3 p.m.

Men's Soccer

v.s. Defiance  
3:30pm

Tuesday, September 14

Men's Soccer  
@ Concordia Chicago  
4 p.m.

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Wednesday September 14 @ 1PM

TechNews Office (MTCC 221)

Email editor@technewsit.com with any questions or article submissions

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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