

I PRO 363: This week's Language Link

By **Monica Samelson**

TECHNEWS WRITER

Andrea is from Caracas, Venezuela. And we'd like you to meet her!

What is your name? Andrea Zufiiga

Where are you originally from? Caracas- Venezuela

What is your major and what year are you at IIT? Third year Architecture student

Besides English, what languages do you speak? Spanish

Can you please say a few common phrases in your native language?

How are you? ¿Cómo estás?

Where is the bathroom? ¿Dónde está el baño?

Do you speak English? ¿Hablás inglés?

This class is awesome! ¡Que chevere esta clase!

Professor, please give me an A! ¡Profe, porfavor deme una A!

Are there any specific traditions or customs relating to your culture that you would like to share? When saying hello we give a kiss on the cheek.

What brought you to join us here in Chicago, and why did you choose IIT? The architecture program and the aquatics

Do you like it here? Yes!

What's your favorite way to stay in touch with your culture when you're here in Chicago? I stay in touch with my friends and family all the time either by phone, text or Internet.

What Chicago experience has been most fun or interesting to you so far? Meeting new people!

Interview conducted by Monica Samelson of I PRO 363. Looking to find someone to learn a new language with? Keep your eyes open for Language Link next semester, pioneered by I PRO 363. Email ipro363@googlegroups.com for more information, but here's a general round-up:

Language Link is a new I PRO that's building a website for IIT that can work to match up students according to their language learning needs, as



(Photo courtesy Monica Samelson)

they hope to be part of IIT's up-and-coming foreign language program. The website will work sort of like a dating site - using a matching algorithm to match up people according to various factors, such as language proficiency, classes, extracurricular interests, and languages of interest.

Sausage Fest Returns!

By **Miguel Gallegos**

TECHNEWS WRITER

What is SausageFest? SausageFest in the past has traditionally been a small gathering of members of Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity selling sausage for charity. This time Sausage Fest will be more than just that. Phi Kappa Sigma Fraternity and IIT have teamed to combine their efforts so that SausageFest will work in conjunction with the Office of Service Learning's Big Event this upcoming Saturday. SausageFest will be providing post-Big Event food and entertainment. The food, will of course be sausage! The entertainment this year will include locally renowned bands such as Cobalt and the Hired Guns, Canasta, and Superband! This year all the proceeds collected will go towards benefiting I PRO 335: Empowering Haiti. I PRO 335 is working to provide solar power to schools in Haiti to facilitate The One Laptop per Child program as well as increase educational capacity. If you like sausage, music, philanthropy, or just having fun please come out and support I PRO 335 on April 9. If you would like more information about I PRO 335 visit their website at www.iitempoweringhaiti.org.

Help save federal funding for education!

By **The Office of Financial Aid**

Hello everyone! The Financial aid Department is back again with a new piece of information for you, and a call for action. Help to make sure that there is enough financial aid at IIT for you as well as future students. Read on learn about the new bill that may cause Pell Grants and FSEOG funding to be drastically cut down.

On Saturday, February 19, the U.S. House of Representatives passed an FY 2011 spending bill (H.R. 1) that would drastically reduce Pell Grants and eliminate FSEOG funding for the 2011-12 academic year. The bill now goes to the Senate for consideration, and students need your help in urging them to reject any cuts to the Pell Grant and other student aid programs for the 2011-12 year. Now is a perfect time to reach out to your Senators, to understand how this loss would change you, your friends, and IIT.

1. Share your story with your Senator: Explain to your Senators how federal funding directly impacts your education. Either you, or someone you know used federal funding to

help support their education: Stafford loans, Pell Grants, Perkins loans, etc. Many of your classmates, siblings, family, and friends have used federal funds to attend IIT and other universities. Loss of these funds will restrict student access to education.

http://www.senate.gov/general/contact_information/senators_cfm.cfm?State=IL

2. Advocate to your friends: Regardless if you receive federal aid or not, share this story with your friends and family to help advocate for federal aid and keep these programs alive. Join the Facebook movement: <https://www.facebook.com/savestudentaid>.

3. Contact the Press: Write an article to the Chicago Sun Time, Chicago Tribune, Daily Southtown, NY Times, Huffington Post - share this information to as many people as possible. Spreading the word helps raise awareness of this issue to the lobbyists and groups who can make a difference!

The Office of Financial Aid wants to help students remain at IIT, maintain the federal support from the Department of Education, and continue support the education of our students. Please help us join this fight!

Course offerings at Shimer

By **David Shiner**

DEAN OF ACADEMICS, SHIMER COLLEGE

Are you looking for an elective to take next semester? If so, read on.

Shimer College, located on the southwest corner of campus, offers a number of courses that are approved to fulfill IIT's elective requirements. IIT students who take such courses are attracted by Shimer's small class size (12 or fewer students in every class) and the individualized attention provided by the Shimer faculty. Likewise, Shimer students take IIT courses on subjects that are not offered at Shimer. IIT and Shimer cooperate to try to meet the academic needs of students from both schools.

Shimer is a liberal arts college, so most of our courses are in areas such as literature, philosophy, and political science. However, we

also offer courses that appeal to students with a taste for the arts. The courses that have attracted the most IIT students so far have been in the areas of theatre, film, Eastern Studies, and foreign languages. We offer courses in those areas almost every semester, on essentially the same class schedule as IIT.

If you want to know more about taking a class at Shimer, I'd like to hear from you. We're now in the process of finalizing our course offerings for next semester, so I'll soon be able to let you know whether we'll be offering anything in your area of interest. If you decide to enroll in a Shimer course, whether that happens next semester or further in the future, we'll assist you with the process of getting approved to take that course.

Finally, if you have questions about anything at all concerning Shimer, email me at d.shiner@shimer.edu. I'll be glad to answer them.

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YOUR FREAKY ON!**

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