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36th annual Clinton E. Stryker Awards recognize prolific student leaders

By Ustav Gandhi
CAMPUS EDITOR

Appreciation of a student's contribution, especially to matters of leadership, commitment to service and involvement in extracurricular activities, is always the best form of encouragement one can give that will inspire even a greater drive to excel.

This past Monday evening, the Annual Stryker Awards were held to recognize this very feat achieved by a group of perhaps the most enterprising students on campus. A firm believer in encouraging students to develop leadership skills, Mr. Clinton Stryker (ECE, 1917) in 1972 established an endowment and subsequently made additional gifts to assist the University in funding student activities and inspiring leadership development.

After a formal dinner there was a short welcome by Katy Stetz, the Dean of Students, and then after some opening remarks by President Anderson, who encouraged students to broaden their outlook and develop leadership skills, the winners were introduced one by one.

Outstanding First Year Involvement, presented by Alex Garrett, Coordinator, Student Life: William Fox

Despite its small size, IIT generally has some club or student organization catering to almost every interest.

However, students are always encouraged to go ahead and form their own if they don't see one! This enterprising spirit cannot be more representative of any student on campus than

Will, who in the past year has initiated not one, not two, but three new clubs, besides being actively involved in the SGA, RHA, Union Board and the Math Club. An incredible feat for anyone, let alone a freshman!

Outstanding Commitment to Service, presented by Lynne Meyer, Director of Spiritual Life and Service Learning: Rebecca Waterloo

Team member of IPRO 333. Team Leader of ASB '11. TechNews Arts & Entertainment Editor. Intern at the Office of Spiritual Life and Service Learning. Actively involved with the Bronzeville Nursing Home. And, a fifth year architecture student. Her commitment to service is evident in whatever she does, and it's plainly straight from the heart. Those who know her agree that she will sorely be missed, but, as Meyer said while presenting the award, she 'will be a blessing wherever she goes'.

Outstanding Student Organization, presented by Erin Gray, Director, Student Life: IIT Feminists United

As skewed as IIT's infamous sex ratio is, it was very important for women on campus to find a support system as they vied for positions in traditionally male-dominated majors and careers, and it is an incredible feat for a club that was in its initial stages just a year ago was receiving this award. Having successfully organized well-executed events such as Take Back the Night (last semester) and the first ever IIT Sex Week (this semester), they really are a model of how a passionate cause can be transformed into real action.

Outstanding Student Employee of the Year

Award, presented by Jenny Radi, Associate Director Operations, HRS: Lorenzo Perez

Having worked closely with HRS as Operations Assistant for the last three and a half years, Lorenzo has made major contributions to residential life on campus, bringing in new furniture and revamping the lounges, among other things. His hard work has paid off - he already has a job lined up with the Canadian National Railway. He continues to stay involved in the training of the next OA's, but this is one department that is definitely going to miss his presence.

Richard Babcock Leadership Award, presented by President Anderson: Elnaz Moshfeghian

Getting elected as the SGA's first ever woman president is no mean task. Her leadership experience includes serving as a Resident Advisor, team leader for Alternative Spring Break 2010, and Chair of the 7-Eleven Advisory Committee. Her main efforts are focused on continuing the progress on the Foreign Language Program, IPRO 2.0, Galvin 24/5, and unveiling UCal, a project she founded. TechNews looks forward to some exciting contributions in the upcoming year.

Besides these, the Clinton E. Stryker Distinguished Service Award Recipients, recognized for their distinguished leadership and contributions in the area of campus life, were: Joshua Bradley, Brianna Elg, William Fox, Clay Houser, Brian Kibbe, Elnaz Moshfeghian, Angela Ng, Kevin O'Leary, Coral Pais, Alicia Perez, Meagan Sarrrt, Miriam Schmid, Shefali Umrانيا, and Rebecca Waterloo.

Mandatory financial counseling for graduating students

By Office of Financial Aid

This is an exciting time of year for graduating seniors and grad students alike. Before you celebrate your success, it is important to address two issues: your bill and your federal loan exit counseling. If you still have an outstanding bill, please get in touch with the Bursar's Office as soon as possible. If you do not clear your balance, you will not receive your diploma on graduation day!

The purpose of exit counseling is to provide you with important information regarding debt-management strategies and loan repayment, including deferments, grace periods, loan consolidation, and loan default.

The Office of Financial Aid will be conducting a live exit counseling session that will satisfy this federal requirement. The date and time is as follows:

Thursday, April 21, 2011 in Perlstein Hall, Room 131 (Auditorium) from 1:00PM-1:45PM.

Please make sure to bring the name, address and phone number of two references to the exit counseling session. Please note that the references you provide cannot reside at the same address where you reside.

If you are unable to this live session, you must complete your exit counseling online prior to graduation. You may complete your exit counseling online at www.mappingyourfuture.org/OSLC/.

Please note that if you received both Federal Stafford Loans and Federal Graduate PLUS Loans, you will need to complete an exit counseling session for both loans. In addition for all students with any federal loans, you will not be able to receive your transcript or register for any future classes at IIT until you successfully complete exit counseling.

If you have any questions or want to further discuss your loan repayment options, please visit the Office of Financial Aid in Room 104 of Main Building to speak with a financial aid counselor. Specific questions regarding exit counseling can be directed to Kelli Goers, Federal Compliance Officer and Assistant Director, at goersk@iit.edu or by phone at 312.567.5724.

Exit Counseling Session (Federal Requirement)

Thursday April 21
Perlstein Hall
Rm 131
1:00pm-1:45pm



Photos courtesy of Vickie Tolbert