

Engineering Themes Month kicks off with Water Week

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The Armour College of Engineering's distinctive education initiative, the IIT Engineering Themes Month kicked off the Engineering Themes Month last week by hosting a multitude of events dedicated to the Water Theme.

With a beach cleanup partnered with Engineers for a Sustainable World, a career panel with distinguished professionals in fields of water-related engineering, an alumni panel with recently graduated IIT students offering some insightful advice about water-related careers and an educational field trip to the Metropolitan Water Reclamation District of Greater Chicago in Hodgkins, IL, the week was packed with something in it for everyone, regardless of class years or field of (Engineering) study.

The College also launched its undergraduate engineering portfolio application. As students take part in Themes events, their online engineering portfolio will track their progress and create an entry for each item.

Every undergraduate engineering student is automatically approved to begin an engineering portfolio and will have online access to their entries via the IIT Engineering website.

The online portfolio can be a tremendous boost to curricular activities as it is proof for

employers looking for out-of-class exposure. The college is also looking at partnering with other student orgs: the IPRO Program and the various departmental Research Offices to accredit their activities and opportunities as contributors to the portfolio.

More than 30 IIT students, faculty, and staff teamed up with the IIT Engineering Themes Student Council, Engineers for a Sustainable World, and the Alliance for the Great Lakes to clean the 31st Street Beach in Chicago, combing the beach for litter and testing the Lake Michigan water for contaminants.

A representative from the alderman's office, who spread awareness about the importance of this valuable, local ecosystem, also joined the group. On Wednesday, students had a chance to interact with eminent professionals working in urban wastewater management and asked them questions about careers and contemporary issues in the field.

Thursday evening had a very productive session with recent alumni who offered some advice related to their IIT education, and focused on the importance of a graduate degree and Professional Examinations.

Finally, students had a rare chance to visit the Water Reclamation District on Friday, learning about storm water management, the District's award-winning Tunnel and Reservoir Plan, and their successful Elevated

Water Aeration Project, among other things.

This week is Energy Week! Following are the events, expos, field trips and panels planned for this upcoming week:

Energy Week: September 10-15

Electric Car Display - Tuesday, September 11 - 10am-2pm & 4pm-7pm - MTCC Welcome Center.

Here is a chance to check out the electric racecar created by IIT students. Representatives from the group will answer questions about the vehicle and how to join the team.

Energy Research Expo - Tuesday, September 11 - 12pm-2pm - MTCC Welcome Center.

Come see Armour College faculty members showcase their cutting-edge research. This expo will center on engineering and how it relates to the innovative generation, supply, and use of energy.

Alumni Career Panel - Tuesday, September 11 - 5pm-6:30pm - MTCC Ballroom.

Network with young alumni and see how their unique IIT education prepared them for careers in energy-related engineering fields. A complimentary dinner will be served. RSVP at blogs.iit.edu/armour

Energy Panel Discussion - Wednesday, September 12 - 12:30pm-1:30pm - MTCC Auditorium.

Enjoy a complimentary lunch while interacting with a panel of prominent experts as they discuss the future of nuclear, renewable and alternative energy. RSVP now at blogs.iit.edu/armour

Smart Grid Tour - Thursday, September 13; starts at 5:30pm or Friday, September 14, starting at 1pm - Meet at IIT Tower (Sixteenth Floor).

Armour College of Engineering is partnering with the Robert W. Galvin Center for Electricity Innovation to host a tour of IIT's first-of-its-kind smart grid infrastructure. A reception and Q&A session will follow the formal tour. Please note: You will need your IIT ID to gain access to the IIT Tower. RSVP now at blogs.iit.edu/armour

Electric Car Demo - Saturday, Sept. 15 - 10am-2pm - Man On The Bench Park.

Enjoy a complimentary barbecue while you watch an IIT student-built electric racecar in action. The team that maintains the car will be available to answer any questions you may have about the vehicle's specs and its creation. Lunch will be served at 12 pm.

This is quite an impressive list of professionally enriching events for anyone who is interested in the Energy field, regardless of major or current interest level. Students are highly encouraged to take advantage of these free events, which are only going to add to their educational experience at IIT.

