

TechNews

STUDENT NEWSPAPER OF ILLINOIS INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY SINCE 1928
McCormick Tribune Campus Center
Room 221
3201 South State Street
Chicago, Illinois 60616

E-mail: editor@technewsiit.com
Website: http://www.technewsiit.com

TechNews STAFF

Editor-in-Chief	Ryan Kamphuis
Assistant Editor	Hannah Larson
Opinion Editor	Shreeyeh Rajan
Campus Editor	Utsav Gandhi
A&E Editor	Matti Scannell
Art Editor	Adin Goings
Sports Editor	Ciaran Kohli-Lynch
Copy Editors	Kori Bowns Kristal Copeland Amber Kiefer Katie Peters Shreeyeh Rajan
Layout Editors	Kori Bowns Karthik Kumar Katie Peters Sowjanya Potha Pranava Teja Surukuchi Rohit Vandanapu
Business Manager	Kori Bowns
IT Manager	Pranava Teja Surukuchi
Distribution Manager	Emilie Woog
Financial Advisor	Vickie Tolbert
Faculty Advisor	Gregory Pulliam

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

TechNews is written, managed, and edited by the students of, and funded in part by, Illinois Institute of Technology. The material herein does not necessarily reflect the opinions of Illinois Institute of Technology or the editors, staff, and advisor of TechNews. There will be no censorship of TechNews publication by the faculty or staff of IIT. Sole authority and responsibility for publication and adherence to the values set forth in this policy rests with the TechNews staff. This paper seeks to bring together the various segments of the Illinois Tech community and strives through balance and content to achieve a position of respect and excellence. TechNews strives for professionalism with due respect to the intellectual values of the university and its community. All material submitted becomes the property of TechNews, and is subject to any editorial decisions deemed necessary.

SUBMISSIONS

TechNews is published on the Tuesday of each week of the academic year. Deadline for all submissions and announcements is 11:59 p.m. on the Friday prior to publication. Articles, photos, and illustrations must be submitted electronically to the TechNews website at technewsiit.com.

EDITORIAL POLICY

The editors reserve the right to determine if submitted material meets TechNews’ policy and standards.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Letters to the editor may be submitted by anyone, but are subject to review by the editor-in-chief. All letters-to-the-editor become the property of TechNews upon submission. TechNews does not accept or publish anonymous letters.

ADVERTISING

Legitimate paid advertisements, from within or outside the IIT community, which serve to produce income for the paper, are accommodated. TechNews holds the right to deny any advertisement unsuitable for publication. Media Kits are available upon request. Ad space is limited and is taken on a first-come, first-serve basis. Contact the Business Manager at business@technewsiit.com for more information.

LOCAL & NATIONAL ADVERTISERS

To place an ad, contact us via email at business@technewsiit.com.



TechNews Election Coverage

Our writers decide on the important issues, & who they’ll vote for

Campaign hot topics include education, women’s healthcare

By Shreeyeh Rajan
OPINION EDITOR

Did anyone watch the Presidential Debate that happened exactly three weeks ago? If not, there are a few points worth highlighting, especially before casting your vote today. This article isn’t enough to cover all the topics both candidates spoke about, so I’d like to pinpoint one certain topic that’s important to students at IIT: education, specifically higher education.

Education, being a right to every citizen, can be pretty expensive when it comes to paying for your college. First, let’s take the liberal point of view. Citing a statement on education that I read from www.barackobama.com.

“By doubling funding for Pell Grants and establishing a college tax credit, President Obama is putting higher education within reach for millions more Americans,” cited the POTUS’ campaign website. “Mitt Romney’s plan to cut middle-class investments could slash Pell Grants for nearly 9.6 million students, and he would eliminate the President’s college tax credit.” His suggestion to students worried about paying for college is to “shop around.” If I had a choice, I’d be shopping around in Macy’s instead of studying Computer Science; just saying. The other objectives Obama wants to implement are rewarding responsible students, keeping good teachers in the classroom, using local solutions to improve schools, providing pathways to good jobs, partnering with states to raise standards and ensuring a good future for our veterans.

Switching to a conservative point

of view, Romney states that four-year colleges are the “heart of our nation’s higher education system,” according to a statement from www.mittromney.com. “However, a flood of federal dollars is driving up tuition and burdening too many young Americans with substantial debt and too few opportunities. Meanwhile, other models of advanced skills training are becoming ever more important to success in the American economy, and new educational institutions will be required to fill those roles.” So, to solve this, Romney’s plan is to “strengthen and simplify” the financial aid system, welcome private sector participation instead of pushing it away, replace burdensome regulation with innovation and competition, according to Romney’s campaign website.

Other than the higher education issues, Obamacare and women’s rights have been the most controversial topics during the campaign. There were some really good points Hannah Larson, TechNews’ Assistant Editor, pointed out to me, “Obamacare and women’s rights is a huge issue, in my humble opinion. But most people forget that Obamacare is heavily based off of Massachusetts’ socialized healthcare that was implemented while Romney was governor. Fun fact, he hasn’t been in legit politics in four years, he didn’t run for office after his stint as governor ended in 2008. Romney has also flip-flopped on his opinions of abortion, and is against providing contraceptive for women through national healthcare.”

And let’s consider what roles First Lady Michelle Obama and Ann Romney have played in this election. As Larson said it, “Michelle Obama has been campaigning hard for BO, while poor Ann Romney (who

suffers from multiple sclerosis & has had several bouts with cancer) has been tossed around, and her own husband described her as a political tool in that video-taped sponsor’s dinner that was leaked to the media. Both Romneys have said that if Mitt loses this election they will back out of politics and focus on their family and Ann’s health. Personally, I think that should have happened after his gubernatorial tenure.”

There’s one more topic I want to mention but it has nothing to do with any of the candidates’ objectives. Does the word “flip-flopping” ring a bell? So I was watching YouTube videos a few days ago and I came across this interesting video called “Mittv-Mitt.com: The story of two men trapped in one body.” It’s been a while since I laughed that hard. I mean, who is he? One second ago, he said “I respect and will protect a woman’s right to choose,” and then the next second he states the complete opposite, “I never really called myself pro-choice.”

The one that got me laughing on the floor is when he said, “I believe the world is getting warmer and I believe that humans contribute to that,” and then in another instant he claims “my view is: we don’t know what’s causing climate change on this planet.” Interesting as it may seem to another country’s citizens, would you like him to be elected as the President of the United States? I wouldn’t be surprised if there are a few people who would argue against Romney’s notorious flip-flopping, considering that the only thing that both Romney’s personalities will agree on, it they both want to be president.

Oh wait, did I say that?
No, I didn’t.

Undecided voters make significant decisions

By Katie Peters
COPY & LAYOUT EDITOR

One of the most recent YouTube viral videos is of a little red-haired girl named Abigail who has turned splotchy red from crying. The reason why she’s crying is the funny part: she complains that she is tired of “Bronco Bama” and “Mitt Romney.”

She speaks for a lot of us though; this election season has seemed to drag on forever, and I have to admit I’m glad it’s almost over.

However, after attending the Social Sciences lecture last week, “A Debate on the Power of the President: How Much is Too Much?” I finally began to see the significance about this election. During the debate, Professor William Howell brought up an excellent point: “Has the American presidency been designed to work in the post-industrial age?”

While I do believe that the presidential candidates are appealing to the

masses on specific issues, we don’t seem to be looking at the candidates as our future presidents who have an entire branch of our government to them. Yes, some people do look at the candidates and think, “Oh, Obama has lead our country for the last four years and could continue to make a difference in the next four,” or “Romney has a great new chance to lead, and could make a needed change in our country.”

Due to human nature, however, I argue that as voters we are finding it easier to tear down one candidate rather than support the other. What kind of representation are we asking for then? Instead of looking for someone who doesn’t disagree with us on specific issues that may not even be addressed during a term, we should be working together as a nation to find what is right for us.

As an undecided voter, I have struggled since the beginning of the election to choose which candidate matches my personal beliefs most; I have discovered that there is not a perfect answer, and each

candidate has ideals I both agree and disagree with.

How then, am I going to pick? How can any of us, who are inherently unique and passionate in our views, be a deciding factor in our country’s fate? It is a hard question, and “with great power comes great responsibility,” but remember this: it is a privilege, though maybe a terrible privilege at that. Today, we are all a part of the future of our country for the next four years, and no one will ever be completely right.

As a united and free country, we should stand together for the next four years and take responsibility for what happens, instead of wasting our energy on tearing the opposing viewpoints down.

Let’s work on refining what America needs, rather than what Americans want, so we can build a stronger nation.

Congratulations on voting today, now let’s see what we can do with our actions.