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TechNews

Student newspaper of the Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928

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Student, faculty, alumni success highlighted in local media

Utsav Gandhi
CAMPUS EDITOR

As one of the major technology institutes in the Chicagoland area and a primary center of research, along with having a premier law school, institute of design, college of architecture as well as a marketed school of business, IIT is frequently spotlighted in the local and national media for the accomplishments of its current faculty, students and alumni. As students we receive an email digest almost daily, delivered by IIT's Office of Marketing and Communications, called "IIT Today". You can check out their news archives at <http://www.iit.edu/news/iittoday/?cat=7> to read about these accomplishments and get excited about attending IIT!

Athletics is starting to gain more and more coverage in the local media, especially with the recent revival of the basketball team. DNAinfo.com shared a story on February 22, 2013, "IIT Men's Hoops Center Relishes A Second Chance to Play Varsity Ball," that tells the story of Scarlet Hawks center Ian Sisson, a recent architecture graduate, who played as a freshman and recently led the newly returned basketball team in 2012-2013. Ian had previ-

ously helped create an IIT men's basketball club team, and six of those players became the foundation of the collegiate squad.

One of the most prominent IIT alumni of all time has been Martin Cooper, the inventor of the cell phone. He worked with Motorola after graduating with a degree in Electrical Engineering in 1950, and made the first ever phone call on a portable cell phone forty years ago. News media around the world marked the 40th anniversary of this historic achievement on April 3, 2013. Other illustrious IIT alumni include Dr. Susan Solomon, who is credited with the discovery of the hole in the ozone layer over Antarctica; and Leon Lederman, a Physics Nobel Laureate/one-time Director of FermiLab and founder of the Illinois Math and Science Academy.

Crain's Chicago Business also recently previewed an upcoming story about IIT: the "Fueling Innovation" capital campaign, and the new directions the university has taken over the past five years under President John Anderson, on April 5, 2013. Incoming students will more frequently hear about this campaign during their time at IIT as it a major fundraising effort to attract more undergraduates and to build a 100,000-square-foot innovation center, which would be the first new academic building on campus in 30 years. Several benefi-

ciaries have contributed thousands of dollars, and their names can be seen enshrined on the walls outside the ballroom in the McCormick Tribune Campus Center. Furthermore, the university is also undertaking the renovation of two important academic buildings, Engineering 1 and Life Sciences.

IIT also has a very active interest in robotics, with an active student group (Illinois Tech Robotics) as well as some groundbreaking research being conducted by professors in the Computer Science and Mechanical Engineering Departments. The Perspectives/IIT Math & Science Academy robotics team, The Iron Wolves, recently advanced to compete at the FIRST Robotics Competition World Championship earlier this year, and was profiled in the Chicago Tribune on April 24, 2013.

IIT's Architecture and Civil Engineering Departments have also left physical imprints on structures in the Chicagoland area. Those familiar with the CTA Green Line may have noticed the new CTA Morgan Station, which opened last year. This station was designed by IIT Architecture Adjunct Professor Carol Ross Barney's Ross Barney Architects, for which his work was featured in the 'Architect Magazine' on April 25, 2013. CAEE (Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering) Professor and Chair Gongkang Fu

is also approached frequently by the media to discuss important developments in the industry. He spoke with NBC 5 News about aging bridge infrastructure following the collapse of a Washington state freeway bridge on May 28, 2013.

IIT also has recently made a visible public effort to support immigration reform and has come out in support of undocumented students. Tanya Cabrera, assistant director of minority student outreach and diversity initiatives at IIT and chair of the Illinois Dream Fund Commission, may have been one of the admission counselors incoming students may come across during their application process to IIT. She recently spoke with Crain's Chicago Business about the difficulties in fundraising to provide scholarships to children of undocumented immigrants in Illinois.

Perhaps one of the most impressive student accomplishments to be highlighted in the media in recent times, a recent graduate of the Law School and a resident of Plainfield, IL, Jennifer Wood, was featured in the CBS 2 News story, "Mom of Seven Kids Celebrating Mother's Day With Law Degree." IIT students continue to shine and bring laurels to the university, and keep the flag of school spirit flying high.

First Year Experience Program implements new agenda

Ryan Kamphuis
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Coming to college is one of the most exciting experiences that people will have. Between the newfound independence, the huge number of new people to meet, the numerous opportunities to get involved, and all of this while living in the third largest city in the country, an IIT student's first year can be just as intimidating as it is exciting.

This realization is what lead to the Office of Campus Life (OCL) creating and implementing the First Year Experience (FYE) program in the fall of 2012. "Our overall goal for the program is to help people," said Director of Campus Life, Ryan Miller.

Stemming from research done on other university's first year experience programs, IIT's FYE program was original comprised of three components: the Peer Mentor

program, Freshman 15 events, and Hawk 101 lectures. The Peer Mentor program paired each incoming student with an upperclassmen to serve as a mentor that could help the incoming student navigate and become confident at IIT.

The Freshman 15 was a collection of 15 events that were viewed by OCL and the student body as essential events for students to attend. Finally, the Hawk 101 lectures were a series of workshops on student leadership and other topics at IIT.

After a year of implementation, OCL has taken the opportunity to step back and evaluate the First Year Experience Program, and they are making a few changes in order to streamline the program and make it more effective.

"We felt that we were very successful considering this was the first year this program was being implemented," said Miller. "But we could still improve."

One of the big steps being made to improve the program is the elimination of the Hawk 101 workshops.

"The Hawk 101 program attendance on the student side was pretty limited," said Alex Garrett, Coordinator of Campus Life. "By eliminating the Hawk 101 program, we can focus on using all of our resources to make the Peer Mentor program a success."

The Peer Mentor program had trouble with limited freshmen response in its first year, and OCL thinks by putting more emphasis on the program and equipping it with more resources, the Peer Mentors will be able to do more with the program, making the program more appealing for freshmen to take part in. Another change being made to the FYE program this year is emphasizing the Peer Mentor program during Welcome Week and throughout the semester by planning a few mandatory events.

This year, the Peer Mentor Meet

and Greet will be a mandatory part of Welcome Week, and will be organized so that no other events take place during that time period. Last year the Meet and Greet was at the same time as iPad distribution, causing many to skip it. Steps are also being taken to ensure that incoming students meet their Peer Mentors earlier and get to know them better.

"I think our big hope with this program is that every incoming student will have someone they can go to for help and who will tell them who to talk to within administration to get things done," said Miller.

With these changes the Office of Campus Life is confident that the First Year Experience program will be able to better get first year students used to life at IIT.

Miller and Garrett have made it clear that they will work hard to ensure the success of the program so that all incoming students will feel welcome and feel like they are part of the IIT community from day one.

SGA President welcomes new students to IIT

Rani Shah
SGA PRESIDENT

Welcome and congratulations on being admitted to the Illinois Institute of Technology!

We're not the average college experience - we're better. The land of Scarlet Hawks houses students who build farms on campus, students who question the status quo, students who lead world innovation, and students who order Sarpinos pizza three times a week. Being so fantastic all the time is exhausting though, and in our downtime IIT students get creative. Hackathons, carnivals, midnight

volleyball, public policy forums, touring the city of Chicago, or just running around your dorm floor while your RA chases you; get excited!

We are the IIT Student Government Association (SGA), the governing body of all IIT students. In a nutshell, we approve new student organizations, allot funding for student groups, and most importantly, work on projects to improve IIT. Our library is now open 24 hours a day, five days a week after months of SGA work.

Our efforts have also caused Spanish language courses, course evaluations for all classes, and most importantly, the Illinois Tech Harlem Shake to happen. More than just

projects, we bring school administration and students together.

Have an issue with school policy or just see room for improvement? Call SGA and we're on it!

Frequent meetings with President Anderson and the rest of our amazing administrators, faculty, and staff make change possible.

So drop by and say hi! You'll see fellow SGA members lurking around our office in the MTCC either working furiously to change bylaws and policies or looking for free food; both of which are equally important. Come out and run for Senator while you're at it. Be a rep. Fresh talent is what we thrive off of, under-

graduates and graduate students both. Engineering, Architecture, Political Science, Math, Shimer, Vandercook, Journalism, Computer Science, or Life; whatever your major, you're encouraged to join the SGA!

Once again, congratulations on being accepted to what I believe is the most unique university in the world. Welcome to success, welcome to life-long friendships, welcome to innovation; welcome to the Illinois Institute of Technology!

Sincerely,
Rani Shah
Chemical Engineering '14
Student Body President

TechNews

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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.

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SUBMISSIONS

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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 or stories.

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Letter from the Editor:

Welcome to IIT!

Illinois Tech is a unique place. Because we're a small school in the middle of the big city, the environment that our school provides to its students is unlike any other. Our student body is just as unique as our campus, which provides many opportunities for IIT students to learn about other cultures and enjoy the traditions of those cultures. IIT is such a wonderfully unique place, and any student who chooses to get out and experience it is guaranteed to have some of the best years of their life.

That's what this issue of TechNews is all about. TechNews, the student newspaper of

the Illinois Institute of Technology since 1928, started printing an issue during the summer last year in order to serve as your one stop shop to life at Illinois Tech and in the city of Chicago. We've got all the information you need to know on campus life, from how to move into your dorm to how to survive the first week of school to what to expect during Greek recruitment to what athletics at IIT has to offer, and much more. We also have information that will help you know what to see and do in Chicago, and how to see it all!

This issue isn't just for incoming students. We've worked hard on making

sure that the info in this issue will help those returning for another year here at IIT. There are many things changing both at IIT and in Chicago in the coming months, and this issue is going to keep you up to date on these changes.

So, on behalf of myself and TechNews, I'd like to welcome you all to IIT. I hope your semesters go well, and I hope you all have the time of your lives this semester! See you on campus!

Sincerely,

Ryan Kamphuis

Editor-in-Chief, TechNews

Immigration reform bill promotes economic development, importance of education

Hannah Larson
ASSISTANT EDITOR

The debate over immigration reform has become a hot topic due to racist citizenship laws in places like Arizona, and the bipartisan comprehensive bill that is currently struggling on Capitol Hill.

Immigration issues can hit close to home at IIT, considering 22.5 percent of the student population is international, according to the Princeton Review (the same publication that ranked IIT in the top 10 of both their "Least Beautiful Campus" and "Least Happy Student" surveys.) Though, one could suggest that our cultural diversity extends beyond that arbitrary percentage.

IIT's own President John Anderson published an opinion piece in the Chicago Sun Times, simply titled "Reform immigration" on May 25. Anderson wrote the piece on behalf of the Illinois Science and Technology Coalition (ISTC) along with Mark Harris, president and CEO of ISTC.

Anderson and Harris stress the importance that immigrants have had and will continue to have on science, technology, engineering, and mathematics fields (STEM), and emphasize the importance of removing "the barriers that are stifling innovation and limiting opportunity" that have stifled our country, and state. Prejudices and the vilification of immigrants only exacerbate the problems that Anderson and Harris touch on.

We all know the dire straits that Illinois famously boasts; the pension reform that has cost the state a depraved amount of money, the worst credit rating in the country, and second-to-last as the most indebted state.

Anderson and Harris go on to stress the importance of investing in Illinois' economic future, through the act of immigration reform. They suggest that an easier method of immigration would encourage entrepreneurs to create jobs within our community. They express support for the bipartisan legislation that Congress is working to pass.

The bill (which has failed to acquire a catchy moniker, see: Obamacare) touts a 13-year trajectory to obtain citizenship, visas given based on skilled work, improved border security, and the removal of categories of visas

for extended family members, according to a Washington Post Politics article.

Senator Chuck Schumer (D-NY) told the Associated Press that though the bill will most likely pass the liberal Senate (projected for June 10), it faces death in the conservative House of Representatives. The redundant solution for the House seems to be collaborating to create a new measure that will be more likely to pass

their abilities, instead of struggling in the underground economy."

According to the Center for American Progress' data, provided by Durbin's office, in Illinois, more than 40 percent of students who acquire advanced degrees in STEM fields, are immigrants on temporary visas. Their data also suggests that 121,000 jobs would be created annually from the reform's implementation.



Photo courtesy of Illinois Institute of Technology's Flickr

the conservative House.

The fight over immigration reform comes as no surprise, given that the outdated GOP refuses to change their approach to crucial social issues, including LGBTQ and women's rights, economic inequality, "entitlement" programs, et cetera.

But there's light at the end of the tunnel.

The "Gang of Eight" is the nickname given to the bipartisan senators that have sponsored the immigration reform bill. This group includes Illinois Senator Dick Durbin (D) who made an appearance on IIT's campus on June 3 to rally support for the bill, according to the Latin American Herald Tribune. Durbin stated that the passage of this bill would mean less time for foreign students, who achieved a degree in the STEM fields, to wait in order to obtain permanent residence.

Durbin, according to the article, also outlined provisions for undocumented immigrants. They would be granted an "opportunity to find work in line with

The bottom line is this bipartisan immigration reform bill would provide a secure foundation for foreign students who are already studying in the U.S. (and who plan to study here) to take their shot at the elusive "American dream," and stimulate the economy through job creation, and generating more tax revenue. Who doesn't love taxes more than Illinois?

Opposition to this bill seems to be rooted in deep xenophobia, and prejudice against those who try to gain access to this country legally, and illegally. But then again, this country was founded on illegal, and unwanted immigration, see: the Pilgrims.

Political analysts are almost certain this bill will pass the Senate, but the House is entirely another story, and faces far more roadblocks in the coming weeks.

To get more involved in immigration issues on IIT's campus or keep up with the immigration rights movement, contact the IIT student organization, Undocumented Students and Allies (USA) at undocumented.usa.iit@gmail.com, or find their Facebook page.

Greek Life @ IIT: high cost, yields higher rewards

Bill Molchan
GREEK COUNCIL PRESIDENT

To join a Greek chapter is to take an oath to hold yourself to a higher standard. When someone joins a greek chapter they agree to, for the rest of their life, abide by their chapter's values and hold their fellow chapter members accountable to those values. In exchange that person is welcomed as a brother or sister by every member of the fraternity or sorority. It begins a relationship that is stronger than friendship: a two way pledge of absolute trust and confidence that creates a family that you get to choose for yourself. A family that expands as you grow and meet new and interesting people whom you want to care about and to have care about you. It is of course possible to have close friends without utilizing Greek Life, but Greek Life formalizes the promise and creates an environment for those relations to thrive.

The stereotype about Greek Life is

that it is a group of people who are inseparable and that constantly attend parties together. While yes, there are parties now and then, the truth is so much more. To name two, Greek Life is also about academic growth and supportive friends. In my own experience, to speak with fewer generalities: I have stayed up all night helping my brothers study for calculus exams on numerous occasions, even if I had class the next morning. Reciprocally, I have had brothers teach me about subjects ranging from Electrical Engineering to the History of Middle Earth (That's a real class) all the way out to vocational topics like Lighting Design and Carpentry. To the second point, immediately after my relationship with one my previous girlfriends ended, I walked over to my chapter home. Immediately upon entering one of my brothers noticed I was upset, and inquired what was wrong. He subsequently dropped everything he was doing, gave me a flying tackle hug, and was willing to talk or distract me as I needed.

These examples illustrate some of my personal experiences, but each chapter looks to support and assist their members and the only way to find if there is a chapter that can support you in a way that fits you is to go out and visit them.

The first week of school is recruitment week and all week long the Greek chapters will be hosting events for anyone to visit, with no obligation to join. Several chapters will invite visitors to dinner or lunch to give a better chance to be acquainted with the chapter. Even if you're not sold on wanting to join Greek Life you are still welcome to attend the events.

If you decide you are interested in joining a chapter the process is as follows: First, you should indicate your interest to the chapter so they can explain the small variances in the process they might have. Then, if the chapter agrees you are a good fit and would benefit from the chapter you will receive a document known as a bid which is a formal invitation to join.

These "bids" can not be given out until

the end of the first week of school, in part to give all parties time to consider their decision. It is possible to receive multiple bids, but it is only possible to accept one. Most chapters give you a time period, for example a year, that the invitation is valid for, in the event you want to take some more time to get to better meet the members of various chapters and decide which one fits you best.

After accepting a bid there is a new member process specific to each chapter usually consisting of an explanation of the chapters history and values. After the process is complete you are "initiated" into the chapter officially, becoming a brother or sister and earning all the joys and commitment that comes with it. If you are looking to get the most of your college experience, or have been here for awhile and find that you aren't quite satisfied with your experience, give Greek Life a chance. A chance costs but the time to visit a fun event and you have everything to gain.

IIT Greek chapters each offer different experiences

Greek Council

Interested in making a commitment to one of IIT's various Greek chapters? Find out what they represent, and what values they require of their members.

Alpha Sigma Phi

Alpha Sigma Phi is one of the most popular social fraternities for discerning undergraduate men in the United States. If you're looking for a college experience that's both meaningful and beneficial - one that develops leadership, athleticism, and academic discipline - then we're looking for you. Alpha Sig offers many different opportunities for top men on campus including: Leadership development, campus involvement, community service, high academics, sporting events, and of course brotherhood and an unrivaled social experience. Contact them at alphasig.iit@gmail.com.

Delta Tau Delta

Delta Tau Delta takes pride in both its strong brotherhood and the lifelong friendships it creates. Brothers work together not only to maintain the highest of grades, but also to make college an experience for life. The brothers of DTD excel on campus in many areas, including sports, community service, and student clubs. Delta Tau Delta Fraternity strives to create

men of excellence. As they study together, play basketball, or jam in their music room, all Delts remember that every moment of life is worth living to the fullest. Contact them at recruitment@dtddb.com.

Omega Delta

Omega Delta is dedicated to building, "Men of Principle and Leadership." Its brotherhood aids the individual, builds the fraternity, and strengthens the IIT community through lifelong devotion to intellectual excellence, high standards of moral conduct, and responsible citizenship. As individuals, members strive for professionalism in character as they continue their pursuit of knowledge and meaning. Contact them at Od.rush.iit@gmail.com.

Pi Kappa Phi

Pi Kappa Phi and its members devote themselves to being men of C.L.A.S.S. What does it mean to be a man of C.L.A.S.S.? At Pi Kappa Phi, members value the highest quality of Character, Leadership, Academics, Sportsmanship, and Service. PKF teaches its members how to be stronger in each of these components and how to apply these skills in organizations on campus, in the workforce, and in life. Contact them at vicearchon@iitpikapps.com.

Phi Kappa Sigma

Phi Kappa Sigma (also known as "the Skulls") is a values-based social fraternity whose purpose is to take good men and make

them better, while promoting a strong bond of brotherhood between its members. PKF is an international fraternity with a rich history of creating outstanding leaders. Its members are committed to seven core values of trust, honor, respect, responsibility, knowledge, wisdom, and integrity. Contact them at delta@aepks.com.

Triangle

Triangle Fraternity is the only national social fraternity that limits its membership to students majoring in engineering, architecture, and the sciences. The essence and purpose of Triangle is to develop balanced men by providing an environment that fosters personal growth and professional success. Triangle offers many leadership opportunities in order to successfully prepare individuals for lives of social, academic, and professional success. Contact them at recruitment@triangleiit.org.

Alpha Sigma Alpha

Alpha Sigma Alpha is a social sorority that seeks to develop women of poise and purpose as well as to foster close friendships between members. Alpha Sigma Alpha is a national sorority and provides lifelong opportunities for all sisters through its different stages of membership. AEA women are encouraged to Aspire, Seek, and Attain their goals while fulfilling the core values of the sorority: social, intellectual, physical, and spiritual growth. Alpha Sigma Alpha inspires their members to lead, to serve, and most of all to make a difference. Our sisters are

involved in many different organizations on campus and in the community as recognized by Greek Council with our 2011 Outstanding Chapter Community Involvement Award. We also received the 2011 Philanthropic Award from our nationals. Contact them at Vp.recruitment@asait.com

Kappa Phi Delta

Kappa Phi Delta women live true to their motto, "Noble Friendship is Power." On November 16, 1904, five women from Lewis Institute established a sorority based on the bond of friendship that had grown between them. Now, more than 100 years later, Kappa Phi Delta continues to create and foster long-lasting and powerful friendships between women from a variety of backgrounds, races, religions, and parts of the world. Kappa Phi Delta has maintained the highest GPA in the Greek Community for the past several years. Contact them at recruitment@kappaphidelta.com.

Zeta Pi Omega

Zeta Pi Omega is a local sorority that embodies the motto, "Friends Like Sisters." The strength of sisterhood lies within the bonds of friendship. The sisters of ZPO pride themselves on achieving academic excellence. Zeta Pi Omega women strive to have a positive influence on their members, IIT, and the community through its primary values of laughter, loyalty, and pride. Contact them at Zeta.pi.omega.recruitment@gmail.com.

Campus housing provides benefits, challenges

Utsav Gandhi
CAMPUS EDITOR

For most undergraduates, one of the most unforgettable components which make up the college experience is life in the residence halls.

Without it, four years of college really seem incomplete. The sheer convenience of living on campus is why even the lucky few whose families live close enough for them to commute are encouraged to look into on-campus housing as an option.

For those from areas further away, there's perhaps no easier way of settling into a life away from home than to share the experience with your classmates and colleagues. Halo marathons, midnight trips to McDonald's, and synchronized homework procrastination are just some of the appealing side effects of living on campus. And with such an incredibly diverse college community like Illinois Tech's, this invaluable experience is magnified multiple times.

You meet people from countries you may not even be able to point out on a globe, with cultures and cuisines vastly different from your own.

These experiences build on your character, and make you grow in ways your parents may never have imagined. In the end, it's when you get that empty-stomach feeling on move out day when you truly look back

and realize that every penny you paid for this experience was worth it.

At IIT, living in MSV and SSV are two completely different experiences, each with their own pros and cons.

The dorm structure and large common areas of MSV encourages dialogue and conversation between its residents, especially on the individual floors. Host to some of the biggest pianos and one of the largest television screens on campus, the MSV lounge area is famous for hosting ice cream socials and FIFA tournaments, mostly organized by the Resident Advisors. Close proximity to most academic buildings, the athletics center, and the cafeteria are major pluses. Resident's mailboxes are also in MSV, making getting mail convenient.

The only sore points of MSV are the lack of an elevator (which is a great way to beat that freshman 15-pound weight gain!) smaller rooms, shared laundry rooms (Sunday nights are the worst times to do laundry. Keep that in mind and you will be fine!), and shared bathrooms (Which if you don't try to shower ten minutes before the 8:35 AM class like the rest of the world, you will be fine.).

If you're looking for an open, welcoming, friendly, and richly diverse dorm experience, MSV is highly recommended. Suggestions? Pack light and get/rent a microfridge.

If comfort is your number one priority, look no further than SSV.

With a kitchen and laundry room on

each floor, elevators, bigger rooms, a rooftop terrace to die for, a convenient location next to Crown Hall, and a bathroom in each suite that is shared with fewer people, SSV has a reputation for being the fancy dorms on campus.

The SSV Resident Advisors have traditionally organized fantastic programs for their residents, which helps improve an environment which can be somewhat anti-social and much quieter than the hustle of MSV's floor lounges and common areas. If you live in SSV, though, don't let the "distance" from the athletics center be a deterrent to stop exercising in the cold winter months!

SSV is close to the Green Line, so use that as an excuse to explore the city of Chicago. Also try to engage more with your floormates in the common kitchen areas, comfortable lounges, and by participating in the programs which the RAs organize.

Gunsaulus Hall may also be an option for some of the eligible upperclassmen at the university.

Gunsaulus has many apartments which allow students to step up from dorm life while still experiencing the convenience of living on campus and having access to the services that Residence and Greek Life provides. The views of Lake Michigan from the upper floors are worth waking up to every morning, and the combined package of independence with on-campus convenience makes Gunsaulus Hall an option definitely worth considering if one is eligible.

What **NOT** to bring to campus housing

These items are NOT allowed in McCormick Student Village, State Street Village, Gunsaulus Hall and Carman Hall:	rated) Multiple refrigerators in a room or apartment
Alcohol (if you are under 21)	Rice cookers (SSV apartments are equipped with microwaves; residents of Carman and Gunsaulus are permitted to bring microwaves)
Appliances with an exposed heating element	Space heaters
Candles & incense	Toaster or toaster ovens (permitted in GU, SSV, CA apartments)
Drum sets	Waterbeds
Hot plates	Weapons
Illegal drugs	Hookahs
Banned substances	Explosives
Microwaves (permitted in GU, SSV, CA apartments)	Fire Propellants
Music Amplifiers	Extension cords & outlet splitters
Pets (except fish in a tank less than 5 gallons)	
Refrigerators over 3.0 cubic feet or 4.0 cubic feet if energy star	

Please know that all campus housing is smoke-free. Smoking is prohibited in all campus housing.

Courtesy of IIT Residence & Greek Life
For a complete list of what is & is not allowed in IIT's dorms, & other housing resources, please visit www.iit.edu/housing.

Campus-wide sustainability efforts aim to meet 2020 goal

Ryan Kamphuis
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

In recent years more than ever, the topic of sustainability has been at the forefront of the world's goals. Nations, companies, universities, and individuals are all taking steps to ensure that they live in ways that are more environmentally friendly and sustainable. An IIT student doesn't need to be on campus long to see that IIT's commitment to sustainability is large. This commitment manifests itself in many ways: the College of Architecture ensures that all architecture students learn about sustainable building practices and the College of Engineering's Engineering Themes focuses both on sustainable energy and water practices. Another key manifestation of IIT's commitment to sustainability is the Office of Campus Energy and Sustainability (OCES.)

OCES has its roots in a university published plan to become the most sustainable urban campus in the country by the year 2020. This original plan contained metrics to track the progress towards this goal, and it quickly became clear that some of these metrics were unrealistic, while others were too easy. OCES came into existence in order to ensure that

progress was made at achieving the goal set out for the year 2020, but also to refine the metrics set in place so that they were challenging, yet attainable.

OCES has two jobs on campus. The first is that they are in charge of energy and utilities billing for the university. They receive all of the university's bills, and then work to split them up by building, department, and entity. The second job of OCES is to handle our university's sustainability efforts. OCES has a staff of full-time employees, and student employees that allow them to focus on transportation, storm water and landscape management, supply chain and waste management, food, energy, and emission. They also have a Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED) specialist that allows them to focus on green construction. These staff members work both independently and as a team to further the university's sustainability goals in each of these sectors. Some things that the staff members are working on independently include helping Sodexo embrace sustainable cooking methods and determining steps the school can take to collect rainwater for use.

The office currently is working on

several projects to make our campus greener. One project is to determine IIT's carbon footprint. This is being done by determining the emissions produced by campus buildings, students and faculty commuting to and from campus, university-funded travel, the co-generation plant, and more. Once this is known, steps can be taken to lower our carbon footprint by doing things such as encouraging commuters to rideshare and using resources more efficiently on campus. Another project is to redesign the garbage and recycling bins across campus.

"Our campus is only recycling about 30% of what can be," Stephen Pepper said, an OCES student employee. "We decided that this can probably be attributed to the current recycling bins being too complex."

By redesigning the bins, the office hopes to make it easier for students to recycle, raising the amount the university community recycles. Another thing OCES is doing to help boost recycling on campus is having students staff the trash bins at large events such as the Homecoming Carnival to ensure that items that can be recycled or composted aren't thrown out.

One final major project OCES has undertaken is retrofitting all of the exit signs on

campus so that they use LED bulbs. According to Pepper, switching the exit signs to LED will save the school about \$4,500 a month.

OCES' key projects have garnered them a lot of visibility on campus, but much of their work is behind the scenes, not visible to students. This includes the office partnering with the city of Chicago. The city just hired a sustainability coordinator that often meets with OCES for advice. The office also performs quite a bit of community outreach to help Chicago residents be greener, and this can be seen through their support of national bike to work week and community gardens.

IIT's commitment to sustainability and meeting their 2020 goal is clear because of the hard work of the Office of Campus Energy and Sustainability. While the office takes care of the big sustainability efforts, what can the average student do to help OCES meet the university's goal?

"Recycling is huge," Pepper said. "Focusing on the easy stuff: turning off the lights when you leave the room, not opening windows when the air conditioner is on, and being cognizant of how much energy and water you use."

International students should expect whole new world @ IIT

Utsav Gandhi
CAMPUS EDITOR

Coming to the United States of America for my undergraduate studies was my first real time going abroad. Between deciding I wanted to take up IIT's offer, my US VISA interview and my flight to Chicago, I barely had six full days of hectic packing wherein I didn't even get a moment to fully comprehend what exactly I was getting into. There wasn't an online community on any "Admitted Undergraduate" Facebook page for me to orient myself about IIT or any known acquaintances for me to talk to in the Chicago area before I turned around and said that tearful goodbye to my parents at the airport. I remember that everything was so new to me that I stood perplexedly, trying to learn how water fountains worked at O'Hare International Airport Terminal 5, while waiting for IIT's International Center shuttle bus to come pick me up. Somehow, intuitively, I never looked at anything new as a scary prospect of revisiting my fundamental belief systems – instead, I was always curious to try and learn something new every day. America, even in the post-recession world, presented a gamut of opportunities and a personality-molding education I could never have access to back home. And that in itself was the single biggest factor which kept me going despite all the homesickness of freshman year.

You'll miss home-cooked food, you'll probably condemn the Chicago weather multiple times, you'll feel jealous of your local friends who can easily hop onto the Metra suburban train every time they miss seeing their little siblings and, if you're anything like me, you'll wonder why Americans don't play cricket, eat dinner at a normal dinner time like 9:00 p.m. or watch Bollywood movies at the rate of one new release every weekend. You'll also probably question, at some point, why they can't pronounce your name right, and why you have to resort to an alias at Starbucks or Einstein's Bagels. But if you care to take a moment and appreciate what makes this country different – and special, in its own way – you'll start growing in ways you never thought possible. Every day, every conversation, every new acquaintance will be a window into a new culture, and with that realization you will hopefully come to understand one thing which is by far the best piece of advice I have ever received: take advantage of every opportunity you get to step out of your comfort zone – that's always where our biggest growth happens. Never shy away from exploring a new part of the city, participating in 'foreign' traditions like Thanksgiving, learning more about American history, or taking advantage of the large set of resources that IIT and our wonderful city of Chicago provides. Even three years later I cannot understand how baseball works, or why bipartisan politics can become such a touchy

topic, or how the current state of weather or football (not "soccer", you'll soon understand what I'm talking about) are guaranteed to initiate a conversation for you. But what I do know is that I've had some great conversations based on a bilateral curiosity to explore and explain cultures. Of course I'm not telling you to abandon your identity and become a new person altogether – even though I've had the fortune of traveling across America and making friends from many different states, I remain authentically Indian and love my country very much.

More than that, I think (and you'll probably hear this a million times) that one of IIT's most unique strengths is its international student body. Residence halls, the cafeteria, and your classes will abound with fellow international students from places all around the world that I cannot even point out on a map. I've made friends from Rwanda, Iraq, Bolivia, Mongolia and Romania during my time here. It's these out-of-the-box experiences that you have access to during your time at IIT which might just enliven your IIT story a whole lot more. Get involved in student organizations – there are over 150 catering to literally every possible student interest, professional degree, religion and thinkable quirk (there used to be a Beard and Moustache club, and it's up for revival, if anyone reading is interested!). If you don't find one you're looking for, create one of your own. Use the student transit card to lose your way on the city's transportation system (always keep a friend and a CTA map with you, of course). Bored of the residence halls? Check out IIT's Greek system (trust me, it's very, very different from anything you ever saw portrayed by mainstream media). Even if you have no interest in joining a Greek organization, you're guaranteed to hit it off with someone, and make at least one new friend! Greektown, Devon, Italian Village, Chinatown, and the Ethiopian restaurants on the North Side – Chicago probably caters to cuisine from most parts of the world at some location or the other in the city – so when you're craving that Pad Thai or Biryani, go out into the city and get it, and don't forget to take along a friend to introduce them to something new as well!

Finally, another cause for thought in your mind is (most likely) that job. Employment. Work. The main reason you're here in the first place. You'll hear all sorts of rumors about on-campus employment, social security numbers, "here's a quick way to make money!" and the works. My advice is to study hard and develop soft skills, not get sidetracked by the gazillions of distractions around. The job will come at its own time, and there are resources on campus to help you get there. Don't worry about it, at least for now.

Resident Advisors, the International

Center staff, the many different cultural student organizations (African, Syrian, Indian, Korean, Caribbean – just to name a few), the various offices on campus catering to student needs, the International Students Organization, the Student Counseling Center, even your professors and classmates – IIT has every built-in support system you might need to make your time here feel enjoyable. You just have to take the initiative to go out and ask for what you need. Studying abroad doesn't have to be

a scary, nervous time filled with uncertainty about the next experience and apprehension to try new things. It can definitely be the most rewarding few years you might experience.

So, welcome to IIT, and congratulations – taking that plane ride was itself a first step towards stepping out of your comfort zone. I hope you take advantage of the many more similar opportunities an educational experience like this provides.

Good luck!



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Welcome Week
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Fashion Show
Vegan Day
GLBT History Month
Career Fair

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Nachos Day
Pretzel Day
Pi Day

Women's History Month

Find out about our traditional events held throughout the year by keeping in touch with Campus Life!



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Homecoming 2013:

Superheroes

September 22-28

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all week long!**

Friday: Dance

Saturday: Carnival

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General Body--every other Tuesday
at 1 pm in the MTCC Auditorium

Impact--Thursdays at 1 pm in
the Union Board office

Scarlet Fever--Tuesdays at 9 pm
in the Union Board office

Bog--Mondays at 1 pm in
the Executive Conference
Room

Coffeehouse Series

every other Tuesday at 7 pm

MTCC Welcome Center

9/10: Kickoff with
Humming House

10/22: Brooke Annibale

11/19: Kyshona Armstrong

If you know anyone interested
in performing, contact

impact@ubiit.org

Chicago culture contains concerts, museums, movies

Kori Bowns

BUSINESS MANAGER

IIT students have the fantastic advantage of living in Chicago, one of the greatest cities in the world. Whether you're a Chicago native or this is your first summer in the city, there are tons of things to do around the city within the first month of classes this upcoming semester. Be sure to check off a few before classes get too hectic:

What: Chicago Air and Water Show

When: August 17 & 18

Cost: Free

The Chicago Air and Water show is centered on North Avenue Beach, but parts of it can be seen from many places along Lake Michigan. With the city skyline as its backdrop, the Chicago Air and Water Show is the largest free exhibition of its kind in the United States.

What: Chicago Jazz Festival

When: August 29 to September 1

Cost: Free

This year marks the 35th annual Chicago Jazz Festival, which showcases some of Chicago's Jazz artists alongside both national and international talent.

What: Navy Pier Fireworks

When: Wednesday (9:30 p.m.) and Saturday (10:15 p.m.) nights through August 31

Cost: Free

Through the end of August, a fabulous

fireworks show takes place on Lake Michigan off the end of Navy Pier. Be sure to end at least one of your days in Chicago with this spectacular display.

What: MLB Baseball Games

When: Anytime

Cost: Free, up to \$30

Chicago is home to two Major League Baseball teams: the Cubs on the North Side, and the White Sox on the South Side. Occasionally, organizations on campus will give out free Sox tickets to students; be sure to keep a lookout for those!

What: Find an authentic pizza place

When: Anytime

Cost: \$5-\$25

Deep dish pizza is a delicious Chicago specialty, so grab a few of your classmates and find your new favorite pizza place in the city!

What: Museums

When: Anytime

Cost: Free, up to \$30

Chicago is known for its various world class museums, and every IIT student should be sure to hit up a few of them during their time in the city. From the Museum of Science and Industry, to Adler Planetarium, to the Field Museum, to the Art Institute, there is a museum in Chicago for everyone. Several of them also offer free entry to Illinois Residents or Students on special days!

What: Movies in the Parks

When/Where: Several Times / Locations

Cost: Free

The Chicago Park District sponsors showings of free outdoor movies throughout the summer at a ton of different parks throughout the city! Visit <http://bit.ly/16EFZEi> for the full schedule of movies and their locations.

In order to make the most of your time in Chicago, mastering the Red Line is an important skill.

For those of us who haven't spent the entirety of our summers around campus, navigating the city via the Red Line might appear to be a little confusing. Starting on May 19, the Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) began much-needed construction on the south end of the Red Line, the train line that has a major stop a block west from campus. This construction, scheduled to end sometime in October, is focused on rebuilding the tracks between the Cermak-Chinatown and 95th/Dan Ryan stops, will result in better reliability, faster travel times, and improved station environments. In order to complete this construction, all of the Red Line stops south of Roosevelt will be inactive for the duration of the project.

In order to not disrupt service, the CTA is moving the Red Line southbound route to share the elevated Green Line tracks that already run through campus. Southbound trains leaving Roosevelt switch over to the elevated

tracks, and then run south along the Green Line route. At Garfield, Green Line trains continue to the Cottage Grove stop, and Red Line Trains go to the Ashland/63rd stop. The movement of Red Line trains to the Green Line tracks helps cover most of the turf that is losing coverage due to the construction, but in order to still get riders to their regular destinations, CTA is also offering free 24-hour shuttle busses between Roosevelt and Cermak-Chinatown and between Garfield and 69th, 79th, 87th, and 95th.

For most IIT students, this construction turns out to be an advantage more than an inconvenience. During construction, the Red Line is continuing to run 24-hours a day, so we now have trains servicing the 35th Bronzeville-IIT stop at all times, as opposed to having a longer walk from the Dan Ryan late at night. IITers can also get from our campus to the Red Line stops on the North Side without transferring. Having the Red Line run on the tracks through campus also means that trains will be stopping at our stop much more often, meaning less time waiting on the platform for students.

All in all, this Red Line construction might not be such a bad thing after all; many of us might even miss it when things go back to normal in October.

Chicago's culture is rich, diverse, and close! So don't waste time, and get out into the city as soon as possible.



Movie Review: Summer blockbuster guide

Fernando Mier

TECHNEWS WRITER

Summer is finally here and with it marks the time of year when the movie studios release their most important, or, at least, the most spectacular movies anticipated by their audiences. This year has started roughly; with a decline in ticket sales of more than 13 percent, compared to last year. According Box Office Mojo, in order to counterbalance this trend, movie studios are releasing "A" rated movies almost every weekend until August.

Whether you love science fiction, romance or comedy, there's a film with a potential to become a blockbuster for everyone this summer... or a terrible commercial failure. In order to survive this overwhelming season, Lights, Camera, Action!!! (LCA) IIT's own Film Society (or club) has a list of 10 must-watch summer movies, taking into account various factors like the popularity of its actors, the general expectation levels and why not, the personal opinion of this writer.

LCA's films that mustn't be missed include: "Iron Man 3," "The Great Gatsby," "Pacific Rim," "Star Trek: Into Darkness," "World War Z," "The Lone Ranger," "I'm So Excited," "Kick Ass 2," "Yeh Jawaani Hai Deewani," (yes, we also recommend international movies, it's quintessential Bollywood) and "Man of Steel."

Of course, we know we neglected many, like all animated productions that are for sure going to be the general blockbusters for the summer thanks to the kids factor, but their trailers really don't show anything new. Still if you're into animation, films like "Epic," (an animated version of Avatar) "Monsters University," (the seemingly unnecessary prequel to "Monsters, Inc.") "Despicable Me 2," "Turbo," (basically "Cars" by DreamWorks), "The Smurfs 2," (no comment) or "Planes," (Disney's unofficial sequel for "Cars") are also scheduled to be released this summer.

As for the big sequel fans, some others movies like "The Fast and the Furious 6," "The Hangover Part 3," "Red 2," "Grown Ups 2," "The Wolverine," and our favorite "300: Rise of

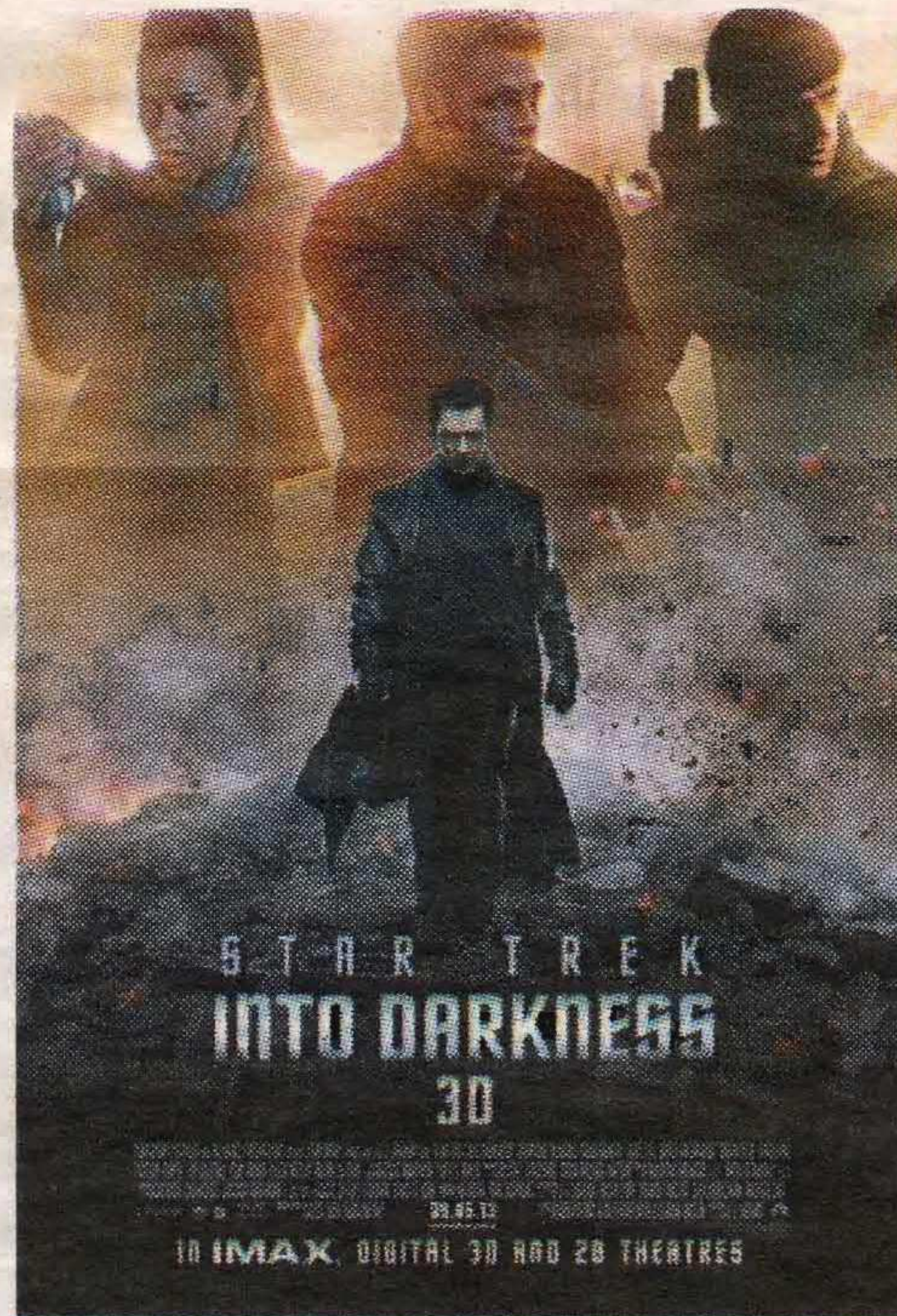


Image courtesy of collider.com

an Empire," will also be what everyone will be talking about this summer. So with a summer full of blockbusters, creating that top 10 list wasn't easy, but these movies are guaranteed entertainment.

Remember to go and watch few other films like "After Earth," starring Will Smith, Shakespeare's classic "Much Ado About Nothing," by Joss Whedon, director of "The Avengers," "The Heat," marking the return of Sandra Bullock, "Two Guns," with Mark Wahlberg and Denzel Washington, and "Paranoia," with Harrison Ford and Gary Oldman. Even if they aren't your typical blockbusters, they are creative alternatives to the summer blockbuster genre.

If you don't have the time or money to watch any of these, remember to come to our LCA meetings during the semester because we plan to have many of them on campus next semester. Also, remember that you can buy gold passes from the Front Desk on the MTCC to use at AMC Theaters. Student discounts for the win!

Athletic Department adds Women's LAX to IIT's roster

Emilie Woog
DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

TechNews had the opportunity of meeting with Athletic Director (AD) Enzley Mitchell to talk about the upcoming changes to IIT Athletics.

Starting September 1, IIT will be a provisional member of the NCAA at the Division III level. What this means for IIT is that all athletic teams will now be competing with NCAA DIII teams. We will be under the provisional membership for four years. President John Anderson has stated that IIT will now be playing other schools more like IIT, in the aspect of academics and values.

One of the changes being made to accommodate IIT's transition to NCAA is the transition of Stuart Field from a grass surface to a turf surface. Another accommodation is the addition of sports to IIT's repertoire; three sports have been added since 2012. These teams include the Men's and Women's Basketball teams, and the newest addition of the Women's Lacrosse team.

Mitchell spoke on why lacrosse was chosen to become part of the Athletic Department. "IIT released a survey in December [2011] that asked about what athletic teams we [IIT] would like to have on campus," said Mitchell. "The most popular women's sport was lacrosse. Next that went on to our New Sport Advisory Committee, where they looked at the facilities we currently have and the students' responses, and lacrosse was added to the roster."

For those who don't know what lacrosse is, it's one of the oldest team sports in North America. It was once refereed to as "dehuntsigwa'es" in Onondaga which is translated as "men hit a rounded object." Women also can hit a rounded object, and that's just what they'll be doing at IIT this spring. The rules have changed a bit since the 17th century, and there are a few differences between the men's and the

women's rules.

Physical contact the main difference between the two sports, in the men's game, body-checking is legal — and may even be encouraged— while in the women's game, it is not. As a result, there is far less protective equipment in the women's game. Men wear helmets, mouth guards, gloves, shoulder pads, elbow pads, and often ribs pads, whereas women wear mouth guards and protective eyewear, but (with the exception of goalies) no helmets or padding.

The number of players also differ. In men's, 10 players are on the field. In women's, there are 12 players on the field.

Unlike men's lacrosse, mesh is not permitted for the pockets of women's sticks. The pockets must be strung in the traditional way. Also, the top of the ball must be above the sidewall when it's in the pocket. As a result, stick handling and shooting are more difficult in women's lacrosse. In addition, the standard stick length in men's field lacrosse can differ depending on where you play, this can be between 40 and 72 inches long. Women's lacrosse sticks must measure 35½ to 43¼ inches in length; the goalie's stick must measure 35½ to 48 inches in length.

In men's lacrosse, the field measures 110 yards long and 60 yards wide. In women's lacrosse the field is a bit bigger; 120 yards long and 70 yards wide.

Now that you know that IIT has a team you should come out to one of their games, it is a spring sport so this far in advance scheduling! There will be four home games this year:

- March 8, 2014, vs. Loras College @ 3 p.m.
- March 22, vs. Augsburg at 1 p.m.
- April 13 vs. Concordia University @ 3 p.m.
- April 19 vs. University of Dubuque @ 1 p.m.

All of these games will be held on the newly renovated Stuart Field!

Head Coach Allison Gallindo, for the women's lacrosse team, is still looking for players to join; if you're interested you may contact her at agalind1@iit.edu.



Photos by Emilie Woog



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VOLUME 94—No. 181

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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 WEISSMAN
AND LAUREN ROCKLER

Obama

WASHINGTON—Sen. Barack