CORRECTIONS
In our last issue, a headline inaccurately stated the name of the restaurant, Vapiano.

A&E
#ThrowbackTuesday with August Lysy's second Retro Review, "Before Sunset."
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SPORTS
Volleyball seniors celebrate final game of the season.
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AIChE-IIT Chapter attends student research conference in San Francisco

Utsav Gandhi
CAMPUS EDITOR

Founded in 1908, the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) is one of the world's largest and most dynamic professional societies seeking to engage students and professionals tackling some of the 21st century's foremost challenges. With over 40,000 members and 200 student chapters worldwide, AIChE provides career guidance and networking opportunities to learn more about diverse careers in food processing, pharmaceutical, sustainable energy, biotechnology and environmental engineering.

IIT has always had a significant presence in the national AIChE community, ranging from high level administration to a very active student chapter which hosts weekly presentations, alumni panels, field visits, a thriving mentor-mentee program and social events fairly regularly on campus. Last weekend the annual student meeting, held in San Francisco, saw the largest ever IIT delegation successfully attend, learn, network and present research.

Besides the traditional career guidance seminars from the active Young Professionals Board and the student research poster presentation, the conference is also known for its flagship Chem E car competition, wherein student groups from around the country show off their chemically engineered (fuel cell/lead acid battery, etc) vehicles, coming in after months of preparation and testing.

The competition is a dynamic showcase of young minds exploring the possibilities of cleaner automobiles - the younger, non-graduating members of the IIT delegation came back inspired to start a project of our own right here on campus, even looking into the possibility of algae-sourced biofuel (if anyone reading this wishes to contribute to this cool opportunity, email aiche@iit.edu).

Other highlights at the presentation included a keynote address from Mr. Aamir Farid, VP of Manufacturing at Shell, who spoke about his 32 years at the company, traveling around the world managing projects in the oil and gas industry. The conference also provided an opportunity to have one-on-one career guidance sessions with Alaina Levine, a prolific speaker, writer, consultant and teacher known around the country for her career counseling.

The research poster competition saw several students from IIT participate, presenting on projects as diverse as water quality testing, bioenergy from algae sources, and optimal power flow.

Finally, a unique opportunity for some of the emerging leaders of the organization was to participate in the student leadership development seminar, which provided networking opportunities with other leaders from across the country and allowed them to work together to come up with strategies to engage more students in the organization.

The conference also provided a unique opportunity for the chapter to bond and spend time with the faculty advisor as well as a group itself. The group was a diverse mix of class levels, interests, project experiences and personalities; and the city of San Francisco provided a perfect setting for the team to explore and unwind in the midst of a busy semester.

The team took some time to explore some of the famous sights of the city as well as some diverse restaurants and neighborhoods in the city, aside from its fabled cobbled streets and scenic waterfront. Saturday night also provided an opportunity to take part in official Halloween festivities arranged by the conference coordinators, wherein the IIT delegation decided to show up as "elements".

The chapter hopes to capitalize on the relationships developed at the conference to take itself to newer levels of growth and development.

IEEE@IIT unveils 1st Project Meeting

Swasti Khuntia
LAYOUT EDITOR

Last week, the IEEE Student Chapter at IIT had their first project meeting of the fall 2013 semester. The meeting took place on November 7 in the MTCC Auditorium, and the turnout was also very good.

Although IEEE@IIT organized many programs this semester, including their general body meetings, industrial tour, and BBQ, the project meeting was the first of the semester. Juan Wang, Project Chair of IEEE@IIT, chaired the meeting, and was accompanied by other executive members of the board. Juan introduced the students to the different projects within IEEE@IIT. The projects that are funded by IEEE are Quadcopter, Multi-touch project, Guitar Amplifier and Ardupilot. She shared the details on current progress, funding, and upcoming projects. Then she handed over the task of explaining each project to the individual team leaders.

Rohit Agarwal, project leader of Guitar Amplifier, spoke about the current standing of the project. He spoke about the different equipment they procured and the several tests performed to see that all equipment was working; his team is now ready to assemble the final model. He invited other students to join the project as it would help them see classroom theory in action, learn through hands-on experience, and build up their resumes.

Similarly, Peyton Zellar-Av, project leader of QuadCopter, gave an overview of the current status the project. The goal of their team is to successfully build a user-programmable Quadcopter, and have it flying by spring 2014. Their project is being advised by Prof. John Kallend, Professor of Materials Engineering.

Members of the Ardupilot group described how they're learning about Arduino microcontroller boards by breaking one down into 10 different small projects. In fact, they have named their group the "Arduino Study Group." Talking about their future plans and deadlines, the group has planned to finish the ArduPilot simulation by Dec 2013/Jan 2014, building a sailplane by February 2014, and complete the ArduPilot UAV by May 2014. Meanwhile, they are also planning to collaborate with the QuadCopter project in spring 2014 in order to collaboratively solve their wiring and programming issues.

Juan, the project leader of Multi-touch project, spoke about their current standing. They currently have nine students working in the team. She talked about the various hardware and software enhancements that the group is planning to do in the future. These included building a frame to fix screens together and an electric circuit to protect the LEDs, achieving human-computer interaction, and correctly compiling the source-code.

At the end, Eric Tendian, webmaster of IEEE@IIT, showed the new IEEE@IIT website to the attendees, which waslaunched last week. Any student interested in working on any of the projects can email ieee@iit.edu.

Photos by Swasti Khuntia