

# EWB visits Boston, Cincinnati for conferences

**Austin Gonzalez & Kyle Stanevich**  
STAFF WRITERS

Engineers Without Borders (EWB) is a national organization committed to partnering with communities in the developing world. Illinois Tech's EWB chapter recently attended two conferences: The Great Lakes Regional (GLR) Conference in Cincinnati, Ohio and the Millennium Campus Conference (MCC) in Boston, Massachusetts.

Based in Chicago, Illinois Tech's EWB is one of the 48 chapters in the Great Lakes Region. At the GLR Conference, the chapters are all brought together by their focus on working towards partnerships, enforcing sustainable policies, and providing useful resources. Together these chapters make it their mission to support professionalism, collaboration, and resource sharing. The focus

of this conference was to answer the question, "What does it mean to be a global engineer?" Sessions were concentrated on sustainable community projects and transformational education.

Some of the discussions that our members participated in were about Water Testing, Impact Assessment, Construction Planning, and Building Successful Partnerships just to name a few. For students, the experience was rewarding, informational, and cemented the meaning behind what EWB stands for.

The same weekend, the other half of the EWB conference group attended the Millennium Campus Conference held at Northeastern University in Boston, MA. The Millennium Campus Network is a community of student organizations and leaders around the world working towards the United Nation's Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

The MDGs are eight goals which range from halving poverty to providing universal primary education. Student organizations from startup NGOs to university clubs gathered to discuss what can be done to become more effective towards reducing global poverty.

Panels and workshops encompassed Pros and Cons of MDG, Fundraising and Managing a Movement, Modern Day Slavery, Homeless in your Homeland and more. Some discussions were a bit disheartening, but there is a lot to be optimistic about.

Many of the goals are on target, with Malaysia recently achieving all 8, and China and India making great strides. With 2015 rapidly approaching, the UN will take into consideration the impact of the MDGs to create the Sustainable Development Goals, looking to create a more concise and action oriented set of sustainable goals.

The keynote speakers included Sakena Yacobi, the executive director of the Afghan Institute of Learning, eminent economist Jeffery Sachs, and Kenneth Cole, who all had much to say about what we can do individually to have a global impact.

Ultimately, the vision to create a world where no one suffers from malnutrition, conflict, or preventable disease nor struggles to survive on less than \$1.25 a day is admirable and achievable.

Both of these conferences provided our EWB chapter with a lot to think about. The connections made at these conferences will certainly help Illinois Tech EWB in the future. If you're interested in becoming a part of the team, feel free to contact [iit.ewb@gmail.com](mailto:iit.ewb@gmail.com). They're always happy to see more involved individuals at the general body meetings.

# RHA sponsors lounge event featuring Toast & Jam band

**Kyle Stanevich**  
STAFF WRITER

If you wanted a place to relax, eat chocolate, and enjoy some jazz last Monday, then you were in luck. The Residence Hall Association (RHA) partnered with the band Toast & Jam in order to hold a chocolate fountain and music event in the McCormick Lounge on Monday, November 4. It was a great turnout, steadily holding a crowd of about 30 for the entire event. The halls up and down MSV were filled with music, attracting interested

students to check out the event. This was the second chocolate fountain event held by RHA this semester. They brought out their fondue fountain and plenty of snacks to dip, including pretzel sticks, graham crackers, animal crackers, and for the first time, strawberries. All were gone just as fast as they were put on the table.

These events are always free and a time to give back to the students and stir up a bit of interest in RHA. It also provides a good time for students to voice their concerns to RHA, letting them know what could change on campus, and for RHA to inform students of

their upcoming events. You don't have to worry about any of that, though; you can just come for the free chocolate.

However, this time it was not just RHA in the spotlight, but also the talented jazz band that Illinois Tech has on campus, Toast & Jam. Composed of IIT's very own Luis Larco and his friends from VanderCook College of Music, they played for almost two hours straight, entertaining the crowd with their wonderful music and amazing solos. Many students came out just to listen to a song or two, but many others came back with a book to read

or homework to do. A few people even started dancing, even if just for a moment. It was a great atmosphere to relax in, washing away the stress of midterms, tests, and deadlines. Hopefully the band will continue to play around campus, expanding their audience to other students and maybe even staff and faculty.

RHA is always holding these small events. On November 21, they will be holding a hot chocolate event, so watch out for more info on campus for that. If you are interested, RHA holds open executive board meetings on Sundays at 6 p.m. in the MSV East Hall basement.

Person you should know:

# Megan Mozina



**Joannas Joseph**  
TECHNEWS WRITER

From addressing student organization meetings, assisting with the acclimation of international students to life at IIT, being an integral part of the Boeing Scholars Academy, and even finding time to stop by UB's coffee house series, Megan Mozina strives to foster strong relationships with IIT's general student body. Mozina serves as the Assistant Director of International Outreach and Engagement as well as the Director of IIT's Boeing Scholar's Academy in the office of Student Access, Success and Diversity Initiatives. Mozina's duties include getting the word out about IIT from an international standpoint, being an integral part of the Syrian students initiative, assisting international students, setting the goals and vision of the Boeing Scholars Academy, and getting more faculty from IIT involved in the academy.

Mozina has a particular passion for any type of international engagement and cultural acclimation, having studied abroad in Spain for a semester during undergraduate studies, lived in South Korea for about a year after her undergraduate studies, and served as an educator in the Peace Corps in Honduras for over two years after her graduate studies. This is further reinforced by her M.A. in International Education and Intercultural Training. "I lived in three different places abroad...I understand the value of learning about other cultures as well as learning about myself and this drives my outreach with international students," noted Mozina.

Mozina came to IIT right after her time in the Peace Corps and was particularly attracted to the diverse team that she would be working with as well as their passion for education. This was further solidified by the international dynamic of the university and the opportunity to work in intercultural activities. Having previously attended and worked at a

large public university as well as a medium sized private liberal arts institution, Mozina credits IIT as a, "small community in a huge city with a particular focus in technological fields." Mozina was a resource to the Engineers Without Borders chapter at IIT by serving as the guest speaker to general bodies as well as the cultural advisor with regards to their bridge building project in Nicaragua, given her work in their neighboring country Honduras.

"There are so many things that our office would like to do, but there is never enough time with the new ideas and opportunities which present themselves," Mozina stated when addressing one obstacle she has encountered during her tenure. This has been remediated by working in conjunction with a number of internal organizations such as the Office of Women's Services, Residence and Greek Life, and external ones such as World Chicago and other Chicago-area organizations.

Her most memorable event at IIT, during her short tenure, was when she went to the airport to greet three of the Syrian students who had faced much adversity during their journey to IIT. "It was both an exciting and emotional time for all of us involved," noted Mozina when speaking on this experience. She is especially fond of hearing the different successes and experiences of the students with which she interacts.

Outside of IIT, Mozina is involved in the Chicago Area Peace Corps and is also a volunteer with World Chicago and with a Battered women/children's shelter in Chicago. To students, Mozina's advice was, "You're not only at IIT for academics, but also for your overall growth and development... Get involved in something which is related to your major and then one which is completely different so that you meet new people and develop those soft skills, interpersonal and leadership skills." To any student interested in learning about life in a different culture or studying abroad, Mozina would definitely be a valuable resource.



# GREEK of the WEEK

## Meet Ashleyann Sanabria.

*"What do we live for if it is not to make life less difficult for each other"*

Year: Fifth

Major: Architecture

Greek Affiliation: Kappa Phi Delta

Hometown: Chicago, IL

Leadership Positions at IIT: President of AIAS, Community Desk Assistant, Lacrosse, New Velocity, Mies Van Der Rohe Tour Guide

Hobbies: Drawing, water color painting, sketching, taking pictures, hanging out with friends, and family, dancing, singing, listening to music, reading

Why did you go Greek at IIT?  
I joined Greek life because it provided me with a home away from home, and a group of girls who understand and agree with many things that I do.

How has Greek life developed you as a person and a leader?

I would never be as involved as I am now if not for the encouragement and inspiration of my sisters and other members of the Greek community.

What would be your advice for an incoming student?

Get involved. Find what you think is worth your time doing, and get involved with it. Go Greek. The Greeks at IIT are nothing like anyone else in the sense that they are a group of highly motivated students who do more than their share to not only help the community, but help each other, and make IIT awesome.

What has been one of your biggest challenges at IIT?

Knowing when to say no. There are so many wonderful things to be involved with on campus that it is hard to be able to say no, and to understand your limits. You are only one person.

What's one of your favorite questions to get a conversation going?

If you could be anything in the world (person, place, thing, animal, gas, mineral, ANYTHING) what would you be and why?

Questions? Email [orderofomegaiit@gmail.com](mailto:orderofomegaiit@gmail.com)

  
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