

'Eduroam' wireless internet service comes to IIT

Utsav Gandhi
CAMPUS EDITOR

The IIT Office of Technology Services (OTS) is pleased to announce that we have joined the eduroam (educationroaming) community. OTS's Support Desk Manager, Orland Carter spoke to TechNews about the exciting new service which provides some convenient benefits to IIT-affiliated individuals situated and traveling across the world. IIT members that visit another eduroam

participating university will be able to gain access to the wireless internet on their personal device, and in some cases additional local resources such as printers, without the need for a local user account at that university.

Originating in Europe, eduroam is a secure, world-wide internet access service developed for the international research and education community. With IIT's participation in eduroam, students, faculty, researchers and staff can obtain internet connectivity across IIT's campuses as well as when visiting other

participating institutions around the world.

IIT has provided the xpressconnect software that will configure your device to connect to eduroam. This should be done while you still have an internet connection prior to visiting the participating campus. You will need to be an active student, researchers, staff, or faculty of IIT to access the service.

Eduroam is accessible at university locations in many countries around the world. A detailed location map can be found online for the United States and the World at <https://www.eduroam.org/?p=where>.

Current participating universities in the Chicago area include: IIT, UIC, Northwestern University and the University of Chicago. Additional Information on eduroam can be found at: <https://www.eduroam.org/> and also at <https://www.eduroam.us/>.

For any issues connecting to eduroam please reach out to your home institution, in this case, IIT OTS Support Desk (supportdesk@iit.edu; 312.567.3375). The institution you are visiting will not be able to provide support.

Entrepreneurship Academy hosts innovative networking events

Caren Ong
TECHNEWS WRITER

By offering networking events with leaders from a variety of industries, advice and mentorship, professional resources and fostering entrepreneurship, IIT Entrepreneurship Academy (EA) has been successfully connecting creative entrepreneurs-to-be with the world of innovation. It organized its "First Meet & Greet" with more than 50 attendants, aiming to provide a platform for

mind-like students to network and advise them with entrepreneurial knowledge. Dane Christianson, inventor of the X-cube (3-D puzzle), an entrepreneur and a mechanical engineering student at Illinois Tech gave an inspiring speech. Lively conversations and interaction between the Monkey Bars team, Knapp Center board member Steve Johns and the students lit up the event. Participants with interest in starting their own businesses were inspired by the new ideas and quick execution by these amazing student entrepreneurs. Impressed by the innovative ideas and our

students' enthusiasm for entrepreneurship, special guest Celestine McGee, Assistant Director of the Career Management Center, also conveyed her full support to the organization.

Students were engrossed in the event and left us with very informative responses on our post-event survey such as "This was a very good effort", "Please try to do these as often as possible (every month, if possible). Try to invite not only students, but also more professionals and alumni." We at the Entrepreneurship Academy take this feedback very seriously and will definitely try to provide our students

with mentorship and advice from working professionals.

Embracing our students' excitement and enriched with a new understanding of what it takes to truly engage students and professionals - EA organized its 2nd meet-up, with the theme "Ideation Pitch and Match". "Ideation Pitch and Match" is an upgraded event based on the "First Meet and Greet". It aims to provide aspiring entrepreneurs a platform to present their entrepreneurial ideas and team up with students that are interested in making their dreams a reality.

EWB-IIT partner visits IIT, inspires students to pursue career in international development

Utsav Gandhi
CAMPUS EDITOR

IIT's Engineers without Borders (EWB) chapter is currently partnering with FriendsNE, a non-profit organization based in Boston, MA, to help build a bridge in rural Nicaragua. The project has been in conception since October last year, after which a successful evaluation trip was also carried out over spring break last year (you can read more updates about the project at <http://ewbiitsanclaudio.blogspot.com/>). Over the past week, the IIT chapter hosted the Director of the partner organization, Micheal Chipoletti, who delivered a couple of inspiring talks on his journey pursuing a career in international development and inspired us students to find our passions, and follow them whole-heartedly.

Chipoletti has educational degrees from liberal arts colleges (BA, Stonehill College, '99; MBA, Boston University, '05), and Friends New England. After speaking at EWB IIT's general body meeting on Monday afternoon, Chipoletti also spoke at an event, "The Rewards

of Working in Global Health and International Development Presentation," co-hosted with the Engineering Themes. The students who attended received credit towards the Health and Security themes. He added that his non-profit organization exists to "provide aid, care, and support for the needy, locally, nationally and internationally, with an emphasis on sustainable development on behalf of the poor with current projects in Nicaragua and Peru."

While attending Northport High School, Chipoletti was an active member of Students for 60,000, an organization founded in the summer of 1986 to work in solidarity with New York City's 60,000+ homeless persons. In 1992, the high school began student trips to Nicaragua and in 1996, he coordinated with the Director of Students to offer an alumni trip to Nicaragua, wherein the team helped in the construction of a school and improvement of sanitation practices. This trip was the beginning of Chipoletti's 17 years of work in Nicaragua and later with Peru. FriendsNE was born out of a discussion between Chipoletti and both current and founding FNE board members

after he participated in a medical relief trip to Haiti following the earthquake in 2010. The trip inspired Chipoletti to suggest a partnership between the other project participants which would link the work in Haiti to existing projects in Nicaragua. He leads service trips to Nicaragua and Peru multiple times a year for students, families, service groups, and health care professionals.

Chipoletti spoke at length about EWB's community development model, where he listed "listening" and empathy as the crucial drivers of development, with an emphasis on preventing dependency and paternalistic mentalities; as has been the traditional case for the last forty years wherein aid was a gift and money was just handed out without any focus on local community building and empowerment. FriendsNE has a policy of maintaining communication with the local communities. Their partnership model is focused as a bottom up approach rather than a top down one. He gave examples of medical projects in Haiti which are not sustainable and basically create patients that wait for the next

set of medical missionaries. It is more helpful, rather, to work with the communities and follow up consistently. When asked why he chooses to focus on projects outside America even when there is so much help needed in communities here itself, he said that the poorest in America are still much better off than many of the world's rural communities, and that the possibility of realizing the 'dream' which is so prevalent and possible here isn't even likely in many parts of the world. Chipoletti also believes in empowering individuals here by taking them on exposure trips abroad so that they may come back and advocate about the issues they gained awareness regarding.

"Education, cooperation, integration" - following this principle, FriendsNE has worked over the years with administration, local politicians, dealt with social factors, religions and customs. Trip experiences with them, like the one that the IIT EWB chapter was fortunate to experience last spring, takes you out of your comfort zone and challenges you to think critically about problems from an empathetic, human perspective.

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