

Illinois Tech names architects for Innovation Center

Kori Bowns

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

"Under leadership of Mayor Emmanuel, Chicago has embarked on a major mission to build a robust innovation and entrepreneurship ecosystem. I am pleased to announce today the addition of a revolutionary academic building that will advance the agendas of both IIT and Chicago," said IIT President John Anderson as he introduced the formal announcement of the planned Ed Kaplan Family Institute for Innovation and Technology Entrepreneurship on Friday, March 4 in the Atrium of Tech Park.

After announcing the \$10 million challenge gift toward the university's planned Innovation Center from IIT alumnus Ed Kaplan and his wife, Carol, last week, President Anderson was excited to announce the progress toward IIT's newest academic building since 1968 to the Chicago community, including an announcement of the two architecture firms that will be developing the design and programming for the new building.

IIT's planned Innovation Center, to be called the Ed Kaplan Family Institute for Innovation and Technology Entrepreneurship, will be a 100,000 square foot facility that will house IIT's Institute of Design, IPRO program, Idea Shop, and other offices from the university. The new building will be located on Illinois Tech's Main Campus and has an anticipated completion date in 2017.



Photo by Kori Bowns

President Anderson was joined by a few others in making this announcement, including U.S. Congressman Bobby Rush, Chicago Mayor Rahm Emanuel, IIT Trustee Thomas Lanctot, and two current Illinois Tech students, Dane Christianson and Cleo Richard.

Congressman Rush said, "IIT has opened its doors in remarkable ways throughout the years; I'm proud to witness another step in the right direction, and I'd like to thank this university for helping to create a great nation and including this local community in your

endeavors."

"The new Kaplan Institute at IIT further establishes Chicago as the place where the greatest 21st century innovations begin," said Mayor Emanuel. "This center will help today's students become the innovators of tomorrow, providing businesses with a pipeline of new products, processes, and talented graduates to hire."

After these remarks, President Anderson was pleased to announce the two architecture firms that will be taking on the new building. John Ronan Architects, a firm based in Chicago, will be designing the Ed Kaplan Family Institute for Innovation and Technology Entrepreneurship. The firm became nationally recognized with two American Institute of Architects National Honor Awards for two buildings in Chicago and is currently ranked as the number 3 design firm in the United States by Architect Magazine.

Shepley Bulfinch was announced as the programming architect for the Kaplan Institute. Shepley Bulfinch, based in Boston, has several connections to the City of Chicago dating back to 1892 when the firm designed the Art Institute of Chicago. The company is ranked as a top firm in the country by Architectural Record.

The Ed Kaplan Institute for Innovation and Technology Entrepreneurship will be an exciting addition to Illinois Tech's campus, and its impact will be felt on campus and beyond as it is seen to fruition.

IEEE@IIT hosts national information session

Vijai Baskar

COPY EDITOR

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE) at IIT hosted an information session at the Siegel Hall Auditorium on Friday, March 7. The speaker of the event was Jalyn Kelley, IEEE Client Services Manager, who works with IEEE customers located in the southern and central United States and internationally.

Mehdi Ganji, President of IEEE @ IIT introduced the speaker to the audience and expressed gratitude to IEEE in its consistent support and faith in the student branch at IIT.

Kelley started off the presentation

by giving a brief introduction about IEEE, its core areas of activity and its mission "To foster technological innovation and excellence for the benefit of humanity." She described the history of IEEE and how it came into existence on the emergence of two organizations in the past, the American Institute of Electrical Engineers (AIEE) and the Institute of Radio Engineers (IRE.) She also spoke about the various IEEE societies and how each society represents its area of technical interest. She mentioned about the benefit of being an IEEE member and being able to network with peers through various conferences and informative meetings.

"The benefits of being a member are plenty," Kelley said, speaking about the IEEE

job site, career alerts, career development webinars, awards and scholarships, and Microsoft software for students. IEEE members can access resources regarding building their resume at ieee.org/resumelab. She also mentioned about the events within IEEE, such as, Xtreme Programming Competition, and Presidents' Change the World Competition where students and professionals can compete and the various fellowship/scholarship provided by IEEE. Students and professionals can stay technically current by subscribing to the IEEE Spectrum Magazine, and the Institute Newsletter and also access information from the IEEE Xplore Digital Library and IEEE.tv by becoming a member.

Her presentation included in detail, the process involved in publishing papers and journals within IEEE. She explained about all the aspects of being a successful author within IEEE, places and means to look for to gather resources, parts that have to be included in a scientific paper, how to submit it and monitor the status of its approval and it being published. Interested students who are looking to become an IEEE author can visit www.ieee.org/go/authorship. Resources and reference papers can be accessed from the library at www.ieee.org/ieeexplore.

Kelley can be reached by mail at jalyn.kelley@ieee.org or find her on the website at www.ieee.org/go/clientservices.

Red Cross IIT sponsors month of events

Khaleela Zaman

DISTRIBUTION MANAGER

Everyone can recognize the symbol of the Red Cross when they see it—the emblem of the American Red Cross.

This influential organization is especially active during March, so our student organization, Red Cross IIT, is also prepared to celebrate all the great things about the Red Cross this March and early April.

From March 3 to March 7, Red Cross IIT was on the bridge in MTCC during lunch hour giving out cute little paper houses with simple disaster preparedness tips printed onto the sides of the houses. If you did not stop by, then you also missed out the surprise piece of candy hidden inside the little house. March 9,

we also held a bingo night off campus at the Boulevard Care Center, which was a lot of fun.

With Spring Break coming up on our heels, Red Cross IIT is concerned for your safety. Therefore, we have decided to be on the MTCC Bridge again on Wednesday, March 12, from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. to give out Spring Break safety tips. We know that safety tips are not that exciting, but they could be if you stopped by our table.

You should definitely join our club at the Perlstein Auditorium on Wednesday, March 26 from 1 to 1:30 p.m. for an International Film Series showing. It will only occupy 30 minutes of your day, and you will be able to walk away from it with so much more knowledge about the American Red Cross and the organization's work throughout the world.

On Saturday, March 29, a group of students in Red Cross IIT will be walking through Chicago from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m. to make Chicagoans more aware of the threat of fires in the city. This activity, called Fire Canvassing, is a program sponsored by the American Red Cross where volunteers walk around hanging fire awareness and preparedness tags on the doors of residences in the city. The tags encourage people to become conscious of the great amount of fires in the area of Chicago, and hopefully prevent one in their household.

Red Cross Month will be culminating on April 6 with our DJ Competition. This awesome event will be held from 6 p.m. to 9 p.m. in the MTCC Ballroom. The competition is a fundraiser for the American Red Cross campaign to battle measles and rubella around

the world.

In developing countries, the vaccine still has not become important, even though measles and rubella are deadly yet easily preventable. Less than a dollar vaccinates one child, so the entrance fee for our special event will be just one dollar per person. You will definitely want to come to this event so you can make an impact on the world while listening to your friends battling against each other on the turntables.

Any student at IIT, Shimer, or Vandercook can be a DJ by signing up at tiny.cc/DJcompetition to represent a student organization, Greek house, or residence hall! There will be dance in addition to the DJ battle, so it will be an amazing fun fundraiser. Hope to see you there!

Sharing Table honors women athletes

Shireen Gul

COPY EDITOR

IIT Student Center for Diversity and Inclusion (SCDI) organized their amazing event called "The Sharing Table" last Thursday. The Sharing Table is held on the first Thursday of every month during the academic term. It is a special program to help foster personal interaction between undergraduates, graduate students, and faculty. You can engage yourself in spirited conversation about hobbies, culture, sports, or current events while dining at the Commons. A small group of students are given the chance to learn a great deal about their instructors in this

type of social setting.

This time we had our female athletes in the spotlight. They shared with us their contributions on-campus as an athlete and also told us that if we are interested in joining a team, so what could be the process of joining it. It was so amusing to know how much hard work and determination is needed in these sports, which apparently seems to be easy.

Kirk Lamitie, the Head Women's Lacrosse Coach joined us for the event as well and encouraged all of us to join his team. The Illinois Tech Women's Lacrosse team's home opener against Loras College was on last Saturday, at Stuart Field. It was great to be a part of IIT history

and cheer leading for our Lady Scarlet Hawks.

Usha Gilmore, the Head Women's Basketball Coach was a part of this event as well. We were lucky enough to hear about her journey as an athlete, which was of course not an easy task. But as Charlotte Bronte mentioned in her book "Jane Eyre" that, "I am no bird; and no net ensnares me: I am a free human being with an independent will." So when you are determined enough for some task, nothing can stop you.

I don't want to sound really feminist by saying this but we women deserve more than what we are doing. As the great author Joseph Conrad said, "being a woman is a terribly difficult task, since it consists principally in dealing with men."

So, if we can handle the men, then we can handle anything this world, being it a sport or a job.

So if you are willing to join any women's team here on campus please don't hesitate and send an email to Kirk Lamitie at klamitie@iit.edu, and he will help you in finding the perfect match for you.

Next sharing table will be held on April 4, in the Commons. A small reminder; please don't forget we also have personal invitations that you can give to your instructors. Just send an email to scdi@iit.edu and we will let you know how to get your card. Last but not least, don't forget to follow us on Twitter and Instagram @ntdiversity and like us on Facebook at SCDI IIT.