

Many resources available to students at Illinois Tech

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COPY EDITOR

There are going to be a lot of things to enjoy while at Illinois Tech, and many things you will come to know by the end of the academic year. There's some important information to share about the resources that we have around campus. The best part about these resources is that one can access most of them online; you don't have to go to their office to get any kind of information.

The first and most important resource is the Academic Resource Center, mostly known as the ARC. IIT has really great tutors there who are ready to help students throughout the day. To look for the subject or tutor you want, all you have to do is visit www.iit.edu/arc and look up the subject you need help in and the schedule will pop up.

If you need help in your research paper or any writing, then you will can visit the writing center; it is located in Siegel Hall room 232 and 233. For this you will have to go there physically and sign the sign-up sheet for an appointment.

A second important resource a student should be aware of is our awesome library, Paul V. Galvin Library. This is a place you can find most of your books, and, just in case it's not available, you'll have the ability to check it out through I-Share, a book-sharing program that our library participates in. To

find out about book availability visit www.library.iit.edu and click on find books.

If you are looking for some research articles or journals, there's also a great database server where you can find most journals and research papers for free. In case you are not sure how to use them in your paper, there's a research office available throughout the day.

After academic safety comes your own personal safety. For that, all students should sign up for IIT Alert, a service that will notify you via text or email if an emergency occurs on campus. In order to do that, simply visit www.iit.edu/iitalert/signup and get yourself signed up for all the important alerts.

Then, make sure you know how to contact IIT's Public Safety Department if you need their help. If you are on Main Campus, the non-emergency number is 312.808.6300 and the emergency number is 312.808.6363. If you are on IIT's Downtown Campus, then the non-emergency number is 312.906.5030 and the emergency number is 312.906.5030.

Lastly, if you are living on campus and have a meal plan, then you can always keep a check on your remaining meals and bonus points on www.get.cbord.com/iit/full/login. If you want to check out the Commons menu in advance then you can always find that on www.dining.iit.edu. You can also find much other information regarding the food provided around campus.

First Year Experience Program welcomes new students to campus

Kori Bowns
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Attending college can be one of the most exciting experiences that a person can have, but it can also be a time that is a bit confusing or scary. College students often gain more independence when attending a school away from their parents, and there are a ton of new things that students get involved with in college. There are so many new people to meet and ways to get involved on campus. While combating all of these new experiences, IIT students also take on a challenging courseload and many acclimate to living in a large city for the first time in their life.

All in all, a first year at college can be just as intimidating as it is exciting. In order to assist with the often-difficult transition to college, the Office of Campus Life (OCL) created and implemented the First Year Experience Program (FYE) in the fall of 2012 with the goal of helping new students.

Katie Stango, Coordinator of Campus Life, adds, "The First Year Experience program (FYE) is designed to help students find the resources and support they need to succeed at IIT through two components: the Peer Mentor Program and the Freshman 15. Your Peer Mentor is an upperclassmen student that will serve as guide throughout your first year at IIT. They'll plan events for your group, notify you of Freshman 15 programs, and make sure you're on track to make the most out of IIT. The Freshman 15 program highlights some key events throughout the semester that you should check out! By 'checking in' at these events, you'll be rewarded with fun prizes throughout the semester!"

By getting to know an upperclassman student early on at IIT, new students will have the chance to ask questions and receive advice from someone who has recently experienced many of the challenges that they will soon face.

Freshman 15 events also encourage students to get involved early on in their experience at IIT. "This diverse group of programs will help new students acclimate to life on campus and start to see IIT as a home away from home," said Stango. "Plus, the more events you attend, the more prizes you can win!"

When asked about which Freshman 15 event she is looking forward to most, Stango said, "They're all really great this semester. Personally, I'm really excited for the Peer Mentor Meet and Greet this fall, which is our first Freshman 15 event. It's a great opportunity to not only meet your Peer Mentor who will be valuable guide during your first year, but also a chance to interact with a new group of incoming students. It's a great way to get your first year started on the right foot."

Stango also offers the following advice for new students: "Whether you're a residential or commuter student, being placed in a new environment always bring new challenges, but that doesn't mean you have to figure it all out on your own. Ask questions of other students, especially student leaders like your Resident Assistant, Orientation Leader, and Peer Mentor. They've all been in your shoes before and remember what it was like being brand new to IIT. Also, take advantage of all the activities during Welcome Week and get involved with student organizations—they're great for meeting new people and developing your leadership skills!"

THE FRESHMAN 15

1. Peer Mentor Meet & Greet

2. Study Abroad Fair

3. Sustainability Resource Fair

4. Soccer Double Header

5. Homecoming Carnival

6. LGBT History Month

7. Comedian Aaron Kominos-Smith

8. Information Fluency

9. 10th Annual Pumpkin Launch

10. Leadership Summit

11. Solly the Therapy Dog

12. iPlan

13. Chris White Lecture

14. Holiday Mail for Heroes

15. IPRO Day

Learn more!

tinyurl.com/IITFreshman15