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CSL AND THE CITY

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Greetings!

As the cover suggests, this issue of Sci+Letters focuses on CSL and the City. Not only because of the essential role that the city of Chicago has played in the history of IIT and CSL, and because of the important ways in which we interact with the city, but also as an illustration of the changing environment in which IIT and CSL exist and what the continuous evolution of this environment means for our future.

As you know, IIT has its origins in two Chicago institutions, the Armour Institute and the Lewis Institute, both founded in the 1890s. When joined in 1940, they became the IIT we know today. Most properly, CSL has its roots in the Lewis Institute—over the entrance of the original building was the legend “Science, Literature, Technology.” Indeed, at one time, the college was known as the Lewis College of Science and Letters. Today, this connection survives only as the Lewis Department of Humanities.

Both the Lewis and Armour Institutes were founded in the 1890s by far-sighted philanthropists to be responsive to the needs of the population and of the city of Chicago for the education of talented young men and women in the knowledge and skills demanded by the age. Between 1870 and 1900, the population of the city had grown nearly six-fold to 1.7 million. Chicago was transforming rapidly to an industrial powerhouse and the transportation gateway to the western United States. The Columbian Exposition of 1893 and the 1933 World’s Fair, “A Century of Progress,” symbolized, respectively, the ambitions and achievements of the city.

The alignment of the needs of the city and the educational opportunities offered by the Armour and Lewis Institutes served both well, and graduates of these institutions went on to make significant contributions to many aspects of American life and culture—mathematics, science, engineering, commerce. This symbiosis continued through the Depression when, perversely, the closure of the city junior colleges drove enrollments to an all-time high—gains that were, however, reversed when the colleges reopened.

Already by WWII, however, the seeds of urban decay had been sown, and the once-prosperous neighborhood of IIT had begun to deteriorate. The industrial base that had served Chicago so well suffered from intense outside competition such that, in common with many industrial cities in the United States, the viability of the city, and by construction IIT itself, came into question.

This was a challenging time. But Chicago has risen to this challenge. The key asset of Chicago’s location as a focal point in the once national, now global, transportation and communication networks has enabled Chicago to transform to a knowledge-based economy, with the infrastructure and attractive environment required to bring the needed brain-power to the city. Inner-city decay has reversed such that the population of the city itself is growing by tens of thousands per year.

Indeed, in a recent study by A. T. Kearney, “The Urban Elite,” Chicago now ranks sixth in the world behind only New York, London, Tokyo,
Paris, and Hong Kong as global cities. The dimensions of this study encompass business activity, human capital, information exchange, cultural experience, and political engagement.

As Chicago has transformed, so must IIT and CSL such that we continue to fulfill our historic mission of educating young men and women for the needs of the age. IIT and CSL will still be strongly aligned with the city of Chicago. Just, we must now consider the city in a new light—not only locally, regionally, and nationally but globally.

The international theme has always run strongly through IIT. We have played host to students from all over the world, and today, by percentage of foreign students, IIT is the most international of U.S. universities. Historically, many overseas students chose to remain in the United States, thereby enriching our intellectual capital. However, while a U.S. education is still valued all over the world, opportunities in a global society are now so widespread that many of the best and brightest foreign students return to their homeland.

For this and other reasons, it is now incumbent on our homegrown students to become more globally aware. We are working to build the international experience into our curriculum and to increase opportunities to study and work abroad. In the past year, I have travelled to India, to the UK and continental Europe, and twice to China. During these visits I have engaged universities and colleagues to discuss collaboration and exchanges. Most importantly, I have met with IIT alumni to share with them our plans for the future of IIT and CSL and to engage them in supporting the growth and development of the global component of IIT’s distinctive education.

In this way, IIT and CSL will remain, as always, in close synchronization with the city. Not the city of the 19th and 20th centuries, but the global city of the 21st.

Dean Russell Betts
Ralph Waldo Emerson said that an institution is the lengthened shadow of a man. A critical figure in the history of the College of Science and Letters, and IIT, is Allen C. Lewis, founder of Lewis Institute, one of the predecessors of IIT.

This sixth-generation American was born in Sterling, Conn., in 1821 to parents described as “comfortable” farmers. He and two of his four brothers came west as young men.

Allen Lewis settled in Elgin, Ill., and co-owned a drugstore; he also bought 5,000 acres in Cook and Will counties with his brother John, according to the Tinley Park Historical Society.

Allen married Cornelia Hunter in 1849, Kane County records show, and they had a baby boy; but both mother and son died. Allen came to Chicago in 1853.

According to an 1877 Chicago Daily Tribune article based on interviews with his brother Henry after Allen’s death, Allen first worked in Chicago’s Land Office. He then went into the real estate business for himself. He made money primarily by buying and locating land warrants.

“In 1867, he sold nearly all his real estate, invested the proceeds in railroad and other bonds, and then traveled in Europe for five years,” the article continues. When he came back to Chicago, “the spinal trouble, which subsequently was the cause of his death, began to show itself, and for the past two or three years he lived at Tremont House [downtown] for convenience in treatment and ease in getting around.”

He died on October 25, 1877, and is buried in a family vault at Rosehill Cemetery on Chicago’s North Side.
To Provide for and Assist Those in Need of an Education

Lewis left the bulk of his estate, more than $500,000, to start a school:

It having long been my desire and design to in some manner provide for and assist those in need of an education, and who are so circumstanced in life as to be unable without aid and assistance to obtain the instruction and gain access to books and papers of art and science that their future advancement in life requires....

He instructed trustees to increase the bequest to at least $800,000. “[A]s soon as the income from my said estate will justify such an outlay, I desire them to establish and maintain a thorough POLYTECHNIC SCHOOL, to do all in their power to make it second to none in thoroughness,” Lewis wrote. It would come to include arts, sciences, engineering, and more. He wanted the school to include “instruction for women in different branches of art, science, and design...as will enable them to gain a livelihood therefrom.” He also required that there be no discrimination in selecting administrators, teachers, or students.

During the next 18 years, trustees increased the Lewis bequest to $1.6 million. This made his gift one of the largest of its time, in a league with the $2.15 million bequest of 1887 by Walter Loomis Newberry to build the Newberry Library.

A Gem on the Near West Side

As the time came to build the school, trustees conferred with “100 or more of the most intelligent men and women of Chicago,” according to the Chicago Daily Tribune, including William Rainey Harper, president of the University of Chicago.

The trustees decided to build the school on the Near West Side. Marjorie Varvelle Bear (Lewis Academy ’16) grew up in the neighborhood and wrote in her book A Mile Square of Chicago (2007), “There were some fine mansions on Washington Boulevard and Ashland Avenue where many of the wealthy pioneers of Chicago lived, such as Governor Carter Harrison, Potter Palmer, and others.” Residents at different times included Mary Todd and Tad Lincoln, Bertha Palmer, Lillian Russell, Flo Ziegfeld, Edgar Rice Burroughs, Eddie Foy, and Walt Disney.

Trustees selected Henry Ives Cobb—who also designed the Newberry Library, Palmer Potter mansion, buildings on the University of Chicago campus, and more—to design the building at 112–122 South Robey (Damen) Street, or 1951 West Madison, near today’s United Center (1901 West Madison).

“Monumental in size, the Lewis Institute’s façade occupied the entire side block of Madison Street, while it was approximately half a block deep,” according to the Art Institute of Chicago’s online library on Cobb’s works. There were storefronts on the ground level, the rents helping to defray operating costs, and over a doorway were the words “Science, Literature, Technology.”

Lewis Institute opened on September 21, 1896. “Lewis’ Dream a Reality”; “Thousands crowd to witness the formal opening of the magnificent seat of learning,” the Chicago Tribune wrote. “Lewis Institute was dedicated last evening in the presence of as many people as the auditorium at Robey and Madison streets could hold.” It was so packed that Mayor George Bell Swift, who was one of the speakers, had to squeeze in a side entrance.

Lewis Legacy: Chicago and Beyond

Trustees named George Noble Carman as director and Edwin H. Lewis (a distant relation of Allen Lewis) as dean. Carman had been principal at Morgan Park Academy at the University of Chicago, and before that had taught in Michigan and been principal at P.S. 15 in Brooklyn, N.Y., and in St. Paul, Minn. He would go on to help start the North Central Association of High Schools and Colleges and Secondary Schools, the accrediting body. John A. Roche, former mayor of Chicago, was named the first president of the Lewis board of trustees.

Lewis Institute opened with a high school program (“the Academy”) that offered technical subjects and liberal arts, and a college with a four-year engineering program and a two-year arts and sciences program. The latter made Lewis the first junior college in the country. This program was later expanded to include a four-year degree in arts and sciences as well. There was a night school, as stipulated by Allen Lewis in his will—believed to be the first legal provision for adult education in the country, per IIT Archivist Catherine Bruck.

Bruck adds that during its 40-plus years of existence, Lewis Institute enrolled more than 100,000 students. The student body was exceptionally diverse:
By 1928, there were more than 52 nationalities represented.

Graduates and attendees of Lewis Institute left a rich legacy in Chicago, nationally, and internationally. Some of them included:

**Chicago Legacy:**

**William Patrick Smyth and John McDonnell Smyth** (attended Lewis). Worked in the family business, John M. Smyth, their father’s furniture and household goods stores, founded in 1867 at 92 West Madison.

**Harold L. Stuart** (attended Lewis). Became a very successful investment banker and left $5 million to found what is now known as IIT Stuart School of Business.

**Florence Reynolds** (Lewis 1901). Was a benefactor of Jane Heap, who helped to found the Chicago Little Theater and became co-editor of *The Little Review*. Heap taught “decorative metal work” at Lewis.

**Walter Ansel Strong** (Lewis 1901). Received a degree in civil engineering at night and became owner and publisher of the *Chicago Daily News*, 1925–1931.

**Werner Wieboldt** (Lewis 1902). Took over the family business, Wieboldt Stores, in 1924 with his brother Elmer. His grandfather William A. Wieboldt started Wieboldt’s in 1883; the stores closed in 1986.

**Raymond Wieboldt** (Lewis 1905, Academy 1904). A cousin of Werner, had a construction company and chaired the Wieboldt Foundation and the Children’s Home and Aid Society of Illinois.

**Fanny Butcher** (Lewis 1908). Literary editor for the *Chicago Tribune* for nearly 40 years and on the staff of the paper for 50 years.

**Julius Hoffman** (attended Lewis). Judge in the Chicago Conspiracy Trial, or Chicago Seven Trial, in 1969–70.

**Archibald Carey Jr.** (Lewis ’29, Chicago-Kent ’35) lawyer, alderman, pastor of Woodlawn AME in Chicago, civil rights advocate; he helped to found CORE (Committee for Racial Equality) and was an adviser to Martin Luther King, Jr.

**Sol Brandzel** (attended night school at Lewis in 1932–33). A Polish immigrant, he became director of the Amalgamated Clothing and Textile Workers, president of the Chicago Board of Education, and chair of Chicago’s Board of Ethics.

**Stuart Brent** (Lewis ’36). Became an author and prominent Chicago bookseller (see accompanying article).

**National/International Legacy:**

**Mathematics and Science**

**George David Birkhoff** (Lewis 1902). Became, per the *Columbia Encyclopedia*, “perhaps the first American mathematician of international repute” and formulated the ergodic theorem.

**Herbert C. Brown** (attended night school at Lewis in the 1930s). Made his way to Lewis after having had to drop out of school for a time to work. He went on to Wright College and shared the Nobel Prize in chemistry in 1979.

**The Arts**

**Main Rousseau Bocher** (attended Lewis in 1907). Founded fashion house Mainbocher (1929–1971) in Paris and New York and also went by the name Mainbocher.

**Samson Raphaelson** (attended Lewis in 1914). Wrote screenplays for *The Shop Around the Corner*, *Suspicion*, and *Heaven Can Wait*, and plays including *The Jazz Singer*.

**Benny Goodman** (attended Lewis Academy in 1924). The son of Russian immigrants, he became one of the all-time great jazz musicians, known as the “King...
of Swing.” Jazz drummer Dave Tough also attended Lewis Academy at this time.


Florence Beatrice Price (attended Lewis in 1938). First African-American woman to have a symphony that she wrote performed by a major orchestra.

**Journalism**


**Other**

Ethel Percy Andrus (Lewis 1901). English professor at Lewis from 1903–1910, founded the American Association of Retired Persons.

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**Project to Put Lewis Yearbooks Online**

Scholars, families, and the merely curious soon will have a chance to explore the rich legacy of Lewis Institute firsthand. CSL Dean Russell Betts has initiated a project to scan all the Lewis Institute yearbooks (1903-1918, 1920-1940) and make them available online, through a website. More information will be available from the college soon.

Keep watching the CSL website, www.iit.edu/csl

*The College thanks Catherine Bruck and Ralph Pugh of the IIT Archives for assistance.*
From the Chicago Fire to the New Deal, there was a struggle over what would be the dominant vision for Chicago. A Mecca for business only or a place to raise a family? City of Big Shoulders or City of Homes? It was a struggle largely along gender lines, and mostly forgotten, before Maureen Flanagan unearthed the details in her scholarship.

A professor of history, Flanagan joined IIT this fall as the new chair of the Lewis Department of Humanities from Michigan State University. She has published three books and numerous scholarly papers. Her most recent book is *America Reformed: Progressives and Progressivism, 1890s–1920s* (Oxford University Press, 2007). Her first book was *Charter Reform in Chicago* (Southern Illinois University Press, 1987).

In 2002, she published *Seeing with Their Hearts: Chicago Women and the Vision of the Good City, 1871–1933* (Princeton University Press) on the competing visions for Chicago as the City of Big Shoulders or City of Homes. It won the 2003 Illinois State Historical Society Superior Achievement Award and was one of Choice’s Outstanding Academic Books of 2003.

The visions were solidly male versus female, Flanagan asserted, according to numerous contemporary accounts. For example, “In 1913 settlement house resident Anna Nichols envisioned a different city that ‘came from the hearts of women,’” she wrote. “Hers was a vision of the city as ‘not alone a business corporation’ but ‘as a city of homes, as a place in which to rear children.’ This city would ‘care that babies die because of preventable diseases,’ a city that would…make the ‘personal welfare’ of all its residents first priority.”

A Journal of American History reviewer wrote, “She [Flanagan] argues strongly and persuasively that these visions were gender-linked in far more than accidental ways: that it is possible to demonstrate that the first [the business corporation] was largely a men’s vision, while the second, of city administration as the steward of the general welfare, belonged to women, even across social class, religious, and racial backgrounds.”

While researching her dissertation, Flanagan had read in Jane Addams’s *Twenty Years at Hull House a brief reference to immigrant women working with a collection of about 100 women’s groups to get women’s suffrage in a new municipal charter. It was not well known that women had worked together this way. Flanagan wrote about it in her dissertation and developed it more fully in *Seeing with Their Hearts*. The approach is a hallmark of scholarship that brings back women’s histories from the margins to a central place in the cultural narrative.

Flanagan is the president of the Society for Historians of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era, and founding editor of the *Journal of the Gilded Age and Progressive Era*. Among her many awards, she was a Fulbright Senior Visiting Lecturer at the University of Alexandria, Alexandria, Egypt, in 2000. Besides scholarly articles, she also has written articles for such publications as the *Encyclopedia of Chicago*. She received her Ph.D. from Loyola University of Chicago.
Chicago Public Schools

CSL's Mathematics and Science Education Department is in the fifth year of the High School Transformation Project to help Chicago Public Schools improve the teaching of science. MSED is now partnered with 23 of the 38 eligible schools, and the MSED-led schools outperformed the others in this spring’s Prairie State Achievement Examination.

MSED also is working with healthcare/pharmaceutical giant Baxter over five years to develop biotechnology teachers for CPS elementary and high school students.

Most recently, MSED began a professional development project with chemistry and biology teachers at Senn High School. That opportunity arose because MSED Professor and Chair Norman Lederman, along with Grant Bunker, physics associate chair and professor of physics, have been advising Senn how to use a $380,000 federal grant to transform two science labs into twenty-first century, technology based spaces. “You can throw in all the technology in the world, but if the teachers aren’t prepared, it will go to waste,” notes Lederman.

Argonne National Laboratory

CSL faculty and students conduct research in disease, materials, energy, and the environment at Argonne National Laboratory, the U.S. Department of Energy facility located in Argonne, Ill. IIT faculty and students from biology, chemistry, physics, applied mathematics, computer science, and other fields work here.

Many projects are at the Advanced Photon Source, a 1,225-foot-diameter X-ray facility that provides the Western Hemisphere’s brightest storage ring-generated X-ray beams for research. Access points include BioCAT, or Biophysics Collaborative Access Team, directed by Thomas Irving, professor of biology and physics; MRCAT, or Materials Research Collaborative Access Team, with Deputy Director Carlo Segre, professor of physics; and SER-CAT, Southeast Collaborative Access Team, with participants who include Andrew Howard, associate professor of biology and physics. Other projects are in Argonne’s computation and other departments.

Fermilab

This U.S. Department of Energy facility, located 40 miles west of IIT’s Main Campus in Batavia, Ill., is a proton-antiproton collider for high-energy physics. High-energy physics is concerned with such questions as how the universe started and what it is made of. IIT has been collaborating with Fermilab since 1972. Today, CSL post-docs, faculty, graduate students, and undergraduates work there on several projects funded by the Department of Energy and the National Science Foundation.

Chicago Digital Humanities

CSL and the Lewis Department of Humanities again co-sponsored the Chicago Colloquium on Digital Hu-
Present: CSL Projects in Chicago

Manities and Computer Science, this year hosted by Northwestern University. The colloquium brings together researchers and scholars to examine the current state of digital humanities as a field of intellectual inquiry and to identify and explore new directions and perspectives.

Millennium Park Installation
Christena Nippert-Eng, associate professor of sociology, appears briefly in and helped to coordinate interviews for the installation by London-based Thomas Gray in the Zaha Hadid Chicago Pavilion, which opened in Millennium Park in August to mark the 100th anniversary of the Burnham Plan. The temporary pavilion was called “a virtuoso display of structure, space and light” by the Chicago Tribune.

Perspectives/IIT Math & Science Academy
The Perspectives/IIT Math & Science Academy opened in 2008 with 270 students in grades 6, 7, and 9. In fall 2010, the student body has grown to more than 600 students in grades 6–11. Eventually, the school will expand to 700 students in grades 6–12 from all over the city.

CSL’s Mathematics and Science Education Department has worked closely with Principal Mary Cummane on planning, curriculum, teacher development, and other matters, helping to make the school successful.

Located near IIT in the Bronzeville community, Perspectives/IIT Math & Science Academy is dedicated to developing critical-thinking skills. It is centered on scientific inquiry and problem solving in math, science, and all subjects. It provides students with a “college for certain” environment, where students are exposed to the possibilities of post-secondary education and required to apply to at least five colleges before graduation.

Museum of Science and Industry
The Mathematics and Science Education Department is working with Chicago’s Museum of Science and Industry to help
Chicago-area middle school teachers to earn their master’s in science education and a middle school science endorsement. It is believed to be the first of its kind in the country, a true master’s program taught jointly by a university and a museum.

About 70 percent of middle school science teachers do not have a science degree or science endorsement. With the new MSI-IIT program, teachers take their pedagogy classes with MSED and their science content and hands-on, inquiry based classes at the Museum of Science and Industry, which should make the program more exciting for the teachers.

“I think the museum offers a place that is more interesting and curious to these teachers,” says Judith Lederman, MSED director of teacher education and associate professor. “It’s a more compelling place, as opposed to the traditional classroom.”

Brookfield Zoo
Brookfield Zoo has more than two million visitors per year. What more might those visitors want to know as they stroll through the zoo—and what might they tell the zoo? Cindy Hood, associate chair and associate professor of computer science, has been leading a series of projects with the zoo to explore such questions.

The projects include IPRO 318: iPhone Learning App to Classify Animals, which received several awards at this spring’s IPROs. They also include a web-based animal observation system, animal social networking from the zoo via Facebook and Twitter, and more.

“Mobile computing devices are changing how we use networks and interact with applications, as well as how we interact with each other,” says Hood. “They have the potential to provide resources to the user—audio, video, etc.—and information about the user and the environment: location, orientation, image, sound.”

This requires new, more-intelligent information and network architecture, as well as a deeper understanding of the interactions between users, environments, applications, and networks.

“The Vertical Farm”
Frank Lockom (CS 4th year) and Claire Simmonds (CIS 4th year) are working with CS Senior Lecturer Matt Bauer on an aquaponics control system for the “vertical farm” in the former Peer Foods factory in Chicago’s Back of the Yards neighborhood.

Aquaponics is the combination of aquaculture (fish farming) and hydroponics (soil-less plant farming). The entire farm uses aquaponics and will be controlled using Lockom’s and Simmonds’s system. They are developing it in a way to be applicable to a variety of aquaculture and hydroponic/horticulture applications.

IIT’s involvement in the farm started as an IPRO with Adjunct Professor Blake Davis, Industrial Technology and Management.
FUTURE: CSL and the Challenges and Opportunities of the 21st Century
With roots stretching back to the 19th century, the College of Science and Letters is working to be ready for—and to help its students be ready for—the challenges and opportunities of the 21st century. The coming years will be an important time for growth in the quality and reputation of the college, including growth in number and caliber of students and faculty.

Continuing the work of the CSL and IIT strategic planning begun two years ago, CSL is developing a vision for leadership as a college of science and letters in a technical university. Based on our traditional strengths and current talents, together with opportunities, we are identifying areas in which we can establish preeminence, and thereby differentiate ourselves. This process is determining how academic programs, research, college operations, even attitudes must shift to support the vision.

In this issue of Sci+Letters, we have focused on the relationship between IIT, CSL and the city of Chicago. We have emphasized the changing nature of the city of Chicago and its transition to global importance. For a college like CSL, the physical city is only one of the communities with which we engage, and the physical city and its evolution becomes a useful metaphor for the communities defined by our research and scholarship, and by higher education in the 21st century.

The structure of most universities and their colleges and departments is largely defined by disciplinary divisions established in the 19th and early 20th centuries—they define the traditional boundaries of our scholarship and the ways in which we educate our students. Yet, in many ways, these traditional divisions no longer reflect the ways in which we carry out our scholarly work, nor do they necessarily reflect the palette of knowledge and skills required for the success of our graduates in the 21st century. As the city changed, the college and its programs must also evolve to reflect this changing environment and its needs.

We are working to redefine our curriculum and requirements such that our students will have a broad range of options that can lead them to a variety of educational, professional and career options after they leave IIT. This must not only encompass the traditional degree tracks that tend to lead either to graduate study in the discipline or to academic or research careers, but also include pathways to multi- and interdisciplinary degrees leading to the professions or to careers in areas as yet unknown to us. Just think back 20 or 30 years, and imagine how many of today’s most demanded talents and skills would have appeared! More so, how many of those most in demand in the past have vanished!

Similarly, in our research and scholarship, we need to create environments that will foster knowledge creation and innovation, not only at the boundaries of the traditional disciplines, but also at their interfaces and in their overlaps. In this regard, research centers and institutes are the key ingredient. They allow research to take place focused on the problem at hand and not encumbered by the barriers between the disciplinary structures that define our organization.

One example in CSL is the Center for Synchrotron Radiation Research and Instrumentation, which brings into focus a broad range of activities centered on Argonne’s Advanced Photon Source—biology, materials science and radiological materials research. Through this center, we are working with longtime partner Argonne on the early stages of a major new nuclear materials research facility at the APS.

Another clear area of strength with tremendous potential is being studied and developed under the working title of “Computation and Decision.” Application of computational techniques is ubiquitous across all the disciplines at IIT. The opportunity to grow cross-disciplinary and multidisciplinary collaborations with consequent cross-fertilization of ideas is huge—both internal to IIT and outside. Fields include science and humanities, psychology, business, political and social science, engineering, and architecture. This has the potential to impact not only our scholarly work and educational programs but also our engagement with the world outside IIT.

These new academic offerings and research directions will enable us to attract the ablest students to be taught by the very best faculty. CSL will grow in reputation and, in turn, will be able to grow in size by attracting increasing numbers of students. We will provide an education distinguished by the options it will offer. Our graduates’ deep knowledge in their core discipline, combined with their ability to communicate across the disciplines and professions, will make them leaders, innovators, and problem solvers.

To help us “work the problems,” CSL has begun to call on alumni and other strategic partners and figure out what makes sense for a college of science and letters in a major technological university in the 21st century. Nearing its 115th year, the college plans to stay true to its strong, practical roots while staking new ground for itself and widening its vision to include global perspective.
CSL NEWS

CSL Holds First Convocation

The College of Science and Letters held its first-ever Convocation to mark the start of the academic year on Friday, August 20, in the Hermann Hall Ballroom. An outdoor reception followed in the Man on a Bench Park. Students received a CSL “Be in Your Element” T-shirt.

“The goal of the event was to engage our incoming students and their families, and welcome back our continuing students, faculty, and staff,” says CSL Dean Russell Betts. “We hope to do this annually going forward.”

More than 150 people gathered for the event, including undergraduate and graduate students, parents, faculty, staff, alumni, members of the CSL board of overseers, and other friends.

They heard talks by a variety of people from the college, including Betts; John Zasadzinski, associate dean and professor of physics; Christena Nippert-Eng, acting chair of the social sciences department and associate professor of sociology; John Tracy, IIT trustee, member of the CSL board, and chief technology officer and senior vice president of Boeing Corp.; Gary Johnson, member of the CSL board and president of the Chicago History Museum; Keenan Gotchall, undergraduate student in political science; and Roger Marz (PS ’52), IIT alumnus, professor emeritus, and artist.

CSL Opens Three New Technology Labs

To help improve faculty and student work, CSL opened three new technology labs this year.

The computers in the Wishnick “Pauling” Chemistry Computer Cluster are used for quantum chemistry calculations and molecular visualization. They are loaded with state-of-the-art software and tools to help students do things like calculate the energy required to form or break chemical bonds, see the 3D structure of molecules, and understand the lock and key binding of enzymes and substrates. Software includes, for example, Gaussian 09 executable, PyMOL, and Avogadro. Previously, the department did not have access to the full versions of all of this software or much to run it on.

The installation is space- and energy-efficient, and it includes a computer projector and screen. Students have a choice of Mac, Windows, or Linux operating systems. Students can also configure the computers so they can remotely see the screen on their iPads. The computer monitors are all 3D stereoscopic capable (using passive polarized glasses, as in 3D-movie theaters). Grant Bunker, professor and associate chair of physics, designed and implemented the lab in collaboration with the chemistry faculty.

The new computer science lab in Stuart Building 108 features 31 iMacs and a server. All desktops are dual-boot Windows/Mac OS X. More than 30 scientific and development tools are installed, including Alice, Eclipse, Matlab, Visual Studio, and Xcode. “The lab is currently being used for a number of undergraduate programming classes, including a new mobile development (iPhone and Android) class that is being offered for the second time this semester,” says Michael Saelee, lab director and computer science senior instructor. “Students are lining up to use the lab outside of regular lab slots, and we’re looking into arranging for a proctor to support that.” More about the lab can be found at www.cs.iit.edu/~cslab.
Support IIT

Dear Fellow Alumni:

When I was first asked to write a letter to encourage alumni to support IIT, I felt a bit reluctant. However, I have been a longtime annual donor to the university and have even volunteered my time on advisory boards. The reason I took on those assignments is that I truly believe, as many of you reading this letter can attest, that IIT prepared me for success in my career. IIT helped form me to succeed in both a career and in life, and I now feel compelled to support IIT as the university helps form a new generation of students.

I recently had lunch with my former advisor, Dr. Martha Evens, who during my days at IIT challenged me to achieve in areas that I had thought would be beyond my abilities. She insisted that I call her Martha, which went against everything I was raised to do when in the presence of someone of her stature. After our lunch, I marveled at just how faculty members like Martha reached out and gave that little extra effort; for example, Martha recognized that part-time students like me did not have a support network of fellow students so she created phone exchanges. The extra efforts by Martha and other faculty members made a tremendous difference in the way I approached my work.

After retiring from Northern Trust in 2006, I’ve had time to reflect on what’s truly important in life. After visiting the campus and meeting some of the university’s former and current professors, I continue to appreciate how IIT helped to both train me in skills that furthered my career and also build my confidence to meet challenges in life. Hopefully, you will join me in supporting IIT in building the next generation of leaders.

Sincerely,

George Gilbert (M.S. CS ’79)
Despite difficult economic times, CSL is fortunate to have made 10 new hires across the disciplines this year, including the humanities chair (p. 6), for a total of 17 new CSL faculty in the past two years. Although this represents only a small growth in the total number of CSL faculty, these talented individuals will enrich the CSL community and help the college to continue to prosper.

Robert Brackett is the new director of IIT’s National Center for Food Safety and Technology and a professor of biology. Brackett has nearly 30 years of experience in scientific research in industry, government, and academia. He most recently served as senior vice president and chief science and regulatory officer for the Grocery Manufacturers Association.

Prior to that, he worked at the United States Food and Drug Administration’s Center for Food Safety and Applied Nutrition. As CFSAN director, he provided executive leadership to CFSAN’s development and implementation of programs and policies relative to the composition, quality, safety, and labeling of foods, food and color additives, dietary supplements, and cosmetics.

Earlier in his career, Brackett held professorial positions with North Carolina State University in Raleigh, and the University of Georgia in both its Department of Food Science and Technology and the Center for Food Safety and Quality Enhancement.

Brackett is a fellow of both the International Association for Food Protection and the American Academy of Microbiology, and a member of the IAFP, Institute of Food Technologists, and the American Society for Microbiology. He has been honored with the FDA Award of Merit, the IAFP President’s Appreciation Award, and most recently, the William C. Frazier Memorial Award for Contributions to Food Microbiology.

New Assistant Professor of Computer Science Mustafa Bilgic completed his Ph.D. this summer at the University of Maryland, College Park. His research areas include machine learning, data mining, active learning, probabilistic graphical models, and visual analytics. His work on active inference won the ACM SIGKDD Best Student Paper Award in 2008.

Daniel Bliss, assistant professor of political science, received his Ph.D. from the University of Illinois at Chicago. His fields of interest are in urban and comparative politics, with a focus on globalization and resistance to globalization, local and regional politics and their continued importance in a globalized age, and related areas.

Libby Hemphill, new assistant professor of technical communication, received her Ph.D. in 2009 from the University of Michigan. Her areas of expertise include social media and networks, virtual teams, joining communities and organizations, and user experience research. Current projects include a National Science Foundation-funded project to study post-docs joining virtual science and engineering teams.

Adam Hock has a joint appointment as an assistant professor of chemistry at IIT and an assistant scientist at Argonne National Laboratory. He received his Ph.D. from Massachusetts Institute of Technology and most recently did post-doctoral work at Harvard University. His research interests include solar energy conversion, catalysis, electronic materials, and chemical structure and bonding.

Lulu Kang, assistant professor of applied mathematics, received her Ph.D. in industrial engineering this year from Georgia Institute of Technology. Research areas include statistical methodologies with applications in engineering, including multivariate interpolation, non-parametric modeling, design and analysis of experiments, computer experiments, Bayesian experimental design, and engineering statistics. She received an award for best student paper at the 2009 Institute for Operations Research and the Management Sciences.

Assistant Professor of Computer Science Ioan Raicu earned his Ph.D. from the University of Chicago in 2009. His research areas include distributed systems, many-task computing, resource management in large-scale distributed systems, data-intensive computing, cloud computing, and many-core computing. His work has been supported by the Department of Energy, NASA, and most recently by a prestigious NSF/CRA Computing Innovation Fellowship.

Pavel Snopok will be joining IIT in a joint appointment as assistant professor of physics at IIT and associate researcher at Fermi National
Accelerator Laboratory (Fermilab). Snopok received his Ph.D. in physics and mathematics from Michigan State University. His research areas include beam physics, accelerator physics, advanced accelerator design and simulation, nonlinear dynamical system analysis, and a range of other topics related to computational physics.

Stephanie Whitney is a new assistant professor in mathematics and science education. She completed her Ph.D. in mathematics education from the University of Minnesota this spring. Her research interests include curriculum design, teacher professional development and student mathematical discourse. She recently worked as part of a collaborative team of university mathematicians, secondary math teachers and mathematics educators to write a middle school mathematics curriculum.

CSL Adds New Board of Overseers Members

Andrew V. Agostini is an IIT trustee as well as a new member of the CSL Board of Overseers. He co-founded and is a principal and chief operating officer of J. L. Woode Ltd., a privately owned investment and real estate development company with offices in Chicago, Charleston, S.C., and Key West, Fla. He develops planned strategies to advance the company’s goals and objectives, and promotes profitability and growth in the organization. He also oversees day-to-day operations in the company.

Prior to J. L. Woode, he worked in the hotel management group of Hilton International. In that role, he traveled across Europe and the Middle East, as well as to Khartoum, Sudan; Dubai, United Arab Emirates; and Trinidad. Previously, he was president and chief operating officer of Jupiter Realty Corporation, a real estate development, investment, and management company.

David Mosena is the sixth president and chief executive officer of Chicago’s Museum of Science and Industry. One of the world’s largest, most popular, and well-known science and technology museums, MSI welcomes an average of 1.5 million guests annually. The museum is currently conducting a $200 million capital campaign to renew its permanent exhibitions, transform its education programs, and reinvent the guest experience.

While at MSI, Mosena also was president of the Giant Screen Theater Association from 2002–05. He served as a member of the China Association of Science and Technology’s Advisory Committee for Beijing’s new National Science and Technology Museum in 2006–09.

Mosena currently serves on the Board of the Association of Science-Technology Centers in Washington, D.C. He also serves as chair of the Metropolitan Pier and Exposition Authority (McCormick Place and Navy Pier), on the Executive Council of Chicago Metropolis 2020, and on the executive committee of Chicago’s After School Matters.

Before his appointment to lead MSI in 1997, Mosena held such roles as president of the Chicago Transit Authority, Chicago Commissioner of Aviation, and Chicago Mayor Richard M. Daley’s Chief of Staff.

Stephanie Whitney is a new assistant professor in mathematics and science education. She completed her Ph.D. in mathematics education from the University of Minnesota this spring. Her research interests include curriculum design, teacher professional development and student mathematical discourse. She recently worked as part of a collaborative team of university mathematicians, secondary math teachers and mathematics educators to write a middle school mathematics curriculum.
**MS Ed’s Lederman Named Fellow of AAAS and AERA**

Norman Lederman, professor and chair of the Mathematics and Science Education Department, was named as a fellow of the American Association for the Advancement of Science, the world’s largest general scientific society and publisher of the journal *Science*. Election as a fellow is an honor bestowed upon AAAS members by their peers in recognition of meritorious efforts to advance science or its applications. Lederman was elected an AAAS fellow for his “distinguished leadership in science education and outstanding research contributions to the understanding of teachers’ knowledge and classroom use of the nature of science.”

Lederman also was selected as a fellow of the American Education Research Association. Founded in 1916, AERA is the most prominent international professional organization for educational research and its application.

**CSL Strengthens UK Science Connections**

Russell Betts, dean of the college and professor of physics, and Grant Bunker, associate chair and professor of physics, received a travel grant from the United Kingdom government through the Chicago British Consulate to help IIT forge new and renewed collaborations between IIT and a number of UK institutions, and indirectly through IIT with Argonne National Laboratory and Fermi National Accelerator Laboratory. IIT representatives visited collaborators at the UK’s Daresbury Laboratory, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Diamond Light Source, and Oxford, Cambridge, Birmingham, Manchester, and York universities.

**Dean’s Excellence Awards**

Dean Betts presented the following awards to faculty and staff at the annual dean’s excellence awards in December 2009: Shuwang Li, assistant professor of applied mathematics, excellence in research, junior faculty; Thomas Bielecki, professor of applied mathematics, excellence in research, senior faculty; Diep Nguyen, senior lecturer of chemistry and director of the professional master’s program in analytical chemistry, excellence in teaching; Ann McBroom, department coordinator for computer science, excellence in staff performance.

**IIT-IBM Cloud Computing Summit**

The Department of Computer Science, led by Professor and Chair Xian-He Sun, and IBM held a daylong forum on Cloud Computing in Academia featuring speakers from IIT, IBM, Northwestern University, and the University of Chicago.

**APS Prairie Section on Campus**

Dean Betts and Physics Professors Christopher White and Carlo Segre organized the annual meeting of the American Physical Society Prairie Section on IIT Main Campus in November. Chris Quigg, acclaimed theoretical physicist at Fermilab, gave a public lecture, “The Coming Revolutions in Particle Physics.”

**Privacy in the Age of Facebook**

Associate Professor of Sociology Christena Nippert-Eng discussed privacy in the age of social networking and ubiquitous surveillance in a number of media, including Chicago Public Radio. Nippert-Eng is the author of the book *Islands of Privacy* (University of Chicago Press, 2010), published this fall.

**NSF Broaden Participation In Computing Camp**

Cynthia Hood, computer science associate professor and associate chair, and Vida Winans, senior instructor, received a National Science Foundation “Broaden Participation in Computing” grant and hosted a computer camp for middle-school girls in July. Students were engaged in hands-on learning to stimulate interest in careers in computers and related technology.
**Sawyer Lecture**

**Art@IIT Mexican Art Exhibit**
Associate Professor of Philosophy Jack Snapper hosted a closing reception and curator’s talk in October for an exhibition of Mexican art, “Etchings from the Taller Punta Seca,” in Galvin Library. The exhibition included such well known artists as Jose Luis Cuevas and Manuel Felguerez.

**XAFS Summer School**
In July, Grant Bunker, associate chair and professor of physics, and the physics division hosted a weeklong summer school in X-ray absorption fine structure spectroscopy for graduate students, post-docs, and other scientists who are new to XAFS and want to use it in their research.

**NIH Cancer Research Funding**
Chemistry Professor Hyun-Soon “Joy” Chong received a grant of $420,000 from the National Institutes of Health for her cancer research, “Development of PET Radiopharmaceuticals Targeting GRP,” through July 2013.

**NSF Ocean Flow Modeling Project**
Jinqiao “Jeffrey” Duan, professor of applied mathematics, is the principal investigator for a new cross-disciplinary, multi-university, $800,000-plus National Science Foundation-funded project, “Ocean Modeling by Bridging Primitive and Boussinesq Equations.” Duan heads a team of applied mathematicians and oceanographers from the University of Chicago, Virginia Tech, and the University of Miami who will share the grant.

**Berkaliev Investigates Mathematics Education**
Zaur Berkaliev, assistant professor of mathematics education, has roles in two research projects funded by the National Science Foundation for $545,000 to help develop better approaches to mathematics education.

**Friedman Leads National PSM Association**
Liz Friedman, program manager of the Professional Science Masters Program, was elected president of the National Professional Science Master’s Association. The group held its annual meeting at IIT Main Campus this fall. Friedman also is an adjunct professor in anthropology in the Department of Social Sciences.

**In Memoriam: Susan Sitton**
CSL mourns the loss of our colleague Susan Sitton (Ph.D. MATH ’76), a faculty member at IIT from 1987-2010, who passed away in August. During her tenure at IIT, she served in several capacities, including assistant professor and associate chair of the Department of Mathematics, associate dean for undergraduate academic affairs, director of institutional research, and assistant provost for retention. She was most recently a senior lecturer of applied mathematics and the ROTC faculty liaison. She is remembered fondly by all who encountered her, and is survived by her husband, three children, and one grandchild. In recognition of Sitton’s service to the university and to honor her memory, a tree was planted on the IIT Main Campus next to Carr Chapel.
Undergraduate Summer Research Stipends and Blog

The College of Science and Letters awarded eight undergraduate students with College of Science and Letters Undergraduate Summer Research Stipends in 2010. Awardees received $5,000 to do 10 weeks of research with a faculty member on campus this summer. This is the fourth year that CSL has awarded summer research stipends, which are funded primarily by the CSL board of overseers, CSL alumni, and the college.

This year, for the first time, the students blogged a bit about their work, describing experiments, noting progress, and providing photos and illustrations as appropriate. View the blog at http://blogs.iit.edu/csl_ug_summer_research.

Research helps students to explore their interests, solve problems, advance knowledge, and prepare for their next step after IIT, whether it be graduate school, medical school, or the workplace.

The 2010 awardees and their faculty sponsors were:

- Keenan Gottschall (PS 3rd year) worked with Matthew Shapiro, assistant professor of political science, on original research about environmental policies and their political determinants in East Asia, with a goal to compare these countries with the United States.

- Jiang Lan (CS 3rd year), under the guidance of Gady Agam, associate professor of computer science, developed a virtual clay software that will allow users to sculpt virtual objects—work that connects to a larger problem of perceptive user interfaces.

- Jeonghun Lee (PHYS, AMAT 4th year) helped Grant Bunker, associate chair and professor of physics, to develop X-ray fluorescence imaging capability at IIT.

- Zhihe Liu (AMAT 2nd year) built math models to find the signal pathways in cancer cells for Shuwang Li, assistant professor of applied mathematics, in a joint project with the research team of Jialiang Xiang, assistant professor of biology.

- Frank Lockom (CS 3rd year) worked with Matthew Bauer, senior lecturer of computer science, to redesign CS100 to improve its alignment to current needs, including the new Distinctive Education efforts.

- Nathan Majernik (PHYS, AMAT 2nd year) worked on improving the efficiency with which tomography can be done at the Materials Research Collaborative Access Team site at Argonne with Carlo Segre, professor of physics, associate dean for admissions, Graduate College, and deputy director of MRCAT.

- Sean Wallace (CIS 3rd year), under the guidance of Matt Bauer, assistant professor of linguistics, worked to develop a tool and protocol to measure hyperarticulated speech and rate its success at correct voice recognition.

- Julia Zaug (CHEM 3rd year) worked in the lab of Brant Cage, assistant professor of chemistry, to synthesize magnetic resonance imaging contract agents and characterize them with nuclear magnetic resonance, with the data gained to be used to optimize NMR/MRI signals.
From Paris with Love: IIT Students Study Abroad

Eleven undergraduates converged on the City of Lights this summer, taking part in the College of Science and Letters’ IIT in Paris study abroad program, June 1–28. They included Xiaofeng Zhuang, Neil Gupta, Khalid Matariyeh, Madeline Jensen, Daria Haznar, Urba Mandrekar, Wenkan Yu, Xiaochen Liu, Jad Jureidini, Katherine Rhee, and Lisa Jackson.

Laura Hosman, assistant professor of political science, and Michael Young, professor of psychology, led the group and taught the two classes offered: Global Political Economy (Hosman) and Case Studies of the Impressionists (Young). Both professors took advantage of the city’s rich resources, scheduling frequent field trips. Highlights included visits to Giverny, the home of Claude Monet in his later years; the Musée D’Orsay, on Paris’s left bank, with a rich collection of Impressionists and post-Impressionists; the UNESCO building; La Grande Arche de la Defense; and the Eiffel Tower.

In addition, students arranged their own full-day visit to the palace and gardens of Versailles, and to the flea markets on the outskirts of Paris. Many also traveled before and/or after the program and on weekends to London, Prague, Rome, Amsterdam, Dublin, and other destinations.

“The Paris program offers an exceptional learning opportunity because the students get to study a topic and experience it as well,” says Young. “For my class we studied the psychology of the Impressionist painters while seeing their works in museums, the places they painted, where they lived, and even their graves.

“Also, there is something very special about living in a place, especially Paris, rather than just being a tourist,” he says. All participants sublet apartments in the city. “You get a very good sense of a culture and lifestyle that is different from what we have in the United States. The fact that the students came from many different countries and cultures themselves added to what we all learned.”

Hosman adds, “The city was just the right location for studying global issues while immersed in an entirely international context, and for focusing on current events of a political and economic nature—like witnessing the protests and large-scale strikes for which the French are known, as they march in demonstrations to make their voices heard.”

Student Gupta calls the program “fun” and “inspiring,” and says it significantly widened his field of vision. “Overall, I think science students tend to stay in one place to focus on research or studies, and they miss the big picture and all the experiences outside their local comfort zone,” he comments. “Before participating in this program, I never considered studying abroad or traveling until after graduating. However, now I realize that such experiences are as valuable as traditional education. If given the opportunity, I would do a program like this again without hesitation.”

Mitch Isoda (AMAT 4th year) made the list of leading scorers in the recent Virginia Tech Regional Mathematics Competition, only the second time an IIT student has done so. Also scoring well were IIT undergraduates Anil Vasireddi (BME 3rd year), Hannah Kolb (AMAT 4th year) and Kunlun Guo (AMAT 2nd year). In all, there were 502 competitors. Princeton University, Duke University, Harvey Mudd College, and the University of Maryland were among the 84 participating schools.

Stephanie Harmon (PHYS 3rd year) received a fellowship from the American Association of Physicists in Medicine to do research this summer with Konstantinos Arfanakis, IIT associate professor of biomedical engineering. She focused on using diffusion tensor imaging to study possible differences in the fractional anisotropy of brain tissue in elderly patients with high/low brain inflammation.

Matthew Beck (PHYS 3rd year) was awarded a $5,000 Department of Energy Nuclear Energy University Programs scholarship for the 2010–11 academic year.
The 2010 Darsh T. Wasan Lecture speaker was Susan Solomon (CHEM ’77), who presented “A Tale for Our Times: Something for Everyone about Climate Change and the Reasons for Climate Gridlock” to a large crowd in Hermann Hall on October 13.

Earlier, she spoke with chemistry students and others from CSL about her experiences at IIT and beyond, and encouraged them to follow their research interests. Some attendees met Solomon last year when she was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame in Seneca Falls, NY.

Solomon is a senior scientist at the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration in Boulder, Colo. She received her Ph.D. from University of California, Berkeley in 1981.

Solomon is widely recognized as one of the leaders in the field of atmospheric science. She is well known for having pioneered the theory explaining why the ozone hole occurs over Antarctica, as well as having obtained some of the first chemical measurements that helped to establish the chlorofluorocarbons as the cause of this depletion.

Solomon received the National Medal of Science, which is the highest scientific honor in the United States, as well as numerous other awards. She shared the 2007 Nobel Peace Prize in her role as co-chair of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change.

In speaking with the CSL group, Solomon called her trips to Antarctica on NOAA missions "staggeringly fascinating" and the best scientific experiences of her life. She recalled becoming interested in atmospheric chemistry while a student at IIT—"I thought it was the greatest thing," she said—and she encouraged students to weigh new versus old areas of research.

She recalled how the late Chemistry Professor George Brubaker, knowing of her interest, pointed...
and is now a professor emeritus, introduced Solomon. He recalled how department members spotlighted her promise right away, and committed themselves to making sure she would stay. When she did research with Professor Dave Gutman, he came to Filler and said, “Susan is so good—she’s going to go a long way.”

“I remembered her when she was 17,” he said afterwards. “I could not be more proud of her.”

Solomon also talked about how important it is for students to be rooted in the fundamental disciplines like chemistry or physics, and then be interdisciplinary. “Doing the fundamentals now is the best thing you can do,” she said. “You’ll build on that in graduate school.” Funny and down to earth, Solomon was very interested in the students, and they in her.

Bob Filler, who was chair and dean during the years Solomon was a chemistry student, out to her a fellowship opportunity at the National Center for Atmospheric Research—a fellowship she secured and that set her on her career path. “I benefited a lot from the fact that IIT was a small school,” she said. “I could talk to the professors.”

CSL Alumni Win IIT Alumni Awards
Again this year, several alumni in the sciences and letters received accolades at the spring IIT Alumni Awards.

Andrea Berry (CS ’84) received a Professional Achievement Award. She is senior vice president, broadcast operations for Fox Networks Group, leading the team that makes sure many live TV shows are well executed on the air. Berry has broadcast high-profile live events such as the Super Bowl, the World Series, the Olympics, and political conventions. Her honors include several Emmy Awards for outstanding technical team remote in sports. Berry was the 2010 IIT Commencement speaker.

The late Sidney Coleman (PHYS ’57) received a Lifetime Achievement Award. A “physicists’ physicist,” Coleman was a giant in theoretical physics who influenced Nobel Prize-winning research. He was a Donner Professor of Science at Harvard University. Coleman’s compelling teaching style and remarkable theories drew crowds to his lectures. His 1985 book *Aspects of Symmetry: Selected Erice Lectures* is a classic in the field.

Watts Humphrey (M.S. PHYS ’50) received a Professional Achievement Award. Known as the “Father of Software Quality,” he developed the industry-changing processes that have helped software developers to predictably create efficient, error-free software. In 2003, he received the National Medal of Technology and Innovation from President George W. Bush. Humphrey is the author of numerous articles and 12 books. Sadly, Humphrey died this fall at age 83.

Loretta Moore (M.S. CS ’86, Ph.D. ’91), chair of the computer science department at Jackson State University, received a Professional Achievement Award. She is both a researcher and a leader in efforts to increase the number of African Americans with Ph.D.s in computer science. After working for AT&T Bell Laboratories, Moore entered academia and has played a principal role in research with the Department of Homeland Security, the National Science Foundation, and National Aeronautics and Space Administration, among other organizations.

Paul Wattelet (PHYS ’62), who received a Professional Achievement Award, had a 38-year career in the energy industry, which included serving as chief executive officer for Sargent & Lundy. Under his leadership, the firm developed new opportunities in nuclear, fossil, and alternative energy plants. Wattelet holds a Ph.D. in nuclear engineering from Purdue University.
Martinez Wins IIT 2010 Staff Excellence in Service Award

The College of Science and Letters’ Diana Martinez, executive assistant to the dean, won this year’s IIT Staff Excellence in Service Award for outstanding performance. Winners are non-faculty who provide distinguished service to the university community, serve as role models, and exemplify IIT’s spirit by going above and beyond what is expected of them.

Martinez was described as the “go-to person for just about everything related to the operations of the college and the individual departments of which it is composed” and “essential to the smooth functioning of the large, complex academic unit.”

Martinez began working at IIT in 1993 as a temporary employee, performing data entry in Armour College of Engineering. She accepted a full-time position later that year as an administrative associate in the Army ROTC unit and since then has worked as assistant to the chief scientist at IITRI, budget manager in the provost’s office, and in 2004 moved to her current position as executive assistant to the CSL dean.

UPCOMING EVENTS

FIFTH ANNUAL IIT KARL MENGER LECTURE AND AWARD
April 4, 2011
IIT Main Campus

The featured speaker will be Peter Winkler, professor of mathematics, professor of computer science, and Albert Bradley Third Century Professor in the Sciences, Dartmouth College.

RSVP to Gladys Collins, 312.567.8980, or collinsg@iit.edu.