Visionaries.

Change Makers.

Innovators.
How should innovation be defined in the twenty-first century? Has the word become a synonym for “anything that is new”—or should it be reserved for something more? Something like the portable cell phone, barcode technology, and the wireless remote control—products that fundamentally change how we live, work, and even think.

Does change need to be wide reaching for the product or process that caused it to earn the right to be called innovative? Can smaller, sometimes subtle advances in specialized fields, taken separately and together, themselves be called innovations—the necessary prerequisites that make the major breakthroughs possible?

For nearly 125 years, IIT has been fueling innovation, major breakthroughs, and specialized advances through the scholarship of our faculty and the accomplishments of our students and alumni. As one of Chicago’s leading research universities, we are motivated to create what does not currently exist—and our graduates have a strong track record of developing products, algorithms, processes, and prototypes that have changed the world. The portable cell phone, barcode technology, and the wireless remote control were developed by IIT-educated engineers. Many of us cannot imagine what life was like without them—and today’s children cannot imagine a world in which they never existed.

Our accomplishments are evident in our faculty and graduates, who are recognized innovators and game-changers in highly specialized fields. One of our faculty members is part of a team that is developing a process to regenerate human bones—using the collagen found in dinosaur bones. Another is trying to connect tweets and posts from around the world to discover commonalities in global conversations across borders. An IIT law professor is looking at Facebook through a different lens—and its potential impact on our legal system.

IIT is a university that has fueled innovation for nearly 125 years. The list of life-changing products associated with our faculty and graduates is long and significant—and the research of these individuals has also made possible major breakthroughs in architecture, law, design, psychology, business, engineering, the humanities, science, and applied technology.

We are committed to continuing to educate the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs, and problem solvers—and to be known as the university whose innovative thinking is expected. In fact, it is demanded.

This is an exciting moment for all of us in the IIT community. We need your support in this campaign to make it possible to educate the next generation of young men and women whose innovative and entrepreneurial spirit, as well as their technological savvy, concern for the environment, and passion for social justice, will improve the well-being of our citizens and drive our economy. Your gift to this campaign will be a statement about the power and value of an IIT education—and its ability to change the world.

John L. Anderson
President
And IIT is where
the next generation of innovators
is making history.
Because someone believes in them, they know anything is possible.
Taylor Harvey
Sociology 3rd year

Taylor is helping to nurture the next generation of Web developers and designers.

“Nothing can compare to the feeling I get when I see empowered students passionately talking about overcoming challenges on the way to creating a product they could be proud of,” says Taylor, co-founder of MonkeyBars, a company that organizes the IIT Hackathon and other tech events.
Because someone believes in them, they know anything is possible.
Because they look at the world through a different lens, they believe they can change the world.
Wenyuan Qi
Electrical and Computer Engineering
Graduate Student

Wenyuan is researching new methods to combat cardiac disease, the leading cause of death in the United States.

“Our team’s method can be directly implemented in clinical imaging instruments, and can shorten the imaging time and reduce radiation dosage in nuclear medicine,” says Wenyuan. An international student from China, he is studying signal and image processing at IIT’s renowned Medical Imaging Research Center at Pritzker Institute of Biomedical Science and Engineering.
Because they look at the world through a different lens, they believe they can change the world.
When they are ready to take the next step, there is no stopping them.
Carolina Verdial

Architecture 4th year

Carolina seeks ways to strategically plan for large-scale urban environments of the future.

“Scenarios are successful and effective in urban design since they can create multiple visions of the future and increase the quality of an urban space,” says Carolina. Her poster “Scenario Planning in Architecture and Urban Design”—which considered uncommon but plausible futures that creatively integrate architecture, infrastructure, and the landscape—won a first-place award in IIT’s 2012 Undergraduate Research Day.
When they are ready to take the next step, there is no stopping them.
They are the Change Makers.
They are the Innovators.

They are here.
Today. @IIT.

*Fueling Innovation at IIT* is the story of a university where the next generation of difference makers continues to push boundaries. A university where entrepreneurship, imagination, determination, and hard work combine to form an atmosphere in which those who look at the world through a different lens can thrive. A place where new ways to solve problems never become old.
When the two of us were asked to take on the responsibility of co-chairing Fueling Innovation: The Campaign for IIT, we didn’t hesitate before saying yes. This university helped make us who we are today, and we knew this was our chance to give back to a place that challenged us academically and cared about us as individuals.

We both graduated in 1971 but majored in different areas: mathematics and engineering. Our careers also took us in different directions, but what kept us connected were our ties to IIT. As alumni, we are proud of our rigorous IIT education and that the value of an IIT degree remains strong.

There was a time when we were uncertain about the future for IIT. But under the leadership of President John Anderson, whose financial steadiness and well-defined strategic plan have transformed the university, the vision for IIT’s future is clear. The next few years are critical. And Fueling Innovation: The Campaign for IIT is the fulcrum of that future.

A lot has changed at IIT since we graduated—and those very positive changes have transformed the university and the South Side neighborhood that has been its home for more than a century. But there are some things about IIT that have not changed. A firm commitment to academic excellence. The expectation that students will embrace and be prepared for change. An understanding that hard work, determination, and persistence are prerequisites for success. An appreciation for teamwork as well as individual initiative. And a willingness to tackle some of the world’s toughest problems with design-centered, entrepreneurial, innovative thinking.

As members of the Board of Trustees, we are excited about where our university is going, and we believe IIT graduates of today are going to be the entrepreneurs, innovators, and leaders in an increasingly global economy. And as supporters of this great institution, we also want to ensure that IIT has the resources it deserves and needs to attract acclaimed researchers, world-renowned faculty, and talented students.

That’s why we are so committed to achieving the $250 million goal for this campaign. IIT matters, the work here makes a difference in the world, and we need to provide the fuel to propel the university even further.

Thousands of alumni and friends have already responded generously. IIT students and faculty are benefiting from new endowed chairs, scholarships and fellowships, and improved facilities. We have an opportunity before us to make an even greater impact with increased funding for research and scholarships, more faculty support, and revitalized core campus buildings with improved classrooms and laboratories. And the transformational new Innovation Center will be a resounding statement about the value IIT places on innovation and creativity.

We invite you to join us and help fuel the innovation that is taking place at Illinois Institute of Technology. Your support is a statement of belief in the university and will help move IIT into the ranks of the world’s best innovation-centered, technology-focused universities.

Sincerely,

Joel Krauss (MATH ’71)
Bud Wendorf (ME ’71)
Innovation comes from extraordinary people
Narrowing the gap by taking high-tech ideas to low-tech communities.

Indrani Medhi (DSGN ’05)

Indrani recognized a need in her home country of India, where those who cannot read miss crucial information from the Internet about job opportunities, health, and finances. Determined to find a solution, she devised technology interfaces so that low-literate users can use computers meaningfully.

Forget a thousand. Our pictures paint a million words.

Miles Wernick
Motorola Endowed Chair in Engineering Professor, Biomedical Engineering and Electrical and Computer Engineering

Miles and his colleagues at IIT Medical Imaging Research Center at Pritzker Institute of Biomedical Science and Engineering are engineering new imaging devices, procedures, and approaches that are making X-rays a thing of the past. Their high-resolution images could be the keys to safer, earlier, and more accurate detection of diabetes, prostate and breast cancer, heart disease, Alzheimer’s disease, and traumatic brain injury.
“Endowed chair funds serve as the spark to ignite new initiatives and develop new ideas. These funds are the lifeblood of cutting-edge research. In short, they make innovation possible.”

—Miles Wernick, Motorola Endowed Chair in Engineering

**Campaign Initiative
Pursue Answers to Society’s Urgent Challenges**

Attracting, retaining, and supporting faculty is critical to the future of IIT. Gifts to the campaign will create 20 new endowed chairs, attracting the best educators and providing needed support for research and teaching initiatives. Gifts for graduate and professional fellowships help ensure that the best students in key disciplines will choose to come to IIT. IIT faculty and students are involved in research that is changing our world in limitless ways. Campaign gifts will accelerate the pace of those discoveries, creating opportunities to find more immediate answers to the world’s most pressing problems.

**Ron Staudt**
Professor, IIT Chicago-Kent College of Law

As the director of the Center for Access to Justice & Technology, Ron sees the Internet as a way to make information more available for those who represent themselves—and as a tool for legal advocates and pro bono volunteers committed to serving the public good.
Innovation is driven by passion.
The IIT educational experience is distinguished by programs that leverage core knowledge through creativity and innovation in an interdisciplinary, collaborative approach. The *Fueling Innovation* campaign presents an opportunity to broaden the impact of programs such as the Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, the Entrepreneurship Academy, and other special programs that create a campus culture of creativity and collaboration.

### Campaign Initiative

**Build IIT’s Distinctive Academic Programs and Campus Experience**

Finding an unlikely partner in the search for a cure: cancer itself.

**Jialing Xiang**

Associate Professor, Biology

Jialing’s research team discovered a powerful tumor suppressor found only in cancer cells, suggesting the possibility that sick cells can generate a previously unknown protein that might have the ability to stop tumors from growing. The discovery may open doors for new ways to treat cancer.

The IIT educational experience is distinguished by programs that leverage core knowledge through creativity and innovation in an interdisciplinary, collaborative approach. The *Fueling Innovation* campaign presents an opportunity to broaden the impact of programs such as the Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, the Entrepreneurship Academy, and other special programs that create a campus culture of creativity and collaboration.
Unlocking the meaning of gurgles and warbles.

Jennifer Miller
Assistant Professor, Psychology

Jennifer wants to know how communication develops and then how it is shaped by social interaction. Her research subjects are infants and songbirds—and what she learns from gurgles, coos, and warbles can give us new insight into how we talk to, listen to, and understand each other.

Investing the philosophical way.

John P. Calamos Sr.
(ECON ’63, M.B.A. ’70)

As the founder, CEO and global co-chief investment officer of a $32 billion global asset management firm, John Calamos has to make incisive decisions and take smart risks every single day.

Calamos Investments continues to be an innovator in asset management, pioneering the use of convertible securities and alternative investments as well as delivering many top-ranked funds for more than thirty-five years. Calamos credits much of his creative and analytical thinking prowess to the finance and philosophy courses he took at IIT.
Innovation is the prerequisite for progress
Britt Burton-Freeman
Assistant Professor Research in Biology
Institute for Food Safety and Health

Britt and her research team are studying the benefits and roles of food and food components in the fight against life-threatening diseases. Recent findings suggest compounds in strawberries and tomatoes can reduce chronic inflammation, which is linked to heart disease, osteoporosis, Alzheimer’s disease, diabetes, and arthritis.

Serving up big health solutions in a small piece of fruit.

Engineering a new spacecraft for next-generation space exploration.

Jason Tenenbaum (AE ’07)

Jason works as a mission operations engineer for a private company that designs, manufactures, and launches advanced rockets and spacecraft. He helped to complete the rigorous testing and analysis that NASA required in order for his company to launch Dragon, a brand-new spacecraft, which made the first commercially produced cargo flight to the International Space Station in 2012.
Safeguarding cyberspace with smarter security and forensics.

William Lidinsky
Industry Professor, Information Technology and Management

Bill is an in-demand cybersleuth and expert witness whose lab teaches methods of outwitting cybercriminals. His research studies the proliferating methods that cybercriminals use to inflict mayhem, which includes swiping personal data, industrial secrets, and billions of dollars in cash.

Rethinking design to help make food deserts green.

Katherine Darnstadt (ARCH ’05)
Katherine solves architectural problems in breakthrough ways. When the firm she founded was asked to address a food desert on the South Side of Chicago, she designed a bus—not a building—to provide the best solution. Her firm converted an old Chicago Transit Authority bus into a mobile grocery store packed with produce.

Campaign Initiative
Open the Door to a Twenty-first Century Education

The campaign will dramatically increase accessibility to an IIT education for talented students. Increased endowed and expendable scholarships will attract more high-achieving students from across the nation, including those from under-represented communities. This increased access will produce more graduates with the critically needed STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, and Mathematics), professional, and leadership skills that our global economy demands.
Innovation is powered by imagination.
“The new Innovation Center promises to be an investment in both the education offered at IIT and the future of Chicago. It will help unlock the potential of thousands of students while providing Chicago businesses with a pipeline of new products, processes, and talented graduates to hire.”

—Rahm Emanuel, Mayor, City of Chicago
July 19, 2012

The 100,000-square-foot Innovation Center will be a highly visible statement of IIT’s commitment to creativity. The first academic building to be built on campus in more than 40 years, the $40 million Innovation Center will create a hub for IIT’s innovation and entrepreneurship programs including our landmark Interprofessional Projects (IPRO) Program, Idea Shop, Leadership Academy, and Entrepreneurship Academy. Serving also as a home to the world-class IIT Institute of Design, it will bring together all the creative elements of an IIT education.
Campaign Initiative

Revitalize Core Campus Buildings

IIT’s world-renowned Mies van der Rohe-designed campus is an inspiring setting in which to learn. Campaign initiatives will provide needed renovations to classrooms and laboratories throughout campus, transforming them into spaces designed to encourage scientific inquiry and innovative and entrepreneurial thinking.

Campaign Initiative

Grow Resources for Strategic and Operational Capability

Through the Strategic Initiatives Fund and other annual support, your gift can touch all aspects of the university. IIT President John Anderson relies on the support of unrestricted gifts to give the university flexibility to respond to existing needs and emerging challenges. These gifts allow for immediate action, ensuring the excellence of all educational and research endeavors, and help realize the university’s full potential.

“IT’s core classroom and laboratory buildings have supported more than five decades of student and faculty learning and research. We must now work toward a vision that re-imagines the traditional laboratory/classroom environment to allow creativity and innovation to flourish.”

—Alan Cramb, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

Fueling Innovation: The Campaign for IIT seeks to raise $250 million to support initiatives of Illinois Institute of Technology. Join us as we look forward and go beyond the ordinary to be the university where innovation continues to thrive for generations to come.

For more on how IIT students, faculty, and alumni are fueling innovation, and how you can support this campaign, please visit fuelinginnovation.iit.edu.
How should innovation be defined in the twenty-first century? Has the word become a synonym for “anything that is new”—or should it be reserved for something more—something like the portable cell phone, barcode technology, and the wireless remote control—products that fundamentally change how we live, work, and even think. Does change need to be wide-reaching for the product or process that caused it to earn the right to be called innovative? Can smaller, sometimes subtle advances in specialized fields, taken separately and together, themselves be called innovations—the necessary prerequisites that make the major breakthroughs possible?

For nearly 125 years, IIT has been fueling innovation, major breakthroughs and specialized advances through the scholarship of our faculty and the accomplishments of our students and alumni. As one of Chicago’s leading research universities, we are motivated to create what does not currently exist—and our graduates have a strong track record of developing products, algorithms, processes, and prototypes that have changed the world. The portable cell phone, barcode technology, and the wireless remote control were developed by IIT-educated engineers. Many of us cannot imagine what life was like without them—and today’s children cannot imagine a world in which they never existed.

Our accomplishments are evident in our faculty and graduates, who are recognized innovators and game-changers in highly specialized fields. One of our faculty members is a member of a team that is developing a process to regenerate human bones using the collagen found in dinosaur bones. Another is trying to connect tweets and posts from around the world to discover commonalities in global conversations across borders. An IIT law professor is looking at Facebook through a different lens—and its potential impact on our legal system.

IIT is a university that has fueled innovation for nearly 125 years. The list of life-changing products associated with our faculty and graduates is long and significant—and the research of these individuals has also made possible major breakthroughs in architecture, law, psychology, business, engineering, the humanities, science, and applied technology.

We are committed to continue to educate the next generation of innovators, entrepreneurs, and problem solvers—and to be known as the university where innovative thinking is expected. In fact, it is demanded.

This is an exciting moment for all of us in the IIT community. We need your support in this campaign to make it possible to educate the next generation of young women and men whose innovative and entrepreneurial spirit, as well as their technological savvy, concern for the environment, and passion for social justice, will improve the well-being of our citizens and drive our economy. Your gift to this campaign will be a statement about the power and value of an IIT education—and its ability to change the world.

John L. Anderson
President