We are a new IIT. It is evident in the vibrant landscaping, the new campus buildings and the buzz of our students on campus. The fresh spirit, dedication and commitment to improving the university and moving determinedly into the future are apparent across every sidewalk and around the corner of each building. The hard work of Lew Collens and others has come to fruition. Poised on the 80th anniversary of Psychology at IIT and our 10th anniversary as the Institute of Psychology, we are undertaking a process to review our progress, refresh and chart our course for the future, and plan for our anniversary celebration.

In the coming months, we will be working with the faculty and Psychology Board to reaffirm and rework our priorities. We will link our anniversary plans with our strategic objectives for the next 5-10 years.

Psychology has come a long way since 1926 when Lewis Institute awarded the first undergraduate degree, to 1995-1996 when Psychology became a free standing Institute, to the present. This is a wonderful opportunity to reunite alumni, tell our story, and build excitement and support for our ambitious faculty chair endowments in Industrial/ Organizational and Rehabilitation Psychology. We would like our 2006 anniversary year to be meaningful for all of our alumni, faculty, students and friends. This is the perfect time for our alumni network to expand and include more of you than ever before. If you have memories to share, time to volunteer, or ideas about how you would like to celebrate in the coming year, please let us know.

This past winter, we were sad to say goodbye to Jennifer Walden, who, as office coordinator, contributed to the smooth operation of the Psych office and helped us all get our work done efficiently. Jennifer relocated to Ohio with her now fiancé Kevin whom we also miss. We extend our thanks and wishes of success to both of them. Sean Layman, who has been the Psych administrative assistant, has now assumed the position of Institute Coordinator. Sean worked closely with Jennifer, and we are fortunate to have this continuity in the Psych office.

We are pleased that we have Midori Kukubo from Shiga near Kyoto, Japan. She is a visiting professor from Ritsumeikan University in Japan. Her field of research is Social Psychology with an emphasis on Leadership. She is with us here at IIT until next Spring. In the fall, Patricia Bach will be formally joining the clinical faculty. She was here on a one-year appointment and is now a regular full time tenure track professor. Her interests are in acceptance commitment therapy and research. Patrick Corrigan, whom many may know from his work on stigma at the University of Chicago and Northwestern university, will also be joining us in the fall as a member of the Rehabilitation faculty.

We invite all Psychology alumni to visit campus, and encourage you to do so while the campus is in bloom. This is a glorious season to enjoy IIT, and if you haven’t been here for years – or decades – we promise that you will be proud of the changes. Let us know if you can visit, and we will be pleased to provide a tour and personal update on the campus and the Institute of Psychology. We hope that thoughts of an anniversary year inspire you to help build a vital network of Psychology alumni and friends.
It is invigorating and challenging for the Psychology Board of Overseers to continue dialogue on how best to forward and meet the needs and interests of the Institute of Psychology. The Institute’s objectives are to:

- grow the undergraduate program
- enhance the visibility of graduate programs
- increase development efforts
- enhance university and corporate networks
- endow two faculty chairs

The Board is committed to supporting these objectives now and in the future.

The commitment of the Board to working with Psychology in building its stature and stability is evidenced by the fact that over 70% of current Board members are charter members. This is an impressive figure.

This means that a large majority of the Board has a ten-year history learning about the Institute and advising Psychology leadership. This is especially significant as we anticipate the 10th anniversary of the Institute of Psychology. The long-term strategic guidance and financial support to which the Board is committed enhances the credibility of the Institute. At the same time, the diverse background and interests of the Board reflect the broad appeal of Psychology.

As we move into summer, the Board will continue its efforts to solidify a shared view of the strengths and weaknesses of Psychology. This is integral to all board work, and ensures that the activity of the Psychology Board is both productive and most effective in supporting the Institute.

The Board will also reflect on Psychology within the context of IIT. We have observed that the strengths and weaknesses of Psychology often mirror those of the larger institution. Like IIT, Psychology exists in a state that is continually, although ever decreasingly, fragile, with challenges in undergraduate enrollment, resource constraints and an underdeveloped alumni network. Psychology has struggled to build a greater institutional presence. One of the gems of IIT, Psychology does not always receive the recognition and attention it deserves, a matter about which we need to be proactive.

Devising strategies for addressing Psychology potential and capitalizing on its strengths is the primary task for the Board. The small size of the program and excellent scholarship packages are central in improving undergraduate enrollment, as are the efforts of Jack Spani, Psychology recruiter. Psychology boasts solid programs in the context of a growing professional field and market, nationally ranking # 5 in Rehabilitation Counseling and # 13 in Industrial/Organization Psychology. Additionally, Psychology faculty and staff play key roles outside of Psychology within the larger university: Leadership Academy (Fisher), Institutional Review Board (Sher, Morris, Hopkins and Bard), Quality of Life Committee (Lezotte), university governance (Young) are a few of the key university tasks that require solid skills sets and to which Psychology faculty contribute significantly.

For the Board, however, the most inspiring achievement of Psychology is its substantial accomplishments with few resources. While the Board’s objectives for the coming year include developing the alumni network, promoting partnerships and supporting faculty accomplishments, the most essential task for the Board continues to be improving development capacities and our initiatives to complete the faculty chair endowments, provide faculty resources and increase student support.

We plan to leverage our 80 years as a degree-granting component of the University and our decade anniversary as an Institute to add new momentum to our efforts. In the coming months, the Board will be working to creatively interweave recognition of our myriad accomplishments and inviting you to celebrate our successes and toast our future.
After she started working in rehabilitation, with a BS in Rehabilitation Counseling from the University of Wisconsin-Madison, Deborah (Slowinski) Crown realized how important a Masters degree was for professional advancement in the field. She attended classes at night, year round, and worked full-time days to obtain her degree. Many of her classmates also worked while they were full-time students. “Discussions were very interesting,” she remembers, “because people were bringing work experiences to the classroom. Talking about real-life situations made learning much more meaningful.”

Crown received her Masters in Rehabilitation Counseling Psychology from IIT in 1988. The work that she does now, after fourteen years at the Rehabilitation Institute of Chicago (RIC), is different than it was when she started. As Director of Vocational Rehabilitation Services, Deborah’s job is mostly managerial and less direct client service. Deborah works with RIC’s many partners, including employers and physicians that generate referrals for in-patient services at RIC’s flagship facility, and out-patient services at its day rehab facilities. RIC receives about 500 referrals a year, and its five counselors collectively manage approximately 300 cases at a time.

Deborah started her career at Seguin Services working with people with developmental disabilities, followed by a stint with CARES in brain injury rehabilitation. While at the Institute of Psychology, she completed an internship with Rehabilitation Achievement Centers in Chicago, which was later acquired by RIC. “Dr. Chow Lam supervised my internship,” says Deborah, “and the flexibility with which Psychology managed to integrate my internship with my previous work experience was definitely a positive experience.”

RIC generally has at least one Masters level intern working in vocational rehabilitation. While at the Institute of Psychology, she completed an internship with Rehabilitation Achievement Centers in Chicago, which was later acquired by RIC. “Dr. Chow Lam supervised my internship,” says Deborah, “and the flexibility with which Psychology managed to integrate my internship with my previous work experience was definitely a positive experience.”

Interns are assigned a case load according to client needs and staff availability. “It is important that RIC staff are able to provide both a sufficient case load and adequate supervision to give students a good learning experience. Interns work in vocational evaluation, rehabilitation counseling, vocational case management and job placement – basically all facets of direct service,” she adds.

One of RIC’s eight counselors, Mindi Belmont, Rehabilitation Counseling Psych MS 1998, also started her affiliation with RIC as an intern. Actually, she did two internships at RIC, one in rehabilitation counseling and one in assistive technology, a good fit with her specialization in rehabilitation technology. Mindi came to IIT after completing her BS at UW-Madison because she wanted to live in Chicago and was attracted by the small class sizes at IIT. There are a limited number of education opportunities in rehabilitation counseling, she notes, putting the Institute of Psychology at the top of her list. “My internships were an opportunity to build skills on the job,” says Mindi. “A visit evolved into an internship, and the internships evolved into a job.”

Most Rehabilitation alumni work for state or federal vocational rehabilitation programs.

Clinical program alumni work in settings ranging from public mental health facilities through private practice, consulting, academia and hospitals.

I/O alumni work in manufacturing, health, service, software, finance and government. Of Ph.D.s, 17.5% own their own consulting firms and 27% work for consulting firms.
Taking Psychology on the Road
Recruiting Comments from Jack Spani

In the fall and early spring I do a lot of traveling, visiting high schools and presenting in classrooms. It can be a physically demanding and emotionally draining experience. But every now and then you hear from a student whose life you have changed and it makes it all worthwhile.

Recently I had the privilege of visiting Ft. Zumwalt High School in O’Fallon, Mo. They were having a career fair that was a little different than your typical fair. It was set up like little round table discussion groups and each career had a table and every 15 minutes a new group of students would come sit at your table and listen to you speak and then they would ask questions.

For me, this was going to be just another fair at the end of a very tough week of visits. I had spent a rather fitful night in a motel on the side of a busy highway and had gotten up extra early to be sure to be at the fair on time. I was already dreading the 5-hour drive back to Chicago. Needless to say, I thought it was going to be a bad day.

I arrived at the high school early, put on my best smile and walked inside. The greeting I received was incredible. The guidance counselors were waiting for me and eagerly showed me to their office. They had a folder of information for me about the day’s events and they had some great refreshments. They told me that the students were very excited to meet with me. In fact, I had more students signed up to speak with me than any other career being represented that day.

After the orientation, I was shown to my table in the cafeteria. Shortly after that, a stream of bright, excited students entered and came to talk to me. One group after another filed to my table and listened raptly and asked insightful questions. Their energy couldn’t help but rub off on me and I felt invigorated for the rest of the day.

After I returned to the office the following week, I had a letter waiting for me. It was from the students I had talked to just the other day. It included notes like “I didn’t know there were so many opportunities for psychologists out there!” and “Your session helped me to realize that I need to think of which branch of psychology I’d like to go into.” And “I am happy to say I will think of you (the Institute of Psychology) when I’m at the point where I must choose (a college).” “Your presentation was very beneficial, and I hope you get to come back and speak to next year’s class.”

What I do is not just about getting people to come to IIT’s Institute of Psychology, it’s about helping kids think about their future and face it fully aware of their options. It is students like these that make doing what I do worthy. I am greatly looking forward to going back to Ft. Zumwalt next year.

Work Experience Builds Enthusiasm and Skills

“I realized I didn’t know how much I had learned in my classes until I was in the field,” reflects Dorine Spencer, a Psych student working toward her MS in Rehabilitation Counseling. “I’m excited now.”

Spencer was employed as a social worker before she entered the Rehabilitation program at Psych, and, because she is blind, has worked through the challenges of being a full-time student, noting that it will take her a couple extra semesters to complete the work that usually takes four, but that she is committed to the effort. In addition to the different approach that her classroom work entails, she worked with Psych faculty and Thresholds staff to design a practicum that would reflect how she is able to work at a rehabilitation service agency. Because of her blindness, says Dorine, doing fieldwork would be impractical, but she has built a full schedule of working with consumers one-on-one at the residential home, in small groups and during clubhouse meetings.

In addition to spending an eight-hour day in Thresholds’ residential Dorchester House, Spencer attends staff meetings, where she gives valuable feedback from her sessions with consumers to Thresholds case workers. She also participates in house meetings with residents. Her practicum experience is well-tailored to her goal of working with mental illness.

“If you want to learn how to do this, go to Thresholds,” Dorine says. “Because you’ll have to work, and that’s how you learn.”

Spencer is impressed with the sense of history that exists because of Psych’s long-standing relationship with Thresholds. The opportunity to continue the partnership between the agency and Psych’s Rehabilitation program, she notes, is “wonderful,” and part of what adds tremendous value to the educational experience at the Institute of Psychology.
Partnerships Provide Opportunity

In addition to producing highly trained I/O psychologists and clinicians, the Institute of Psychology is preparing rehabilitation counselors who are well-prepared to move into careers in a wide variety of agencies and mental-health care settings.

Mental illness is a disease that affects us all. One in four Americans—people of all races, incomes and social strata—will suffer from some form of mental illness in their lifetime.

Patients with mental illnesses fill more hospital beds per year than patients with heart disease, lung disease, and cancer combined.

“An investment in the education of talented, enthusiastic future psychologists,” says M. Ellen Mitchell, Director, “has benefits that extend to individuals, organizations, agencies, and their clients - throughout Chicago and across the country.”

Partnerships with nonprofit agencies, corporations and other academic institutions are an integral part of learning opportunities for Psychology students. Partnerships often start with internships, and develop into relationships where agency staff become students at Psych, external experts speak to Psych students, collaborations and letters of support are generated for grant-funded projects and job opportunities are available for Psych graduates.

Industrial/Organization students train, hands-on, to work in the business world. Clinical students complete a practicum at the conclusion of their Ph.D. work through a national competition for internship sites.

In Rehabilitation Psychology, students work as case managers at agencies, doing counseling while completing their practicum. This is their chance to learn in the real world, says Dr. John Hilburger, Associate Clinical Professor, “and to practice their counseling skills.”

“Looking for new internship opportunities is an ongoing part of our job; we cannot have too many,” he says. “Relationships between Psychology and external agencies must be built and cultivated in order to maximize the opportunities for students.”

This past spring, sixteen Rehab students worked at agencies, including Thresholds, Countryside Association, Anixter Center and the Department of Veterans’ Affairs. The newest internship location is the North Suburban Special Education District, where Psych interns work with vocational specialists to do transition work for students. Relationships with external organizations often begin when an agency calls IIT looking for students to fill internships.

Many of the partnerships with internship locations have existed for decades. According to Dr. Hilburger, the relationship between Psych and Thresholds dates to the early 70’s. There are currently two students doing practicum at Thresholds. Thresholds has thirty service locations and more than 75 housing developments in the Chicagoland area, annually serving more than 5,000 people with mental illness through its comprehensive program of therapeutic support, case management, education, vocational training and placement, and housing. The opportunities for students working at Thresholds are diverse, notes John, including Threshold’s services through Cook County Department of Corrections, which is the second largest provider of psychiatric services in the country.

“It is incredible how students mature and become energized as they learn how they really can be helpful,” observes John. “The internship opportunities at Psych, because of our Chicago location, are world class – they can’t be beat.”
Clinical Psychology

Dr. M. Ellen Mitchell was named secretary of the Executive Board of the Council of Graduate Departments of Psychology (COGDOP).

Rev. John B. Houck, Ph.D. (Class of ‘74) was installed February 6, 2005, as Vicar of Saints George and Matthias Episcopal Church, 111th St. and Indiana in Chicago. He spends half time at the church and half time in his private practice of psychology in the Loop and in Hyde Park. Dr. Houck was Chaplain and Campus Minister at IIT from 1968-1976, while he was getting his Ph.D. His specialties are the integration of psychotherapy and spirituality, group therapy, couples’ therapy, and addictions therapy. Dr. Houck has led weeklong spiritual/psychotherapeutic retreats for German nuns and laywomen twice a year in Oberreifenberg, Germany from 1992 to 2004.

Koren Aragaki (Psyc Graduate of 12/04), Professor Margaret Huyck (Psychology), and Daniel Ferguson presented results on “Exploratory analyses of the effectiveness of assessment tools on project based interprofessional education” at three conferences: the National Collegiate Inventors and Innovators Alliance (March, San Diego), the Rose Hulman Conference on Assessment in Engineering Education (April, Terra Haute, IN), and the American Society for Engineering Education (June, Portland, OR). Reports were accepted for publication in the Proceedings of the NCIIA and ASEE meetings. The analyses are drawn from the evaluations of the IPRO (InterProfessional Project) program at IIT.

Professor Margaret Huyck organized a symposium on “Evaluating Family Caregiver Support Programs” for the International Congress of Gerontology in Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, in June. She will present analyses of a project evaluation done of SeniorCare for Metropolitan Family Services. Dr. Huyck has given two presentations about family caregiving, one to a professional group at Metropolitan Family Services (in March), and one for the Gerontology Club at Northeastern Illinois University (in April). In addition, she made two presentations on “Planning for Quality of Life During the Retirement Years” at Oakton Community College, at the Skokie (April 12) and Des Plaines (April 13) campuses.

Congratulations to the following Clinical Students going on internship in 2005-06. All have funded, APA-accredited positions: Jenna Duffecy, Rush University Medical Center; Justin Enggasser, Boston VA Consortium; Alyssa Epstein, Long Beach VA Healthcare System; Cindy Kane, University of Chicago Medical Center; Jeff Lauzon, Aurora Behavioral Health Service (Wauwatosa, WI); Ana Ribas, Didi Hirsch Community Mental Health Center (Culver City, CA); Janine Rogers Children’s National Medical Center (Washington, DC); Shelly Rowland, Rush University Medical Center; Greg Stasi, University of Minnesota Medical School; Lakeisha Sumner, UCLA Neuropsychiatric Institute; Tracy Tilton, Federal Correctional Complex (Butner, NC); Joe Wallach, Hines VA Medical Center.

Julie Deisinger, Ph.D. (Clinical 1996) received an early promotion to Associate Professor in the Psychology Department at Saint Xavier University (located in Chicago, IL) and was granted tenure in April of 2004. She works part-time in a private practice (Burkhardt Services Ltd.) in Orland Park, Illinois.

John and Allison (Cromey) Crean (Clinical 2001) welcomed twin boys to their family. Fletcher Matthew Crean (7 lbs, 11 oz, 21 inches) and Flynn Patrick Crean (7 lbs, 1 oz, 20 inches) were born February 1, 2005, http://zurekdesign.com/babies.html.

Kris and Dave Winemiller (Clinical 1993) dropped by with their 3 daughters Jessica, Jaqueline and Jasmine. They are doing well in WI where Dave works at the Marshfield Clinic.

Select Papers and Presentations


Epstein, A.M., Munisamy, G., Riley, R.C., & King, A.C. (2004). Smoking cessation outcomes are associated with affective symptoms at quit day. Poster presented at the Association for the Advancement of Behavioral Therapy, New Orleans, LA.


Assistant Professor Ruthanna Gordon, one of our newest faculty members, is conducting compelling research in “source monitoring,” the process by which people reconstruct the origins of their memories. In order to make these reconstructions, people draw on sensory, cognitive and logical evidence from their recollections. Ruthanna, who joined the Institute of Psychology after completing her post-doctoral work at University of Massachusetts-Amherst this past fall, teaches the undergraduate course “Brain, Mind and Behavior” and the graduate level learning course.

Dr. Gordon’s first project examined how judgments of the origin of information are influenced by what they would like that origin to be, which she refers to as “wishful thinking.” Her new work is an examination of how people decide whether or not a source is trustworthy. “This is an examination of how we come up with models for attributing truthfulness of our sources,” explains Ruthanna, “and is contingent upon a number of factors, including personality, trustworthiness and the changeability of these two things.”

Interested in the less rational factors of source monitoring, Ruthanna is investigating how the source of information – internet, print or personal - affects its use and its reliability. Ruthanna has observed source monitoring behavior in lab settings with college age populations, and is currently doing follow up studies, which includes working with older adults. Often, she has found, people misremember the source because of their bias to the actual facts they were hoping to find. If someone wants to believe something, they may find a source, perhaps a popular non-professional source, for instance, to support their desired belief. Later, they may recall the information as arising from the more reliable source rather than the actual source.

For example, Dr. Gordon studies how people validate information found on the internet. While it is very clear that it can be difficult to judge the reliability of virtual information, emotional factors, like “wanting” information to be true, can, Ruthanna has hypothesized, sway someone to giving a source greater credibility, or remembering that the information came from another more reliable source. Since the internet is becoming ubiquitous, used by the majority of Americans for such things as selection of educational programs, medical information, and automobile purchasing, to name but three of its frequent uses, her work is very timely and cutting edge.

"Effective source monitoring is a critical skill to develop," says Dr. Gordon, "with many applications to other problems, including therapeutic resistance." Research into source monitoring draws upon work across program areas: cognitive, social and industrial/organizational, notes Ruthanna. Over the summer, she plans work on a project Web page and has a paper currently in press.

Wishful Thinking Impacts Source Credibility

Professor Ruthanna Gordon (Center) with students

Java for Psych Alums

Alumnifest is an annual opportunity to connect with classmates and rediscover IIT. If you are planning to be on campus on Friday, June 24th, you are invited to visit the Psychology office, Life Science Building, Office 252, for coffee and a donut. If you would like to touch base before your visit, you can contact Sean Layman, Office Coordinator, at 312.567.3500.

Campus-wide events start Friday, with an evening cocktail party at Rock Bottom Restaurant and Brewery, and continue through the weekend. Campus and neighborhood trolley tours, a Town Hall Meeting with IIT President Lew Collens, and artist and author events will showcase changes at IIT. Find more information at http://www.iit.edu/alumni/alumnifest/2005/.
Clinical Psychology

Select Papers and Presentations (continued)


Houle, T.T., & Lauzon, J.J. (Accepted 12/03/04). Comment: The Premonitory Symptoms (Prodrome): A Tertiary Care Study of 893 Migraineurs. Headache. (Accepted for May 2005 publication).


Mitchell, M.E. & Simpson G. Managing Difficult Faculty Presentation at the Annual Meeting of the Council of graduate departments of psychology (COGDOP) Tucson AZ, Feb. 2005


Dissertations

Enggasser, Justin (Michael Young, advisor). Cognitive vulnerability to depression in seasonal affective disorder.

Nikolopoulos, Tina (Joyce Hopkins, advisor). Executive function and externalizing behavior problems in preschool children.

Victor, Andrea Fosco (Bob Schleser, advisor). The effects of metacognitive instruction on the planning and academic achievement of first and second grade children.

Industrial/Organizational Psychology

News

Mark Frame received the ASTD Dissertation Award for 2004. He also was offered a tenure track position at University of Texas-Arlington.

David Sowinski’s paper at the IO/OB student conference received the best paper award.

Select Papers and Presentations


Current activity at The Center for Research and Service is focused around two significant projects involving certification testing. “These are among the larger projects of this year,” says Director Bruce Fisher. “This is probably the busiest we’ve been.”

With project work increasingly becoming more measurement-related, the Center has invested in the technology that enables staff to do the work that leverages their experience and expertise in psychometrics. “Working with surveys and individual assessments is consistent with our orientation to research,” notes Bruce.

One of the major projects of the Center involves the support for a client during implementation of the enterprise-wide software system, SAP, which provides automated solutions for compliance and governance across a broad range of industries and countries. Center staff is concentrating on development of a series of SAP certification tests for employees. By assessing and certifying employees on SAP functionality, the Center is helping to mitigate risks associated with the initial implementation of the system.

On a second project, Dr. Nambury Raju is working with long-standing client National Restaurant Association Educational Foundation, to benchmark test development and validation against best practices. Anyone who preps, handles or serves food in restaurants is subject to industry certification, comments Fisher, making this a significant task. The Center’s work helps ensure that certification processes for this population are valid and fair.

In addition, the Center has had success in continuing to build its strategic partnerships, including an important partner, Strategic Talent Solutions (STS). The Center partners with STS on assessments of organizational culture, employee engagement, and in executive development. Work with STS calls upon Center expertise in human resources measurement tools, 360-degree feedback, and Web-based survey tools. Center staff is also working with strategic partner MICA International in support of their human resources measurement initiatives in the areas of organizational surveys and 360-degree feedback.

Another important project involves a collaboration with The National Association for Business Resources (http://www.101michiganbest.com, NABR). The Center has been involved in research design and survey administration for NABR competition for Illinois’ “101 Best and Brightest Companies to Work For.” The process that includes compilation of questionnaires from HR professionals and employees at nominated firms will culminate in a Chicago-based event showcasing company achievements, educational sessions, and an awards luncheon. “This is the first time this list is being produced in Illinois,” says Bruce, “and it’s a step for NABR toward taking its list national, so we are excited that the Center is playing a part in the Illinois project.”

These projects, as well as assessment centers, development of performance appraisal systems, and other large-scale surveys, have kept Center staff and 25 graduate students engaged over the course of the year.

Finally, the Center is well on its way to establishing a Board of Advisors to support the strategic planning process for the Center. Individuals interested in serving on the advisory board should contact Bruce Fisher, fisherb@iit.edu or 312-567-6471.
Rehabilitation Counseling

News


Select Papers and Presentations


Keep in Touch

PsychLink would be delighted to include what is new with you in our next issue. Your fellow alumni enjoy reading about your accomplishments and exciting news. Tell us if you have recently been married, welcomed new additions to your family, published a book, etc. Please send letters, papers, presentations and change of address along with your email address to:

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Recommend a Student

You are probably aware that we are working hard to increase the enrollments in our Undergraduate Psychology Program. The numbers have been inching up slowly but surely each year. I invite and welcome all of you to help us by referring students to the undergraduate program. If you have someone to refer, call or email us at:

Jack Spani
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If you have a group of 6 or more students who you would like to refer and you would like to host a reception for them, we would be happy to come and give a psychology and admission presentation.
Scholarships Count in School Decision

In addition to the current campaigns to endow a faculty chair in both Industrial/Organizational and Rehabilitation, there are a number of ways that donors can assist with tuition, program activities and student presentations. Alternatively, gifts directed to Psychology as “unrestricted” will be used where need is most pressing.

Scholarship and Fellowship funds can be named to recognize or memorialize donors, faculty, alumni or other notable persons. At Institute of Psychology, a permanently named endowed fund can be established with a minimum gift of $100,000. A named expendable fund, from which the monies can be disbursed immediately, can be created with a minimum gift of $5,000. Expendable funds can be augmented with additional gifts from the original donor or others, rather than depleted.

David Vitale, Institute of Psychology Board of Overseer and IIT Trustee, meets each year with Psychology students who have received scholarships through the David Vitale Undergraduate Scholarship Fund, established in 1998. Students enjoy the opportunity to discuss their career goals as well as their reasons for coming to IIT – which is often scholarship assistance. Vitale, who worked his way through school, understands the impact that a scholarship can have on making education a reality for many students.

For information on establishing a named fund to establish a scholarship or otherwise benefit the Institute of Psychology, contact Anne Rose Johnson, 312.567.6468, or johnsona@iit.edu.
Psychology Faculty Chairs to Take Place in IIT History

Because the strength of the Institute resides in its faculty and their scholarship, the identification, recruitment, and retention of faculty are critical. The endowment of a faculty chair is a reflection of this priority. An endowed chair is an academic appointment that creates a stable, guaranteed source of money to support an integral faculty position.

“Endowed faculty chairs are the best way to elevate the Institute of Psychology to a higher level of excellence. The beauty of an endowed chair is that it enables a school to honor, retain and continue to recognize a nationally recognized faculty member in a particular field,” says Dr. M. Ellen Mitchell, Director.

When fully funded, endowed chairs in Psychology will be awarded to two outstanding scholars in recognition of their past and future original contributions – Dr. Nambury Raju, in Industrial/Organization Psychology, and Dr. Chow Lam, in Rehabilitation Counseling.

The goal for the Psychology faculty chair endowments—the Industrial/Organizational Faculty Chair Endowment and the Rehabilitation Faculty Chair Endowment—is $4 million dollars, each at $2 million. A lead gift for either of the Psychology Endowed Faculty Chairs will include naming privileges in recognition of a donor’s generosity.

There are sixteen endowed chairs at IIT, including the Morgenstern Endowed Visiting Chair in Architecture, the Motorola Professorship of Telecommunications, the Charles L. Owen Design Chair Endowment and the S.R. Cho Chair Endowment. Faculty chairs are often established with a significant lead gift. For example, IIT’s Henry Linden Chair in Chemical and Environmental Engineering was established in significant part with gifts from Roger W. Sant (chairman of the AES Corporation) and Ken Lay (former chairman and CEO of Enron Corporation).