

**Illinois Institute of Technology  
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering  
Department Chair Search**

The Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT) invites nominations for, and expressions of interest in, the position of Department Chair of the Chemical and Biological Engineering (ChBE) Department ([www.chbe.iit.edu](http://www.chbe.iit.edu)).

The Armour College of Engineering at IIT has entered an exciting period under the new leadership of Dean Natacha DePaola. Dean DePaola, appointed in August 2009, has embarked on an ambitious agenda to build upon Armour's accomplishments and reputation by growing the research portfolio, continuing excellence in undergraduate and graduate education, increasing campus diversity, expanding facilities, and undertaking major capital improvements across the campus. The individual selected for ChBE department chair will be expected to support Dean DePaola's initiatives and continue to grow the department's student base, as well as foster excellence in engineering research and education.

Founded in 1901, the department is home to one of the oldest chemical engineering programs in the nation and is proud of its many contributions to chemical and biological engineering education and research, its distinguished current and former faculty, and its many successful alumni. The department offers undergraduate and graduate degrees in chemical, biological and food process engineering. It currently has 16 tenure/tenure-track faculty members, 135 undergraduate students, and 180 graduate students.

Candidates for the position of department chair are expected to merit appointment as full professor and have a record of distinguished research and educational achievements. The position of department chair offers highly competitive compensation and benefits.

For full consideration, applicants should submit a letter of interest outlining their experience and qualifications for the position, a curriculum vitae, and the names and contact information of at least three references. Application materials or nominations should be submitted electronically to [chbe\\_search@iit.edu](mailto:chbe_search@iit.edu) by January 31, 2010.

Questions and enquiries should be directed to the Search Committee Chair, Dr. Russell Betts, Dean of Science and Letters, at 312-567-3800 or [betts@iit.edu](mailto:betts@iit.edu).

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### **About Illinois Institute of Technology**

Founded in 1890, IIT is a Ph.D.-granting university with more than 7,300 students in engineering, sciences, architecture, psychology, design, humanities, business, and law. IIT's inter-professional, technology-focused curriculum is designed to advance knowledge through research and scholarship, to cultivate invention improving the human condition, and to prepare students from throughout the world for a life of professional achievement, service to society, and individual fulfillment.

The university has eight academic units:

- Armour College of Engineering
- Center for Professional Development
- Chicago Kent College of Law
- College of Architecture
- College of Science and Letters
- Institute of Design
- Institute of Psychology
- Stuart School of Business

The University is comprised of five campuses located in the metropolitan Chicago area:

- The 120-acre historic Mies van der Rohe Main Campus is located 10 minutes from downtown Chicago and is home to Armour College of Engineering, the College of Science and Letters, the College of Architecture and the Institute of Psychology.
- The Downtown Campus in the west loop business district houses the Chicago-Kent College of Law, the Stuart School of Business and the Masters of Public Administration Program.
- The Institute of Design is located in Chicago's River North area.
- Located in Wheaton, Illinois, the 19-acre Daniel F. and Ada L. Rice Campus serves the growing technological needs of working professional graduate and undergraduate students in Chicago's west suburban business and industrial community.
- The University's fifth site is the IIT Moffett Campus, location of the National Center for Food Safety and Technology, a multidisciplinary food safety research facility in southwest suburban Bedford Park.

### **IIT Leadership**

IIT has entered an exciting new era with the recent hiring of several top administrators who are committed to build on the University's reputation with growth in research, continued excellence in undergraduate education, growing diversity, expanding facilities, and major new capital improvements.

Dr. John L. Anderson became the eighth president of IIT in August 2007. A well known and recognized researcher and academic leader, Anderson had been Provost of Case Western University from 2004 until joining IIT. Before that, Dr. Anderson served for 28 years at Carnegie Mellon University, including eight years as Dean of the College of Engineering. Dr. Anderson received his bachelor's degree in chemical engineering from the University of Delaware and his Ph.D. in chemical engineering from the University of Illinois at Urbana/Champaign. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences.

Dr. Alan Cramb was appointed IIT's Provost and Senior Vice President in August 2008. A highly-regarded authority in materials and metallurgy, Dr. Cramb brings a wealth of experience and accomplishment to IIT. Previously, Dr. Cramb was Dean of the School of Engineering at Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI). Prior to RPI, he was the head of the Department of Materials Science and Engineering at Carnegie Mellon University where he also was a professor and co-director of the Center for Iron and Steelmaking Research. Dr. Cramb is the author of more than 190 publications, holds two

patents, and is a fellow of the Iron and Steel Society. He received his Ph.D. from the University of Pennsylvania.

Armour Dean Natacha DePaola joins IIT from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute (RPI), where she has been chair of the Department of Biomedical Engineering since 2005 and on the faculty since 1994. Before RPI, DePaola was assistant professor of biomedical engineering at Northwestern University. DePaola received a Bachelor of Science in mechanical engineering from Universidad Simon Bolivar in 1984, and a Master of Science in mechanical engineering from Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT) in 1987. She completed her Ph.D. degree in Medical Engineering and Medical Physics from the Harvard-MIT Division of Health Sciences and Technology (1991) and Postdoctoral training at Columbia University (1992). DePaola received a National Science Foundation (NSF) Faculty Early Career Development (CAREER), is a Frontiers Alumna of the National Academy of Engineering, and a Fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering.

This new leadership is already having an impact on the growth of IIT's reputation as a premier institution of higher education and research. IIT expects to continue these recent hiring successes by attracting an individual with a national and international scholarly reputation and with a significant track record of leadership in research and education to serve as the next chair of the Department Chemical and Biological Engineering.

### **About Armour College of Engineering**

The IIT Armour College of Engineering traces its roots to Armour Institute, founded in 1892 to prepare students of all backgrounds for leadership roles primarily as engineers in a changing industrial society. Armour College carries on that tradition of excellence in engineering education and research. The Armour College of Engineering has 96 faculty members, 81 of whom are tenured and tenure-track. Approximately one-half of the undergraduate and approximately one-fourth of the graduate students at IIT are enrolled in the Armour College of Engineering. The college awards an average of 275 master's degrees and 30 PhD degrees annually.

The Armour College of Engineering has five departments, all of which offer undergraduate and graduate degrees:

- Department of Biomedical Engineering (BME)
- Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering (ChBE)
- Department of Civil, Architectural and Environmental Engineering (CAEE)
- Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering (ECE)
- Department of Mechanical, Materials & Aerospace Engineering (MMAE)

### **About IIT Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering**

The IIT Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering was formally established in 1901, making it one of the oldest chemical engineering programs in the U.S. For more than a century, the department has dedicated itself to providing exemplary academic opportunities to students interested in the chemical and biological engineering disciplines.

The overarching **departmental objective** is to sustain and improve a culture of academic and scholarly excellence. The immediate goals supporting this objective include:

- Increase **research funding**
- Recruit **new faculty** and achieve successful faculty development through mentoring
- Encourage and facilitate interdisciplinary and external **research collaborations**
- Raise the **external visibility** of the department through the promotion of faculty achievements and encouragement of high visibility service to the profession

- Maintain a steady growth of the undergraduate student body until optimal enrollment goals are reached
- Continuously increase the quality and performance of candidates in the PhD program

The department's research activities are divided into four main areas – energy and sustainability, biological engineering, advanced materials, and systems engineering. In each of these specializations, ChBE has many faculty conducting research projects in collaboration with other IIT faculty members, universities, government agencies, businesses, research assistants and students. ChBE is actively and continuously committed to making positive and important contributions to society by providing the best possible education to all students, and by offering the highest quality scholarship through research activities at the forefront of scientific and technology knowledge. The department is dedicated to fostering the next generation of leaders, capable of solving the most complex problems facing the world.

In its quest to offer the best possible educational experience to its undergraduates, the department inaugurated, in 2008, a state of the art undergraduate laboratory facility dedicated to the memory of James Y. Oldshue—an illustrious department alumnus and a world-renowned leader in mixing technology.

ChBE faculty members are actively participating in inter-disciplinary collaborative research efforts conducted through a number of research institutes and centers. These primarily include the Wanger Institute for Sustainable Energy Research (WISER), The Pritzker Institute for Biomedical Engineering and Science, the Center of Excellence in Polymer Science and Engineering (CEPSE), the Center for Electrochemical Science and Engineering (CESE), the Engineering Center for Diabetes Research and Education (ECDRE), the Center for Molecular Study of Condensed Soft Matter (uCoSM), and the Center for Complex Systems and Dynamics (CCSD).

### **Department Chair Responsibilities and Qualifications**

The chair is the chief academic and executive officer of the department of chemical and biological engineering and is responsible for all matters related to the administration of the department, including academic programs, personnel, budgets, alumni relations, and fundraising.

The chair will be an accomplished scholar and an outstanding academic leader. The successful candidate will have demonstrated the skills needed to guide the department to higher levels of excellence and visibility in research, teaching, and in its connections with Chicago and the world-wide community.

Understanding that the education and training of a diverse student body is key to the future of the U.S., the chair will be committed to supporting recruitment and retention of a diverse faculty, student body, and staff.

The chair will be a flexible and forward-looking leader. He or she will develop a coherent vision for the department and the field of engineering that will inspire students, faculty, administrators, and external constituents and will implement the changes required to make that vision a reality.

The chair will have excellent interpersonal and communication skills, be a good listener, be self-reflective, and be willing to engage all constituents of the department in collaborative decision-making.

Under the chair's leadership, ChBE will substantially enhance its standing as a center of innovative research, its national rankings and international reputation, its level of research funding, and its ability to attract and provide opportunities to the best faculty and students.

The chair will develop and/or strengthen connections between the department and other entities, including not only other parts of the university, but also other academic institutions, the city of Chicago, the surrounding community, local industry, the State of Illinois, and national governmental agencies.

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