

April 23, 2008

[The following letter was sent to all students admitted to the Armour College of Engineering.]

The Office of Undergraduate Admission has notified me of your acceptance to Illinois Institute of Technology's undergraduate program in engineering. I would like to congratulate you on your outstanding academic record and demonstrated success—on which your selection for admission was based. I would also like to welcome you to the IIT Armour College of Engineering, and tell you a little bit about the exciting opportunities and dynamic environment that IIT will bring to your undergraduate engineering experience.

History and Reputation—A nationally and internationally recognized engineering institution, Armour College of Engineering was founded in 1892 to prepare students of all backgrounds for leadership roles in a changing technological society. More than a century later, Armour College has maintained a widespread reputation for producing outstanding engineers who are exceptionally well-trained in fundamental engineering principles.

Research Opportunities—Working out of our *fifteen research centers* and *two research institutes*, Armour's distinguished faculty have invented numerous technologies and products, including magnetic recording devices, an intracortical visual prosthesis for the blind, new rubber and polymer recycling processes, renewable energy systems, and clean coal technologies, to name a few. Because of IIT's small class size, students are taught by these same professors and have the opportunity to participate alongside Armour graduate students in cutting-edge research initiatives.

Career Options—Our comprehensive, project-based learning emphasizes engineering practices and design for real-world problems. Visit the IPRO Web site (ipro.iit.edu/) to learn more about some of our exciting projects in which students are developing hybrid electric vehicles, creating safe water supply technology for developing countries, and designing a "House of the Future" for The Sustainable Village at IIT.

Location—Last, but not least, located on IIT's Main Campus, Armour College capitalizes on the culturally rich and ethnically diverse experience that Chicago offers to students. At the same time, the Chicago area provides an excellent opportunity for students to receive practical training and internships/co-ops in industry in engineering-related areas.

Obviously, as Dean of Armour College, I am convinced of the value that an IIT degree will bring to your professional engineering training. However, I realize that, as new freshmen, you can relate more to the perspectives of our current students and recent graduates. The enclosed article, "Armour Engineering: Contemporary Undergraduate Programs Based in Tradition," is reprinted from the Fall 2007 issue of *InterFace*—the Armour College news magazine. In it, you can read firsthand accounts of the IIT undergraduate experience. Feel free to schedule a campus visit to Armour or go online at engineering.iit.edu/ for more information.

I hope you will challenge yourself to experience the intellectual rigors and personal rewards of IIT's undergraduate engineering program.

Sincerely,

Hamid Arastoopour
Dean, Armour College of Engineering
Max McGraw Professor of Energy/Environment/Economics