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May 14, 2008

[The following letter was sent to all students admitted to the Department of
Chemical and Biological Engineering.]

Congratulations on your admission to the Illinois Institute of Technology and the
Department of Chemical and Biological Engineering. You should take pride that
you have been admitted to one of the premier private engineering universities in
the U.S.

At IIT, you will enjoy the engaging environment on campus and will soon fall in love
with the City of Chicago. I received both of my degrees from the Department of
Chemical and Biological Engineering, and am very pleased to give back to the
department by serving on its Advisory Committee. While my years at IIT were
filled with hard work, I have great memories of new friends and weekends spent in
Chicago museums, festivals and shops. This year, I look forward to addressing
the graduating chemical engineering class during the Spring Commencement
Ceremony and being one of the first to welcome them to the proud family of
chemical engineering alumni.

By choosing IIT and ChBE, you will have put yourself on a rewarding path with so
many choices for your future. After completing my Ph.D., I began working in a
research engineering position I thoroughly enjoyed. Over the years, my career
moved to research and development management, new technology identification,
business development and strategy management. I spent three years living
abroad in Europe with my wife and two daughters, where we all enjoyed life-
changing education and travel. As my career evolved, I realized how well my
education at IIT prepared me as I moved through career changes, technology
changes and the evolution of business life. Your education at IIT will stand the test
of time, and will provide you career and life opportunities that you cannot imagine
today.

I wish you success and enjoyment as you transition from high school to IIT. If I can
help answer any questions you may have during this hectic time, I invite you to
please contact me at my email address: richard.chylla@basf.com.

Have a safe and enjoyable summer.

Warm regards,

Richard W. Chylla
(B.S. ChE '83, Ph.D. ChE '87)
Director of Strategic Management
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