

IEA Kickoff Event a Success!

On Friday, August 29th, over 55 students joined the Innovation and Entrepreneurship Academy (IEA) at Siegel Field to start the new school year. The kickoff started at 12:30p.m. with a free lunch from Jimmy John's; undergraduate students from multiple disciplines socialized and networked with each other. Many faculty members, including Thomas Hill (Chicago-Kent College of Law), Victor Perez-Luna (Chemical and Biological Engineering), Peter Beltemacchi (Associate Dean, College of Architecture), David Pistrui, Director of Entrepreneurship and Innovation, attended as well.

Matt Maloney, Entrepreneur in Residence for the Entrepreneurship Program at IIT, also joined us. Matt is perhaps better known as the CEO and founder of GrubHub.com, which places over \$25 million in restaurant delivery orders annually. Matt will be working with IEA throughout the 2008-09 school year.

After a brief welcome from Dr. Pistrui, students and staff participated in team building events led by IEA student champions Ed Suda and Avelo Roy. Groups of students used their problem solving capabilities and creative thinking skills to complete multiple tasks, including filling a bowl with gummy fish using only chopsticks and moving five students from one location to another using only four wooden planks.

Events like this are just a small sample of what IEA can offer you – please join IEA for its next meeting on Wednesday, September 17th, 12:50-1:50p.m. The meeting will be held at 3424 S. State Street, 4th Floor, Room 4B81. Lunch will be served, Thomas Hill (Chicago-Kent College of Law) will give a short presentation, and future IEA events, including the IEA Idea Challenge, will be discussed. All undergraduate and graduate students are welcome!