

Department of Mechanical, Materials, and Aerospace Engineering (MMAE)

DEPARTMENT CHAIR SEARCH

Illinois Institute of Technology, a private Ph.D.-granting research university with world-renowned programs in engineering, architecture, the sciences, humanities, psychology, business, law, and design, invites nominations for, and expressions of interest in, the position of Chair of the Department of Mechanical, Materials, and Aerospace Engineering.

Founded in 1890, Illinois Tech was born different. It was built on the promise set forth in minister Frank Wakely Gunsaulus' "Million Dollar Sermon" to provide access to higher education for students from all different backgrounds and to make a difference in the world through technology-oriented education. This guiding mission and purpose – where students, including those underrepresented in technology, could prepare for meaningful roles in a changing industrial society and achieve professional and economic advancement – remains just as relevant today. Thus, diversity and inclusion are part of the day-to-day experience at Illinois Tech and the centerpiece of its culture. As such, Illinois Tech is home to a diverse and global student population, is committed to providing opportunities to enhance the diversity of its faculty and staff, and strongly encourages applicants from all backgrounds to apply for this position, especially those underrepresented in the field, including, but not limited to, women, African Americans, Latinx, Indigenous peoples and others.

The MMAE Department is one of five in the Armour College of Engineering, and is home to 25 full-time faculty members and approximately 500 undergraduate and 150 graduate students. ABET accredited degrees are offered in mechanical engineering, materials science and engineering, and aerospace engineering, along with graduate degrees at the master's and doctoral levels. The department has significant research programs in dynamics and control, including robotics and autonomous systems; experimental and computational materials science, such as battery storage; thermal-fluid systems, including turbomachinery and highly unsteady aerodynamic vehicles; as well as solid mechanics and advanced manufacturing. Information on faculty, research, and degree programs in the department can be found at <https://engineering.iit.edu/mmae>. The individual selected for MMAE department chair will be expected to foster inclusive excellence in research and education, demonstrate a strong commitment to diversity, equity and inclusion through their leadership, research, teaching and service endeavors, and develop and execute a plan, in collaboration with the Dean as well as key college and campus partners, that leads the department to a new level of preeminence in the coming years. Aspirations include growing the research enterprise in quality, quantity and interdisciplinarity, leveraging the vast industry base in the greater Chicago area to enhance departmental activities, and promoting a vibrant and inclusive departmental community amongst all constituencies.

The Armour College of Engineering emphasizes a broad spectrum of interdisciplinary research by faculty and students and is committed to inclusive excellence in undergraduate, graduate, and professional education. The recent establishment of the College of Computing and the Kaplan Institute for Innovation and Tech Entrepreneurship on campus, coupled with Armour College's excellence, are helping Illinois Tech fuel Chicago's rise as a technology and innovation hub. The main campus is located three miles from downtown Chicago and in close proximity to many industries in the greater Chicago area.

Candidates for the position of department chair are expected to merit appointment as full professor and have a sustained record of distinguished research and educational achievements. The position of department chair offers highly competitive compensation and benefits. Applicants should submit a letter of interest outlining their experience and qualifications for the position, including a description of their commitment

to diversity, equity and inclusion, a curriculum vitae, and contact information for five references as a single .pdf file to Dr. Sohail Murad, the Search Committee Chair, at mmac-deptchairsearch@iit.edu. To ensure full consideration, applications must be received by November 10, 2021; however, review of applications will continue until the position has been filled.

Illinois Institute of Technology is an EEO/AA/Title VI/Title IX/Section 504/ADA/ADEA employer; we are committed to enhancing equity, inclusion and diversity within our community. Illinois Tech seeks applications from all individuals regardless of race, color, sex, marital status, religion, creed, national origin, disability, age, military or veteran status, sexual orientation, and/or gender identity and expression. All qualified applicants will receive equal consideration.