

## Pride of CASE V Awards Program 2008

### **WISER Reception**

#### **Category 14, Best Program in Donor Recognition/Stewardship Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT)**

**Contact:** Carie Lovstad, Associate Director, Stewardship and Events, Illinois Institute of Technology 10 West 35<sup>th</sup> Street, Suite 1700, Chicago, Illinois 60616  
clovstad@iit.edu or 312-567-5054

**Description:** In honor of the generous \$5 million gift of Ralph Wanger and his Acorn Foundation to establish and support the Wanger Institute for Sustainable Energy Research (WISER) at IIT, the University's Armour College of Engineering programmed an all-day academic colloquium on renewable energy and power electronics that featured plenary speaker Dr. Hans Maru and his presentation, "Where Are the Fuel Cells?"

IIT's Stewardship and Events team planned and implemented a post-colloquium reception to celebrate Mr. Wanger and the WISER launch. Reception guests were offered cocktails and hors d'oeuvres as well as commemorative WISER T-shirts. To get the reception off to a lively start, IIT President John L. Anderson and guest of honor Ralph Wanger competed in a race of remote controlled cars powered by IIT-developed, sustainable fuel cell technology.

In the tradition of Mr. Wanger's wonderful sense of good humor and fun, IIT recruited the renowned and always entertaining theatre troupe the NeoFuturists to perform some of their mini-plays with a focus on issues of sustainability. They delighted Mr. Wanger and the audience with a series of funny and thought-provoking two-minute plays on topics such as global warming and renewable energy sources. Mr. Wanger was brought on stage to join in the performance.

The reception closed with a tribute to Mr. Wanger by IIT Chairman of the Board John W. Rowe. Mr. Rowe then presented Mr. Wanger (who is known to doodle all manner of aircraft during his executive meetings) with a remote controlled, fuel cell powered helicopter.

Following the reception, Mr. Wanger and members of his family joined a small group of VIPs for an intimate dinner at a private club.

After the event, Mrs. Wanger, who was unable to attend the reception, was sent a package including a photo album filled with event highlights and a DVD with recordings of the colloquium and reception.

**WISER Reception**  
**Category 14, Best Program in Donor Recognition/Stewardship**  
**Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT)**

**Goals:** The goals of the reception were to acknowledge and celebrate Mr. Wanger's generous gift and to launch the Wanger Institute for Sustainable Energy Research, a key component of the University's continued dedication to the research and development of sustainable energy.

Institutional Advancement goals were met by the unique stewardship of a very prominent and important donor.

IIT's WISER reception fit into the overall institutional goal by promoting the University's commitment to research in sustainability and the advancement of higher education in the areas of math and science.

**Audience:** Donor Ralph Wanger, Mr. Wanger's family, friends and colleagues, colloquium speakers, IIT Trustees, students, faculty and staff. 150 attendees.

**Staffing:** Three members of the Stewardship and Events team worked to plan and implement the WISER reception. IIT's on-campus catering and facilities departments provided foodservice, logistical set-up and audio-visual assistance. Two of IIT's graduate students constructed the race course. In collaboration with IIT's in-house Communications and Marketing team, the Institutional Advancement Department's Senior Writer developed all collateral materials: invitations, programs, posters, t-shirts and the DVD cover and label.

**Budget:**

Reception Catering/Facilities:	\$9,448.54
Checkered Race Flag:	\$1.29
NeoFuturists: (5 performers)	\$1,250.00
T-Shirts:	\$1,287.25
Invitations:	\$722.00
Programs:	\$98.00
Posters & Table Tents:	\$444.00
Gift/Helicopter:	\$501.74
Post-Reception VIP Dinner:	\$2,186.79
Photography:	\$665.00
Video Production:	\$936.00
DVD Duplication:	\$175.00
Gift Wrap, Card, Photo Album/Prints:	\$35.00

**TOTAL:** **\$17,750.61**

**WISER Reception**  
**Category 14, Best Program in Donor Recognition/Stewardship**  
**Illinois Institute of Technology (IIT)**

**Documented Results:**

Mr. Wanger enjoyed himself immensely.

