



STRUCTURAL  
ENGINEERING  
INSTITUTE  
Graduate Student Chapter  
University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign

# Chicago Professional Weekend 2017

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September 22-23, 2017

## Friday Program

### Departure via Charter Bus

**When:** Friday, September 22, 2017  
Start arriving at **6:00 am**  
**Bus leaves at 6:30 am**

**Where:** National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA)  
1205 West Clark Street  
Urbana, IL

### **What:**

Students and faculty will depart for Chicago via charter bus at **6:30 am** on Friday morning. The group will meet at the north driveway of the NCSA building on Clark Street, *just northeast of Newmark Lab*.

A separate vehicle will be used to transport any luggage from Urbana to the hotel. Students wishing to use this service should deposit their luggage to this SUV, which will be parked adjacent to the bus loading area. Checked bags can be retrieved from the SUV outside of the hotel entrance from 4:30pm to 6:00pm. Bags not picked up will be transferred to the hotel. Text Antonio (217) 419-7655 for time and location.

Students should call Antonio (217) 419-7655 or Marcelino (915) 920-7290 in case of emergencies.

### Professional Panel Session

**When:** Friday, September 22, 2017  
10:15 am-1:30pm

**Where:** Illini Center Chicago (Orange & Blue Conference Room)  
200 South Wacker Drive, 19th Floor (MC-200)  
Chicago, IL

**What:**

Students will arrive directly at Illini Center via charter coach. Bags will travel separately to the hotel, since Friday afternoon activities will involve walking. Students will have access to their bags when they check in at the hotel, after the walking and office tours.

The event will begin with a short welcome and introduction from UIUC Structures faculty at 10:15 am. This introduction will be followed by brief presentations by each company representative. The main component of the morning program, a faculty-moderated panel discussion, will then commence. The goal of the Professional Panel Session is to generate meaningful discussions between practitioners and students on topics of relevance to graduate students in search of careers in structural engineering. Following the panel discussion, catered box lunches from Panera will be provided for both students and company panel participants (vegetarian options available); at this time, more informal interactions with company representatives will take place.

**Participating Companies:**

Skidmore Owings and Merrill

The logo for Skidmore Owings and Merrill (SOM) consists of the letters "SOM" in a bold, red, sans-serif font.

Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc.

The logo for Wiss, Janney, Elstner Associates, Inc. (WJE) features the letters "WJE" in a blue, serif font.

Magnusson Klemencic Associates

The logo for Magnusson Klemencic Associates (MKA) consists of the letters "MKA" in a blue, serif font.

TranSystems

The logo for TranSystems features the word "Tran" in white on a red rectangular background, followed by "Systems" in a grey, sans-serif font inside a white arrow-shaped box pointing to the right.

Alfred Benesch

The logo for Alfred Benesch features a green circle with a white line curving through it, followed by the word "benesch" in a black, lowercase, sans-serif font.

HNTB

The logo for HNTB consists of the letters "HNTB" in a bold, dark blue, sans-serif font, with a small orange square to the left of the "H".

Parsons

The logo for Parsons consists of the word "PARSONS" in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

Thornton Tomasetti

The logo for Thornton Tomasetti features the word "Thornton" in a green, sans-serif font above the word "Tomasetti" in a red, sans-serif font.

## Loop Walking Tour & Office Visits

**When:** Friday, September 22, 2017  
1:30pm-4:30pm

**Start at:** Illini Center Chicago  
200 South Wacker Drive  
Chicago, IL

**End at:** Holiday Inn – Chicago Mart Plaza River North  
350 West Mart Center Drive  
Chicago, IL

### **What:**

The second segment of our Professional Weekend activities will begin directly after lunch on Friday. Groups of students will be led by company representatives on a walking tour of the famous Chicago Loop, where most companies are located. If applicable, students will also visit the office of their tour leader.

Tour group leaders will then return students or otherwise direct them to our hotel (Holiday Inn) around 4:30pm, at which time students will have free time to check into the hotel, pick up their luggage from the SUV parked outside of the hotel entrance, and get ready for group dinner.

## Group Dinner at Sopraffina Marketcaffee

**When:** Friday, September 22, 2017  
Group leaves from the hotel at **6:00 pm**  
6:30pm - 9:00pm

**Where:** Sopraffina Marketcaffee  
10 N. Dearborn Street  
Chicago, IL

### **What:**

The group will depart Holiday Inn hotel **at 6:00 pm** and take a short, 0.8-mile walk to our dinner venue, Sopraffina Marketcaffee. Upwards of 10 young professional engineers who are now working in the Chicago area—mostly alumni of our Structures graduate programs—will join us for drinks, dinner, and very informal networking.

Students will be treated to Sopraffina Marketcaffee's Italian cuisine, and both vegetarian and non-vegetarian options will be available.

If the office visits run long, students can go directly to the restaurant and check into the hotel after dinner. In which case, they can pick up their luggage at the hotel by texting or calling Antonio (217 419 76 55).

After dinner, students may choose to head back to the hotel or explore the city. The Chicago Transit Authority (CTA) buses and light rail are a great way to get around town. Ventra fare cards are available for purchase at most 'el' (elevated rail) stations. Check out maps and schedules at [www.transitchicago.com](http://www.transitchicago.com).

Students should call Antonio (217) 419-7655 or Marcelino (915) 920-7290 in case of emergencies.

## ***Saturday Program***

### **Wendela Architectural Boat Tour**

**When:** Saturday, September 23, 2017  
Group leaves from the hotel at **9:00 a.m.**  
9:30 am-11:00 am

**Where:** Wendella Dock low level close to Michigan Ave  
*400 N Michigan Ave*  
Chicago, IL 60611

**What:**

To arrive at Wendella Boats on time, the group will coordinate to leave together at **8:45 am** to walk to the Wendella boat dock in the River North area. Please note that ***students must check out of the hotel on their own and leave their bags on the SUV***, and the group will reconvene at the Wendella Dock at Trump Tower around 9:25 am (***please arrive early***—the tour leaves promptly at 9:30am) for Wendella’s Architectural Boat Tour of Chicago.

An expert architecture guide will lead our group through all three branches of the Chicago River during this 75-minute tour, highlighting Chicago's rich architectural heritage, including a wide range of architectural styles designed by notable architects/firms such as Mies van der Rohe, Bertrand Goldberg and Skidmore, Owings & Merrill.

Following the tour, students will have about 1 hour of free time to explore Chicago on their own, at which time students should take lunch—SEGSO will not be providing lunch on Saturday. They must then find their way to the construction site in time for the tour.

### **AISC Office Tour and Construction Site Tour with TGRWA**

**When:** Saturday, September 23, 2017  
12:00 pm – 2:00 pm

**Where:** American Institute of Steel Construction  
130 East Randolph, Suite 2000  
Chicago, IL, 60601

**What:**

Representatives from the American Institute of Steel Construction (AISC) will be giving us a briefing of their work, followed by a tour of their office with opportunities for questions and discussion. Accordingly, please prepare by *wearing suitable clothing and closed-toed shoes suitable for visiting a construction site*.

Students will be responsible for getting to the site which is just few minutes walking from the Wendella Boat Tour Location.

**Institute Involved:**



At the AISC's office a group of Structural Engineers from TGRWA will join us to give a brief overview of two of their projects, the LondonHouse hotel addition & renovation and the 168 N Michigan Avenue Project. After the brief presentation, TGWRA's engineers will guide us to the projects sites to show us some interesting structural engineering features!

**Company involved:**



**In the event of poor weather or no possibility to get "on-site" on Saturday, this period may be designated as additional free time.**

**Going Back to Campus**

**When:** Saturday, September 23, 2017  
5:00 pm – 8:00 pm

**Where:** N. Stetson Ave. just north of E. Randolph

**What:**

Following the tour, students will have about three hours of free time to explore Chicago on their own. The bus will depart promptly at **5:00 pm** at N. Stetson Ave just north of E. Randolph. Arrival at Main and Goodwin in Urbana should be around 8pm.

Students should call Antonio (217) 419-7655 or Marcelino (915) 920-7290 in case of emergencies.