



NORTHERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY

Department of Industrial and  
Systems Engineering

College of Engineering and Engineering Technology

# ISYE News

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Spring 2025

## DeKalb Spotlight: Corn Fest



(Credit: Mark Busch, Shaw Media)

This past year's **Corn Fest** in DeKalb, Illinois, ran from Aug. 23 to 25, attracting thousands of visitors to downtown DeKalb. The festival showcased the town's agricultural roots with its famous Chuck Siebrasse Corn Boil, serving over 30,000 ears of corn for free on Saturday. A diverse lineup of live music, including local acts and headliners, added to the lively atmosphere. Other highlights included the auto show and craft fest, featuring classic cars and local handcrafted items. Food vendors, local businesses and food trucks offered a wide range of dishes, and community support was evident through special deals and fundraisers. Corn Fest 2024 was a vibrant celebration of DeKalb's agricultural heritage and community spirit.

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### Greetings from the Chair



Greetings from the Department of Industrial and Systems Engineering (ISYE) at Northern Illinois University (NIU)! We are excited to share the first issue of our biannual newsletter, which will keep you up to date with all the latest highlights, achievements and updates from our department.

Thanks to our faculty, staff, students and alumni, it has been a successful year during the 2024-2025 academic period. Our department provides many ways for ambitious students to enrich their educations through enhanced curriculum that reflects real-world issues, senior design projects, internships and so on. Our faculty continue to go above and beyond to support student success and engage in cutting-edge research while building national and international reputations for scholarship. Our alumni keep serving as leaders, innovators and civically engaged citizens, making a positive impact on the society.

On behalf of our ISYE faculty and staff, I would like to thank you again for all of the love and support that has been given to our department. As always, we'd love to get connected with you. Please let us know what you are up to, or send us your achievements and success so we can share with NIU ISYE families and friends. We all look forward to even more successes in the years to come.

*Go Huskies!*

Chang S. "CS" Nam, Ph.D.  
Professor and Department Chair

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