



LEMELSON-MIT ILLINOIS STUDENT PRIZE



Scott is currently working on IntelliWheels, a new product that replaces wheelchair wheels and adds automatic gear shifting to reduce the amount of effort required to push the chair. Similar to the way that people ride bicycles, gear shifting can make going up and down hills, over long distances, and over rough terrain more ergonomically efficient. In order to gain this same advantage, IntelliWheels automatically shifts gears by sensing how hard one is pushing, how fast one is going as well as the tilt of the wheelchair. In addition to the IntelliWheels system, Daigle's company IntelliWheels, Inc., is rapidly developing into a wheelchair innovation house with multiple products, including Caster-Skis—small skis that clip onto the casters and allows a wheelchair to roll over pavement and slide over snow—a simple, but incredibly useful product currently in the prototype stage.

2011 WINNER

SCOTT DAIGLE

GRADUATE MECHANICAL SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING