CURJ to focus on undergraduate research

BY JON FOSTER

Everyone knows SURF; not everyone knows CURJ. Now, a group of dedicated undergraduate researchers are working to change this. CURJ stands for the Caltech Undergraduate Research Journal. In previous years it published only the winners of the Burnsall prize, the written equivalent of the Perpall speaking prize; some years it didn't even come out. This year, the new and improved CURJ plans to make a bid for national prominence, featuring articles from SURF papers and Core 1ab reports.

The articles have all been edited for style to make this journal accessible and enjoyable to a wide audience. "We are producing this journal for science and engineering undergraduates," explains Ram Srinivasan, editor-in-chief of CURJ. "This shapes how you edit, and what you accept."

When Srinivasan and his team were initially formulating their plans, they had many questions to answer. Does Caltech really need an undergraduate journal? Srinivasan's answer to that question is two-part.

First, undergraduate research is on a fundamentally different level from the research published in journals like Science and Nature. It is inherently short-term, and often lacks the same resources.

But undergraduate research is far from worthless, and CURJ's main goal is to promote this research. In Srinivasan’s words, "Undergraduate publication naturally complements undergraduate research. A successful journal at once motivates creative work and stimulates engaging communication."

The key, of course, is success. When asked about the future of CURJ, Mike Russo said, "I'd like to see CURJ become expected enough that publication in CURJ would serve to get an author noticed." Relevance outside of Caltech is a big goal for CURJ, and the first issue will feature articles from UCLA students who did SURF's here over the summer. CURJ also hopes to receive submissions from students at other institutions.

Caltech Minority Student Affairs Office to celebrate Black History Month

BY JASON MITCHELL

February, as many may remember, is the month when the whole world celebrates Black History Month. It is the time of year in which to look back on the achievements of African-Americans. And like your old school, the Minority Student Affairs office has fun events planned in honor of this month.

Black History Month started as "Negro History Week" in 1926. It was founded by Dr. Carter Woodson, who earned his Ph.D. from Harvard. Woodson felt that the lies about African history that were spread by members of academia in and before that time needed to be combated.

He broke away from mainstream academia and devoted his life to studying the experience of the African race throughout the world. Woodson's work revolved around lectures and meetings that hoped to educate people on the truth of the African race. I remember my school telling us about famous African-Americans throughout history through class discussions and bulletin boards.

However, the Minority Student Affairs office has a slightly different view as to how to celebrate Black History Month, and it revolves around song. For starters, on February 9th, there will be a band performing African music outside the Red Door Cafe at noon. A week later on the 16th, you can see the JOOBA West-African Dance Troupe. JOOBA is part of UCLA's African Arts Ensemble, which is dedicated to the cultural enlightenment of all. They also offer dance workshops, so there might be a bit of audience participation.

The grand finale comes on the 23rd at 7:30 PM, where a super jazz band, "Black Drawz, Jazz, Blues, and Boogie Band," will be playing with refreshments in the Student Services building.

To attend the jazz band concert, be sure to RSVP with Cindy Mesa at cmesa@staff.caltech.edu.

Dr. Charles Elachi named new director of JPL

BY TECH STAFF

Dr. Charles Elachi was announced yesterday to be the successor of Ed Stone as the director of the Jet Propulsion Laboratory.

President David Baltimore gave the press conference that revealed the conclusion of JPL's extensive search for a new leader.

Born in Lebanon, Elachi did undergraduate work in physics and engineering in Grenoble, France, and earned a master's and doctorate from Caltech. He also holds degrees in business administration and geology.

In his thirty years at JPL, Elachi managed radar development, led the radar remote sensing team, and served as director for space and Earth science programs.

"My commitment is to continue the tradition of excellence and boldness in exploring our solar system, understanding the origin of galaxies and applying that knowledge to better understand the changes on our own planet," he said.

Elachi takes office May 1.
ASCIT election statements

DIRECTOR FOR SOCIAL ACTIVITIES

Ted Jou

So, I guess I’m running unopposed for the position of ASCIT Social Director. This is kind of surprising because I’m sure you’ve noticed while reading the rest of this page that there are more people running for ASCIT offices than there have been in a long time. As for me, all I have to do is to convince you not to vote for “No”. Since I have no real opponent, I’ll try to keep this short.

Now, it may be true that “No” has never thrown a crappy ASCIT party or spent all of your club’s money on horses for the formal, but I’ll try my best not to do those things either. In fact, we just made it through a whole year without an ASCIT party and people have almost stopped talking about how much they sucked. If I’m elected, I will continue to not throw ASCIT parties, but instead of them just disappearing, I will encourage the Houses and the clubs at Caltech to organize more interhouse events to replace them. Currently there is $800 per House per year in the ASCIT budget for Interhouse and Multiouse events. Other money for social events is spent on prefresh weekend, donuts, the ASCIT formal, and various other social occasions. I would like to take some of that money and give it to clubs or even to Houses for more social events that people would actually attend.

ASCIT will never be the driving social force on this campus, but its money can be; it’s just a matter of giving the money to the right people. So, vote for me and not for “No” and your club, House, or Swiss Bank Account may be the beneficiary of some ASCIT funding.

ASCIT Secretary

Justin Ho

I’ve had the benefit of working at the ATH for the past two years to happen on some great insights: there are ways to escape academic stress by piling on physical stress, food at the ATH is a hell of a lot better than in the houses, professors aren’t as scary as freshmen impressions, and undergraduates are still a lot cooler than grad students, but they try. I feel, however, that it is time to leave the role of observer. I can write and I can type, and my hand will not tire as the ASCIT Minutes give way to ASCIT Hours under La Presidenta Stapleton’s regime. And even if the Minutes become so long as to fall under the heading of cure-all for insomnia, it will be representative of my dedication, if granted the opportunity to serve as ASCIT secretary, to keep the popular informed of the BOD’s efforts to improve undergraduate-befuddling.

Please love the Ticket Stub,
Self-proclaimed Justin

Elaine Ou

Hi. My name is Elaine, 19/F/CA. I’m a Scor­pio. My torn ones are tight ass, [uhh, am I allowed to say ass in here?], washboard abs, and guys who can wiggle their pecs without touch­ing them. And fuzzy animals like Tux. But enough about me, let’s hear from you for awhile. Let me be your secretary. Vote Elaine.

TECH EDITORS

Neda Afsarmanesh & Janet Zhou

Let’s make this short and sweet. We’re running for Tech Editors: Janet and Neda; Neda and Janet—same difference. Do you know anyone else who is running? Thought not. So vote for us. See how very efficient we are? So just in case you didn’t get it the first time around, vote for us!

Quantum resumes

BY JERRY HOUWER

You might as well face it: you’ve got to have a resume sooner or later. Probably sooner.

Your resume is a sales brochure.

Once you figure out what the reader wants to know, the rest is a matter of lay­out and wording. The key principles for using the right words are: highlight skill words, use active verbs, demonstrate results, cite accomplishments, use a tele­graphic style (bullets are good), with your strongest attribute for examples. Then call the Career Development Center and ask to feedback for improving it. Your resume can open or close several drafts to get it perfect. Plan and another hour for the second.

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Hi, I’m Ayeh. I’m a junior physics and economics major, as well as a UCC and health advocate. Over the last couple years, I’ve been very involved with the Totem and Big T and have served on the freshman Admissions and Institute Programs committees. I’d like to be your treasurer because I want to be more involved with the decisions that affect students and organizations at Caltech. And because of my experience with different student activities and involvement in different parts of student life at Tech, I feel like I have a good understanding of what sorts of things techers value, and so I think I would serve everyone well.

In addition to serving on the ASCIT Board of Directors, the ASCIT treasurer’s duties also include helping create the ASCIT budget and conducting prompt audits of ASCIT spending at the end of each fiscal year. The treasurer is also the person responsible for collecting all requests for ASCIT funding for clubs and natural activities. Since I’ve done a significant amount of volunteer work for student organizations like the Totem and the Big T, and enjoy attending all kinds of campus events, I recognize how important student activities are at Caltech; I’d like to accommodate as many activities as possible, and think I could be unbiased towards them.

The ASCIT treasurer is also responsible for receiving and depositing corporation money, keeping records of all these transactions, and presenting them at weekly meetings. I have experience maintaining corporation accounts, so I understand how this system works and what this job entails. And as your current treasurer, I’d also like to make these reports on where ASCIT dollars go more readily accessible to students.

Finally, the ASCIT treasurer is specifically responsible for making sure that the ASCIT publications officers (those responsible for The California Tech, little t, Big T, Totem, CLUE, and Undergraduate Research Opportunities Handbook) know about and meet ASCIT’s publication standards. In addition to keeping track of publication budgets and contracts, the ASCIT treasurer is the one to whom all unexpected budget problems for these publications must be brought. When the editors and managers have a problem they can’t deal with, the treasurer is responsible for resolving them so that these publication contracts come out on time. I’d like to make sure that what’s happened with the Big T and little t in recent years doesn’t happen with any other publications next year. And since I’ve been very involved in publication processes, both at Tech and elsewhere, I’m very capable of giving publications staff any help and support that they end up needing.

I hope you’ll vote for me because I know the duties of ASCIT treasurer well, and I’ve experienced enough and excited enough about it to do a good job. But in any case, please don’t forget to vote.

Hi, I’m Koun. I’m a senior and a chemical engineer major, as well as a fifth-year Ph.D. student in mathematics. I’ve held positions that demonstrate my qualifications for the ASCIT treasurer position, including serving on the ASCIT Board of Directors, the ASCIT movies committee (in support of the DVD library), and ITS representative. Greater than this, however, is my experience with ASCIT, as a member and as a close friend of several officers including the current treasurer. I’m informed of ASCIT proceedings and recent history. As crazy as this may sound to the frosh, I can even remember the time when “N” was elected President. To conclude, it is for the purpose of representing the student body that I run. Give me your approval and I will use my experience to serve as ASCIT Treasurer.

Hi, I’m Scott Payne. Your vote for Treasurer is important. The Treasurer is not just a "giver"; nor just a member of the Board of Directors. The Treasurer is a representative to student clubs, a variety of off-campus organizations, faculty, and administration. It is for these reasons that you must select the right candidate for the job.

I’ve held positions that demonstrate my qualifications for the job. These include library director, ASCIT movies committee (in support of the DVD library), and ITS representative. Greater than this, however, is my experience with ASCIT, as a member and as a close friend of several officers including the current Treasurer. I’m informed of ASCIT proceedings and recent history. As crazy as this may sound to the frosh, I can even remember the time when “N” was elected President. To conclude, it is for the purpose of representing the student body that I run. Give me your approval and I will use my experience to serve as ASCIT Treasurer.
**BOC Secretary**

**Andrew Coo**  
A Candidate for Reform  

The BoC is a secretive, intimidating, and badly designed organization that needs reform. If you think that just because you don’t do anything wrong, you don’t care about the BoC, think again. CENCE IS CARE about the BoC, think again. INN what I have to say, then vote for me, and I’ll do my best. My suggestion is to let the defendant choose a member of the board, maybe even a past member, to defend him.

1) No defense for the accused, but no one there is to defend the accused. If you are a defendant, all you can do is answer the board’s questions and hope for the best. My suggestion is to let the defendant choose a member of the board, maybe even a past member, to defend him.

2) No one actually knows how a trial works, what their rights are in a trial, etc. The BoC talks were intended to teach you how the BoC works and what precisely is a BoC-able offense, but they do only the latter. We need to make these talks more informative; they must advise students what they can and cannot do in case they are ever accused.

3) The BoC is very intimidating; questioning in a trial can get brutal because the board members have to act as prosecutors. There are ever accused.

4) The BoC gets involved in too many cases that should be handled by RAs or the house leadership. For cases that are not academic in nature, the BoC should be a last resort, not a first sort.

**Dave Guskin**

I want to serve you as BoC secretary, because I think I have the experience and the character to do the job well. The BoC, like any other institution of merit, requires someone on- and level-headed to ensure things smoothly. I believe I qualified to handle the side of things, having been a secretary of my house and established myself as a person who can also work well with people, especially in small groups, and I’ve worked hard with the BoC chair to investigate possible honor Code violations fairly.

In an office like BoC secretary, it’s important to be fair and justly concerned. It has to do with the kind of experience, the way I treat the people I meet with, and I don’t belittle or insult. I try to act in a way that lets people be comfortable rather than pressed. As Joe stated in his statement for BoC Chair, the BoC should be something students can trust. I would take that one step further and say that the BoC should be something with which students can be comfortable. People may dislike the BoC, and they may even complain about it, but they don’t need to fear it. The role of the BoC is not to intimidate; it’s protector, serving us all by upholding the Honor Code. I hope you’ll vote for me, because I believe I’ll do the best job as a fair and understanding secretary for the Board.

**Elizabeth Stameshkin**

Hi! I’m Liz Stameshkin, a sophomore in Dabney House, and I want to be your BoC chair.  

I have been Dabney’s Board of Control Rep from November of 1999 through January of 2001, encompassing two boards and four terms of cases. Through this, I have gained invaluable BoC experience. I have helped to conduct preliminary investigations, sat on many cases, and have dealt with two boards with different styles and ideas. I feel that Board of Control experience is very important in being the BoC secretary. Additionally, I am a responsible person who will work very hard for the board. I will work well with others and I believe strongly in defendant’s rights. If elected, I would try my hardest to help form a new, less intimidating Board of Control. Remember - vote experience - vote Liz Stameshkin.

**Steven Hamed Hassani**

No statement provided.

**Nick Knouf**

Hello! I would like to be your Director of Academic Affairs. While I have not been member of the Academic and Research Committee before, I do believe that I have the ideas and the drive to succeed as chair of the ARC.  

As all of us know, academics at Caltech are not perfect; far from it. From my experience, students are dissatisfied by a number of things: graduation requirements; the (perhaps perceived) inability of professors to teach courses; and the fact that after four difficult years at Tech, we can get rejected from graduate schools merely because of a low GPA. These are all difficult problems, and I don’t have any quick answers. But we can make a start. For instance, did you know that Physics majors (for their laboratory requirement) can take APh 24 instead of PH 6, but Astronomy majors cannot? That doesn’t make sense. How about instead of having to take Chem 3a, students were given a choice between taking Chem 3a and taking PH 3? How about giving the students the opportunity to receive a master’s degree after four years of substantial coursework as an undergraduate (and with an involved senior research project), since we’re taking graduate level courses anyway?

These are all things I would like to bring up in ARC committee discussions, and while students don’t have the power to change the curriculum at Caltech, perhaps the faculty committee will listen to us if we make our voices heard loud enough. As well, as ARC chair I would ensure that the CLUE would publish more about student courses. There are more complete, since I know that for me it has been invaluable in the past. In the end, it comes down to your vote. And while I don’t have the experience with the inner workings of the ARC like some of the other candidates do, I believe that I nevertheless would be an effective and proactive chair. Vote for who you think would be best for the job, and if you vote for me, thanks.

**Al Valdivia**

During my time at Caltech I have held many positions which have taught me a great deal about how to work in committees to get things accomplished. First and foremost I have served on the Academics and Research Committee (ARC) for the past two years as a representative from Page House. Also, I am currently a member of the USH and Educational Outreach Committees and this past summer I was on the SURF Student Advisory Committee and as a member of Challenges and Choices.

I’ve also been on at one time or another as the VP of CLAES, the undergraduate Latino organization on campus. Through this organization I learned a great deal about organizing and leading a large club. From debating with faculty members to counseling new freshmen and non-techers to interacting with members of the surrounding Pasadena area, through all these experiences I have learned the importance of a strong group dynamic and how crucial to that is having an informed, responsible leader.

My time on the ARC has given me first hand knowledge of its inner workings which I believe affords me a very unique and valuable perspective. I have been able to observe what works and what doesn’t, and over time I have seen several areas that call for improvement. The most important issue in my mind is that there is no continuity to the ARC, every year all of its positions are filled by new students which leads to very little progress being accomplished as each years committee has no experience to fall-back on. I believe the solution to this problem is finding a permanent faculty advisor so that there is a comprehensive source of advice for each years ARC to consult. Also, I would formalize a bi-weekly, publicized meeting schedule so that interested members of the community would know when to drop in on meetings to give suggestions, critiques, etc. My experiences on this committee have given me a clear plan for reform and my time on other committees has made me well-known to various important faculty and administrators which I believe will help me actually bring about these reforms. As ARC Chair I will see to it that this committee realizes its untapped potential.

**Upperclass Director-at-Large**

**Todd Schuman**

Vote for me for UD/LJ because I’ll get the job done, and I’ll get it done right. In the end analysis, that’s all that really counts. I could harp on qualifications, or some grandiose sweeping program of change, but really all that matters is that I’m a hard worker, I can deal with people, and I’ll get the job done. Being in government for a while has taught me that. Vote for Todd Schuman. Thank you.

**Derek Shannon**

I’m Derek Shannon, and I want to serve as your Upperclass Director-at-Large. I served as Freshman Director-at-Large for a full term and a half, and was responsible for the Upperclass Director duties (like making sure the SAC copier worked) for that part of time after Meghan went to Cambridge. But beyond having proven my abilities and dedication as an ASCIT officer in the past, I think you should vote for me because I believe I can contribute to our student government in the future. Any Upperclass Director can keep the copier running and not sell the uninsured and therefore unusable ASCIT van—although Meghan did do a great job getting that beast fixed up. But it takes experience to turn the position into something truly useful, to have an Upperclass Director that has the know-how to do it and the experience to do it because the experiences come up, to help the other ASCIT officers fulfill their duties, and, most importantly, to help *you* get the most out of your time at Tech. And maybe even to sell that damn van, too—that would put at least $5,000 in the ASCIT treasury, by the way. That experience (and cash dollaz to the tune of five g’s) is what I’m offering, and I hope you’ll accept it with your vote. E-mail me at dms@gits. Or come by Fleming 54-4 and *really* earn your vote.

And one last thing: I WILL SELL THE ASCIT VAN WITHIN MY FIRST MONTH IN OFFICE, EVEN IF I HAVE TO THROW IN MY SOUL AND A KIDNEY TO SEAL THE DEAL. - Derek
Iram Parveen Bilal

Like almost any other frosh, at first, it seemed impossible to long weeks of upperclassmen’s advice of Pass-fail frosh, SPI is impossible, don’t waste your time on it!, enjoy your freshman year and the one that personally kills me, it only gets worse, frosh, it all really seemed to unfold and get more manageable. Hence, now that all those early ten-sions have been taken care of, I personally think that this is the best such offices before, I have hands-on experience of the responsibilities and duties of such posts. Now, I want to test all that I can do for you through ASCIT and I can only do that if you give me a chance, because all what we know about our abilities is infinitely less than that which still remains unknown. So Techners, come out, vote and give me a chance to serve you! Take Care, Best Wishes and Keep Smiling!!!, Iram Parveen Bilal

FRESHMAN DIRECTOR-AT-LARGE

Ali Hassani

People may look at my candi-dacy and think to themselves, “Ali’s not a serious guy and is not someone that only cares about being perky, dewy-eyed...” People may not know is that when it comes to things I believe in, I can be a very passionate person and will fight until the end. Below are some examples: Many of you received my mail two weeks ago. The night before the elections for BoC chair, I found out that people were ganging up on Jacob Jadad. Loyalty and honor are very important to me, so even though I’ve only known Jacob for a short time, I was willing to put my name on the line and stand up for him. Speaking out may have made people my en-mies, but I’m glad I did. Also, Chem 1a Professor Nate Lewis failed some people with grades around 75%. Whether or not we deserved to fail is not the issue here. The grading policy and our final grades were never revealed, people with lower scores passed, and there is no policy giving students any rights against the faculty. Most people would have stopped after being turned away by TA’s and the Professor. Others may have even stopped after talking with the Deans, UASH, and the Oumbs office. But I don’t think anyone else would take it so far as to file a grievance against Pro-fessor Lewis accusing him of using his position to take advan-tage of us.

In summary I have only one thing to say. Would you rather have somebody like me who will empathize and actually wholeheartedly fight for you or somebody that only cares about his/her own self and gives up at the first sign of any red tape? Please email me at ali@caltech.edu if you have any concerns. Thank you, Ali Hassani

Spencer Rarrick

In the past few weeks I have heard a lot of people complain that they feel the exist-ence of ASCIT makes lives. It seems almost in their 30 or so dol-lars occasional urge that it’s hard to membership see, and I feel. I don’t see any feel like they are wast-ing, is completely use-ful to be able to use what it is Large is given to their money’s worth.

Larry Stewart

I’m on a mission for the proletariat to improve working conditions, food qual-ity, and exotic entertainment on cam-pus. I plan to FedEx all left over CDS/TFM food to starving members of third world nations, to conserve power on campus by removing all light bulbs in passageways, and to save trees by re-quiring that all photocopiers only op-erate in duplex mode. Note: These jobs require no real skill, just a time commitment (much as Frosh Direc-tor at Large). I’ll spend the time to do it right.

Jialan Wang

Ah... another perky, dewy-eyed frosh running for the most useless of all of the myriad useless ASCIT positions. Many of you probably couldn’t care less who becomes the Freshman Director at Large or even know what the FDAL does. Although the job might be a small one compared to other offices, the FDAL helps make life here a little more bearable. One of the great things about Tech is that any group of people with a common interest can start a club and get funding for it, and the FDAL can make that task either very easy or a pain in the ass. I see it basically as a responsibility position, and as Frosh Director I could be counted on to get stuff done. I would be more than happy to hear all your grievances and would go out of my way to help you and repre-sent your interests in ASCIT. Hell, I’ll help you out even if you don’t elect me, because I’ll just find some other way to be in- volved on campus. Laugh if you will -- I love this place, and I’m motivated to do a good job simply because I care.

IHC CHAIR

Chris Elion

During the past year, I’ve served as IHC chairman, and this year I’m running again. Being IHC chair requires a lot of hard work, but I like to think that I’ve done a pretty good job. No houses declared war on each other, the off-campus roompick was simpler (in my opinion) than the previous year, and Rotation ran fairly smoothly (ex-cept for a few surprises). One of the major things that the IHC has been involved in throughout the past year is the new board program. Upperclassmen now have the option of a declining balance plan, and eventually we’ll be able to use our student accounts to buy food at off-campus res-taurants. I also helped organize the ASCIT web project, which now contains the Bookmark, CLUE, and DVD Library System.

Upon running this year, I’ve considered this year’s agenda, and I’m not doing this to try to get more power for my house. If I’m re-elected, I intend to continue with the work that I’ve started, as well as try to improve communications between the IHC, ASCIT, and the ad-ministration. So if you think I’ve done a good job this past year, please vote for me again.

And remember, you can’t spell “Chris” without “I-H-C”.

Dana Vukajlovich

As the only student committee with equal representation from all the houses, the IHC is in a unique posi-tion to bring about fair change to stu-dents’ lives. Its chair should be some-one who will help the committee com-municate your views to the adminis-tration. The chair needs to be some-one that the presidents and the houses will have confidence in and who can help guide them to consensus.

After serving on the IHC for a year as Daenerys president, I am aware of the conflicts between the houses, yet I strongly believe in the cooperation that allows the IHC to function. As chair, I will recognize my responsibility to be a proponent of open discussions and cooperation. I hope to use the understanding I gained from working with all of the house presidents last year to guide the new presidents.

My experience with the IHC has also led me to feel very comfortable with staff and faculty, which will enable me to speak openly about our concerns as students. I would like to make the chair a more accessible person for comments or concerns from all houses. You deserve to have a chair that will listen to your complaints regarding board food or rotation rules - and who will ensure that these concerns come under the consideration of the IHC or ASCIT.

I have the qualities needed in the committee chair - objectiv-ity, diplomacy, confidence, and experience - that will best serve you and your presidents. Please vote for me for the values I rep-resent and my desire to be an impartial representative of all the houses.

Dana Vukajlovich

DIRECTOR—
YOUR STOCK WILL RISE IF A STOCK ANALYST SAYS GOOD THINGS ABOUT YOUR COMPANY.

HOW IS THAT EVEN POSSIBLE? ONE WORD: WEASELS.

I JUST FOUND MY NEW PICK-AND-SHovel CORE HOLDING.

WHATEVER?

YOU WROTE THE NEWS TO BADGE ME. I DON'T CARE. I TREATED YOU LIKE THE WINCESTERS IN YOUR HEAD.

NEVER IS AS SOON AS I BEGAN. AS IN I MAINTAIN.

BUT AS SOON AS I SAW THE HEAD, I IMMEDIATELY THOUGHT: AS IF A GROUP'S BEEN TRUSTED!

BUT YOU DON'T WANT TO KNOW THE HEAD, DO YOU? YOU'VE BEEN BURNING IN THE PREVIIUS MONTHS, RISKING IT ALL TO GET IT RIGHT.

THE DILEMMA OF A HUMAN SHALLOW THROAT FEELS RIGHT-LIKE EVEN A TOOTH.

SILENCE, SEALS, SILENCE.

USE THE DOOR, IDIOT.

AREN'T YOU SUPPOSED TO HAVE A CHINESE WALL BETWEEN THOSE TWO BUSINESSES?

AM I TOO EARLY?

IT'S SPAT AT THEIR TELEPHONES UNTIL THEY DIED OF DEHYDRATION.

WE'RE CALLING THAT GROUP "THE LUCKY ONES."

The results of our customer satisfaction survey are in.

R'S SPAT AT THEIR TELEPHONES UNTIL THEY DIED OF DEHYDRATION.

WE'RE CALLING THAT GROUP "THE LUCKY ONES."

MAY YOU DIE A THOUSAND DEATHS BY CHOKING ON YOUR OWN BILE!

HELLO, IS THIS THE SALES DEPARTMENT?

A SUPERVISOR MAY BE MONITORING THIS CALL FOR QUALITY CONTROL.

STRANGE, LIKE THAT NO ONE WOULD CAPITAL TELLS IT, OU TELL NOT.

AND I THOUGHT THE EAGLE WAS THE CROW.

THE隱 PEDAL ON THE GROUP "THE LUCKY ONES."

HELLO, IS THIS THE SALES DEPARTMENT?

A SUPERVISOR MAY BE MONITORING THIS CALL FOR QUALITY CONTROL.

ALL YOU CAN EAT.

7202 Melrose Ave.
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WE'VE BEEN THERE.
January 19th was the first anniversary of the fire in the Boland Hall dormitory at Seton Hall where three students were killed and 62 more injured in an early morning fire. I have not been able to find out the results of the investigations about what actually happened. At the time the newspapers reported that a resident associate on the floor had to ask three people to leave the building just 45 minutes before the fire. It was suspected that these people were somehow involved. Who they were, what they were doing there, what led them to set the fire (if in fact they did so) was subject to speculation and so far as I can figure out, still not known. It is amazing however that barely three months after this catastrophe, again in the wee hours of the morning, there again was a fire in the same dormitory. This time a student was burned on the arm when a glass of alcohol was ignited, and set fire to the carpet. One would have thought that the occupants would have learned not to play with fire... Of course there is the invidious possibility that this was a case of spontaneous combustion, rather than arson or just plain stupidity. Actually an estimated 1700 fires take place each year on US college campuses. With one out of six being set "on purpose". It is surprising, is it not, that college students would behave so irresponsibly, although, on average basis of age one, this should perhaps not be unexpected. In the population at large, half of those arrested for arson are men under eighteen years of age. The United States Fire Administration reports that young people who set fires do so as the result of peer pressure, just because of pressure, pure and simple stress. There's plenty of that in any college environment, certainly at Caltech. Of course many fires are set accidentally. For example fabrics draped over a light fixture. Noon has been to play with things in the bathroom sink and even been aware of some problems. I made my mistake when I tried to expedite drying. A bad move...if you have not yet done this experiment, don't. I survived with minimal losses (just my socks and a T-shirt). Obviously an unattended candle will also serve to start a fire, and so will an overloaded extension cord. In an equally unoriginal approach to possible disaster, you can also put too much fat in a frying pan, or place the toaster too close to your drapes. Anyway, cooking seems to be the second most common cause of dormitory fires and smoking is number three, what? smoking! inside! And that is where college differs from the real world. In the outside world smoking is the major cause of fatal fires. 1700 fires a year is really an incredibly large number of incidents, especially in a environment populated by well educated and presumably sharper than most, young people. Of course Fresh have not yet acquired the savvy but they represent only a quarter of the student population. For 1700 fires to be reported can you imagine how many more there must be which go largely unnoticed? Even if the school security logs list all of them, it takes serious damage, injury or death for an incident to make the newspapers. For 1700 fires to be reported there will be many more actual events including a whole slew of false alarms. Far from harmless, these compound the danger. Who wants to get out of their cozy bed or interrupt their break-through efforts on homework, simply to satisfy somebody else's need to display their power? Well may be the first few times, but no more after that. Repeated fake alarms dull the reactions of those exposed to them and so greatly increase the danger. Fires can quickly leap out of control, much faster than most people realize. In many instances people are killed not by the flames but by the smoke which can poison the air ahead of the fire, even several floors away. The three young men who died in the Seton Hall fire were killed by smoke inhalation. I do not know whether they were slow in responding to the alarm, but being even a little tardy in leaving the building can be very costly indeed. Anything which impedes fast exit, physically or psychologically, is dangerous. It may not be surprising that alcohol or drugs are often involved. Drinking presumably impair the judgment of whoever thinks it's funny to set the fires and also of potential victims, who will be slower at recognizing the danger then they had been sober. A no-brainer don't you agree? I wish I could say that, terrible as they are, such events take place only elsewhere, like at Bloomigboum University where there were two fatal Frat fires just a few years apart. Nothing of the sort would happen at Caltech. Our students are sophisticated, and very smart. They clearly foresee the consequences of their acts and thus are cautious and considerate of whatever could be a threat to others. Don't we wish that it would always be so? Unfortunately, over the years, I have become aware of some problems here also, apparently caused by a few, who cannot always be identified. A few is all it takes however. Other colleges resort to cameras monitoring the hallways, and other means of watching for trouble. Pranksters who pull fire alarms can be more readily identified and so made to face steep consequences. It is a criminal offense to tamper with fire equipment. That goes for alarms, detectors, fire hoses and the bright red and so very enticing fire extinguishers. Playing with them can make them unworkable if needed. Who wants that on their conscience? Anyone who is curious as to what it's like to fire off an extinguisher, should call the safety office and sign up for one of their regular training sessions. Be careful with the red things, please. A bientot.

Jean Paul Revel
of January to Friday the 9th of February.

Law 133 Business Law and Economics

This course offers an introduction to modern business organizations, from both the legal and scientific points of view. Focus on the basic structure of business and contract law, and an empirical approach to the regulation of business.

Coordinating Professor: Dina Figueroa

THE DATE!

SEDS (Students for the Exploration and Development of Space) will be holding their annual gathering on Sunday, 3:00 pm in Winton lounge, featuring a 12 pm as well as various presentations throughout the day. Specifically, Caltech's student representatives will be attending. If you have any questions, please contact Kaitlyn Abbott at kabott@caltech.edu or call 629-595-3103.

Paid Summer Internship in Silicon Valley

Free room and board, $5000 for five weeks, paid for weekdays only, up to $5000 for eight weeks of experience with a Silicon Valley startup. Contact www.svarealerts.com and if you have any other questions, email svarealerts.com.

SEDS (Students for the Exploration and Development of Space)

This year, prizes will be given in three categories: poetry, prose fiction, and science fiction. Each category will be typewritten and double-spaced. Include your address and phone number on your submission. In the poetry category, entrants may submit up to three poems. Submissions of prose fiction should not exceed 5,000 words. Essays may be up to 10,000 words and will be typewritten and double-spaced. Each category will have one winner. The prize in each category will be $3000. Students enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs currently registered at Caltech as undergraduates are eligible to enter the competition. The judges will be in charge of awarding the prizes.

The Literary Faculty is pleased to announce the 55th Annual Student Writing Competition! The Caltech M. Earl McKinney prize is awarded each year for excellence in writing. If you are interested in entering the competition, please visit www.science,ethics, and public policy.caltech.edu for more information. For further information, please contact SEPSA at seps@caltech.edu.

Scholarships

The Coalition of Higher Education Societies (COHEAO) and the American Electroplaters and Surface Finishing Society (AESF) is offering a Scholarship Program for undergraduate and graduate students in the sciences. The AESF scholarship program is open to U.S. citizens or permanent residents who are currently enrolled in a graduate or undergraduate program in chemistry, physics, or a related field. The scholarship will provide up to $5000 per year in financial aid to eligible students.

For more information, please contact COHEAO at 202-465-3553 or email info@coheao.org.

The Caltech Y is coordinating its annual McKinney Competition. The Y offers scholarships for students who are eligible to enter the competition. This year, prizes will be given in three categories: poetry, prose fiction, and science fiction. Each category will be typewritten and double-spaced. Include your address and phone number on your submission. In the poetry category, entrants may submit up to three poems. Submissions of prose fiction should not exceed 5,000 words. Essays may be up to 10,000 words and will be typewritten and double-spaced. Each category will have one winner. The prize in each category will be $3000. Students enrolled in undergraduate or graduate programs currently registered at Caltech as undergraduates are eligible to enter the competition. The judges will be in charge of awarding the prizes.

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