This summer Kaisa Taipole did a SURF on a subject that is rather unpopular at Caltech: community service. She spent time researching service programs at other schools in comparison to ours, and reasons behind the low participation of nearly three generations, 70 years and countless generations later, the same pot’s once-blowing embers will tonight flicker and die once more—this time for good.

Pulled over the brink by continuing safety concerns and reports of a recent 10-foot-blaze in the Ricketts pot, an ad hoc committee of administrators and security officials handed down a pointed fiat last Monday directing House leadership to convert the courtyard centerpiece into something “not related to fire.”

“We’ve had general concerns about having the pot or any container where a fire could be built within our courtyards,” said Director of Residence Life Kim West.

“We’ve already had discussions about whether we could continue to use the pot as we had been, and the decision reflects an increasing awareness of safety issues.”

Student Affairs Vice President Chris Brennen convened the committee after an Officer Sanchez of Public Safety filed an incident report alleging “a fire that was about 10 feet high” at 7:30 p.m. on October 7. The patrolman’s call to Resident Associate Jessica Edwards led students to quickly extinguish the flame, but the “security report got people’s attention,” in the words of West.

But Karnesky dubbed the October 7 report “blatantly wrong.” Instead of 7:30, he placed the alleged fire nearly two hours later and questioned its supposed height. “It was a large fire,” held Edwards, “but nothing like the 10 feet in the security report.”

Still, Chief of Security Operations Gregg Henderson stood by his officer’s report. “No, I have never had any reason to doubt its integrity,” he affirmed. But while he cited multiple officers’ independent corroboration of the story, he conceded also that there have been some questions concerning a couple of things in it.”

Whatever the case, administrators reacted swiftly. After a brief investigation of legal issues and the pot’s current grill—designed to shield fires from the open—Brennen’s committee concluded on October 9 that the courtyard “is not the right place for an object of this sort,” in the words of committee member and Dean of Students Jean-Paul Revel.

“I understand that it’s a safety hazard,” he said, “and as a result we have to consider that very seriously because we don’t want to endanger the student body. Under the circumstances it’s really hard to support the continuation of the fire pot as a fire pot.”

Legally, the pot has existed as a “barbecue” sanctioned by state regulations. It was shocking to hear from anonymous student, "They want to raise tuition by $5000 per [year]!"

Despite the reliability of the Caltech rumor mill, Director of Financial Aid David Levy commented to the to contrary. He said “Discussion of $5000 has never been on the table. The administration though, will want to increase tuition between now and January.”

Professor Frautschi also confirmed, “In general terms, nobody is proposing to jump tuition to $5000.”

Thus, there are definitely talks of tuition being increased, but exactly how much and when is not known yet. This rumor has left students shocked and worried over extra financial burden and also over the reasons behind the tuition increase.

In past years, Caltech has stood out in comparison over peer institutions such as Harvard, Stanford and MIT because of its low tuition and has hence had a competitive advantage. Since tuition forms a very low proportion of Caltech’s income, increasing it seems to be of a healthy disadvantage to the Institute in terms of the cost-benefit analysis of the action.

However, as Professor Frautschi explained, the Institute has been facing deficits for the past few years and it all got out of control when last year, the amount of withdrawal from endowments reached 8% as opposed to a healthy 5.5% suggested by the Board of Trustees. Hence, the withdrawal has to be cut down to maintain the value of the endowments with the long-term level of purchasing power. This has put pressures on the Institute’s budgets as can be inferred by the various attempts of reducing costs and raising revenues.

With the recent gift of $600 million, people are getting more concerned when expenses and costs are being increased. The truth of the matter is that the donation will be received over a period of ten years and that they will have some decided purpose. After all, most donors would want his or her gift to help with something new rather than finance a large deficit though.

In Professor Steve Fratuch’s own words, “it really was deficit spending in the last years that has motions for some type of financial action. To improve [the deficit problem], there will have to be belt-tightening on many fronts. And yes, it is a tough philosophical question to answer how the $600 million endowment does not resolve these present problems.”

With ways of financing these deficits being discussed, and it seems that either tuition or room and board expenses will be the victims of an increase. The

Tuition increase to come soon

ME 72
This Thursday at 2 PM, Beckman Auditorium!
Security increases on campus

BY PHILIP WONG

While waves of disbelief still ripple through the international community in response to the events of September 11 and those following, countless agencies around the country, public and private, have responded to increased awareness in hopes of preventing further catastrophes.

Caltech is no different. Due to the school’s prominence and worth to the scientific community, Caltech’s security department is currently operating with a heightened awareness. In an effort to “provide a stable educational, research, and work environment,” methods to deal with suspicious packages and individuals on campus have been re-emphasized.

Mail passing to staff, faculty, and students is screened a minimal four times, once each by major carriers such as UPS and FedEx, the local post office, the mail room at Caltech, and by those who deliver the mail. At each stage, handlers look for signs of potentially hazardous mail. “Suspicious” mail can include unopened envelopes, mail that lacks return addresses and is marked by “Attention” or “Confidential,” or excessive and bulky packaging.

If mail is identified as suspicious, security is notified. Caltech security is trained to handle such cases and has access to equipment, such as X-ray machines, that can help determine the nature of the package or letter. If necessary, outside authorities are contacted. Caltech security reserves the right to examine and open suspicious packages.

While several cases of suspicious mail have been reported, there have been no harmful cases.

The size of the Caltech community also adds to overall security. According to Alice Edel who helps operate the Tech Express, “knowing students on a personal level provides the motivation to ensure a thorough screening process.”

Gregg Henderson, Caltech’s chief of security, remarks, “the size of the community allows myself and the [security] department to interact substantially easier with students, faculty, and students.”

Overall, campus security awareness has increased and the security risk at the moment is possible but not probable, essential procedures are in place to preserve the openness and safety of the Caltech community.
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COMMUNITY
continued from page 1

first step to implementing other forms of volunteer work here.
Kaisa found that MIT had an interesting public service program which uses academic courses, called "Service-learning courses", as a means of community service. In other words, students take classes which facilitate volunteer work. For example, an engineering class could be asked to design basic amenities such as a soap dispenser to meet specific needs of a nursing home, or toys to give to an orphanage; a communications class could be asked to tutor younger children. Luring Caltech students with academic units may well be the way to encourage more people into volunteer work! Another community service option initiated by MIT that would probably be equally successful at Caltech is a program in which students are given used computer parts, and asked to assemble them into working machines that are then donated to schools or under-privileged homes. Even though federal work-study is the traditional incentive for community service, there is nevertheless a fair proportion of Techers who would prefer not to be paid for their volunteer work. By and large Kaisa's survey found that the definition for community service was qualified by "no pay". However, it is little known that 7% of Caltech federal work-study funding is required to be earned through community service by law. If this minimum is not met, we could risk losing federal funding. Since last year, when we almost fell short of this requirement, it has become all the more essential that as many people as possible earn their work-study through volunteer work. Do not despair—you still have a chance to redeem yourself!

The Y is offering you a chance to start volunteering: stop by the Community Service Fair TO­DAY (11/30) between 11:30 and 1:30 in front of Winnett, to talk to representatives from service organizations in Pasadena. Opportunities should be plentiful, and it is likely that you'll be able to find a volunteer job that is useful and enjoyable. At Caltech, where many lives revolve around problem sets and exams do everything but make our beds, it is easy to lose focus of the real world of which we are a part. It's time that we took off our rose-colored glasses and acknowledge those in need of our help in a much more responsive manner. Start today!

Y

IMPORTANT
EXCOMM
ANNOUNCEMENT

To All ASCIT Members,

The position of ASCIT Vice President (who also serves ex officio as Board of Control Chair) will soon be vacated and as such it is up to the Executive Committee to select a replacement. We will put a signup sheet up outside SAC 33 starting Friday morning at 8 AM and lasting until Monday at midnight (per the bylaws this position is only open to current Juniors and Seniors).

All eligible ASCIT members interested in being considered by the Executive Committee to fill the office of ASCIT Vice President are encouraged to sign-up. For more information about the Executive Committee please see our website at http://donut.caltech.edu/~excomm or e-mail the Chair at af@its.caltech.edu.

To learn more about the position of ASCIT Vice President see the main ASCIT website at http://donut.caltech.edu/~ascit/boclist.html.

Al Valdivia
Executive Committee Chair

INVARINANCES
The Structure of the Objective World
Robert Nozick

In this pathbreaking book, the eminent philosopher Robert Nozick rethinks and transforms the concepts of truth, objectivity, necessity, contingency, consciousness, and ethics. Using an original method, he presents bold new philosophical theories that take account of scientific advances in physics, evolutionary biology, economics, and cognitive neuroscience, and casts current cultural controversies in a wholly new light. Nozick brings together the book's novel theories to show the extent to which there are objective ethical truths.

Belknap Press • cloth

What's new at the Y?
• Noon concert. The Caltech Jazz Band will perform today outside of the Red Door Café. Next week's noon concert will feature David Harris.
• Community Service Fair Friday, November 30 from 11:30 to 1:30 outside of the bookstore. Talk to representatives of local service organizations and learn about opportunities to make a difference.
• Reading to Kids, Saturday, December 8, at 8:00 am. Read to children at an inner city elementary school. Contact Anita Choi (anichoi@caltech.edu) for more information. Advance registration is required by the school.
• Decompression! Next Saturday and Sunday on the second floor of Winnett starting at 7:00 pm. FREE FOOD: fruit, bagels, hamburgers, veggie burgers, hot dogs, chili (meat and vegetable), popcorn, drinks, desserts, and more. Also enjoy live entertainment, movies, and company to get away from finals for a while. If you're interested in volunteering to help and getting a free t-shirt, look for signup sheets coming to your house lounge soon. Or, email ayer@its to sign up.

Did you know?
You can earn $15/hour for doing community service if you have Federal Work Study in your financial aid package. If you are looking for a fun and rewarding way to complete your work study hours, drop by the Y to learn about community service opportunities, including on-campus tutoring, Union Station homeless shelter, Reading to Kids, Habitat for Humanity, and much more!

The Y EsComm meets every Monday at noon in the Y Lounge to plan upcoming Y events. If you are interested in what we do, please stop by! The Y is located on the first floor in the Student Services Building, south of the Holliston parking structure.
Students prepare for annual ME 72 competition

PRESS RELEASE

PASADENA-Caltech mechanical engineering students are putting in quality tool time these days to prepare for the annual ME 72 engineering design contest, a celebrated campus event in which teams of robot rovers are pitted against each other in a test of engineering design acumen, strategy, teamwork, and sheer driving skill.

This year’s contest, the 17th in the annual series, will be held at 2 p.m., Thursday, December 6, in Beckman Auditorium on the Caltech campus. The design and construction of a machine is an important requirement for the Mechanical Engineering 72 design course, and the annual event has become an eagerly anticipated campus tradition among students and faculty.

The media are invited to attend and cover the event, which should last about 90 minutes.

At the beginning of the 2001 fall term, the students registering for Mechanical Engineering 72 were given a design task, a “bag of junk,” and 10 weeks to design and build a machine they judged capable of performing an assigned feat during a public contest at the end of the term.

The students, paired up in teams, have now finished designing, prototyping, fabricating, assembling, testing, debugging, and tuning their machines and are ready to find out which team’s machines are tops.

This year’s contest is somewhat different in that the machines will compete on a curved, sloping series of steps, rather than a horizontal table as in many previous years, said Erik Antonsson, a professor of mechanical engineering at Caltech who is the originator of the design contest.

“...The task this year is to push as many hockey pucks as possible up to the highest sloping step possible, Antonsson said. “You get more points for putting a puck in the top step, but you also have to contend with a steeper slope.

“Also, for the second straight year we’re using wireless power controllers, so students will control their vehicles by radio instead of by an attached umbilical cord.” Though the contest is entertaining for onlookers, Antonsson said the motivation is to teach students how to design complicated devices that can hold up and perhaps even perform admirably in the real world. Engineering is primarily the process of creating new things to solve problems,” Antonsson said. “This course and contest is one attempt to provide students with a real-world opportunity to learn about the design of new things and the solution of opened-ended, ill-defined problems.”

The event is sponsored by Schlumberger, Allied Signal, Northrop Grumman Corp., Applied Materials, General Motors, the San Diego Foundation, IDEALAB, and Hewlett-Packard Company (San Diego Division).

Additional information on the course and contest can be found at: http://www.design.caltech.edu/Courses/ME72

MEDIA ACCESS: The contest is open to the news media and Caltech community. Press will have special seating in the front rows on the left side of the auditorium, and will have supervised access to the stage and student preparation room during breaks. To ensure that the hundreds of students, faculty, and staff have a clear view of the contest, we ask that the press not stand on or in front of the stage.

Need Food Money?

Alumni Fund - Student Phone Program is Hiring for Winter Calling!
Network w/alumni, sharpen your interviewing & negotiation skills, support Caltech, & earn good $$$!
Calling begins in January

Contact Lucie
x5323 - lspencer@dar

Human Embryo Cloned:

On Sunday, Advanced Cell Technologies, Inc. of Worcester, Massachusetts released a statement that the company had successfully cloned human embryos. Of eight eggs, two divided to form four-cell embryos and one made it to the six cell stage before it stopped dividing. This announcement immediately came under fire from President Bush who said that human cloning is morally wrong. Michael West, president of ACT, suggests that he is only trying to help those who are sick and in need of stem cell therapy and that his company’s objective is to only mine stem cells. Nevertheless, many politicians believe that allowing the cloning of human embryos will inevitably lead to reproductive human cloning. On Monday, Clonaid, an organization founded by a religious faction, claimed that it was attempting to impregnate a woman with a cloned human embryo. Though unconfirmed, it has raised concerns in many countries about the realities of human cloning and stirred debate in many circles. Legislation on human cloning is expected to begin shortly in Congress.

War Against Terrorism:

The Northern Alliance had confi­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­­�
November 30, 2001

The California Tech

6 News

Why did Hitler never build an atom bomb?

Press Release

Physicists, historians, and an
actor will try to answer that
question in “The Copenhagen
Interpretation: Exploring Sci-
ence, War, and Family” on De-
cember 10, in Beckman Auditor-
ium at the California Institute of
Technology in Pasadena.

The idea for the free-flowing,
roundtable discussion was
inspired by the staging of
the play Copenhagen, by
Michael Frayn, at the Wilshire
Theatre, running now through January 6, 2002.

The play is inspired by an
incident where two brilliant
physicists, longtime friends, met
in the recent past, but it should
not be taken as historical ac-
count of the events pre-
ceding the Holocaust.

The participants will consider
broader scientific, historical,
philosophical, and artistic di-
ensions of this encounter and
its dramatization in the

7 -0 vote, the unspent money
available online via the donut
website.

Professors in the CS department.

Computers in the publications
office for missing senior
pictures. Committee meetings before
the date of the conference will be
announced by ASCIT and we hope
that this year will serve as a precedent.

Big T, ASCIT apologizes for
the less than satisfactory con-
clusion of the 1999-2000 Big T,
with the absence of many se-
tor, a newspaper group that
published the Whitestown edition of the
Student Times.

Speculation that the loss of
some of the pages may be on the
publisher's end, in which case
may not have been fully
realized by adminis-
stration, as there have not been
ample opportunities for under-
grades to participate in forums on
health insurance.

ASCIT is concerned that sig-
ificant changes to the health
insurance policies were
made over the summer without
the input of undergraduates.

By the responses of some
of the faculty at the meeting,
that this was the first time that
some members had had the op-
portunity to comment
changes as well. Since most of
and fees are paid by parents,
ASCIT is plan-
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BoC Bylaw Amendments

The ASCIT BoD has approved the following bylaw amendments, which create the position of off-campus Board of Control Representative, for a vote of the student body. The reasons for the proposed amendments are that (1) students who live in Avery, Marks and the apartments have traditionally been underrepresented in student government and (2) the Board of Control sometimes has difficulty making quorum without off-campus Past BoC Reps to hear a case. This position will supplant the current system, which requires unaffiliated students to register with a house in order to be a Past BoC Rep. It is expected that the elections would be centered in Avery house, but all off-campus students would be eligible to vote as they normally do not vote in a house BoC Rep election that year. The first three amendments below will be a vote on the ballot since they are closely related.

There is another proposed amendment which limits the number of voting members on a committee to nine (the current number of BoC Reps). This is intended to make sure the Board can operate in an efficient manner by preventing it from becoming too big. Most cases in the last three years have had either seven or eight voting members serving.

In order for these amendments to be incorporated into the bylaws, they must be approved by a two-thirds (2/3) vote of the student body. Voting will be done online next Friday from 10 AM to 10 PM at donut.caltech.edu/vote. All undergraduates are eligible to vote and are strongly encouraged to do so. The text of the amendments is below, with text to be added in italics and text to be removed in strikethrough.

**Item one: Three amendments (Vote yes or no)**

---

In Article VII, Board of Control, amend Section 2 to read:

**SECTION 2—MEMBERSHIP.** The Board of Control shall consist of the Vice President of the Corporation, who shall act as chairman, and the following members: the Secretary of the Board of Control, two members appointed by the Board of Control, and seven members, one elected in each of the seven undergraduate student houses and one elected by students living outside of the seven houses.

And amend subsection 2(b): (b) A candidate may declare his candidacy in any house, but all students shall vote in the House with which they are affiliated at the time of the election. Students not affiliated with any house may register to vote in the House of their choice. Students not registered or affiliated with a House at the time of the election may not vote. Students affiliated with more than one House may only vote in one House.

---

**Item two: One amendment (Vote yes or no)**

In Section 3—Rules of Procedure, amend subsection 3(b) to read:

(b) Seven (7) voting members of the Board shall constitute a quorum. At most nine (9) voting members shall sit on a case.

---

**LUNCHEON WITH JOHN HUME**

**BY BEN LEE**

Last Tuesday, Nobel Peace-prize laureate John Hume came to Caltech to speak about his involvement in the peace process in Northern Ireland. I was among a group of Caltech students, many affiliated with the Caltech Y, who met him for lunch at the Athenaum library. Arriving in a cramped pink shirt and grinning as with warm eyes from beneath bushy gray eyebrows, he seemed not so much a famed diplomat as a wise and grandfatherly teacher.

Hume began his life as an Irish Catholic in Derry, at a time when the unemployment rate among the Irish Catholic majority of that Northern Ireland city was seventy percent. The discrimination from the minority Protestant population who controlled most of the businesses and the local and national assemblies kept people like John Hume’s father from getting a job, even though as John recalls, “my father was evidently an intelligent man”. Whenever he was asked to seek his help to complete legal and formal orders. The poverty of Irish Catholics in Derry was stark; many families lived in homes that were constructed as temporary shelter for United States marines stationed there during the Second World War. In this atmosphere of police discrimination, and distinct between the Catholic and Protestant communities, only the flag-waving politics of sectionalism prospered. “Celtics vs. Rangers, Green vs. Orange, Nationalists vs. Unionists - while the people remained divided and poor. It was this poverty that John Hume first attempted to change. Believing that his town could prosper if local people pooled their resources to invest in local businesses, he founded the first credit union in Northern Ireland.

Hume speaks at Caltech

**BY JON FOSTER**

What does a peacemaker look like? What is it like to listen to a voice which helped stop bitter enemies slaughtering each other? It took only a man who never expected violence could end as a war, but was convinced that putting aside the guns and bombs and working together was not an act of surrender. There would be no peace until the Scots, Irish, and Catholics learned to live together.

In a public interview with Kevin Cullen at the 3rd Annual Labor Day (SLP) dinner, Hume said that his town could prosper if local people pooled their resources to invest in local businesses, he founded the first credit union in Northern Ireland.

In Hume’s words, only regular concrete change happens first by example to men and women everywhere. What can be achieved by living like Hume? If everyone were completely ordinary but dedicated to peace, like John Hume. The world today is a much smaller place, “and our dream of a world without conflict, the real meaning of terrorisms,” and had made many people aware of how important Hume’s struggle really is. "It was in this atmosphere during the 1970’s that John Hume helped to found the Social Democratic and Labor Party (SDLP), which he led as the voice of moderate Catholic nationalists in Northern Ireland. Hume told us how a little girl approached him at her father’s funeral - he had been killed by Protestant paramilitaries - yet she told him of how her family had gathered around the casket to pray for peace, and to pray in hope for John Hume. Hume tried to make the desire of the majority of the people of Northern Ireland be achieved through the three principles: the cycle of violence must end, the solution must represent a compromise with no victory for either side, finally there must be a healing process between the communities.

John Hume’s realized that before violence could end as a war, there must be convinced that putting aside the guns and bombs and working together was not an act of surrender. There would be no peace until the Scots, Irish, and Catholics learned to live together.
**Caltech’s “fifteen minutes” goes into overtime**

**BY KEVIN BARTZ**

Where else can you find a Real Genius—not the type freckled and pale-faced with skullet-chick glasses, but a Malibu Barbie stunningly sharp and Legally Blonde? Or what about star-glasses, but a Malibu Barbie studded stunningly sharp and in them. A large Pulp Fiction proves also the most tiresome. For interior filming, Public Events officials to dust-covered steam gates to dust-covered steam vents of campus, operated independently. And unlike commercial dealers who dole out top dollar for movie magnates, Public Events produces documentaries by the likes of Edward James Olmos, and even documentaries from countess researchers to a specia...
I think the problem is not that administrators intend to exploit the undergraduates, but that our values cannot be reconciled with a business strategy. Caltech's main purpose as a university is to foster world-class science and produce world-class scholars. This includes maintaining an undergraduate population, but we are just too close to the students. Campus-wide decisions are made to maximize total benefit with the resources available, and words like "eficiency", "flow" were undeniably thrown around during decision-making. However, the magic of the undergraduate experience is not something that fits into that equation. One budget cut or one less freedom is not enough to destroy the magic (Smith 56:9:5), it remains constant. But if each year a few less friendships are made because freshmen don't have cars to go to Tommy's, and a few more people have to do things because they can't cope with medical problems and school at the same time, the effects of these decisions propagate. If decisions like these continue to become, quietly and gradually, something beautiful and extraorinary will become prosaic. If our way of life to keep believing that Caltech cares about its undergraduates. However, I believe that the unique stresses of this environment change them even more dramatically and come support our team?

To go back to Hunger can be affected, either emotionally or physically. Some students don't that more than usual, or less, or sometimes experiencing "early morning awakening" – waking up at an unusually early hour without being able to go back to sleep. This can be very distressing and is often a form of mood disorders (see http://atc.caltech.edu/ CIT/Parking/ParkingMemol.pdf for the parking memo). This sort of decision-making smells of duplicity. Even if the same decisions were made, having students involved before the decisions treatment of depression. How can we make them even more vulnerable to becoming depressed?

As we face the precipitants, the impact of depression on someone's life is significant. Students who have already experienced depression before they came to Caltech while others experience their first bout of depression, some students not even because not everyone seeks help. The numbers at Caltech appear similar to the national statistics, roughly 5-6% of the population. Some students believe that the rigid academic stress of this environment may make them even more vulnerable to becoming depressed.

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DILBERT® by Scott Adams

I'M GOING TO START AN AIRLINE THAT HAS NO PLANES.

I'LL TAKE PEOPLE MONEY AND MAKE THEM SIT IN A CROWDED ROOM WHILE EX CON STEAL FROM THEIR LUGGAGE.

WHAT HAPPENS WHEN YOUR CUSTOMERS REALIZE YOU HAVE NO AIRPLANES?

I CALL THAT "MECHANICAL DIFFICULTIES."

DOGBERT AIRLINES

I'VE BEEN WAITING FOR 35 HOURS. ARE YOU SURE MY FLIGHT EXISTS?

ACCORDING TO MY COMPUTER YOUR FLIGHT IS DELAYED BY WEATHER.

WHAT KIND OF WEATHER?

OUR PLANES CAN'T HANDLE DIRECT SUNLIGHT.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT YOU'LL EARN SIX "DOGBERT MILES" THAT CAN BE USED ON THE 35TH OF EVERY MONTH.

THE BAD NEWS IS THAT YOU JUST SPENT $3,000 LOSING FOCUS KEYS.

THE COST WILL BE $3,000... LOSING FOCUS... MONKEYS ARE FUNNY... MY TONGUE IS DIGESTING IN MY MOUTH.

THAT DIDN'T HELP AS MUCH AS I HAD HOPED.

OKAY, LET ME THINK ALoud FOR A MINUTE.

DADDY: NOW WHAT?

I'M FIRED?!

NOW I CAN'T PAY MY RENT!

THE CONGRESSIONAL HEARINGS

I'M FIRED?

NOW I CAN'T PAY MY RENT!

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Day, the thick-tailed meerkat, 18 hrs a day, the Aradillo, 17 hrs the Phalanger, 14. Since none of these beasts display any particular scinitillations of intelligence my hypothesis (such as it is) may be a bit simplistic, probably not worth considering further. It is interesting to note that the sheep that great sleep facilitator, invited by millions of tonomericies every night, itself spends only, 5 hrs in this inactivity. We don’t know all of the things that sheep is for, but a favorite theory today is that it has something to do with consolidating memory.

While cautioning that there is no conclusive evidence, a recent reviewer states “the memory trace stays in a fragile state until the first post-exposure sleep has occurred.” Robert Stickgold and colleagues from Harvard Medical School used sleep deprivation to test the importance of sleep for memory and learning. In one of their experiments a group of subjects was trained to do a visual task and then sleep-deprived, with a second group (serving as control) was allowed to sleep normally. Both groups were allowed to sleep for two further nights, so that when rested on the third day, there was no residual stress from the sleepless post-training night. “Subjects who were sleep deprived on the first night after training showed no significant improvement in task performance on the third day, while control subjects who were allowed sleep on the first night showed a substantial improvement.”

There are many more reports tending to the same conclusion and further evidence that a particular phase of sleep in which rapid eye movements take place (REM sleep, when dreaming commonly takes place) is particularly important in consolidating memory, although the issue is far from settled. We actually know a lot more about the cell and molecular biology of how memories are made, see for example Eric Kandel’s 2000 Nobel Prize lecture.

In his studies Kandel made use of a simple behavior, which could be learned by a giant marine snail, the sea hare, Aplysia californica. A light touch to the siphon of the animal causes it to contract its siphon, and its gills to withdraw out of harm’s way. The behavior is controlled by giant (i.e. easy to manipulate) nerve cells. This “simple reflex could be modified by different forms of learning which have close equivalents in higher vertebrates.” In one of these, sensitization, an unrelated stimulus becomes associated with the reflex. For example a shock to the tail causes the siphon and gill to be withdrawn. The animal remembers the shock, so that, later, even a minor stimulation of the tail can produce the reflex. “The duration of the memory is a function of the number of repetitions of the noxious experience.” A single
To ensure that everyone has a safe and merry holiday the Environment, Health and Safety Office (EHS Office) has put together some helpful holiday decoration tips that are useful for work and home decor. If you’re looking to do a little decorating to brighten up your office, here are some tips to follow:

- **Choose Fire-Safe Trees:** Before you bring your tree home, make sure it’s flame-retardant. You can check for this by looking for the label “flame retardant” or “fire retardant.”
- **Use LED Lights:** LED lights are energy-efficient and last longer than traditional incandescent lights. They also produce less heat, making them safer around decorations.
- **Hang Decorations Properly:** Use sturdy hooks and avoid hanging anything from delicate branches or thin areas of the tree.

**Community Service Opportunities Around Caltech**

The Caltech Y offers students and staff a variety of ways to participate in community service. Opportunities include working with Habitat for Humanity, Union Station Homeless Shelter, Easter Seals (for children), reading tutoring, and working at local hospitals. One-time community service events are planned each term and opportunities for service on a regular basis exist. Undergraduates with federal work-study can receive $15/hr for their community service work. To be added to the Caltech Y’s community service interest email list or for more information about the Community Service Program, please contact Greg Fletcher at gregf@caltech.edu. ext. 6163. Or, stop by the Caltech Y in the Center for Students Services (formerly Keck House) for a complete listing of opportunities.

**Upcoming Events**

**The California Tech Jazz Bands**, featuring Louis Armstrong, Charlie Parker, John Coltrane, and Kenny Clarke will perform this Friday (Nov. 30) at noon in front of the famous Red Door Cafe.

The renowned Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra and Prelude Strings, sponsored by the Pasadena Youth Symphony, will present a free holiday concert on Monday, December 3, 7:30 pm at Wilson Middle School. The first of two free programs given by the orchestra annually, the concert will feature a selection of classical works. PSY Conductor Richard Meyer and Prelude Strings Conductor Pat Van Der Veer will conduct their respective groups. The featured works will include Bach’s Jesu, Joy of Man’s Desiring, Pavan by Debussy and Sarabande by Biber. Wilson Middle School is located at 500 South Madre in Pasadena. Reservations are not necessary for the Holiday concert, but for more information on the Pasadena Youth Symphony Orchestra, please call (626) 793-7127 ext. 10 or visit www.pasayasymphony.org.

The California Institute of Technology Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences Seminar on Science, Ethics, and Public Policy will present a talk on "The Pyramids and Prehistory: A Battle Royale in the Early Development of Scientific Archaeology." The talk will be given by Dr. David McGee, a Sloan/Dibner Fellow, Dibner Institute for the History of Science and Technology, Massachusetts Institute of Technology on Thursday, December 6, 4 pm in Baxter Building room 25. Seminars are on the Caltech campus and are open to the community at no charge. For information, contact Michelle Reinschmidt at (626) 395-3563 or michelle@caltech.edu. For a complete list of SEEP Seminars and Harris Lectures schedule for this academic year, visit our web site: http://www.hss.caltech.edu/seep/seep.html.

Women in Science is a new group on the Caltech campus. It was started by a group of concerned female graduate students and is now looking for new members. The group will be hosting Lunch With Faculty #3 on December 4 at the Carriage House. Professors Jackie Barton and Sossina Haile will share their experiences about being women in science. Lunch will be provided; however, space is limited so please RSVP by sending email to Cynthia Collins at cynthiac@its.caltech.edu. If you would like to find out more about the Women in Science group, feel free to contact us at cynthiac@its.caltech.edu.

Caltech Library Systems Presents: "Copyright for Researchers in Academia." December 4th, in the Sherman Fairchild Library Multimedia Conference Room 328, Noon. Presented by Kimberly Daniels, Director of the Sherman Fairchild Library and Peggy Luh, Office for the General Counsel. In the scholarly community researchers are active authors and makers, producers and consumers. This seminar will discuss the rights and responsibilities of these roles as governed by U.S. Copyright Law. Issues of photocopying, fair use and scholarly publisher copyright agreements will be included. The following session begins at Noon. Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is preferred. You may register for this session at: http://library.caltech.edu/learningspace/idlah.htm. For further information, please contact Kathleen McGregor at ext. 6713 or kathleen@library.caltech.edu.