New MOSH Jurca Positions Self as ‘Social Contact’

By JON FOSTER

Catherine Jurca, associate professor of literature, has been named Caltech’s new master of student houses (MOSH). The Tech talked to her at Steele House, her new residence as MOSH.

Many of us felt that last year represented sort of a low point in student-administration relations. What do you see as the MOSH role in improving this communication and this trust?

Catherine Jurca: As you may know, there was a committee which met to define the MOSH’s role. The issue of the tensions on campus between students and administrators came up a lot during this meeting. They decided the MOSH should be a social contact between students and faculty, exactly in order to avoid the kind of communication breakdown which happened before.

Well I first heard about the parking issue thought, “Well, most freshmen at other schools aren’t allowed to have cars of campus, it forces them to stay on campus and interact.” And then I asked the HWC about it, and within five minutes they changed my mind. The students and I do involve safety issues. I think with regards to the permits front it’s that they have to compromise to keep the firepot part of the house tradition for so long after the administration first became

Continued on Page 2, Column 1

No Such Thing As Free Lunch

By RUMI CHUNARAT AND ROBERT LEEK

Starting the fall term, all students on the Board program will be switched to a declining balance plan for lunch. The new plan, similar to the one at Avery, gives students $7.50 per day to spend on food at any of the on-campus dining facilities including Avery, the Cafe at Board, Chandler, Red Door Cafe, the C-Store and the renovated South Kitchen.

Money not spent will be kept in the account until the end of the term at which time the student must use it or lose it.

Concurrently with the switch to a declining balance system, Caltech Dining Services will be radically changing the function of the North and South Kitchens during lunch. Whereas previously both kitchens served the same meals, now only the South Kitchen will be open during lunch. Food will be served Chandler style with students purchasing each individual item they want. Open kitchen, which used to be in both the North and South Kitchens, will now only be in the North Kitchen in the mornings and from 2pm to dinner time.

To serve its new function, the South Kitchen was heavily renovated. A large pizza oven capable of holding 15 pizzas (as in the Chandler oven) has been installed in a brand new salad bar is the due to arrive within the week. Regarding the refill policy: soda, water and milk will be priced for free refills but the juice will not.

According to Tom Mannion, Director of Caltech Auxiliary & Business Services, there were two major reasons for the changes. First, it felt that the dining needs of the students could be better served by giving them the flexibility of eating anytime and anywhere rather than a fixed 1 hour block each day. With the new plan, students have for example slept past the normal lunch time, or he or she could still go out and buy lunch rather than have to go without food until dinner.

The second reason for the changes was fiscal. It was noticed that there was a huge duplication of effort in maintaining two kitchens during lunch when only around 130-150 freshman out of more than 200 were eating. Consequently, it was decided to close the north kitchen for lunch and only use it for open kitchen and dinner.

Student reaction was very positive on the better quality of food but there were still concerns about the length of lines at both Chandler and the South Kitchen. Ji-Hoon Ryu, a junior at Blacker, commented that “Although the new dining system has improved the quality of the food, it also made the wait in lines longer. We now just have pretty much two Chanderls ... instead of a kitchen where we can grab some quick food, we have two kitchens where we have to wait long lines to get the same food.”

Checkout Counters, Limited Hours Mark New Board Plan

By YELI

Undergraduates crowd into South Kitchen for lunch this week. A new board plan puts everyone on a declining-credit meal plan.

Caltech Takes 15th On Seventeen List

By YE LI

Most students at Caltech probably know of its 4th place ranking in the latest US News and World Report list of the top 50 universities in the country. Besides being on this annual list, Caltech has also managed to land itself on an altogether different sort of list this year. Seven­teen has also published a top col­leges list, with a title better suited to the magazine: “The 100 Coolest Colleges.” This ranking is targeted at the magazine’s largely female au­

Continued on Page 3, Column 3

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Nestled on a couch, Martha-Helene Stapleton ’03 basks in the house tradition for lunch. The new plan, similar to the one at Avery, gives students $7.50 per day to spend on food at any of the on-campus dining facilities including Avery, the Cafe at Board, Chandler, Red Door Cafe, the C-Store and the renovated South Kitchen.

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Continued on Page 3, Column 3
Jurca Plans Student Advisory Board, Steele ‘Office Hours’ as New MOSH

Concerned about how sensitive the administration treats students, Jurca explains, "I was a freshmen advisor last year, and I was just surprised watching the spark go out of my advisees as the term progressed...."

"I do think the quality of life issue just can't be separated from the academics. So much energy and time and worry goes into doing the academic work at Caltech that it really encroaches on reaction. At any time you could be working, and to see that in college students, it just seems like a hardship. You need leisure time, and you need downtime."

"I think it would be good if things were lightened up a little bit and it became less the incredible work of the core and more an opportunity to discover your own interests."

"Apart from the core curriculum, what do you think about the level of stress and alienation among Caltech students? There's got to be a little stress on students; are we there with regard to that level?"

From NFL Field to Steele, Jurca Hopes to ‘Interact’ With Students

"I don't do any easy fixes. Part of it is devoted to social, economic, and political agendas."

"I just feel that the thing he took away from his one evening a term where the tradition isn't in effect."
Physics, Scottish Pipes and Glamour

Continued from Page 1, Columns 2

For all her impressive credentials, Stapleton, 21, was more impressed with the other nine winners. One had overcome a massive heart attack at the age of 16, another was in eight foster homes as a child but now excels in college, yet another spent the summer in Tanzania teaching young people about HIV prevention. They are, in short, "women who are doing great things and being great role models," says Stapleton.

That's the point of the annual competition, now in its 45th year to recognize, as the magazine's editors put it, "leadership on campus, involvement in the community, excellence in their field of study, and their unique, inspiring goals." Stapleton saw an advertisement for the competition in The California Tech. Competing against 700 other women, she won a $1,000 scholarship and an all-expenses-paid trip to New York.

Stapleton notes that although she was very successful in high school -- she is a 1999 graduate of St. Joseph High School in Lakewood, California, where she was class valedictorian, a National Merit finalist and an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction -- she found the transition to Caltech a little tough at first.

"The material is hard and the class pace is very fast," says Stapleton. "My time management skills went down coming into college because you don't have an 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. day. So you have to maintain discipline."

Before deciding on Caltech, she thought about attending Harvard and majoring in international relations. She wants to combine that interest with a planned PhD in physics or biogenetics, perhaps lead- ing to an academic career in scientific policy and legislation, one that will integrate her passion for communication and science. "Most especially," she says, "I want my children to grow up in a world where no one finds it amazing that women, or even Latinos, study physics."
The Web Development Team has

Mark Richard G. G. Beatty, alumnus,

Kathleen McGregor, Caltech Li-

Teresa Nick, postdoctoral scholar,

Staff, LIGO Project

Rachel Lewis, senior, Geophys-

to reveal

Lynell Jackson, alumnus, EE

in

mean

Martin Basch, graduate student,

Aron Meltzner, alumnus, Geology

Qut

to-

(29x1047) editor)

Janet, Basit, Neda, Andrea.

Baltimore all alone) would make a

the Rose Parade. He thinks it would

been working on setting up

project credit for students involved

such a project would need to be

for any interested students is tenta-

two blocks from campus. Since

Anon. donor recently

arms training class for Cal tech un-

undergraduates to ASCIT. More pub-

soon, and Jialan will interface with

ASCIT Secretary

By LARRY STEWART

National Coming Out Day is cele-

rated every October. Its purpose is to promote Lesbian, Gay, Bi-

sexual and Transgender (LGBT) visibility. With this visibility we

hope to counter ignorance and fear of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and

Transgenders, and provide inspira-

tion for those who have not yet

"Coming out of the closet" is the act of revealing the truth about one's sexual orientation to others. Coming out is a very personal process and can take many forms. It involves having enough courage and feelings of self worth to reveal this very personal information to others. This can mean taking the risk of being rejected or misunder-

stood by those around you. How-

ever, by being honest about who we

are, Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgenders can begin to erase the misunderstandings.

While we cannot assume that oth-

ers will understand or care about what it means to be Lesbian, Gay, Bise

ruce, or Transgender, studies show that non-gay people who know someone who is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender, sup-

port equality based on sexual ori-


direct and dramatic way the size and

diversity of the LGBT population at Caltech, JPL and the Caltech-af-

filiated community at large. In ad-

dition, we hope to provide support and inspiration to those among us who have not come out, or who are just beginning the process of com-

out Whelk."}

Photo of the Week

This week saw a full slate of initiation activities for freshmen newly

admitted to one of Caltech's seven undergraduate houses. Here, Thera-

Haff, and Jason Yosinski '06, two freshmen entering Ruddock House, create a chariot to please their upperclassman masters in a Ruddock tradition known as "Husle Week."

Caltech Celebrates Coming Out Week

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til people know who we are. LGBT people are part of every aspect of life: we are parents, friends, chil-


dren, and co-workers. We are your

professors, your TAs, your lab tech-

nicians, your Librarians. It is up to

us to let the world know.

Our goal is to demonstrate in a
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**Lack of Culture?**

**By JIALAN WANG**

In his recent book, *Brown, Rich and Rodriguez explores the meaning of race other than actual race, but the identity in an America where these boundaries are crossed.*

The writer of diversity in not so united in itself and can be understood, but diversity of concepts, in realizations of different cultures, particularly with the Other. Diversity is what you find in yourself and we find the diversity in Beirut. Diversity is brother killing brother," he said in a 1997 interview. Diversity is terrifying.

While maeling at the complexity of culture and mixing of ideas that make Los Angeles the heart of America, Rodriguez at the same time attacks the American education system for bicultural education, affirmative action.

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**Sweet Home Alabama: Sweet but Stereotyped**

**BY TERRY YEN**

It’s your classic, yet charming, suave and simple-minded spirit of the Hollywood starlet. And our unification to recognize and deal with diversity in this world. We thusly score our focus on race. The word diversity means black, white, brown, male and female versions of the same ideology like the multi-colored Barbies Mattel sells as cultural variety. A single issue, a single focus, a single student. That week, the donation was made not as a prank. "The report also recommended 'inter-house and in-trump.'

Continued on Page 6, Column 4

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**Does your old health plan fit the new you?**

If you are between jobs, have just gotten married, had a child, or experienced another significant life change, make sure you have the health coverage that fits the new you with Blue Shield of California's Deductible PPO Plan. You can choose from among four annual deductible levels, so you're certain to find a plan that meets your needs and budget. Call today to compare coverage and see how affordable a Blue Shield Deductible Plan can be.
DILBERT® by Scott Adams

 mom, I'll get fired unless you drop your lawsuit against my company.

 why do you work for a company that's managed by despicable weasels?

 they told me it's because I enjoy the challenge.

 I demand a DNA test.

 DOGBERT THE ATTORNEY

 your best defense is to say you were ignorant of your company's stock manipulation.

 we need to convince a judge that you're dumber than chocolate-covered lumps at an outdoor Las Vegas photography convention.

 I don't get that.

 e-e-excellent.

 I will prove that my client is too dumb to embezzle.

 oh, failing in that, I'll prove that you're too dumb to know he did it.

 mister dogbert...

 don't get me started about you.

 dogbert the attorney

 your honor, is it too late to change sides?

 after hearing the evidence, I want to punish my client.

 I expect some awkward silences during the next break.

 the court finds you guilty of defrauding stockholders.

 you will serve your time in a place so horrible that it has no name.

 here's your roommate.

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 sta travel

 rotation: message from the president

 continued from page 5, column 5

 are you tired of problem sets?

 are your parents threatening to cut off your tuition because you're failing Phi Alpha?

 are you sad because you can't get any girls?

 then... work for the tech!

 (it's the answer to everything!) contact kevin kent & tammy at tech@uopcs.caltech.edu to start working and making money!

 intact today.

 at that time, freshmen spent two days in each of the houses during rotation. however, when three new houses were planned in 1959, the JHC was compelled to revise the rotation system. the debate became rather heated among the student body and with the administration; no consensus was reached by the time the north houses opened in 1960 so the MSHH assigned freshmen to houses arbitrarily.

 this continued until the fall of 1963, when the IHC found an acceptable procedure for rotation: each house would spend one day in each house and at the end could list four houses he was willing to enter. this stayed relatively constant until 1991, when freshmen were first allowed to rank their house preferences with a number 1-7, which is the system we have in place today.

 as the freshmen go through initiatives this week and learn all the quirky traditions of their house, try to imagine how their initiation rituals might have originated from a desire to provide "cultural and social development." when you complain about rotation rules, imagine that they came out of a desire to distribute freshmen "as equally as possible." in fact, almost everything that the houses do today can be seen as a confluence of traditional fraternity practices and the idealistic vision of the Caltech Houses that was laid out in 1931. in seventy-two years, the houses have gone through many changes, but students today would probably still agree with the January 11, 1952 Tech headline that proclaimed, "student houses combine all assets desirable to students."
Saddam Hussein get away with thumbing his nose at the world, and stock pile weapons of mass destruction, or go on developing capability for nuclear strikes. (It is unclear (sic) why so many people can’t pronounce nuclear. Could it have to do with the superstition that saying the name of something dreadful makes it become a reality?) Clearly Hussein is a candidate for inclusion in the list of latter day demons, clearly he has been up to no good. No one would be too surprised if, besides the horrors that are so often mentioned, he had contributed to the current wave of terrorism, but so far as I know there is no direct evidence to that effect. Less questionable is the suspicion that he has subverted the aims of the oil for food program set up by the UN, presumably using the funds to build WMDs and more and more palaces. Besides 28 such residences predating the Gulf war, another 50 or so have been built since then. A fellow can never have too many palaces, can he. If only to be able to sleep in a different place (sic) every night, and so dodge potential assassins and confuse jealous mistresses. There is also the possibility that all the gracious and peaceful looking gardens are a cover for production facilities engaged in making various witch’s brews. Actually he may take it as a compliment to him to be awarded the status of enemy number one, grabbing that mantle from Osama, now that we can’t figure out what happened to him and so many of his confederates. Yes, Hussein has not done many of the things that were demanded of him after the Gulf War and something surely has to be done about that. As I listened to the debates about whether to preauthorize the President to attack Iraq an old issue of the New Yorker (April 5, 1999) serendipitously showed up on a bookshelf at home. On the cover is a drawing entitled “Easter Morning” by Bruce McCall. It shows the steps of a museum, with flapping banners announcing the exhibition of Mystery Eggs, from 1 M.Y.E.B.C. it proclaims. A dozen orange seagulls winged away briefly and screeched at passers- by (?) are seen flying high over New York city, its streets empty. It is early in the morning with a large moon and stars still in the sky. There is only a squirrel to confront the hatchlings (they could by now say as they were already hatched?). The disturbing stuff is expounded on the inside of the magazine, in an article by Seymour Hersh who details a web of intrigue and infiltrating, which resulted in the strengthening of Hussein’s hand and led to the dismantling of the UN Commission for Iraq (UNSCOM). In Dec 1998 says Hersh “after Saddam Hussein had failed to end his arms control inspections, President Bush ordered attacks on Iraq...and missiles fell on carefully targeted picks...to degrade Iraq’s chemical and biological war fighting capabilities. We cannot allow Saddam Hussein to disarm UNSCOM and assume the production of weapons of mass destruction with impunity.” The poem developed in the article was that actually the dismantling of UNSCOM was mostly not of Saddam’s doing, it was the result of unbelievable bungling, and turf wars, involving the CIA and its reluctance to cooperate with other agencies. The article made pretty scary reading in the light of today’s barrage against Iraq. And just last Wednesday morning (10/9/02) NPR was quoting the Philadelphia Inquirer’s Washington bureau reporter, Strobel, Landay and Walcott, to the effect that “some military intelligence and diplomatic sources” said that “hawks are overstating the danger that Baghdad poses.” In their interviews they found general agreement among “analysts at the working level in the intelligence community” that “they were feeling very strong pressure from the Pentagon to cook the books”. Could it be that the moral high ground which we claim is as high as we think? Or are these reports lurid accounts by trigger-happy journalists working for editors bent on selling their newspapers or magazines? Of course none of this exonerates Saddam Hussein and all the other assaults against us, we certainly have reason to be concerned. Yet there is no clear evidence that I have heard about which would implicate the Iraq regime in these outrages. It is likely that the氪isis we are in is only remotely mighty pleased by the concerted attacks but that does not allow us to paint them as anything other. We may deplore, even condemn, their encouragement of terrorism by payments to the families of suicide bombers, but then some of our pro- fessed allies do the same. We are pleased to see ourselves as a law-abiding nation. We are pleased to represent a country that no one who responds to and if and when attacked, rather than taking preemptive action. Yes the stakes are high when it comes to the safety of our nation. Our government needs to step up to the plate and do to protect our citizenry...but not at the expense of what makes us different from them...Many of our historical allies, and other nations are reluctant to join us in a war, unless that is the judgment and will of the United Nations. That’s what it was created for, not just to serve as a pied a terre in NY for all those ambassadors and their staffs. There are those who justify a resolution by Congress to authorize the President to attack Iraq, by arguing “if the United Nations sees a strong consensus on war, United States, they will be more likely to stand up to Saddam Hussein’s re- sistance and call for stronger weapons inspections standards “(Mara Liasson on NPR, 10/10/02). It sounds pretty weak and the implications of going it alone, or just with the British, are not appealing. But may be that’s the only way of saying a naive, wide-eyed prof. A bioclit

By SAM HSIUNG

Beltway Sniper Still Loose

A man was a victim of a shooting last Friday, October 11th in Frederickburg, Virginia. Police say the shooting seems similar to the series of sniper attacks that took place in suburban Washington starting September 22, in which five people were killed within a 16-hour period in Montgomery County, Maryland. One of the victims was pumping gas at a gas station; another was killed while mowing the lawn. A seventh victim was killed October 3 on a street in Washington, and the seventh victim was killed in Prince William County, Virginia. Police say the suspect is most likely targeting victims randomly. He has been seen leaving in a white van in most of the killings.

Congress OKs Iraq Attack

The senate voted Friday, October 11 to give President Bush authority to take military action against Iraq. The vote won with an overwhelming majority 77 to 13. Last Thursday the house voted 296 to 123 in support of the president. A statement issued by the President that same morning, expressed President Bush’s desire to use this vote as leverage in the UNSC Security council. A draft resolution has not yet been submitted by the United States to the Council, though one has been in circulation among important leaders. Member of congress said they would only support a debate reflects that military action was only chosen as not first, but last option.

World News: Nobel Prizes, Sniper, Iraq

Nobel Prizes were awarded last week; among the recipients are a former American President, a Hungarian novelist and a group of astrophysicists. Last Friday, Hungarian novelist and Auschwitz survivor Imre Kertesz became this country’s first to win the Nobel Literature prize, a group of American, Japanese and Swiss scientists won the Nobel Prize in chemistry for inventing a new method to identifying and analyzing proteins. There are Thrust to develop new medicines. Americans Daniel Kahneman and Vernon Smith won the 2002 Nobel economics prize for developing economic experiments teaching from college classrooms and for their work on the affect of psychology on people’s buying or selling decisions. An American and two Britons won the Nobel Prize in medicine for discovering how genes regulate organ growth and programmed cell suicide. Finally, a Japanese and two American astrophysicists won the Nobel Prize in physics for us- ing nature’s most ob- scure particles and waves to in a theory to explain the universe.

Naive and Wide-eyed

By JEAN-PAUL REVEL
Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory Archival Data Analysis for Studying Temporal and Spectral Properties of Gamma-Ray Sources. This is an announcement of opportunity for one or two undergraduate students in physics, astronomy or computer science to participate in a work-study research program at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The job requires processing and analyzing the 9-year archival earth occultation data of the Compton gamma-ray database obtained by the Burst and Transient Source Experiment (BATSE) onboard the NASA Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory between 1991 and 2000. The major scientific objective is to study properties of gamma-ray emission, including gamma-ray transients such as gamma-ray pulsars, active galactic nuclei, and neutron-star systems. For this research, it would be useful if the student had some experience with programming on VMS and Unix platforms as well as working with the Interactive Data Language (IDL) package. Employment would be full-time (40 hours/week) during the summer and part-time during the school year under the Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory Program. Salary will be between $12 and $18/hour depending on the experience of the student. If you are interested in applying for the position, please call Dr. James Ling at (818)354-2819.

Scholarships

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund The fund ranges from $1000 - $3000 for students of Hispanic heritage attending a 4-year college or graduate school. Eligibility requirements include being a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident, having a minimum GPA of 2.7, being enrolled full-time, and having completed at least 12 undergraduate credits. Applications are available at www.hsf.net and are due by October 15, 2002. The Measurement Science Conference (MSC) has established a fund to grant scholarships to students in an Engineering or Science or Quality Assurance degree program. The scholarship program places emphasis on papers or projects that discuss the advancement of measurement science technology. To be considered for one of five, $1000 scholarships, individuals must have completed 16 or more upper division courses in an Engineering or Science degree program or five courses in a Masters Degree program in Quality Assurance; have an average GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4.0 scale; and have an assignment to attend the Measurement Science Conference on January 16, 2003 in Anaheim. Submissions are due before November 29, 2002. Applications are available from the Financial Aid Office.

The National Institute of Health (NIH), the nation's premier biomedical research institution, offers an innovative program to support the career development of the next generation of biomedical health researchers – an undergraduate program for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Undergraduate Scholarship Program for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds (UGSP) is an equity initiative of NIH.

- U.S. citizen, national or qualified permanent resident
- must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full-time student

For more information on available scholarships, please visit the Financial Aid web site at www.financialaid.caltech.edu. All qualified students are encouraged to apply!