The following is the result of IHC’s meeting with Administration regarding rotation

By Tim Black

Last week, the IHC agreed on how to implement the recommendations of the Rotation Review Committee. Last Thursday, April 29, the IHC sat down with Annemila Sargent, Peter Daily, Tom Mannion, and John Hall, to get their approval. The IHC will implement the following changes to Rotation this year:

1. Variable freshmen class size: each house may keep their own Rotations, but everyone hates that name. Historically, each house has reserved a predetermined number of beds for freshmen, and has taken that many freshmen. This will still be the case for the most part — this rule only comes into effect if a house is not ranked highly enough by enough freshmen. If a house fails to attract enough freshmen this fall, they will be penalized in two ways:

   a. They lose all or part of their off-campus allotment. The IHC has agreed on the exact number of spots that each house will lose at risk. The number varies slightly by House based on how the OCA can most reasonably divide spots, but in all cases is between 4 and 6 spots. This will take effect immediately.

   b. If a house is penalized and takes too many freshmen, other houses will have to take more freshmen to make up for it. If House A receives fewer freshmen, some other houses will have to take one or two extra freshmen. Even if two Houses are penalized, no house will have to take more than two extra freshmen. The Houses that have to take the extra freshmen will be chosen independently of the popularity of the House; the number of beds for freshmen, and number of spots will be chosen independently of the popularity of the House; the don’t really care which Houses get penalized.

In order to determine which houses were penalized, the Daily Beast equally weighted seven different criteria. Student opinion on campus housing, campus dining, and nightlife was gathered from College Prowler, an online college ranking website. University statistics on average graduate indebtedness, average freshman retention rate, and the number of student clubs and organizations were collected from the U.S. News and World Report. Even weather data from the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration was taken into consideration.

Based on this methodology, the Daily Beast determined that six of the top ten happiest schools are in California, and five of these are in sunny Southern California. Four of these are located in the city of Claremont; Claremont McKenna College, Pomona College, Harvey Mudd College, and Scripps College.

To determine which schools were stressed out, the Daily Beast focused on the top 50 universities in the U.S. and World Report rankings and took five main criteria into account: cost (35%), competitiveness (35%), acceptance rate (10%), graduate engineering rigor (10%), and campus crime rate (10%). Stanford University won first.

Vanderbilt University outscored Caltech only in terms of crime rate and cost, both non-academic factors, but nabbed the seventh place spot on the list of stressful colleges.

The pool of schools came from a large sampling population: the top 50 public universities, top 50 liberal arts colleges, and the top 50 national universities according to U.S. News and World Report’s Best College rankings, as well as the 50 largest universities by enrollment according to the National Center for Education Statistics.

By Sarah Marzen

The female to male admission ratio at Caltech has risen steadily over the past four years, even though the percentage of applicants that are female has stayed steady at around 25%.

Four years ago, Caltech admitted females and males at roughly the same rates, and the admitted class was 28.5% female. This year, Caltech reached an all-time high: females were admitted at nearly three times the rate of males, and the percentage of admitted females hit 45%.

For many students, the increase in the percentage of admitted females is cause for celebration.

But in lounges, hallways, at Chandler, and behind closed doors, people speculate on why the ratio of women to men is climbing. Could it be that Caltech is now more meritocratic?

Caltech’s admissions process is practicing some form of affirmative action? “No,” said Ray Prado, interim Admissions Director. “It’s all in recruitment.”

Caltech’s admissions process, he says, has no favoritism towards women or minorities or anybody else. “Our admissions process ensures that we admit the best prepared applicants.”

Caltech students and faculty directly help decide the incoming freshmen class, unlike at any other college. Student and faculty involvement is prized by Admissions staff, according to Prado, and helps safeguard the meritocracy of the admissions process.

However, even the students on Admissions Committees can’t agree as to whether or not affirmative action has snuck into Caltech’s admissions process.

“For the best of my knowledge, Caltech does not have gender quotas,” said one student on this year’s Admissions Committees. However, even the students on Admissions Committees can’t agree as to whether or not affirmative action has snuck into Caltech’s admissions process.

By Sandhya Chandrasekar

There has always been some debate about whether happy cows come from California. The results of the Daily Beast surveys, on the other hand, make it quite clear that happy students do.

A few weeks ago, the Daily Beast, an American news reporting and opinion website, ranked “The 100 Happiest Colleges” across the U.S. Caltech nabbed the spot as the eighth happiest college.

Earlier this month, Caltech came in ninth on a list of the “50 Most Stressed Out Colleges” from the same opinion website. Caltech’s double placement wasn’t unique. Two other universities that had been labeled as one of the hundred happiest colleges (Stanford University and Harvard University) were also labeled as one of the ten most stressed out colleges.

By Gloria Tran

The joint Harvey Mudd-Scripps party scheduled for Saturday, May 8 was canceled due to financial shortcomings on Harvey Mudd’s end as well as a lack of interest from Scripps.

For the party began at the beginning of March when ASCIT president Adam Khan contacted the student-body president from Harvey Mudd to gauge interest for another joint party similar to last year hosted at the Harvey Mudd campus in Pomona. ASCIT was in charge of organizing the party. “On our end, the progress was on schedule: we had booked one DJ and were in contact with another DJ, had planned out what space we were going to use for the party, and had decided how we were going to set everything up,” commented Khan. Harvey Mudd would have been in charge of getting their students to Caltech, which was essential the reverse of roles last year. Initially on board, Harvey Mudd finally decided only last week that they had insufficient funding to provide busing or other transportation. On April 23rd, Harvey Mudd reported that they had already allocated all the money in their budget elsewhere. At this point of time, they were also unable to get a response from the President or Social Directors at Scripps on whether or not they wanted to attend the party.

The buses were estimated to cost $1000, while ASCIT budgeted about $4000 to $5000 on the party itself. With the prediction that parties in general tend to run over budget, the entire party would have come up to just under $10,000. While ASCIT worked with Harvey Mudd to find other sources of funding, it did not think it was worth it to sustain the party on its own, especially with the apparent lowering of enthusiasm both ends for the party. Perhaps, the prospect did not have the same novelty as last year’s party, Khan comments.
Arizona’s New Immigration Bill Promotes Racial Discrimination

By Pradeep Ramesh
State Wire

The recent immigration bill that was passed by the Arizona state legislature and signed into law by Governor Jan Brewer on April 23, 2010 is an ineffective piece of legislation whose linguistic ambiguity not only hinders its implementation, but also inadvertently promotes racial discrimination.

The most controversial aspects of the legislation stem from Section 11-1051 which amongst other provisions, permits “lawful detentions” by law enforcement officials on the basis of “reasonable suspicion that the person is an alien and is unlawfully present in the United States.” The provision stipulates that “a reasonable attempt shall be made, when practicable, to determine the immigration status of the person” and that “a law enforcement official… may not consider race, color, or national origin in implementing [this law] except to extent permitted by the US or Arizona Constitution.”

The following are considered acceptable proofs of US residency and/or citizenship:
1. A valid AZ driver license
2. A valid AZ non-operating identification license.
3. A valid tribal enrollment card, or other form of tribal identification.
4. Any valid US federal, state, or local government issued identification that is not expired.

The immediate question that comes to mind is how exactly is a law enforcement official supposed to pick out an illegal alien? The law is thankfully descriptive in this regard.

Given that the majority of illegal aliens in this country are from Latin-American countries, the officer is left with little choice but to discriminate against them in enforcing this law. Furthermore, given that there is no marker for suspicious behavior characteristic of an undocumented immigrant, and coupled with the fact that police officers are not allowed to discriminate, the law is effectively a self-defeating measure.

Instead, it imposes an unfair burden on Hispanics and residents of Latin-American descent in Arizona, who are now forced to prove their status when asked; in addition, the measure provides sufficient motivation for illegal immigrants to leave the state and relocate elsewhere thus having a two-fold effect. The first of which is that the economy of Arizona will be adversely affected by the measure and secondly, the law does not solve the bigger problem at large but forces an underground community deeper into the shadows.

Letter to the Editor

In last week’s “ASCIT Formal future uncertain” email, Addie Rice cited 40 % in favor of ASCIT formal as a reason for doing away with it; expense was another factor mentioned. Then, she makes the baffling move of suggesting as an alternative (1) an expensive “music mashup group”; (2) a “tea dance” with faculty attendance and ballroom dancing lessons; and (3) both in one night.

I only ask that she consider doing a similar poll with regard to these events. If either manages to exceed 40 % popularity, I will buy a hat for the express purpose of eating it. And while I’m not immersed in the complicated ledgers of ASCIT’s financial coffers, it. And while I’m not immersed in the complicated ledgers of ASCIT’s financial coffers, it manages to exceed 40 % popularity, I will order a hat for the express purpose of eating it. And while I’m not immersed in the complicated ledgers of ASCIT’s financial coffers, I can’t imagine such a joint event would cost any less than an off-campus formal.

Domestic D.

 Corrections
IHC Weekly Meeting * Page - April 22, 2010
Present: Tim Black (chair), DK Lim (Avery), Chris Whelan (Blacker), Andrew Price (Dubrey), Lucas Hartough (Lloyd), Paul Fleiner (Page), Will Steinhardt (Ricketts), Dan Kolodrubetz (Ruddock), Laura Conwill (secretary)

Absent: Alex Lapides

Guests: Daryl Coleman, Jonathan Yeung

PSA: Will thinks Dan is his muffin, and would like to publicly state that he loves Dan.

Upperclass Admissions: The Upperclass Admissions Committee needs a couple more people to help read applications this weekend. Tim emailed the Freshman Admissions Committee members, and Laura Conwill and Jacqueline Rousseau volunteered. Everyone but Will is in favor of appointing them. Will is not in favor to be obstinate.

Trustee Walkthrough: The Trustees are coming next Monday. Everyone should be nice and clean. The topic of the meeting this term is admissions. Geoff Blake, as MOSH and faculty chair of admissions, is going to be presenting.

Prefrosh Weekend: Prefrosh Weekend and Student Life Saturday were last weekend. Seventy prefrosh registered for SLS, and 20 more stayed without registering ahead of time. It was difficult to coordinate two separate events; the IHC will speak with Admissions about how PFW will be organized next year.

Committee Interviews: Committee sign-ups will be posted this afternoon and will remain up until Friday, April 30. Interviews will be the weekends of May 7 and 14.

Submitted by Laura Conwill
IHC Secretary
Senior Class Co-President Statements

Alan Pezeshki and Christina Weng
apez@caltech.edu
weng@caltech.edu

The past three years have been marked by challenges and personal achievements for all of us, and we are excited to be graduating as the Caltech Class of 2011. Graduation should be a celebration of all of the experiences and friends we have made along the way. As your class co-presidents, our top priority is to secure a commencement speaker that you will be excited about. We will contact potential speakers early, before their calendars fill up. Another component of the co-presidents’ job is to make sure Ditch Day is enjoyable for both seniors and underclassmen. One area we are paying particular attention to is the financial support provided to the seniors to build their stacks. We are aware of funding issues in the past, and our goal is to reduce or eliminate the need for seniors to contribute significant amounts of their own money.

Both of us have been active in the Caltech community since our freshman year, and we also have experience in organizing student activities such as Decompression and Interhouse sports. We’ve worked with administration on a variety of issues, and we feel very comfortable in expressing your opinions to them. We have a lot to look forward to next year, and we’d like to make sure everything from the senior class trip to commencement is an experience you will want to remember.

Kati Peters and Sarah Griffis
kpeters@caltech.edu
sgriffis@caltech.edu

Hi! We’re Sarah and Kati, and we are looking forward to representing the Class of 2011 as Senior Class Co-Presidents. As the former Secretary of her house and a volleyball captain, Kati is familiar with working with administration and being a leader. Likewise, Sarah has been the Vice-President of the Society of Women Engineers and represented our campus while studying abroad. Together, we have played on the volleyball team, worked as tour guides, and participated in the Prefrosh Weekend Committee. We are confident in our ability to work well together.

During our time on the Prefrosh Weekend Committee, we represented different houses. By effectively working together, we met both the needs of each of our own houses, and the concerns of each of the other houses. The experience of incorporating the desires of many houses cohesively is not only beneficial while planning senior class events, but necessary. Senior year is definitely a crazy one, but as a BEM major and an ESE major we have finished the majority of our requirements. Neither of us currently holds major offices, and we don’t have any other large responsibilities in the coming year. This will allow us to concentrate entirely on making your senior year awesome. Having considered running for Senior Class Co-Presidents for some time now, we’ve had a chance to talk to past Co-Presidents about what we can improve on. Although we don’t want to reveal all of our master ideas, some of them include doing more campus-wide Ditch Day fake-stacks and, of course, bringing in an awesome speaker for graduation.

Thanks for taking the time to read our statement, and vote for Sarah and Kati for your Senior Class Co-Presidents!

Paul Fleiner and Perrin Considine
pfleiner@caltech.edu
perrin@caltech.edu

Dear Class of 2011,

We are running for Senior Class Co-Presidents because... we kinda rock ("we" = the entire class of 2011). And we’d really like to express our appreciation by throwing you an incredible Senior Banquet and getting a Commencement speaker that will blow your freaking minds to shreds. We will try-- nay-- we will promise that Ditch Day does not become Bitch Day. You know... the usual way people express their gratitude around here...

We’re both careful, responsible, and experienced enough. We’re sensitive to the point of tears; responsible to the point of frustration; and heroic even in the face of infertility. We will reduce the budget; right the wrongs; and either conquer or annex Antarctica by June 2011.

Class of ’11, we can truly represent you. That is, as much as two people realistically can. In the end, it’s up to you. Whatever happens, we will do our best to ensure one heck of a Senior Year for everyone.

Heroically,
Paul and Perrin
Late-Night Snacks Continues to be Available, Provided by CDS
By Casey Jao
Staff Writer
Four weeks ago, Caltech Dining Services began delivering late-night snacks to the undergraduate Houses on Sundays through Thursdays. The deliveries were initially part of a two week experiment in response to student comments that they studied late and there was no food available after Coffeehouse closed at 2am, wrote Dining and Housing director Peter Daily in an email. As “student feedback has been positive...we decided to give the program a longer trial and will continue to near the end of the term,” he wrote.

“The night food is really good but they should have more strawberries because those are the tastiest. The lemonade is super sour and non-sour lemonade like totally pwns sour lemonade...But it’s very important that we keep having this food because it is tasty and we’re hungry at 2:30 every morning,” said a freshman in Dabney.

Should the program continue next year, it would include Marks and Braun as well since they will be on the board plan, and according to Daily “it will not impact the cost of the board plan.” Student employees might also help deliver the food. Currently the Coffeehouse manager, Jon-Michael Sanchez, is responsible for carting the food to all the houses after closing up Coffeehouse.

Wanted!
One or two undergraduate student to be part of the DELIVERY STAFF for the Tech. Having a CAR is actually strongly recommended. You get a sweet pay. You get to drive the green THINGIE around campus
INTERESTED?
Email tech@caltech.edu

Late-Night Snacks Continues to be Available, Provided by CDS

The money set aside for the party will possibly go towards an end-of-term ASCIT concert, depending on the results from a survey emailed.

While I was personally a little disappointed with having to cancel the Harvey Mudd-Scripps Party,... I think that a concert at the end of the term would be a nice way to spend this money from our social budget and would be a nice note to end the year on.”

Joint Party Cut
Continued from Page 1

Announcements
EXPLICIT: I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change!
The Extracurricular Players at Caltech (EXPLICIT) will perform the hit Broadway musical “I Love You, You’re Perfect, Now Change!” three times at Ramo Auditorium: this Friday at 8 PM, this Saturday at 2:30 PM, and this Saturday at 8 PM. Tickets are free for Caltech students, $5 for Caltech staff, faculty, JPL, and other students, and $10 for general admission. Tickets must be picked up or purchased from the Caltech Ticket Office (332 S. Michigan, 626-395-4652) or at the door.

This is an entirely student- and community-run production of a hilarious, long-running Broadway favorite about loving, losing, and coming back for more. The play will be directed by undergraduate Christina Kondos. For a list of cast, music, and crew members, please see http://explicit.caltech.edu/.

Semana Latina
Monday May 3rd
12-1 PM North of Winnett: FREE Tacos, Mariachis
11:1 AM Red Door: Sangria, Paella, tortilla Espanola
4 Movie: Bajo la Misma Luna

Tuesday May 4th
12-1 PM South of Winnett: FREE Argentinean Asado, Tango Dancers
11-1 AM Red Door: Mate cocido, empanadas, churros con dulce de leche
4 Movie: El Secreto de Sus Ojos

Wednesday May 5th
12-1 PM South of Winnett: Oaxaca Festival: Guelaguetza Dance, FREE Food: mole negro, mole rojo with chicken and rice, and horchata Exhibition: traditional garments, metal work, paintings

Thursday May 6th
12-1 PM North of Winnett: FREE Horchata, Tuna, Jamaica, Chicha Caltech Jazz Band, Papí futbol tournament Followed by Messi Jersey Raffle
10-1 AM Red Door: Gallo pinto, cajeta de coco, pineapple juice
4 FIFA Night

Friday May 7th
12-1 PM North of Winnett: FREE Homemade Desserts, pinata, Samba Dancers
Saturday May 8th: 8-2 AM Winnett Salsa Club’s Salsa Party with live band Rumbankete, DJ, drinks and treats
$10 entrance
ICHC did not want this rule to pun- ish popular Houses. Freshmen are guaranteed beds in the Houses they rotate into, so Houses that take extra freshmen need to have some structure for those freshmen to live. If the House has extra open spots, the freshmen could move into the dormitories reserved for extra freshmen in case this happens. If there are not enough beds for the extra fresh- men, upperclassmen will need to move out of their dormitory rooms and make room for the freshmen. It is up to each House to decide who gets booted; this procedure should have been described to you at your House’s room picks.

The motivation behind this rule is to discourage Houses from having a strategy of scaring away freshmen they claim to be interested in more comfortable during Rota- tion. The goal is not to "penalize" Houses that the administration doesn’t like. On the contrary, everyone on the IHC cares a lot about all eight Houses and thinks that it is very important for each of them to have the freedom to be who they are. This rule is about making them more sensitive, especially during their first two weeks in college, feel more comfortable.

2. Policy review
The administration received complaints about a number of in- stitutional policies. Institution- al policies will be emphasized with incoming freshmen in meetings during orientation. Removal or change of all policies will be emailed out to all students. House leaders will go over the policies with their houses during meetings they al- ready have scheduled around that time of year.

3. Increased communication
Houses will be asked to em- phasize the presence of their House UCCs at Rotation meals. About half way through Rota- tion, there will be an IHC panel about Rotation, where the IHC will give reminders to the fresh- men and freshmen can ask ques- tions they have. At the end of the panel, freshmen will split into their orientation UCC groups so they can discuss things that they didn’t want to bring up in front of everybody. Freshmen who still have questions can stay and ask them to members of the IHC one on one.

Freshmen will be told about the availability of non-House op- tions for students who feel very uncomfortable with the House system.

4. Alumini and alcohol
Only current members of the Caltech community will be al- lowed at Rotation events (in par- ticular, people who are currently covered by the honor code). Grad students will be allowed, as will students who are taking time off but are currently trying to UASH back. In all other alumni and stu- dents, taking time off will not be allowed at Rotation events.

Alcohol will not be allowed at Rotation meals or receptions.

5. Orientation and Rotation Schedules
Approval for this year’s Rotation meals before orientation was over. Orientation and Rotation will return to its old schedule, with orientation running Sunday through Tuesday and Rotation starting on Tuesday.

The hope is that freshmen will be less distracted by Rotation before orientation is over.

These online recruiting tech- niques may have indirectly led to a deflation of male admission rates. According to Prado, a high- er percentage of the international applicants are male, but there is a cap on international admits.

Speculation
Without numbers, those who are familiar with the Admissions process are coming up with all kinds of other explanations for the rising number of females.

One Admissions Office staff- er partially attributed the increase in the number of admitted females to the higher number of quality pre-med female applicants that were attracted by Caltech’s UCSD Medical Scholar program. The Med Scholars program guarantees 3.5 GPA at Caltech.

The actual swing happened towards more essays several years ago, which might have given a slight edge to female applicants.
Athlete of the Week:

Anton Karrman

Anton is a junior Lloyd and Fleming House member who runs cross country and track. He is currently on the top 10 men’s all time list for the 3000 m and 5000 m.

1. What is your major?
Awesome Cool Major also know as ACM or Applied and Computational Math

2. People will be surprised to know . . .
I raced a 5K in Hong Kong while working there the summer of 2008...

3. What do you enjoy doing in your free time?
Playing piano, listening to music, hanging out, watching shows/movies, going out on the town until late, speaking French or broken Italian, eating (lots of) food, etc.

4. Favorite movie?
Eurotrip. But only after watching it like 3 times with friends is it that funny.

5. Describe your sport in 3 words?
Painful, exhausting, yet delightful

6. What teammate has inspired you the most?
The beast that is Matt Kiesz ('08).

7. Favorite quote?
“We should take care not to make the intellect our god; it has, of course, powerful muscles, but no personality.” - Albert Einstein

8. Where do you get motivation from when things get tough?
Amazing friends, awesome coaches, and incredible parents.

9. If you hadn’t come to Caltech where would you be now?
I would have run for Harvey Mudd on the CMS team.

Upcoming Games

Saturday, May 8th
1pm T&F @ Oxy Invitational

Thursday, May 13th
2pm T&F @ CMS Classic Multi-Event

Friday, May 14th
2pm T&F @ CMS Classic Multi-Event

Saturday, May 15th
11am T&F @ Cal State LA Invitational

Weekly Scoreboard

April 30, 2010
Baseball
11 La Verne
1 Caltech

Women’s Water Polo
2 Caltech
23 Pomona-Pitzer

May 1, 2010
Baseball
4 Caltech
34 Redlands

May 1, 2010
Women’s Water Polo
3 Caltech
18 Redlands

May 1, 2010
Women’s Water Polo
3 Caltech
18 Redlands

May 2, 2010
Women’s Water Polo
3 Caltech
9 La Verne

Alex Lapides Captures SCIAC Championship

Junior high jumper, Alex Lapides, won the SCIAC Championship, clearing a height of 6'4” in a close battle with conference rival Ryan Pittman of Claremont Mudd Scripps. “Alex has battled through injuries all season and continued to train hard,” said Coach Julie Levesque, “This is very exciting.”
Types of Late Night People in the Library

1. Sexiled Roommate
You can find this person spread out on one of the couches, trying to catch some z’s while his roommate is hopefully not catching something else. He would usually crash on someone else's couch, but a fellow sexilee beat him to it. The only other comfortable couch in his house is the one his roommate is using, but not sleeping on.

2. The Procrastinator
This person has his work spread out all around him, but he's been distracted by Youtube clips and reading Cracked.com. He would’ve worked on his stuff earlier, but he refused to stop playing FIFA 2010 until he beat his friend. He’s got eight hours until the homework’s due, so he’s fine.

3. The Guy who works alone
Everyone else worked together and finished this set in half the time that he’ll end up spending on it. Whether he just likes working by himself, or simply hates other people, you can find this person poring over his work, trying to find out why his integration is wrong, not realizing he turned one of the negative constants into a positive.

4. Nocturnal Owl
This guy once had a normal sleep schedule. When he was in high school, he was in class by 7:30 in the morning. Now, dinner is his breakfast, and breakfast is his late supper before going to bed. His skin is pale white, as he hasn’t seen the sun since he was dropped off by Supershuttle at the beginning of the term.

5. The Guy who has no life
A fixture of the library, you can find this person on the third floor on every weekday night. Caution is needed when approaching him, as he is apt to take off his belt while standing in front of you. He also enjoys romantic candlelight dinners and long walks by the beach.

Go check out www.holytaco.com for the scoop behind this photo.