Chameau talks on teaching

BY MARISSA CEVALLOS

President Jean-Lou Chameau suggested faculty peer pressure as a driving force encourage "non-so great" teachers to improve their lecturing skills, at a Q&A session during an effective teaching last Tuesday.

Chameau challenged the assembly, which states that research universities like Caltech are necessarily weak in teaching. He argued that while research is an important supplement to classroom teaching, teachers can bring students back to lecture halls by taking advice from faculty and student evaluations, along with inviting colleagues to attend and critique lectures.

"You get the same feeling from great teaching as when you're reading a great novel," said Chameau. "You cannot wait to get back to this. It is the experience a great teacher can give you."

But the audience wanted to know whether "bad" teachers actually receive an administrative slap on the wrist for failing to improve. The answer, according to a few professors near the front row, is that questionable teaching is policed within the department, not by the school.

Physics chair Tom Tombrello said his department is particularly active in evaluating teaching performance. In fact, Tombrello himself was once heavily criticized by his students and his superiors that he was doing a poor job lecturing. Tombrello won a teaching award. But a few audience members were unconvinced that Caltech makes teaching a priority. Chameau university had to admit to one questioner that teaching is given a "limited" priority when hiring new faculty, but the ability to present research to small groups of people is "a major part" in the hiring process. However, the hiring of TAs varies by department. For example, according to a few faculty members in the audience, chemistry tends to stick first year TA's with teaching positions, while chemical engineering has a stricter hiring policy.

Undergrads took the floor for a few minutes when an audience member asked specifically...
Proposed bylaw changes split BoC Chair from ASCIT VP, create ‘Honor Chair’

BY BENJAMIN GOLUB

When Marilee Jones, the Dean of Admissions at MIT, resigned recently amid revelations that she had lied about her scientific degrees on her job application 28 years ago, she engendered a veritable avalanche of venomous comments linking her to what some of her colleagues only briefly touch on in even their graduate curriculum. To many, it seems odd to have a professor, let alone one who has been involved in her school’s admissions process, suddenly be pariahs because of one fateful lie. MIT’s pro-

 administration, etc.) are working together. Having the BoC Chair also act as the VP thus constitutes a blatant conflict of interest.

More importantly, however, one student and most certainly two completely different sets of duties without being forced to sacrifice one part of one for the other. For something as central to Caltech as the Honor Code, this seems impossible.

Secondly, the BoC Chair is only familiar with the academic aspect of the Honor Code. However, a large part of what makes Caltech’s Honor Code unique is that it applies to much more than just cheating in the classroom. The current system thus results in under-representation of all non-academic issues. It also leads to confusion about where the line between the Honor and academic responsibilities lie. If the in- stitution should be divided. The Honor Chair, who will par- ticipate in the BoC (academic) and CRC (nona-
cademic) cases, can finally bring an equal viewpoint to these two sides of the Honor Code together.

Finally, and most importantly, the Honor Chair posi-
tion will increase student input in both academic and non-academic issues. Therefore, every college whose mentors only briefly touch on in their current research, but that is due to the heavy workload from our intense curriculum, people didn’t have enough time to contemplate all the changes they wish to see Jones punished. But for, my nonscientist colleague is a non-competing, scientifically illiterate from a good's point, being an academic with rhetorical force if students can genuinely improve how the Honor Code is implemented, taught, and enforced at Caltech.

The Honor Chair position...makes some-one directly reponsible for improving the Honor System.

Some of those who prefer Caltech's more "meritoriac," numbers-driven system, the evolution of MIT admissions seems outrageous and wrongheaded, and they are glad to see Jones punished. But terrible irony than having the flaky scientists reenter the fold in the leader? In Jones’ fraud, they feel a vindication.

This view is wrong for sev- eral reasons. First, few of us are without sin, and rejecting at- tends to the Honor System, add- ing a non-trivial commit-
tement on subjective criteria

Note also that this was shortly after the release of the MIT Scandal, which, while it may have driven some people away from Caltech, also seems to assume, or is it more? Jones’s "Caltech Myth" seems to assume, or is it more?

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The latter, on the other hand, deals with the Honor System as a whole. This means that even if the BoC Chair must handle issues outside of the Honor System, their presence in important academic issues. The VP must also think about how well the different parts of the Honor System (the BoC, CRC, Routing Committee, education, etc.) are working together. Having the BoC Chair also act as the VP thus constitutes a blatant conflict of interest.

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Security reportedly charges

Present: Chris Gonzales, Mike Grinolds, Andy Dubin, Ekta Bhojwani, Patrick Herrig, Daryl Coleman, Zack Highey

Absent: Mike Woods, Angela Zah, Caleb Ng

Guests: Anthony Chong, Craig Montessori, RJ Krom, Karen Wang

* Funding Requests
  - Anthony Chong requests money for the Ruddock frosh party. They didn’t anticipate that they would have to pay for security. He requests $200. We don’t fund other frosh parties or Christmas parties and don’t have the money to fund it. It’s a second party. It was suggested that they could ask for money from Tens Mansion. Mike was asked why they are charging for security now and haven’t in the past, but nobody had an answer. Anthony also asks to borrow the ASCIT speaker. He will contact Ekta about them.
  - RJ requests money for men’s ultimate frisbee. They played in sectionals and placed to go to regionals ($250 entry fee). They would like $650 or $700 to go to regionals and $200 for security. Mike and Ekta were unsure where to go from there.

* Bylaw Changes
  - Vote to change the bylaws. Approved (6/0/0). The changes will go into the Tech and a vote will taken on next week.

* ARC
  - Caleb is looking for anyone who would be interested in being in the ARC. He has five years covering global war networks. Sites helped pioneer multimedia reports. It is to bring these important stories to Yahoo!’s global audience of 700 million users. Sites carries a backpack of portable digital technology around the world, including the top and bottom levels of the factory’s hierarchy, the film looks out of their own pockets. They would like $600 or $700 to reimburse tournament fees. They still create a typified budget out lining how much was spent.

* TOP
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ULTIMATE

Women
L, Colorado, 15-0
L, Arizona, 14-6
W, New Mexico, 10-4
W, CSULB, 13-0
W, Colorado State, 8-6
L, Cal Poly, 13-2
FINISHED: 10 of 16

Men
L, UCLA, 15-1
L, Claremont, 15-0
L, San Diego State, 13-10
L, Air Force, 14-9
L, Long Beach, 13-7
FINISHED: 15 of 16

Regionals in Arizona

Left: Sarah Payne skies her USC opponent to intercept the disc.
Above: Daniel Barroll D’s a UCLA pass to the endzone.

Left: Noah Tanabe, freshman, looks for a pass against Claremont on Saturday.
Above: Veronica Anderson, sophomore, reaches a pass before her USC defender.
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THE BRAIN
AND
CONSCIOUSNESS
THIS WAY?

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MIT’S ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE LAB

(Admitted: Biedebach was a postdoctoral research fellow at CALTECH)

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**Athletic recruitment makes its debut with Caltech track team**

**16 freshmen likely to join Track & Field next year**

Influx of new athletes expected to alleviate “manpower shortage”

Coach Levesque kept in contact with prefrosh and met with them at prefrosh weekend

**BY NATALYA KOSTANDOVA**

Sports recruitment? In Caltech? No, this isn’t a joke. This year, Caltech has officially entered a new level of sports recruitment. The upcoming year, at least sixteen of the incoming freshmen are expected to become a part of the Track and Field team, drastically increasing not only the number of the athletes but also the level of the competition that Caltech can present in SCIACs.

While the amount and type of recruitment that Track and Field head coach Julie Levesque could do was limited by the NCAA official rules and details, she was able to contact many of the prefrosh before they were admitted and discussed their prospects at Caltech from both athletic- and academic-standards. She kept in touch after some of them were admitted and met with the potential students during their on-campus visits.

Many of the prefrosh who chose Caltech as their alma mater already have better times and marks than most, if not all, of the current athletes of the team in their respective events. In fact, some of the prefrosh can already beat ending Caltech records and compete on a very high level in the SCIACS.

The impact that the incoming student athletes will potentially have on the Track and Field team is not, however, expected to come solely from the performance of the prefrosh. Currently, the size of the team is very small compared to its SCIAC competition, which puts much pressure on the existing members. Because of manpower shortage, many of Tech’s current athletes perform in up to seven different events in a single meet while the majority of other teams have athletes specializing in one to two events. On many occasions, it was difficult for Caltech to find enough people to fill some relay events, and even more often the spots on such teams were filled with runners who would not ordinarily run them. For instance, during the season Mark Eichen- lund, team co-captain, ran both a 400 meter relay and a distance 25 times longer than that, a 10k. Two events that require entirely different types of training and racing. With more people on the team, it is possible that will Caltech have a representation in more events, but that its athletes will have a better chance to compete in and focus on events that they already excel in.

While it may happen that upon becoming immersed in the world of athletics, some of the prefrosh will choose to lower the level of priority that Track and Field has in their lives next year promises to be one of much change for the team.

“While unfortunately we’ll be losing some of our seniors (including co-captains Mark and Scott), we have a lot of talent coming in next year to help fill the void. The Caltech team is sufficiently small that even a few good athletes will make a huge difference,” said co-captain Elette Boyle.

Indeed, even if only half of the expected prefrosh actually run as fast as they do now, it is safe to say that SCIACs will see some intense competition from Caltech.

The medieval streets of San Gimignano preserve thirteen towers the way they looked when Dante visited, as well as being famous for wine. A perk of scientific travel: 35 minutes’ drive from Florence.

Monastery science: how to make the most of scientific conferences

**BY SARA MCBRIDE**

I speak not of Abbey ale and Monk chocolates, but of the growing trend to conduct scientific conferences at rural monasteries in the Tuscan hills of Italy. The monasteries, abbeys and convents across Italy have opened their doors and their kitchens to travelers and conference organizers from around the world. The scenery is inspiring, the isolation divine, the cost minor, but the soaring room rate is a major glitch for such a serene environment.

The world renowned scientist who artfully arranges his speaking schedule according to the highest priority that Track and Field has in their lives next year promises to be one of much change for the team.

While it may happen that upon becoming immersed in the world of athletics, some of the prefrosh will choose to lower the level of priority that Track and Field has in their lives next year promises to be one of much change for the team.

“The first bonus is that Tuscany, and nearly all of Italy is gorgeous. The beauty of Tuscany falls into lots of wine, and fabulous medieval hill towns with amazing food. The second bonus is that no one expects you to actually speak Italian. Your habitation concierge may not speak English, but with patience and a smile, communication can occur. The third bonus is that unlike major hotels, the monks have modernized and now provide several washers and dryers for their visitors. My recommendations for getting the most out of your monastery conferences are: 1. Fly in and out of Rome, which, Oh Darn, forces you to see Rome! 2. Travel light, with a single small roller bag or a carry-on backpack. Big luggage is a major hindrance for Italian travel. 3. Plan to stay an extra 3-4 days in Tuscany after the conference. Florence is worthy of two days alone. Siena and San Gimignano can make a nice four days. And if you’ve never been to Rome, get thee to a canal!”

Tuscany has a convenient bus system and Italy has an efficient, inexpensive train system. So turn your four-day conference into a 10-day Italian vacation, and see if you can convince a colleague to join you. But even if alone, there is no better place to read a scientific paper then while enjoying an abbey ale lakeside, mulling a Chianti with a stunning hillside view, or sipping a cappuccino in an Italian piazza. Start submitting those abstracts and get ready to follow in Da Vinci’s inspired footsteps.

**JOIN YOURSELF—THEN REFER A CLASSMATE OR IMMEDIATE FAMILY MEMBER TO CEFCU AND YOU EACH COULD WIN $1,000!**

Choosing Caltech was a very smart move. And choosing Caltech Employees Federal Credit Union is, in its own way, just as smart. Like your education, our financial advantages will last you a lifetime. But some students still don’t know this. So we’re inviting ALL of you to join...and help others to join. It’s a winning deal with our terrific savings rates...on-campus convenience...online access...and low-cost VISA. Through 7/31/07, for every new member you sign up (including yourself), you’ll get a chance to enter special Membership Drawings and win $500 or $1,000. You can also refer your entire immediate family and earn even more! Sign up parents, grandparents, brothers, sisters...even your spouse and kids.

Call us or come in to join and get all the information you’ll need. Sharing our winning advantage simply makes a smart move brilliant.
Walking through campus with Ricky Jones leaves the impression of a stroll down a Hollywood red carpet. Everyone from professors to President Chameau stop to say “Hi” to this undergraduate biology major. How did this tall Ruddock junior become the toast of presidents and provosts of one of the country’s most revered research institutions? He brought forth a new tradition that will carry his name as a legacy for future Caltech generations. Like the Greeks and Romans, he brought olive oil to our small western campus.

From this point forward, Caltech will celebrate an annual Olive festival every fall. In the fall when the olives of Olive Walk are ripe for picking, all Caltech staff, students and professors are invited to help with the harvest.

“I think it’s a great tradition to bring people together who normally would never speak to each other,” said Ricky, who then paused and added, “Hopefully no one will hurt themselves.”

To keep things safe and productive, Caltech has sought professional advice from Craig Makela, the President of the Santa Barbara Olive Co.. Makela encourages hand picking of the olives for this fall’s festival harvest, which is predicted to include 70 tons of olives. Makela’s olive company will handle the pressing and bottling of the Caltech Oil.

“We’ll be holding a competition for the label design,” said Ricky. “I hope we get a few entries that are not so offensive we can’t put them on an olive oil bottle. It would be nice if the label had something to do with Caltech; like if it had a beaver or two.”

The harvest is anticipated to yield 3000 12.7-ounce bottles of the golden elixir, which are to be sold for $10 each. The $30,000 raised will go back into school funding, probably for scholarships and care of the olive trees. The harvest festival this fall will include an array of activities and exhibitions. There will be a breakfast and a lunch served by student waiters. Plenty of olive pickers will be needed, and all those who participate will receive a free T-shirt. The original olive pressing techniques improvised by Ricky and his house mates will be shown, complete with home-made cheese cloth, trash-bag, and cinderblock presses.

Ricky’s Minnesota roots may have been part of his inspiration for his olive oil exploits. He believes that “it’s good to prepare your own food, direct from the dirt.” Because of this healthy philosophy Ricky thinks that olive oil pressing will always be in his life. “Wherever I live, I plan to have a field of olive trees and fruits and vegetables I can pick fresh.”

At the Athenaeum’s 100th anniversary, in 2031, pictures of this Caltech junior may grace the screen of the Athenaeum’s historical video. By then, Caltech’s olive oil will have become a permanent fixture and a highly prized ingredient by the Athenaeum chefs.

When Ricky set out to bang a few trees for a study break, he may not have intended to create a new Caltech tradition. Now that his golden legacy has been laid, he says, “I’m glad it was Olive Oil. It’s quirky enough to fit Caltech. It seems like a perfect tradition for us.”
Window Guitar Project: "Why Some Worcestershire Sauce is Darling"

I don't know...
I guess it's like...
like every time I get start to get close to you, you end up pushing me away again.

\[
\sqrt{\text{heart}^2 + \text{sun}^2} = \text{cos}\text{heart} = \text{sin}\text{sun} = 0
\]

\[
\frac{\text{d}^2}{\text{dx}^2} \left( \int_0^\text{time} f(\text{time}) e^{\text{time}} \text{dt} \right) = \text{heart}
\]

My normal approach is useless here.

The California Tech
Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91125

Faux-Movie Review

Spiderman 3 rocks my world
From a man who knows what rocks are all about.

BY HAMILTONY FALK

Grade: A+

Spiderman 3 may be the best movie ever made, or better. I just thought I’d put out there right at the beginning, so you don’t waste too much time reading and immediately go get in line to view it at least 4 times.

(Spoiler warning: I may have accidentally included some actual plot points in this article.)

It had everything you could want in a movie: action, adventure, love, stuff that isn’t love, comedy, flying surfboards and even flashbacks that edited facts from the previous movies to further the current movie’s plot! Did you know that Spider-Man actually has some of the deadliest super-villains would want to do him harm. Because they are jealous.

Now, I know that there are many critics out there who didn’t like the movie because it was “stupid” or “not a French film from the 50’s” or even because “it sucked.” While all of these criticisms may be superficially true, the deeper truth is that the movie was made to entertain, and while it failed in doing that, it was still friggin’ awesome.

A large number of the critics complained that many portions of the movie were implausible and poorly explained. I should point out that this is a movie about a “superman” that “does the things a superman can” such as spin webs and predict the future, and should probably be considered to be fiction, since super-men were not discovered until well after the original screen play for the movie was written.

Critics complained that the “sand man” villain was awkward and that his creation was poorly explained. I counter that he was very similar to the mummy from an earlier movie of that name, and that the three spinning physics do-dads were clearly an advanced ancient Egypt simulator. They also pointed out that it was odd that all of the villains would happen to have personal beef with Spider-Man, and that the current movie’s plot! Did you know that Spider-Man actually has some of the deadliest super-villains would want to do him harm. Because they are jealous.

Another criticism that seems to come up a lot is that the evil symbiote turned Peter Parker (who is also sometimes Spiderman) into a strange combination of an angry wife-beating redneck, an emo kid, and Jim Carrey’s character from the movie The Mask. I found this de-lightful, as I have always associated emo with evil, and what better way to brood emo-tastically than to sit on top of a church in the rain wearing all black? In addition, dancing in a law of physics defying way has long been known to woo women in movies, and the key source of this ability is weird substances that you attack to your body in a way that makes them skin tight and difficult to remove.

Spider-Man is dreamy, so it makes sense that evil super-villains would want to do him harm. Because they are jealous.

Critics also complained that many portions of the movie were impossible to understand until well after the original screen play for the movie was written. They also pointed out that it was implausible for a spider to do him harm. Because they are jealous.

To all of these questions I respond that the answers are clear if you pay to watch the movie in theaters several more times as well as buying Spider-Man merchandise and eventually the Spider-Man 3 DVD with special commentary.

The California Tech
Pasadena, CA 91125

By Hamiltony Falk

Grade: A+

Spiderman 3 rocks my world
From a man who knows what rocks are all about.