

New Master of Student Houses to be chosen soon, minus the search committee *MOSH might move into Tech Express*

By Casey Jao
STAFF WRITER

Master of Student Houses (MOSH) Cathy Jurca is due to step down this year. Her successor will be decided shortly, according to Vice President of Student Affairs Annelia Sargent.

Unlike in previous years, this decision is being made without the help of a student-faculty search committee.

When the time comes to pick a new MOSH, a search committee of faculty, RAs, and students is typically convened to flesh out a list of candidates. Sargent sought to muster a committee last fall. But each of her three prospective committee chairs cited other commitments.

Without a committee in place, she decided it was nonetheless time to move forward, and took charge of finding suitable candidates.

"[The candidate selection] is not something done in isolation," said Sargent. By consulting at length with the Interhouse Committee

(IHC), resident associates (RA's), students, and members of Student Life, Sargent gathered what students and faculty wanted in a MOSH. "I've talked to more students than [the two] who would have been on the committee."

"I think [Sargent]...respects us a lot," said IHC Chair Pallavi Gunalan. "She's a very reasonable person....The fact that she asked us shows that she cares."

The IHC does not yet know who are the candidates, but will meet them soon. The IHC's recommendations will factor into Sargent's final decision.

According to Gunalan, students want someone "active enough," with whom "students can get along"; not a Big Brother policing students all the time, but rather "like a cool uncle," telling students when necessary, "Hey, that's not very smart."

An ideal MOSH is "someone able to relate to students," said junior Ben Zax.

The role of MOSH has evolved considerably since the early 1990s. Prior to then the MOSH primarily oversaw the houses,

"enforcing Caltech policies and handling discipline, selecting RAs and managing the RA program, trying in general to make sure that things didn't get too out of hand," wrote Jurca in an email.

Over time the MOSH became less of an administrator and more of a facilitator for student-faculty interactions, through events such as option teas and student-faculty lunches, both of which Jurca started. Overall, Jurca described her job as "an advocate for student well-being." She regularly takes small groups of students to dinner and movies and sponsors trips to the opera, theater, and the LA Philharmonic.

But Jurca also mentioned "rumors that the new MOSH will be responsible for the RA program again."

To make the MOSH more accessible to the students, Sargent is exploring the possibility of reestablishing the MOSH office on the Olive Walk, displacing the Tech Express. According to her, the office was historically located there.

Animal rights activists target Caltech on Earth Week



Photo taken from an email from Jim Cowell

Activists placed this banner over Beckman Institute, and it was removed ten minutes later. Throughout the week, Security secured buildings that might be affected, in turn affecting students in all disciplines- even ACM95c students had to swipe to get into Gates. According to Security Chief Gregg Henderson, the placement of the banner was the only thing occurred.

A novel solution to the HIV epidemic is proposed by a Caltech sophomore

By Wesley Yu
STAFF WRITER

By most measures, Grayson Chadwick is a normal Caltech student. Entering Caltech as a physics major, he didn't pass out of any core classes. A member of Fleming House, he enjoys sports and will captain the soccer team next year. In his free time he likes to play Super Smash Bros. on the Playstation.

Yet, Chadwick is anything but average. As a freshman in Bi 1, he proposed a novel treatment for HIV/AIDS that has captured the attention of experts in the field. This year, that idea has earned him a provisional one-year patent and the George W. and Bernice E. Green Memorial Prize for research. His idea is also being reviewed for funding by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation.

Chadwick has very little background in biology, having taken only AP Bio in high school and Bi 1 here at Caltech. In his own words, he "isn't terribly hard working when it comes to reading and studying; not terribly book smart either." But when Chadwick was asked in Bi 1 to propose a cure for AIDS, he blew the professor away.

"The thing that stood out about Grayson's proposal was that first, it was a really cool idea," said Prof. Pamela Bjorkman, who

teaches Bi 1. "But second, he wasn't interested in the extra credit so much as he was interested in whether his idea would actually work. As a professor, that's what you want - to find students who are interested in learning for the sake of learning rather than for the points - that's what we work for."

That summer, Prof. Bjorkman contacted Grayson, who happened to be at Caltech for a Ph 11 project with Prof. David Stevenson. She offered to let him try his idea in her lab, but asked whether he would have the time, since he was already occupied. According to Prof. Bjorkman, Grayson simply replied, "I can work in your lab during the day and think about dark matter at night."

So in the summer of 2008, Grayson did something few students have attempted—worked on two potentially groundbreaking research projects in completely separate fields. "He's a pretty tough guy," said Prof. Tom Tombrello, who teaches Ph 11 and originally suggested that Chadwick patent his idea.

"You have to encourage people," said Prof. Tombrello when asked about sharing Chadwick with Prof. Bjorkman. "You don't tell them no if they've got a good idea, and you help them make it real. I told Grayson 'I'm going to help you, this has got to be patented.'"



Photo by Jonathan Tsai

Grayson Chadwick at Fleming's freshman initiation.

Chadwick's Bi 1 proposal involved the use of "decoys" for HIV. HIV usually infects cells of the immune system, like T cells and macrophages. It then replicates by inserting its genetic sequence into its host's genome. Chadwick proposed that, by tricking HIV into infecting some decoy particle that didn't allow HIV to replicate, the HIV reproductive cycle could be stopped.

Chadwick's unique insight was to use red blood cells as the decoys. Red blood cells are the perfect decoy for HIV because they have no nucleus for the virus

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"NO" wins after Review Committee reverses election decision

By Sarah Marzen
NEWS EDITOR

The two-month old Review Committee oversaw their first election this past weekend, but the procedures that they followed led to two complaints. One of the complaints led the Review Committee to recall their decision in favor of a special (redo) election next week.

"I think we made a mistake," said Lloyd House Review Committee representative Ben Zax, in reference to the second complaint. "We looked at the wrong section of the bylaws."

Candidates contested for two positions in this past election- the senior class co-presidency, and the off-campus Board of Control (BoC) representative election. Sophomore Chris Kennelly ran uncontested in this past week's off-campus BoC election, and the fourteen total votes were evenly split between "NO" and Kennelly.

According to the ASCIT bylaws, a candidate must win more votes than "NO" in order to win the election. At a Tuesday meeting headed by Ruddock representative Stephanie Chang, the Review Committee decided

to call the election in favor of Kennelly.

"When we saw the votes, we were quite confused on what to do," said Chang. "We saw the 'ties' section in the bylaws... but the section that applies was called 'counting procedures'."

Neither Review Committee Chair Daniel Obenshain nor Zax attended that meeting, since both Obenshain and Zax were running in the senior class co-presidents election.

The Review Committee reconsidered their decision to name Kennelly the winner after former Interhouse Committee (IHC) Chair Chris Watson criticized the decision for violating the ASCIT bylaws.

Even so, Zax pointed out that the Review Committee could have appointed Chris Kennelly as "interim" BoC representative and held a special election several weeks later—all in accordance with the ASCIT bylaws. "If we had wanted to back ourselves up, we have that power," he said.

That option wasn't really considered, said Zax, because BoC Chair Andrew Price said that he could try to "cajole" a few

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It's Committee Appointment Season - Choose Responsibly

By Chris Kennelly
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Once again, it's committee appointment season. As we find new students to fill these spots, it is important to not forget why students serve on these committees in the first place.

In 1967, students, led by ASCIT President Joe Rhodes, successfully petitioned for representation on faculty committees. Today, a combination of the IHC, the ASCIT BoD, and ARC have conducted appointments; but for what purpose?

For some committees, like UASH, decisions are made behind closed doors, and we must trust the judgment of the appointed representatives. It's imperative that the right people get appointed to these positions the first time: These committees wield tremendous power over the lives of individual students.

For other committees, it's hard to judge their success. The freshman committee is the only body which can look at the entire picture and tell us whether the admitted class was the most suitable they could admit. As a community, we are left to trust the committee's members to represent our values.

Student representation on other campus committees gives undergraduates a chance to have tremendous influence in the decisions which affect student life. However, for other committees, appointees should report back to the group of students that appointed them.

Why? Faculty representatives on student-faculty committees sometimes complain that the student representatives either don't show up to meetings or gripe about their personal problems, instead of representing the views of the collective student body.

Furthermore, for committees pondering far-reaching decisions, early involvement by students is crucial. If a committee is truly considering a plan which runs in opposition to what students want, representatives should inform us early rather than leave us to find out that a decision was made at a faculty board meeting without further input from students.

It's crucial, for the benefit of the student body, that these appointees talk to the student body they represent. Before we send them out, it's crucial that they are willing to be our eyes, ears, and voices for the undergraduates they claim to represent.

Parting Words from a GSC Chair: Shame on Chameau

By Evans Boney
GRADUATE STUDENT

Criticism of Caltech Leadership in Economic Crisis

I have been chair of the GSC for almost 12 months, and as I step down, I would like to leave you with some concerns from my position as a graduate student representative. I am concerned with: a specific action of President Chameau to undermine student leadership, the manner in which the recent job cuts have been carried out, and the trustee-mandated decrease in the draw on our endowment. The following represents my own opinion, and is not the position of the GSC as a whole.

I want to first express my deep concern for the institute when its leader, rather than hear student concerns, seeks to undermine student representatives in front of their constituents. I am referring to an incident, at the end of the Economic Forum for graduate students, when President Chameau said that GSC representatives are not doing a good job representing students, and he suggested a popular election to replace the existing officers. Who were, one could easily infer, doing something very insidious for graduate students.

As it happens, we were fighting for every last penny of institute money for graduate student healthcare, and eventually working out a positive arrangement with the administration, no thanks to the additional stress from the President. We worked meticulously to survey graduate student opinion multiple times, a majority of students were upset enough to take coordinated action, and we notified the administration. So the president's comments at the time amounted to little more than union-busting, and jeopardized our ability to effectively represent graduate students at healthcare negotiations.

Which leads me to my present complaint: Why exactly were 100 jobs cut here at Caltech? Was that just a nice round number between 0 and all of them? What was the specific economic

problem that led the institute to a budget shortfall that could best be offset by cutting 100 jobs? We've heard President Chameau opine about the decline in the principle of the endowment, but he has not publicly noted that the percentage we draw on the endowment was also cut by trustees (to large effect). I'm curious about the cost of this cut compared to the savings of firing 100 employees: What are the numbers? Did we protect our nest egg at the expense of our nest?

In the weeks after the layoffs, the details were slowly rolled out, but comments were not solicited. The graduate office had 60% of their staff laid off. I can attest that neither graduate students nor the acting graduate dean signed off on that. Nor was it even mentioned to us until 3 weeks after it happened. Further, what kind of faculty input was there? On issues like opt-out health insurance for undergraduates, the faculty committees that had discussed it in the past were not consulted. I am not saying that all budget cuts are bad budget cuts, or that some jobs didn't need to be cut. I just want to ask: was there any meaningful faculty or student input at any step in this process of changing the institute? Is there anyone seeking that input now, after some of the biggest changes in institute history?

Over the past year, what I have come to respect (if not love) about Caltech's system of governance is the oversight and input of faculty and students. I have seen it work with regards to Open-Access publishing, Healthcare, the Graduate Studies Committee, the Faculty Board, and more, but it gets boring to list them all. At these meetings, incredibly talented faculty tear apart even the most mundane issue to the point where what is left is only the best solution for all involved. The institute, even if you don't think it is efficient (I don't), has a particular way of doing things to ensure that all changes made are good changes for students and faculty alike.

I bring this up because, as far as I can tell, this process was bypassed by administrators in recent months in favor of the "suggest your own changes" email. There were no forums to discuss alternate structures for the bookstore, no

discussions about what positions in Athletics are most useful to students and faculty, no roundtable about the effect of those (or any) cuts on students, no discussion about huge cuts in the graduate dean's office, and no discussion of what will fill the void left by the Ombuds office. Caltech has made some of its most sweeping changes in many years with little or none of the usual faculty or student input. We need to speak up now, or it will become standard procedure.

Over the past year, with very few exceptions, I have gotten the distinct impression that students are being given little more than lip service from Caltech's top administrators. Their priorities, as evidenced by some of their cuts, are not student priorities. In some cases, they will, certainly, negatively affect students. In others, student opinion was not solicited, so who knows whether or not the changes (at the gym for instance) will be positively received? A recent article in the Tech, written by two varsity athlete graduates, suggests it, like the previous move to cut NCAA sports, is not being well received.

Perhaps I am being unfair, after all, President Chameau did ask for our thoughts on the matter. The GSC Steering Committee worked out several changes (including cuts to our own budget) that could be made to help with the budget crisis. The President's aforementioned inappropriate comment was in response to GSC Academic Committee Chair Jai Shanata taking him to task about one such suggestion that he had solicited. From his answer, it was clear he had not read our suggestions. So I ask publicly for the following questions to be answered, and I hope that this time we can skip the rude remarks and skip right to the substance:

Will positions be added back to the Grad Dean's office? Will student input about the recent changes be solicited? Will positions be added back in light of the economic stimulus? Will the board of trustees reconsider their earlier decision to further decrease the percentage we draw on our already shrinking endowment principal?

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Be Careful about Harassment

By Sarah Marzen
NEWS EDITOR

In my opinion, David Koenitzer's PNG doesn't have much to do with sexism at Caltech. His "offensive" images made me laugh.

However, his PNG points to issues that are much bigger than himself: Caltech's sexual harassment policy needs clarification. Certain IHC members are working on clarifying our sexual harassment policy right now.

Koenitzer's PNG brings up another big issue, though. Does sexual harassment at Caltech exist? If so, where and how often? Is it malicious, or are the perpetrators just insensitive and oblivious?

If and when you do discuss the answers to these questions, please realize something.

Many people have witnessed or been a victim of sexual harassment, even here. This is an emotional issue for them, and it's difficult to talk logically about something emotional. If someone isn't presenting completely logical arguments, don't dismiss their ideas. If you do become dismissive or patronizing in response to someone's emotional complaints, then you are actually creating that harassing "hostile environment," the source of the emotional complaints.

Essentially, be reasonable. Don't scoff when someone complains that he or she is being sexually harassed. Either stop what you're doing, or move away. Until Caltech's sexual harassment policy is clarified, we all have to be a little more careful.

Is There Sexism at Caltech?

By Tanvir Ahamed Bhuyain

UNDERGRADUATE

This is a response to the article "Caltech, Take Sexism Seriously."

I seemed to me that the whole article is just based on someone's personal feelings since there were absolutely no evidence/argument put forward why we should believe that sexism is a major problem at Caltech. I feel it is highly unfair that someone should make such general comments about the whole community while there were no (at least none that I know of) such general concerns expressed about sexism before a recent incident which involved only a few people and were limited to email exchanges.

I think the author of the original article made very quick conclusions based on incorrect/incomplete assumptions. She

wrote, "...Yet how can this be when misogyny pervades our campus - as many women would attest - and student say nothing?". I think she forgot (ironically) that those women are also students of Caltech. If they were concerned about the behavior towards them then it would be a concern for the whole student body as well and would be voiced. Since at the moment I am not hearing anyone (except the original author) voicing such radial concerns, I find it hard to except comments like "...the Caltech community seems really devoid of standards of decency and respect", and I believe that many women (and also men) in the community would be more offend by this general comment than by most "satirical" comments the original author is referring to.

The original author said, "At any other university, the remarks I hear daily would be completely

unacceptable, even as jokes". I would like to remind her that Caltech students are not from a distant planet. They come from same communities and same cultures as students of any other universities. So, saying that behaviors of Caltech students would be unacceptable at any other university, not only shows the author's ignorance about other universities, but also about Caltech itself. I have so far not seen any Caltech student being as much rude (let alone being offensive) to someone as the author is suggesting.

Also, regarding the recent student, the author once again fails to distinguish between a discrete event and the culture of a community. Calling the whole community "severely crippled" because of just one incident (which might well have been completely unintentional) is totally unacceptable to me.

Where's our Culture?

By An-Tu Xie
UNDERGRADUATE

As a freshman, pentagrams were to be removed from Ricketts. As a sophomore, the RAs actually started enforcing the more stringent alcohol policies. As a junior, an article was submitted to Ruddock's in-house magazine that apparently offended someone such that the deans forced Ruddock to institute a house censor. As a senior, I've come to see alcohol banned from Page house. And, most recently, I've seen two students from Ricketts for two mildly offensive e-mails.

So a faux-satanic symbol is removed. A house literature is mildly censored. A house that is unofficially recognized as the drinking house has been forced to abandon alcohol... and none of those have really affected me, my grades, or my social life. For each single event, I don't really care. But these moments add up to something far greater than the sum of its parts: the loss of a particular aspect of Caltech culture, one that goes a little more with every graduating class.

What aspect, however, includes such diverse goals? One way to describe it would be a rowdy all-boys' club that forgot political correctness the moment they arrived on campus. But it's not really right; The buildings are pretty much as they were when I came here. The UG community was not on the verge total collapse right before my arrival. When I first arrived at Caltech, I saw a populace that had fun. More importantly, they had fun without seeming to care about how

others had fun and thus everyone could be as wise or foolish as they wanted. This was a quid quo pro where the currencies of choice were either extraordinary tolerance or unbelievable apathy. And now, it seems this is no longer acceptable.

The truth is, to simply eulogize or criticize this loss is pathetically one-sided. Caltech has become more diverse in many ways, so should we should really be surprised that those harmless jokes lose their innocuousness when told in a room not 100% filled with caucasian/asian males. Caltech does not exist in a vacuum. Even the ivory tower must recruit from the heaping masses of society. And as society changes, the institution must change with it. Or is anyone blind enough to claim immunity to the wider world or cowardly enough to wish total escape from it?

But this loss need not be permanent. The destruction of the old deal is inevitable... what follows, has yet to be chosen. To those who care and those who have the power, I want to say that you do not need to choose between a sterile world devoid of risk or an open rebellion against common sense. It is only when one side refuses to accept the inevitability of change and the other the importance of tradition that the choices become binary.

Perhaps the sense of immediacy has already been lost... the latest event just one more to be thrown onto the pile. But when that triggering event does happen, remember that if the undergraduate population does not stand united, the administration will make its own decision, most likely to the detriment of all.

The Inside World: An Open Letter From Dabney

By Anonymous
UNDERGRADUATE

Fellow students,
I write this letter to help bring to light disturbing changes in the Dabney House government, that have unfortunately gone ignored. The houses were established with the purpose of providing a place to live for incoming students, but the continuing practice of rotation has made them so much more than that. Many students now see their house as a second family, if not something more. Our motto once read, appropriately, that "A family of strangers is the strangest of families." But following the most recent house election newly elected upperclass officers have instituted changes that have hurt Dabney culture and corrupted the ideals of the house.

In particular I wish to air complaints regarding the regime of Max Jones, the new Dabney House president. After an initial few weeks of sound leadership, Jones has forced through a radical series of changes to the house government that unfairly abuses his power. The "Great Leader" has replaced the Dabney Executive Committee with a group of unelected upperclassmen. This "Council of High Darbs" controls the Dabney House budget and resources, but in practice sim-

ply rubber stamps any of Jones' orders. Jones has in effect abolished the house constitution and rewritten the roompick rules, unfairly allotting himself and his friends the best rooms while sending many underclassmen off campus. Almost all of Alley 3 has been dubbed his personal zone. Furthermore, citing concerns of "thefts" the house multimedia lounge (DEI) has been fitted with a new lock, barring most underclassmen from accessing what should be a communal room. President Jones insists infractions of the "Dabney Code of Conduct" be handled internally, and many students fear they will not get an objective hearing for any supposed infraction. During dinner announcements house members are no longer allowed to speak without prior permission. Furthermore Jones uses these events to enter into long, rambling rants, interjected with shouts of "I AM THE LAW!". The house social budget is no longer accessible to the social veeps, and I believe the funds have been secretly spent.

To be honest, these changes frighten me. The house I had so happily joined at the beginning of the year has turned into a place where I fear to leave my door open and talk to my fellow Darbs about my complaints with the house. Thank you for reading, I only hope that change comes.

Support Animal Research at Caltech

By Michael McCoy
GRADUATE STUDENT

Last Tuesday, a group of anonymous animal rights activists went to the roof of the Beckman Institute and hung a banner condemning the animal-based research that (presumably) is conducted at Caltech. This act was part of what animal-rights extremists have dubbed "World Laboratory Animal Liberation Week," a week in which (according to allcreatures.org) activists seek to end laboratory testing of animals through protests and other so-called "direct action" (such as hanging a banner from the Beckman Institute) which increases exposure to their cause.

Let me be clear, without resort to hyperbole or rhetoric, how important it is for us as a research community to firmly oppose their stated goal. A halt in animal-based research would stop lifesaving advances in medicine, and in no small way. The polio vaccine was tested on mice and monkeys, and now the devastating disease

which once affected millions has been all but eradicated. Heart transplants, chemotherapy, life support systems, countless vaccines, antibiotics, psychiatric medicine, and hundreds of other treatments which we take for granted today were developed with the essential help of animal research and testing. From the historical record, I can say without a doubt that halting animal research would lead to the death of millions of people, if not hundreds of millions of people, in my lifetime.

This side of the story, though well-known to many of us here at Caltech, is one which bears repeating again and again to those who feel sympathy for the goals of animal-rights extremists. While all of us would agree that animal research be conducted within ethical guidelines, demanding that all animal research be halted is morally reprehensible. Yet this halt is precisely what these activists are after, and some are willing to go to extreme lengths to further their cause.

The banner-hanging is a mild

example of the tactics employed by the animal rights extremists, yet it still removes an air of security that researchers on campus feel when conducting their business. The ease with which these outsiders trespassed makes salient for researchers at Caltech the danger of real acts of violence and terrorism, as other researchers California have been stalked, received death threats, and even had bombs placed under their cars due to their involvement with animal research.

As a campus, we need to support our researchers by condemning those who would shatter the sense of security this campus should rightfully have and whose views blatantly ignore the realities of the past century. I'm not saying that we need to stifle speech on this campus. Rather, I'm suggesting that we exercise our freedom of speech as vociferous proponents of animal-based research in order to counteract the influence of those who seek to end it. We have the facts on our side, and we know it. Let's say something about it.

Sexism is a problem at Caltech

By Hillary Walker
UNDERGRADUATE

Many outraged readers have written in response to my most recent piece, "Caltech, Take Sexism Seriously," which was published in the Tech on April 20, 2009. One student wrote, "There [was] absolutely no evidence/argument put forward why we should believe that sexism is a major problem at Caltech." I must defend my lack of proof and explain that I strived to be as tactful as possible. I did not wish to isolate or criticize specific groups, and although I thought of numerous examples, I refused to cite these incidents without the permission of their victims. During the intervening week, I have spoken with many students who are willing to share their stories, and I hope the subsequent examples will aid in persuasion and fortify my argument that sexism at Caltech is a genuine problem.

I must emphasize that every person has a unique experience at Caltech and every experience is valid. That some women have not suffered a hostile environment does not negate the perspectives of women who have. Furthermore, I am not accusing all male students of holding misogynistic or sexist views. In general, the men at Caltech are respectful and kind. Still, the power of a culture is sometimes greater than the sum of its constituents, and I do believe that we create a hostile environment for women. To support this assertion, I present the following evidence collected from various undergraduate Houses.

One student reports a classmate telling her, quite seriously, that she wouldn't find a SURF because she was a girl. One student was told repeatedly, to her face, that Caltech only accepted her because she was female and Hispanic. When a woman asked which drill bit she needed to use for a project, a man assumed that she didn't

know how to use the drill press and began to explain, very slowly, how to use the machine.

During an engineering project, a female student encountered problems while working with a group of men. Someone suggested that they could fundraise if they put Hustler advertisements on their project. When the woman objected to the use of porn, her male classmates asked her if she had self-confidence issues and wasn't proud of her body. This woman felt humiliated and offended but never reported the incident because people told her that she would be ridiculed for the rest of her time at Caltech.

In one House, girls are subjected to insults and taunts; they're told to clean up after the men and bring them snacks. One woman says that a male housemate forced her to pick up broken glass, which he had shattered, with her bare hands. Men openly make derogatory comments about girlfriends and former relationships.

Some female students feel physically threatened. One woman says that people hold dangerous objects such as knives, baseball bats, and fire poker near her face. She also reports being cornered against a refrigerator. Women, including a Resident Associate, complain that they are touched against their wishes and sometimes even indecently slapped.

Another woman reports being harassed and stalked by an alumnus who was secretly still living in the House. This man made comments about her body and said, "If you were pregnant, I would punch you repeatedly in the stomach." When the woman told her housemates that she was frightened, they responded with indifference, told her it was only a joke, and pressured her to conceal the incident from the administration.

One angry reader claims that sexism isn't a problem at Caltech because women never complain. Yet four Resident Associates say

that some women in their Houses feel uncomfortable voicing their disapproval of misogynistic comments because they don't want to be ridiculed by their peers. During the last week, many women have told me that they feel isolated, intimidated, and powerless. One woman says that she experienced enormous pressure to remain quiet and felt like she either had to deal with offensive comments or be forced out of her House.

Sexism extends beyond the undergraduate community. In the USC/WEST Quality of Graduate Student Life Survey from May 2003, 63% of graduate student women "have occasionally or frequently experienced at least one of four specific forms of gender harassment during their enrollment at Caltech." These forms of gender harassment include unwanted attention, negative comments about scientific ability, use of demeaning language (e.g. unwanted teasing, inappropriate jokes, and written or spoken remarks), and exposure to offensive material. The severity of sexual harassment varies across divisions. In Chemistry and Chemical Engineering, for example, 87% of graduate women reported harassment.

In many ways, sexism at Caltech is perpetuated by a lack of leadership. Students have few clear boundaries about acceptable behavior.

Upperclassmen indoctrinate freshmen in house culture, something that Caltech students view as a sacred, unchangeable entitlement, and there are also failures within the administration. Change is imperative. We need open conversations, more student activism, and better support for our Resident Associates. Students, such as the women of Ricketts House, are already discussing how we can make Caltech a better place. Let us discard our shell of apathy and reexamine our world and ourselves. Caltech can be anything we choose.

Making thousands with a graphing calculator

by Joel Nikolaus

photos by Flora Li



Julian Panetta works with Graphite, his graphing calculator program.

Many of you probably played around with your graphing calculators back in high school, a pastime that most have also probably left behind. But Julian Panetta, a junior CS major, returned to those early roots while writing an application that he calls Graphite.

The program, written for Apple's iPhone and iPod Touch, has already been a modest success with roughly 1,500 sales and a few thousand dollars since he released the initial version back in August.

So what does Graphite do? Well, it graphs, but then so does any graphing

calculator and any number of other iPhone applications. What Panetta says really sets Graphite apart is its streamlined interface and its incorporation of the platform's multi-touch capabilities, something he was eager to demonstrate. With an assortment of pinches and pulls he used the multi-touch interface to rescale the graphs and calculate integrals.

Although this intuitive interface has generated enthusiastic comments on Apples App Store and propelled a modest amount of sales, the application has still not been quite as successful as Panetta originally hoped. While Graphite was one

of the first graphing applications available, it was not the very first and the flood of third party applications since then has only compounded the problem. While he describes his timing as "unfortunate," he said that he was "reluctant to release something that wasn't what I envisioned."

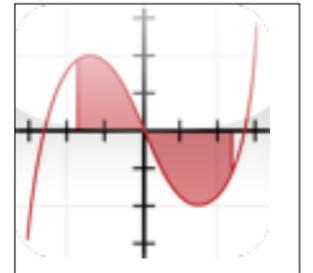
But Panetta has not had to deal with only good old capitalistic, and legal, competition. He was surprised to find out that his application had also been pirated, and he said that despite the program's performance, the "illegal distribution didn't make me too happy." He found out that it had been pirated when some friends acquired pirated copies of his application.

Still, overall Panetta seemed fairly upbeat about the application. Graphite is a program that seems to live up to the Apple mantra, focusing as much on style and design as functionality. He has spent a lot of time working on the interface, and there is still a lot of functionality to be added. Although he would have liked to see greater success, this started out as a hobby and will likely remain a hobby.

Panetta said that his interest in making such an application goes back to high school, describing himself as a "graphing calculator nerd." When the iPhone first came out with its touch interface, he thought "It would be cool to have a multi-touch graphing calculator" with "a very intuitive interface." He did not have any solid plans on any other applications, but said he might try his hand at some photo effect software.

He just needed a way to make the program. After waiting Apple released its SDK (Software Development Kit) that allowed users to write their own applications and he got to work creating Graphite based on the functionality of the TI-83, but taking advantage of the capabilities of the iPod and iPhone.

Graphite: online description



Graphite is an efficient and accurate graphing calculator for the iPhone and iPod touch. Graphite combines an intuitive, polished multi-touch interface with powerful numeric methods to allow fast and precise computation of roots, extrema, integrals, and intersections. Scale axes independently using the custom pinch gesture, then trace along curves for values using as many fingers as you want!

Graphite lets you easily manage as many equations as you need and quickly enter new ones using the dedicated equation input screen.

If Graphite's helpful yet unobtrusive usage instructions and error dialog boxes still leave some aspect confusing, it also holds an extensive onboard help document.

B

The Deli around the Corner

by Andrew Freddo and Dannah Almasco



While making a Target run, we were hungry and spotted a small deli: the Corner Café. The whole restaurant has less than 10 tables, and there seemed to be a good variety of lunch fare, especially sandwiches and salads. We were especially hungry, and ordered the Santa Barbara Panini (\$8.75) and Chef's Salad (\$7.99).

The Panini had turkey, provolone, avocado, and sprouts toasted on wheat bread. The sandwich was piled high with lots of turkey and cheese, though since it was so thick it was not warmed all the way through. Still, the outside of the sandwich was crispy. The avocado paste was very subtle, and the sprouts used as a garnish did not add anything. Still, the sandwich was very filling for the price.

Similarly to the Panini, the salad was very large. There was lots of chicken, turkey, and ham, along with provolone

and shredded cheddar cheese. There was a choice of dressings: we opted for the vinaigrette, which came on the side. Make sure you shake thoroughly before pouring on, or you will end up with just the oil layer all over your salad (Dannah-confirmed)! As for the salad itself, the chicken was actually sliced breast meat, a pleasant surprise, though the other meats were cold-cuts. Essentially, the salad was like a sandwich without the meat – very filling and enjoyable.

The Corner Café also has a nice variety of coffees, fruit smoothies, and milkshakes, along with a small assortment of muffins and croissants. Also, the restaurant has free Wi-Fi service (just ask the staff for the password)! Conveniently, they also deliver and cater for large groups. So, next time you're out and about, pop into the Corner Café!

Walking Time: 25 minutes

Price Range: \$

Contact Info:
(626) 243-0488
www.cornercafe1.com

Go here to... grab a quick bite when running errands on Colorado.

Earth Day on San Pasqual

photos by Tina Ding



Lower Right: Come Fix Your Bike at the Caltech Bike Shop!



Recently renovated due to MHF and SIF funding, the Caltech bike shop, is now available as a shop in SAC 39 with all the tools needed for students to fix their bikes. Shop directors John McKeen and Jon Weissman, both graduate students, will be present to aid the students during hours soon to be posted online at www.caltechbikelab.blogspot.com. All undergraduate and graduate students can use the shop at their leisure if they obtain a key. Next time something's wrong with your bike, there's no need to going to a professional bike repair shop when there's one right below you.

Caltech Starcraft Club Makes Quarter Finals

by Mark Eichenlaub

Hetul Patel is in trouble. Belligerent forces are harassing him constantly, but recently their little forays are getting more and more serious. There are too many demands on his attention. Distracted and pressured, he's reacting a bit slowly. The little mistakes are accumulating. Also, he's got something of a gas problem.

Hetul, president of the Caltech Starcraft Club, is giving me a play-by-play as he skirmishes against his teammate Wilson Sung (the gas problem is that you need lots of it in Starcraft, and Hetul is running out). They're two of the top Starcraft players at Caltech, and recently led their team to the quarterfinals of the first-ever championship of the Collegiate Starleague (CSL).

"The first attack is like an opening move in chess. Your opening moves in chess aren't meant to kill your opponent. They're meant to open the game." As he narrates, a small patrol of Hetul's marines marches out to do battle with three of Wilson's dragoons. After a few minutes of watching, I'm beginning to see how the subtleties here really do mimic chess. Just take that 8x8 board and make it enormous and different every time you play. Then give black and white completely different powers, and put up to 200 pieces on a side. And oh yeah, it's always everybody's turn.

"I'll use a lot of small guerrilla tactics," Hetul says. His cool, matter-of-fact voice-over offsets the pre-recorded death screams of his warriors. "I'm already messing up," he says with a laugh. "The next one will be better."

Starcraft is a real time strategy computer game, meaning that if you're over 30 you will probably never understand it. Players have to collect raw materials, build factories for their war machine, create an army (or four), and go to war. When you're

good, you do all these tasks simultaneously.

Though more than a decade old - ancient for video game - Starcraft retains a core of dedicated gamers who aren't interested in the flashier new offerings. Hetul used to play other games, but switched his efforts over to Starcraft along with a few friends last year. "Whenever I play Starcraft, it's really fast. When I try to switch to something else, I feel like it's really slow," he explains. Starcraft's innovation was to create three completely different races for players to choose from - and to balance their power perfectly.

Hetul plays Terran - humans with Starship Troopers technology. Wilson is a Protoss (once players build their skill, they generally pick one race and stick to it), an alien race with advanced technology. Absent from the match I'm watching are the Zerg - another alien races with really big claws.

Hetul quickly improved after adopting the game. When he learned about the new CSL, he recruited more gamers and signed up. The matches take place online, with four one-on-one and one two-on-two games each time. Twenty-six teams from colleges around the US and Canada played a five-round preliminary bracket, with one new match each week. Caltech won three of their five matches to advance to the eight-team semifinals. Seeded last, they lost a tough battle against the favorite, University of Texas.

"We actually almost beat them," Hetul says, no doubt reminiscing on that one fatal Zerg rush. I ask about the great, exciting moments in the tournament. There was a two-on-two match, he tells me, where Caltech eliminated one of the opponents to make it 2-1. "Then it wound up we lost. I guess

that must have been exciting for the other team."

Watching practiced players is a shocking experience for someone who may have popped the Starcraft CD in once in high school to see what the craze was about. Hetul and Wilson know every unit and upgrade and building in the game. They know to build siege tanks against Protoss players and marines against Zerg. They know every hotkey, and are personal counterexamples to the theory that people can only keep track of seven things at the same time. Hetul moves at about 200 "APM" actions per minute, meaning that on average he strikes a hotkey or makes a mouse click three or four times per second over the course of a twenty minute game.

"Pro gamers in Korea can get four or five hundred," he tells me. The mention of South Korea is a refrain among Starcraft players. In the US, Starcraft is popular - students at UC Berkeley even organized their own course on "Game Theory with Applications to Starcraft" - but in South Korea Starcraft is serious business. The best players have corporate sponsors, bring home large salaries, and achieve national celebrity. Have there ever been great Starcraft geniuses who change the way the world sees the game? "Yeah," Hetul says, "but they're all Korean." Could Americans ever beat Koreans if they practiced as much? Hetul looks over at Wilson, who's joined us after winning a second game, and they share a sort of muffled laugh. "No, no, no."

It took several updates and revisions before Blizzard Entertainment finally settled down and finalized Starcraft, but when they did, they wound up with what many devotees consider the most perfectly-balanced real-time strategy game ever. "There's a lot about Starcraft. It's really hard to tell you all at once,"

Hetul says in way that makes me feel like I've traded roles with the English major who once asked me to explain "the universe" to her.

"The strategies keep on evolving," he tries. "It goes through phases. It's constantly adapting." Starcraft 2 is in development, and everyone in the community is wondering whether Blizzard can find the magic formula once more. Make the races too similar and you kill the interest and the role of creativity. Make them too different and they're impossible to balance fairly. Make the game too simple and you lose richness and discovery. Make it too complicated and you build an insurmountable learning curve.

Already, it takes dedication to learn the game to the core. "It's something people can't just pick up and be good at. There's a huge skill gradient," Hetul says. But he's always looking to tack on some newbs to the club's current nine-player roster. Hetul is the only Terran player.

Wilson and Hetul play only a few times a week due to the demands of school. "It's definitely less addictive than World of Warcraft," Wilson says. He and Hetul speculate it may be because each game is a self-contained combat. They improve as players - serious Starcraft players grade themselves by letter, and they both rank at the D+/C- range - but there's no "leveling up" to draw you in for days at a time.

The CSL will continue in future years, they confidently predict. Already it's built up considerable membership and drawn attention of the New York Times. The Caltech team is relaxing into club mode now that the competitive season is over, meeting online each Friday evening. Players interested in club play should check out the team's website at <http://sites.google.com/site/caltechstarcraft/> for more information.

Glee Club Director Leaves Caltech for full-time position at Occidental

By Tina Ding
STAFF WRITER

Desiree LaVertu, the Director of the Caltech Glee Clubs for ten years, will be leaving in the fall to become the Director of Choral Music at Occidental College. LaVertu has worked as part time director of the Occidental singing group and when the position for full time opened, she applied and received the offer to work there.

The selection process for the new director will be conducted by the Glee Club members, who according to LaVertu, will watch the DVDs of the contestants and meet the finalists.

"Feedback of the students will be given strong consideration," said LaVertu. The new director will be chosen by mid-June. Meanwhile, LaVertu will still be directing the musical choral groups at Caltech.

The Caltech Glee Club, made of eighty men and women who perform separately and together, has two major concerts per year during the holidays and spring, and perform for occasions such as parents day and prefrish concert.

There are approximately twenty to thirty undergraduate students, with the rest of the singing group made of graduate students, faculty, JPL faculty, and alumni. "I think it's one of the best things we have at the school because it brings different people from around the campus and beyond that have shared interests," said LaVertu. "It's not science, it's not math, and the individuals still bond."

Besides directing the large group, LaVertu also prepares the auditioned group of 24 chamber singers for their performances at additional concerts, the Holiday Galas at the Athenaeum and small

parties for associates and trustees. The chamber singers performed last Saturday at Dabney Lounge. LaVertu also privately coaches some students.

"I love working here, with Caltech students," said LaVertu, "it broadened my perspectives, made me appreciate the sciences."

Being the director of the choral groups for so long, LaVertu has trained the same people throughout their four undergraduate years. "Because alumni come back and sing, I have known some singers for eight years," said LaVertu.

The Glee Club rehearses for three hours a week, and the chamber singers do so for an additional two hours. When asked if the students are committed to the club, LaVertu replies that "it is pretty amazing that they make to rehearsals with the demanding core curriculum."

Review Committee dismisses complaints about lack of election publicity

NO, FROM PAGE 1

more people into running, making another election worthwhile. "The fairest thing to do is have another election," said Price.

"I hope that this election will convince people to take elections seriously," said Kennelly. "Before and after the results were announced, I received comments from eligible voters who had chosen not to vote because they believed the election was already decided."

The Review Committee also received a complaint about the lack of an email to undergraduates with a link to the online election ballot, and a complaint that no email was sent out that reminded students to vote. This complaint was dismissed and not revisited.

The IHC-appointed Review Committee also has the power

to depose ASCIT officers that are not doing their job and block the appointment of ASCIT staff members. So far, the Review Committee has approved of all staff appointments: assistant treasurer Chris Hallacy; concert planners Paul Fleiner, Adam Khan, and Max Bryk; and class resource website planner AnTu Xie.

A new construct

When the Review Committee was first conceived of, some students were unsure that it would effectively police ASCIT.

"It's too early to tell," said Obenshain, in response to a question on how well the Review Committee works. "I would like to say it's going well.... We haven't had any real problems." The real test of the Review Committee's

effectiveness will come when the Review Committee must decide whether or not to depose someone, said Obenshain.

According to Zax and Chang, many Review Committee meetings prior to meetings regarding the contested election results had poor attendance-- the first Review Committee meeting barely made quorum, and the second meeting didn't make quorum.

"I'm not sure that everyone [on the Review Committee] takes the Review Committee with the seriousness it deserves," said Zax.

Zax brought his worries about the Review Committee to Lloyd House Superintendent Tom Gwinn, who presented Zax's worries to the IHC nearly three weeks ago.

Caltech's freshman "Battle of the Brains" team competes in international contest

By Natalya Konstandova
STAFF WRITER

On Tuesday, three Caltech students experienced the excitement of attending a ceremony in the Stockholm Concert Hall, where Nobel Prize winners are presented with their honors every year. While Zarathustra (Zeb) Brady, Emil Ibrishimov, and Nathan Watson were not in Stockholm, Sweden, for the Nobel Prize ceremony, they did partake in a contest that is casually referred to as "Battle of the Brains".

The Caltech team, comprised entirely of freshmen and coached by Eric Stansifer of graduating class of 2010, earned their spot in the line-up of 100 university teams to compete in the international level of the 33rd annual Association for Computer Machinery International Computer Programming Contest (ACM-ICPC) by winning the regional level of competition in November.

St. Petersburg University

of Information Technology, Mechanics, & Optics (Russia) emerged as the winner of the World Finals of ACM-ICPC. Caltech did not place, with a team from MIT becoming the winner for the North America region. Apart from the North America and Europe Regions, this year the teams competing in the World Finals represented Africa and the Middle East, Latin America, Asia, and South Pacific regions.

The contest consisted of eleven problems, each concerned with some real-world issue that could be modeled and addressed using programming tools, such as dealing with traffic during rush-hour over a network of roads. The teams each had one computer and a calculator to solve the problems, and competitors were scored based on the number of correctly submitted solutions and the time that they took submit them.

Some member of Caltech team, which traveled to Sweden previous Saturday and returned on Wednesday, feel that they could have done better. "We were trying to do too much in parallel and as

a result, we couldn't do any of it," said Ibrishimov. "We also didn't assign the problems to the correct people in the beginning which was also a major mistake."

It was difficult for Brady, Ibrishimov, and Watson to prepare for competition, given their workload. Some members of the team worked on problem sets in Sweden, and the travel and the contest itself put a strain on the already busy schedules.

"It was strange that after the flight to Stockholm we felt better because of the sleep we got during the flight compared to the sleep we didn't get before that in order to do as much homework in advance as possible," said Ibrishimov.

Aside from the actual contest, the team got a chance to see some of the city and local attractions as well as participating in some team games, which broke up the competing teams and allowed the students to mingle and meet fellow contestants from other universities as well as countries. Harbin, China, will host next year's World Finals ACM-ICPC.

Bi1 extra credit answer leads to provisional patent, research award, and switch of major

HIV, FROM PAGE 1

to hijack, are naturally produced by the body, outnumber T cells by a thousand to one, and are naturally degraded after about a hundred days.

In order to get HIV to infect red blood cells, Chadwick is using gene therapy to make red blood cells that express the two key receptors that HIV uses to recognize targets—CD4 and CCR5. Gene therapy involves the use of a virus to insert genes into stem cells. In this case, infected red blood cell precursors would produce decoys for the rest of a patient's life. There are concerns that the gene therapy system is not very efficient, but since there are so many more red blood cells than immune cells in the body they would still act as very effective sinks for the virus even if only one percent of the red blood cells carried the correct receptors.

After only one summer, Chadwick, with the help of Prof. David Baltimore's lab, has developed the viral vector that will infect stem cells with the CD4 and CCR5 receptor genes. "This was my first time in a bio lab, so I was making a lot of mistakes," said Chadwick in his typical self-deprecating manner.

Chadwick is now preparing to test the efficacy of the decoys

through an *in vitro* assay that will detect whether or not the decoys actually prevent infection of T cells. This experiment is an important step in proving the validity of the decoy idea. Chadwick hopes to complete this experiment by the end of the summer, but he says, "there are lots of things that can make this take forever. Best case scenario, this could be done in a couple months, but likely it will take a lot longer."

If the decoy experiments show positive results, Caltech will file for a full patent on Chadwick's idea. Caltech will retain approximately eighty percent financial ownership of the idea.

This does not mean that an actual therapeutic system will be available anytime soon. "Every time we as humans have made assumptions about how this virus

should act, we've been wrong. So we don't know if this will actually work," cautioned Prof. Bjorkman. "But at the very least, we will learn some interesting biology."

Chadwick's proposal involves actually changing the human genome in a large set of cells, so regulation will be tight and research will be done carefully. "I would feel very bad if I ended up turning people into vampires," joked Chadwick, referring to the movie *I Am Legend*.

Future plans are not certain for Chadwick. Having received so many awards and so much attention, Chadwick has retained a great sense of humility and appreciates those who have helped and guided him along the way. "That was awesome, to get an award for research at Caltech," said Chadwick about the Green Prize. "I owe a lot of it to Tom Tombrello, for nominating me, and Pamela Bjorkman for letting me pursue the idea."

Since starting his AIDS project, Chadwick has reconsidered his major. He is now leaning towards a biology major. "I definitely didn't have terribly much interest in bio before Bi1," said Chadwick. "But this project really is what got me into bio. I think there is probably more room for interesting bio research nowadays than there will be for physics. There are

definitely interesting questions in physics, but they are much less accessible." "People come to Caltech to find themselves," said Prof. Tombrello about Chadwick's option change. "That's what college is for."

Whatever his plans are, Chadwick has a bright future. "I found it remarkable that as a freshman, Grayson could come up with an idea worthy of being considered for funding as a research project," commented Prof. Bjorkman. "That's what's different about Caltech undergraduates; many graduate students don't even come up with these kinds of original ideas."

"Students at Caltech are certainly capable of a tremendous amount of creativity and what I'm trying to do through Bi 1 is foster that. They don't need to memorize details, they just need to have good ideas."

-- Grayson Chadwick

Page senior temporarily PNG'd for after champagne party

By Marissa Cevallos
STAFF WRITER

A senior has been banned from Page House for one month for organizing a champagne party on the roof of Page last term.

The decision to PNG Nick Kramer, an off-campus senior and head waiter, was made by the Conduct Review Committee last week after a month-long case.

This is the second time this year that a Page student has been PNG'd for violating the alcohol policy. A super-senior was banned from Page House for all of first term for providing beer to a freshmen drinking contest.

This year is the first time since 2004-05 that Page members have been PNG'd over alcohol related incidents. In 2004, the Page president banned a group of waiters that students thought were "destructive and mean."

An Open Letter to the Caltech Community

There has been a recent unsettling, a disturbance of things as we knew and thought we loved them. We pride ourselves on our intelligence, our logical outlook; yet I have heard much that seems thoroughly grounded in blind faith. I appeal to that very tendency to seek the logical, to seek what's right, that all of us possess. I do not wish to see this become a dogmatic argument between two sides. This should not even be a question of sides.

We must first do away with the flippant superficiality on the part of naysayers with regards to the debate on the existence of sexism at Caltech. That we don't recognize this sexism or that we perceive it as a joke does not make it right. Recent events have proven this to be an inherently unassailable statement. Demanding evidence of sexism and, in light of some, demanding more seems not only irrational but downright obstinate. When no evidence will sway one's convictions, perhaps one must honestly question the foundation of those convictions.

Some students feel that the existence of women in the community who will deny that

they detect any amount of sexism in the school's culture actually serves as a valid counterargument. However, the issue at stake is far more profound than this assertion: it would be enough if but one woman has felt degraded. That women can be found to speak in favor of the niqab does nothing to change the inherent misogyny of the garment.

It has also been asserted that women in other universities run the risk of sexual abuse if they go out at night alone, that our community is really quite reasonable in a relative sense. But I doubt that any of you fail to see the fallacy of an argument of this type. The assertion can essentially be reduced to a statement that things could be worse, so people shouldn't complain. This view both limits our ability to live and prosper and breeds a mindset of complacency.

There has also been a great and vocal outcry against the administration. Their heavy-handed policies and attempts to right wrongs in the houses are bound to miss their target to a certain extent—for how could anybody but us hit the mark? It seems ultimately childish on

the part of the student body to constantly reject the notions espoused by the deans solely because the actions they take are imperfect in rectifying problems. It is hard at times to swallow one's pride, to admit that the way out of a hole is not by insisting that the hole is, all in all, not so bad. We must climb. All that the deans can do is to give us some amount of impetus to do so.

To be honest, I don't even know what force possesses those who so adamantly deny the existence of sexism on campus or in the house cultures. To what are we clinging so desperately? What do we gain by denying the obvious? The accumulation of many fallacious arguments amounts to nothing. That some women are finally speaking out about this elephant in the room is all that is needed by way of evidence. Contradicting or attacking their opinions only further proves the point.

Perhaps some fear falling prey to a culture of political correctness. But this is simply about respect: as foolish as it is to be overly politically correct, it is ten times more foolish to offend. Let us be mature. Let us be reasonable. Let us give the

deans some evidence that we can govern ourselves. I have seen so many fellow students, otherwise brilliant, likeable people, fall prey to an unreasonable denial of what is pervasive. Perhaps they feel that this system worked until now, and that they were happy with it; perhaps they are afraid what change might mean. But this culture of misogyny only persisted because people were too scared to speak. The aggressively vocal nature of a minority—and indeed, the less reason there is in a belief, the more belligerent its proponents tend to be—can do nothing, in the end, to sway the silent majority.

When there is irrefutable evidence that something is wrong, let us not dig in with the obstinacy of a mule to protect old and broken notions. We must view each and every one of our fellow students with respect if we are to respect ourselves or our surroundings. I implore the student body: every one of us can make this a community of which we can be proud.

Sincerely,
Luke Moryl

ASCIT BoD Minutes for April 24, 2009

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes

April 24, 2009

Officers Present: Anthony Chong, Pallavi Gunalan, Michael Maseda, Maral Mazrooei, Nadia Iqbal, Laura Conwill

Officers Absent: Andrey Poletayev

Guests: Sarah Marzen, Lisa Zang, Brian Merlob

Call to order: 12:12 PM

Funding requests:

- **Cool Party:** Lisa is looking to have an awesome no-construction party. Instead of spending money on building, they're going to use their funds to get really good DJ from San Francisco. The planned date for the party is May 30, and the party committee includes a member from each house. **Motion to approve \$300 for the May 30th party. VOTE: Passed (5-0-0)**

President's Report:

- The MHF proposal for the Harvey Mudd party will be submitted today. A few additional staff positions have been approved: An-Tu Xie for filming courses; and Dvin Adalian, Megan Larisch, and Haley Barnes for the donut website staff.

Officer Reports:

- **V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair):** Andrey has been working with the SFC; they are talking about

option mentors and creating option wikis. Student-faculty lunches have been going well, and the ARC is going to expand the program by having teas at the Red Door.

- **V.P. of Nonacademic Affairs (IHC Chair):** Alex Hudson and Andrey have asked the IHC about holding house discussions about SFC and BOC issues; the policy will be that these discussions will be organized by the committees whose issues are being discussed. Interviews and appointments are ongoing. Anneila Sergeant is moving along with the MOSH selection process; the IHC will be involved with that soon.
- **Operations Director:** The student center proposal was sent to Anneila. Mike met with Dvin on Wednesday night regarding donut website plans; Dvin will talk to DevTeam soon. The goal is to have the website up and running in its new form by the end of the summer.
- **Treasurer:** Maral will email clubs regarding funding awards soon. Fleming is wondering whether two houses involved with a social event houses can use their multihouse funding towards the same event. The official consensus is that this is fine.
- **Social Director:** ASCIT Formal will be held outside the Beckman Institute! Party with the gene pool!

Meeting adjourned: 12:40 PM
Submitted by Laura Conwill,
ASCIT Secretary

ARC Minutes for April 19, 2009

- The ARC will have its termly meeting with the Deans on May 15 to discuss classes. ARC representatives will send surveys to all students in core courses to find issues to bring up at the meeting. ASCIT Teaching Award nominations have been put up on donut. If you would like to nominate a professor, lecturer, TA, or other staff member, please visit
- http://donut.caltech.edu/vote/vote.php?survey_id=415.
- An anonymous comment box is now available at <http://arc.caltech.edu> -- if you have any course comments or complaints, please use the box to let us know!

Submitted by Karthik Sarma, ARC Secretary

Goldwater Scholarship Recipients Announced

Three Students Awarded Goldwater Scholarships PASADENA, Calif.--Three students from the California Institute of Technology have been awarded Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships for the 2009-10 academic year, and one student received honorable mention.

ZeNan Chang, a junior biology major from Santa Monica California, Xueliang (Leon) Liu, a junior applied physics major from Cerritos, California, and Guglielmo Lockhart, a junior physics major who grew up in Italy and now resides in Pasadena, California are among this year's recipients. Elizabeth Mak a sophomore biology major from Bradbury, California, received honorable mention.

The scholarship program, honoring the late Senator Barry M. Goldwater, is designed to encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural

sciences, and engineering. The Goldwater Scholarship is considered one of the premier undergraduate awards of its type in these fields.

This year the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation awarded a total of 278 academic merit scholarships to undergraduate sophomores and juniors from across the nation. The recipients were chosen from 1,097 mathematics, science, and engineering students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide.

The one- and two-year scholarships will cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to a maximum of \$7,500 per year.

The Goldwater Foundation is a federally endowed agency. The foundation, in its 21-year history, has awarded 5,801 scholarships worth approximately \$56 million.

The California Tech is publishing this notice as a public service to the Deans' Office.

A Modern Proposal

By Erin Zampaglione
UNDERGRADUATE

I guess I should start off by saying I am a self-proclaimed humanitarian. I love all kinds of people, and will certainly not be giving them up anytime soon. But I've heard a lot of different reasons to do so, and these are what I'd like to address.

Firstly, I really get annoyed at people who don't eat other humans for "moral" reasons. Well, more specifically, I don't like it when people are self-righteous about not eating human flesh. I think that's pretentious and practically impossible to justify. And you can't avoid hypocrisy - just think how many humans were probably killed making your clothes, shoes, and the plastics in your household. It's all fine and good if you don't eat people, but do you really think you can go about not riding the Transcontinental Railroad? Walking on the Great Wall of China? Living in a country with freedoms? I don't think so.

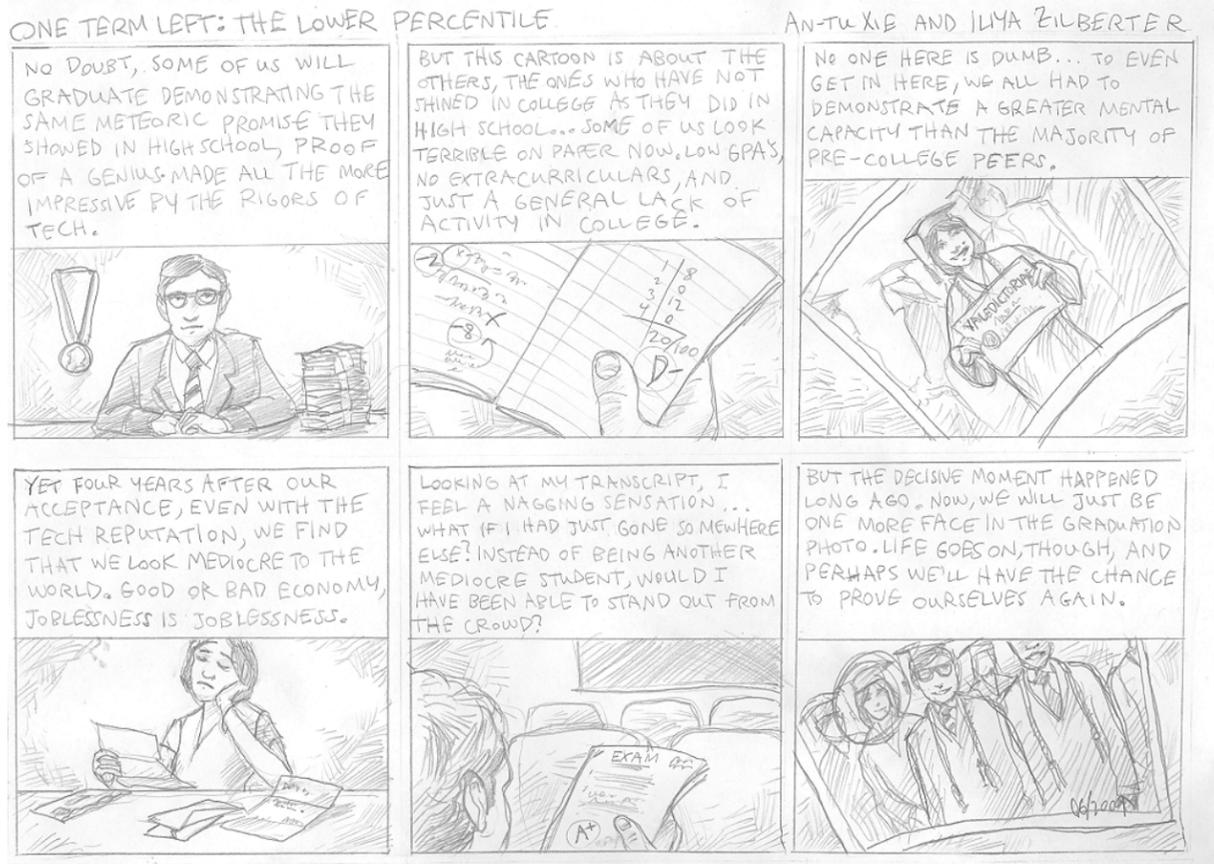
It's a little better to not eat humans for economic reasons. After all, raising a person does take up a lot of resources. I myself try to avoid upper-middle class Americans when possible, just because the cost of food, clothing, and education are extravagant these days. But, there are ways to be economically-minded while not being self-righteous. For example, I have it from good sources that small children, while not served everywhere, make for delicious entrees.

There are really two reasons where I can see not eating people would be pretty understandable. Religious reasons, for example: even if I don't agree with someone's beliefs, I can respect that if they think some higher power wants them to not eat humans, they don't. The other reason would be if one simply didn't like the taste of human flesh. I myself once got food poisoning from eating a people-burger, and for about a year after that, I just couldn't bring myself to eat anything with ground human flesh: people-burgers, people-loaf, even the stuff they put in spaghetti sauce. Obviously, I'm not going to knock someone for not eating something because it makes them gag - just so long as they don't have a hissy fit when they find out their gummy candy has some human product in it.

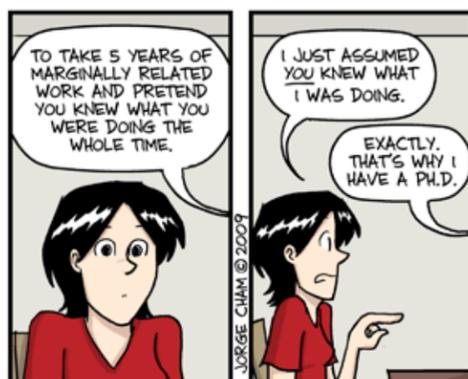
So that's about all I have to say. I'm not violently opposed to not-eating-people-ism, I just wish people wouldn't carry on and on about it. But until I evolve away my canine teeth and carrion-scavenger instincts, all I have to say is:

Here's to good eating!

Comics



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