Fleming flag found between Firestone and Guggenheim
Culprit, location of Page portrait unknown

By Tina Ding
EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

At 8:30am on Wednesday February 2nd, ex-President Alex Lapides received a call from ASCiT treasurer Chris Hallacy bearing good news: the missing Fleming flag has been found suspended on an extension cord between Firestone and Guggenheim. The flag, which has been missing for almost three weeks, was brought back to Fleming by Hallacy and Laura Conwill. The pranksters or culprits of the deed are still unknown.

The disappearance of the flag, followed by that of the portrait of James Page, has rekindled pranking initiatives, but was not followed by any note or correspondence with Tom Mannion, a required procedure according to the pranking rules and guidelines. In light of the missing House artifacts, IHC sent out an email to the undergraduate community five days ago highlighting the rules of pranking, noting that "violating pranking rules is considered a violation of the Honor Code."

On top of the acts of not abiding to pranking rules, the pranksters disobeyed the Prank Primer document found on ihc.caltech.edu/documents/pranks.html by taking an item from the non-RFaible list. The list contains five non-RFaible items, or "items that may not be pranked by anyone under any circumstances": The Blacker Ball, the Fleming House Bell, Fleming Cannon, Wall-sized Fleming flag, and the Lloyd House Portrait.

The flag is now in the possession of current Fleming president Dan Sexton. Sexton plans to hang up the flag in the Fleming dining hall this Monday.

According to Lapides, if there’s any word on the suspect of the prank/crime, there will be investigations. But with the return of the flag, there is less incentive to find the culprit.

“But would I like to know who did it?” said Lapides, “absolutely.”

At left, the Fleming flag as it was found between Firestone and Guggenheim. At right, Hallacy next to flag. Photos taken by Laura Conwill.

Course capturing efforts deemed successful at latest faculty meeting

By Sandhya Chandrasekar
STAFF WRITER

Recently, the discussion about course capturing and online availability was brought up at the faculty board meeting held on January 10, 2011. A relatively new committee, called the Ad Hoc Committee on Educational Technology, was formed to look into new computer technologies for classrooms. Originally suggested by the Computing Advisory Committee Chair, Professor K. Mani Chandy, AdHoc is a joint effort between the CAC and the Council for Undergraduate Education (CUE). According to their report, course capturing was generally recommended.

Currently, Caltech employs three different methods by which to record course lectures: New Media Classroom, run by BMSS; student-recorded lectures (which pays students at an hourly rate), and portable automated systems such as the one used to record Professor Shuki Bruck’s IST4 course. All of the recorded lectures are available on the “Classes” website to allow easy access for interested students. Expanding these recordings to capturing students' questions is an idea being discussed.

Faculty members who participated in such recorded lectures generally had positive reviews. Faculty members who participated in such recorded lectures generally had positive reviews.

Caltech plans for more sustainable landscaping

By Sarah Marzen
COPY EDITOR

According to the January 10th faculty board minutes, Caltech will use guidelines developed by landscape architects from the Office of James Burnett to move Caltech landscaping “to a more sustainable posture.”

The new guidelines include suggestions on water conservation, campus asset mitigation, storm water runoff treatment, and heat island mitigation. Campus asset mitigation focuses on maintaining and preserving the most important landscape features, such as “established trees”, while heat island mitigation guidelines look to “minimize the increase of ambient temperatures across campus.”

Assistant Vice President for Facilities Jim Cowell, who presented the new guidelines in the faculty board minutes, noted two major guideline changes for water conservation around campus. Part of the water conservation guidelines include higher efficiency irrigation systems. In addition, the Office of James Burnett has developed a list of 200 drought-resistant plants, some of which are already being planted around Annenber Center, Schlegler, and in the space between Bridge and Sloan. Faculty board members raised some concerns about the new plant palette, including the lack of shade and “lushness.”

Other suggestions made include better demarcation of the campus perimeter, perhaps Mexican fan palms. Students may also see changes to the plants on the Olive Walk, since the 1970’s plantings around the Olive Walk trees no longer serve as a way to prevent people from parking too close to the trees. There are already projects to relandscape the front of Firestone, possibly the Red Door, and perhaps also the area near Jorgenson.

No specific dates for renovation are mentioned in the faculty board minutes.
For Valentine’s Day, man up and just ask

By Kyle Butler
STAFF WRITER

The dreaded day is nearly upon us. That’s right, gents, don’t you dare feign forgetfulness. V-day is fast approaching and there shall be weeping and gnashing of teeth if you find yourself unprepared. So what’s a guy to do?

If you have a girlfriend and you don’t have a plan yet, I don’t know if there’s any hope for you. The best you can do is find a bullet to bite. But if you are single and staring down the possibility of loneliness this Valentine’s, there’s a very simple solution to your plight. Just ask her out. You know who you’re talking about. That girl—the one you worked with on that last set, but it was more conversation and laughs than work. The one you checked answers with even though you already knew you had the right ones. Yeah, her. Ask her out (make sure she’s single).

If you don’t know who you’re talking about, you can stop reading. But I think you do know.

I’m not saying you should ask her out just because it’s Valentine’s. The season is an excuse to do what you should have done a month ago. Hang on, why didn’t you ask a month ago? Maybe it was because you were about to knock on her door or dial her number or click send on that message when you thought, “What if she says no?”

Well this time, before you dismiss a cozy Valentine’s out of fear, be sure you aren’t turning into a modern Prufrock. You remember him, the guy back in high school who never said a word to a girl. All pale and pasty, he’d slink around the halls always hugging the walls, wondering “Do I dare?” and “Do I dare?” Don’t let your inner Prufrock control you.

Instead follow the example of Siegfried, the hero of Wagner’s opera Der Ring des Nibelungen (think Ride of the Valkyries). Siegfried’s quest was to learn fear. On his journey he broke swords barehanded, slayed giant dragons, and laughed at threats from the gods. None of these taught Siegfried fear until he found the most terrifying creature of them all—a woman, Brunhilde. What do we learn from this? We learn that women are the scariest monsters in the world, even worse than dragons. Just kidding, … sort of. Siegfried falls in love with Brunhilde and his example points out that fear is an integral part of love. In order to experience the elation of acceptance, we have to face and conquer the possibility of rejection. So if you’re scared, that’s good, you’re on the right track.

By the way, a date is not a marriage proposal. Keep it light. A date doesn’t have to be a long-term commitment. It doesn’t have to involve roses, chocolates, or a kiss goodnight. It doesn’t even have to be just the two of you. The only requirement is that you have fun and that she does too. It’s nothing to be afraid of.

So man up, just ask. She might say yes.

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The California Tech

Caltech 41-98, Pasadena, CA 91125

editorial e-mail: tech@caltech.edu

ASCIT minutes

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes
January 27, 2011

Officers Present: Adam Khan, Addie Rice, Prakriti Gaba, Chris Hallacy, Tim Black, Brian Merlob

Officers Absent: Karthik Sarma

Call to order: 12:16 pm

President’s report:
- ASCIT nominations: will be held Jan. 31st to Feb 4th.

Officer Reports:
- V.P. of Nonacademic Affairs (IHC Chair): The IHC is soon having their retreat. Tim talked with Peter Daily about the bed bug situation. According to Peter, the situation has been effectively controlled and bed bugs should no longer be a problem in the houses. Fleming, Lloyd, and Blacker have officially elected new presidents that have all joined the IHC. Tim and Wül S. are meeting with admissions about having students read applications for prospective students.
- Treasurer: Hallacy is continuing to distribute the last few checks for club/event funding.

Discussion:
- Endowment: The BoD is deciding how to efficiently manage the ASCIT endowment.
- Bylaw amendments: RevComm is still deciding whether to approve the new changes proposed by ASCIT.

Scheduling:
- ASCIT info session: Wednesday 6 pm.

Meeting adjourned: 12:34 pm

Submitted by Prakriti Gaba

ASCIT Secretary

Above: Valentine’s Day card, taken from http://www.hotvalentinesday.com/valentine/valentines-day-cards/
I have served, in one capacity or another, as an assistant or adviser to the last three ASCIT presidents. From a stint on the presidential staff, to fundraising for house endowments, to long meetings with administration and IHC rectors, I’ve connected a lot about the job. It seems to me that I have three responsibilities to the student body:

Keep the wheels greased

This may not seem too exciting, but in reality the 40% of the job and to a large degree determines the success or failure of an ASCIT president. Three years in student government have taught me that we have no shortage of good ideas regarding how to improve student life. It is also a fact that there are piles of money available to fund these sorts of things. Why, then, are we not all running around, overjoyed at the arrival of the new ASCIT water slide to be placed right next to the ASCIT moonbounce? Because somewhere along the process of planning, proposal writing, and implementation, momentum was lost. Interacting with most of the administration while serving as your representative this past year, I can promise you I will represent your interests when difficult issues come up. And when the going gets tough, I’ll make sure to come around and gather individual opinions on the issue so every voice is heard.

As IHC Chair, I have come to appreciate the importance of interhouse interaction. ASCIT should have more social events to bring together the entire student body and encourage house social teams to set up cross-house events.

You want services that ASCIT already provides, like the ASCIT screening room, well maintained and usable. It’s an indication that this should even be a goal, but ASCIT has forgotten to maintain many services in lieu of exciting campaign promises from previous years.

And you want more student-faculty interaction. Isn’t it a shame, with our ridiculously low student-faculty ratio, that most of us haven’t met our professors? ASCIT can better this by incentivizing houses to bring professors to house dinners or taking professors out to dinner at a nice restaurant.

If elected, I will work toward making these goals a reality, while also maintaining the services we already offer. You can trust me to accomplish these goals because I have a track record as your ASCIT treasurer to do the job consistently well. During this past year I have worked to clean up ASCIT finances and saved you tens of thousands of dollars while also being accountable and reliable when dealing out funds.

You deserve a student government that is responsive and wants to represent you. Here’s how I will make ASCIT into something we can all be proud of.

I was inspired to run for Vice President of Non-Academic Affairs (IHC Chair) two summers ago, before my first term had even begun. Pallavi Gunalan’s determination during her term as IHC Chair motivated me, and, now, after Tim Black’s excellent example, I am deeply honored to be a candidate.

As Chair, I would be the bridge between the student body and the administration. To that end, I would not only listen to the opinions and concerns of yellow students, I would also comprehend the substantial role I would have in addressing those concerns and in ensuring that the visions of my peers come to fruition.

After speaking with members of every house recently, I have familiarized myself with the current issues that we face. I have had the opportunity to work with all the House Presidents, who together with the Chair comprise the Interhouse Committee. I have learned quite a lot from them, and would like to use my knowledge and experience to serve you as IHC Chair.

The largest job of the Interhouse Committee is to run Rotation, which involves the IHC Chair and other aspects of student life, manages students and faculty appointments, and is involved with preparations for Prefrosh Weekend. Prior to becoming IHC secretary, I worked in Rotation for three summers in lieu of exciting campaign promises from previous years. I have worked with on the IHC this past year and with that experience I will work to ensure that things smoothly next fall. Together, we need to strike a balance between maintaining the House cultures and traditions (and displaying these during rotation) and ensuring that prefrosh have a positive experience at House dinners. I would like to revisit the conditions of eco-rotation to ensure that they are appropriate for this year’s student body. My presence on the IHC would provide continuity to make sure everything is handled appropriately.

The IHC also handles negotiations with administrators that affect housing and other aspects of student life, manages student-faculty committee appointments, and is involved with preparations for Prefrosh Weekend. Prior to becoming IHC secretary, I served as ASCIT Secretary, and have been a student representative to the Admissions Committee for two years. In these positions, I have developed strong working relationships with the Deans, Tom Manning, and Admissions and know that I can represent students and address our interests and concerns to them.

The IHC Chair is also a part of the ASCIT Board of Directors, and serves as the liaison between those two groups. I’m ready to work with the next ASCIT President to seamlessly lead the IHC and the ASCIT Board of Directors.

You have the opportunity to work with the candidates to seamlessly lead the IHC and the ASCIT Board of Directors.

While the IHC Chair represents the Committee to the administration, the role of the Chair within the IHC is different. The IHC Chair guides discussion and proposes solutions to issues that arise, whether they be

noteworthy, and am prepared to address them. It has become clear through these meetings that we feel that there is a severe lack of communication and understanding between students and administration. I find this issue inexcusably significant, given that Caltech is so unique in that we, the student body, have a strong voice in the policies that directly affect us. We cannot allow voice to be lost; as Chair, I would work with utmost tenacity to preserve this asset of Caltech by supporting efforts to increase and improve student-faculty interaction, such as a system in which faculty members attend dinners at each of the houses. As an excellent communicator, I am confident that I can convey our opinions respectfully but not stubbornly, astutely but not conceivably, and decisively but not harshly.

As an IHC Chair, I will remain an excellent communicator, as I find this issue inexcusably significant, given that Caltech is so unique in that we, the student body, have a strong voice in the policies that directly affect us. We cannot allow voice to be lost; as Chair, I would work with utmost tenacity to preserve this asset of Caltech by supporting efforts to increase and improve student-faculty interaction, such as a system in which faculty members attend dinners at each of the houses. As an excellent communicator, I am confident that I can convey our opinions respectfully but not stubbornly, astutely but not conceivably, and decisively but not harshly.

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A visitor to Caltech once told me that after her week-long stay she could distinguish the frost from the upperclassmen based solely on how happy they appeared. While Caltech is known for producing well-trained undergraduates, the current system also manages to sicken the life out of us leaving many upperclassmen cynical and unenthusiastic. How do passionate students of science wind up embittered after four years at a sunny Southern Californian mecca of science? I strongly believe that students deserve and can get the rigorous preparation expected of Caltech without the democratization and pruning many students currently endure. My goal as ARC chair would be to promote institutional changes that would improve student satisfaction with their education.

During my two years as ARC representative for Lloyd, I have worked on various projects such as collecting student feedback for pass/fail policy change and putting together a fresh guide to academics. In addition, because of my interest in quality education at Caltech, I have been on a number of faculty committees including the Undergraduate Education, and the Student Faculty Curriculum Committee, which I am chairing. The experience I have gained at the ARC and various curriculum committees has exposed me to the many academic concerns and areas of potential improvement at Caltech. Below are key items that I wish to work on during my time as ARC chair.

With the CCTF’s final report for a new core came a proposal on during my time as ARC chair. For a new core came a proposal on during my time as ARC chair. In my time as ARC chair, I have been on a number of faculty committees including the Undergraduate Education, and the Student Faculty Curriculum Committee, which I am chairing. The experience I have gained at the ARC and various curriculum committees has exposed me to the many academic concerns and areas of potential improvement at Caltech. Below are key items that I wish to work on during my time as ARC chair.

Given the tightness of our community, I believe that it is very important to maintain an accessible and exciting atmosphere that allows all members to thoroughly enjoy their time here. Sure, everyone goes through nightmare-like periods (like Malaise!), but these periods inevitably pass and I believe that it is a task of the ASCIT Director for Social Activities to ensure that Techers leave Caltech with only the best memories.

As the ASCIT Director for Social Activities, I would continue the favorite social activities that we have been enjoying and I would introduce new ones. If you liked the Summer Welcome Party, the Page Karaoki Night and Neon Night that happened last summer, you will certainly enjoy what I have to offer as the ASCIT Director for Social Activities.

My name is Shrutikhush, and I am a junior majoring currently making the transition as smooth as possible, as well as serve as a liaison for faculty and students in working out the challenges that will come up as a result. As ARC Chair, I hope to work with the CUE (Committee for Undergraduate Education) in as well and know what it takes to be Caltech perfect, or even a sub- stantially better place to be while you are still in college. My belief is that even small changes can make a big difference, and if we can together bring Caltech one step closer to being a better place, you will be able to enjoy the support in this election, and in the coming year.

Treasurer

Money’s important. We all know this. I put forth my best effort to see that our money is being put towards things that actually care about.

Over the last year, I’ve been able to show the most successful part of my job. On day-to-day tasks and have become familiar with how the ASCIT budget works. We’ve seen where money is allocated and how this money is spent. Under Hallacy, some pretty good changes were made concerning student clubs and we’re going to see more for next year. I really would like to see that this money is put towards the clubs, the SAC, and things that matter to you.

As a member of student government in high school and know what it takes to work on putting together dances, concerts, and barbecues. I enjoy having fun with not only my friends, but also anyone else that wants to participate, and I have first-handedly experienced and well-qualified for the job. I’d appreciate your vote. Thanks.
We need people in ASCIT who will do a great job. I, Ted Xiao, will do that!!!

Ok, no more sound bits. I really love Caltech, and I know that I want to make a difference for the Caltech community. I will put in my full devotion and effort into the tasks of the Ops. There will be times when I will stay up until early morning to sort out forms for club funding instead of completing a set. There will be times when I will spend numerous hours per day helping the Tech, little t, Totem, Donut, and Big T with their publications and making sure they stay on track. There will be times when the SAC rooms and ASCIT properties require extreme “make-over” and maintenance. Who can be there and be trusted with all these tasks? I –Ted Xiao can.

I will make sure that student organizations will receive resources that they need from ASCIT with ease. I will update the list of active clubs. I will work with the Social Director to carry out more exciting events. I have experience with publications and ASCIT properties require extreme “make-over” and maintenance. Who can be there and be trusted with all these tasks? I –Ted Xiao can. I will make sure that student organizations will receive resources that they need from ASCIT with ease. I will update the list of active clubs. I will work with the Social Director to carry out more exciting events. I have experience with publications and ASCIT properties require extreme “make-over” and maintenance. Who can be there and be trusted with all these tasks? I –Ted Xiao can.

Hello my name is Mahati Mokkarala, member of the Class of 2013, and interested in becoming the Director of Operations of the 2011 year. I would be a good Director of Operations not only because I am responsible, hard working, and am determined to make a difference via the Caltech student government but also because I am involved in clubs and other organizations on campus. I understand how important all of the ASCIT-backed organizations/clubs are for the Caltech community especially considering most of these organizations are a way for Caltech students to get involved in different interests/activities other than just academics. As the Director of Operations I would make sure that all ASCIT-backed equipment, organizations, clubs, etc. are running smoothly and that ASCIT funds are appropriately distributed to organizations and events that will benefit the Caltech community.

The Director of Operations is responsible for managing the student clubs, watching over ASCIT property, ensuring the quality of ASCIT publications, and being a member of the Board of Directors. As a former member of the Ruddock Social Team and one of the persons in charge of Big Interhouse this year, I am qualified to fulfill the duties required for the position. As Director of Operation, I would streamline the club funding process, by utilizing Donut and standardizing and simplifying the procedure. I would make Donut more user-friendly and add more, up-to-date content. I also plan to make sure that the student body gets a Big T this year. Lastly, I will spearhead an effort to inventory and maintain all ASCIT property to guarantee that student money is not wasted on broken or lost equipment. As your Director of Operations, I will start making changes that benefit the Caltech community.
Nikki Thadani

I’m Nikki Thadani, a junior in Ricketts. For the past year, I have been one of the Ricketts BoC reps, and I would like to continue serving on the BoC as secretary next year. Having sat on several cases each term over the past year, I have come to understand and value the unique method in which Caltech deals with honor code violations. I strongly believe that a student-run board leads to decisions that are both sympathetic to the stresses that Caltech students face and aware of the benefits that a respected Honor Code brings to the campus.

The job of BoC secretary involves documenting initial reports, preliminary hearings, and full board meetings in the form of written transcripts, and preparing and presenting a summary of each case to the Dean of Students. As BoC Secretary, I will make sure cases are considered on a timely basis by arranging the necessary meetings efficiently and preparing pertinent interviews and documents before cases so BoC reps can make informed decisions without unnecessary delays. I will also work towards increasing student awareness of how the BoC functions so that cases are less intimidating and the decisions made are less mysterious to the student body. I hope to do so by improving the resources that are available to students who have questions about the honor code or who are asked to appear in a BoC case. While deciding to run I considered my summer for next year and I am prepared to commit the time required to do this job well. I would be honored to serve the Caltech community and the honor code as BoC secretary. Thank you in advance for your support in this coming election.

Kristen Holtz

The Honor Code is a very important part of Caltech and a good Board of Control is essential to lead the community in the Honor Code’s application. As a BoC representative for Lloyd House for the past year, I have worked on many BoC cases and have become even more interested and invested in upholding the Honor Code. I would like to continue to contribute to Caltech by being BoC Secretary. In addition to being a BoC Rep this past year, I have also been serving Lloyd House as a UCC. I care very much about my fellow students and want to help Caltech continue its tradition of excellence in any way I can.

Iris Liu

“Honesty is the first chapter in the book of wisdom,” said Thomas Jefferson. The Honor System plays a more integral role at Caltech than at any other academic institution. It is something Caltech students abide to and take pride in. I believe it is our duty, as students of Caltech, to protect and preserve this system. As your Board of Control Secretary, I will not only bring diligence and leadership, but also four years of Student Council experiences, to the table.

I am no stranger to hosting meetings, organizing events, and communicating with top faculty. At my residential high school, I held a strong voice in the student body, and have become adept at planning formal meetings, facing conflicts, and meeting strict deadlines. As your Board of Control Secretary, I promise to be an assiduous, responsible role model. I will represent our Honor System respectfully and honestly.

My name is Iris Liu, and I would like to be your BoC Secretary.

Tech Editors

Ideally, the Tech should be the primary resource to which people refer for campus news, not simply for an entertaining lunch read. As consistent writers and contributors to the paper over this past year, we have seen the progress our campus newspaper has made and are willing to put in the extra effort to bring out the best in what the newspaper could potentially be. Ad revenues have steadily increased, and our knowledge of InDesign has produced creative, visually appealing yet professional layouts. Furthermore, the delegation of responsibilities among the five of us will not only ensure that all the necessary tasks are accomplished, but that the quality of each section does not diminish in a rush to meet deadlines.

It is true that the Tech has continually faced a shortage of writers; at a place like Caltech, writing seems to be largely undervalued and overlooked in the midst of problem sets and other academic commitments. However, this can all be fixed with proper planning and story discussions and assignments well in advance of publication, giving more people enough time and the opportunity they need to contribute.

We are driven individuals and involved in various aspects of the Caltech community. With your vote, we hope to provide this community with the news it merits.
I have served this past year as a Representative at Large on the BoC, and the cases I have sat on have provided me with substantial experience on how to continue to serve the community as Chair. The Honor Code tends to be something we take for granted - I know when taking exams that I’m too busy worrying about passing to appreciate that I don’t have to get up at 8:00am and crawl into a lecture hall to take it in a proctored setting. But it is the single most important thing that makes Caltech the unique place that it is, and so I want to continue serving the community by upholding the Honor Code.

Being on the BoC has made me appreciate how much work needs to be put into maintaining the Honor Code. The Board not only acts to protect the community by dealing with those who violate the Honor Code in a way that helps to make us aware of how our own actions affect others and the administration. Part of the reason this trust is maintained is because the voices of undergraduates are not kept silent, and their interests are well represented. The Conduct Review Committee (CRC), in particular, prides itself on undergraduate involvement in ensuring that people can be held accountable for their everyday actions, and as a prior CRC Rep, I have seen first-hand how this involvement can be.

As CRC Chair, I will continue to make sure that Caltech undergrads are given fair oversight and that their input remains integral to the decision making process. I will do what I can to ensure that actions are reviewed in an unbiased and non-judgmental way, and that the outcome reinforces the trust we have in our committee to make the right decisions.

I think the best thing about Caltech is its do as you want attitude. A forgiving crac will keep this spirit alive. I promise to enact a relaxed reign of terror.
A Mustache Lost in Translation
By MARY NGUYEN

PASADENA – The Caltech C, the university’s Chinese Club, held a variety show Wednesday to celebrate the Lunar New Year. The public was invited to enjoy a number of different performances including a skit titled “The Adventure of Emperor Chien Lung.”

Organizers of the event chose to flawlessly use Baxter’s projection and sound for crimson title cards, a five-minute timer, a handheld camera feed of sand painting, various landscape photos, visualizations for music from Windows Media Player, and a credit roll against a background of equations complete with a blockbuster movie soundtrack. These exceptionally important images were used over the course of the entire show to add excitement to the atmosphere in Baxter Lecture Hall.

As a result, no translations were displayed for scripted host banter and routines. Senior Chinese language experts Alex Takeda and Greg Simonian consequently provided a translation of “The Adventure of Emperor Chien Lung.” The skit relied particularly heavily on the general audience’s instinctive fluency in Chinese.

“The story is an ancient tale of Emperor Chien Lung in the far distant lands [sic] of Toronto, Canada,” said Takeda, a Japanese-Brazilian Brazilian native, as the emperor entered the stage. He wore a yellow, embroidered, floor-length robe. A bronze-colored space needle sat regally on top of a red hat perched on top of Emperor Lung’s perfect head. However, while the top of the head was immaculate, the kingly front was missing an important feature.

“You see,” said Simonian, an Armenian Los Angeles native, “for generations the Chien Lung dynasty [sic] has had a ceremonial mustache, which they have passed down father to son.” However, one day, the fu manchu had disappeared.

After summoning his maroon-robed “beloved assistant” with the question, “O Assistant, where is my ancient mustache? I do not see it on my face,” the emperor and assistant sailed from “the frigid land of Canada to the hot Amazon River.”

While in a banana garden in the Amazon, they saw fraternal twins, dressed comfortably in rose robes.

“Uh yea…two ‘sisters,’” said Takeda. One of the sisters had stolen the mustache for “private reasons,” namely, a prank.

When the emperor discovered the treason, he put an apple on the ‘sister’s’ head to shoot it with an arrow, but he missed. He had hit the apple instead.

By the end of the 16 minute and 61 second story, the two translators concluded that the emperor started celebrating with the sisters. He never found his mustache and instead grew another one.

Once the translators left Baxter Lecture Hall, they were asked whether or not their translation of the story was perfect.

“They are very accurate translations. I am a fine translator by the Chinese consulate in LA [sic],” said Takeda.

Mary Nguyen reported from the elevated grounds of Baxter Lecture Hall.