



Bechtel Committee to decide future of House

MOYA CHEN
Staff Writer

On May 9, the Bechtel Residence committee will be meeting again to discuss plans for the new undergraduate residence. The committee, led by GPS professor Dr. Paul Asimow and consisting of Dean Roderick Kiewiet, undergraduates Chris Hallacy, Christian Rivas, and Margaret Chiu, as well as various other officials, is to give a recommendation on the direction of the new dorm by the end of May.

The decision of the Bechtel committee will be critical in deciding the direction of both the house system and student life. Although Bechtel House is not to open for another three to four years, its roughly 250 beds have the potential to shift the living arrangements of over a quarter of the undergraduate population.

There are currently multiple plans under consideration by the committee for this new dorm.

Of these plans, the majority involve turning Bechtel into some form of additional off-campus housing.

These plans mostly differ in the details of their implementation. One proposal has Bechtel entirely unaffiliated, while another would include multiple house-affiliated off-campus alleys.

A third would send all of the sophomores to live together at Bechtel for a year.



- caltech.edu

Additionally, while the idea of turning Bechtel into a ninth house had been on the table for some time, it has since been dropped.

Of the many different proposals for Bechtel, the most public, and also most controversial, is the plan to make Bechtel into an all-frosh dorm. For many students, the social consequences and effects on the house system outweigh any potential benefits. "I worry that

a separation by class will introduce a stigma around the freshman

class," says former ASCIT president Hallacy, "I

think the influence of freshmen in the houses is both good for the

“

I think the influence of freshmen in the houses is both good for the freshmen, who by-and-large are brand new to living on their own, and the upperclassmen, who see it as their responsibility to nurture and introduce the newcomers into college life.

- Chris Hallacy

”

freshmen, who by-and-large are brand new to living on their own, and introduce the newcomers into college life.”

and the upperclassmen, who see it as their responsibility to nurture

Similar sentiments were also echoed in an opinion article in last week's Tech, citing potential problems with mental health, among other concerns, as detriments of the all-frosh option.

Ending with the line "Preserve the house system. It has made my life here worth living," this plea from an anonymous student argues that external, formal support systems (such as those of the AC and RA programs) are too distant compared to the relationships of day-to-day friends, which the house system garners. The student argues that in order to preserve the strength of the safety net, the all-frosh option should be avoided.

The results of the meetings of the Bechtel committee will have heavy impacts in the years to come.

"I think that 250 beds will cause large changes throughout student life, no matter what it is decided to be used for," comments chair Hallacy.

"With approximately 400 students living near Annenberg, the student body's population will be distributed fairly evenly between the Moore and Olive walks.

"What exactly those changes are depend largely upon the populations living in Bechtel when it opens and the facilities that the new residence provides, but I'm optimistic that between student leadership and the student life department, we can make a new residence that will change Caltech for the better."

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Helping readers burst out of the Caltech bubble

Need to know

< **100** words about the world this week – topics sorted from good to bad

by Sam Barnett – links to full stories available at barnett.caltech.edu/news

- Natural GPS in pigeons** **53** neurons found that encode magnetic field strength, direction [DISCOVERY]
- US Navy seizes cocaine** \$ **360 million** worth – 5,000 pounds – from a drug smuggling group [CNN]
- KFC ordered to pay** \$ **8.3 million** to girl left brain damaged by salmonella poisoning [BBC]
- Sudanese border tension** **12,000** South Sudanese people have been asked to leave Sudan [BBC]
- Strange pelican deaths** > **500** found in Peru where 877 dead dolphins were recently found too [BBC]
- More disabled veterans** **25%** of those who served in Iraq and Afghanistan have disabilities [CNN]
- Brutal killing in Pakistan** **1** British Red Cross doctor was kidnapped and beheaded [REUTERS]

Food with Mannion!

Do you like eating food?

How about free food at nice restaurants?

Ever want to tell the world exactly what you think of said food?

The Tech will be beginning a new column to chronicle the foodie experiences of new writers every other week... The Catch: They'll be going head-to-head with Tom Mannion who will be reviewing the same restaurant. If you have ever thought you were more of a gourmand than our resident master chef, now's your chance to prove it!

Email us for a spot on the list at tech@caltech.edu

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Write articles for the Tech

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ASCIT Minutes

Minutes April 16, 2012. Taken by Laura Santoso

Officer's present: Chris Hallacy, Pushpa Neppala, Christian Rivas, Diego Caporale, Mario Zubia, Prakriti Gaba, Laura Santoso

President's Report

1. Board of Trustees: a Trustee meeting is April 23, with the campus/house walkthrough on April 24.
2. Leadership Summit: This is a leadership training session for every type of student leader on campus. Will likely be scheduled for May 12 from noon to dinnertime.
3. Dean's office/Room picks: Trying to figure out why students are leaving the houses and living off campus.
4. Faculty Board Meeting: Was primarily about freshman seminars. They are looking at how having both freshman seminars and a unit cap effects the classes freshmen take.
5. Bechtel Committee: Second round of house town halls to get opinions about the new residence are almost done. The current options are freshman housing, sophomore housing, and unaffiliated/OCA housing. The committee has until May to make recommendations.

Officer's Reports

1. ARC (Pushpa)
 - a. New Menu Class: The curriculum committee is considering adding EST2 for next year (energy, science, and technology).
 - b. CCTL (Caltech Center for Teaching and Learning): There are two candidates for the head of the new teaching and learning center and final decisions will be made soon.
 - c. SFL: Next student faculty lunch will likely be May 1.
 - d. ASCIT teaching awards: decisions will be made in a couple of weeks.
 - e. Committee appointments: Sign-ups for the general student body to be on ARC SFC committees will go out soon.
2. IHC (Christian)
 - a. Sign-ups: Revcomm chair, food com chair, interhouse athman, and stewardship committee sign-ups are now out. Interviews will have happened by last weekend.
 - b. Formal Dinner: dining is thinking about making formal dinners for several houses at Chandler, instead of individual house dinners.
 - c. Resident Life Coordinators/RAs: the committee is scheduling interviews for the applicants.
3. Director of Operations (Diego)
 - a. Big T: still working on getting last year's Big T published. This year's Big T is on schedule.
4. Social Director (Prakriti)
 - a. Movie Night: There will be an ASCIT movie night May 11 (Friday) to see the Avengers.
 - b. Another social event?: Thinking about organizing a Caltech flash mob.

Lawrence and Kannan receive Hertz Fellowships

KIMM FESENMAIER
Caltech Today Writer

The Fannie and John Hertz Foundation has selected two Caltech seniors, Arvind Kannan and Brian Lawrence, among 15 students to receive the Hertz Fellowship for the applied sciences and engineering this year. Selected from a pool of more than 600 applicants, the awardees will receive up to five years of support for their graduate studies.

Kannan and Lawrence bring the number of Caltech undergraduate students who have received the Hertz fellowship to 58. Ninety-three past Hertz fellows have attended Caltech for graduate school.

According to the Hertz Foundation, fellows are chosen for their intellect, their ingenuity, and their potential to bring meaningful improvement to society. "We invest in young people who will solve our most daunting problems," said Jay Davis, Hertz Foundation president, in a statement. "These men and women show extraordinary promise. They join the community of leaders who produce advances in science, medicine, technology, business, academia, and government. They bring forth innovation for the technical and economic security of our nation."

Arvind Kannan, a chemical engineering major and English minor at Caltech, is passionate about engineering proteins to perform

chemically useful functions with applications in synthetic chemistry, medicine, and alternative energy. Since his freshman year, he has undertaken protein engineering projects in the lab of Frances Arnold, the Dick and Barbara

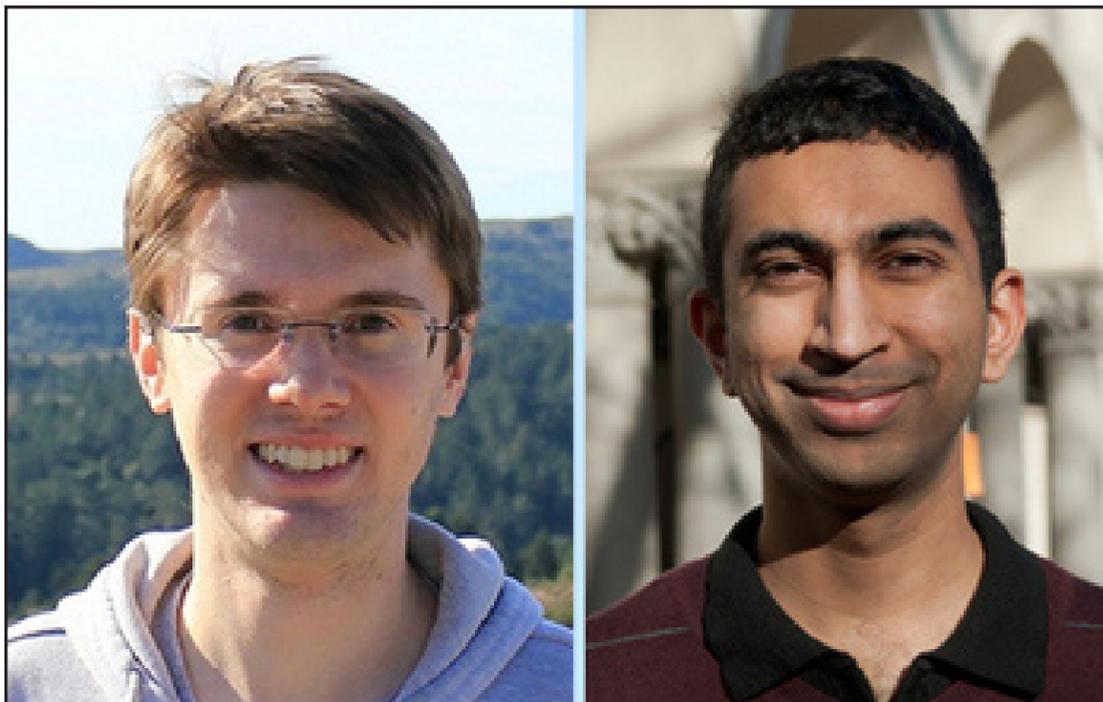
an NSF fellowship and has been selected by the Winston Churchill Foundation to be a Churchill Scholar for the next academic year, allowing him to pursue a Master of Philosophy in chemistry at the University of Cambridge.

"The primary benefit of having the Hertz is the freedom to pursue my own research interests," Kannan says. "I will impose absolutely no financial burden on my graduate department and advisor. This should allow me to propose an

Caltech. Lawrence has participated in the William Lowell Putnam Mathematical Competition, considered by many to be the most prestigious university-level mathematics examination in the world, all four years he has been at Caltech. And all four years, he has been named a Putnam Fellow—an honor that goes to the top-five ranking individuals. He is the eighth person to accomplish that feat in the competition's 73-year history.

Lawrence, originally from Kensington, Maryland, plans to work on number theory in graduate school. At Caltech, he has studied semi-classical limits of chaotic quantum systems under Barry Simon, Caltech's International Business Machines Professor of Mathematics and Theoretical Physics, as well as number theory under Dinakar Ramakrishnan, the Taussky-Todd-Lonergan Professor of Mathematics. Also interested in foreign languages and cultures, Lawrence took a year off to study Chinese history at Peking University.

Since 1963, the Hertz Foundation has awarded fellowships to students they describe as "the best and brightest" from the fields of science and engineering. The highly competitive selection process for the Hertz Fellowship includes a comprehensive written application, four references, and two rounds of technical interviews.



Seniors Brian Lawrence and Arvind Kannan were selected as Hertz Fellowship recipients in the fiftieth year of its existence. This award will provide them with up to five years of funding for their graduate studies in applied sciences and engineering.

- tech.caltech.edu

Dickinson Professor of Chemical Engineering, Bioengineering, and Biochemistry at Caltech.

Kannan, from Saratoga, California, has also been awarded

Following that, Kannan plans to return to the United States to pursue a PhD in chemical engineering with a focus on computational protein design.

ambitious thesis project without being constrained by existing projects or by limited funding."

Brian Lawrence, a math major, is another senior standout at

Challenges and Choices application information

Dear Undergraduate Students,

Each year I select students to participate in Challenges and Choices, the Counseling Center's outreach program at New Student Orientation. The program is designed to highlight some of the most common challenges new Caltech students face, and to address some of the personal challenges they may also encounter. If you'd like to be part of our program, I'd love for you to apply.

The message is simple: New students will face challenges in their first year, and by thinking about effective and healthy ways of coping ahead of time, they may be better prepared for their first year experience. Additionally, we hope to build a sense of community so that new students know there are people here to help them with adjusting to Caltech, including other students, UCC's, RA's, Health Advocates, TA's, Faculty, Deans, Counseling Center and Student Affairs staff. We want them to know that they don't have to face these challenges alone.

In selecting students to participate in Challenges and Choices, I look for students who:

- *Are committed to the purpose of the program.*
- *Are comfortable "acting" in front of a large audience (no memorization is necessary)*
- *Have experience with the challenges we address.*
- *Are comfortable talking about their own unique and personal challenges their first year.*

We look for students who understand that ultimately every student will find their own way on these issues; that there isn't just one right way to cope; and that with guidance from others, students can manage the challenges they face and have a positive first year experience. If you are interested in helping with the program and believe you have the experiences and qualities we are looking for, please fill out the online application. The deadline is May 25th, 2012.

The link to the application is: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CandC2012>.

If you're chosen, there will be one day of rehearsal on Sunday, September 23rd, and new student orientation will be from Monday, September 24th to Wednesday, September 26th at Ventura Beach.

Please understand that each year we have many more people apply than can actually participate, so our selection will be based on those applications that best fit the goals of the program and represent the diversity of experiences that exist at Caltech. Whenever possible, we strive for fair representation among houses.

Sincerely,

Lee H. Coleman, Ph.D., ABPP

Assistant Director, Caltech Counseling Center

Caltech Couture: Try to talk instead of text

ALEX LANGERFELD
Staff Writer

There were times when having a landline in one's home was in itself a big deal. Lucky phone owners would often schedule times to call and when the phone rang, the whole family would gather around this new gadget to witness the magic. Then came cell phones. At first very few people had them and they were a hassle to carry around (they were enormous).

Nowadays, though, a cell phone is a gadget that many, many people have and can't imagine going without.

In Europe, more people might own cell phones than have landlines in their homes, since old buildings are hard to adapt to extra wiring.

The cell phone has evolved and is now almost a mini computer, camera, toy, diary, etc. So here's something that puzzles me. Cell phones can do many complicated things now and we can use them for most methods of communication. This is convenient at times, but far too often I see people taking advantage of their phones' power and forgetting to simply talk or write a note to their friend. The main mystery is texting.

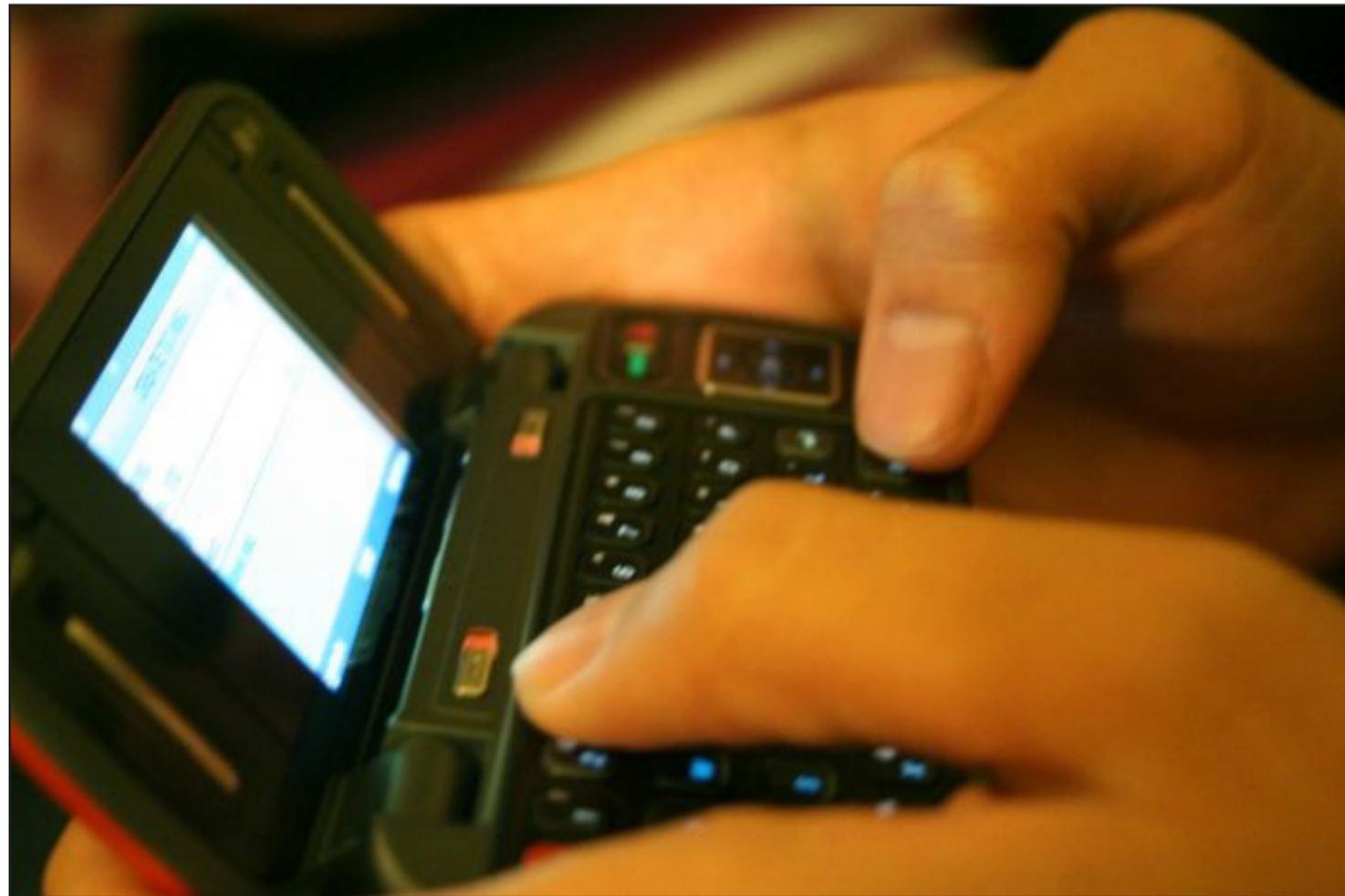
Texting is very convenient for sending information that is not urgent. The receiver may be busy at the time the text is sent and may have time to think of a good answer.

This makes perfect sense. The message is like a short, less formal e-mail.

However, texting often turns into a high-speed ping-pong match of short messages. Obviously both participants are not busy since they're bouncing back messages almost instantaneously. So why not just call and talk?

It is much easier to communicate in spoken words, I think. Texts can often be misinterpreted and single messages such as "lol", "haha" and "w/e" are empty. This kind of texting takes up time, is inefficient, and ties you to your phone by your eyes and fingers.

You can't even look around you and avoid running into things while you're texting like this! At least in the days before touch screens people could text blind by remembering the keyboard.



Texting has become such an integral part of modern life that it seems almost impossible to go anywhere without some sort of mobil device. Images such as the one above, which might have symbolized a brand new technologic advance only a decade ago, seems commonplace and even mundane to today's average person.

But wait, you might say, these students are just too busy with work to actually meet up and talk in person. This can't be the case, though, because how can you work

if you're constantly checking your "exploding" phone?

Are these ping-pongers just really popular people? I don't think so. Go to a social gathering and find that one person sitting alone checking his or her phone.

Does that look social?

If these people put their phones away, they might expand their circle of friends ten-fold by meeting the people around them. Does sitting in your friend's room huddling over your phone waiting for a text from another friend seem social? Please! Don't get me wrong.

I appreciate the advancements in technology and I love all of the functions my phone has. However, I find that people use these functions more than necessary and end up missing out on what the functions were meant to help arrange.

you'll miss out on whatever event you were planning. One might say that without this well-developed communication, no one could ever arrange anything or find anyone in

this fast-paced world. Well here's a puzzle: even 20 years ago when cell phones were a rarity, people communicated perfectly and made it to dates and found each other

on time and got enough done to develop new things like the modern cell phone—all this without texting, skypeing, or chatting.

Go figure.

- alton(wikipedia.org)

Tech Walk N' Talk led by Robert Grubbs, PhD, Nobel Prize recipient

A campus walk to promote community & wellness!



Come join us as Robert Grubbs leads Tech Walk N' Talk
Thursday May 3rd starting at 12:00pm in front of the Red Door.

Dr. Grubbs is an organic chemist whose work on organic and polymer syntheses has led to a wide variety of applications in medicine and industry. Grubbs won the 2005 Nobel Prize in chemistry, "for the development of the metathesis method in organic synthesis".

Tech Walk N' Talk has been designed to foster connection and community among Caltech students, faculty, and staff and to promote a healthy lifestyle. The program utilizes community walks around campus to promote wellness and provides a causal environment for students to interact with the many faces of Caltech. It is an opportunity for faculty and staff to talk about their research and share personal stories and their contributions to the history of this institution. Students will benefit from exercise, learning, and the strengthening their connection to the Caltech community.

“

Go to a social gathering and find that one person sitting alone checking his or her phone. Does that look social?

”

If you're communicating with someone who's far away, it is more meaningful to call them or talk on Skype. On campus, ping-pong texting (as I now call it) often occurs among students who are only separated by a few walls!

For instance, quick exchange of information via texting helps coordinate a meeting time and place without going through the hassle of calling and chatting about tangential topics. However, if you're stuck with your phone all the time,

Response to core reform article

ILYA NEPOMNYASHCHIIY
Contributing Writer

Let me regale you with a tale of our good friend Greg¹, the CS major. Greg is a pretty smart guy (he got into Caltech, after all) and he's looking forward to his upcoming Junior year. Greg very much enjoys his time at Caltech. The upperclassmen tell him it wasn't always this way.

A massive core used to overburden students and sap their passion for math and science.

Every day was just another 24 hours that Greg's elders had to trudge through set upon neverending set.

He was lucky, because core reform saved him from this gruesome fate.

This summer, he finally managed to land an internship with Google! His summer would

I won't even bring up specific interdisciplinary examples because others have done so already and can think of far better ones than I can.

We know they exist, though. There are countless examples of cases where people in <field A> must know some of <field B> to be competent and functional contributors to their own chosen field.

The wonderful aforementioned anon would have us not only cut any interdisciplinary requirements from core, but prevent the options from including them in their requirements. All of this just because "too much work makes us hate learning."

I disagree with the unidentified author: it isn't directly about "making the best of core," but more about "making you a useful scientist."

poorly taught. There, I said it. Furthermore, reducing core and option requirements doesn't improve teaching quality, despite what everyone in charge of core reform seems to think. Changing the classes around doesn't do this either.

It's time to face the fact that our professors are not chosen for their teaching quality, and that teaching quality doesn't factor into their tenure considerations.

People won't be "jumping out of bed [with excitement] to go to core classes" until they no longer feel that they'll just be sitting there blankly staring at a board (...or Facebook, once they give up) with no idea of what's going on for 55 minutes (a comic from a few issues ago summarized this brilliantly by illustrating a professor who assumed that all of his students could understand a complicated system of equations because they'd have learned about it in Ma1a, but did not know what the "for all" symbol was).

The creation of a teaching and learning center is a strong start, for sure, and there are certainly already professors here who are excellent teachers (a shout-out to my advisor, Professor Umans, is in

order). However, these tend to be the exception to the rule, and that's okay because most of us are really here to do research.

So anon, feel free to tell your children, your friends' children, and even your parents' children to not apply to Caltech. I'd prefer a Tech where we actually force people to be competent and useful in their fields.

If you can't handle taking 40.5 units on average per term, I hear there are many other great top

Anon, by your logic, we should just kill core altogether. Why does a biologist need Ma1? Why do MEs need Bi1? By the way, of the seven classes you sarcastically suggested we add to core, I've taken four of them, considered taking another one, and wouldn't mind taking the remaining two that much.

Not only is the original author's attitude highly damaging to our degrees and our educations, it is also unlikely to fix the problem. Sure, I've had terms that were an endless march to complete sets that

were always due tomorrow (though this didn't tend to be because of core).

Sure, if I had spent a little extra time I might have gotten more out of some of those classes. However, people don't stop going to their classes because they are so overwhelmed they stop caring about learning.

They stop going to their classes because their classes are

10 schools that have excellent teaching quality all around and lower requirements. In fact, there are nine of them.

Written while taking 115 units and quintuple majoring with a minor in English.

¹Any resemblance to any real or fictional Teachers from the past, present, or future is imagined blah blah blah blah.

A couple of tips to surviving Caltech

AMANDA CASSIL
Psychology Intern at
Caltech Counseling Center

• Avoid naps in the late afternoon and evening

Socialize

Socializing can be another imperative form of self-care as it relieves stress, provides support and encouragement, serves as a source of reality checking, and helps you feel more balanced. If you are an introvert, socializing may be a few meals with close friends during the week and nights spent studying. For an extrovert, daytime might be ideal for studying so that you have evenings to run around Pasadena. Knowing what type of socializing gives you energy and what kind is draining is one step in deciding how you want to spend your time. We are relational beings and we benefit from being in community with others. Schedule in time for socializing and accept that sometimes you will benefit from saying, "I'd love to, but I can't," while other times you may need to get away.

Study

I think you all have this one down. But remember, just like everything else effective study habits are specific to the individual; so know what works for you. Some helpful study hygiene practices include:

• Take breaks and reward yourself when you complete tasks

• Schedule study times for each subject and set realistic goals for each session; consider scheduling additional blocks of time for overflow work or review

• Create a distraction free environment that is comfortable and conducive to studying

• Prioritize based on due dates, amount of work necessary, and weight of the assignment

• Know and utilize your resources: study groups, TAs, and class sessions

In an environment where you can easily compare yourselves to others and are constantly being evaluated on your performance, it can be hard to do what works for you if others are doing something different. So take some time and reflect: What are your priorities? What do you value? Does your life reflect this? How do you define fun, health, and success? Do your academic and career goals result in sacrificing health and wellbeing? If yes, then how can you begin to work toward change? Finally, I know some of you are thinking, "Thanks, but none of this is new." So I ask you this: what prevents you from implementing these techniques? Figuring this out is one reason the Counseling Center is here.

There are limitations in life that we all must deal with; we all have to prioritize and sometimes that results in a loss of something valuable. With the high academic demands at Caltech, studying has to be a priority – you wouldn't be here if it wasn't. So that leaves you with a choice between having friends and sleeping. Right?

My argument is that these two things are not mutually exclusive, but that there might actually be a way (gasp) to live a balanced life. But first, I invite you to consider that a balanced life looks entirely different for each individual. So take a minute and consider what balance and health look like for you.

Sleep

Ideally, you are getting 7-9 hours of sleep a night (Center for Disease Control). Often when we are stressed, we convince ourselves that putting off sleep is a short-term solution to meet the demands of the week. However, inadequate sleep results in inhibited thinking and functioning during the day and cannot simply be corrected by increased sleep on weekends according to the Sleep Foundation.

In fact, according to one study cited by the Sleep Foundation, getting 6 hours of sleep for 12 nights in a row resulted in participants experiencing negative effects similar to participants who went one night with no sleep at all. Sleep loss can result in trouble with short-term memory, difficulties with newly learned information, inattentiveness, and worsened mood. Additionally, consistent inadequate sleep has been linked to a variety of medical concerns including high blood pressure, diabetes, weight gain, and even a decreased life span.

When you are feeling stressed and overwhelmed, prioritize self-care. Focus on getting adequate sleep, nutrition, and exercise to keep your brain and body working at an optimal level. Some helpful tips for improved sleep include:

• Set a standard bedtime and routine

• Keep a dark, quiet, and comfortable sleep environment

• Avoid caffeine at least 8 hours before bedtime and alcohol a few hours before

• Get 20 minutes of exercise daily

• Limit your use of technology (phones, computers, TVs) the hour before you go to sleep

“...people don't stop going to their classes because they are so overwhelmed they stop caring about learning. They stop going to their classes because their classes are poorly taught.”

be great: making tons of money and getting a nice entry on his résumé. On his first day, his project advisor tells him the specifics of his project: "You're going to be helping us modify the Bayesian Network that we use here on our team."

"Uhh...what's a Bayesian Network?" Greg replies. He's never taken a machine learning or AI class, because he doesn't have the prerequisite stats knowledge. After all, if Math 3 isn't required, why should he take it?

His advisor sighs and points him to the copy of *Artificial Intelligence* (by Peter Norvig) sitting on the shelf.

"You should probably be able to understand the chapter on Bayes Nets in here. You're from Caltech, after all, so you've taken a probability and stats course."

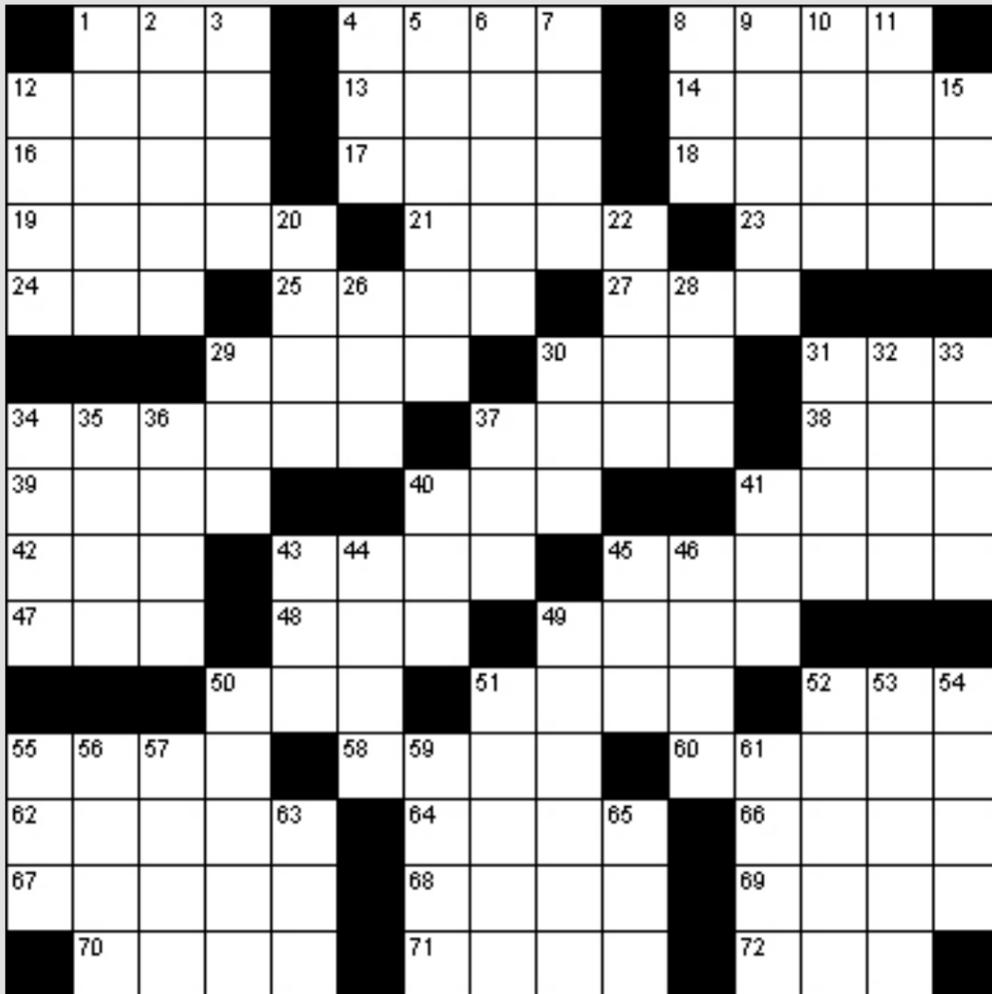
"Well...actually...no." Greg can see his advisor's face fill with a mixture of surprise and mild disappointment, or at least he would be able to read these emotions if he weren't a socially awkward Techer. It's going to be a long summer.

Two weeks ago, our good friend Anonymous asked us, "What is the purpose of a Caltech education?"

I reply that an equally important question is, "What is the absolute minimum amount a person should know before they are worthy of being given a Caltech diploma?"

Two weeks ago...Anonymous asked us, 'What is the purpose of a Caltech education?' I reply that an equally important question is, 'What is the absolute minimum amount a person should know before they are worthy of being given a Caltech diploma?'

Today's Puzzle: Crossword



[<http://www.puzzlechoice.com/>]

Across

1. Afficionado
4. Corrosive substance
8. Not working
12. Additional
13. Type of shape
14. Gathering
16. Finishing line
17. Dainty
18. Type of duck
19. Doctrine
21. Weapons
23. Used for emphasis
24. Female chicken
25. Marketplace
27. Mature
29. Tie or secure
30. The night before
31. Flow out
34. Sharpness
37. Appear
38. Small vegetable
39. Aggressive remark
40. Nothing
41. Prejudice
42. Before or after the chicken?
43. Portent
45. Counting device
47. Golf pin
48. Soaked
49. Layer
50. Unwell
51. Heap
52. Fairy
55. Kitchen appliance
58. Slender
60. Sum
62. Range
64. One time
66. Virtuous
67. Result
68. Remain
69. Border
70. Limited period of time
71. Tincture
72. Indicating maiden name

Down

1. Visual signal
2. Poplar tree
3. Requirement
4. Perform
5. Person lacking courage
6. Not active
7. Consider
8. Frozen water
9. Thrust
10. Valuable ore deposit
11. Pitcher
12. Engrave
15. Free from liquid
20. Leave out
22. Rescue
26. Unspecified amount
28. Jewel
29. Napkin
30. Snakelike fish
31. Long narrative poem
32. Boyfriend
33. Male singing voice
34. Assist in a crime
35. Metal inclosure
36. Impulse
37. Transgression
40. Mesh
41. Saloon
43. Nocturnal bird
44. Thaw
45. Be unwell
46. Root vegetable
49. Metal container
50. Become liable to
51. Spotted horse or pony
52. Musical exercise
53. Garment size
54. Run away
55. Metal-bearing mineral
56. Part of a volcano
57. Facilitate
59. Vast multitude
61. Overt
63. Stitched border
65. Organ of sight

Clement reviews new Jack White and OFWGKTA

CLEMENT LACROUTE
Staff Writer

Catching up with the music business

I know you have all spent the past four weeks anxiously asking yourself a single question, and I think I owe you a straightforward and sincere answer. The reason I didn't write for the Tech for the past four issues is, in a word, procrastination. I thought I would use Spring Break to listen to loads of CDs and pile up some nice reviews for you Techers to read. Instead, just like many of you, I just slept right through it. I mean, I used the spare time to get some work done in the lab, and did not write a single line.

And then when Spring Break was almost over, on March 25th, another excuse came up: Charlie. Charlie who? Charlie Parker? Charlie Mingus? Charlie Haden? No, way better than those three combined. My son, Charlie.

He decided that my nights were better spent taking care of him than working, sleeping, or writing for the Tech. And all I could say was, well, all right then.

It's only now at his 8 pounds benchmark that he finally got back to his senses and accepted the fact that my beloved Tech readers also needed to be taken care of. So today, I'd like to make up for the time I lost and, briefly, review a

couple albums that were recently released.

Blunderbuss

Jack White's first solo release came out on April 23. It was highly



Jack White's *Blunderbuss* and *Odd Future Wolf Gang's The Odd Future Tape Vol. 2* were released within a month of one another and encompass two very different styles of music. Music journalist extraordinaire Clement Lacroute explores the ins-and-outs of both.

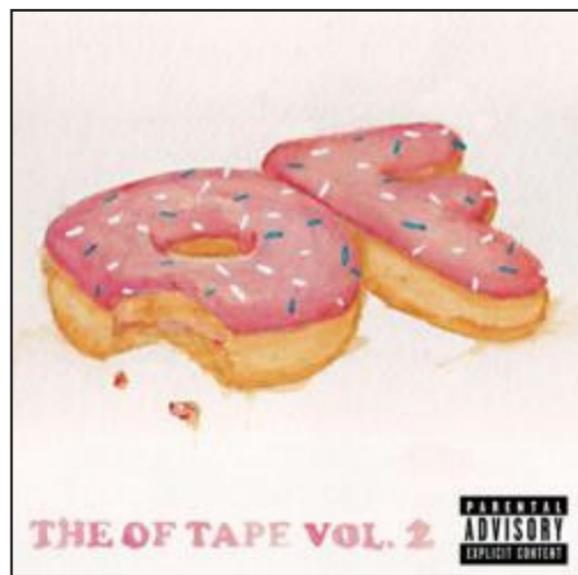
anticipated, and it *is* really good. It's borderline great. Of course a solo White cannot escape from comparison with his previous bands, especially the White Stripes, but I really don't want to get into that. I don't know those bands anyway.

Blunderbuss is, as is usually the case with Jack White, very cleverly

produced. The instruments and arrangements fall together very well. The two singles, *Love Interruption* and *Sixteen Saltines*, illustrate the musical palette the album covers, from rock to country/folk. The rock songs are full of energy and

actually incarnated by two different bands on stage: one all-male, one all-female (does that make White hermaphrodite?).

You may see them on stage, if you wish, at the Wiltern in LA on May 30th and 31st.



- amazon.com and noisevox.com

The Odd Future Tape vol. 2

What is Odd Future again? Odd Future Wolf Gang Kill Them All is a collective of rappers, producers, singers, amateur stuntmen, and skaters.

They released this new "tape" on their own label on March 20, 2012. My first reaction to the album was

a genuine, "Man, that's some weird music." But the more I listen to it, the more I like it.

The contributions are evenly distributed, and every rapper gets his fair share of the donut, even though Tyler The Creator and Hodgy Beats remain the best MCs of the bunch. The album will take you from classic hip-hop ego-trips (see Mike G's *Forest Green*) to R&B takes by the Internet and Frank Ocean with ease and obvious fun. And Earl Sweatshirt makes his highly anticipated return (did you know he was gone?) on the ten minutes long album closer "Oldie".

A little anecdote: I bought this album on Saturday 4/21 (the day after) for Record Store day at my favorite record store (it's Canterbury Record, on Colorado. You should go check it out: it's friendlier than Amazon or iTunes. All right, they don't have much hip-hop supply, but they're fully loaded of

rock, jazz, and classical material). Anyway, I bought the limited 2-LP + 1 CD edition of the OF Tape Vol. 2.

Even though I don't own a record player. Does that make me a victim of marketing, a true supporter of indie labels, or just plain silly? You tell me.

Caltech track teams compete at SCIAC championships, set two new school records

from gocaltech.com

REDLANDS, Calif. – The Caltech track and field squad had a solid finish to the league schedule as individuals earned all-conference honors while setting Caltech records and moving up the school's all-time top 10 list.

The meet, which was hosted by the University of Redlands, is scored 10-8-6-4-2-1 for all events with the top athletes in each event advancing to the finals. In addition to earning team points, those placing in the top six during the finals also earn all-conference honors.

MEN'S HIGHLIGHTS

Ben Grabowski set a school record in the javelin. The first-year threw 169'7" to break Steve Schell's mark of 162'5" set in 1998. The mark put him the finals where he finished he finished seventh; just a few inches away from all-conference honors and team points.

Brice Nzeukou earned all-SCIAC honors in the high jump. The junior placed fifth with a jump of 5' 9 3/4" in scoring team points for the Beavers.

Matthew Voss set a personal best time of 17.03 in placing seventh in the 100 meter hurdles. He just missed out on all-league honors by one position.

Will Livingston nudged his way into the school top 10 list with a time of 10:42.84 in the 3000 meter steeplechase. His effort ranks 10th all-time in school history.

Jared Forte also posted a personal best mark during the 5000 meter run. Forte ran 16:16.12 to improve his time, which is already 10th best in school history, by just over half a second.

WOMEN'S HIGHLIGHTS

In her final SCIAC Championships Jess Swallow went out with a bang by finishing third in the triple jump. Swallow jumped 35' 9 1/4" to set her personal best by over 18 inches. In addition to her podium finish, the senior set the school record in the event. Elette Boyle previously held the record with a jump of 34' 11" set in 2006.

Sarah Wright earned all-conference honors by placing sixth in the javelin with a throw of 112'4". That mark is a personal best and moves her up to second on the school's all-time list. Wright set a personal best mark of 16.28 during the 100 meter hurdle event. The junior's time moves her up to second place on Caltech's all-time top 10 list.

Paige Logan placed fourth in the shot put with a throw of 37' 6 3/4" to earn all-conference honors. Logan also earned league accolades in the event last season as well.

The 4x100 women's relay team of Carrie Wang, Sarah Wright, Katherine Lai and Mia Oviatt earned team points and all-conference accolades in finishing the event in 54.13. That time is also a season best for a 4x100 team this season for the Beavers.



High jump always reminds me of the last scene in 'Free Willy' when Willy jumps over the stone wall to be free in the ocean. That's why I tear up everytime I see this picture.

-gocaltech.com



And all the king's horses and all the king's men didn't let Caltech baseball score more than a couple of runs.

-gocaltech.com

Baseball completes year with Kingsmen, Bulldogs

gocaltech.com

The Beavers baseball team concluded their 2012 campaign with contests against Cal Lutheran and the University of Redlands

Friday, April 27 – Cal Lutheran 14, Caltech 1

In the final home game of the season, the Kingsmen put together three big innings late in claiming the victory.

Cal Lutheran scored the first two runs of the game in the second inning. The Kingsmen added another run in the fourth inning to take a 3-0 lead. Caltech got on the board with a run in their half of the fourth inning when Brendan Sheehan singled home Brian Penserini.

The visitors all but sealed the game in the fifth inning. Cal Lutheran put together four hits and took advantage of two Beaver errors

in plating five runs and chasing starter pitcher Jerome Skelly.

Cal Lutheran put three runs on the scoreboard in the sixth and seventh innings to seal the victory.

Rightfielder John Leal led a 19-hit attack for the Kingsmen with a 3-for-4 effort with two RBI's and three runs scored.

On the mound John LaMoure struck out eight while scattering six hits during his five innings of work.

David Carrega went 2-for-3 in his final home for the Beavers. It was also the final home for Caltech seniors Eric Schropp, Nick Robertson and Sheehan.

Saturday, April 28 – Redlands 11, Caltech 2

In the final game of the season, the University of Redlands used a mid-game push to post an 11-2 nine-inning victory on Saturday afternoon. The home squad jumped

out to a 3-0 lead in the first inning. Caltech got a run back in the second inning when Brian Penserini scored on a throwing error by first baseman Jon Cavender. The score remained 3-1 until the third inning when the Bulldogs put another run on the board.

Caltech got their deficit back down to two runs in the fifth inning when Eric Schropp drove home Albie Lavin from third with a one-out single. In their half of the inning the Bulldogs plated five runs on five hits to increase their lead to 9-2.

In the game's closing innings the Beavers couldn't get a runner past second base while the home squad tacked on the final two runs of the afternoon in the eighth inning.

Schropp and Lavin each had two-hits to lead the Caltech 10-hit performance. Penserini went 1-for-4 to finish the year with 40 hits to tie Greg Fricke's school record set in 2000.

Weekly Scoreboard

WOMEN'S WATER POLO
@SCIAC CHAMPIONSHIPS

VS. LA VERNE
L, 17-9 FINAL

VS. CAL LUTHERAN
L, 18-3 FINAL

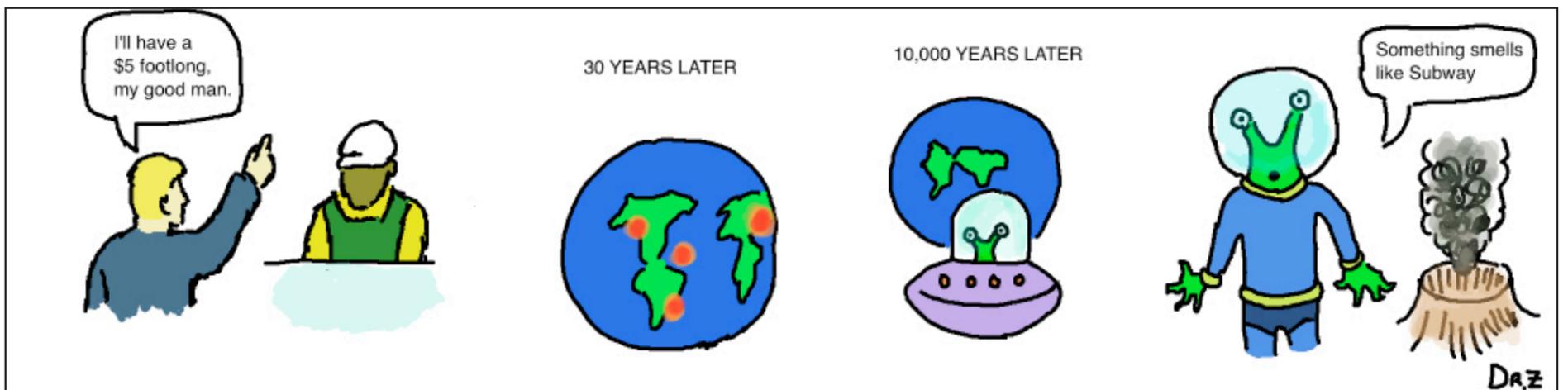
VS. POMONA-PITZER
L, 12-2 FINAL

THE ARC, PART III

BY DAVE RICH CANICKE



Acquired Taste



For more photos, videos, and archives of previous issues, check out the Tech website!

tech.caltech.edu

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