TEDxCaltech comes back for second year

MORIAH BISCHANN
Staff Writer

Mark your calendars – on January 18, TEDx is coming back to Caltech. In a few months, Beckman Auditorium will be filled with hundreds of distinguished speakers and guests, drawn together from the fields of science, business, and art to discuss "The Brain." Over the course of nine fast-paced hours, each presenter will receive a short speaking window in which to "deconstruct, decipher and explore some of the great challenges, innovations, concepts and possibilities related to the brain." The 2011 TEDxCaltech program, "Feynman's Vision: The Next 50 Years" drew crowds from across the country looking to engage in "a forward-looking celebration of the spirit, curiosity, and broad scientific vision of Dr. Richard Feynman." Forty-two orators converged on the stage to present at the event, including Caltech professor Sean Carroll; undergraduate Jordan Theriot; the granddaughter of Feynman, Michelle Feynman; and even a master of Tuvan throat singing, Kongar-Ol Ondar.

In 2011, Dennis Callahan, now a fifth year graduate student at Caltech in Material Science, discussed "A Portrait of the Scientist as an Artist." His talk emphasized that "science can be beautiful" and that it is our duty to "recognize these images" so that we preserve them from the thief of time. He challenged the audience to look at their data, whether they be numbers or microscopic life forms, and find an image that they could keep "strictly for visual appeal." In doing so, Callahan argues that we will develop as artists as well as scientists, which makes us better able to "recognize all of the value" in every hidden corner of our world.

Continued on page 3

News briefs from around the globe
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 The Tech Eds

First chemo-bath used
Paraguay seize cocaine
Record foreign students
New Greek budget
Recount in Florida
NJ inmates escape
House explodes

60 -minute treatment only targets cancerous organ
3,724 pounds of drugs taken, Bolivian drug lord arrested
764,495 international students enrolled last year in US uni's
57% of MPs approve spending cuts despite large protests
2,442 votes put Murphy (D) ahead of West (R), who won’t concede
15 flee private halfway house during Sandy, 14 apprehended
2 dead after unexplained blast levels Indianapolis homes
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

ASCIT Minutes

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting
Minutes for November 1st and 8th, 2012. Taken by Allika Walvekar

Officers present: Diego Caporale, Misha Raffee & Alan Menezes in lieu of Christian Rivas, Pushpa Neppala, Mario Zubia, Michelle Tang, Allika Walvekar, Puikie Cheng (by Skype)

Call to Order: 8:34 pm

BoC Bylaws were approved by the BoD and will now be released to the student body for their approval. The ASCIT meet and greet will be held on December 2nd.

President’s Report (Diego): Diego would like to stress the importance of increasing the Big T dues to ensure that it can be published regularly. Also, Diego encourages everyone to keep working on Big I so that we can have a great party this year.

Officer’s Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair: Pushpa): The ARC made a few bylaw amendments during their retreat that defined new roles. They also would like to expand undergraduate research and improve the course complaint system. Ray Gonzalez is doing a presentation on how to make unbiased surveys. Mike Vanier is Prof of Month. There is an SFL this Tuesday. Avin is presenting at the next faculty meeting about the current state of the Honor Code. Melany Hunt is talking to President Chameau about speaking at the beginning of the SFC.

V.P. of Non-Academic Affairs (IHC Chair: Mischa, Allen): Each of the house pairings will get a $2,000 check in the bank account, yet should turn in all receipts for reimbursement. The full budget per party is $3,500.

Director of Operations (Mario): The Big T is waiting on a few pages to be approved and then will publish. Aditya started setting up in the club storage room. Mario needs to set up an inventory. The clubs will be approved soon by the Club Steering Committee and then we will release details on funding.

Treasurer (Puikie): Puikie would like to stress that the house treasurers need to talk to the reps so that everyone is informed. Each party is definitely receiving $3500 from funding sources like the Alumni Association, Student Affairs, GSC, Mannion, and the MOSH. Puikie is still talking to other sources to increase the budget.

Social Director (Michelle): Olive Harvest got pushed back to next Friday. Michelle met with Tom and the Big I reps and created the registration forms for all guests. She also organized hiring the custodians, planning wristband distribution, and spoke with PR about alerting the neighbors. She is starting to plan ASCIT formal.

Treasurer (Puikie): Puikie would like to stress that the house treasurers need to talk to the reps so that everyone is informed. Each party is definitely receiving $3500 from funding sources like the Alumni Association, Student Affairs, GSC, Mannion, and the MOSH. Puikie is still talking to other sources to increase the budget.

Secretary (Allika): Updated the BoD resolutions updated with SFC date. Looking into making ASCIT thank you cards.
Looking forward to TEDxCaltech: The Brain

New information regarding option changes

SANDHYA CHANDRASEKARAN
News Editor

Given the upcoming Student Faculty Conference (SFC), the ARC and the Tech plan to begin a column updating the student body on ongoing discussions surrounding curriculum changes. Approximately every month until the SFC, updates from the option committees (comprised of both students and faculty) will be published here. Please feel free to email Pushpa Neppala (pneppala@caltech.edu) in the Provost’s Office.

Option surveys will be sent out to undergrads in December, so all of these updates are pending survey data.

ACM (Michael Zhang, zhang.michael@gmail.com)
• CS 1 major requirement
• ACM 10 pizza class winter or spring term - more in depth and different topics
• Resolve big jump between core math and upper level ACM classes
• Standardize core curriculum so more consistent across years and for quality control
• Communication between classes like Ma 2a and ACM 95b to reduce overlap
• Encourage communication with professors to get research

Bio (Stephanie Kwan, skwan@caltech.edu)
• Keep some sort of version of Ma2 and Ph2
• More seminar classes?
• Hire another microscopy professor
• Implement BioMail option for undergrads

BME (Misha Raffee, mishars2001@yahoo.com)
• Better advertising of senior thesis
• Have the option rep be the senior thesis coordinator
• Ph12 still recommended

Chem (Luis Navarro, lnavarro@caltech.edu)
• Expansion of research opportunities and faculty-student communication about research
• Initial discussions about course scheduling and elective graduation requirements
• Faculty and student perspectives on the strength of the BEM curriculum

ChemE (Sabrina Sun, ssun@caltech.edu)
• Possibly requiring 9 units of coding
• Bring out differences between Bio and BioE classes
• Evaluate whether or not B11x was beneficial or not

EAS (Matthew Voss, stericinterference@gmail.com)
• Listing the sub-options on the admissions form for undergraduates
• More pizza classes
• Keeping Ma2 and Ph2 content but possibility of flexibility concerning timing and classes
• Look into additional lab and restricted elective replacements for courses not currently offered

EE (Jomya Lei, jlei@caltech.edu)
• Keeping Ma2 and Ph2/Ph12
• Looking at alternatives for classes such as AP/109 instead of AP/90 if and only if you take EE40 first and if there is revising of ACM116
• Seeking a place to add in teaching PCB making, a team-based class, and more available classes such as optoelectronics

MechE (Sebastian Mata Rojas, srojas@caltech.edu)
• Possibility of a unified MechE class
• Consider the applicability and timing of ACM95 and Ma2b
• Expand Research Opportunities

Phys (Valere Lambert, valeralambert@gmail.com)
• Considering alternatives to Ph5 requirement
• Determining methods for increasing prof/student interaction and research opportunities

Nominate your favorite professor for the Feynman Teaching Prize!
Here’s your chance to nominate your favorite professor for the 2012-13 Richard P. Feynman Prize for Excellence in Teaching! You have from now until January 2, 2013 to submit your nomination package to the Provost’s Office to honor a professor who demonstrates, in the broadest sense, unusual ability, creativity, and innovation in undergraduate or graduate classroom or laboratory teaching.

The Feynman Prize is made possible through the generosity of Ione and Robert E. Paradise, with additional contributions from an anonymous local couple. Nominations for the Feynman Teaching Prize are welcome from faculty, students, postdoctoral scholars, staff, and alumni.

All professorial faculty of the Institute are eligible. The prize consists of a cash award of $3,500, matched by an equivalent raise in the annual salary of the awardee. A letter of nomination and detailed supporting material, including, but not limited to, a curriculum vitae, course syllabus or description, and supporting recommendation letters should be directed to the Feynman Prize Selection Committee, Office of the Provost, Mail Code 206-31, at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, 91125. Nomination packages are due by January 2, 2013.

Additional information including guidelines for the prize and FAQ may be found at http://provost.caltech.edu/FeynmanTeachingPrize. Further information can also be obtained from Karen Kerbs (626-395-6039; kkerbs@caltech.edu) in the Provost’s Office.

THE CALIFORNIA TECH
NOVEMBER 12, 2012 3

Continued from page 1

Also taking time to appreciate the event, Callahan mentioned that his own favorite speaker was Drew Berry. As a MacArthur Fellow and a biologist-animator, Berry creates “scientifically accurate and aesthetically rich visualizations [to] elucidate cellular and molecular processes,” which find appreciation from a wide range of people. Callahan was draw-in by Berry’s work, mentioning that he would have considered becoming a biologist himself had he been seen such testimonies of beauty at a younger age. Additionally, Callahan enjoyed the synergy of the crowd and the intensity created by the listeners. Caltech’s TEDx, “where x = independently organized TED event,” is an offshoot of the larger TED program. Beginning in 1984 as a conference for the “Technology; Entertainment; [and] Design” industry, TED has grown to become a global community of entrepreneurs, thinkers, and visionaries drawing across all disciplines. The non-profit’s goal is to make “riveting talks by remarkable people, free to the world.” TED fulfills its mission by inviting inspiring people to share their stories and give the “talk of their lifetime” on the world stage. These speakers have “ideas worth spreading,” and their thoughts inspire others to drive the human race forward. Growing demand and an expanding audiences have caused TED to incorporate a number of other programs, including the TED Conference, TED Active, TED Global, TED India, TED Women, TED Talk, and TEDx. Additionally, TED funds the TED Prize and TED Fellowship, and hosts an Open Translation Project. In preparation for the upcoming event, TED Talk Tuesdays @ Two are held every week in 125 Steel. At each meeting a new Caltech “celeb” will be sharing their personal favorite TED talks, followed by a short discussion and refreshments. Students, faculty, and the public are encouraged to attend.

New information regarding option changes

SANDHYA CHANDRASEKARAN
News Editor

Given the upcoming Student Faculty Conference (SFC), the ARC and the Tech plan to begin a column updating the student body on ongoing discussions surrounding curriculum changes. Approximately every month until the SFC, updates from the option committees (comprised of both students and faculty) will be published here. Please feel free to email Pushpa Neppala (pneppala@caltech.edu) in the Provost’s Office.

Option surveys will be sent out to undergrads in December, so all of these updates are pending survey data.

ACM (Michael Zhang, zhang.michael@gmail.com)
• CS 1 major requirement
• ACM 10 pizza class winter or spring term - more in depth and different topics
• Resolve big jump between core math and upper level ACM classes
• Standardize core curriculum so more consistent across years and for quality control
• Communication between classes like Ma 2a and ACM 95b to reduce overlap
• Encourage communication with professors to get research

Bio (Stephanie Kwan, skwan@caltech.edu)
• Keep some sort of version of Ma2 and Ph2
• More seminar classes?
• Hire another microscopy professor
• Implement BioMail option for undergrads

BME (Misha Raffee, mishars2001@yahoo.com)
• Better advertising of senior thesis
• Have the option rep be the senior thesis coordinator
• Ph12 still recommended

Chem (Luis Navarro, lnavarro@caltech.edu)
• Expansion of research opportunities and faculty-student communication about research
• Initial discussions about course scheduling and elective graduation requirements
• Faculty and student perspectives on the strength of the BEM curriculum

ChemE (Sabrina Sun, ssun@caltech.edu)
• Possibly requiring 9 units of coding
• Bring out differences between Bio and BioE classes
• Evaluate whether or not B11x was beneficial or not

EAS (Matthew Voss, stericinterference@gmail.com)
• Listing the sub-options on the admissions form for undergraduates
• More pizza classes
• Keeping Ma2 and Ph2 content but possibility of flexibility concerning timing and classes
• Look into additional lab and restricted elective replacements for courses not currently offered

EE (Jomya Lei, jlei@caltech.edu)
• Keeping Ma2 and Ph2/Ph12
• Looking at alternatives for classes such as AP/109 instead of AP/90 if and only if you take EE40 first and if there is revising of ACM116
• Seeking a place to add in teaching PCB making, a team-based class, and more available classes such as optoelectronics

MechE (Sebastian Mata Rojas, srojas@caltech.edu)
• Possibility of a unified MechE class
• Consider the applicability and timing of ACM95 and Ma2b
• Expand Research Opportunities

Phys (Valere Lambert, valeralambert@gmail.com)
• Considering alternatives to Ph5 requirement
• Determining methods for increasing prof/student interaction and research opportunities

Nominate your favorite professor for the Feynman Teaching Prize!
Here’s your chance to nominate your favorite professor for the 2012-13 Richard P. Feynman Prize for Excellence in Teaching! You have from now until January 2, 2013 to submit your nomination package to the Provost’s Office to honor a professor who demonstrates, in the broadest sense, unusual ability, creativity, and innovation in undergraduate and graduate classroom or laboratory teaching.

The Feynman Prize is made possible through the generosity of Ione and Robert E. Paradise, with additional contributions from an anonymous local couple. Nominations for the Feynman Teaching Prize are welcome from faculty, students, postdoctoral scholars, staff, and alumni.

All professorial faculty of the Institute are eligible. The prize consists of a cash award of $3,500, matched by an equivalent raise in the annual salary of the awardee. A letter of nomination and detailed supporting material, including, but not limited to, a curriculum vitae, course syllabus or description, and supporting recommendation letters should be directed to the Feynman Prize Selection Committee, Office of the Provost, Mail Code 206-31, at the California Institute of Technology, Pasadena, California, 91125. Nomination packages are due by January 2, 2013.

Additional information including guidelines for the prize and FAQ may be found at http://provost.caltech.edu/FeynmanTeachingPrize. Further information can also be obtained from Karen Kerbs (626-395-6039; kkerbs@caltech.edu) in the Provost’s Office.
nina budaeva
staff writer

I haven't seen Joe in a while. He seems to have disappeared and his slim figure always seen on a roller-surf,er headed either to class, the library, lab, or Lake Avenue has become a ghost. I hope his studies are going well.

However, I did see more of Victoria, the sweet girl who kept Joe company on that memorable night when Joe found the C-store closed. She was walking to one of the houses dressed quite nicely. It turned out that she was going to a formal dinner. She had been invited to the dinner by one of her friends with whom she studied every week for a class that they were both taking.

They studied in a group of five or six people and Victoria found them fairly agreeable although most of their conversations were related to the class.

She thought this was fairly odd since even when she ran into one of them during the day; they would blurt out "Have you done number two yet?" I'm a bit stuck on 2b and..." or "umm", or "hey", she felt that she had discovered a new friend and was happy to give him company at his house's formal dinner.

Victoria had several other friends in Patrick's house, some of which were girls. The day before the dinner, she asked two of them what they were wearing, because they seemed rather excited about the meal. The girls immediately got very serious and very funny.

One said that she was still deciding between three dresses, all of which looked fairly similar toVictoria.

The other said that she already knew exactly what she was wearing and pulled out a super short, super shiny one-shoulder bright blue satin dress with an enormous flower on its one shoulder. Then she pulled out incredibly high red suede heels with an unbelievable platform and a red clutch purse. She also showed her jewelry, a ridiculously shiny rhinestone necklace and huge silver cascading earrings. Victoria bit her tongue hard not to comment.

Wasn't the girl a bit too chubbily for that dress, and wasn't she a bit too short to wear such shoes? Wasn't the jewelry too flashy and too cheesy? It looked like something from a third-grader's Halloween costume.

The color combination has beyond comprehension, but the chubby girl explained that she saw this in a magazine. Moreover, more importantly than the cut of the dress, the form of the shoes, and the colors, wasn't this completely the wrong style? Victoria had been to dinner parties, operas, and receptions and she thought that a formal dinner would have a similar dress code to those events. However, the outfit the chubby girl had chosen was Snooki-style.

In disbelieve that a Caltech formal required Jersey-shirt clubbing attire, Victoria chose to wear a simple long-sleeved light-gray dress that had a defined waist and flared out to the knees.

She wore a simple pearl necklace that her parents had given her. Patrick, that silly Patrick who knew. Patrick, that silly Patrick who knew all along that although he was a fine study-buddy, she could never like him enough to share any emotions with him. Now she couldn't even respect him. Had he asked her out on a real date, say to the Huntington or to a nice dinner in Old Town, or to the movies, or for a burger (which she loves?) or really anything at all, she would have rejected him nicely but would have respected him for the bluntness and courage.

As she walked back to her house, she caught sight of Christian who was returning from a recitation section. She caught his glimpse but continued walking because she had never talked to him before. Christian was thunderstruck.

After his first few weeks at Caltech, he had gotten used to being surprised by the level of casual dress and casual manners, so when he saw a beautiful, tastefully-dressed girl elegantly walking in her sleek heels, he couldn't believe his eyes.

So he was proven wrong; there are different people at Caltech and he just needed to keep his eyes open to find the ones he liked.
HELP A TECHER OUT

WHILE EARNING MONEY, NETWORKING WITH CALTECH ALUMNI, AND HONING YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS

CALTECH FUND PHONATHON CONTACTS OVER 5,000 ALUMNI EACH YEAR AND RAISES MONEY IN SUPPORT OF CIT, ITS STUDENTS, SCHOLARSHIPS, PROGRAMS, AND ATHLETICS.

EARN $13.50 PER HOUR OR MORE!

FUN, FRIENDLY, FLEXIBLE HOURS, LOW STRESS, GOAL ORIENTED ENVIRONMENT - ON CAMPUS!

CALTECH FUND

ACT Today! has event

AMOL KAMAT
Sports Editor

Last Saturday, The Tech attended ACT Today’s (Autism Care and Treatment Today!) 7th annual Diamonds and Denim for Autism event in Malibu. ACT Today! is a non-profit organization dedicated to raising awareness and providing treatment services and support to families of children with autism. Diamonds and Denim is one of their biggest fundraising events and doubles as an award ceremony for those activists who contribute most to the cause. This year, actor Joe Mantegna and television executive Steve Mauldin received the 2012 ACTivist Award, and community activist Kathleen Sternbach received the 2012 Golden Cowgirl Award for their efforts in raising autism awareness.

The event was attended by a fairly wide range of celebrities, including singer Brian McKnight, Shemar Moore and Al Cook of “Criminal Minds” (who were there to support Mantegna), Bonnie Hunt (“Jerry Maguire”) and Mark Christopher Lawrence (Big Mike from “Chuck”) smiles for The Tech.

Christopher Lawrence (Big Mike from “Chuck”). There were also several soap opera actors in attendance. Ariel Winter and Nolan Gould of “Modern Family” and David Hasselhoff were slated to attend, but they never showed up. Bummer.

The night began with a red carpet followed by a silent auction and reception. Then, the dinner buffet began (no, the press were not allowed to eat, but I did have the best cup of coffee in my life), which included a live auction of some pretty ridiculous stuff. Diamond encrusted pens, VIP tickets to “Dancing with the Stars,” and a puppy were among the items up for sale. Finally, there were some speeches and the awards were handed out.

ACT Today! does a wonderful job raising awareness and providing resources for families dealing with autism, and their Diamonds and Denim fundraiser has become a very popular and effective event in Southern California. Mark Christopher Lawrence, whose nephew’s children have been diagnosed with autism, told us “Diamonds and Denim is a fun party. People come out and enjoy themselves, donate, and bring awareness and support to ACT Today!” He also shook my hand and put his arm around my photographer, Vishnu Manoranjan, so our lives are complete. To find out more about ACT Today! or to donate, visit www.act-today.org.

THANK YOU
to all whose enthusiastic support and many votes helped Caltech to win the

Chegg for good Contest

Delores Bing
Chamber Music

William Bing
Concert and Jazz Bands

Nancy Salahian
Glee Club

Allen Gross
Orchestra

Robert Ward
Chamber Music

Sarah

Matthew Elgart
Guitar

Taylor Swift

+ 

Wendy

Vishnu Manoranjan

Jill

Wendy
Caltech Public Events is now hiring student ushers.
$15 per hour to work concerts, performances, lectures, films and parties.

No experience needed, no hard labor, flexible schedules.

*Requirements: Caltech student, Positive attitude, Friendly personality

To apply email Adam Jacobo (ajacobo@caltech.edu) or call (626)395-5907

For info on Caltech Public Events visit: www.caltech.edu/content/public-events
Clockwise from top: Brice Nzeukou takes a sexy header off of a corner. Nzeukou was named 2nd team all conference on Monday; Rhongxiao "Nicky" Zhang kicks the ball. Although, for all you know, he whiffed hard. The inherent problem with still shots; Kunmi Jeje does his best velociraptor impression after scoring a goal against SOKA while teammate Vishnu Manoranjan does more of a pterodactyl thing; Jack Blackwood takes a shot against Redlands. Check out the goalie's face, then imagine he's doing jazz hands; graduate student Chris Kempes sadly working on his thesis; The seniors on the soccer team say hello, except for Sarah Wright who's still running to meet them; Tommy Kwong passes the ball despite being drowned; Ben Grabowski attempts to fly out of the pool.

Congratulations to all the seniors from Caltech fall sports. These pictures were taken at Water Polo's home finale and senior night (Redlands won 17-7) and Soccer's season finale and senior night (SOKA won 3-2 with a goal in the final 2 mintues). Special thanks to the soccer seniors who entertained me for 4 years.

Skyfall was just an alright movie.

-Amol Kamat
**Humor**

**November 12, 2012**

**STATUS REPORT**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>THINGS THIS COMIC IS FUNNIER THAN:</th>
<th>THINGS THAT ARE FUNNIER THAN THIS COMIC:</th>
<th>THINGS THAT ARE AS FUNNY AS THIS COMIC:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>VANCOUVER</td>
<td>OVERSIZED TELEPHONES</td>
<td>ZINC PRODUCTS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACCOUNTING</td>
<td>THE HUMPS</td>
<td>SEASON 7 OF MALCOLM</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ACQUIRED TASTE</td>
<td>DOO-DOO</td>
<td>IN THE MIDDLE</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>MOST FUNERALS</td>
<td>GRAVEL</td>
<td>KNITTING</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>NEXT WEEK'S COMIC</td>
<td>LAST WEEK’S COMIC</td>
<td>DMV EMPLOYEES</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td>FAMILY CIRCUS</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

---

**Acquired Taste**

---

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

tech.caltech.edu

---

The California Tech  
Caltech 40-58  
Pasadena, CA 91125