Ricketts Alumni hold wake during ‘Beer and Brats’

Ricketts House alumni hold a funeral procession as they carry a coffin throughout campus, accompanied by a New Orleans-style brass band.

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3 injured in WA due to absence of a sign indicating max truck height

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British soldier murdered
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AMOL KAMAT
Sports Editor Emeritus

On Sunday, May 19, students of Ricketts House hosted their annual Alumni Reunion ‘Beer and Brats’ get-together at Millikan Pond. What was originally planned to be a simple gathering of Rowdy and Scourve Alumni mingling and sharing stories at the Pond—cold beer and grilled brats, in hand—became something quite different. Students were surprised when alumni hijacked the event to host a protest in the form of a wake memorializing Ricketts House.

Many alumni arrived at the event wearing Apache-themed clothing, voicing disapproval over a line item forcibly imposed by the Dean of Students Office in Ricketts’ new house charter: “Rickets Interhouse will not be called Apache next year, nor will it feature the themes that defined Apache, historically.” Dressed in the berets and striped shirts that were typical of the 66-year-old party (although it seems this dress code has diminished slightly in terms of quantity of fabric), alumni carried an oversized coffin that held $100 in pennies.

The wake procession commenced at the steps outside Sloan Laboratory and was taken past Kellogg, down the Olive Walk, towards the Athenaeum. A New Orleans-style brass band provided sentimentally appropriate music, starting off pallbearers and followers with an inspirational rendition of “Just a Closer Walk With Thee.”

It was no coincidence that the path of the pallbearers traversed what was a long-standing entryway to Apache: a small door under the Sloan steps, formerly accessible by a South Master key. In recent years, the South Master key was eradicated and tunneling (exploring the campus’s vast network of interconnected underground steam tunnels) became strictly forbidden and harshly punished.

The procession took a turn into Rickets House to pay its respects, but quickly moved onward through the breezeway and into the middle of Blacker House’s courtyard. Blacker House was hosting its own Alumni Reunion Event at the time, their traditional Associates’ Tea. Audible sighs of awe were expressed by many Moles, followed by applause and cheering.

Alumnus Nate Anagnostou (B.S., Blacker ’02, Hovse Historian) delivered a eulogy: “I think everyone in Blacker courtyard stood and lined up along the procession route to demonstrate their strong support of the alumni-led protest.” One of the event planners speculated that the elaborate procession appealed to stereotypical Mole enthusiasm for theatricality.

The procession then led northward, past the Athenaeum and Caltech Y buildings, and onward to Tom Manning’s house, where Ruddock’s Alumni Reunion was being held. The live band and coffin were paraded into the backyard. The Ruddocks (withmarkedly confused facial expressions) at what the Rowdy and Scourve alumni had orchestrated. At this point, the band transitioned to upbeat jazz music and provided a rousing rendition of “When the Saints Go Marching In.”

The pallbearers then delivered the coffin and its contents of 10,000 pennies to the front porch of the nearby Alumni House. The coffin was decorated with the Rickets House crest, distinctive pentagrams on the head- and footboards, and with an rendition of “When the Saints Go Marching In.”

One anonymous alumni offered an explanation for why the Office of the General Counsel (OGC) was the named recipient of the alumni gift: “In less than four years, the Institute has been harpered by three lawsuits related to the undergraduate community, that we know of. It is a distressing thought to imagine there may well be more that we’re not privy to.”
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
The California Tech

May 28, 2013

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News

Caltech Launches Strategic Identity Project

Elizabeth Hamilton
Contributing Writer

When Diego Caporale was accepted into Caltech in 2008, he was thrilled. It was his top school, and he couldn’t wait to tell everyone. Unfortunately, some of his friends and family had trouble conjuring a similar excitement. “A lot of people at my high school had never heard of Caltech. One of them even said, ‘Is that a community college or something? I thought you were smart!’”

It’s a problem most Techers know well. How many of us have had to explain that Caltech is not Cal Poly or Cal State? Or have had to describe it by way of a better-known peer? (“It’s like the MIT of the West Coast!” is one common appeal.) Caltech is one of the world’s top universities—the top, in fact, according to the Times Higher Education world university rankings from 2011–13. But you might say Caltech has a bit of an identity problem—though ranked highly, its status isn’t widely known. This year, the Institute is tackling that problem head on.

Over the next six months, the Institute’s Office of Marketing & Communications will bring the Strategic Identity Project to campus. It is a program designed to increase public awareness and appreciation of Caltech and to clearly differentiate Caltech from peer schools and organizations. Involving faculty, students, staff, alumni, donors, and partners, the Strategic Identity Project starts with the question, “What is Caltech?” The answers will be distilled to create a common language for talking about who we are and what we do, and to help people understand why they should be glad Caltech exists.

Already, many students are getting involved. “The success of the project depends on the participation of the entire Caltech community,” says Kristen Brown, Assistant Vice President for Marketing and Communications. “Caltech students are a really important part of what makes Caltech unique, and we need their voices in the mix.”

Many have taken part in interviews and focus groups about Caltech. Some are also taking on leadership roles in the project: the oversight committee includes undergraduate Zachary Rivkin and graduate student Kathryn Stack.

This week, a short survey about Caltech will be distributed across campus, with every student encouraged to participate. “It’s a great opportunity to speak up about what we love about Caltech, and to play a part in shaping its future,” says Rivkin. “I’m really proud to be a Techer and I want other people to know what that means.” The survey will be open until June 7, and the link can be accessed online at http://bit.ly/CTSurvey2013P. Laptops will be set up at the Red Door for those who want to take the survey while hanging out on campus. And, to sweeten the deal, a $100 Amazon gift card will be raffled off to one participating graduate student and one undergraduate.

“We are hoping to get as much student feedback as possible,” Brown says, “and we are really excited about what they have to say.”

For more information about the Strategic Identity Project, visit caltech.edu/identity.

Join the conversation!

The new Caltech opinion journal, The Hamiltonian, is looking for writers to contribute articles on topics in science, technology, politics, economics, philosophy, history, social issues, foreign policy, and local events.*

Undergraduates, graduate students, faculty, and staff are all invited to participate. We are looking for writers committed to defending and exploring their views in accordance with the rigorous intellectual standards that make Caltech so unique.

For more information, contact us by e-mail at hamiltonian@caltech.edu

* Serial commas appreciated, but not required.
LORI DAIJOE  
Contributing Writer

I work for both the Alumni and Admissions offices, and thus I get a lot of interaction with past and future Techers. A couple of weekends ago I was asked to cover the Caltech Seminars Day on Twitter, as a part of Alumni Weekend. As I was walking around, watching old friends and classmates reconnect, it really gave me some new perspective on this place.

We were all sitting in Beckman Auditorium, a.k.a. the Wedding Cake, listening to President Chameau give a welcome address.

In his usual eloquent French style, he was praising the achievements of various alumni: revolutionary programming, successful startups, humanitarian efforts, and all manners of scientific discovery.

I just sat there and listened in increasing awe at the list of inspirational achievements coming from Caltech alumni.

I felt like I had a glimpse of what the future might hold for me, and the rest of us, in terms of passion and discovery.

I thought back to two short years ago when I was an incoming freshman, sitting in Beckman Auditorium for convocation.

The jazz band was playing and the ceiling was doing that cool sparkly thing, and again Chameau was waxing eloquent about the possibilities and opportunities at Caltech.

I remember sitting there and being so incredibly excited for the future.

Somewhere along the way, we lose sight of the big picture, this initial sense of excitement and discovery, and focus on the mundane problem sets and lectures that are to be endured.

I know quite a few Techers who frequently bemoan how difficult life is here; and honestly, I do not know a single person that doesn’t spend at least a little time complaining, myself included.

But as I was listening to Chameau this weekend, and looking at the hundreds of alums ranging from my friends in the class of 2012 to the elderly in the classes of the 1940s, I realized that everyone in the room had gone through the same thing.

Throughout the weekend, I was walking around, watching old friends and classmates reconnect, and being so incredibly excited for the future.

And most importantly, problem sets and grades aside, big discoveries are made here. This is something that, regardless of how exhausted and burnt out you are, cannot be denied!

We get to walk down the hallways to class and pass by John Grotzinger, the chief scientist of the Mars Science Laboratory and a personal hero of mine.

We get to be taught by David Poltzer, a Nobel Laureate but also a Ph1 professor. Think about the steps going up to Bridge 201, where most of us have had physics lectures. Those stone steps are so awkwardly worn down. But they have been worn down by Feynman. And all of the other awesome alums that have come before us. And now, they are being worn down by us.

This place has incredible history and it is right under our own feet! We always joke about how, if we had gone to X college, we could have graduated with a 4.0 in three years with a double major in mathematical physics and chemical engineering and a minor in underwater basket weaving.

But I think that just makes all the hard work we put in here, to receive a piece of paper after four years, so much more worth it.

A Caltech degree has sweat and tears and successes and failures behind it. At the end of the day, we can choose to be bitter, or we can choose to feel accomplished. I have incredible pride in my school, and all of the achievements the Techers before me have made.

After Alumni Weekend, I feel inspired to chase the science that I love and not be brought down by details like problem sets and GPA. I can chase the science that I love, because of Caltech.

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Continued from page 1

One, a $20M wrongful death case stemming from the 2009 suicide of former Page, Ricketts House President Brian Go; the second, a $4M lawsuit brought by another former Page, Wei-Hwa Huang (Ricketts ’98), who was wearing platform shoes and, more recently, researcher and lecturer, attended Beer and Brats’ happened, there was a unique protest (let’s face it, we like to protest), not turning on other Techers (even if they disagree with you), and acting intelligently and led by drag queen adults and their families that refuse to trust the administrators. Both sides are to blame. People at the small community of the Hall of Administration, and held a “slavery” rotation meal and Brats’ helped illuminate and view. Events such as this year’s ‘Beer for having supposedly violated JPL email policy. After dropping the coffin off at the Alumni House, wake attendees expressed themselves however they wanted, but, if college is meant to prepare us for the real world, then I have to say that, to some extent, a real world punishment has been served to those who should have been on alert from the awareness (let’s face it, we like to protest), not turning on other Techers (even if they disagree with you), and acting intelligently and led by drag queen adults and their families that refuse to trust the administrators. Both sides are to blame. People at the small community of the Hall of Administration, and held a “slavery” rotation meal and Brats’ helped illuminate and view. Events such as this year’s ‘Beer

The recent announcement made by Alumni Director, Wei-Hwa Huang (Ricketts ’98 and the Techers, themselves. Holding unique protests (let’s face it, we like to protest), not turning on other Techers (even if they disagree with you), and acting intelligently and led by drag queen adults and their families that refuse to trust the administrators. Both sides are to blame. People at the small community of the Hall of Administration, and held a “slavery” rotation meal and Brats’ helped illuminate and view. Events such as this year’s ‘Beer
Techerland: Getting your hair done at J Bev

NINA BUDAEVA
Staff Writer

For seniors, the happy, sun-filled third term will shift from anticipation of summer into a three-week series of bittersweet lasts. We have just two weeks before Graduation ceremonies and dinners, so with time running out so quickly we might want to make the most of these memories. Families come to visit, parties are held, and pictures are taken. Many of us will not only be leaving Caltech, but will also be leaving Pasadena, and maybe even California. Over the past four years, I’ve not only grown into Pasadena itself, to the point where it feels pretty much like a second home. I now have my favorite grocery store, my favorite car wash, my ballet studio, my favorite streets, my favorite hair family members and friends) a special discount!

J Beverly Hills Pasadena, both for regular visits and for one-time treatments and hairdos. I feel very lucky to have them! Whatever you would like to do to your hair for that fast-approaching day, J Beverly Hills is offering Caltech students (and visiting family members and friends) a special discount!

J Beverly Hills Pasadenawill offer $20 off of any service prices at $60 or more, if you come in and mention this article and/or that I (Nina) told you about this. Book an appointment and see what other deals they might have!

Take advantage of this offer and your keepsake photos will ensure that you leave with more than rosy memories of your undergraduate years at Caltech.

“Feature:

Today’s Puzzle: Crossword

Across

1. Begin
2. Health resort near a spring
3. Luminescence
4. Mischievous fairy
5. Assistant
6. Solitary
7. Arrange to be parallel or straight
8. Hawaiian garland
9. Kind of puzzle
10. Remainder
11. Sincere
12. Hair
13. Submerged coral ridge
14. Compressed matted fabric
15. Symbolic emblem
16. Relating to the mouth
17. Language
18. Break out
19. Submerged coral ridge
20. Down
21. Pole used to support a blow-out
22. Thin slab of fired clay
23. Center around which something rotates
24. Infinite
25. Muffle
26. Condensation
27. Mature
28. Date styles and designs to meet the needs of our clientele. Complimentary consultations are offered for every service to create a personalized look that compliments your personality, and reflects your identity and style. J Beverly Hills has an exclusive line of Colour and Hair Care Products that are Organically Based, Botanically Infused, and Sulfate & Paraben Free. The products are Lifestyle Inspired, Celebrity Requested and Beverly Hills Lifestyle Inspired.”

In order to avoid the disapproving look of your mothers, boys, get ahead of the game and get a haircut! For picture day and for the ceremony, a blow-out is one of the best things girls can do, since we’ll be wearing caps.

When you walk into the salon, you immediately feel that the style and look of every detail of the space, from the interior decorating to the smiling hostess to the stylist’s wardrobes. This salon is quite special and has an intimate connection with Beverly Hills.

The head stylist, Yuriy, became Juan’s wife Acsanna and brother Vagram, as well as locals. This salon is the first of several concept salons scattered across the country, all of them representing the J Beverly Hills brand, style and quality. I highly recommend J Beverly Hills Pasadena, both for regular visits and for one-time treatments and hairdos. I feel very lucky to have found this salon right away as I have been going here ever since and have built a very good connection with my stylist Betty.

This is not just a lucky find in Pasadena. It is such an incredible place that people come to it from afar. I can testify that after my parents saw my first cut from here, they’ve been getting their hair done only here and not in the Bay Area, so even every time they visit, they schedule an appointment with Betty and the exceptional colorist Cory.

The J Beverly Hills product line is also very good. All of their products are herb-based and do just what their labels say and more. Overall, every time I visit Beverly Hills, I feel that they truly care about making people look beautiful. Despite their huge nationwide success, the salon is still very personal and has a unique approach for each individual client.

Since graduation is coming up, this is a great time to polish up your look. In photos, the feature that stands out most and ties your look together is not your nails, not even your makeup, but your hair. In order to avoid the disappointing look of your mothers, boys, get ahead of the game and get a haircut! For picture day and for the ceremony, a blow-out is one of the best things girls can do, since we’ll be wearing caps.

We offer luxury services and results that speak for themselves. With our specialized services, the Stylists and Colorists are highly trained individuals with passion and imagination. They are always educated with up to date styles and designs to meet the growing demand of our clientele. Complimentary consultations are offered for every service to create a customized look that compliments your face, highlights your features and is a favorite among celebrities as well as locals.

Yuriy quickly became Juan’s right hand man, and after 10 years bore the idea of opening his own exclusive J Beverly Hills Product Brand Salon. Together with his wife Acsanna and brother Vagram, he opened the successful Pasadena salon. This is the first of several concept salons scattered across the country, all of them representing the J Beverly Hills brand, style and quality.

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[http://www.puzzlechoice.com/]
Leavitt to lead Beavers swim and dive teams

TheCaltech athletics department has named Pat Leavitt as its new head coach of the swimming and diving program. He will begin transitioning into his role over the next few weeks with a July 1 start date.

Leavitt, who served as a two-year team captain, was selected MVP of the Seton Hall University men’s swimming team as a junior. Leavitt graduated from Seton Hall in 2006 with a bachelor’s degree in Communications. A four-year member of the BIG EAST All-Academic Team, Leavitt was also Dean’s List student. An avid hiker with his dog Penny, Leavitt also enjoys supporting Boston’s professional sports teams. He also enjoys participating in basketball, golf and ultimate frisbee.

Beemer tabbed to lead water polo programs

TheCaltech athletics department has named Pat Beemer as its new head coach of the swimming and diving program. He will begin transitioning into his role over the next few weeks with a July 1 start date.

Beemer, who is the 14th person to lead the Beavers program, took the reigns of the squad from Clinton Dodd who is retiring at the end of the school year after 34 years at the helm. Prior to his appointment with the Beavers program, Beemer served as the assistant coach at the United State Military Academy.

While with the Black Knights he was primarily in charge of training the distance swimmers as well as all aspects of recruitment for the men’s team. In 2013 the Patriot League honored the men’s team with the coaching staff of the year award. “I am honored to be the next swim coach at Caltech. After visiting and speaking with people on campus, I knew it was a great fit. Everyone in the athletic department and on the academic side had the same vision of success for athletics at Caltech,” Beemer said.

“I am excited to work with exceptional young men and women on the goal of matching our academic success with success in the pool.” I would like to thank Betsy Mitchell and everyone that was part of the search process for affording me with this great opportunity.”

Beemer began his coaching career as an assistant for the women’s program at New York University. During his two-year stint at NYU, Leavitt helped coordinate the team’s recruiting efforts, designed training plans for the swimmers, arranged travel and implemented a strength and conditioning program.

He also helped develop several NCAA Division III All-Americans, and was a member of the 2009 UAA Coaching Staff of the Year. After his time at NYU, Leavitt moved to Boston to work with the Harvard University men’s program. During his time with the Crimson, he worked with all of the groups on deck, learning under US Olympic Coach Tim Murphy.

Prior to Boston, Leavitt also served as the head coach for the Bay and Ocean State Squads/Crimson Aquatics.

With the club team, Leavitt was responsible for the training and competitive development of more than 100 swimmers in the Gold Medal Swim Club. He expanded the team from 60 swimmers to over 100 in his first season, and mentored three Junior National qualifiers and one Senior National qualifier.

A four-year standout in the pool at Seton Hall University, Leavitt broke three school records and won the BIG EAST title in the 100-yard backstroke in the 2005 season.

Leavitt, who served as a two-year team captain, was selected MVP of the Seton Hall men’s swimming team as a junior.

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GOCALTECH.COM
The Real Sports Editor

TheCaltech athletics department has named Pat Beemer as its new head coach of the swimming and diving program. He will begin transitioning into his role over the next few weeks with a July 1 start date.

Since the program’s inception in 1921 he is the 14th person to lead the Beavers program.

“I accepted the water polo position because of the dynamic change culture occurring at Caltech,” Beemer said. “I’m honored that Betsy saw fit to have me lead this program where exponential growth is on the horizon.”

Prior to his appointment with the Beavers program, Beemer served as the associate head coach with the Indiana University women’s water polo program. During his three seasons with the Hoosiers he helped guide them to 75 wins – including a school record 28 in 2012, a league title and an appearance at the NCAA Championships. In addition to the team successes, he coached four All-Americans and seven CWPA Eastern Division all-league sections.

Before landing in Bloomington, IN, Beemer spent six seasons as the head coach at Wagner, where he produced a 116-89 overall record, including a 48-16 mark in Metro Atlantic Athletic Conference (MAAC) play. He earned the 2005 and 2010 MAAC Coach of the Year award.

In his time at Wagner, Beemer coached 11 All-MAAC First Team selections, 12 All-MAAC Second Team selections, 29 MAAC All-Academic honorees, three All-Americans and two Academic All-Americans.

In addition to three regular season conference titles, he guided the squad to berths in the NCAA Championships in 2005 and 2007.

Beemer was also the head coach of the Downey High School Boys’ and Girls’ Water Polo and Swim teams in his hometown of Downey, Calif. before taking over at Wagner.

He coached the school to a pair of San Gabriel League Championships in 2001 and 2002, as well as an appearance in the 2003 CIF Semifinals.

Beemer had a successful playing career at the University of California, San Diego as a goalkeeper. He helped the Tritons to a No. 7 national ranking during his career at UCSD. He graduated from UC San Diego in 1998 with a bachelor’s degree in history. He earned a masters degree in secondary education from Wagner in 2005.

Beemer takes the reigns of the squad from Josh Moser who is pursuing other opportunities within the sport.
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

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

technicalcaltech.edu