

## OASIS holds annual show celebrating Indian culture

**PARUL PUBBI**  
Contributing Writer

Caltech's OASIS group holds annual show celebrating Indian culture

The Organization of the Associated Students of the Indian Subcontinent, known around campus as OASIS, held its annual performance on Saturday night with the aim of celebrating and spreading Indian culture on campus.

Twenty undergraduate and graduate students on the Caltech campus, directed by the sophomore Meera Reghunathan, began to plan the performance four months ago. "It started out just once a week, but lately we've had practice almost once every day," said Reghunathan. The show began with a Sanskrit prayer to Lord Ganesha and was followed by a collection of classical songs, Bollywood dances, and a skit by the Caltech Dhamaka team.

Much of the music was performed by Chiraag Nataraj, a junior who started learning Carnatic music at age 3 and playing the tabla, a kind of drum, at age 8. One of the songs he sang, "Kuladalli Keelyavudo," dealt with injustice in the caste system.

The annual show also contained a skit where two sisters found love during a trip to India, with choreographed dances to famous Bollywood songs. "I volunteered to write the



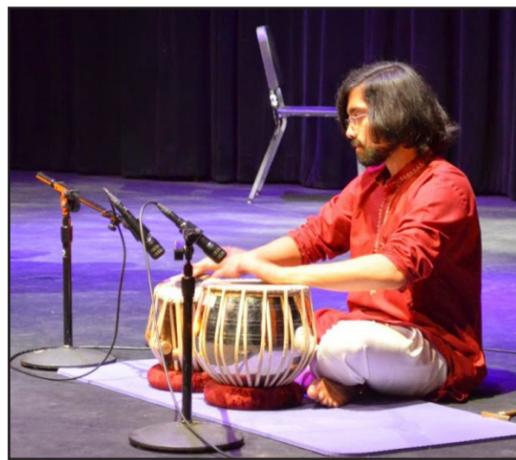
(Top) Groups perform during the show. (Bottom from left) Chiraag Nataraj plays the tabla and Deeksha Agrawal dances in the show.



Photos Courtesy of Rohit Gawande

play this year and everything sort of fell into place. I wrote one draft, hated it, and completely changed the plot. I decided to pull inspiration from my own life and the story ended up writing itself," said Reghunathan.

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## Show raises awareness for human trafficking

**JANANI COMAR**  
Contributing Writer

I had the amazing opportunity this past September to travel to northern Thailand through the Caltech Y ACT award. I volunteered at a shelter for girls who were identified as victims or potential victims of human trafficking in the Hill Tribes located at the border of Thailand and Myanmar. I spent a month teaching English and Science classes to the girls and learning more about the issue of Human Trafficking.

Human trafficking is the second largest illicit industry in the world just behind drug trafficking. Millions of people are currently enslaved, the majority being women and children. In the US, it is estimated that 100,000 American children are being used for porn and prostitution. Thousands of men, women, and children are trafficked into the US each year, with Los Angeles being one of the top 3 entry points for victims.

Numbers can say a lot but they will not solve the issue. As President Barack Obama said, "It ought to concern every person, because it is a debasement of our common humanity...I'm talking about the injustice, the outrage, of human trafficking, which must be called by its true name—modern slavery." As students at Caltech, we sometimes may feel like we are in a bubble removed from issues like this. However, it is our generation, our creative and innovative minds that can work to solve this problem that has plagued us for long. These victims are no different from any



Janani Comar performs with members of the Kalalayam dance company.

Photos Courtesy of Chad Strawn

of us: they deserve the care and support we all show each other here.

To encourage the Caltech and surrounding community to get involved in the issue of human trafficking, I organized a classical Indian, Bharatanatyam, dance performance to raise awareness and encourage others to get involved. With the dance company I am a part of, Kalalayam, we chose and choreographed pieces that highlighted the strength and power of women in both Hindu mythology and history. Our central item used lines of poetry written by survivors of trafficking and abuse that we reinterpreted with dance. We invited Kevin Potter from OASIS, a human trafficking organization based in Pasadena, to speak about the issue. He highlighted the importance of the strong female leaders and community involvement in combating trafficking.

Our audience comprised of students, faculty, staff, dance lovers, trafficking prevention supporters, and everything in between. About 200 people attended the performance and many came up to me afterwards telling me that they had never realized the extent of the issue before. My goal for the performance was not to raise money for any particular organization but rather to compel the audience members to act in their own way. Whether that means donating or volunteering a few hours a week, I hope that I have encouraged at least a few people to join the effort to make a difference!

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# Caltech Y Column

## CALTECH Y

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### 1. Tax Law, Intellectual Property Law, and Social Structure

Tuesday | May 27th | 12:00 to 1:30 PM | Avery Library | Lunch will be provided | RSVP Required

Professor Edward McCaffery teaches tax law, law and economics, and intellectual property at the USC Law School and at Caltech. An internationally recognized expert in tax law, his scholarship has been widely cited by economists, government officials, journalists and policy analysts. He has written several books, including *Fair Not Flat: How to Make the Tax System Better and Simpler*, which proposes a tax system based on taxing spending rather than income; and *Taxing Women*, which examines how working women suffer under current tax laws. Other publications include *Rethinking the Vote: The Politics and Prospects of American Election Reform*, which he co-edited. His other writings include "Cognitive Theory and Tax," "Framing the Jury: Cognitive Perspectives on Pain and Suffering Awards" (with Daniel Kahneman and Matthew Spitzer), and "Slouching Towards Equality: Gender Discrimination, Market Efficiency, and Social Change."

Please join us to hear about Professor McCaffery's experiences at the interface of law, economics, and policy and to ask any questions you might have in a group discussion. Lunch will be provided. The Caltech Y Science Policy Series is made possible with generous funding from the George Housner Fund.

#### 2. Memorial Day Weekend Camping Trip

Sunday May 25th - Monday, May 26th | Bandido Campground | Cost: \$20

Start off the summer camping season with the Caltech Y Outdoor Adventures group this Memorial Day weekend. We will spend the weekend in the center of the San Gabriel Mountains, camping at the Bandido Campground and hiking the nearby trails. No previous camping experience is required! The cost of the trip is \$20 and includes transportation, meals, and use of the Caltech Y camping gear. We will leave for the campground in the morning on Sunday, May 25 and return in the afternoon on Monday, May 26. Monday is Memorial Day and a Caltech holiday, so you don't need to worry about missing class. Sign up in person at the Caltech Y. Spaces are limited, so sign up early! If you have any questions, email Jeremy Sandler at [jsandler@caltech.edu](mailto:jsandler@caltech.edu).

#### 3. Yosemite-Centennial Grove Camping/Hiking Trip

Wednesday to Friday | June 18 - 20 | Cost \$120 | Spaces are limited

Signups begin Wednesday, May 28th (payment required on sign up) at the Caltech Y

Looking for a great way to kick off the summer? Why not join us

on a camping and hiking trip to Yosemite National Park and the Caltech Centennial Grove in the Sierra National Forest. The Caltech Centennial Grove is a section of the Sierras containing 5 giant Sequoias, and Yosemite is one of the most spectacular natural places in the world. With two nights of camping and plenty of hiking available this trip is a great get away.

The trip is scheduled for Wednesday, June 18th to Friday, June 20th, and includes transportation, campsites, and most meals. No camping experience is necessary. The Caltech Y Yosemite Trip is open to all Caltech students. Sign up begins at the Caltech Y on Wednesday, May 28th. To secure your spot on this trip you must sign up and pay the fee (\$120) in person at the Caltech Y (505 S. Wilson - the house just north of the Credit Union). Spaces are limited.

For more information contact or visit the Caltech Y or our website: [www.caltechY.org](http://www.caltechY.org). For more information on Yosemite National Park check out the National Park website at [www.nps.gov/yos](http://www.nps.gov/yos)

#### 4. Pasadena LEARNS

Every Friday | 3:00 - 5:00pm | Madison and Jackson Elementary School | Pasadena

Come volunteer at Madison and Jackson Elementary School! We are partnered with the Pasadena LEARNS program and work with their Science Olympiad team or do regular tutoring along with occasional hands-on science experiments. Transportation is provided. For more information and to RSVP, contact [vkumar@caltech.edu](mailto:vkumar@caltech.edu).

#### OTHER ANNOUNCEMENTS: BEYOND THE CALTECH Y

##### Simply Oasis Benefit

Saturday, June 7th | 7:00 PM | John Aaroe Group Courtyard | 42 S. Pasadena Ave.

Old Town Pasadena, Behind Banana Republic

The Simply Oasis benefit is a one-night event intended to raise awareness of the ever-growing human trafficking industry and raise funds that promote the reintegration and prevention of further victims.

The Simply Oasis benefit will provide live music, fair trade dessert and wine, a silent auction, printed and video educational materials, and a live presentation of modern-day slavery's footprint on the world.

All proceeds from the Simply Oasis benefit will directly fund on-going efforts to establish "TraffickFree Communities," provide updated educational materials surrounding the issue of modern-day slavery, and continue to expand Oasis' influence in the reintegration and prevention of human trafficking victims.

Musical performances by: Circlesight, Malynda Hale, Peter Charles, and Lauren & Matt Mears.

Bidding for the silent auction ends at 8:30PM.

For more info visit the Oasis website at <http://oasisusa.org/>.

# Techers learn about Indian culture

*Continued from page 1*

When asked about the hardest part in preparing for the show, freshman Sarthak Sahu talked about how "getting the timing down for all the moves and making sure everything was in sync was

definitely difficult!" Stunt men and women also spent time choreographing and helping the actors practice their lines.

Freshman Kate Lewis was new to Indian culture but thought the show was "beautiful and exciting. The skit was very fun!"

As an Indian, I personally greatly enjoyed hearing native songs and references to my culture and appreciated OASIS' efforts to share our heritage with the Caltech campus!

# Office of Faculty Board makes changes to academic eligibility standards

LIZ LAWLER  
Editor-in-Chief

This term's Drop Day was last Wednesday, and marks the last drop day under the current course catalogue. Starting next year, new eligibility standards for students, process of reinstatement, and UASH standards will come into effect. The new changes will be written into the 2014-15 course catalogue, but will also affect all current students regardless of the year they entered Caltech. The changes were proposed by Dean Kiewiet at the Officers of the Faculty Board meeting in April. Dean Kiewiet hoped to simplify eligibility standards, identify students who are struggling at Caltech earlier in their academic career, and to change Caltech's standards to reflect the current policies at peer institutions. Dean Kiewiet's motion passed with 17 votes for the motion and 0 opposed.

Currently, Freshman become ineligible to register if they accumulate 24 or more units of E or F (exclusive of PE courses); if they accumulate three or more course grades of E or F (exclusive of PE); or if during any term of their freshman year following a reinstatement, they obtain six or more units of E or F (exclusive of PE). Other undergraduate students become ineligible if they fail during any one term to obtain a GPA of at least 1.4, or if they receive 27 or more units of E or F (exclusive of PE) during any one term, if they fail to obtain a GPA of at least 1.9 for the academic year, or if they accumulate 45 or more units of E or F (exclusive of PE) over the academic year (with the exception of seniors). Seniors who have completed three full terms prior to registering for their senior year no longer need to make a GPA of 1.9, but must receive at least a 1.4 and receive fewer than 27 units of E or F each term. All students also become ineligible if they have fewer than 36 units in the previous term and fewer than 99 units in the previous three terms, and if, once reinstated, they fail to complete a full load of at least 36 units in the following term with a GPA of at least 1.9 (as stated in the 2013-13 course catalogue, pg. 194).

Once a student has become ineligible to register for classes, they must submit a petition to the UASH

Committee for reinstatement, giving any reasons for their previous unsatisfactory work and stating any new conditions that will allow them to improve their academic performance. For a student's first ineligibility, their petition may be acted by a dean of undergraduate students after consulting with the student and examining the student's record. The dean then may refer to the UASH Committee for action. All subsequent reinstatements must be acted upon by UASH. Second reinstatements by UASH are supposed to only be granted under exceptional conditions.

Under the new standards, freshman past their first two terms of pass-fail will become ineligible to register if they fail to pass at least 33 units in a previous term. After the first two terms of study, all undergraduate students must complete 33 units with a GPA of 1.9 in order to remain eligible. A student may be exempt from the 33-unit requirement if an under-load petition has been approved by the dean or associated dean of undergraduate students prior to Add Day. The deans may waive the requirement for the petition to be approved before Add Day under exceptional circumstances and only once during the student's study at Caltech.

Following the first ineligibility, students must meet with the dean or associate dean. The dean may decide to reinstate the student, which will cause the student to be on academic probation, or the dean may direct the student to petition to UASH for approval. The UASH may approve their petition and put the student on academic probation, or require the student to withdraw from Caltech for at least two terms. If a student fails a core class or fails to complete 36 units, the student must meet with one of the undergraduate deans before being allowed to register. If a student becomes ineligible a second time, they will be required to withdraw from Caltech for at least two terms (not counting Summer). Once the two terms are complete, the student may petition to UASH which will base their decision based on whether the student has made good use of their time off. Suggested activities include being employed, having an internship, engaging in volunteer work, or

successfully completing courses at another college. Students also need to complete their work in all classes with an E or I grade.

Once a student has become ineligible a third time, they **will not be able to enroll at Caltech again.**

Students who are ineligible may petition to UASH to waive any of the new rules going into effect next year; however they must first obtain permission from two of the following three: the dean of undergraduate students, the chair of UASH, and the Registrar; but the Registrar will only be consulted with the chair of UASH and dean disagree on a proposal.

The new changes are a push to prevent students from accruing a long history of ineligibilities and reinstatements. Data on students who have become ineligible were gathered and used to base the new standards. The data did not include students who were asked to leave for a term and never returned. The data gathered showed that students who have never become ineligible have a graduation rate of 95%, whereas students with one term of ineligibility have a graduation rate of 89%. The percentage of students that graduate after having applied for reinstatement twice is 52.5%. The data also showed that 60% of students who had become ineligible when reinstated the following term of their ineligibility would become ineligible by the end of their reinstated term. The data showed no correlation with academic performance in a student's freshman year with their chance to become ineligible in a later term.

The new changes were also made to now reflect policies at peer institutions. Unlike Caltech, the majority of institutes like MIT, Stanford, Harvard, Mudd, UChicago, Princeton, and others required students to withdraw from enrollment after becoming academically ineligible more than twice.

Again, the new changes will appear in the 2014-15 course catalogue, and the Registrar will send out an email to individuals who may be particularly affected by the new standards.

If you have questions please contact the Registrar: [regis@caltech.edu](mailto:regis@caltech.edu)

# Ernie's Al Fresco: a Caltech favorite

MICHAEL L. WONG  
Contributing Writer

It's a sweltering 104 degrees outside, but loyalty is its own shade.

The line for Ernie's Al Fresco stretches down the block outside of the Student Services building on Holliston, dozens queuing up in anticipation of a daily dose of savory Mexican goodness. Fingers point to the north as the first people spot the white food truck barreling down the road. As the truck rolls to a halt in front of the line, customers help raise the starboard overhang into place, revealing a host of canned drinks stuffed in a bath of shaved ice, four signs made of manila folders with today's specials scribbled in sharpie, two service windows effusing the smells of a well-worn kitchen, and one man in a black button-down shirt with an irresistible smile on his face.

"What can I get for you?"

The line moves quicker than expected. Ernie plays a masterful juggling act, taking three orders from the front window, then jumping to the back window to serve the three previous orders, all while preparing call-in orders from the Bluetooth headset in his ear. Adding artistry to industry, Ernie takes the time to listen to personal requests. When he sees a familiar face, he remembers the customizations in advance—and takes advantage of it.

"He knows all of my special

staff, the faculty, and, most of all, the students.

"In every kid," Ernie said, "I see my daughter."

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Ernesto Almeyda Mercado was born on December 4, 1949 in Guadalajara, Mexico. He immigrated to the United States 45 years ago and started running his food truck in the 1980s. He began by catering to the Beverly Hills community, but just a few years after his truck began rolling, he found Caltech. For over 25 years, he has continuously served one of the world's top research institutions.

Ernie was first called to Caltech to temporarily cater a construction project for one of the buildings on the West side of campus, along Wilson Avenue. As expected, groundskeepers filed up to the truck for breakfast and lunch—but so did some curious graduate students. They say that gossip and food reviews are the only things known to travel faster than the speed of light. Have you been to the food truck?! Before long, it was the graduate students who comprised the bulk of Ernie's patronage.

"[It was] destiny or something. You guys just started coming to the truck, and I started getting busy with you guys. I started cancelling other accounts, and I decided to stay for the grad students."

Were it not for the graduate



Who can resist a burrito from Ernie's?

-yelp.com

orders," said April White Castañeda, Executive Director of Human Resources at Caltech and Ernie faithful for 15 years. "I go probably a couple times a week. He's always messing with me, because he knows I have a real serious issue with cilantro and avocado, and so when we walk up to the truck, he'll say to the ladies, 'Extra cilantro, extra avocado!'"

Ernie holds a special place in the heart of the Caltech community. Those who work with White Castañeda in Human Resources have been talking about giving him a service award for years, despite the fact that he is not a Caltech employee in any shape or form.

The feeling is mutual. For Ernie, Caltech is a special place. He loves the academic environment—the

students, Ernie would still be serving another part of LA. On top of that, were it not for Caltech, Ernie would be known by a completely different name.

"Ernie's Al Fresco, it was a name that was created by you guys. It used to be Hosting Your Affair, and then the kids started saying, 'Let's go eat Al Fresco with Ernie. Let's go eat Ernie's Al Fresco.'"

Growing up in Mexico, Ernie didn't have time for education, but he knows that education—from preschool to college—is the key to success. When he was asked to cater an event for the Caltech Childcare Center, he discounted his rates and donated half his proceeds to put back into the center.

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# Jackman inspires Techers

NEHALY SHAH  
Editor-in-Chief

There are five pillars to the Caltech Y: outdoor activities, community service, social activism, perspective, and culture. Liz Jackman, Student Programs Coordinator, plays an integral role in the community service area of the Y, and brings years of experience in teaching, education, and cultural awareness.

Behind a "strict and professional" exterior, Jackman is actually "friendly and welcoming," according to Lyndy Gates, a tutee in the Y's Rise tutoring program (which connects Caltech students as tutors to local middle and high school students). "As I like to say, she struts with power."

This sentiment was echoed by many Rise participants, including Wen Min Chen, a Caltech junior who tutors students in the Rise program. At first, "she kind of intimidated me since the Rise program requires a high level of commitment for both tutor and student and she wanted to make sure that I was committed." As Chen worked with Jackson, though, she learned that Jackman is "definitely less scary!"

Jackman, a stylish woman with auburn hair and signature bangs, conveys a sense of friendly professionalism. Those who work with Jackman see that she "has really interesting views on life, and she's fiercely passionate about education inequality, which is evident though her drive to improve the Rise program," Chen added.

"She's comfortable with thinking a little out of the box, and really taking ownership of that. She wants to make things better," agreed Athena Castro, Executive Director at the Y.

Asked about Jackman, people praise her sense of understanding and her dedication to others. Jasmine Han, a Rise tutee, described her as "very affable. Liz is very passionate about her job. She is intrinsically motivated and is always there to help others."

"I really wanted to find work that's meaningful. At the Y, we serve the community by teaching students to have civic responsibility. I really believe in the work the Y does—Caltech students can use their experiences to change things," Jackman said.

This vision is just one of the many things that qualifies Jackman for her job at the Caltech Y, which she joined in 2010. A Southern California native, Jackman graduated from the University of Redlands in 2004 with a Bachelor of Arts in Sociology and German, and earned a Master of Arts in College Counseling and Student Development from Azusa Pacific University in 2011. During her schooling, she gave back to the community by volunteering at elementary schools and at homeless shelters, strengthening her leadership.

While the Rise Program was already in place when Jackman joined the Y, she has implemented new aspects. "Caltech students are smart, but they may not be able to teach, so I set up tutor training programs" to help students be effective tutors, she said.

Connecting local middle and high school students to Caltech students helps expose them to STEM fields. A few organized lab tours got the kids particularly excited about different subjects, including aerospace engineering and chemistry. As part of the PasadenaLEARNS after-school program for the Pasadena Unified School District, a few Caltech students perform lab experiments once a month. "The kids loved the messy, fun demonstrations. What an amazing opportunity for the kids to see science in action and to get excited about it. The Y is very much about leadership development, and Caltech students also gain presentation skills," said Jackman, praising the newest Y program for Caltech students.

"That's what the Y is about: if students have ideas that they want to implement, we are here to help them," Jackman said. The description of Jackman on the Y's website agrees with this purpose, and extols her ability to do so: "She is very committed to finding ways to partner with and better serve the community of Pasadena."

Vansh Kumar, a Caltech sophomore who helped get students connected to local elementary schools, praised Jackman's ability to start new programs. "Liz is really proactive. She was especially helpful with advertising and emailing people to get the program started, since I didn't really know where to start with that or how to do that stuff."

Jackman's passion for her job is also encouraging. "It's really cool that she shares the vision that we want to be in all district schools and have Caltech students be able to volunteer and make an impact in the community," Kumar added.

One drawback that Jackman sees in working with Caltech students is that they "are really busy so it's hard for them to make other commitments and to follow through with them." As the mother of a young son, Jackman realizes that it is often difficult to balance different life aspects, but she says she tries to juggle things, as she takes on various Y projects. However, the rewards of engaging with the students and starting new programs outweigh the disadvantages: "I just think community service is fun! It's like how you feel after physical labor and you know that it's worth it," exclaimed Jackson.

It is not uncommon for Jackman to go "above and beyond the requirements of her job," said Han. Jackman schedules lab tours for kids in Rise, and even invited the female students to participate in Caltech's Lean In (a

club promoting female presence in STEM fields) meetings; Jackman also helped Han find summer internship opportunities for local high school students. "Liz is a type of person that everyone needs around in their life," admired Han.

As a big proponent of tutoring and traveling, "Liz encouraged my interest in working for Teach for America," said Karsyn Bailey, a Caltech junior who tutors at Rise.

As a student, Jackman participated in a study abroad program in Germany, which sparked her interest in more travel. By going abroad, "you can learn a lot about yourself; you learn who you are when you're with 'the other,' [that is, when you are out of your element]," she said. During her time at the University of Redlands, Jackman also worked as an intake specialist at Operation Grace in San Bernardino, CA, where she assisted homeless clients from varying socioeconomic backgrounds in identifying community resources.

After graduating in 2004, Jackman spent 4 years in Japan, where she taught English conversation to students ranging from preschool through adult.

She has also traveled with the Y to various places, from Yosemite to India. With all of this traveling, she "is very worldly," said Bailey.

Jackman said working with people of various socioeconomic and cultural backgrounds (at Operation Grace) and especially living and working in Japan, forced her to "deal with issues of culture shock and adjustment," giving her perspective when she participates in culture discussions with the ISP and the international spouses club.

According to Castro, Jackman is "a big foodie," so it's no surprise that Jackman's favorite Caltech Y event is the week-long World Fest celebration, particularly the international food fair and culture show. The festivities were put on in conjunction with the International Offices at Caltech and JPL, and "it's always fun collaborating with other offices," Jackman said.

Because "Liz loves to learn," Castro said, Jackman has studied how to code, produced new ideas for fundraising, and taken on various other things for the Y. As a result, Jackman has helped with the Y's email lists, newsletters, website, and more. "As Liz has taken on more responsibilities, she has really taken ownership of the outreach program," said Castro. "She has grown in her knowledge of students, the campus, and the programs. She is phenomenal in her relationships with students."

Castro sees Jackman's dedication to learning in her work ethic as well. "Liz is an achiever. She will get things done before I've even said anything."

Fortunately for students at Caltech and in the Pasadena school district, although Jackman may have been bit by the "travel bug," it seems she is staying put at the Y for the time being, as there is "still a lot to be done and improved on."

# Ernie caters to hungry Caltech community

Continued from page 3

Through his food truck business, he was able to support his only child, his daughter, through college and graduate school at two prestigious universities.

"I have a daughter who went to Stanford, and she got her PhD from the University of Michigan," he mentioned with more than a small amount of pride. "And I'm surrounded by all these people with higher education. That, to me, is a satisfaction that you cannot believe. To be able to cater, to be surrounded by all this—you guys." When Ernie discovered that his services were appreciated at a place of higher learning, he couldn't refuse. Now, he only takes his business to the Pasadena area.

"I guess one of the reasons why I've been catering to Caltech for so long is because of the honor system that kids have. I feel very close with you guys, to the point that when I see a sad face, I always come out with a joke or something."

But it always goes back to one image. "When I see a stressed face on Caltech kids, I see my daughter's stress."

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Ernie wakes up at five o'clock every morning, one hour after his chef rises to start working on the food. Everything that comes out of Ernie's truck is prepared the day of.

He commutes from his home in the South Bay area to Downtown LA, here the legendary food truck is parked. Once inside the motorized kitchen, he stampedes through morning traffic to Pasadena, where mouths loiter on specific sidewalks with hungry intent.

At 11:30, Ernie pulls up by the side of the Caltech Student Services building to serve lunch. A young lady hands Ernie a five-dollar bill for her tacos. Nearly everything at Ernie's costs five dollars, so it's not surprising that some students have taken to calling bills of that denomination "Ernie's coupons." Those who arrive voucherless, however, are rarely turned away.

"Ernie's really good about, if people go, 'I don't have my cash today,' he'll let them run a tab," White Castañeda said. "I think, particularly for students, that can be really helpful, because we know it's always a tight budget."

The next customer approaches the truck. "Hey, mija, what'll it be today?"

"Ernie calls everyone mija, which is a term of endearment in Spanish," said Julia McCallin, the Associate VP of Human Resources. "And it's so funny because one of the women who used to work here was with me one day ordering food, and she heard him calling me mija and she said, 'I'm so sad, I thought I was the only one he called mija!' But I was kind of sad, too, because I thought I was the only one he called mija."

Whether it's by an endearing nickname, knowing personalized orders, or joking around with customers, Ernie consciously does his best to serve his good mood alongside his food.

Aaron Wolf, who graduated last year with a PhD in planetary science, frequented Ernie's throughout his seven years at Caltech. Wolf counts himself among the environmentally active. "When I started to bring Tupperware for him to fill, rather than using paper plates, he took immediate notice," Wolf recalled. "On the occasions that I forgot the Tupperware, he'd jokingly harass

me about it, refusing to serve me, saying that the guilt for him was too high." When Wolf received his doctorate in May 2013, he also received a free meal from Ernie's.

"My favorite moment," said Ernie wistfully, "is when they graduate, and the students come with their parents. And they make it a point to come and present their parents to me. And most of them take a picture with me, with their full gown."

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Running a food truck is no easy task. "The most difficult thing? You can't take time off, can't get sick, you cannot die." There is a large amount of stress in any food service occupation, and Ernie knows that hundreds rely on him each day. "That's why you have to like it, you have to do it with your heart. Otherwise it won't be good. If you do it for money, you're out of luck. You have to do it because you like it."

There's no doubt that Ernie comes to Caltech because here he can connect with a missing part of himself—his own education—and a

very prominent part of his heart—the education of his daughter.

"I run the business with my feelings. And so far it's been working."

Why has it worked? Because the feelings go both ways.

Wolf called Ernie "a quintessential part of the Caltech experience." McCallin noted, "We all miss him when he takes vacation." White Castañeda marveled, "Everybody seems to know him. Everybody has a different relationship."

When you're a student at Caltech, sometimes one simple smile is worth a thousand taquitos. Sometimes the thing you need most is to be reminded that someone cares about you as a person. Sometimes all it takes is a little encouragement from a man who's seen that look of disaster on his daughter's face before.

"You want a shot of tequila with that?" is Ernie's most famous quip.

"I try to get you guys to forget a little bit of the stress that you're going through," he said of his mission to cater to Caltech. "Your experiment is failing, okay, so what the hell? Have a burrito."

## Senior Co-President Candidates (see link for statements)

[https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EJVjwD4j12wCYES109DWtmhEMBYhqDY\\_hNvOuWIB8xQ/edit?usp=sharing](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1EJVjwD4j12wCYES109DWtmhEMBYhqDY_hNvOuWIB8xQ/edit?usp=sharing)

1. Jonathan Bayless and Nick Weil (No picture submitted.)



2. Liz Lawler and Monica Enlow



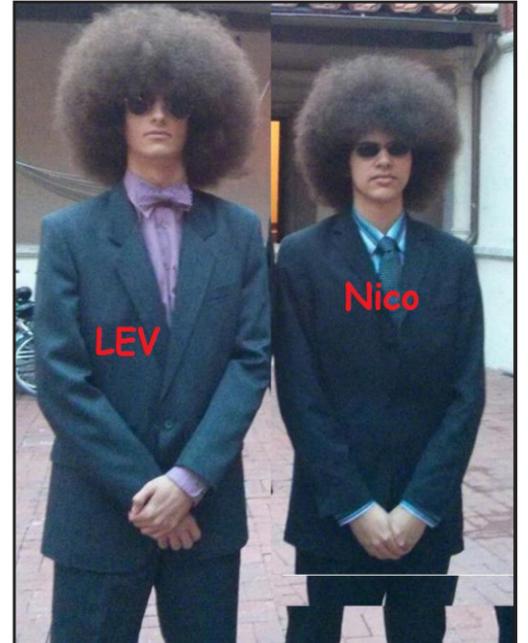
4. Kevin Yang and Lekha Viswanadham



3. David Flicker and Aditya Bhattaru



5. Harrison Miller and Allison Maker



6. Lev Krayzman and Nico Tedeschi

# Current scholar athletes honored for excellence

**MONICA ENLOW**  
Editor-in-Chief

This past Thursday, Caltech Athletics hosted the All Sports Awards Banquet. Athletes from every sport came to honor their peers during this night of nights. Betsy Mitchell got the ball rolling by recalling her word of the year: momentum. She offered congratulatory remarks for the tremendous accomplishments that student athletes have achieved in the past year, and she encouraged everyone present to use that as momentum for upcoming years. It's exciting to realize that more and more teams are posting W's on the scoreboards, and that new techers are adding their names to the record boards. But while there have been some phenomenal highlights from the year, every athlete present knows that Rome wasn't built in a day, and a top-ranked D-III athletics department wasn't made in a season. Kevin Noertker, class of 2009, was invited back to be the master of ceremonies for this occasion. In his opening remarks he recalled his experience as a Caltech athlete. He remembers never winning a game, but he also remembered that winning wasn't everything. "The goal," he said, "was to put in 100%, and leave everything on the field." Even now, anyone who dons the Beaver uniform knows that winning doesn't come easily, but being able to leave practice, a match, or a game, knowing that you did everything you could to be better than the

time before is motivation enough. The students honored this year are as follows:

**Outstanding Frosh**  
Male: J.D. Feist, Soccer.  
Female: Jenny Sheng, Tennis.

**Francis W. Davis Outstanding Female Athlete of the Year**

In a team sport: Stephanie Wong, Basketball  
In an individual sport: Paige Logan, Track and Field

**Male Athlete of the Year**  
In a team sport: KC Emezie, Basketball.  
In an individual sport: Eric Martin, Track and Field

**Director's Award**  
Male: Thomas Kwok, Baseball and Soccer, and Devashish Joshi, Tennis  
Female: Rachel Hess, Volleyball and Basketball

**Most Outstanding Athlete**  
Rebekah Kitto, Volleyball and Tennis



Everyone who received an award is in this picture, except for Jon Schor, who thinks he's too good for pictures.

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**SCIAC Scholar Athlete**  
Male: Jonathan Schor, Cross Country and Fencing  
Female: Iris Liu, Swimming/Diving and Water Polo

**Sportsman of the Year:** Thomas Kwok, Baseball and Soccer  
**Sportswoman of the Year:** Rebekah Kitto, Volleyball and Tennis

Every athlete honored showed so much appreciation for their teams, coaches, and the support of every other athlete in the room. Things may not always be easy for Caltech athletes, but if there's anything they can accomplish it's persevering through tough situations, thriving under pressure, and setting and meeting high expectations for themselves. 2013-14 was a great year, let's hope 2014-15 is even better. Go Beavers.

# Senior Spotlight: Rebekah Kitto, 2-sport athlete

**MONICA ENLOW**  
Editor-in-Chief

*ME: How long have you been playing tennis and volleyball? And why have you continued to play these sports throughout college?*

*RK: I've been playing tennis for 15 years (since I was 7, I think?) and volleyball for about 4 years (since I came to Caltech). I continued playing tennis in college because it's something I've done most of my life and I enjoy it. As for volleyball, I wanted to come early for preseason to meet new people and I really enjoyed playing so I stuck with it. Now I can actually pass a ball!*

*ME: What is the most satisfying moment during a match or a game?*

*RK: My most satisfying moment was during junior year of tennis when I managed to beat one of the players from MIT (not their #1 but a success nonetheless!)*

*ME: What changes have you noticed in your teams between your freshman and senior years?*

*RK: Both teams have definitely become a LOT more fun to be on. I think the new recruits that we have gotten over the years (and the newcomers learning to play) know how to be serious during a game but not take themselves TOO seriously. There's nothing better than being able to laugh at yourself when something silly happens-- and plenty of silly things happen at practice when people are picking up a new sport.*

*ME: Do you have a favorite memory from volleyball? From tennis?*

*RK: My favorite memory from volleyball is actually during one of our matches when Paige totally pegged a girl right in the head with a volleyball. The other teams don't always take us seriously, but that moment was priceless, especially since she probably thought Paige was just going to pass the ball right towards her. My favorite tennis memory was during our trip to Texas this year when we all stayed up watching horror movies (and Michael Fassbender) together. We had a great time pigging out on barbeque and being generally immature in public.*



What a way to end your D-III athletics career. High five.

-gocaltech.com

*ME: How does it feel to be the student voted sportswoman of the year?*

*RK: I am definitely honored to have been voted sportswoman of the year at Caltech. Personally, I think that just about every athlete at this school embodies what a true scholar athlete is, and the award really could have gone to one of many different people. I have to thank my teammates for rooting for me in this category, as I am sure without their support and their encouragement on and off the court I would not have been half the athlete I am today.*

*ME: What were your goals over the past year? Did your teams achieve them?*

*RK: For volleyball, I think that our main goal was to be aggressive and take control of each game. I think that we definitely stepped it up this year and everyone has improved so much-- to the point that we finally beat Mills this year (twice!). As for tennis, we had a bunch of awesome freshmen recruits so our goal was to play hard and beat both Cal Lu*

and Oxy-- which we did! It was definitely a great year for both sports.

*ME: What will you take away from your time as a student athlete at Caltech?*

*RK: I think that my time as a student-athlete at Caltech has taught me the importance of maintaining a healthy balance between academics and athletics. I probably would have lost my mind if I didn't have sports to take the edge off of the everyday stress of Caltech, and I definitely would have missed out on meeting all of my teammates and the different athletes within the department.*

*ME: Tell us something that not many people know about you.*

*RK: Something that people don't know about me is that I play a lot of video games in my spare time, I guess? Sorry I couldn't think of something more interesting haha.*

*ME: What's your favorite ice-cream flavor?*

*RK: Pistachio! But the Ben and Jerry's kind sucks.*



Rebekah seems to be the only person making headlines on the athletics website, so we have to keep putting her picture in The Tech. Look how happy she is, though.

-gocaltech.com

## ASCIT Minutes

### ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes for 20 May 2014. Taken by Sean McKenna

**Officers Present:** Catherine Jamshidi, Nima Badizadegan, Connor Rosen, Connie Hsueh, Patrick Nikong, Annie Chen, Sean McKenna

**Guests:** Margaret Lee, Chris Dosen, Elliot Simon

**Call to Order:** 10:05 pm

### President's Report (Cat):

- Paul Asimow is looking to hold a town hall meeting with undergrads to discuss findings of the Undergraduate Self Governance Committee. Date is tentatively set for May 31st at 3pm.
- Midnight Donuts will happen on Wednesday night the 28<sup>th</sup>.
- Strategic Identity Project: Cat will be sending out the email soliciting student designs for the secondary logo.

### Officer's Reports:

- **V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair: Nima):**
  - ARC Secretary and ARC Reps-at-Large have been selected
  - Council on Undergraduate Education met to discuss ACM 95. Further discussion is still warranted before any actions are taken.
- **V.P. of Non-Academic Affairs (IHC Chair: Connor):**
  - Survey about perceptions of rotation will be going out soon.
  - IHC is still improving the pre-frosh interest sheet. There will be more questions related to personality, as well as disclosure about who sees it.
- **Director of Operations (Connie):**
  - Connie will be trying to jump-start the production of the Little T by finding an enthusiastic support base to work on it.
- **Treasurer (Patrick):**
  - Patrick still has some reimbursements to work through.
- **Social Director (Annie):**
  - Supply Frame, a company in Pasadena, is at Chouse tonight handing out swag.
  - Real ASCIT Movie Night is Saturday the 31<sup>st</sup>.
  - Ruddock Frosh Party is Friday the 23<sup>rd</sup>.
  - OASIS will have a presentation on Saturday the 24<sup>th</sup>.
  - Fleming BFP is Sunday the 25<sup>th</sup>.
- **Secretary (Sean):**
  - I have posted Patrick's reimbursement form in the "Documents" section of donut.

If anyone has any questions or concerns about a section of the minutes please email the appropriate officer. We are happy to answer any questions.

**Meeting Adjourned:** 10:51 pm

## News briefs from around the globe

**Need to know <100 words about the world this week**

### Prospective Ukraine president wants peace

**56%** estimated votes cast for Petro Poroshenko, who promises end to war with Russia [BBC]

### New Salvadore Dali painting confirmed

**10** years of testing reveal new original Dali oil painting from his teen years [BBC]

### US wins against China in luxury car ruling

**\$5** billion in US exports taxed by China in 2013 declared to be unfounded [BBC]

### NBA to force Clippers sale

**23** of 30 team owners needed to vote in favor of sale to force Sterling into sale [CNN]

### E. coli outbreak in sprouts

**7** confirmed cases of *E. coli* infection arose from raw clover sprouts, resulting in recall of contaminated foods [CNN]

### VA under government scrutiny

**40** veterans died due to long wait times at VA hospital in Phoenix, Virginia; VA secretary Shinseki summoned [CNN]

### Military aid to Thailand cut

**\$3.5** million for aid to Thailand was cut after coup to encourage restoration of civilian rule [BBC]

## Editors' Note

Hello Caltech!

In case you haven't noticed, we have made some changes to *The Tech*.

We will be sending out a survey soon to gauge your opinion on the new changes, and to figure out what you want to see in *The Tech*.

Thanks for reading!

Yours truly,  
*The Tech*  
Editorial Staff



## The California Tech

### Editors-in-Chief

Monica Enlow  
Liz Lawler  
Neera Shah  
Nehaly Shah

### Photography Editor

Alex Hsu

### Web Editor

Aditya Bhagavathi

### Circulation Manager

Michael Paluchniak

### Advisor

Richard Kipling

### Contributing Writers

Brad Chattergoon  
Janani Comar  
Nailen Matschke  
Parul Pubbi  
Michael L. Wong

Caltech 40-58, Pasadena, CA 91125  
Contact [tech@caltech.edu](mailto:tech@caltech.edu)

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Letters and submissions are welcome; e-mail submissions to [tech@caltech.edu](mailto:tech@caltech.edu) as plain-text attachments, including the author's name, by Friday of the week before publication. *The Tech* does accept anonymous contributions under special circumstances. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all submissions for any reason. All written work remains property of its author.

The advertising deadline is 5 PM Friday; all advertising should be submitted electronically or as camera-ready art, but *The Tech* can also do simple typesetting and arrangement. All advertising inquiries should be directed to the business manager at [tech@caltech.edu](mailto:tech@caltech.edu). For subscription information, please send mail to "Subscriptions."

Drop in  
and  
talk to us.

### Confidential Drop-in Counseling

Monday, Tuesday, and Wednesday evenings  
7pm-10pm

CSS room 248, Health Education office

Enter through 2nd floor stairwell on east side of building

For appointment or questions, call the Counseling Center at x8331

## Calendar of events for the week of May 27- June 2, 2014

TUES. 5-27	WED. 5-28	THURS. 5-29	FRI. 5-30	SAT. 5-31	SUN. 6-1	MON. 6-2
<p>Taco Tuesday at Chouse! <i>The Tech</i> comes out!</p> <p><b>9:30 am</b> - Fire Extinguisher training</p> <p>Juniors - don't forget to vote for your Senior Class Co-Presidents!</p>	<p><b>3 pm</b> - Caltech Library Workshop - "Patents" (SFL 328)</p> <p><b>midnight</b> - Midnight Donuts!</p>	<p><b>12 pm</b> - Bray Theory Workshop (Baxter 25)</p>	<p>Last Day of Classes for Seniors and Grad Students!</p> <p><b>12 pm</b> - TA training for 2014-15 (Annenberg 105)</p> <p><b>12 pm</b> - Look Inside a Fuel Cell Car! (San Pasual Walk)</p> <p><b>7 pm</b> - German Film Series (Baxter)</p> <p><b>10pm</b> - Ricketts Interhouse: Black Out!</p>	<p>Study Period for Seniors and Grad Students</p> <p>ASCIT movie night (time to be decided)</p>		<p><b>10 am</b> - 59th Annual Staff Service Awards (Beckman Auditorium)</p> <p><i>The Tech</i> comes out!</p>

## Napolian's *Incurtio* offers various concepts through songs

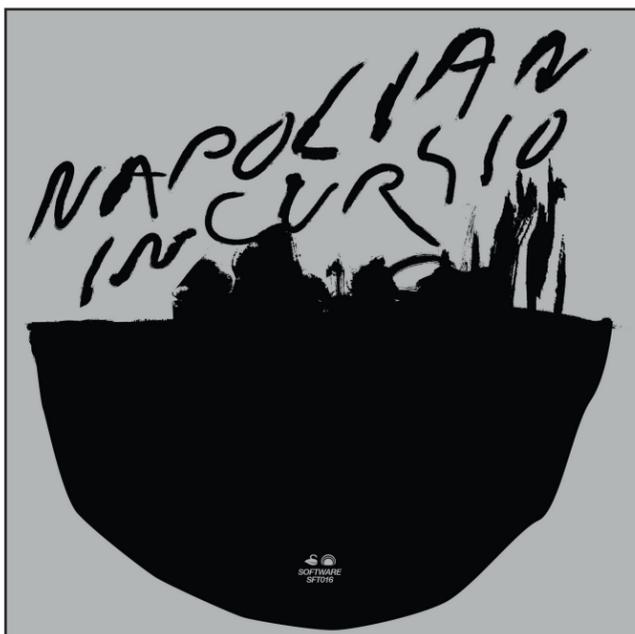
**NAILEN MATSCHKE**  
Contributing Writer

The lines between instrumental or left-field hip-hop and what people think of as "just" electronic music are already pretty blurry, with plenty of artists incorporating elements of each. Napolian, the pseudonym of Los Angeles producer Ian Evans, sits somewhere slightly on the electronic side of things, creating rich soundscapes with the strong pulse of hip-hop beats so that his music is accessible, but almost never so straightforward that it becomes boring. *Incurtio* is the first album that Napolian has released, and while he put out the *Rejoice* EP in 2012, *Incurtio* does a much better job of showcasing the different styles and ideas that Napolian is capable of producing. With 15 tracks spanning 48 minutes, each song essentially is a three-minute exploration of a single idea or set of ideas, so that throughout the course of the album Napolian presents us with 15 different, short (but at least somewhat fleshed-out) concepts, which made me want to pay attention for the whole way through. Thanks to Napolian's mix of a strong groove but generally nonabrasive sounds, I imagine that anyone who enjoys beat-driven electronic music would enjoy *Incurtio*; I certainly did.

One thing that struck me right away about *Incurtio* is how much variety the beats themselves have. While they're all in the realm of hip-hop, tracks such as "1 Peter 1:3-

4" display almost Flying Lotus-like percussion with strong but restrained bass pushing the song ahead. Others like "DARPA" have beats much more along the lines of traditional hip-hop but with a little extra variety added, the biggest example being the hi-hat lines which are full of breaks and changes in pace, so that even though the rest of the instrumentals may be the focus of the music, the percussion is designed in such a way that the listener can't just dismiss it as a generic beat. Napolian also does an excellent job of making his beats fit in with the styles and themes of his music, with tracks like "L O B B Y," which uses a deliberate and gritty drum line to support ominous piano notes, mysterious synths, and an overall darkness to the music that would have been harder to take seriously had he used more commonplace hip-hop beats. Throughout the album, Napolian clearly knows how he wants the rhythm of each track to feel, and does a fantastic job of executing this vision.

The rest of the music may not be quite as interesting as the beats, but still holds its own



- <http://www.cmj.com>

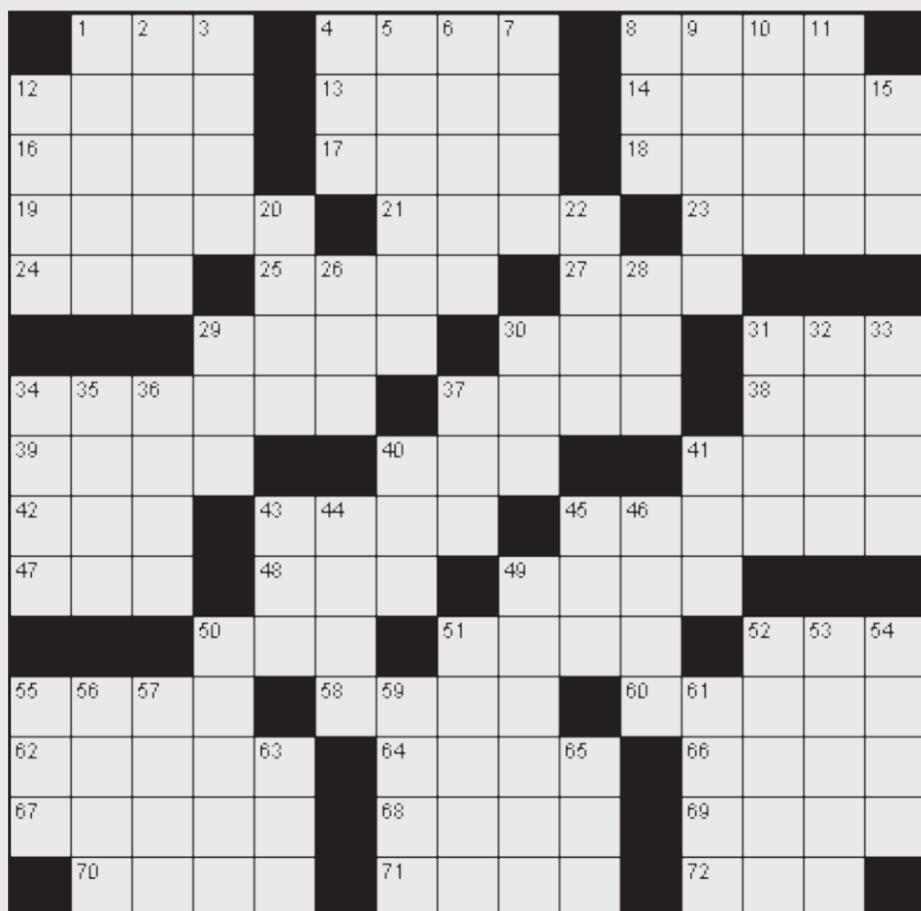
and shows a lot of promise. Some tracks like "INTernal" seem almost pointless, repeating the same lines over and over with the same instrumentation and added background effects. Had this gone on maybe half or a third as long as it does it would be fine, since the way he mixes sounds that I would never expect to hear together is really interesting, and works well. Thankfully, most of the album doesn't have this problem, including songs like "Principalities," which starts off with just a couple of instruments but gradually adds

more and builds them up until reaching a climax about halfway through, at which point everything drops out for a section I would expect to hear on a Death Grips track, before bringing everything back in with some extra effects to finish off the song in full force.

Another track on the album which is completely different from "Principalities" is "W (Dub)," which opts for a funky bassline, Caribbean-inspired samples, and an overall pleasant and tropical atmosphere, but still presents everything in an engaging manner. The album as a whole truly has an impressive range of sounds and beats, and almost all of them are given the care and attention they deserve by Napolian, making each track interesting and enjoyable.

I didn't really know what to expect besides hip-hop influenced electronic music when I started listening to *Incurtio*, having never heard anything by Napolian before. After putting the album on several times, I'm very glad that I did, as not only do I think Napolian is a talented artist with the ability to continue expanding his musical repertoire, but I'm also very happy with *Incurtio*, which serves as an excellent showcase for his ability. Each track is unique and all of them are at least conceptually interesting, even if there are a few that aren't actually that exciting to listen to. As long as the listener can handle a bit of repetition, I highly recommend *Incurtio* to any fans of experimental electronic music, especially those who like artists such as EPROM with a heavy hip-hop influence.

## Crossword



### Across

- Box on a pole handle for carrying bricks
- Air pollution
- Group of animals
- Rescue
- Rate
- Relating to birds
- Kitchen appliance
- Length by width
- Subway system
- Strong suit
- Attire
- Necessitate
- Perform
- Tibia
- Consume
- Whirl
- Small indefinite quantity
- In the past
- Forever
- Brought into existence
- Steal
- Closed circuit
- Regret
- Heap
- Male title
- Wading bird
- Unwavering
- Single
- Chromatic color
- Jump
- Understand

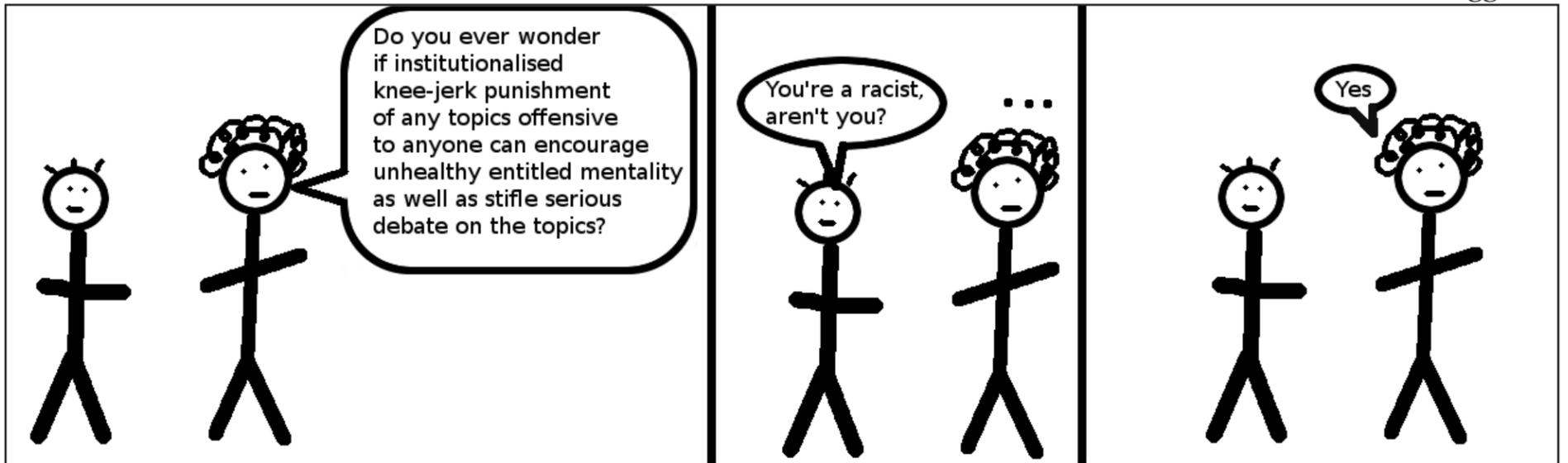
### Down

- Do business
- Egyptian cobra
- Powdery starch
- Fodder
- Voice part
- Expiate
- Seaweed
- Tusked swine
- Marine colonial polyp
- Stride
- Redact
- Fringe benefit
- Fruit filled pastry
- Decimal base
- Mayhem
- Open
- Impression in a surface
- Health spring
- Permissible difference
- Large body of water
- Cogwheel
- Amateur radio operator
- Circumstance
- Customary observance or practice
- Challenge
- Couch
- Indicate assent
- Catch sight of
- Ale
- Belonging to him

- Appendage on the bracts of grasses
- Deplete
- Enemy
- Elaborate song
- Precious metal
- Comply
- In addition
- Cut of meat
- Had on
- Public transport
- Relieve from
- Liveliness and energy
- Anger
- Cattle reared for meat
- Division of 6 Down
- Fine grained mineral
- Account book
- Echo sounder
- Greek letter
- Positively charged electrode
- Blot
- Larboard
- Pouch
- At the peak
- Bloodshed
- Compass direction
- Assist
- Moose
- Pertinent

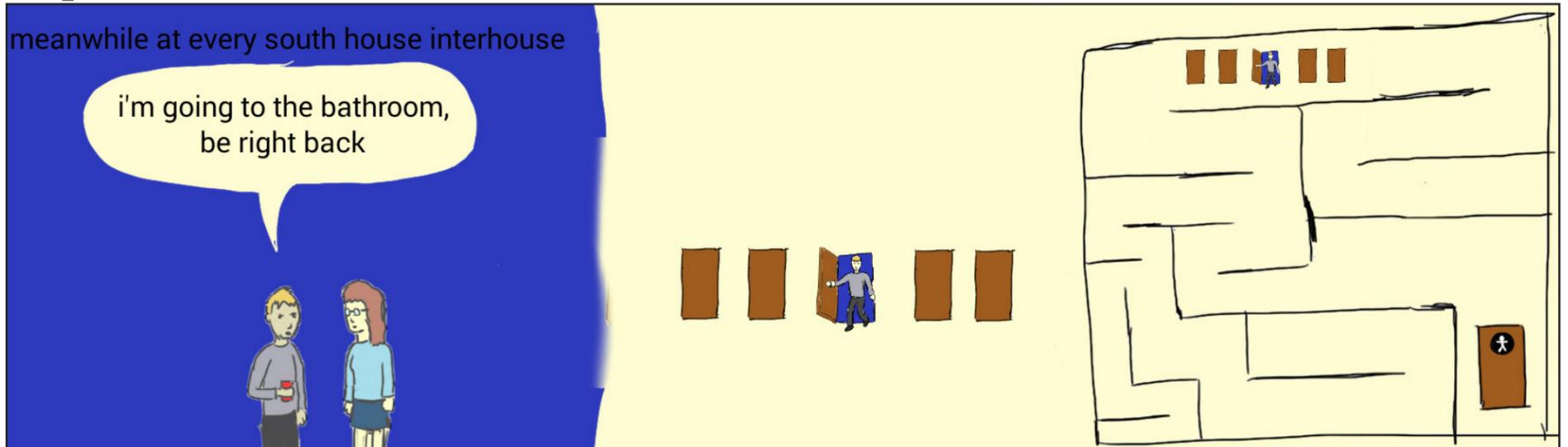
## Politically Corrected

Leo Kraggman



## Acquired Taste

Dr. Z



### Answers to last week's Sudoku

6	9	7	2	5	4	1	8	3
2	3	5	9	1	8	7	4	6
4	1	8	3	6	7	9	2	5
7	8	2	6	9	5	4	3	1
9	4	6	8	3	1	2	5	7
3	5	1	4	7	2	6	9	8
1	7	3	5	2	9	8	6	4
5	2	4	1	8	6	3	7	9
8	6	9	7	4	3	5	1	2

### Answers to last week's crossword

BEST	CLASP	RACK
AVER	AORTA	ELAN
SAVE	BLEAT	SORE
IDEAL	LAIR	PORE
SENSOR	NOTIFY	
OPERA	NUT	
LOON	SONG	BEARD
OWN	STATURE	DAY
GLEAN	RISE	ROPE
DUE	CHASE	
SHAGGY	LITMUS	
SHAM	RUSE	PRINT
LAVA	ECLAT	ANTI
OVEN	SCARE	COIN
WENT	SABLE	TREK

### Only kind of big Sudoku

	3			6		5		
8		2		3		9		
			1					4
		3				7		
	1		9		5			6
9				7			4	
5				8				
						6		1
	4				3			

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