New faces brighten multiple Caltech offices

NEERA SHAH
Editor-in-Chief

This year Caltech is seeing a lot of changes on the administrative front. In case you haven’t been keeping up with who’s who, I have compiled list of people I think you haven’t been keeping up with who's changes on the administrative front. In case you haven’t been keeping up with who's who, I have compiled list of people I think

John Dabiri
Dean of Undergraduate Students

Dabiri received his undergraduate degree in mechanical and aerospace engineering from Princeton University in 2001. He earned both his MS ('93) in aeronautics and PhD ('97) in bioengineering from Caltech, joining the faculty upon completion of his doctoral studies in 2005. A 2010 MacArthur Fellow, he is director of Caltech’s Biological Propulsion Laboratory.

The role of dean of undergraduate students is to foster academic and personal growth through counseling and support for student activities as well as act as a liaison between students and faculty. “It’s essential that we continue the important work Dean Kiewiet has initiated in developing a campus culture that includes self-governance, which should provide our students with greater opportunities to develop leadership skills through management of the houses,” she says. As part of her responsibilities, Weinstein will be leading a committee that explores the role of the undergraduate class of 2018 was ushered into the Caltech family with the arrival of their families and friends.

On September 21, 2014 with the arrival of incoming freshmen, this year the Caltech family is welcoming many new members, and renaming some old ones. Change is in the air and it smells as good as a pumpkin spice latte. This year's convocation featured the new university president, Dr. Thomas Rosenbaum, and Professor Alan Weinstein, who gave an inspiring speech for the incoming undergraduates, graduates, and their families and friends. As always, the graduate students had their orientation on campus, and the undergraduates class of 2018 was ushered off to the Marriott in Ventura Beach. The weather was beautiful and everyone was so excited and happy to be there. The prefrosh were herded by noble upperclassmen who couldn’t really complain about a trip to the beach. While they participated in a slew of team building activities.

The prefrosh, although a tad awkward at first, came out of their shells to meet their new peers. Fun was had by all, students and faculty alike.

After three days of fun activities, the tuckered little tikes came back to try and find new homes through rotation. What will happen to these prefrosh? Only time will tell. Stay tuned.

Here are some of the photo highlights from that because a picture is worth a thousand words.
Campus celebrates the lives and accomplishments of scientists

NEERA SHAH
Editor-in-Chief

This list has been compiled from caltech.edu. Full tribute articles can be found there.

Frank Marble 1918-2014

Frank Earl Marble (Z'ng 47) and Dorothy M. Hayman Professor of Mechanical Engineering and Professor of Jet Propulsion, Emeritus, passed away on August 11, 2014, two months after the death of Ora Lee Marble, his wife of 71 years. Marble was one of the fathers of modern jet engines; his doctoral thesis included a method for calculating the three-dimensional airflow through rows of rotating blades. A jet engine is essentially two sets of blades on a common axle. A compressor at the front of the engine slows the incoming air and feeds it to the burner, and a turbine spinning in the hot gases downstream ejects the exhaust and drives the compressor. More broadly, Marble’s methods apply to any fluid flowing along the axis of a fan, pump, turbine, or propeller.

On receiving his doctorate from Caltech in 1948, Marble was hired as an assistant professor by Tsien Hsue-shen (PhD ’39), the Goddard Professor of Jet Propulsion. Tsien assigned him to develop a set of courses in this new field, which blended chemistry, gas dynamics, and materials science.

Tsien also gave Marble a half-time appointment at Caltech’s Jet Propulsion Laboratory (JPL), which in the pre-NASA era really was studying jet propulsion, developing missiles under contract with the army. Tsien and his fellow members of the “suicide squad” had founded JPL, in the wide open scrublands of the upper Arroyo Seco in the 1930s after a string of accidents and explosions had gotten them evicted from the campus aeronautics lab. By the late 1940s, JPL had grown into an initiated group of testing facilities sprawled across some 60 acres.

Adapted from an article by Douglas Smith, Producer and Lead Writer of Legacy Content
Ray D. Owen 1913-2014

Immunology pioneer Ray D. Owen, professor of biology, emeritus, at Caltech, passed away on Sunday, September 22, 2013, at the Caltech-Convalescent Hospital in Pasadena, California. He was 98.

Owen’s major scientific contribution was his discovery, in 1945, of immunological tolerance in a twin. Using blood typing, he recognized that one of a set of fraternal twins had no immune response to the foreign antigens (substances that provoke an immune response) introduced from their twins. The finding paved the way for the experimental induction of tolerance through immune suppression and for early tissue grafting—which initiated the era of organ transplantation—by Frank Macfarlane Burnet and Peter Brian Medawar, who received the Nobel Prize for the work in 1960. “In fact, Owen was the first to postulate that immunosuppressive treatments such as x-irradiation might allow incompatible transplants, and participated in the experiments in which bone-marrow transplants to irradiated recipients were first successfully demonstrated,” says Elliot Meyerowitz, Caltech’s George W. Beadle Professor of Biology.

At Caltech, Owen also was noted for his dedicated teaching— he received an award for teaching excellence from the Associated Students of the California Institute of Technology (ASCIT) for 1982–1983 and 1986–1987—and, in 1994, the inaugural Richard P. Feynman Prize for Excellence in Teaching, given annually to a teacher who exhibits “unsual ability, creativity, and innovation in teaching.

Adapted from an article by Kathy Stitt, Associate Editor and Science Writer
Thomas A. Tombrello, 1936-2014

Thomas A. Tombrello, Caltech’s Robert H. Goddard Professor of Physics, passed away on Tuesday, September 23. He was 78.

Tombrello was an expert in the application of theoretical and experimental physics to problems in materials science, surface physics, and planetary science. His research studies included understanding the damage processes caused by megavolt ions in solids, characterizing the sputtering of materials by low-energy ions as well as growing and studying novel light-emitting materials. He served as the chair of the Division of Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy from 1998 to 2008.

Tombrello was a fellow of the American Physical Society and the recipient of an honorary doctor of philosophy from Uppsala University. At Caltech, he was noted for his commitment to student education, receiving awards for teaching excellence from the Associated Students of the California Institute of Technology (ASCIT) for 1982–1983 and 1986–1987, and, in 1994, the inaugural Richard P. Feynman Prize for Excellence in Teaching, given annually to a teacher who exhibits “unusual ability, creativity, and innovation in teaching.

Adapted from an article by Kathy Stitt, Associate Editor and Science Writer
Gerry Neugebauer 1932-2014

Gerry Neugebauer, Caltech’s Robert Andrews Millikan Professor of Physics, Emeritus, and one of the founders of the field of infrared astronomy, passed away on Friday, September 26. He was 82.

Neugebauer earned an AB in physics from Cornell University in 1954 and a PhD in physics from Caltech in 1960. He then served two years in the United States Army, stationed at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, before returning to Caltech in 1962 as an assistant professor of physics. He was named an associate professor in 1965, professor in 1970, Howard Hughes Professor in 1985, and Millikan Professor in 1996. He retired in 1998.

He served as the director of the Palomar Observatory from 1980 to 1994 and as the chair of the Division of Physics, Mathematics and Astronomy from 1988 to 1993.

In addition to his leadership of the Two-Micron Sky Survey—the first infrared survey of the sky—Neugebauer led teams for the first orbiting infrared observatory, the Infrared Astronomical Satellite (IRAS), which conducted the first far-infrared sky survey and detected hundreds of thousands of objects. He also co-founded the Neugebauer Fellowship, which obtained the first infrared view of the galactic center, and he was the codiscoverer of the Becklin-Neugebauer Object, a massive but compact and intensely bright newly forming star in the Orion Nebula, which was subsequently observed at other wavelengths of light.

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Adapted from an article by Kathy Stitt, Associate Editor and Science Writer
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6. Constrictor
9. Nauseous
15. Establish validity
14. Peculiar
15. Utenail
16. Once more
17. Guile
18. Heading
19. Connected by kinship
21. Give out or emit
23. Short sleep
24. Rankle
25. Watering place
26. Misplace
30. Rain cloud
35. Tablet
37. Cereal grass
40. Enumerate
42. Creep in
44. Faculty
46. Unit of currency
47. Disparaging remark
48. Often used with a postle
50. Reported information
52. Hair
53. Edible fat
55. Snailkike fish

Down
1. Box lightly
2. Excort
3. Objective
4. Characterist of birds
5. Letting
6. Process and darning
7. Poem
8. Small viper
9. Rotate
10. Sciurilla
11. Young male horse
12. Leg joint
15. Moticless
20. Era
22. Board game pieces
24. Ardent
25. Involuntary muscle
41. Mayhorn
43. Flunk
44. Faculty
45. Disparaging remark
46. Unit of currency
47. Set an opinion
48. Often used with a postle
50. Reported information
52. Hair
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feature
Research Spotlight

The Tech is starting a new feature, and would like YOU to submit your research! If you would like your research featured, submit part of your research paper, your abstract, pictures of your lab, and/or pictures of your cool science to be featured in the paper. Email: tech@caltech.edu

Developing an Electrochemical Assay for Detection of Dna2 Nuclease Activity

JENNY HE
Contributing Writer

Dna2 has an iron-sulfur cluster that is conserved in eukaryotes, from yeast to humans, but the role of the 4Fe-4S cluster is still unknown. The Barton lab has proposed that 4Fe-4S clusters in DNA binding proteins participate in DNA-mediated redox signaling. DNA acts as a molecular wire to transport electrons through the 4Fe-4S clusters in DNA binding proteins.

Thus far, the only studies with DNA CT in a biological system have focused on characterizing DNA repair proteins from E. coli, a prokaryotic organism. The goal of this project is to develop an electrochemical assay to study proteins like Dna2 from eukaryotic organisms that also signal one another via DNA CT. The results of this electrochemical assay compare to those of a gel electrophoresis assay described in a 2013 PNAS paper, proving the legitimacy and usefulness of this assay. This work will potentially provide insight on how enzymes with 4Fe-4S clusters use DNA CT to repair DNA in eukaryotic cells. These results could set a foundation for expanding the current model for DNA CT and DNA repair in prokaryotic organisms to more complex organisms.

BRAD CHATTERGOON
Contributing Writer

Every year many people make resolutions to eat healthier, exercise more, and be more outgoing. I can't help much with the last one, but I do have some advice for the first two. The road to fitness can be intimidating at first because there are so many paths to take. Am I eating right? What exercises should I do? Do I need to drink those icky protein shakes?

I've been in the fitness realm off and on for the past 4-5 years and fairly seriously for the past 2. During that time I've read countless articles, tried different nutrition and workout plans, but most importantly I've changed my body from skinny Indian kid (seriously, Google Image Search my name) to benching 200+ lbs so I know what works. Even though I've used an example that focuses on getting strong and potentially more muscular, that is only one possible path for getting fit (and usually, in a male direction).

The advice that I have to give can be applied to both sexes and is more about getting healthier and stronger than about turning into the next Arnold Schwarzenegger. Tune in weekly to The Tech this term as I go through nutrition, workouts, different types of exercise, etc. Hope this can help get you ready for next year's New Year's resolutions.

-Brad/Chad

Get fit with Brad/Chad
Presidential Inauguration

On October 24th, the Provost has declared an institute holiday to celebrate the inauguration of Caltech’s 9th President Dr. Thomas F. Rosenbaum. The inauguration ceremony will begin streaming at 2 pm and there will be an all-campus reception to follow.

Dr. Rosenbaum and his wife, Dr. Katherine Faber, Simon Ramo Professor of Materials Science, have joined the Caltech Family and we wish them all the best!

Nominate Your Favorite Professor for the Feynman Teaching Prize!!!

Here’s your chance to nominate your favorite professor for the 2014-15 Richard P. Feynman Prize for Excellence in Teaching! You have from now until January 5, 2015 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 emailed to kkerbs@caltech.edu or 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 5, 2015.

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.

Correction: In Volume CXVII Issue 27, in Ariel O’Neill’s article titled “Inside Caltech: New policy to affect e-cigarette smokers,” everything attributed to Mike Raven should be attributed to Larry Martinez.
Techers continue to play sports despite opposition from opponents

MONICA ENLOW
Editor-in-Chief

Welcome back for an exciting year of sports. Yes, sports. Get excited. I don’t have much to add here, other than I’ve actually noticed some W’s on the Men’s Water Polo scoreboard.

Upcoming Games

Women’s Volleyball
Fri. Oct. 3 @ 7:30p - Cal Lutheran
Sat. Oct. 11 @ 9p - Occidental

Men’s Water Polo
Tues. Oct. 2 @ 5:30p - Washington & Jefferson
Men’s Soccer
Wed. Oct. 2 @ 4p - Pomona-Pitzer
Sat. Oct. 11 @ 4p - Occidental

Men’s/Women’s Cross Country
Sat. Oct. 4 @ Pomona-Pitzer Invitational

Scoreboard

Women’s Volleyball
Fri. Sept. 19 vs. CMS - L, 3-0
Sat. Sept. 20 vs. Redlands - L, 3-0
Sat. Sept. 27 vs. La Verne - L, 3-0

Men’s Water Polo
Fri. Sept. 19 vs. Cerritos - L, 16-12
Fri. Sept. 19 vs. LA Trade Technical College - W, 15-8
Sat. Sept. 20 vs. Occidental - L, 17-4
Sun. Sept. 28 vs. Conn College - L, 19-12

Men’s Soccer
Wed. Sept. 17 vs. Occidental - L, 4-0
Sat. Sept. 20 vs. Whittier - L, 5-1
Wed. Sept. 24 vs. CMS - L, 7-0
Sat. Sept. 27 vs. La Verne - L, 2-1

Polo team flies on plane, soars above expectations

GOCALTECH.COM
Actual Sports Content Editor

ANNAPOLIS, Md. – For the first time in recent memory, the Caltech men’s water polo team took to the skies and traveled to compete in the Navy Open. The Beavers had a four game slate against formidable competition that was highlighted with a high scoring victory against Division II opponent, Salem International University.

Throughout the weekend, the squad took big strides on the offensive front averaging more than 12 goals per contest over the four game stint. Leading the scoring parade was sophomore attacker, Chris Bradley.

“You gotta take a few to make a few,” commented Bradley, who led all tournament scorers over the weekend, tallying 24 goals. Senior goalkeeper, Ben Grabowski, who is coming off an All-American junior campaign, once again anchored the defense. His 60 stops for the weekend has him on a blistering pace to shatter his own school record of saves in a season of 281.

“My job is pretty simple,” Grabowski said. “See ball, block ball.”

The marquis game of the weekend was against Salem International University. The Tigers jumped out to a 2-0 lead in the first three minutes of action forcing a tactical timeout. From there, Caltech regrouped and scored two unanswered goals to end the first quarter deadlocked. From there, the game devolved into a heavyweight title bout where both squads forsook defense and went on scoring sprees.

The Beavers erupted for seven goals in the second quarter with a balanced attack. Sophomore Tomas Tusise, junior Jim Blackwood (2), junior Patric Eck, senior Matt Lappin and Bradley (2) all found the back of the net. Despite the onslaught, the pesky Tigers peppered Grabowski five times in the stanza bringing the first half to a close with the Beavers holding a 9-7 advantage.

In the third, it was Salem’s turn to win an 8-minute frame. The Serbian, inside-outside combo of junior center Borislav Kovacav and sharpshooter freshman Djordje Stavreski hit five goals between them, outpacing the four goal effort from the Beavers. Entering the ultimate quarter, Caltech found itself clinging to a 13-12 lead.

It wasn’t until late in the fourth quarter the team found some breathing room. Eck scored in the opening minute of the frame only to have Salem score on the ensuing possession. Two possessions later, Blackwood hit his sixth goal of the game, but once again, the Tigers came right back to score and still trailed by just one. Finally, Caltech was able to consolidate defensively after their next scored goal. Bradley added one more insurance goal in the final 90 seconds to ensure the 17-14 victory.

“Our offense over the weekend was wholly more productive than a year ago,” head coach Patrick Beemer said. “We clearly have ample room to grow, specifically on the defensive side of the ball, but this weekend was a great start to our season.”
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Acquired Taste

Dr. Z

This cruel life is so short and filled with mundane responsibilities that I'll probably only really know 10 or 15 of them intimately.

Anyway, let's see; The math set is supposed to be hard this week, better get started on that soon.

Priceless Ming Vase

Georgio Kraggman

Protip: keep your house at high voltage to make sure your grounded kids won't escape.

Answers to previous crossword

- Answers to previous Sudoku

Starting the Year out Strong

Liz Lawler

AND IT'S FINALLY HERE....

Caltech prefrosh excited for the best four years of their lives

TIM SINCLAIR
Contributing Writer

We’re told that the years we spend in undergraduate education are among the most treasured and valuable times of our lives. Kevin Yang, 18, a prospective physics major at the California Institute of Technology, expects no less. “I’m just so excited to be in a place where everyone else is as enthusiastic toward math and science as I am,” Yang told us. We asked Yang, who is staying in Page during rotation, what he thought about the Houses. “I’ve only had dinner in a couple so far, but I really like all of the ones I’ve seen. I think I’ll probably join 3 or 4 houses after rotation is over. They all seem super interesting!” Yang, who is planning on double-majoring in geophysics, or at least picking up a couple of minors—in BEM and geology—only had one reservation about Caltech life. “I’m not sure if I’ll be able to find a group of people to play League of Legends with. Most students here are so busy with homework and research, I don’t think it will be easy to find others who’ll make the time to play videogames.”

Other prefrosh we talked to were just as excited for their Caltech undergrad experience as Yang. Emily Caldwell, also 18, hails from Washington, DC, and plans on majoring in chemical engineering. “I’m really looking forward to living in LA,” Caldwell told us. “Being from the city, I love going out for a lazy brunch, walking around and checking out all the interesting stores, really making a day of it. I know I’ll be busy as a chemical engineer, but if I work hard on Friday night I should be able to go somewhere new every weekend.” Unlike Yang, Caldwell has more of an idea of which house wants to rotate into. “I met a lot of really fun people at frosh camp. We usually hang out in [booty] house, since most of them are living there for rotation. I think I’ll talk to the president of [booty] house today to tell them that’s where I want to rotate into!” We noted Caldwell’s varsity field hockey jacket, and when asked how she felt about going to a school known for not being the most athletically strong, her response was refreshingly lighthearted. “After being very competitive in high school sports, I’m looking forward to not having as much pressure on me. It would be really fun to be a team that breaks a historic losing streak—that’s something you wouldn’t have the opportunity to do at many other schools!”

The Iterated Manifold is a weekly column by Timothy Sinclair, who once simultaneously chewed 27 pieces of double-bubble gum.

The California Tech
Caltech 40-58
Pasadena, CA 91125