The clash over UASH

Student rep appointments divide ASCIT, IHC

By Dan Thai
CONTRIBUTING REPORTER

They’ve had another dispute. The issue over who should appoint student representatives to the Undergraduate Academic Standards and Honors (UASH) committee was tabled last week when the two opposing bodies couldn’t settle their differences in time for committee signups. ASCIT President Caleb Ng thinks that UASH, as an academic committee, fits more under ARC than IHC, which primarily deals with student housing.

“UASH is an academic focused committee, as is ARC, and so it seems logical to have the student representatives on UASH be appointed by ARC,” said Ng.

The issue came to a head when Willy Toyz, ARC Chair, attended the IHC meeting on April 24. There, she asked that UASH be put under ARC jurisdiction.

According to the IHC minutes, the IHC responded negatively. “We’d relinquish this committee if we thought the student body trusted the ARC for this over the IHC.”

Chris Watson, current IHC chair, added to this reasoning. “In the individual Houses, the President is as much a figure of authority as you get from your peers. … The election of an ARC-rep, at least in my experience, is not something that is as carefully considered as the president…. The IHC is much more likely to know the people [voted in] in advance than the ARC would.”

Ng, however, doesn’t feel that it matters who conducts the interviews. “Because the process of appointing student representatives is interview based, the students selected would probably be quite similar, regardless of which body is doing the interviewing.”

The two parties left with differing opinions of what will happen with the issue. “My understanding is that the IHC had said that it would be worth considering for future years, but that time constraints prevented the change for this year,” said Ng.

However, Watson believes that no further discussion of the matter is necessary. “It was an argument resolved in keeping with the status quo. I feel it is unnecessary to have the discussion of the matter necessary.”

But following the status quo isn’t so straightforward when ASCIT resolutions and Faculty Board bylaws are contradictory and outdated. Faculty Board bylaws recognize ASCIT as the only student-nominated authority, but ASCIT resolution XX delegates six committees to the IHC.

Even then, the IHC nominates seven committees currently, which is part of a...
Opinion

By Evens Boney
CONTRIBUTING WRITER

I went to see a screening of the documentary “Occupation 101” in Ramo Auditorium last week, and was surprised to find the high tensions on both sides of the Israeli-Palestinian conflict, but by the facts left completely unaddressed by our daily media. The movie was an interesting account of the Israeli occupation of Palestine. Indeed, I was baffled at first (I had never heard it termed an occupation), but the facts behind the movie are compelling.

On our televisions and in our newspapers, our hands-on experience, the bad guys in the Israeli-Palestinian conflict are solely Palestinian suicide bombers. Such bombings are definitely horrible and beyond words, but I was surprised to find that it is not Palestine, but Israel that has been the subject of nearly 40 UN resolutions concerning their actions in the many years of this conflict. Let ASCIT spread its wings for once.

The movie primarily discussed the Israeli-Palestinian conflict and was struck not only by the absence of information that I think is firmly rooted in the existence of the State of Israel, but also by the claim that the occupation is an Israeli-Palestinian conflict.

Let ASCIT spread its wings for once.

In my footsteps.

The next month will be my last here at Caltech, so I’m going to lay out my personal plan for the_facebook_page_of the student body while the next few years. I’ll cover ASCIT. Next, I’ll cover ASCIT Research in ASCIT, an active group can abridge all submissions for any reason. All submissions to:

Letters to
the Editor

By By Will Tsay
ARC CHAIR

In response to Craig Monturo’s article last week on hearing back and oversight from the student representatives on the student board, I am writing to you, so can best serve and represent the students who elected us.

The possibilities are great, and though the other options are easy, they are disappointing. I ask you to dream a little, though even if you don’t, I’m confident that someone else has taken your place.

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This week

Monday, May 5:
- Semana Latina Event: Salsa Performance, 12 PM-1 PM, Winnett quad
- Angelo Salazar and salsa band Latin Sol will kick off Caltech’s 15th annual Semana Latina, organized by Caltech’s Latino student organizations.
- International Week Film Screening: Marwa, 8:00-9:15 PM, Beckman Institute auditorium
- ASCIT and IHC meet to discuss the future of ASCIT Friday night dinners, 10:30 PM, Coffeehouse

Tuesday, May 6:
- Semana Latina Event: Mariachi Diva, All-Female Mariachi Band, 12-1 PM, Winnett quad
- Chen-Huang Sustainable Energy Lecture, 8-10 PM, Beckman Auditorium

Wednesday, May 7:
- Semana Latina Event: Peruvian Music and Dance Performance, 12-1 PM, Winnett quad
- International Week Film Screening and Lunch: Korean Treasures
- A Virtual Museum, 12-1 PM, second floor of Center for Student Services

Thursday, May 8:
- International Week Event: “Nigeria—At the Trigger of Africa”, 12-1 PM, Caltech Y lounge
- Caltech sophomore Akin Omigbodun, Nigeria native, will speak.
- Lunch provided and reservations requested.
- Semana Latina Event: Gustavo Arellano, author of Ask a Mexican!, 5-6 PM, Winnett Lounge
- San Gabriel Valley Linux Users Group Monthly Meeting, 7-9 PM, Downs 107
- Presenting the BarracudaDrive, a secure Web application server for Linksys NSLU2
- Picturing Slavery Film Series: The Last Supper, 7:30-9:00 PM, Downs 107

Friday, May 9:
- Semana Latina Event: Brazilian Samba Music and Dancers, 12-1 PM, Winnett quad
- International Food Fair and Culture Show, 4:30-7:00 PM, Avery Courtyard
- Food served from 4:30-6:00 PM costs $3. Free Culture show follows.
- Fourth Annual Voice Recital, 7-8 PM, Dabney Lounge
- Winners of Caltech Opera Club’s most recent competition perform.
- Bandorama Concert, 8-10 PM, Ramo Auditorium
- Free reception follows. No tickets or reservations required.

Saturday, May 10:
- Bandorama Concert, 8-10 PM, Ramo Auditorium
- Free reception follows. No tickets or reservations required.
- Lloyd Interhouse: 9 PM, Lloyd Courtyard

Sunday, May 11:
- Caltech Student Chamber Ensembles: Mother’s Day Concert, 3:30-5:30 PM, Dabney Lounge
- Free reception follows. No tickets or reservations required.

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KELROF 2008

Kellogg’s Eighth Light Regiment of Foot announces the 32nd annual KELROF 24-hour relay. The relay will be held on the Caltech track from 8am Saturday May 10 to 8am May 11. Teams of ten members from the Caltech community are welcome to come and run one mile at a time for an entire day of athleticism and camaraderie. No cost to register. Food will be provided. Contact Mark Eichenlaub eichenla@alumni.caltech.edu for more details or to register a team.

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Picnic Meeting in the Red Door Tonight;
Student Faculty lunches will have fewer requirements.

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes
April 30, 2008

Officers Present: Caleb Ng, Zachary Higbee, Joel Nikolaus, Angela Zab, Christopher Watson, Ekta Bhojwani, Matt Czubakowski, Michelle Jiang

Officers Absent: Tzong-Lian ‘Will’ Tsay

Guests: Mark Eichenlaub, John Hasier, Max Jones, Catherine Jurca, Daniel Lo, Ben McMullen, Sarah Marzen, Noah Tanabe, The entire IHC

Call to order: 12:04 +10 minutes

President’s Report:
- Thank you to those helping on the moving, and congratulations to Ekta, Social Team, and Ellen on a successful ASCIT Friday Night event. Please try your Type Indicators

Funding:
- KELROF, a 24 hour run, requests $1050. $550 is for T-shirts and $500 is for other expenses. It has already received significant funding from other sources. Propose to approve funding in full. VOTE: Approved (6-0-0)
- Dabney and Ruddock each request $100 multihouse funding each for a volleyball event/barbecue. Propose to approve funding in full. VOTE: Approved (6-0-0)
- Semana Latina (May 5-9) requests $500. There will be daily activities at noon including a Salsa band, Peruvian dancing, and Brazilian dancing. Propose to approve funding in full. VOTE: Approved (6-0-0)

Social:
- Board considers possible dates for a follow up to the ASCIT Friday picnic on areMay 23, May 30, or June 6, but the IHC requests that such a dinner be first be discussed with representatives from the IHC, Food committee, and House waiters. The meeting will be held on Monday, May 5, in the Coffeehouse at 10:30.
- Team Tech wants to collaborate with ASCIT on an event, possibly a sports barbecue. Its MHF funding will run out at the end of this academic year, so they might also need to request funding. Board The board suggests they become a club.

Take a Professor to Lunch:
- Cathy, who supplements ASCIT’s funding for the program, would want to minimize like to minimize the the requirements so students take advantage of the opportunity. She will draft a new form and finalize the details with Angela.

Club Funding:
- The club funding meeting will take place on Sunday, May 11 (1:00-4:30). The appropriate forms will be posted on donut.

Meeting adjourned: 12:35+10 minutes

Submitted by Joel Nikolaus, ASCIT Secretary.

Please let me know if you have any questions or comments about the minutes (or meetings). You can email me at joel@caltech.edu or stop by the coffeehouse Monday evenings (10:30 – 11:30 pm) where Caleb Ng will also be hanging out.
Introduction: Ever hear of a cupcakery? Neither did we, until we came across Dots Cupcakes, located on A耙royo Parkway between Del Mar and California Boulevards.

Goal: To indulge in a decadent variety of cupcakes.

Stockroom Options: Each day, Dots has a dozen different cupcake flavors, with the exact selection changing every two days. Depending on when you drop by, you can try anything from Chocolate Lovers’ to Piña Colada. The daily selection can be viewed in their honeycomb display. Get there early to have the best selection!

Materials and Cost: There are two different sizes for a Dots cupcake, regular ($2.75) and mini ($1.25). To indulge in a decadent variety of cupcakes.

Ranking:
1. Pumpkin Pie: Even though it’s not in season now, this cupcake tasted like it was right from the patch! It was sweet, but not too heavy. All the essential pumpkin pie spices were in the cupcake and on the frosting.
2. Chocolate Mint: The light, not-too-sweet chocolate cupcake base served as a complement to the sweet, fresh mint frosting. The frosting was dotted with small malted chocolate balls, adding another layer of texture.
3. Vanilla Chocolate: The vanilla cupcake almost tasted like a muffin, since it was buttery and dense. The chocolate frosting made up for this in being very rich and creamy.
4. Hostess: As with the other cupcakes, the base was not overly sweet, though the frosting was pleasantly so. Like its namesake, there was a cream filling, though it tasted bland.
5. Vanilla2: As with the previous cupcake, the cupcake itself was relatively plain, though the frosting was really sweet. Definitely do not get this in the regular size, since the sweetness can be overpowering.
6. Strawberry Shortcake: The strawberry jelly filling was an interesting surprise. However, the cupcake itself tasted very artificial, and was not very enjoyable to eat.

Atmosphere: Dots is definitely designed for take-out. Dots Cupcakes is a small hole-in-the-wall establishment. One step inside, and the smell of cupcakes will overwhelm your senses. There are a lot of windows, making the store feel open and airy. Everything is very bright and colorful, and each cupcake is beautifully displayed.

Conclusion: It’s not every day that you see a store specializing in a certain confection. When you do, the expectations are very high. Unfortunately, Dots didn’t completely live up to those standards, but it still is a great place to try that cupcake craving creeps up! They are open Monday through Saturday 10 AM – 7 PM, and you can check them out at www.dotscupcakes.com.

Grade: B

Peanut Butter Planet: Only for Connoisseurs

by natalya kostandova

It’s peanut butter jelly time! In a May 2 article published in Science, researchers refine a traditional view of structure of Earth to one that is apparently more scientifically correct and, undoubtedly, more delicious. The researchers now believe that some of the components constituting our pretty little oblate spheroid are somewhat squishy and resemble nothing other than good old peanut butter.

After an initial and natural impulse to conclude that scientists are on crack, I decided that this view is actually more pleasant and exciting, although potentially dangerous, than the traditional view of Earth with its mantle, core, and all of that. After all, peanut butter is delicious, nutritious, and very much resembles a bumpy ocean of heavenly goodness. Not to mention the happiness with which we, humanoids, could adapt one of the exciting peanut butter songs as our anthem (even with my short attention span I was able to find five such songs in a course of a 40 second search).

The peanut butter comparison comes from a discovery of two dense piles, each hundreds of kilometers thick, one positioned under the Pacific and another below Africa and the Atlantic. The two blobs consist of a solid rock that, under specific conditions, becomes soft like peanut butter.

In addition to this delectable chunk of our planet, scientists also discovered that the mantle is more variable than believed. Lacking a better comparison, or possibly just very hungry, researchers describe the mantle as a pot of boiling water with a jar of honey dumped into it (jar itself not included). The honey equivalent in our planet’s mantle has a behavior that differs from that of the bubbly water equivalent, and accounts for a more complicated system than assumed before.

This peanut butter-honey portrayal certainly makes the Earth more appealing and lovable. Although there probably are not too many things that can benefit from its scrumptiousness, unless there is a giant planet-eating beast shaped like an overgrown, mutated, radiation-infused hamster. Which is possible, of course, although undesirable, seeing as an existence of such a creature would give a rise to a possibility that the human kind as well as all other inhabitants of the Earth will come to an unexpectedly short and gruesome end in the tummy of the creature.

Moral:
Scientists are crazy
Scientists are hungry
Research on an empty stomach = disaster
Peanut butter is delicious
Honey floating in a pot of boiling water is a bit weird
If one gets hungry, Earth has a solution
Overgrown, mutated, radiation-infused hamsters are creepy. And possibly deadly.
Earth is delicious. Nym nym nym.
Treating Africa's Biggest Diseases

SYMPOSIUM TARGETED AIDS, MALARIA RESEARCH

by weyey yu

R

esearchers, primary care workers, educators, and stu

dents came together on Sat

urday to share their experiences fighting disease. The Geanco Foundation Symposium on Afri

can Health, held in Ramo audi

torium, brought together experts from diverse fields, all fighting for a common cause—ridding the world of deadly disease.

The symposium was organized by two Caltech graduate students, Kenneth Yu and Chess Stetson, and Afam Onyema of the GEAN

CO Foundation, a non-profit hu

manitarian organization. A little over one hundred people attended the symposium.

"I think it’s a great turnout," said Stetson. "We’re also planning to use the internet to broadcast this program to a huge audience. Hopefully, we can really make difference by educating people." According to the program’s website, the full broadcast will be available this Tuesday.

A Huntington Hospital physi

cian spoke about a program she spearheaded seven years ago that brings doctors from the US to Tanzania to teach future health

care workers in Africa, as well as bringing aid to HIV patients. Dr. Kimberly Shriner, founder and director of the Phil Simon AIDS

Clinic, remembered some of her African patients during her talk.

"I think we’ve learned much more from the people in Africa than we’ve taught them," said Shriner. "They have this amazing fortitude and spirit. They’ve taught us about humanity. It’s about working together as a global commu

nity."

The battle against AIDS is not just one fought in the biology laboratory. Researchers are using computer programs to raise AIDS awareness in an attempt to over

come its social stigma in many developing countries. Speaker Piya Sorcar, a graduate student at Stanford, helped develop a computer application that uses animated avatars to deliver information about AIDS that learners might find difficult to talk about with others.

"We wanted to maximize both comfort and efficacy through our application," said Sorcar. "By learning from anonymous animat

ed characters, students feel more comfortable with the subject."

Sorcar’s program is available for free online and is being studied for use in India and Africa.

A Caltech Professor Bruce Hay spoke about his innovative approach to eradication of malaria. By genetically modifying mos

quitoes, Professor Hay’s lab be

lieves that the spread of malaria can be halted.

"Basically, malaria is a huge pain in the ass. So we want to solve this problem."

A CONVERSATION WITH PROFESSOR DAVID BALTIMORE

Q: Dr. Baltimore, how did you get started in this field and why did you choose to work on AIDS?

A: I really didn’t choose AIDS. It chose me. And what I mean by that is that I wasn’t initially focused on the disease. In 1970, we discovered the reverse transcriptase. The reverse transcriptase, at the time, had only been found in benign viruses or cancer in

cucing viruses.

But then in 1979, the first cases of a strange immunodeficiency disease appeared, and by the early 80’s HIV was being diagnosed largely by assays for reverse transcriptase.

Having won the Nobel Prize by that time for discovery of reverse transcriptase, I became heavily involved in AIDS research.

Q: Besides your research, how else did you become active in the fight against AIDS?

A: Well, in 1985, I co-chaired the Commit

tee on National Strategy for AIDS. The re

port we issued in 1986 made numerous recom

mendations for how this nation should begin to confront AIDS both through research and public policy.

One recommendation we made that I still think is important is that virologists have to get involved in this effort. At the time, many of the best viro

ologists were saying, “AIDS isn’t my area.” And there are a lot of reasons they were saying that, some of the societal.

Actually, that’s when I said to myself, I have to get involved. And that’s what I did.

Q: You mentioned scientists have a lot to contribute to the fight against this disease. Do you think that scientists have a moral obliga

tion to use their knowledge to improve the hu

man condition?

A: Absolutely. I think we do have that obliga

tion. I think it’s a shame that some of the very best virologists didn’t jump on the chance to fight AIDS, initially. It really is our responsibil

ity to tackle these human problems.
larger problem with outdated resolutions according to Ng. As it is, Resolution XX states that nominations for the extra committee be delegated to ASCIT, rather than the IHC. However, Watson disagreed that the resolutions were necessarily outdated.

The IHC’s resolutions and definition are also out of date, frequently referring to seven houses. For example, they are missing resolution VI, which establishes the undergraduate committee supervisor, and makes numerous references to the seven houses. The IHC itself is a body created by ASCIT in Resolution V, and according to IHC minutes, is also funded by ASCIT.

According to Craig Montuori, former IHC Chair, the last time the IHC and ASCIT disputed a major nomination was in 2003, when the “active” Ted Jou was ASCIT president; Montuori says there’s no question that the current ASCIT is proactive.

This year, ASCIT has instituted Honor keys and provided an ASCIT Picnic, neither of which occurred last year. In Caleb’s candidacy statement, he wrote, “[…] critical to government’s role is a proactive approach.” ASCIT is also looking into an undergraduate Bioengineering option and pushing for the creation of a campus center. “I think it’s important to note that ASCIT is doing things to try and improve the school, and it’s a shame that certain members of the IHC would rather tear that down than try and make them done well,” said Montuori.
Senior almost qualifies for nationals

Senior Rene Davis fell 115 points short of qualifying for the NCAA Division III nation heptathlon competition at the CMS class multi-event meet last weekend.

Davis scored 3,985 points over the weekend and needed 4,100 to qualify.

“I was really, really close the last time, it was a matter of me not doing well on the long jump,” she said. “I know I can do it. I just get better every time I [compete].”

However, she hasn’t given up hope of becoming the first Caltech heptathlete to qualify for nationals.

Two qualifying meets still remain in Riverfalls, WI on May 11-12 and Pella, IA May 13-14.

However, funding issues may prevent Davis from travelling to a qualifying meet, she said. There may not be enough money in the budget for Davis to pursue her national competition dreams.

At the same event, junior Zach Higbee vaulted ahead of several other Caltech athletes to take the no. 2 spot on the all-time decathlon list.

Davis set personal bests in the 200m run (27.22s) and 800m run (2:31), and moved into second and fourth places on the school all-time lists, respectively. Higbee leapt into the vaulted halls of athletic greatness with his sprinting and jumping events. A pole-vaulter by specialty, he improved his personal best to 13’ 1.5” and moved into seventh on the Caltech list.

Last inning ground out ends baseball comeback

With its first NCAA victory of the season in sight, the Beavers suffered a disappointing 8-7 loss to La Sierra on April 27.

Senior Manuel Godoy grounded out with two outs to end the Beaver’s hopes. Caltech had rallied with two runs to pull within one, but stranded two runners on base.

Seeking revenge for their 23-3 loss on Feb. 15, Caltech’s NCAA home opener, the Beavers improved significantly from their previous outing. However, the Golden Eagles used a four-run seventh inning to put the game out of reach.

Following three straight losses to Occidental, Caltech closed this season with a winless 0-27 record, including 0-21 in SCIAC.

It’s Your Move

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The Weekly Scoreboard

**May 2**
- Baseball vs. Occidental: L 20-6
- Women’s Frisbee vs. CMS: W 11-9

**May 3**
- Baseball @ Occidental: L 21-2, L 11-0

First year graduate student Imogen Pryce plays defense against her Claremont opponent during Caltech’s 11-9 win on Friday.
Comics

Comics: $5
Good Comics: $15
please email all comics to caltechcomics@gmail.com

Crippling Depression by Tim Wan, Mike Yeh, Ben Lee

STARTING WIFI AUTO-CONFIG...
SEARCHING FOR WIFI... FOUND NO OPEN NETWORKS.
FIND SECURE NET GRID "LEHMANN FAMILY."

TRYING COMMON PASSWORDS... FAILED.
CHECKING FOR WEP VULNERABILITIES... UTILITY NOT FOUND.

CONNECTING TO BLUETOOTH PHONE...
CALLING LOCAL SCHOOL...
FOUND LEHMANN CHILDREN.

NOTIFYING FIELD AGENTS.
CHILDREN ACQUIRED.
CALLING LEHMANN PARENTS.
NEGOTIATING FOR WIFI PASSWORD...

A SPOON CROSSED WITH A FORK IS A SPOORK.

OUR LAB HAS SUCCESSFULLY CROSSED A FORK WITH A SPOON.

WITH YOUR FUNDING, WE COULD BREED HYBRIDS IN PROPORTIONS CORRESPONDING TO ANY BINARY FRACTION.

YOU'RE TOYING WITH POWERFUL FORCES HERE.

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The California Teeth
(Callithrugh 418-58)
Pasadena, CA 90111-1234

XKCD by Randall Munroe

XKCD by Randall Munroe