

APACHE!

Sat. Feb 16 at Ricketts

by invitation only...so be nice to the Scurves!!



**ELECTIONS!
THIS TUE.
Vote in Houses
or on-line!**

The California Tech

VOLUME CIII, NUMBER 15

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

FEBRUARY 11, 2002

OUTSIDE WORLD

By William Fong

Man Breaks into Cockpit:

On Thursday, a Uruguayan man broke into the cockpit of a Boeing 767 which took off from Miami and was headed for Buenos Aires. Pablo Moreira made his way to the front of the plane and entered through the first of two doors but was restricted by a bar on the second door that had been installed by United Airlines after the September 11 incidents. Passengers and flight attendants attempted to subdue Moreira, but once he crawled under the bar, one of the co-pilots hit Moreira in the head with the blunt end of a hatchet. Moreira was flown back to Miami after the flight landed in Buenos Aires, and on Friday he made his appearance in a Miami court. Being formally charged with interfering with a flight crew, Moreira could face up to 20 years in prison.

Winter Olympics Start:

The opening ceremonies Friday kicked off the 2002 Winter Olympic Games. With this being the largest sporting event after September 11, security is extremely tight especially with President George W. Bush attending the opening ceremonies. On Friday night, there will be a no-fly zone above Salt Lake City and throughout the Games the skies over the Olympic venues will be patrolled by F-16s. Also, there was a scare on Thursday when a suspicious package was found near a downtown parking garage in Salt Lake City. After evacuating two nearby buildings, the package was detonated but was later determined to be a hoax device.

Israelis Move into West Bank:

On Friday, Israeli military forces tightened the encirclement on the West Bank city of Nablus. This is in continuing response to the Palestinian attack on Wednesday when a man dressed in an Israeli military uniform entered a Jewish gathering with a M-16 rifle and killed three before being shot by Israeli forces. Almost immediately after the attack, Israeli helicopters launched air strikes at supposed terrorist targets. Also, three Palestinians have been arrested in related terrorist activities. While Palestinian leader Yasser Arafat claims he is cracking down on terrorism, random acts of violence continue in the Middle East. On Thursday, Israeli Prime Minister Ariel Sharon came to Washington to meet with President Bush. Sharon said that the violence must stop before the peace process can begin and called for renewed efforts by Arafat to stop terrorism.

Administrators hear, but do not listen

BY IRAM PARVEEN BILAL

After the sit-in demonstration over the Task Force report at the end of last term, it was decided to have town hall meetings in each of undergraduate houses so that direct student input could be obtained. Apparently, it seems the voice of the undergraduate body was being ignored by the administration regarding issues directly relating to student life at Tech.

So far Page, Fleming, Ricketts and Ruddock have had their town hall meetings. Professor Catherine Jurca, an Associate Professor in the Humanities department, who is deeply involved in the Task Force, claimed that they have been well attended, "I would say that there were at least 30 or more students at each house."

David Baltimore, the President of the Institute, made an appearance at the most recent one, which was on the Feb 6 in Ruddock. Students were not too happy with the outcome of that meeting because they claim that Baltimore was uncaring towards their problems. He said that the traditional student dinners, which is probably the sole time in the day when a Techer can afford to let loose by throwing food, showering each other, socializing and so on, were uncivilized. Frosh Nora DeDontney claimed that he referred to student behavior during dinners by saying,

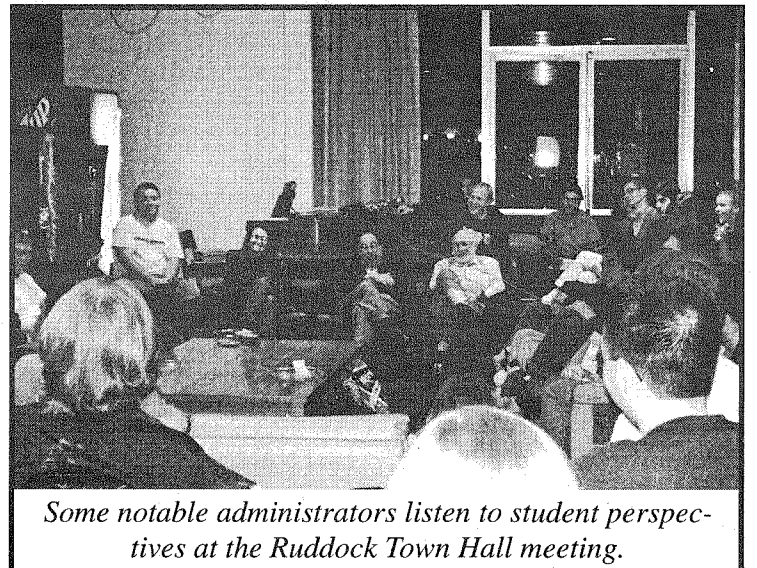
"Decent people raise their children to be better than that!"

She added that it seemed that he cared more about prospective students rather than current students especially when he claimed that current students seemed to scare away pre-frosh because of their general behavior, for instance of that during dinner. She added, "I think that he was being extremely antagonistic towards positive suggestions."

Apart from this, the rest of the meetings have had a positive outcome. The main topics discussed so far have been Rotation, a faculty in-residence program, an off-campus women's-only residence, and the renovation and reconstruction plans of the Seven Houses. Jurca remarked about the renovation plan, "Students seem uniformly enthusiastic about it!"

Rotation, the first of several controversies with which the Student Housing Committee is dealing, seems to be vigorously defended by most students. Even though they feel that it has its pitfalls in that it is "not pleasant" or "fun," many feel that it is probably the best way to place freshmen in the Houses. This was reflected strongly in the IHC survey. Roughly 63% of the people who filled out the survey expressed that they were satisfied with the way Rotation is carried out.

However, to make it more com-



fortable for both incoming frosh and upperclassmen and to reduce the feeling of being judged, the pressure of having to sell oneself to a particular house and the issues of bias and secrecy, the Student Housing Committee is encouraging students to figure out exactly the elements that might be modified in the current procedure. Jurca commented on this, "The committee would be delighted to receive and pass on such a proposal. The Student Housing Committee will almost certainly not be coming up with a single recommendation regarding Rotation; we hope to generate 3-4 scenarios, which will be circulated among students for their further input and passed on to Student Affairs."

Prof. Jurca thinks that the town hall meetings have been very effective in generating ideas; for instance, she mentioned that a student suggested that the proposals from the committee should not only be reviewed by the students but also voted upon, so that the administration has a clear sense of exactly what the students want. "That's an excellent idea. I should also add that I would like to hear a bit more from students in terms of concrete suggestions for how the aspects of Rotation that are deemed to be the most unpleasant might be productively modified," she added. Contact the Task Force if you have any suggestions so that they can come up with the best result for both the students and the administration.

Jou, Mittal win election

Last Tuesday there was a campus-wide election for ASCIT President and for the BoC chair, who serves as the Vice-President for ASCIT. The candidates for president were Ted Jou and Laura Elliott. Vikram Mittal ran unopposed for BoC chair. Ted won the election for president, and Vikram defeated "NO" for the position as BoC chair. Because Vikram is currently in the Cambridge study program, Katharina Kohler will remain BoC chair until the beginning of third term, when Vikram returns. Ted will assume his position as president at the customary time. Because of an Excomm ruling, ballot boxes were put out not only in the seven houses, but also in Avery dining hall, at the entrance to 150 S. Chester, and in the lounge of Marks house. Online voting was also available. 257 people cast ballots online, and 111 with paper ballots. Vikram received 221 votes for BoC chair, out of a total 368 ballots (including absentions). Thus he easily received more than the required 50% of votes. The race for president was closer; at the start, Ted received 158 votes, Laura 125, and NO 44 votes, with four write-ins and 37 absentions (331 votes cast). Thus neither Ted nor Laura achieved an absolute majority. After the votes for "NO" and write-ins were redistributed, Ted had 166 votes and Laura 132; thus Ted won with 55.7% of the vote. There will be another election this coming Tuesday, February 12 for other offices.

-- Isaac See
ASCIT election chair

THE BALLOT

ASCIT Secretary:

Joe Jewell
Sam Yeager

ASCIT Treasurer:

Iram Parveen Bilal
Janet Zhou

ARC Chair:

Craig Countryman
Abe Fetterman
Basit Khan
Larry Stewart
Lisa Wang

Interhouse Committee:

Marcus Williams

ASCIT UD@L:

Neda Afsarmanesh

ASCIT FD@L:

Alice Lin
Andrea Vasconcellos

Soc Director:

Jialan Wang

BoC Secretary:

Will Findley
Liz Stameshkin

Tech Editors:

Tammy Ma &
Kevin Bartz

CRC:

Elise Kleeman
Jessie Kneeland

Election Statements

Secretary

Joe Jewell

Now is an especially critical time for the Caltech undergraduate community. Our ASCIT representation should be strong, effective, and fully committed to efforts to protect what makes Caltech unique. The Secretary's job is all about communicating, and if elected I will play an active role in unequivocally communicating the views of the student body to the administration. Too often in recent months, the concerns of students have gone by the wayside in the administration's decisions (like those on freshman parking, health insurance, and housing issues).

I also see the Secretary's job as an opportunity to improve communication between ASCIT and its members. The Board of Directors should be held accountable to the students it serves, and a more open dialogue is an important part of this.

Throughout my current term on



the BoD as Freshman Director-at-Large, I've felt privileged to serve by taking an active role in defending the quality of Caltech student life. The experience that I have gained in this endeavor has been truly rewarding, and I am excited about the opportunity to renew my commitment to the student body for another year. However, I believe that ASCIT in the coming year should go further and work more closely with students at large, the IHC, faculty members, and the administration to ensure that students really do have a significant voice when the important decisions are made.

Sam Yeager

voting for anyone else is like getting kicked in the nads..

sam

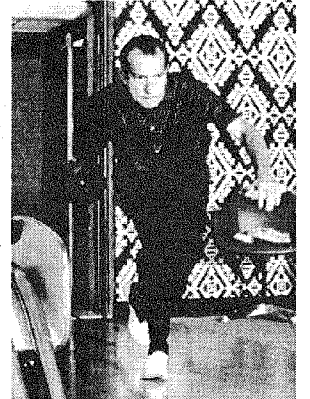


IHC Chair

Marcus Williams

In the past few months, there has been considerable talk focused on the merits and shortcomings of the housing system and the seven houses. There are concerns about the administration intervening in house traditions, that rotation will be scrapped, etc. It is therefore necessary, I feel, that the IHC Chair take an active role in conveying the will of the houses to the administration and trying to ensure that all concerns are addressed while making sure that the houses are able to maintain their uniqueness. As this has been a particularly troubling year for the undergraduates, I will take the most active role possible in representing student concerns to the administration and protect our self-government. I will also work to make rotation a better experience for all concerned, and endeavor to keep the decisions regarding rotation in the hands of the students and not the administration.

I have been on the IHC for the last year, first as Dabney President and then as the acting IHC Chair following the previous chairman's resignation. I know that our system of government isn't perfect, but I also firmly believe that the students we represent, and not the administration, are the best people to try and make the system better.



Tech Editors

Kevin Bartz & Tammy Ma

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Election Statements

CRC Student Co-chair

It has become clear over the past few months that one of the most important issues on campus now is the relationship between undergraduates and other groups on campus, particularly the administration and faculty. The Conduct Review Committee, as a group composed of students, faculty, and staff, has the opportunity to foster cooperation and communication between individuals with various roles on campus. Additionally, the CRC makes decisions regarding Institute policy that can affect the whole community. It is therefore important that the CRC Student Co-chair be a responsible member of the undergraduate community who can effectively repre-



sent the student body. From discussions with various students, it seems to me that there is a good deal of misinformation about what the CRC actually does, and what its role is relative to other possibilities for conflict resolution on campus. As CRC Student Co-chair, I would make publicly available the list of students, faculty, and staff members who are CRC representatives, so that students with questions could ask those directly involved. Additionally, I would try to make more public any CRC decisions that directly impact the interpretation of Institute policies, or potential change

Jessie Kneeland

to Institute policies, to the extent that this can be done without endangering the confidentiality of any students involved. I've been a student representative on the CRC for the past year, so I'm familiar with the procedures and rules governing the committee. I'm active in several activities and committees on campus, which gives me the regular opportunity to interact with a wide variety of undergraduate students. Most importantly, I have a strong desire to encourage positive interaction between students, faculty, and administration, which I feel I would be able to do as the Conduct Review Committee Student Co-chair.

Elise Kleeman



Hi, my name is Elise Kleeman, and I am running for CRC co-chair. I have both the character and the experience necessary to serve as a fair arbitrator of any issues brought before the CRC. The CRC Co-chair needs to have good leadership skills and the ability to work with both other students and faculty members. Being on the CRC for the past year and being a member of numerous committees dealing with student and student-faculty issues has given me the experience I need to do a good job. In doing these things I have shown myself to listen well to all sides of any issues, and also to represent the views of students to the faculty and administration involved. The CRC was created to give students a voice about non-Honor Code related issues, but to do that, there needs to be a strong CRC Co-chair on the Routing Committee to insure that important issues are not decided by the administration alone. I guarantee to be that voice and to represent the students, as well as to be a fair and understanding presence in any case brought before the CRC.



Alice Lin

I might not be the tallest person around but that doesn't mean I don't see everything that happens on campus. I visit all the houses periodically, you might have seen me at lunch sometime. Hopefully, I've met you already but if not, stop by my room sometime. I'll be happy to talk to you and believe me, I talk a lot. In fact, my vocal skills will be the key to being the "voice" of the freshman class. I don't care if you're a basketball player, a basket weaver, a basket case, or just plain looney. If you have an idea to improve campus life, I want to hear from you. Everybody's opinions matter. Remember, size matters not.

FD@L



Andrea Vasconcellos

I have been interested in the position of Freshman Director-at-Large ever since I first learned about ASCIT at frosh camp. It is an exciting opportunity, because it would allow me to be involved in the student government and serve the Caltech community. I am active on campus, and know people with varied interests, including musicians and athletes, and people from different activities, such as CCF and FSL. I feel I can bring enthusiasm to the job and I am prepared to make the time commitment necessary.



Upcoming Events

-SPEAKER (2/13, 7-8:15 PM, Beckman Institute Audit.). Dr. Carlos Velez-Ibanez (UC-Riverside) will speak on issues and culture of Mexico border region and Southwestern US
-CELEBRATION (2/15, 12-1 PM, Outside Red Door). Lunar New Year presentations including Chinese Lion Dance, bamboo vendor, and calligraphy.

Sponsored by APSU.

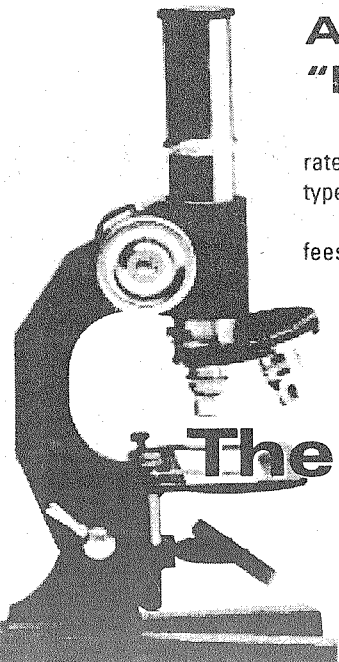
-COMMUNITY SERVICE (2/16, 6-9 PM, Pasadena). Join a small group of Caltech students as they cook and serve dinner to Pasadena homeless at the local Union Station shelter. Contact Niki (niki@its).

-SPEAKER (2/20, 8-9:15 PM, Baxter Lecture Hall). Tim Wise leading social critic and a leader in the anti-racism movement speaks on Racism, Terrorism and Global White Supremacy after 9/11.

UD@L

Neda Afsarmanesh

no words needed!:)



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Election Statements

Treasurer



Iram Parveen Bilal

I will keep this short and straightforward cuz I know that most of you do not have the time to read long, winding statements!

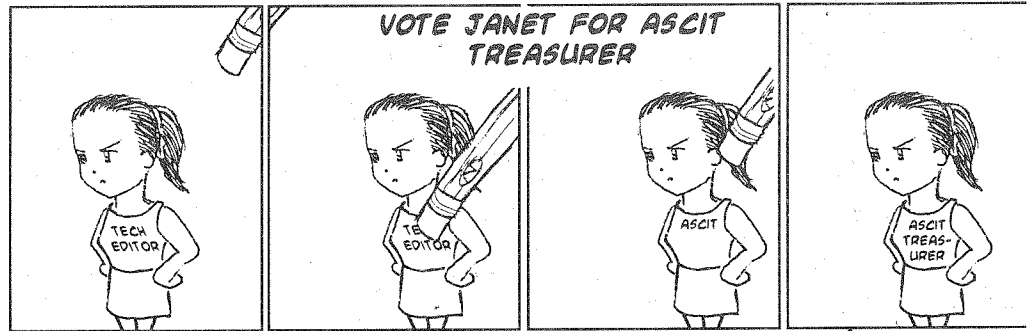
All I want to say is that vote for someone who you believe will do the best job. Having been involved with a lot of student clubs on campus for the past year and a half, and having recently formed my own club, Caltech Public Speaking, I think that I have had a lot of leadership experience specifically at Tech so far, not to mention that I was also involved in a lot

of leadership activities in high school.

Also, from my experience as a weekly writer/reporter for the *California Tech*, I know of the issues involving student life on campus and I want to help resolve them with the administration. In short, I want to serve you all.

Being a treasurer, I think, involves honesty, agility and presence and I believe that, with your support, I will be able to pull all those through.

Those who know me well know that I try my best at whatever I do. You have the power to let me do my best for you, so please vote for me and let me serve you!



Janet Zhou

You know, writing this statement is a lot harder than it looks. You'd think I would have learned something about writing, having edited this newspaper for a year, but maybe, just maybe, words aren't my thing. I believe I work much better with numbers. I am running for Treasurer because I am qualified and genuinely interested in the position, and because I would like to represent you, the student body, on the Board of Directors.

As a member of my Hovse social team for a year, and now as assistant chairman, I've had a lot of experience budgeting events, making payments, and negotiating deals. Additionally, having been on the editorial staff of both the *Tech* and *The Big T*, I am very familiar with ASCIT finances.

As an active member of the Caltech community, I am concerned about the recent controversies on campus and would like to represent you to administration. I am easy to approach and talk to, and am eager to learn and meet the needs of students. I am a responsible, organized, and sensible individual who works well with others and will get along with the rest of the Board.

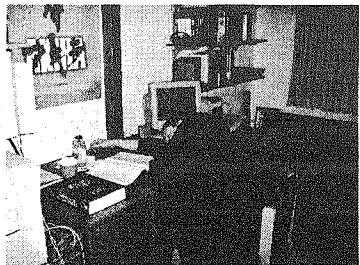
I would appreciate your vote for ASCIT Treasurer and if elected, would do my best to fulfill my duties.

Boc Secretary

Liz Stameshkin



Hi. I'm Liz Stameshkin, and I'm running for BoC Secretary. I'm going to keep this short- I think I'll do a good job. I've got a year of experience as Dabney BoC rep, I served on the ASCIT excomm this past year, and I'm currently on the Honor Code Committee for the Student Faculty Conference. I believe in fairness and making sure every defendant has a right to an unbiased and timely trial. I will also attempt to put together a mock trial so that the student body can see what a super secret BoC case might actually look like. I want to help students- I helped organize the sit-in on the Olive Walk last term to demand our voice be heard. I will do the best I can to help the honor code survive and flourish here. Thanks!



Will Findley

Will Findley for BoC Slave

Contrary to popular belief, BoC Secretary is not the wonderful, all-powerful position that it is made out to be. Aside from aiding in deciding whether or not someone possibly committed an honor system violation during the preliminary investigation, the BoC Secretary, for the most part, is the BoC's personal slave. The Secretary's responsibilities include such glamorous things as making photocopies of evidence, arranging meeting times and places, getting food if the meetings run through meals, taking accurate minutes during the prelims and full meetings, and much, much more. And for all of this effort, the BoC Secretary is rewarded with complaints of a lack of some type of food and the fact that not every single word was transcribed into the minutes. Wow! What a wonderful job!

"Now, Will," you might be saying to yourself. "You've just made baby Jesus cry with this utterly horrific description of BoC Secretary. Why would you possibly want to run for such a wretched station in life? You have served on so many cases in your infinite wisdom. Why would you want to throw away your insightful opinion, and more importantly VOTE, to become eleven people's personal slave?" The first reason is that having served on the BoC as a rep many times, I've always wanted to be involved in the preliminary aspect of the investigation. The second, and maybe more important, reason is quite simple: I would get to pick the food. That is the BoC Secretary's true power, and one that I plan to exploit. Forget that whole prelim decision thing, as most any case brought to a prelim that has any legs to stand on at all will be forwarded to the full board. The real power lies in getting the food...

Sincerely,
William M. Findley

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Election Statements

ARC Chair

Craig Countryman



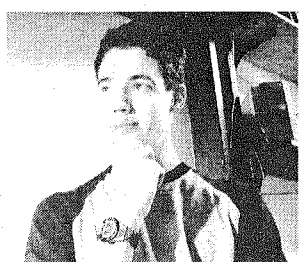
In spite of all the recent tension between the students and administration, I think one thing to remember is Caltech is still the best place there is to study science and do research. One of the major reasons is undergraduate participation in helping shape academic life. Through ombuds meetings and representation on a variety of student committees there is constant feedback to professors about how courses are taught. The faculty at Caltech are very willing to adapt to student concerns and suggestions.

My experience as a student representative on the Financial Aid Committee has shown me how deeply professors at Caltech care about its students. With all the recent debate on raising tuition, professors on the committee have been the main advocates for keeping tuition where it is. As a whole, they are receptive of student involvement, and I would have a good working relationship with them in the capacity of ARC Chair.

I have also been active in the SURF program as the Vice Chair of the SURF Student Advisory Committee for the past year. In addition to organizing the weekly student-faculty dinners over the summer, that role also gave me an opportunity to see how the SURF program is run, and how many decisions are made, such as the change last year to raise the SURF stipend to \$5,000.

I am going to be a representative on the Core Curriculum Committee for the upcoming Student-Faculty Conference. I am looking forward to it because there are several parts of the curriculum that seem to be troublesome for students year after year, like CS 1, Bi 1, or Ch 3a. But these things don't have to be problematic forever. Caltech has made some positive changes to the curriculum recently, like adding Math 7 to the menu option and reorganizing the coverage of topics in Math 1 and 2 to make it more useful. Using the committees we have in place, students can make their views heard. The Academics and Research Committee is a key place students can go to seek change. Through the variety of committees and activities I have participated in, I think I have a lot to offer ARC, and with your vote on Tuesday I would like to be your representative and influence changes that will improve the academic quality of life better for all students.

Abe Fetterman



Today, I am running for ARC Chair. How this happened, I'm not quite sure, but I think it has something to do with a certain Tech editor. So, what do I offer you as ARC chair? Well, I'll tell you. Fun will overflow from classes and quite possibly also your bodily orifices. Insane workloads will decrease and chicanery will quite possibly increase. Traffic will fall off drastically, while weather will probably continue to improve. Actually, I have no clue what the ARC chair really does, but my guess is that it involves some sort of strange ancient ritual where small children are transformed into wandering math zombies. I'm hoping that it also involves some sort of harem and/or scantily clad dancing women, but I suppose you can't have everything. If that Vikram character could win off a "prettier version of 'NO'" platform, I have done some exhaustive research (read as: I went to the coffeehouse and ate some fries) and decided to run on the "Prettier than Vikram's version of 'NO'" platform. If you're like me (and I know I am), you've probably wondered, "Now what is ARC?" It is more of a mystery than an actual organization. Some have proposed that it is reminiscent of the biblical Noah's ark. While I have no significant ark-building experience, my second-hand bathrobe proudly displays the name "Noah" in navy blue stitching on a navy blue fabric. Perhaps, though, ARC is simply an anagram for CAR. Despite the fact that I do not have a California State Driver's License, I once saw someone who did. Most people, however, foolishly ascribe the organization title to an acronym, suggesting various full names from "AIReady Chewed" to "A Russian Commune" to "That Crazy Dean Revel." I don't know which it is, and it is up to you to decide with your vote. The times they are a changin' (I cleverly found that in Bartlett's Familiar Quotations), and it's time to elect Honest Abe Fetterman for whatever this shrouded mystery position I am running for is.

Larry Stewart



I served on the ARC this past year as a rep-at-large. Compared to being put on the committee by my house, I had to take the initiative to apply for the position of rep-at-large. I have a genuine interest and concern for academic issues and resolving the related conflicts at Tech. One of my main commitments will be to create Option Books, so that frosh and other undergrads will have a clear idea of what they need to do for their major.



Basit Khan

The office of chair of the Academics and Research Committee excites me because I think that it would give me the opportunity to make a decidedly positive impact on the student community. Many of my concerns regarding the content of courses and manner in which they are taught are shared by most of you. Several of us have deep misgivings about how we learn the material that constitutes Caltech's formidable Core. Throughout the course of our freshman and sophomore years, we seem to spend more time solving problems and churning out papers rather than learning in the true sense of the term and interacting with our highly accomplished professors. Nonetheless, I think that our education here is in fact excellent preparation for those of us that plan to pursue careers in research; however we must also be cognizant of the fact that not all of us are as well prepared to enter the workforce. If I am given the opportunity to represent the student body on the ARC, I am confident that I can effectively voice your concerns, act a liaison between faculty and us and ultimately contribute towards improving the quality of our learning at Caltech.



Lisa Wang

So now that you're making it through another term at Caltech, you may be wondering if there's ever a point in the drudgery of the Core or why CS majors are forced to take Chem 3a. What you may not know is that we as undergrads actually have a lot of say in the type of education we receive here. When I first joined the ARC Curriculum Committee in Spring 2001, I was surprised to learn that we literally had the power to change the quality and quantity of the coursework that could make our daily lives heaven or hell. As one of 3 undergrad members on this student-faculty Curriculum Committee, I've voted on double-major petitions and independent study proposals, reviewed and approved new courses such as the Ph195 seminar, debated with profs the pros and cons of adding a Bio major requirement, and worked alongside faculty, the Dean, and the Registrar to improve the curriculum for us undergrads. The most memorable incident for me while working for ARC was a series of meetings devoted to discussing a particular proposal for independent studies. The student had spent several years here and completed extensive coursework, but later upon discovering his passion for interdisciplinary, social sciences-bent studies, pursued coursework in that field at another university. Now the student returns to Tech and drafts an elaborate proposal for the Independent Studies Program, only to have his proposal met with instant hostility from the Curriculum Committee. While many faculty members on our Committee quickly suggested rejection of the proposal and some even added that the student should be simply advised to transfer, I argued that it's only fair to give him "another look," and at the very least, to grant him an opportunity to present his case in person to our Committee. This was finally accepted after much deliberation; the student petition was spared from blunt rejection, the student was probably rescued from having to leave Tech once and for all. Since then we've held follow-up meetings with the student where his proposal was examined much more closely and given fair consideration. As your ARC Chair next year, I will stand up and fight for you the same way I handled my duties this year as ARC member. Among the many items on my agenda is one for initiating a 5-year combined B.S.-M.S. program, which is particularly attractive to engineering majors. Why doesn't Caltech offer 5-year combined B.S.-M.S. programs when our undergrads complete so many grad-level courses and when schools like MIT and Stanford offer these great opportunities? Another issue I will tackle is the quality of undergraduate teaching. We came to Caltech in part b/c of its small size and 3:1 faculty-to-student ratio. However, as frosh quickly realize in their first few days here, core courses are huge. While this problem isn't realistically solvable given our undergrad system, we can improve the quality of teaching by encouraging faculty with a known track record of superb teaching (e.g. winners of the ASCIT Teaching Awards) to teach the core courses, and by having professors lead recitation sections, as is the case for Ph1. The ARC should also encourage profs to seek creative methods of teaching and reward those who do; for example, the Ph195 seminar alternative to the traditional Ph125 large-lecture series was initiated single-handedly by Prof. Mabuchi, a prof who obviously went out of his way to improve the undergraduate quantum mechanics curriculum for aspiring physicists. As ARC Chair next year, I also hope to help make available the option of undergraduate minors, consider the option of replacing the Chem3a core lab req't with other lab alternatives, and promote greater student-faculty interaction. Remember, Caltech is hard for us all, but you CAN take charge of your education by voicing your opinions and choosing the right leader. I'm counting on your vote tomorrow for ASCIT ARC Chair!

Social Director

Jialan Wang



You might imagine planning social events at Caltech to be most thankless of all tasks, but I am a willing, capable, enthusiastic – and did I mention willing? – candidate for the job. I have planned many social events around campus, with experience ranging from serving on SURFSAC to helping last year's social director Ted Jou with ASCIT events as part of the Executive Social Committee. I will make sure that Prefrosh Weekend is extra-fun for upperclassmen, that there are good hor d'oeuvres at the ASCIT formal, and in general, that future social events aren't lame. So say "yes" to social events that aren't lame, and say "no" to "No."

Comics

DILBERT® by Scott Adams

Foxtrot by Bill Amend

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YOUR SOFTWARE IS WORN OUT. YOU MUST BE TYPING TOO HARD.

SWITCH TO DECAF. PAINT YOUR WALLS PINK AND STOP GOING TO THE GYM.

I'VE NEVER HEARD OF HOLISTIC TECH SUPPORT.
MAYBE YOU SHOULD READ MORE.

HELLO, THIS IS DOGBERT'S ALL-NATURAL AND HOLISTIC TECH SUPPORT.

TRY STUFFING TREE BARK IN THE CD DRIVE AND MEDITATING.

NO, OF COURSE IT WON'T DAMAGE ANYTHING. IT'S ALL NATURAL!

WHAT CAN I DO TO AVOID GETTING COMPUTER VIRUSES?

GIVE YOUR POWER CORD A SPINAL ADJUSTMENT ONCE A WEEK TO PREVENT DISEASE.

I WAS SKEPTICAL UNTIL HE SAID THERE'S ANECDOTAL EVIDENCE THAT IT WORKS!

I WORKED ALL WEEKEND TO GET THE BUGS OUT OF THE DATABASE.

BUT NOW THE DATA MAKE US LOOK BAD. PUT BACK THE BUGS.

CAN YOU TEACH ME TO BE APATHETIC LIKE YOU?
ONLY IF YOU HAVE A STRONG DESIRE NOT TO LEARN.

I JUST HAD A GOOD MEETING.

MAYBE IT JUST DIDN'T LAST LONG ENOUGH TO REVEAL THE INCOMPETENCE OF THE ATTENDEES.

THAT'S WHAT I CALL A GOOD MEETING.
I'M HAVING A BAD MEETING.

EVIL H.R. DIRECTOR
THE BAD NEWS IS THAT I HAD TO GET RID OF OUR MARKETING DEPARTMENT.

THE GOOD NEWS IS THAT WE HAVE TONS OF NONDAIRY CREAMER!

DO YOU THINK THOSE TWO THINGS ARE RELATED?
IF THEY ARE, I'M CUTTING BACK TO FIVE CUPS A DAY.

I HAVE NO IDEA HOW TO WRITE THIS "MACBETH" ESSAY.

I GUESS I'LL JUST BUG MYSELF WITH THESE CHOCOLATE CHIP COOKIES, THEN.
BUG ME! BUG ME!

KNOCK KNOCK. I HEAR YOU HAVE A LOT OF HOMEWORK TONIGHT.
YES. SO GO AWAY.

I HAVE A FIVE-PAGE ESSAY DUE IN 14 HOURS AND I'M STILL ON THE OPENING PARAGRAPH. THE LAST THING I NEED RIGHT NOW IS MY MOTHER COMING IN TO BUG ME.

WHAT ARE YOU DOING?
RIPPING PHONE BOOKS IN HALF.

IT'S A TRADITIONAL DEMONSTRATION OF ONE'S MANLY MIGHT.

HOO YEAH! WHO'S YOUR DADDY?!

NO ONE CHICKPEA SAID THEY HAD JUNCTION. TO BE THICK. POPULATION: 40.

I DON'T GET IT. YOU BACKFLIP SO WELL WITH YOUR VIDEO GAME SNOWBOARD.
I THINK I'LL JUST LIE HERE A WHILE TO KEEP THE SWELLING DOWN.

Dear Miss O'Malley,
Please excuse my son's runny nose, sore throat and fever, and allow him to remain in school today.

Sincerely,
Mrs. Fox

JASON, WILL YOU STOP FORGING NOTES AND GO HOME?!

CAN'T I (COUGH) AT LEAST TAKE (SNIFF) THE MATH TEST?

I'M THINKING I SHOULD STOP PLAYING CHESS AGAINST YOU.
OH?

IT'S JUST NO FUN! YOU BEAT ME EVERY TIME! WE NEED TO PLAY A GAME THAT I CAN WIN ON OCCASION!

HA HA - LIKE WHAT? CHUTES AND LADDERS? YAHTZEE JUNIOR? ROCK, PAPER, SCISSORS?

ACTUALLY, ROCK, SCISSORS, COMPUTER COULD BE FUN.

OK, THAT YOU MIGHT WIN.

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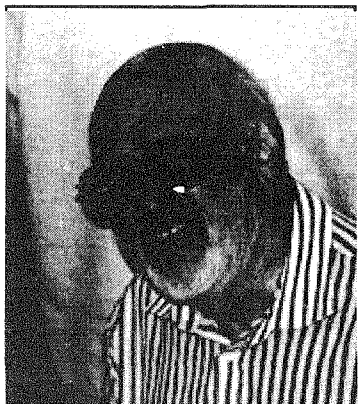
CELEBRATING 50 YEARS OF INNOVATION

Dean's

Dean's Corner

Distrust?

by Jean-Paul Revel



Reading the last few issues of "The Tech" reveals what seems to be more of a distrusting attitude of the students toward "the administration" than I have been aware of in the past. (I write of "students" and "administration" as if they were monolithic, which they are not, but it makes writing easier). How general the malaise is hard to judge accurately, but there are obviously problems that are felt by many.

Now I don't want to enter the debate about the various issues that are being talked about, such as tuition, health insurance, parking, ideas about changes in the student houses. Some of these at least are being considered and aired right now in "town hall meetings" like the one I attended Wednesday evening, and of course that was only the latest forum in a series, with more to come. Instead of discussing specifics, I would instead comment in a general way on trust/distrust in the college environment.

Dissent, when it leads to a discussion of issues is often a healthy way to approach problems. But for progress to be made there must be trust between the parties. Without trust each is essentially left to his own devices and progress is slow if there is any at all. If you don't trust your classmates, there will be no one to do your homework with and no one will gain the advantages to be derived from collaborative efforts. If the profs don't trust the students then much of the foundation on which the Caltech system is built, collapses. Luckily, the students by and large are trusted here. They are trusted to act with the Honor Code in mind, and so can be given take home exams, they are trusted to obey the constraints of liberal collab policies and the confidence allows them to enjoy other perks. I believe that there are student members on all of the Faculty Committees which rule this place. Students find that they can be heard and are listened to (of course they have to speak up). The

extent of the freedom is such that it can lead to misunderstandings. The fact that the students themselves govern the Houses does not mean that anything goes. There are limits that the Institute has a serious interest in seeing preserved.

I guess one of the most important factors in fostering trust or inviting distrust, has to do with whether expectations are being met. For many students going to college is the first step towards independence, their entrance into the world of adults, with all of its attractions and opportunities (at first of course responsibilities that come along are commonly not thought about). The nest feathered by Mom and Dad and everyone else on the home scene (Teacher, Sis or Bro, even Fido) might have been very secure and comfortable, but as the teen years draw to their end, there has been an increasing need of independence and desire to control one's own life. The reaction is often one of "rebellion". Not necessarily in the sense of a specific antagonism towards parental control but as a reaction against external control, as a way to emphasize the young person's independence, a tangible proof that the umbilical cord has been severed.

The expectations brought on by the newly acquired independence do run into some obstacles however. Leaving the parental sphere of influence does not free one from all authority. There are many lines of authority, which control all of us, not only young adults. While no one is constantly looking over student's shoulder in college, that does not mean that no one is concerned about what is going on. The school administration trusts students to use appropriate discretion as they try out their wings. By discretion is meant that laws of the land and the rights of others are respected and care exercised so as not to do oneself irreparable damage. It is surprising how hard such "discretion" is to achieve, because of the novelty of becoming self-determining, the curiosity generated by it all. Besides 18 yr. olds are close to their peak physical shape and so feel pretty nearly invincible.

Under these circumstances any rules interfering with the exercise of one's freedoms will be seen by some as "bad" and the authority from which those rules come will be distrusted. And so the campus police, security, others "in authority" end up on the "distrust" list. But in truth all these people are like the inspectors at a manufacturing plant. The inspector's

job is to do quality control. They have no personal animus against the workers who put together the gizmos they are inspecting. The security guard only makes sure that everyone is safe, sees to it that no one is being hurt or helping those in need. It does not help if the officer has already learned that the students distrust security because they see it as interfering with their freedom to act, and let him know so.

The only way to break this cycle is for all to endeavor to trust, for you student to show your id card, or at least say who you are without tak-

ing offense at anyone having the audacity to query, for you officer to understand college culture and manage to show that you are not the spoilsport you are taken for. I guess one way to achieve that of course is to follow the golden rule to treat others as you'd like to be treated yourself.

A bientot, I trust.

Jean Paul Revel

Jean-Paul Revel
Dean of Students

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By Ben Lee, Tim Wan and Mike Yeh

All characters are fictional. Any resemblance to anybody is purely coincidental. Comics represent the views of the authors and not the tech staff. Contact feedback@cripplingdepression.com

HEY TIM, WHAT'S WITH THE "ROCKY" MUSIC?

IT'S MY THEME SONG TOM ASKED ME TO RUN THE 800 IN INTERHOUSE TRACK!!

AND YOU SAID YES???

I FIGURE TWENTY SECONDS OF PAIN IS WORTH THE FORTUNE AND GLORY

DO YOU HAVE ANY IDEA HOW LONG 800 METERS IS???

WHAT TWO METERS TO AN INCH?

METRIC SYSTEM: 1 TIM: 0

MEN'S 800 METERS IS NEXT!!

HEY I'M TIM, I'M RUNNING THE 800

SO...WHAT ARE THE RULES?

MTF? YOU RUN IN A CIRCLE... IT'S NOT ROCKET SCIENCE...

SO CAN I TACKLE THE GUY AFTER THE SECOND OR FIRST TURN??

OOOOOHAAAY YOU'LL BE RUNNING IN THE FAR LANE...

"HUFF" "PUFF" TWO MORE LAPS... C'MON TIM THINK OF HOW IMPRESSED EILENE WILL BE

"HUFF" YOU CAN MAKE IT "PUFF" TIM...NO PAIN NO GAIN...

AHHHHH... MY KIDNEYS!!!!

"HUFF" THIS SPORT "HACK" NEEDS TIMEOUTS... "PUFF"

TIM, I WANTED TO ASK YOU SOMETHING...

YEAH WELL... THIS IS SORT OF EMBARRASSING...

I WAS WONDERING IF SOMETIME YOU AND I COULD...

...GO FIND A PARAMEDIC

REMEMBER ONLY GOOD THINGS HAPPEN WHEN YOU VOTE NO FOR ASCIT OFFICES!!

DOESN'T THAT SORT OF CONTRADICT THE STRIP WE DID FOR JANET?

WE'RE LIKE THOSE AD COMPANIES FOR BOTH CIGARETTE COMPANIES, AND ANTI-SMOKING ORGANIZATIONS

...SO... WHICH ONE IS JANET???

Mints

Announcements

It's time to SURF! If you're thinking about applying for a Summer Undergraduate Research Fellowship, you should begin now to look for a mentor and ask for letters of recommendation. The SURF application deadline is Monday, March 1. Check out the SURF web site at www.its.caltech.edu/~surf/ to get information on the application process, look at announcements of opportunity from specific faculty members and JPL technical staff members, and download an application. For more information, contact the Student-Faculty Programs office at ext. 2885 or sfp@its.

Feeling STRESSED??? Sign up for the **Stress Management Workshop** offered by the Student Counseling Center. This workshop will include a mixture of informal lecture and experiential exercises focusing on basic relaxation techniques and stress management skills. The workshop will meet on Monday, February 25, 2002 from 3 pm to 5:30 pm in the Health Center Lounge. Space is limited, so please call ext. 8331 to reserve your place in the group. The workshop will be facilitated by Anna Morita, M.A., and Evelyn Novello, M.A.

Attention Writers! The Literature Faculty is pleased to announce the **56th Annual McKinney Competition**. The Mary A. Earl McKinney Prize is awarded each year for excellence in writing. Only full-time students officially registered at Caltech as undergraduates are eligible to enter the competition. This year, prizes will be given in three categories: poetry, prose fiction, and non-fiction essays. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced. Include your address and phone number. In the poetry category, entrants may submit up to three poems. Submissions of prose fiction should not exceed 12,000 words. Essays may be ones prepared for a humanities class or any good piece of original writing on a topic relevant to the humanities. The prize in each category will be \$300. Each student is entitled to only one entry in each category. Contestants should submit their work to Professor Jenijoy La Belle, Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences, 101-40, by no later than March 14, 2002. No entries will be returned. Each category will be judged by a committee from the Literature Faculty. Essays will be judged on the quality of thought and the effectiveness of the writing. Winners will be announced in May, and the names of the winners will appear in the commencement program. The Committee may divide the award in each category in case of more than one outstanding submission. Previous winners in any one category are not eligible for the competition in that category. If you have any questions, contact Prof. La Belle, ext. 3605, or Barbara Estrada, ext. 3609.

The Literature Faculty is also pleased to announce the Annual **Hallett Smith Competition** honoring the finest essay devoted to Shakespeare. Only full-time, officially registered undergraduates are eligible to enter the competition. All submissions must be typed and double-spaced and should not exceed 4,000 words. The essay may be one prepared for a humanities class or may be specifically written for this competition. No student can submit more than one essay. All contestants must submit two hard copies of their work to Professor Jenijoy La Belle, Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences, 101-40, no later than April 16, 2002. This year's prize will be approximately \$300, though the judging committee may divide the award in case of more than one outstanding submission. For more information, contact Prof. La Belle, ext. 3605, or Barbara Estrada, ext. 3609.

Monticello Foundation Internship and Robert and Delpha Noland Summer Internships 2002. The Dean of Students Office is accepting proposals for the Monticello Foundation Internship and the Robert and Delpha Noland Summer Internships. Three to five Caltech undergraduate women will be given an opportunity to participate in research projects outside of the Caltech community for ten weeks during the summer. Each student will receive a \$5,000.00 stipend (same as the SURF stipends). Applicants are required to identify the projects in which they wish to participate. All arrangements with the principal researcher will be the responsibility of the student. There are no restrictions as to where the research can be done, except that it must be outside the Caltech-JPL community. Other universities, commercial labs, or any industrial facility in which the student can arrange to conduct or participate in a research project can be the site for the experience. Each student will be asked to submit a short synopsis of her report to the Deans' Office at the end of the summer. Interested? Identify a sponsor for your experience at a research facility for a ten-week period. In a short essay, describe your project, and submit it to the Deans' Office in Room 102, Parsons-Gates along with two faculty recommendations. We would like to know for whom you would be working, where, and if possible some specifics concerning your proposed research topic. The Deans' Office has sample proposals from past years for your review. Please stop by to review them or to discuss your proposal with one of us before the deadline date. Proposals must be received by Monday, March 4, 2002.

Join the **Ballroom Dance Club** this weekend for a festive Viennese Waltz Night, featuring the Occidental-Caltech Orchestra! Open dancing to waltzes and polkas of the 1840s-1870s. A choreographed piece will be performed by the Occidental Folk and Historic Dance Troupe. Semi-formal attire, black tie optional. Refreshments served. Free! Dabney Lounge, Sat. Feb. 9, 8-11pm. The Ballroom Dance club is offering two new class series over the next five weeks: Nightclub Two-step and CEROC. Nightclub Two-step, danced to slower, romantic songs, will be taught by professional instructor Sonny Watson. Lessons will be on Mondays (11, 18, 25 Feb., 4, 11 March). \$25/series or \$6/lesson for all Caltech students; \$35 (series) / \$8 (lesson) for others. Amateur-taught Ceroc, a fast-paced swing/hustle variant, will be offered on Wednesdays (13, 20, 27 Feb; 6, 13 March); \$1/lesson (free for frosh and those taking it for PE credit). All lessons take place in Winnett Lounge from 7:30-9pm, followed by a half hour practice session. No partner or experience necessary. Refreshments provided. On Mondays after class, we have a free mini-ballroom dance party - open dancing, request or bring your own music.

Student Programming Board. The Caltech Women's Center invites you to be part of the new and exciting changes taking place in our office. Our new staff is interested in working with you to develop programs and services that meet your needs and interests. Get involved now! Take on a leadership role in deciding how the Women's Center addresses the issues you are interested in. Be a part of designing, developing and implementing programs and events focused on women's and gender issues. Undergraduate and graduate students, women and men encouraged to get involved. Contact the Women's Center at ext. 3221 or stop by our office in room 265 of the Center for Student Services.

As a result of **Irvine Foundation** funding, Caltech has a limited amount of money available for diversity programs related to underrepresented minorities and women for academic year 2001-2002. Proposals from students, faculty, and staff are welcome and should clearly address how the program relates to issues of diversity. Proposals should also include a description of the event, including purpose, audience, date, location, and budget. Application forms can be picked up at the Caltech Y. An Institute committee will review the applications and make the awards. For more information, contact Athena Castro (athena@caltech.edu) or Greg Fletcher (gregf@caltech.edu) at ext. 6163.

To submit a Mint, e-mail mints@tech.caltech.edu or mail your announcement to Caltech 40-58 Attn: Mints. Submissions should be no longer than 150 words. Email is preferred. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all material. Deadline is noon Friday. Unless specified, all mints will run for two weeks.

Les-Bi-Gay-Trans Discussion Group

Whether you are out and proud, exploring your sexual identity, coming out, or anywhere in-between, we invite you to our Discussion Group, which meets on the 1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month from 8:15 until 10:15 pm in the Health Center Lounge. The group is a great place to meet new friends and the atmosphere is generally very relaxed; at the same time, more personal and "serious" discussion topics can be addressed. This is a confidential meeting and attendance does not imply anything about a person's sexual orientation; supportive students and staff are welcome as well. And refreshments are served! For more information call ext. 8331. To find out about LBGT events on campus, please visit the Caltech Student Pride Association (CSPA) calendar at <http://rainbow.caltech.edu>.

Are you interested in discussing life at Caltech and in the United States? If so, the **Intercultural Discussion and Support Group** provides a forum for Caltech students to explore the process of cultural adjustment and relating across cultures. The group meets every Monday from 12-1 pm in the Women's Center Lounge, (265-86, 2nd floor of the Center for Student Services). This group is facilitated by the Counseling Center and International Student Programs, and is open to ALL Caltech students, graduate and undergraduate, American and international. Drop-ins welcome. Since lunch is provided, please contact Jim at endrizzi@caltech.edu if you plan on attending one of the meetings, this will guarantee that we have enough food!

Scholarships

For more information on available scholarships, please visit the Financial Aid web site at <http://www.finaid.caltech.edu/news.html>. All qualified students are encouraged to apply!

Upcoming Events

Have you ever wondered what your PI was thinking? Are you considering becoming a faculty member yourself? Do you wonder what your advisor does all day? Here is your chance to find out: "**A Day in the Life of a Caltech Professor**" - an open forum presented by WEST (Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology). Monday, February 11, 7- 8 pm in the Beckman Institute Auditorium. Five Caltech professors at various stages in their careers will talk about how they spend a "normal" day. They will share their thoughts on what it's like to be a faculty member and will be available to answer questions from the audience. All members of the Caltech community are invited to attend! Panelists include: Dennis Dougherty, Chemistry; Jean Ensminger, Anthropology; Jared Leadbetter, Engineering and Applied Science; Hideo Mabuchi, Physics; Erin Schuman, Biology.

Caltech Library System Presents: The following sessions are approximately one hour of formal instruction followed by an optional hands-on practice. All classes begin at noon and meet in the Sherman Fairchild Library Multimedia Conference Room (Room 328). Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is preferred.

Tuesday, February 12, Noon "Web of Science for Science and Engineering"

Tuesday, February 26, Noon "Copyright for Researchers in Academia" presented by Kimberly Douglas, Director of the Sherman Fairchild Library, and Peggy Luh, Office of the General Counsel.

View details and register for these and other upcoming classes at: <http://library.caltech.edu/learning/default.htm>. For further information, please contact Kathleen McGregor at ext. 6713 or kathleen@library.caltech.edu.

WEST (Women in Engineering, Science, and Technology) will be hosting two upcoming Lunch With Faculty events. These events are designed to give female students the opportunity to meet female faculty role models in an informal setting. On Feb. 20, the invited faculty will be Pamela Bjorkman and Judith Cohen. On March 12, the invited faculty will be Fiona Harrison and Mary Kennedy. To RSVP for either lunch, please send an email to westclub@caltech.edu.

Caltech Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences presents its **Seminar on Science, Ethics, and Public Policy**. Dr. Kim Sterelny, Professor of Philosophy at the Victoria University of Wellington Research School of the Social Sciences, Australian National University, and a Visiting Professor of Philosophy, Caltech will speak on "Not Just Another Species of Large Mammal: The Peculiarities of Being Hominid." Room 25, Baxter Building, Thursday, February 7, 2002 4:00 pm. Seminars are on the Caltech campus and are open to the community at no charge. For information, contact Michelle Reinschmidt at (626) 395-3563 or michelle@hss.caltech.edu. For a complete list of SEPP Seminars and Harris Lectures scheduled for this academic year, visit our web site: <http://www.hss.caltech.edu/ses/SEPP.html>

Soprano Hila Plitmann to be featured guest soloist with the Pasadena Symphony in All-Mozart Program on Saturday, February 16, 8 pm, at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium. Single tickets are \$10, \$22, \$24, \$40, \$42, \$52 and \$64 for adults; \$5 for children ages 5 to 17. Student and senior rush seats are \$10 and are available with I.D. the week prior to the concert. Season subscriptions are also available. The Pasadena Civic Auditorium is located at 300 E. Green Street in Pasadena. For tickets and information, please call (626) 584-8833 or visit www.pasadenasympphony.org.

"**Classical Conversations**," a free "behind the scenes" series of events presented by the Pasadena Symphony and Vroman's Bookstore, continues on Friday, February 15, 2002, 4:30 pm. These Friday afternoon programs prior to six concerts throughout the season feature Pasadena Symphony Music Director Jorge Mester and guest artists offering unique perspectives on classical music "Classical Conversations" programs are open to the public, and reservations are not required. For additional information about the events, please call (626) 449-5320. Vroman's is located at 695 East Colorado Boulevard in Pasadena.

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