



New MOSH Jurca Positions Self as 'Social Contact'

By JON FOSTER

Catherine Jurca, associate professor of literature, has been named Caltech's new master of student houses (MOSH). The Tech talked to her at Steele House, her new residence as MOSH.

Many of us felt that last year represented sort of a low point in student-administration relations. What do you see as the MOSH's role in improving this communication and this trust?

Catherine Jurca: As you may know, there was a committee which met to define the MOSH's role. The issue of the tensions on campus between students and administrators came up a lot during this meeting. They decided the MOSH should be a social contact between students and faculty, exactly in order to avoid the kind of communication breakdown which happened before.

When I first heard about the parking issue I thought, "Well, most freshmen [at other schools] aren't allowed to have cars on campus; it forces them to stay on campus and interact." And then I asked the IHC about it, and within five minutes they changed my mind. The students here are very smart and they make persuasive arguments, and I just felt that if the proposal had been announced and there had been stu-

dent input, we would have come to some sort of compromise, rather than having that kind of battle back and forth. So I think one aspect of the MOSH position is the person the administration can come to in order to tell students what they are thinking and a person students can go through to get concerns represented to the administration.

I think this is especially important now that the VP of Student Affairs is a professional. I will be essentially the only Student Affairs leaders who will be a faculty member and who will also deal with quality of life issues...

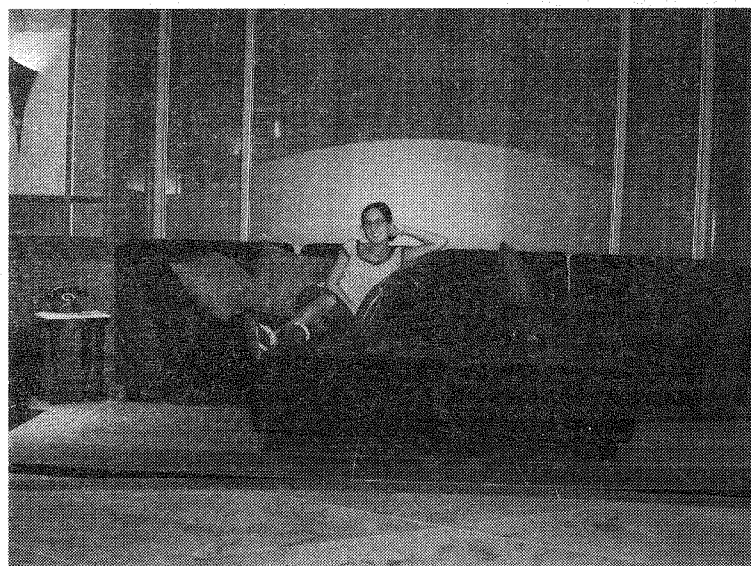
One thing that I'd like to do is have office hours at Steele House every week, so that appeals or concerns would have to come through formal channels...

Your thoughts on traditions, the balance between keeping traditions alive and enjoyable and keeping them safe and between making sure no one feels marginalized by them.

CJ: It's a really complicated question, there are so many traditions.

Some of them do involve safety issues. I think with regards to the Ricketts firepot, that there was a compromise to keep the firepot part of the house tradition for so long after the administration first became

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Courtesy of M. Stapleton

Nestled on a couch, Martha-Helene Stapleton '03 basks in the *Glamour* of her naming as one of the magazine's "Top Ten College Women."

Stapleton Among *Glamour's* Top Ten

PASADENA, Calif.- How could Caltech senior Martha-Helene Stapleton not be chosen as one of *Glamour* Magazine's "Top 10 College Women?"

After all, Stapleton redefines the phrase "multi-faceted." Stapleton is a Caltech Presidential Scholar and the recipient of the Bibi Jentoft-Nilsen Award for Leadership at Caltech and the McKinney Award for poetry. As a sophomore she was the first Latina to serve as president of ASCIT. In that office she successfully organized a student-faculty conference that brought 250 students and 40 faculty members together to discuss academics and

campus life. She also received a Mellon Research Fellowship that took her to the Max Planck Institute for Solid State Physics in Stuttgart, Germany, where she worked with a Nobel laureate.

All that, and she can also run a mean band saw and drill press, and is a snare drummer for the Cabar Feidh Scottish Pipe Band.

What's a Latina doing in a Scottish pipe band?

"Well, I'm half Mexican and half American--my dad's background is European, which includes the Scottish heritage," she says with a laugh. "I went to a Scottish festival in high school and loved the music."

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No Such Thing As Free Lunch



E. Adams/The California Tech

A cashier checks out undergraduates' lunch orders per the new student meal plan authorized by Campus Auxiliary and Business Services. In a move that drew mixed reviews, lunch is no longer all-you-can-eat.

Checkout Counters, Limited Hours Mark New Board Plan

By RUMI CHUNARA and ROBERT LI

Starting the fall term, all students on the Board program will be switched to a declining balance plan for lunch. The new plan, similar to the one at Avery, gives students \$7.50 per day to spend on food at any of the on-campus dining facilities including Avery, the Cafe at Board, Chandler, Red Door Cafe, the C-Store and the renovated South Kitchen. Money not spent will be kept in the account until the end of the term at which time the student must use it or lose it.

Concurrently with the switch to a declining balance system, Caltech Dining Services will be radically changing the function of the North and South Kitchens during lunch. Whereas previously both kitchens served cafeteria style lunches, now only the South Kitchen will be open during lunch. Food will be served Chandler style with students purchasing each individual item they want. Open kitchen, which used to be in both the North and South Kitchens, will now only be in the North Kitchen in the mornings and from 2pm to dinner time. Dinners will still be waited as before.

To serve its new function, the South Kitchen was heavily renovated. A large pizza oven capable of holding 15 pizzas (vs. 8 in the Chandler oven) has been installed and a brand new salad bar is due to arrive within the week. Regarding the refill policy: soda, water and milk will be priced for free refills but the juice will not.

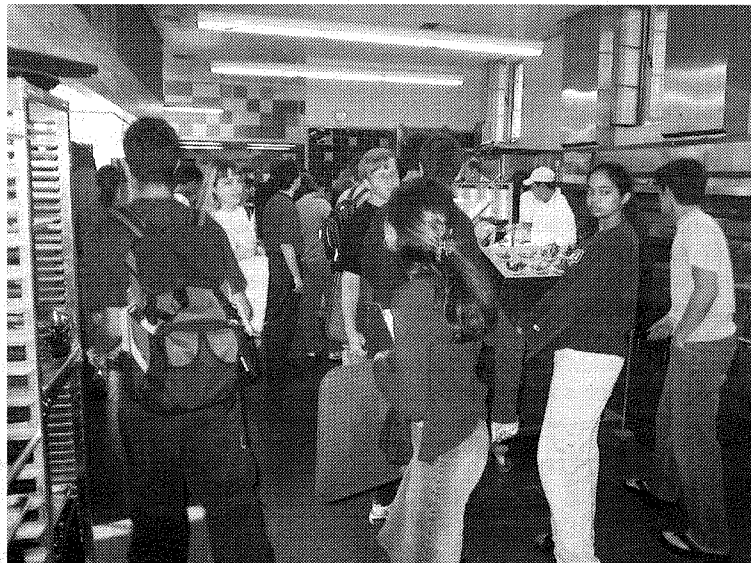
According to Tom Mannion, Director of Caltech Auxiliary & Business Services, there were two major reasons for the changes. First, it felt that the dining needs of the students could be better served by giving them the flexibility of eating anytime and anywhere rather than a fixed 1 hour block each day. With the new system, if a student for example slept past the normal lunch time, he or she could still go out and buy lunch rather than have to go without food until dinner.

The second reason for the changes was fiscal. It was noticed that there was a huge duplication of effort in

maintaining two kitchens during lunch when only around 130-150 freshman out of more than 200 were eating. Consequently, it was decided to close the north kitchen for lunch and only use it for open kitchen and dinner.

Student reaction was very positive on the better quality of food but there were still concerns about the length of lines at both Chandler and

the South Kitchen. Ji-Hoon Ryu, a junior at Blacker, commented that "Although the new dining system has improved the quality of the food, it also made the wait in lines longer. We now just have pretty much two Chandlers ... instead of a kitchen where we can grab some quick food, we have two kitchens where we have to wait long lines to get the same food."



E. Adams/The California Tech

Undergraduates crowd into South Kitchen for lunch this week. A new board plan puts everyone on a declining-credit meal plan.

Caltech Takes 15th On *Seventeen* List

By YE LI

Most students at Caltech probably know of its 4th place ranking in the latest US News and World Report list of the top 50 universities in the country. Besides being on this annual list, Caltech has also managed to land itself on an altogether different sort of list this year. *Seventeen* has also published a top colleges list, with a title better suited to the magazine: "The 100 Coolest Colleges." This ranking is targeted at the magazine's largely female au-

dience, as the introduction clarifies that it is a list of the "coolest schools where girls can get the best experience." What spot has Caltech secured on this list? Shockingly, out of the more than 1,400 colleges in the U.S., Caltech is 15th on the list.

With the editors of the magazine unavailable for questions, a blurb at the beginning of the article is the only explanation of its ranking methodology. The short list includes some fairly valid factors

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Jurca Plans Student Advisory Board, Steele 'Office Hours' as New MOSH

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concerned suggests how sensitive the administration tries to be to student needs, but at some point I think the safety issues just became overwhelming. People sometimes try to cast it just in terms of liability and insurance, but everyone here wants what's best for the students and safety concerns transcend the question of who's going to pay if someone gets hurt...

Fleming had its traditional Sunday BBQ after rotation here, and they did pooling. And that seems to me actually like a kind of clever tradition. You may not know it's coming but after the first freshmen goes in, you know. And it was also equitable, it happens to all freshmen, and they stopped if someone had a watch or a cellphone (although I would have thrown the cellphone in)... but it wasn't to terrorize. It was a backyard pool party. What I understand from students, if you actually refuse to be thrown into the water it wouldn't happen. Now I hear contradictory things, and that the kind of students who wouldn't want to be thrown in are sometimes the students who feel most reluctant to speak up. I think in all traditions we do need to create an environment in which all students feel comfortable not participating, and I think that will create a situation in which your traditions can continue to thrive and flourish.

I think of the town hall meeting [as part of the housing committee] we had at Ruddock with Gary Lorden and President Baltimore and Jean-Paul Revel. I thought that that was extraordinarily productive and I was sorry that one aspect of it didn't emerge in what I heard afterwards. We had a conversation about dinner traditions and students were saying that they wanted more faculty in the houses and Baltimore pointed out that faculty were reluctant to come to a place where food is thrown

and where people are floated, it just makes them uncomfortable. I was at Fleming, and I was sitting next to the thing that they throw stuff at, and it was uncomfortable, because I saw these things flying past me while I was trying to eat. It wasn't in ill-will, it was just disconcerting to have things flying so close to your eye. What we discussed, is why not, if you want faculty to come over, why not suspend the food throwing for a night? A couple students said, "We want faculty to see us as we are." And I thought Gary Lorden uttered the perfect response which was, "When people come to my house for dinner I don't want them to see who I am, I want them to see me and my family as better than we are." If you want the faculty to come, and it's a big adjustment for most of us to go to dinner at a house, it seems like a reasonable compromise. It wouldn't destroy the tradition to have one evening a term where the tradition

"I will never say I will say one thing and end up saying something else."



E. Adams/The California Tech

Kitten in hand, incoming Master of Student Houses Catherine Jurca smiles on the job in her new capacity as official liaison between undergraduates, their houses and the administrators. Although she made no policy promises, she did promise to serve as "truly an advocate for student well-being."

isn't in effect...

One thing I want to say is, there might be cases where I disagree with a student, and I know there are cases where I've disagreed with the IHC. But I do think the MOSH is truly an advocate for student well-being. And I just want students to know that I am perfectly capable of representing views with which I disagree. I will never betray the students and say I will say one thing and end up saying something else.

One of the things you mentioned in the official press release is the core curriculum and how students felt that they were overwhelmed with the core and when they got around to choosing a option, they had had no experience in that option.

I don't see any easy fixes. Part of it is devoted teachers and researchers defending their turf... My concern is about the core curriculum, which I've given a lot of thought to. I just feel that students' intellectual curiosity gets crushed by the weight of all the classes...

I don't think there's anything unreasonable [about the number of terms of the individual classes], but for the physics class to be so much the most difficult class you've ever

"I do think the quality of life issue just can't be separated from the academics."

taken when you're a biology major, it's just a terribly crushing and demoralizing experience. I was a freshmen advisor last year, and I was just surprised watching the spark go out of my advisees as the term progressed...

I think it would be good if things were lightened up a little bit and it became less the incredible rote work of the core and more an opportunity to discover your own interests.

Apart from the core curriculum, what do you think about the level of stress and sleep deprivation among Caltech students? There's got to be a little stress on students; where are we with regard to that level?

CJ: Oh, definitely above. I do think the quality of life issue just can't be separated from the academics. So much energy and time and worry goes into doing the academic work at Caltech that it really encroaches on reaction. At any time you could be working, and to see that in college students, it just seems like a hardship. You need leisure time, you need down time...

My dad was a Caltech undergrad in Dabney, and he came back to see Steele House and he just started talking in a way he hadn't before, about how difficult Caltech had been, and about how mediocre it had made him feel. And he just kept talking and talking about that, and some ways it's like he's never gotten over that. And I just feel terrible that the thing he took away

from here was that he wasn't good enough - it just shouldn't be that way, you guys are all amazing. You're quirky and smart and fun. I feel like I could go to a liberal arts college and I'd know exactly what people would say, and here I'm constantly surprised.

One of the things I see is students pushing themselves too hard. Everyone was top in their high school and on some level they still all come here expecting to get all A's, and of course by the very nature of the grading scheme they won't be able to. Do you think there's a need to get students to push themselves less extremely?

CJ: I think that a lot of the impetus for that can come from the upperclassmen. I hear about upperclassmen encouraging freshmen to overload while on pass fail, and I basically made a decision not to let my freshmen do that. Even the students who might be to handle it... to me your college years aren't an unmitigated success if you get straight A's and never do anything else. So advisors can play a big role too, by not letting their students overload. It's good to err on the side of caution...

Jurca also mentioned that she hoped to set up a student advisory board who would meet with her to bring up concerns and questions. In that way she could hear students' take on important issues and hear their suggestions and have a little backup in the difficult role she is taking on. She feels she needs this help because, as she put it, "No one person can turn Caltech from a stressed out place to a warm fuzzy place."

Question of the Week

Can incoming MOSH Catherine Jurca bear the mantle of her predecessor, Physics Prof. Steve Frautschi?

From NFL Field to Steele, Jurca Hopes to 'Interact' With Students

PASADENA, Calif.- Undergraduates at the California Institute of Technology attend "the hardest educational institution in the world," says Catherine Jurca, Caltech's new master of student houses. Her goals, then, are twofold: to improve the quality of undergraduate life, and to improve communication between students, faculty, and administrators. And, if she can get students out of the lab to watch a little NFL football on Sundays, she says, "all the better."

"I've always been drawn to the undergraduates here," she says. "They're quirky, sweet, and very smart. But too many students come here and feel isolated and overwhelmed. Many of them spend almost all their time studying, tend to socialize almost exclusively with other members of their house, and they can miss out on the breadth of experiences Caltech can offer."

Like other MOSHES, Jurca plans on holding weekly dinners with faculty and students at Steele House, the traditional location for MOSH activities, as well as hosting off-cam-

pus events such as trips to the theater and opera. Instead of inviting students based on which house they reside in, she intends to base her invitations on their options, or majors, so that students meeting for the first time will automatically share something in common with each other and with the faculty.

At the same time she doesn't necessarily see herself as an advocate for all student issues. "I like to think I'll be able to present their viewpoint fairly to the administration, even if I personally disagree with it," she says. "But even so, I've found that students' opinions are often extremely well thought out and articulate; you have to be on your toes with them."

Jurca has been a Caltech faculty member since 1995, but comes from a long line of Techies. Although she broke tradition by doing her undergraduate work at UC Berkeley, both her father and grandfather are alumni.

The MOSH position is a five-year, half-time administrative appointment; Jurca assumed the MOSH duties on August 1. Jurca

does not expect the appointment to slow her research pace. Currently she is writing a book on post-World War II Hollywood. During the war, the film industry learned how to shape public opinion using its movies. Post-war, it applied this knowledge to advance its own social, economic, and political agendas. Jurca argues that the propaganda of World War II gave way in a number of mid-40s films, such as *Mildred Pierce* and *Mr. Blandings Builds His Dream House*, to public relations, the commitment to promoting good will toward particular business enterprises and toward business in general.

As several MOSHES have before her, Jurca will also reside in Steele, "rattling around," as she puts it, in the huge second-floor space that will be her personal quarters. The first floor and large backyard will be used for the weekly social gatherings.

And if she can twist the administration's arm for a big screen TV, what better way to spend a Sunday afternoon than with a group of students, watching NFL football?

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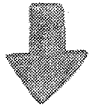
CALTECH CONVENTIONAL WISDOM WATCH



Martha-Helene: We all knew she was queen of ASCIT, but this kind of *Glamour* has left even the most resolute of doubters stuck in the solid state.



MOSHed Potatoes: Frautschi successor Catherine Jurca plans Super Bowl parties with undergraduates. Anyone know if she's a *Steelers* fan?



Brady Bill, anyone? ASCIT plans to embrace a gift for "firearms training"--whatever happened to the Assault Weapons Ban? Somebody call Dianne Feinstein!



Courtesy of M. Stapleton

Former ASCIT President Martha-Helene Stapleton '03 poses here for the latest edition of *Glamour*. The multi-faceted senior was one of the magazine's "Top Ten College Women."

Physics, Scottish Pipes and *Glamour*

Continued from Page 1, Column 2

For all her impressive credentials, Stapleton, 21, was more impressed with the other nine winners. One had overcome a massive heart attack at the age of 16, another was in eight foster homes as a child but now excels in college, yet another spent the summer in Tanzania teaching young people about HIV prevention. They are, in short, "women who are doing great things and being great role models," says Stapleton.

That's the point of the annual competition, now in its 45th year: to recognize, as the magazine's editors put it, "leadership on campus, involvement in the community, excellence in their field of study, and their unique, inspiring goals." Stapleton saw an advertisement for the competition in *The California Tech*. Competing against 700 other women, she won a \$1,000 scholarship and an all-expenses-paid trip to New York.

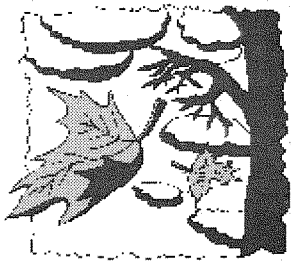
Stapleton notes that although she was very successful in high school—she is a 1999 graduate of St. Joseph High School in Lakewood, California, where she was class valedictorian, a National Merit finalist and an Advanced Placement Scholar with Distinction—she found the transition to Caltech a little tough at first.

"The material is hard and the class pace is very fast," says Stapleton. "My time management skills went down coming into college because you don't have an 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. day. So you have to maintain discipline."

Before deciding on Caltech, she thought about attending Harvard and majoring in international relations. She wants to combine that

interest with a planned PhD in physics or bioengineering, perhaps leading to an academic career in scientific policy and legislation, one that will integrate her passion for communication and science. "Most especially," she says, "I want my children to grow up in a world where no one finds it amazing that women, or even Latinas, study physics."

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Professors, Safety Push Caltech To Seventeen's 'Coolest Schools'

Continued from Page 1, Column 5

such as "professor involvement" and "campus safety." It also includes somewhat more shallow factors such as "frat parties" and "great shopping." With no further details on why each school was given its rank, we can only assume that the methodology isn't completely scientific.

So what does the Caltech community think of this "triumph"? Candace Rypisi, Director of Caltech's Women's Center and interim Associate Dean of Students, believes that the Women's Center contributes to creating a positive experience for women at Caltech. Established in 1993, 23 years after Caltech first started admitting female undergraduates, the Women's Center acts as a comprehensive resource for the advancement of women at Caltech. It provides opportunities, programs, and services that address gender issues and promote equity, safety and success. One of its most important roles is to act as an advocate for women in science, by providing mentor programs for students, and promoting the recruiting and retention of female faculty. One such upcoming event is Dr. Sally Ride's lecture, "Reach For The Stars," which encourages girls and women to pursue technical fields.

Students' opinions of the ranking are somewhat less positive. There are a few generalizations that can be made as to the female undergraduates' views on their experience at Caltech.

In terms of academics, women at Caltech generally feel that they are given the same opportunities as men. There is no gender bias in se-

lection of students for research positions, and professors are just as willing to talk to female students as to males. However, there is also a general consensus that the ranking doesn't take into account the intense workload that is part and parcel to being a student at Caltech.

The view of the social environment at Caltech is also fairly uniform. The most common complaint is that the males at Caltech have numerous difficulties with male-female interactions. Women feel that they have to be extra careful in their interactions with men, so that any friendly gesture isn't completely misinterpreted. And how could we forget the ubiquitous problem of "glomming," which drops unwelcomely into every female's life from the first day of Prefrosh Weekend?

Caltech has also always been notorious for having a female proportion far south of even. This seems to cause a fair amount of distress to the female students at Caltech. Many have expressed difficulty in finding enough female friends simply due to the low number of females in general. It is imaginably difficult to come from a high school in which a majority of your friends are female to a college where such a situation is near impossible. There is nothing wrong with opposite gender friendships, but most women can only handle so many male antics.

When asked what part of their experience at Caltech could most use change, most of the women interviewed felt that the ratio itself was the biggest problem. Unfortunately, none could come up with an adequate solution. Most admitted

that the only sure way to improve the ratio was to lower the standard for accepting females, but that this wasn't a good idea, as is evidenced by a certain other Institute of Technology's implementation of this strategy. We certainly don't want our already few women flaming out due to inability to handle the course work.

In fact, even that strategy wouldn't necessarily improve the ratio. As one student pointed out, the ratio is stuck in a vicious cycle. As the newly admitted females fly in for Prefrosh Weekend, they immediately encounter all the problems that the ratio causes, and often choose not to come to Caltech for that reason.

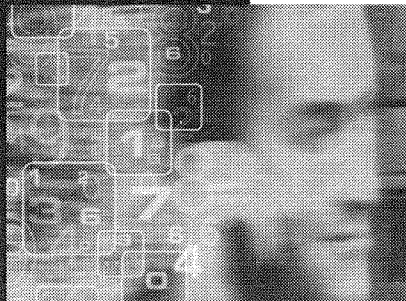
Another fact, pointed out by Ms. Rypisi, is that the scarcity of women in science and engineering fields is a problem that reaches far beyond the bounds of Caltech. It seems to be an ingrained aspect of American culture, especially at the higher levels of academia. Thus, perhaps the ratio is a problem innate to being a technology school.

So is Caltech deserving of its status as one of the country's coolest colleges, offering women the best possible experience? It seems that if a woman wants to pursue a career in the sciences or engineering, and doesn't care too much about the social environment, Caltech may be the best place for her. Otherwise, she should probably take heed of her reservations about devoting the next four years of her life to long nights of problem sets instead of socializing.

Until next time, here's to the offering of an "Introduction to Socializing For Guys" course.

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BoD: Ted, Vikram, Joe, Janet, Basit, Neda, Andrea.
Guests: Kevin Bartz (*Tech* editor)

ASCIT Report

Ted and Neda went to a meeting with President Baltimore and various segments of the Caltech community where "Vectors" was discussed. Almost everyone in attendance complained to Baltimore about some aspect of the sculpture. However, Baltimore didn't really acknowledge anyone's points and said that "we" (Ted is certain that's the "royal" we, i.e. probably just Baltimore all alone) would make a final decision soon.

Ted notes that students at Cal Poly have in recent years built a float for the Rose Parade. He thinks it would be cool if Caltech students would do the same. It seems appropriate, considering that the parade passes two blocks from campus. Since such a project would need to be started at least a year in advance, we will look into its feasibility now. Basit and the ARC are going to investigate possible EE or ME senior project credit for students involved in such an undertaking. A meeting for any interested students is tentatively scheduled for 7:30 p.m. Wednesday in SAC 65.

Quorum is finally achieved when Vikram arrives at 5:07 p.m.

Anita Choi and Sarah Luxenberg are approved for their lunch at the Ath with Prof. Dougherty (5-0). There has been a lot of interest in our new "take your professor out to lunch program" lately.

The Web Development Team has been working on setting up newsgroups on the Donut website. The BoD mailing list is being switched over to a newsgroup that will archive messages, and we note the possible usefulness of such a

system for the student representatives on faculty committees to update students interested in the activities of those committees. We can also use them in planning this spring's Student Faculty Conference.

Vikram will lead an Honor Code discussion in Winnett the evening of Oct. 24. The exact format has yet to be determined, but there has been recent student sentiment that talking about the Honor Code in general is healthy for the student body, and before midterms seems like a good time to do it. We will be coordinating with the Caltech Y.

Joe got the pamphlet with photos and contact information of administrators and student leaders to all of the undergraduate mailboxes last week. Ted suggests a second pamphlet, explaining the services that ASCIT provides and how to take advantage of them, and the BoD concurs, so Joe will begin work on that. He hopes the publication will help students get the most out of their ASCIT membership.

Janet is going to Cambridge second term, so we will need a replacement as Treasurer for a few weeks before elections. ExComm appoints replacements for vacant offices, and Janet plans to ask around to see if anyone might be interested.

The 2003 Student Faculty Conference will be late second term or early third term, since the topics are academic and any changes in the catalog would need to be submitted partway through third term.

An anonymous donor recently offered tickets for a weekend firearms training class for Caltech undergraduates to ASCIT. More publicity on this should be coming soon, and Jialan will interface with the Shooting Club.

The *Little T* should be out in 7-10 days. The delay was caused by printing issues; the book has been submitted and out of the editors' hands for some time now.

Since ASCIT has non-profit status with the IRS and files taxes as such each year, while the student houses do not, there are tax advantages that might make alumni or other parties more interested in donating to the houses if it were done through ASCIT. Lloyd House is currently the only house with an endowment, but the Lloyd government has had some issues with control and management of the money by Caltech, through a rather awkward arrangement. Janet is going to set up PTA accounts under ASCIT for each of the seven houses, so that we can essentially act as a tax shelter for any future donations made to the houses through ASCIT. This guarantees deductibility, which would be difficult for the houses, as non-incorporated entities, to set up by themselves. The system may never be used, but it costs nothing to create and the BoD feels that any measure which might make it easier or more advantageous to give money to improve student life at Caltech ought to be implemented. We vote (5-0) to direct Janet to set up the accounts.

The BoD is planning an additional round of visits to the student houses for this term, perhaps at night rather than during dinners. Neda will draft a letter to the house presidents stating our intentions and sent it to the rest of us to read.

Respectfully submitted,

Joe Jewell

ASCIT Secretary

PHOTO OF THE WEEK



J. Mao/The California Tech

This week saw a full slate of initiation activities for freshmen newly admitted to one of Caltech's seven undergraduate houses. Here, Theresa Grieco '06 and Jason Yosinski '06, two freshmen entering Ruddock House, construct a chariot to please their upperclassman masters in a Ruddock tradition known as "Hassle Week."

Caltech Celebrates Coming Out Week

By LARRY STEWART

National Coming Out Day is celebrated every October. Its purpose is to promote Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender (LGBT) visibility. With this visibility we hope to counter ignorance and fear of Lesbians, Gays, Bisexuals and Transgenders, and provide inspiration for those who have not yet come out.

"Coming out of the closet" is the act of revealing the truth about one's sexual orientation to others. Coming out is a very personal process and can take many forms. It involves having enough courage and feelings of self worth to reveal this very personal information to others. This can mean taking the risk of being rejected or misunderstood by those around you. However, by being honest about who we are, Gays, Lesbians, Bisexuals and Transgenders can begin to erase the misunderstanding and bigotry.

While we cannot assume that others will understand or care about what it means to be Lesbian, Gay,

Bisexual, or Transgender, studies show that non-gay people who know someone who is Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, or Transgender, support equality based on sexual orientation. By coming out to families, friends and co-workers, the impact we can have on the population is extraordinary.

It is clear that LGBT-related issues will not be taken seriously until people know who we are. LGBT people are part of every aspect of life: we are parents, friends, children, and co-workers. We are your professors, your TAs, your lab technicians, your Librarians. It is up to us to let the world know.

Our goal is to demonstrate in a direct and dramatic way the size and diversity of the LGBT population at Caltech, JPL and the Caltech-affiliated community at large. In addition, we hope to provide support and inspiration to those among us who have not come out, or who are just beginning the process of coming out.

The Caltech Presidential Lecture Series on
ACHIEVING DIVERSITY in SCIENCE, MATH, and ENGINEERING

REACH FOR THE STARS:

Encouraging Girls and Women to Pursue Technical Fields

Ramo Auditorium, California Institute of Technology
Thursday, October 17, 2002 at 4:00 p.m.

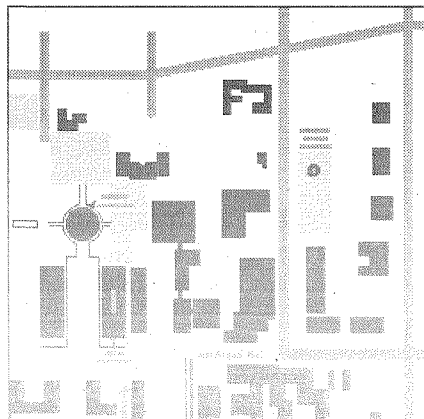
Dr. Sally K. Ride, President and CEO, Imaginary Lines, Inc.
Ingrid and Joseph Hibben Professor of Physics, University of California, San Diego

D

R. SALLY RIDE

is a former NASA astronaut and the first American woman in space. Selected as an astronaut in 1978, she was involved in the design and testing of the Space Shuttle's robot arm, served as capsule communicator in NASA's Mission Control, and was a member of the support crew for the second and third Shuttle flights. She served as a member of the Presidential Commission investigating the Space Shuttle Challenger accident, went on to serve as NASA's first director of strategic planning and was the first director of its Office of Exploration. Dr. Ride spent two years at Stanford University's Center for International Security and Cooperation, and in 1989 became director of the University of California's California Space Institute, also joining the faculty at UCSD as a professor of physics. In 2000 she founded Imaginary Lines, a company devoted to creating communities, providing services, and developing products for girls and young women interested in math, science, and technology. Long an advocate for improved science education, she has written four science books for children.

Dr. Ride received her B.S. in physics and B.A. in English (1973), and her M.S. (1975) and Ph.D. (1978) in physics, all from Stanford. She was inducted into the National Women's Hall of Fame and has received numerous honors and awards, including the Jefferson Award for Public Service, the Juanita Kreps Award, the von Braun Award, and the Lindbergh Eagle. She has twice been awarded the National Spaceflight Medal. She serves on numerous boards and committees in government, business, and education.



THE CALTECH PRESIDENTIAL LECTURE SERIES ON ACHIEVING DIVERSITY IN SCIENCE, MATH, AND ENGINEERING WAS ESTABLISHED TO BRING TO CAMPUS SPEAKERS WHO HAVE HAD HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL EXPERIENCES IN PROMOTING WOMEN AND UNDERREPRESENTED MINORITIES IN SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

This event is free and open to the public. No tickets or reservations are required. Free parking is available; please go to the parking structures at 370 South Holliston Avenue for a permit and directions to the auditorium.

Sponsored by the Department of Physics, the Office of Undergraduate Admissions, and the Office of Public Safety.

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- Mark Barton, Staff, LIGO Project
- Martin Basch, graduate student, Biology
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- Eric Bogs, alumnus, E&AS
- Abel Bourbois, senior, Applied Math
- Richard Chin, alumnus, E&AS
- Chris Cooper, alumnus
- Rochelle Diamond, staff, Biology Division
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- Annmarie Eldering, alumnus, Environmental Engineering
- Juan Garcia, junior, E&AS
- Eitan Grinspun, graduate student, Computer Science
- Troy Lee Hudson, graduate student, Geology
- Lynell Jackson, alumnus, EE
- Rachel Lewis, senior, Geophysics
- Kathleen McGregor, Caltech Library System
- Aron Meltzner, alumnus, Geology
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- Jim O'Donnell, Caltech Library System
- Craig Peterson, Systems Division
- Ray Prado, Office of Undergraduate Admissions
- Jess Reynolds, sophomore, Mechanical Engineering
- Robert Robertson, freshman
- Derek Shannon, alumnus, Geobiology
- Kerry Sieh, Professor of Geology
- Ryan Tischler, LIGO administrator
- Diane Trout, staff, Biology
- Jaap Weel, junior, Physics
- Ted Wyder, postdoc, Astronomy

Lack of Culture?

By JIALAN WANG

In his recent book *Brown*, Richard Rodriguez explores the meaning of race, ethnicity and cultural identity in an America where these boundaries are rapidly blurring. He writes of diversity not in the usual sense, confined only to race and ethnicity, but of diversity in contradictions of ideas, in realizations of differences, and in confrontations with the Other. "Diversity is what you find in Northern Ireland. Diversity is Beirut. Diversity is brother killing brother," he said in a 1997 interview. Diversity is terrifying.

While marveling at the complexity of culture and mixing of peoples and ideas that make Los Angeles the heart of diversity in America, Rodriguez at the same time attacks the American education system for bilingual education, affirmative ac-

tion, and its other "crude" attempts at recognizing and dealing with diversity. Indeed, it seems as though the American university's idea of diversity merely means black, white, brown, male and female versions of the same ideology, much like the multi-colored Barbies Mattel sells as cultural variety.

So where does diversity fit in at Caltech, a university in the middle of Los Angeles? In the class of 2006, there are 73 women and 180 men. Of these 253 students, 3 are American Indian, 62 Asian American, 3 African American, 130 Caucasian, 19 Hispanic/Latino and two Native Hawaiian/Pacific Islander and six international. And Caltech, too, is a place where diversity is defined in terms of race and sex. In the past few years efforts have begun to target "underrepresented minorities," a term which itself under-

scores our focus on race. The word "minority" is not meant to mean minority, for that would include redheads, children of prostitutes, and a million other groups. It is a euphemism that denotes race. We are a place where a rich white Mexican can get a special scholarship and attend special events for being "Latino," but a poor white from rural Louisiana or a Vietnamese son of illiterate restaurateurs cannot.

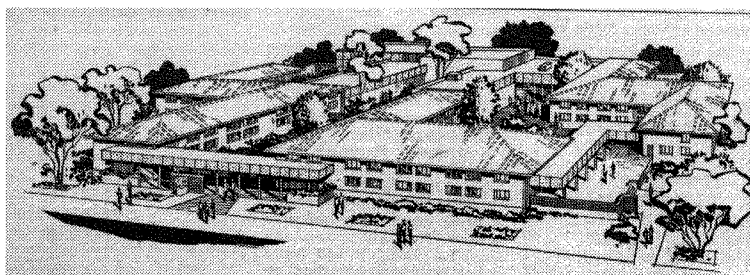
This is not to say that these efforts do not increase real diversity, but the approach introduces a narrowmindedness about diversity that influence our own mindsets. But how does Caltech fare under Richard Rodriguez's more meaningful view of diversity?

Superficially we have different interests and different personalities and ideas, but for many our overarching character trait is apathy. Even when we have strong beliefs, we are loathe to loudly announce or defend them. We thusly mute the relatively few differences we do have with each other, leading to a cultural desert of a campus. Real diversity would be fundamentalist Baptists, adamant Bush supporters, narcissists and ecoterrorists, not the timid Christians, silent Republicans and mild environmentalists we have here. Rarer still is meaningful conversation on non-scientific topics.

Lacking culture ourselves, we are accentless and without heritage, which is surprising given that so many of us are immigrants and children of immigrants. If immigrants are the driving force of diversity in America, that force comes to a dead end at Caltech. Our parents know Communism and dictatorship and Moscow and Mexico City, but where has that knowledge gone?

Of course, it is indeed part of Caltech's appeal that it's the only place we can find 900 other people just like ourselves. And our uniformity might be good for science and for fostering a sense of community, but we lose much in the exchange. Ideally, a university should be a place where we not only meet new theorems, but where our entire worldviews are threatened and changed, where we learn not just to belong to select communities, but to be relevant in the world. And although we are a campus with a very specific focus, diversity and Caltech are not irreconcilable. If we all just argued a little more loudly, ventured a little further and sought out more of the alien and less of the familiar, then Caltech would be more diverse already.

TODAY IN CALTECH HISTORY



Shown is an architect's sketch of the new Student Houses. Target date for occupancy is next September.

The California Tech Archives

Dating back to 1962, the original floor plan for the North Houses paves the way to modern Caltech history. From the beginning, administrators ceded control of the houses to students themselves.

History: Rotation Through the Ages

Mr. President Looks at the Houses' Pasts

By TED JOU

As freshmen settle into their new Houses this week and the memory of Rotation fades, a little reflection on the Houses' history is in order.

The story begins on March 11, 1930. The front-page headline of *The California Tech* on that day read, "Dorms Will Rise at Once!" That week, the donation was made to build the fourth of the planned student Houses and a new era in Caltech undergraduate student life was born.

Before 1930, there was only room on campus for about one-fourth of the student body on campus. A majority of students pledged into a number of fraternities on campus that owned independent houses in Pasadena. When the plans were made to build the Houses, a committee of nine students was formed to investigate student living conditions and make detailed recommendations as to the conduct and organization of the new undergraduate houses. Members of the committee toured the U.S., Europe, and Canada to find out what organization would be best for the Houses. On March 5, 1931, they published their findings in the *California Tech*.

In the report, they said, "The reason for the building of the new undergraduate houses [is] the desire to supplement the present intellectual development of the students with a cultural and social development." Also, "Students shall be given the opportunity to wait on

tables." Control of the houses was given to the students: "Conduct of house functions and the maintenance of order shall be placed entirely in the hands of the students."

"A resident associate shall be placed in each house to serve as a counselor and friend of the students, but not as a proctor." The report also recommended "inter-house and intra-house competitions" and the creation of an "inter-house committee."

The committee recommended that each fraternity "move into a single house as a group--not to perpetuate its own organization, but to serve as the nucleus about which to build and to foster a house unity and loyalty." All the Caltech fraternities agreed, and they moved into the new Houses in 1931.

The report also specified that "freshman shall be distributed among the four houses as equally as possible," which set the stage for rotation to begin three years later. Rotation ran with no major issues until 1951, when, according to the October 11 Tech, "Dabney flagrantly violated the spirit of rotation." Dabney offered blind dates for freshmen and lent them cars for those dates. They also announced their social schedule for first term and approached frosh in their rooms late at night and asked them for their House preferences. These actions led to the first written rotation rules in 1952, which survive relatively

Continued on Page 6, Column 4

Sweet Home Alabama: Sweet but Stereotyped

By TERRY YEN

It's your classic, yet charming, superficial romance (i.e. chick flick) - a gorgeous, rags-to-riches girl, in the nick of time, dumps devoted, gorgeous, perfect-in-every-way bachelor for the (amazingly hot) goofy boy next door - but with good acting and an apt soundtrack that compensates for the disgustingly empty script. For once, we have a shamelessly cheesy movie that actually ends up fulfilling its purpose of sweetening life and melting hearts.

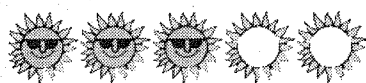
Melanie ("Mel") Smooter (Reese Witherspoon) is a rebellious Southern belle who ventures forth into the Big Apple from her quaint little hometown in Alabama and reinvents herself into the highly successful fashionista Melanie Carmichael. Her love life is even more fantastical - she scuttles away from her backcountry husband Jake (Josh Lucas) to collide head on into the opening arms of New York rich-boy fiancé Andrew (Patrick Dempsey), son of the mayor (Candice Bergen).

Mel's city life is every little girl's dreams - the media success, the fairy-tale marriage proposal in Tiffany's, the cultured best friends.

But, when she scoots her chic self down to Alabama in a silver Benz to get a divorce from Jake (the childhood sweetheart and soulmate, the hunk we root for, and who is by the way, extremely hot regardless of what his hygiene status is), she falls in love with the oozing warmth and down-to-earth sincerity of the Southern honky-tonk life all over again.

Though very predictable and heavily stereotyped (the exaggerated Big City snootiness of New York City versus the welcoming and simple-minded spirit of the South), all its actors and actresses, especially the Nashville-born Witherspoon, salvaged the experience, bringing the much needed spark to the story. I must say, I walked out of the movie theater with quite a ravenous desire to gallop down to the South and reel in a Joe Schmo for myself! Witherspoon's and others' easy, roll-with-the-punches performances stuffed back the dignity and tenderness the script eradicated.

Rating: three out of five stars.



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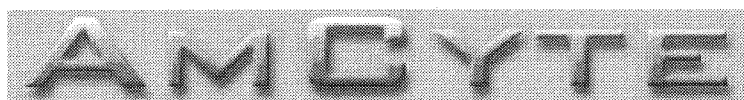
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3. Research Associate:

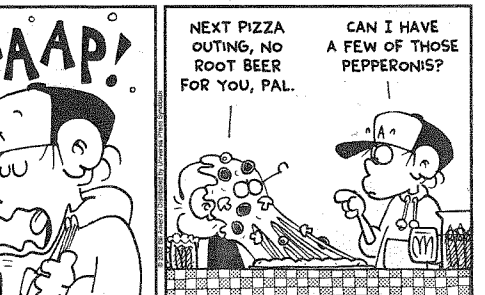
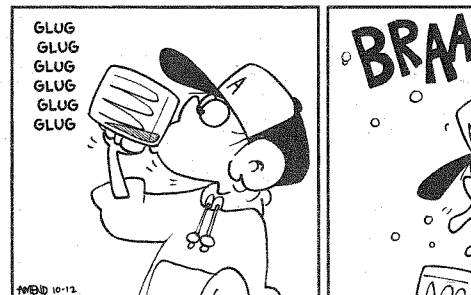
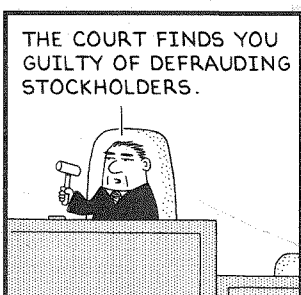
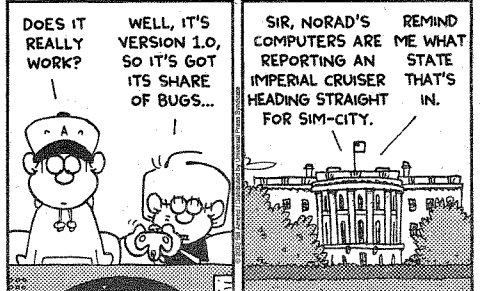
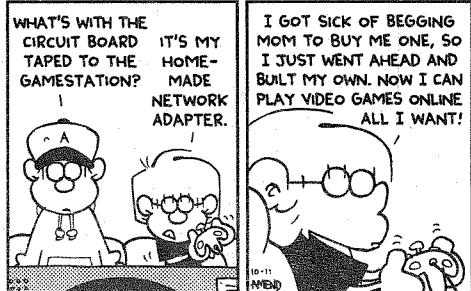
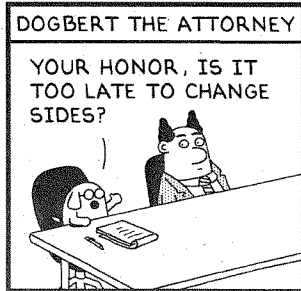
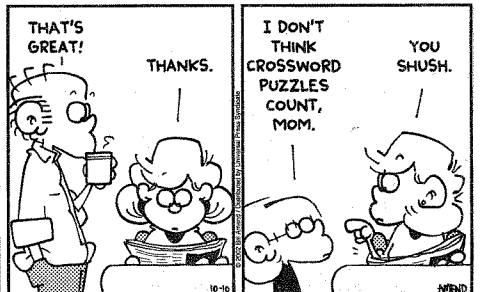
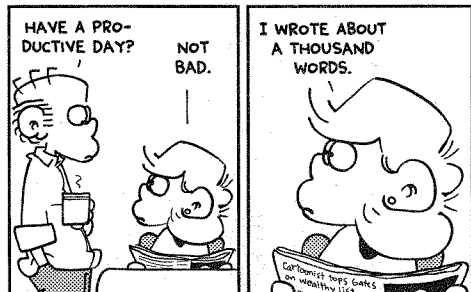
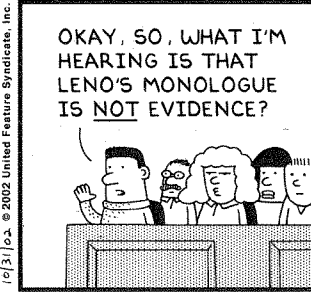
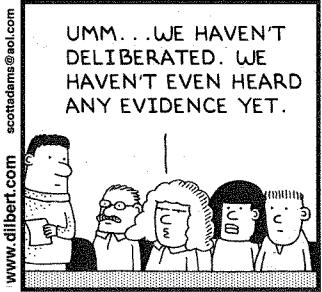
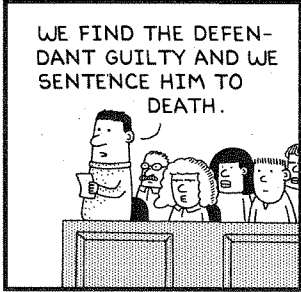
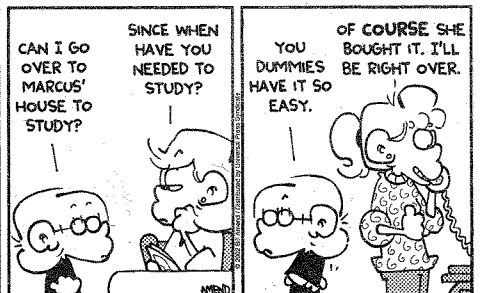
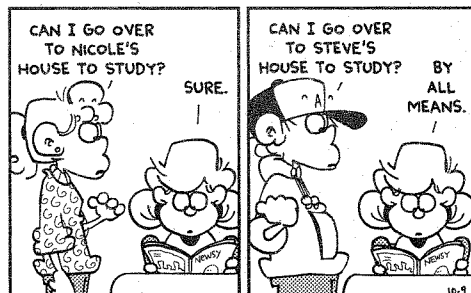
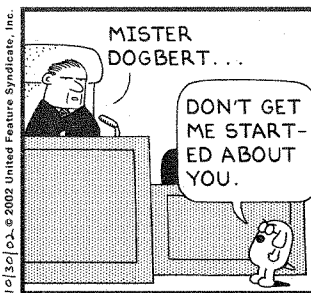
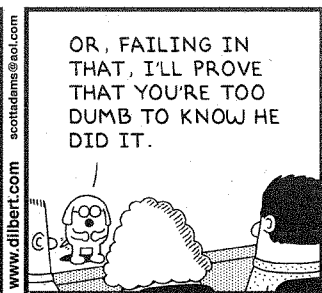
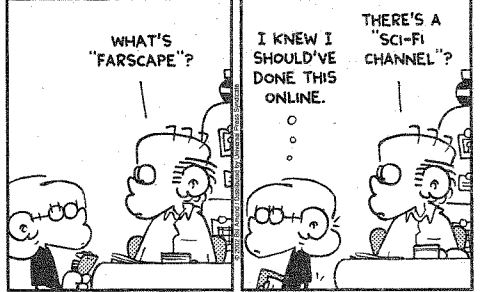
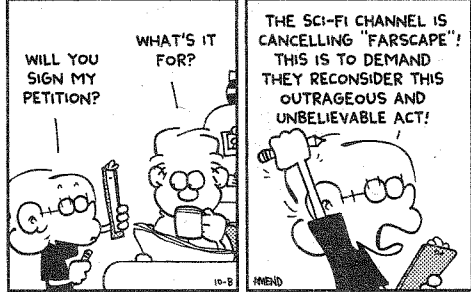
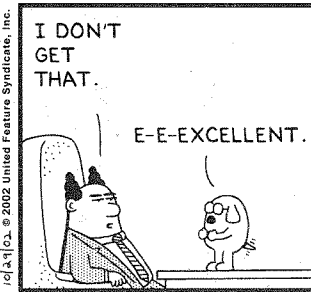
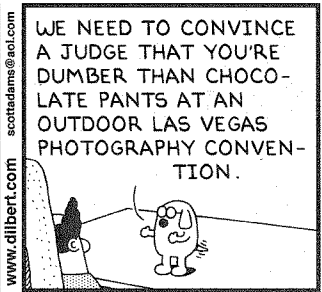
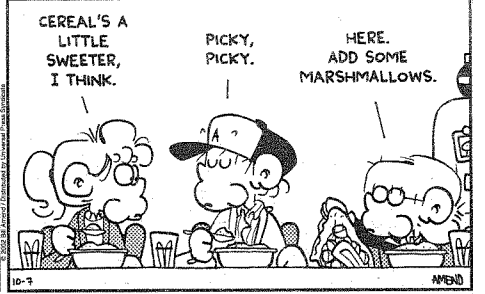
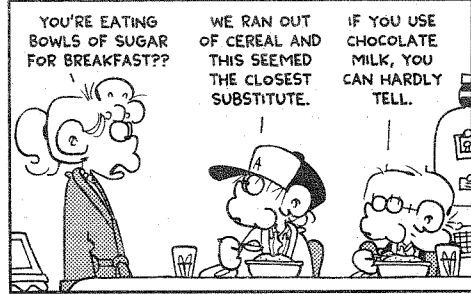
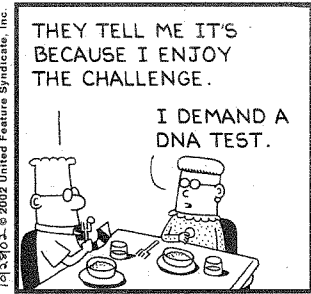
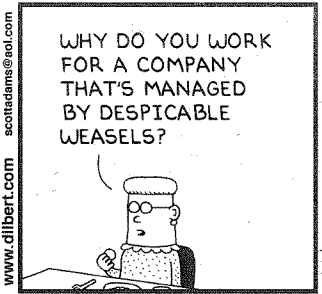
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Rotation: Message From the President

Continued from Page 5, Column 5

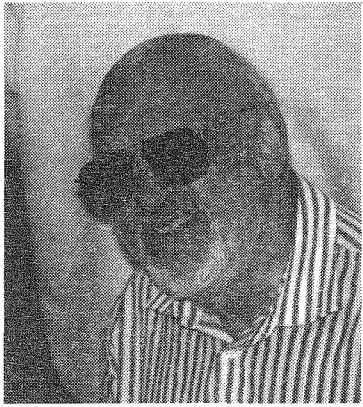
intact today.

At that time, freshmen spent two days in each of the four Houses during rotation. However, when three new Houses were planned in 1959, the IHC was compelled to revise the rotation system. The debate became rather heated among the student body and with the administration; no consensus was reached by the time the North Houses opened in 1960 so the MOSH assigned freshmen to Houses arbitrarily. This continued until the fall of 1963, when the IHC found an acceptable procedure for rotation: Each frosh would spend one day in each House and at the end could list four Houses he was willing to enter. This stayed relatively constant until 1991, when frosh were first allowed to rank their House preferences with a number 1-7, which is the system we have in place today.

As the freshmen go through initiations this week and learn all the quirky traditions of their House, try to imagine how their initiation rituals might have originated from a desire to provide "cultural and social development." When you complain about rotation rules, imagine that they came out of a desire to distribute frosh "as equally as possible." In fact, almost everything that the Houses do today can be seen as a confluence of traditional fraternity practices and the idealistic vision for the Caltech Houses that was laid out in 1931. In seventy-two years, the Houses have gone through many changes, but most students today would probably still agree with the January 11, 1952 *Tech* headline that proclaimed, "Student Houses Combine All Assets Desirable to Students."

Naive and Wide-eyed

By JEAN-PAUL REVEL



So camp's done with, rotation is over, the frosh have finally moved into their rooms, classes are in full swing. I wish I could say all's well with the world, but that obviously would not describe the situation today. To add to the familiar problems, it seems that after 11 years our patience with Iraq has run out. There seems to be a suddenly urgent realization that no, we can't let

Saddam Hussein get away with thumbing his nose at the world, and stock pile weapons of mass destruction, or go on developing capability for nuclear strikes. (It is unclear (sic) why so many people can't pronounce nuclear. Could it have to do with the superstition that saying the name of something dreadful will make it become a reality?) Clearly Hussein is a candidate for inclusion in the list of latter day demons, clearly he has been up to no good. No one would be too surprised if, besides the horrors that are so often mentioned, he had contributed to the current wave of terrorism, but so far as I know there is no direct evidence to that effect. Less questionable is the suspicion that he has subverted the aims of the oil for food program set up by the UN, presumably using the funds to build WMDs and more and more palaces. Besides 28 such residences predating the Gulf war, another 50 or so have been built since then. A fellow

can never have too many palaces, can he. If only to be able to sleep in a different place (sic) every night, and so dodge potential assassins and confuse jealous mistresses. There is also the possibility that all the gracious and peaceful looking gardens are a cover for production facilities engaged in making various witch's brews. Actually he may take it as a compliment to him to be awarded the status of enemy number one, grabbing that mantle from Osama, now that we can't figure out what happened to him and so many of his confreres.

Yes, Hussein has not done many of the things that were demanded of him after the Gulf War and something surely has to be done about that. As I listened to the debates about whether to preauthorize the President to attack Iraq an old issue of the New Yorker (April 5, 1999) serendipitously showed up on a bookshelf at home. On the cover is a drawing entitled "Easter Morning" by Bruce McCall. It shows the steps of a museum, with

flapping banners announcing the exhibition of Mystery Eggs, from 1 MYr B.C. it proclaims. A dozen or so purple winged, vulture-like pterosaurs (?) are seen taking flight over a New Yorkish city, its streets empty. It is early in the morning with a large moon and stars still in the sky. There is only a squirrel to confront the hatchlings (they could fly as soon as they were hatched?)... The disturbing stuff is expounded on the inside of the magazine, in an article by Seymour Hersh who details a web of intrigue and infighting, which resulted in the strengthening of Hussein's hand and led to the dismantling of the UN Special Commission for Iraq (UNSCOM). In Dec 1998 says Hersh "after Saddam Hussein threatened to end seven years of arms control inspections, President Clinton ordered attacks on Iraq...and missiles fell on carefully picked targets...to 'degrade' Iraq's capacity for waging war... We cannot allow Saddam Hussein to dismantle UNSCOM and resume the production of weapons of mass destruction with impunity." The point developed in the article was that actually the dismantling of UNSCOM was mostly not of Saddam's doing, it was the result of unbelievable bungling, and turf wars involving the CIA and its reluctance to cooperate with other agencies. The article made pretty scary reading in the light of today's barrage against Iraq. And just last Wednesday morning (10/9/02) NPR was quoting the Philadelphia Inquirer's Washington bureau reporters Strobel, Landay and Walcott, to the effect that "some military, intelligence and diplomatic sources" said that "hawks are overstating the danger that Baghdad poses." In their interviews they found general agreement among "analysts at the working level in the Intelligence community" that they were "feeling very strong pressure from the Pentagon to cook the books". Could it be that the moral high ground which we claim is not as high as we think? Or are these reports lurid accounts by trigger-happy journalists working for edi-

tors bent on selling their newspapers or magazines?

Of course none of this exonerates Saddam Hussein and after 9/11 and the other assaults against us, we certainly have reason to be concerned. Yet there is no clear evidence that I have heard about which would implicate the Iraqi regime in these outrages. It is likely that the Iraqis are among those who were mightily pleased by the concerted attacks but that does not allow us to paint them as accomplices. We may deplore, even condemn, their encouragement of terrorists by payments to the families of suicide bombers, but then some of our professed allies do the same. We are pleased to see ourselves as a law-abiding nation. We are pleased to represent ourselves as a people who respond if and when attacked, rather than taking preemptive action. Yes the stakes are high when it comes to the safety of our nation. Our government needs to do all that can be done to protect our citizenry...but not at the expense of what makes us different from them... Many of our historical allies, and other nations are reluctant to join us in a war, unless that is the judgment and will of the United Nations. That's what it was created for, not just to serve as a pied a terre in NY for all those ambassadors and their staffs. There are those who justify a resolution by Congress to authorize the President to attack Iraq, by arguing "if the United Nations sees a strong consensus for war in the United States, they will be more likely to stand-up to Saddam Hussein's regime and call for stronger weapons inspections standards" (Mara Liasson on NPR, 10/10/02). It sounds pretty weak and the implications of us going it alone, or just with the British, are not at all appealing. But may be that's the only the saying of a naive, wide-eyed prof.

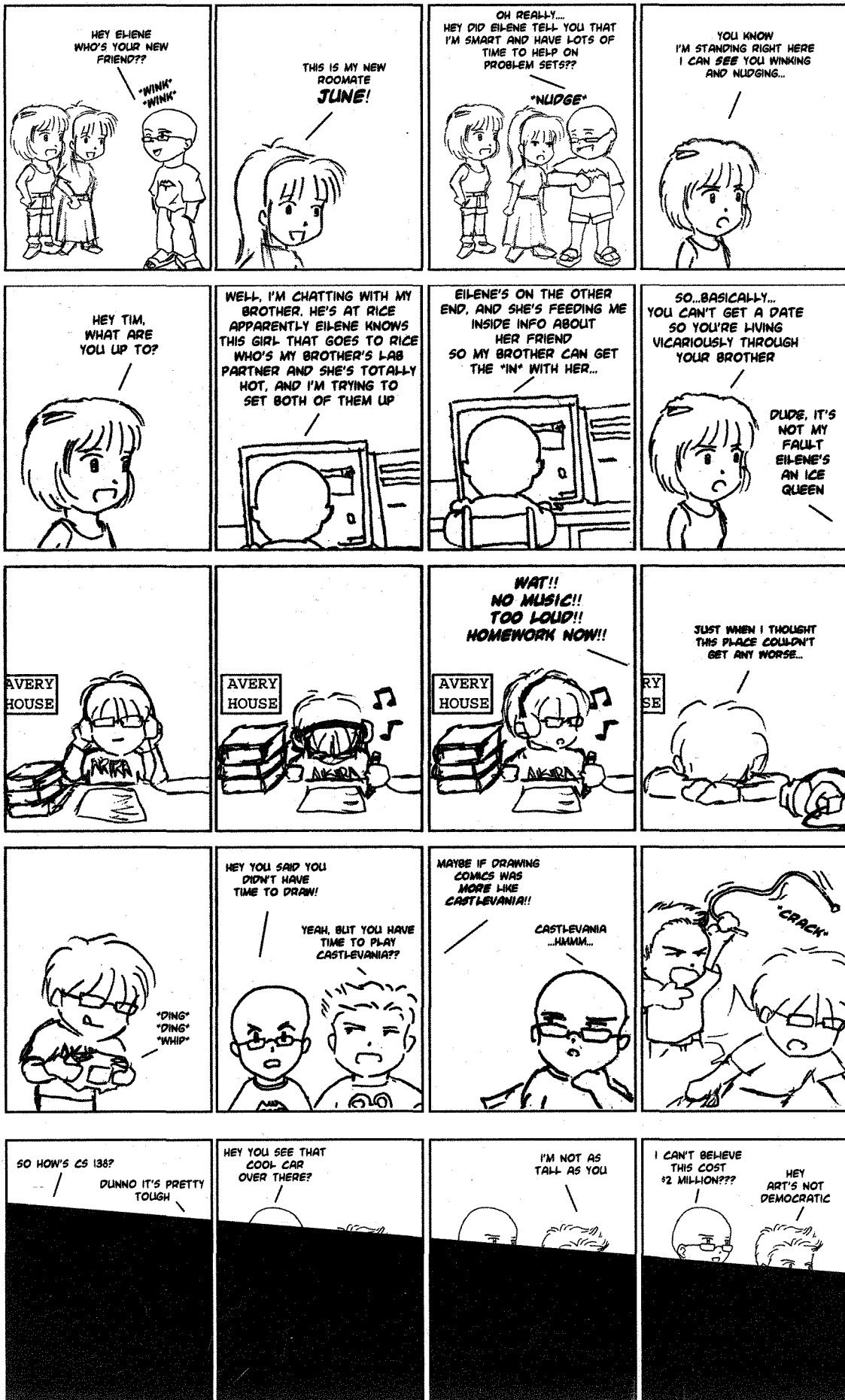
A bientot

Jean Paul Revel

CRIPPLING DEPRESSION

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All characters are purely fictional. Any resemblance to any persons living or dead is coincidental. The views expressed are those of the authors, not those of the newspaper staff or Caltech.



World News: Nobel Prizes, Sniper, Iraq

By SAM HSIUNG

Beltway Sniper Still Loose

A man was a victim of a shooting last Friday, October 11th in Fredericksburg, Virginia. Police say the shooting seems similar to the series of sniper attacks that took place in suburban Washington starting October 2, in which five people were killed within a 16-hour period in Montgomery County, Maryland. One of the victims was pumping gas at a gas station; another was killed while mowing the lawn. A sixth victim was killed October 3 on a street in Washington, and the seventh victim was killed in Prince William County, Virginia. Police say the suspect is most likely targeting his victims randomly, and has been seen leaving in a white van in most of the killings.

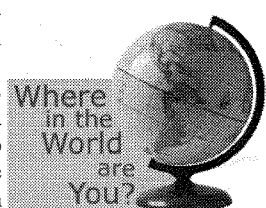
Congress OKs Iraq Attack

The senate voted Friday, October 11 to give President Bush sweeping authority for military action against Iraq. The vote won with an overwhelming majority 77 to 23. Last Thursday the house voted 296 to 133 in support of the president. A statement issued by the President that same morning, expressed President Bush's desire to use this vote as leverage in the UN Security council. A draft resolution has not yet been submitted by the United States to the Council, though one has been in circulation

among important leaders. Member of congress said their vote and days of debate reflects that military action was only chosen as not first, but last option.

Annual Nobel Prizes Awarded

Nobel Prizes were awarded last week; among the recipients are a former American President, a Hungarian novelist and a group of astrophysicists. Last Friday, Hungarian novelist and Auschwitz survivor Imre Kertesz became his country's first to win the Nobel Literature Prize. A group of American, Japanese and Swiss scientists shared the Nobel Prize in chemistry for inventing a new method to identifying and analyzing proteins, changing the way scientists hunt for new medicines. Americans Daniel Kahneman and Vernon Smith won the 2002 Nobel economics prize for developing economic experiments starting from college classrooms and for their work on the affect of psychology on people's buying or selling decisions. An American and two Britons won the Nobel Prize in medicine for discovering how genes regulate organ growth and programmed cell suicide. Finally, a Japanese and two American astrophysicists won the Nobel Prize in physics for using nature's most obscure particles and waves to in a theory to explain the universe.



Announcements

The Remaining Student Services Offices have Moved to the Center for Student Services Building (South Wing) located at 414 S. Holliston:

<i>First Floor</i>	<i>Second Floor</i>	<i>Third Floor</i>
Bursars Office	Dean of Students	Undergraduate Admissions
Mail Code 120-87	Mail Code 210-87	Mail Code 328-87

Financial Aid	Graduate Office	Fellowships
Mail Code 110-87	Mail Code 230-87	Advising & Study Abroad
		Mail code 319-87

Registrars Office	VP for Student Affairs	Student Information Sys.
Mail Code 125-87	Mail Code 210-87	Mail Code 305-87

Student Affairs will be hosting a campus-wide open house in early fall. Details will follow soon. In the meantime, please come visit us in the new south wing of the Center for Student Services.

ASCIT is looking for students who may be interested in building a **Caltech Rose Parade Float**. Did you know that Cal Poly has a float in the Rose Parade every single year while Caltech has not built a float since 1991? Students are needed to help with fundraising, administrative duties, fact-finding, and a lot of engineering. There will be an open meeting to discuss this project on Wednesday, October 16 at 7:30pm in SAC 65.

Learn Self Defense and Martial Arts. The Caltech Shorinji Kempo Club practices on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 7pm in Brown Gym, and on Sundays at 3.30pm in Braun Gym (multi-purpose room). You're welcome to drop in for any of our sessions and try it out. No experience required. Wear comfortable clothing. PE credit available (ask us for details). Information: elijah@caltech.edu or www.its.caltech.edu/~shorinji/.

The Intercultural Discussion and Support Group creates opportunities for you to meet students from all over the world and have meaningful discussions about experiencing a different culture. Whether you are from India or Indiana, this group will provide you with an opportunity to explore some of the challenges and frustrations associated with cross-cultural encounters, as well as to discuss the importance and rewards of successfully managing these encounters. If you have an interesting story to share about your experiences meeting someone from a different place, or if you would just like to discuss some of the challenges that you have faced adjusting to your "new Caltech home", you are welcome to join our group. Meetings are open to all Caltech students and take place every Monday beginning October 21 from 12 - 1 PM in the Common Area outside of International Student Programs (250-86, 2nd floor of the Center for Student Services). If you plan on attending one of these lunch meetings, please contact ISP at ois@its.caltech.edu - this will guarantee that we have enough food for everyone!

Caltech Chess Club. Caltech finally has its own chess club! We are newly established and welcome people of all levels and from all of the Caltech community (including students, postdocs, faculty, staff, spouses). Whether you are an expert or hardly know the rules, you will have fun at our club meetings. We have recreational play, competitive play, and sometimes lectures by masters. We also plan to form teams for intercollegiate matches and amateur championships. We meet on Fridays at 8pm at Avery Dining Hall, just stop by. Membership is free. More info: Patrick Hummel, hummel@its.caltech.edu, or Wei Ji Ma, ma@klab.caltech.edu.

Looking to add a little drama and romance to your life? **The Caltech Opera Club** is the answer! No acting or singing experience is required. Just your love or interest in opera is all that is needed to join. We meet once a month at lunch time to hear beautiful music, and learn about this complete and extravagant art. Open to all members (students, faculty, staff) of the Caltech and JPL community. Next meeting: October 17, Thursday, 12 - 1 P.M. Chris Brennen Conference Room, Center for Student Services, 3rd Floor Guest Speaker: Louis Bernstein from the Los Angeles Opera League Speakers Bureau. Please email Angela Wood at auwood@caltech.edu with questions.

The Caltech Dance Troupe will be offering professionally-taught Beginning Hip-Hop on Mondays from 10-11:30 PM and Intermediate Jazz on Tuesdays from 9:30-11 PM. Beginning ballet classes will be on Saturdays from 1-2 PM and intermediate ballet classes will be on Saturdays from 2-3:30 PM. Ballet classes are taught by Dance Troupe members. Classes will start September 30. The Ballet classes are free, and the professionally-taught classes cost \$20/term for Caltech grads and undergrads, \$30/term for other members of the Caltech community. To attend classes, simply show up with a Caltech ID or gym membership card. No special clothing or shoes are required for the beginners' classes. To be added to our mailing list, please e-mail troupe@caltech.edu. For more info and the most up-to-date class schedules, please see our web site at <http://troupe.caltech.edu>.

CIT Guitar Classes for the Fall quarter will meet on Tuesdays in SAC Room 1, starting on October 9 as follows: Beginning Guitar Class 4:30 PM - 5:30 PM; Intermediate Guitar Class 3:00 PM - 4:00 PM; Advanced Guitar Class 5:30 PM - 6:30 PM. Classical and flamenco repertoires are explored, but techniques transfer to other styles of guitar. The Beginning Class includes a jazz/folk chord system. Classes are free to Caltech students and other members of the Caltech community (space permitting). Undergrads can receive 3 units of credit. The instructor, Darryl Denning, has an international background in performance, teaching and recording (two of his CDs are available in the Bookstore). Mr. Denning can be reached at ext. 2923 or (323) 465-0881 or by email at: ddenning@caltech.edu. The Guitar Home Page is: www.music.caltech.edu/denning/index.html.

Jane Curtis, Health Educator is located in Room 64, Student Activities Center. Her hours are: Monday and Wednesday 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Tuesday and Thursday 8:30 a.m.-6 p.m. and Friday 8 a.m.-5 p.m. You can schedule an appointment or visit during her drop-in hours, which are: Tuesday 10 - 11 a.m. Wednesday 5 - 7 p.m. Thursday 2 - 3 p.m. Free pamphlets and condoms are available across from Room 64, and a bulletin board is available for anonymous inquiries and posts. A student-centered advisory council is in the process of being created. All interested students are encouraged to contact Jane, ext. 2961.

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 LBGAT events on campus, please visit the Caltech Student Pride Association (CSPA) calendar at <http://rainbow.caltech.edu>.

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. No attachments, please. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all material. Deadline is noon Friday.

Unless specified, all mints will run for two weeks.

Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory Archival Data Analysis for Studying Temporal and Spectral Properties of Gamma-Ray Sources. This is an announcement of opportunity for one or two undergraduate student in physics, astronomy or computer science to participate in a work-study research program at the Jet Propulsion Laboratory. The job requires processing and analyzing the 9-year archival earth occultation gamma-ray database obtained by the Burst and Transient Spectroscopy Experiment (BATSE) onboard the NASA Compton Gamma-Ray Observatory between 1991 and 2000. The major scientific objective is to study properties of gamma-ray emission from cosmic sources including galactic black holes, active galactic nuclei and neutron-star systems. For this research, it would be useful if the student had some experience with programming on VMS and Unix platforms as well as working with the Interactive Data Language (IDL) package. Employment would be full time (40 hours/week) during the summer and part-time during the school year under the Caltech Work-Study program. Salary will be between \$12 and \$18/hour depending on the experience of the student. If you are interested in applying for the position, please call Dr. James Ling at (818)354-2819.

Scholarships

The Hispanic Scholarship Fund The fund ranges from \$1000 - \$3000 for students of Hispanic heritage attending a 4-year college or graduate school. Eligibility requirements include: being a U.S. citizen or legal permanent resident; having a minimum GPA of 2.7; being enrolled full-time; and having completed at least 12 undergraduate credits. Applications are available at www.hsf.net and are due by October 15, 2002.

The Measurement Science Conference (MSC) has established a fund to grant scholarships to students in an Engineering or Science or Quality Assurance degree program. The scholarship program places emphasis on papers or projects that discuss the advancement of measurement science technology. To be considered for one of five, \$1000 scholarships, individuals must: have completed at least 24 units of upper division courses in an Engineering or Science degree program or five courses in a Masters Degree program in Quality Assurance; have an overall GPA of at least 3.2; be a U.S. citizen; and be able to attend the Measurement Science Conference on January 16, 2003 in Anaheim. Submit an application before November 29, 2002. Applications are available in the Financial Aid Office.

The National Institute of Health (NIH), the nation's premier biomedical research institution, offers an innovative program to support the career development of the next generation of biomedical health researchers - an undergraduate program for students from disadvantaged backgrounds. The Undergraduate Scholarship Program for Individuals from Disadvantaged Backgrounds (UGSP) basic requirements are:

- U.S. citizen, national or qualified permanent resident
- must be enrolled or accepted for enrollment as a full-time student for the 2003-2004 academic year at an accredited undergraduate institution.
- must be from a disadvantaged background
- must have a GPA of 3.5 or be within the top 5 per cent of his or her class.

Complete details including an on-line application can be found at <http://ugsp.info.nih.gov>. Applications are due by February 28, 2003.

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

Caltech Library System Presents: The following sessions are approximately one hour of formal instruction in the Sherman Fairchild Library Multimedia Conference Room (328). Walk-ins are welcome, but pre-registration is preferred.

October 15, Noon: "Structure Searching: Beilstein and Gmelin"

October 17, 2:00pm: "Web of Science for Science and Engineering"

You may register for these and other upcoming classes at: <http://library.caltech.edu/learning/>. For further information, please contact Kathleen McGregor at x6713 or kathleen@library.caltech.edu.

We invite you to participate in **Caltech Women's Science Symposium!** November 12-13in the Beckman Institute. Sponsored by WEST (Women in Engineering, Science and Technology). This symposium will highlight the achievements of Caltech women scientists at all levels (undergrad to faculty). Events will include:

- * Research talks by women Caltech faculty
- * Social events to meet other women scientists
- * Professional development seminars
- * Poster session showcasing the work of women students and postdocs

We would like to invite all female students to submit a poster for this symposium. This is a great opportunity to share your SURF, internship, or other research experience. Participation in this symposium will give you an excellent opportunity to network with successful women scientists at Caltech, establish potential mentoring relations, and will look GREAT on your resume and/or grad school applications! Also, we will be awarding \$500 travel grants to the most outstanding poster in each of three categories: undergraduate, graduate, and post-doc. To submit a poster, just send a short abstract (150 words max) to westclub@its.caltech.edu by Friday, October 18. Please note that the entire Caltech community (women and men; students, faculty and staff) are invited to attend the symposium. WEST is also organizing a special two-day workshop on poster design for Oct. 24 and 31. To sign up, send an email to westclub@caltech.edu; priority will be given to those presenting a poster for the symposium.

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