



Buhler and Chang receive Watson Fellowships

LORI DAJOSE
Contributing Writer

Exactly \$25,000, one year, and literally a whole world of possibilities.

Sound appealing? For two seniors, Eric Chang and Peter

graduating college. How this year is spent is limited only by the applicant's own creativity: any topic within reason is open to consideration.

That's all well and good, but the application process is rigorous. First the student applies to be nominated by his or her school

of the Tokyo skyline for a Lloyd Interhouse was one of the more memorable manifestations of this. More recently, he has been inspired by environmentalism. Combining these two interests, he will divide his time among Shanghai, Hong Kong, India, and Taiwan during the Fellowship period, exploring

geology major, he will be studying life forms in extreme environments to effectively look back in time at what the early Earth might have been like. In the first stage of his fellowship, Buhler will head north to British Columbia, where he will examine fossil locales that span the major geological epochs of up

next year may provide insights as to what extraterrestrial life might look like. Buhler's adventure will be relatively devoid of other humanoid life forms as well, as he will only be checking in with an advisor occasionally. But the point of the Watson, he says, is having time alone to think and reflect.



Seniors Peter Buhler (left) and Eric Chang (right) take a minute from their busy work schedules to flash friendly smiles for The Tech.

- Sandhya Chandrasekaran

Buhler, this will become a reality shortly after they graduate. Chang and Buhler have each been awarded a Watson Fellowship—they are two of 700 applicants, only 40 of which were selected.

The Watson Fellowship is a \$25,000 grant, which supports an individual's independent study and exploration for one year after

and, if nominated, must write a second application detailing the proposed study and travel. After this application stage, three people, including the President of the Watson Program himself, interview the Watson hopefuls.

For mechanical engineer Eric Chang, an interest in architecture and the prospect of more traveling (he has studied in both England and Paris) helped him envision his project. Since childhood, he has been interested in building things: constructing a replica

ideas of sustainability and energy efficiency in building design. He will be working closely with architects, businesses, and professors, researching how we can make buildings more "green," without spending too much green. Chang imagines that this will allow him to generate solutions for housing the ever-growing world population: "These issues are going to have a large impact on the world," says Chang.

Peter Buhler's Watson Fellowship deals less with preparing for the future, and more with understanding past. A

to 530 million years ago. Then he will head to Spain to study life in the Rio Tinto, a river whose pH is 2 (for those of you who aren't chemists, that's equivalent to a big tub of vinegar) and is blood red from its iron, sulfur, and lead content. From Spain, he will make his final stop in Chile to search for life in the Atacama Desert, the driest place on Earth where it has rained only once since the 1400's. Buhler is fascinated by potential life on Mars and believes that it is "very possible there's life outside the Solar System," and the extreme environments he'll be studying

Of course, in order to get to this point, much hard work and innovation was required. "It's hard to escape the grind of homework sets," Chang notes, and it's easy to get caught up trying to meet requirements and lose focus on the bigger picture. But the purpose of the Watson Fellowship is all about broader perspective and exploration. As Buhler affirms, "The Watson has this 'go exploring mentality.' Its structure is very open-ended." The best way to escape the daily drudgery, Chang concludes, is to "create something out of the ordinary."

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News briefs from around the globe

Helping readers burst out of the Caltech bubble

Need to know < **100** words about the world this week – topics sorted from good to bad
by Sam Barnett – links to full stories available at barnett.caltech.edu/news

HIV prevention drug	90% reduced risk of infection with daily dose of Truvada	[NYTIMES]
Film industry record	\$ 207 million – highest US debut ever – earned by The Avengers	[CNN]
Investment in Asia	30% of international hedge funds are now based in China	[CNBC]
Yahoo CEO resigns	3 CEOs in 3 years – he faked having a computer science degree	[REUTERS]
Failed hedging strategy	\$ 2 billion loss reported by JPMorgan – bank's reputation suffers	[REUTERS]
Afghan assassination	1 member of the High Peace Council killed – negotiations delayed	[LATIMES]
Drug cartel murders	49 decapitated bodies found by authorities in northern Mexico	[CNN]

Food with Mannion!

Do you like eating food?

How about free food at nice restaurants?

Ever want to tell the world exactly what you think of said food?

The Tech will be beginning a new column to chronicle the foodie experiences of new writers every other week... The Catch: They'll be going head-to-head with Tom Mannion who will be reviewing the same restaurant. If you have ever thought you were more of a gourmand than our resident master chef, now's your chance to prove it!

Email us for a spot on the list at tech@caltech.edu

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ASCIT Minutes

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting – Minutes April 30, 2012. Taken by Laura Santoso

Officer's present: Chris Hallacy, Pushpa Neppala, Christian Rivas, Diego Caporale, Mario Zubia, Laura Santoso, Puikui Cheng, Michelle Tang

Funding Requests

1. Boxing Club (Laura Santoso): They want to have 10 classes/term instead of 8 classes, as originally planned. GRANTED: \$200

President's Report

1. SFC: computer advisory meeting was held. The committee is looking towards changing the caltech.edu mailing system – aka they would use gmail or 365 to host the Caltech mailing system instead of webmail.caltech. They also may replace the phone network. The land line phone switch is about to break because there has been flooding, so they are fixing it.

Officer's Reports

1. ARC (Pushpa)
 - a. ASCIT Teaching Awards: have been awarded! See the Tech article about them.
 - b. Prof of the Month: has also been selected. Reception will be with the next prof of the month. See ARC emails/Tech articles.
 - c. Student Faculty Lunch: next one will be May 9. There will hopefully be Thai food!
 - d. CCSC (core curriculum steering committee): they are trying to get curriculum reform updates in the Tech now, so students can see core changes as they happen.
 - e. Huntington Tea (through the Caltech Y): the Y is trying to organize a student lunch with professors at the Huntington Garden Tea Room.
2. IHC (Christian)
 - a. Formal dinner: still working with CDS to figure out group house formal dinners.
 - c. Postdoc Mentoring: Christian met with a group of postdocs who want to start a postdoc mentoring program for undergrads.
 - d. Rotation: Reminder that it will be starting the Thursday BEFORE classes! We won't have to pay for additional housing, so book flights that come in by then.
3. Director of Operations (Diego)
 - a. New Ops Man: Diego is introducing Mario to Ops tasks like inventory, SAC rooms.
4. Treasurer (Mario)
 - a. Inventory: Mario has paid for lost items from ASCIT inventory.
5. Social Director (Prakriti – updates sent in)
 - a. Europarty: will likely happen this year! More to follow.
6. Secretary (Laura)
 - a. New Secretary: sign ups will be outside Fleming until Tuesday, May 8. Interviews will follow shortly.
 - b. Donut: working on making a new page with student leader info.

Diversity should mean more than just race

TRAVIS SCHOLTEN
Contributing Writer

Recently, I came across a piece written by Fadl Saadi, a graduate student in Professor Nate Lewis' group. The title of Mr. Saadi's essay was "Caltech's Shocking Lack of Diversity: A Microcosm for the United States?"; and can be viewed at http://www.policymic.com/articles/7995/caltech-s-shocking-lack-of-diversity-a-microcosm-for-the-united-states/latest_articles.

I suppose a rebuttal in the form of statistics and measures would be appropriate, but I will not try that here. Too often one simply slices and dices the numbers so as to fit one's own agenda (For those who read the above link, or even those who do not, ponder the following: just because Caltech is located in Los Angeles, does this mean our campus demographics should reflect those of the city? Or should we use U.S. demographics instead? Or how about the "demographics" of the universe? Under that paradigm, Caltech should consist of no people whatsoever!).

Instead, I will attempt to present a more philosophical and abstract rebuttal to Mr. Saadi's assertions and claims. It is usually in these kinds of discussions that motivations and desires come to light, and which provide more useful information in terms of understanding the positions people take with respect to policy issues.

The guiding light for my opinion on the subject of diversity stems from a quote by Thomas Sowell: "The code word for the new racism is diversity."

What exactly does that mean? Is there racism inherent in the pursuit of diversity?

What's more, if there is such racism, is it acceptable? Are there policies which can help achieve diversity without being racist? These are all valid questions.

To start, one must realize the pursuit of diversity can itself be a form of racism insofar as arguments advancing diversity have been made to support policies which grant to some races a stronger preference for

a minority race than those who are in the majority. Quite deplorably, almost all arguments which support diversity have taken this racist stance. As Mr. Saadi seems to indicate, if you are Hispanic or black or Native American or an Alaska Native, you should come to Caltech. Asians and whites need not apply. If this is not racism in the definition of the word, I do not know what is.

Notice, though, I have not said anything regarding whether diversity itself is desirable. That is an entirely separate issue from the issue of racism. In fact, the concept of diversity is more about the culture and ideology of different humans than their race. I have merely pointed out that the common arguments used to promote diversity are themselves inherently racist.

For instance, we all know affirmative action policies explicitly grant preference to minority students rather than those who are in the majority. For most of U.S. history, the majority has referred to people who are white.

Affirmative action was suggested as a way to make reparations for the wrongs committed by whites against blacks and other races, as well as to help ensure those people would have access to the same opportunities as whites. For those championing "minority rights", this would seem to be a positive step forward.

I would thus strongly encourage Mr. Saadi (or anyone who supports affirmative action) to consider the following hypothetical: if whites were to become a minority race, will they be granted the same affirmative action protection as other races?

Or will whites be denied these protections in a continued attempt to "make up" for the oppression of the past? Time will reveal that

supports the policy so long as whites are not involved.

This thought experiment should lead one to realize that any policies which promote a racial preference are, exactly by definition, racist. So as to make my stance on the issue clear: I oppose

workplace employment. Either you - solely as an individual - can do the job, can learn the knowledge, or you can't.

That's it. There should be no considerations about whether you are black or white or yellow or brown.

In his essay, Mr. Saadi claims our student body is not diverse enough, and that as a result we will not grow as human beings while we study in our "homogeneous enclave."

Without attempting to explain how non-homogeneous the Caltech undergraduate population is (an anime society, a Chinese association, a Hawaiian club, a Hong-Kong student association - the list of apparently "homogeneous" groups goes on and on), I will simply state that I reject Mr. Saadi's claim by way of personal experience and that of others I know.

I am a farmboy from South Dakota; my best friend hails from Shanghai, China and makes a great baked chicken.

Another comes from the Illinois Math and Science Academy and is a badass gymnast. I have no doubt my life has been enriched, and my worldview challenged and expanded, by people like these two friends of mine.

I am certainly sad to be leaving them in a month's time.

That aside, a keen observer will note that over these last four years I have made an effort to meet people, to debate with people, to discuss politics and philosophy and life with people. In short, I took the

“...perhaps what is worse, arguments for diversity explicitly entail racial preferences by indicating it is more desirable to include people who are part of a minority race than those who are in the majority.”

racism, and I dislike racists. Why is racism not acceptable? Because I believe mistreating a person simply on the basis of their race is morally repugnant. Because it is an abomination to restrict people's liberties and freedoms simply because of their race. Because liberty and freedom are concepts which extend to all humans, not just to those of a privileged color.

I think those who support affirmative action agree with me on the whole regarding the above paragraph, except they wish to add the caveat "But it's OK to restrict liberties and freedoms for some races." Naturally, one recalls that most

quotable line from George Orwell's "Animal Farm" - "All animals are equal, but some animals are more equal than others." In modern parlance, it reads "All humans are created equal, but those who share my worldview are more equal than those who do not." Should affirmative action continue?

As affirmative action is itself a racist policy, I believe it should be abolished not only in education, but also in the sphere of employment; in general, affirmative action-style policies

should be abolished in any place where racial preferences are used for determining whether an individual is worthy of a particular freedom or liberty.

In place of affirmative action, I strongly support a merit-based approach to college admissions and

inssofar as the Caltech student body is concerned, this means I do not care if Caltech Admissions happens to select an entirely Hispanic or Asian or European or Indian class, provided the procedure they followed which produced this outcome is race-blind. If Caltech Admissions deliberately chose to

“As affirmative action is itself a racist policy, I believe it should be abolished not only in education, but also in the sphere of employment...I strongly support a merit-based approach to college admissions and workplace employment.”

ignore or reject candidates because of their race, I would be upset. Unlike Mr. Saadi though, I accept that sometimes circumstances and situations occur in which a candidate who is of a minority race is not admitted.

That outcome is entirely OK, provided the Admissions Office did not reject that candidate simply because he or she is a minority.

In short then, in the absence of the existence of a personal or professional or procedural preference for any race, Caltech Admissions should be free to choose whatever class it sees fit, guided, of course, by the mission and vision of the Institute.

But what of diversity? Should we abandon the concept completely? Diversity, as a way of bringing people of different backgrounds and viewpoints together for the purpose of achieving a common understanding, is definitely a desirable thing.

The world, and Caltech, could use a lot more communication among people of different beliefs.

steps necessary to feed my mind with a stream of new and differing (and sometimes infuriatingly correct!) viewpoints.

I would encourage Mr. Saadi to do the same; he has quite a bit of time, especially as he has been with the Caltech community only since August of last year. Does diversity really have to come so neatly wrapped in a difference in skin color?

To that end, I am publicly declaring that I am willing to buy Mr. Saadi a cup of coffee or tea at the Red Door so we can sit and chat.

We can pick a time convenient for the two of us, provided the time occurs before the end of this term. I would ask for an hour of Mr. Saadi's time, and that he bring a friend along to confirm that I did, in fact, meet with him.

I would also admonish those readers who were upset or bemused by this text to make a similar offer to me.

In either case, I may be contacted at jgalt12@caltech.edu.

“Diversity, as a way of bringing people of different background and viewpoints together, for the purpose of achieving a common understanding, is definitely a desirable thing.”

some kind of benefit-acceptance to college, for instance - than another race.

Moreover, and perhaps what is worse, arguments for diversity explicitly entail racial preferences by indicating it is more desirable to include people who are part of

answer, at least in California, as Hispanics are predicted to become the majority race in the next few decades.

The side Mr. Saadi would take on such a hypothetical would tell us whether he is a true champion of affirmative action, or if he only

Caltech Couture: Guys, it's time to suit up!

ALEX LANGERFELD
Staff Writer

It is now May and a host of exciting events is coming up. For one thing, Graduation is just around the corner for many seniors regular paychecks are perhaps only weeks away. It's time to suit up.

Searching for a suit, as well as actually wearing one, may seem like a daunting task to many guys here. For one thing, you have to forget the flip flops and baggy T-shirts for at least a couple of hours. You may also encounter some pretty intimidating price tags and lofty store assistants.

Nevertheless a suit is a necessity, as may be proven by the graduation ceremony alone. And, as the age-old saying goes, "women love a man in a suit." So, a good suit is a worthy investment and it's better to have one good suit than several OK suits.

I've seen many friends suffer from the difficulties of finding a good suit to wear to formal occasions, and while helping them shop I've learned that suit-buying is indeed a rather complicated task. So, I'd like to help out the un-suited Techers by distilling some of the most basic principles of the good suit.

If you have any suit at all, you should have one universal suit that functions both as formal attire and as a business suit.

It can go from day to night, any time of the year, from the office to receptions to cocktail parties to dinners and to operas.

This suit is best in deep navy blue (the next colors would be charcoal and then medium gray). Streamlined detailing and wool fabric are best. Do not associate "wool" with Christmas sweaters. You will not sweat in this suit and the fibers of the fabric will last you many years.

Now you have a color and a fabric. Next is fit. Here are some signs of a good fit:

- Natural shoulder: if it is padded, the padding neither hangs off your shoulder nor does your shoulder bulge out from underneath; the shoulder fit is critical for the overall fit of the jacket. Suits are not meant to show off your muscles, but don't worry. If you're well-built, all your hours at the gym and all the pounds of protein powder you've been hounding will still show in a well-fitted suit through its proportions and angles.

- The lapel notch should be small and high; it should be right at the level of your collar bone.

- Sleeves should never reach below the base of your thumb.

- The jacket should fit snugly around your stomach – a suit jacket is not a Beavers hoodie.

Besides the jacket, the fit of the pants is also crucial. If buying off the rack, you may need to ask for a different size pant, so butter up the store clerk before asking for this.

- Pants should have a 1 1/2" - 1 3/4" cuff which will weigh them down for a cleaner break.

- A break is the way the front crease breaks when the pant leg hits the shoe.

- A flat front (instead of pleated) as well as a lower waist are more modern, but pleats are classic and forgiving for a not-so-perfect waistline.

- Pant legs should have at most 1" to spare in touching the shoes.

Now it's possible to follow all the rules and conventions of formal dress and still look unremarkable. This is the "good boy" trap. You've done everything correctly.

The suit fits well, you picked a good fabric and color, but that's it. The key to actually looking good in a suit is to look natural in it and this calls for a personality. If you're a plain person, I guess you'll look plain in a suit too. But for those who have a personality (thankfully most people here I believe), by all means show it!

This doesn't (necessarily) mean finding a lime-green suit or wearing matching cowboy boots. You can stylishly and elegantly show a bit of yourself by choosing your shirt, tie, and accessories. Picking these out is your chance to shine, but here are some guidelines to ensure that you won't look like a parrot.

- Plain jackets go best with a patterned tie and a striped shirt.

- If both the shirt and the tie are striped, the tie should have the bolder pattern.

- If the shirt is checked and the tie is striped, the scales of the two patterns should be the same.

- If the jacket and the shirt are both striped, the shirt's stripes should be bolder.

- In general, if the jacket has a bolder pattern, the shirt should have a milder pattern and vice versa.

- Match leather and metal detailing: silver and gold clash as well as black and brown leather (same goes for the girls, so choose your shoes and purses wisely!).

- Chocolate brown shoes are best for deep navy suits although deep navy goes well with black leather too.

- Black suits can only have black leather accessories.

- CHECK YOUR SOCKS!!! Get dark-colored dress socks. Do not, please do not, wear your gym socks with a suit!

Matching is all about balancing the features, so smaller or less visible pieces (like shirt and tie) can afford to have bolder prints and textures.

Now you've avoided the "good boy" catastrophe, but here is the final challenge: "the natural." If you're not used to wearing suits, forget trying to look good in the best suit you've got. You'll fidget, slouch, and won't know what to do with your hands.

Practice wearing a suit. Use formal House dinners as rehearsals. Gosh, ask a girl on a nice date! There are so many well-priced nice restaurants, wine bars, and tea

rooms within walking distance. If you want something specific, the

Shock your roommate with your suaveness. The suit should feel like

Oh, also learn how to tie a tie. Please. And don't do the Superman

by flipping your tie over your shoulder. Believe me, I've seen this live on campus. As cool as it may seem at the moment or in the Marvel comic strip, you'll either look like a pretentious superhero wannabe or like you've actually never worn a good suit before.

You want to wear the suit, not have the suit wear you. I think that phrase I

mentioned earlier really should say "women like a man in a suit—who knows how to wear it."

“

You can stylishly and elegantly show a bit of yourself by choosing your shirt, tie, and accessories...but here are some guidelines to ensure that you won't look like a parrot.

”

Huntington is almost a guaranteed success! Really, do anything. Walk around your room if you need to.

a second skin, and also don't forget about breaking your shoes in to avoid crippling blisters.

Students leaders recognized

The Dean of Undergraduate Students hosted a lunch at the Athenaeum on April 30, 2012 to honor and recognize this year's winners of the leadership awards.

Frederic W. Hinrichs, Jr. Memorial Award

Chris Hallacy and Laura Conwill are the joint winners of the 2012 Hinrichs Memorial Award. This award is given in memory of Frederic W. Hinrichs, Jr., who served for more than 20 years as Dean and professor at the Institute. The award bearing his name is made annually to the seniors who throughout their undergraduate years have made the greatest contributions to the student body and whose qualities of character, leadership, and responsibility have been outstanding.

Mabel Beckman Prize

Margaret Chiu is the recipient of the 2012 Mabel Beckman Prize. This award is given in memory of Mrs. Beckman's many years of commitment to Caltech's educational and research programs. This award is for academic excellence and outstanding leadership skills, a commitment to personal excellence, good character, and a strong interest in the Caltech community.

Bibi Jentoft-Nilsen Memorial Award

Sebastian Rojas Mata is this year's winner of the Bibi Jentoft-Nilsen Memorial Award. This prize is given in memory of Bibi Jentoft-Nilsen, Caltech '89, an exceptional student leader. After her untimely death in 1990, a fund was established to recognize outstanding student leaders.

Doris Everhart Service Award

Katie Brennan was selected as the recipient of the Doris

Everhart Service Award. This award is given annually to an undergraduate who has actively supported and willingly worked for organizations that enrich student life, and the campus or community as a whole, and who has, exhibited care and concern for the welfare of students on a personal basis.

Deans' Cup and Campus Life and Master's Award

Deans' Cup and Campus Life and Master's Award are presented to undergraduates whose concern for their fellow students has been demonstrated by persistent efforts to improve the quality of undergraduate life and by effective communication with members of the faculty and administration.

Kristen Holtz and Nadia Lara received the 2012 Deans' Cup. Thomas Heavey, Skylar Cook, Adam Khan, Shannon Mohler, and Yuyang Fan were awarded the Campus Life and Master's Award.

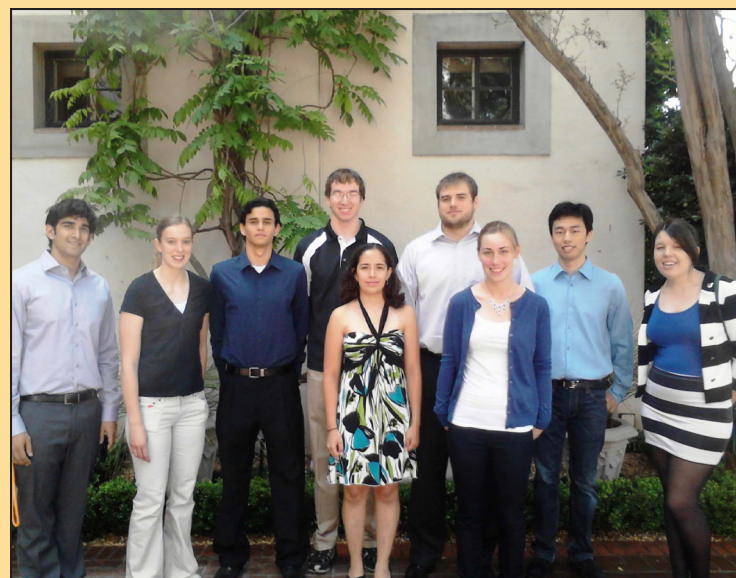
Mari Peterson Ligocki '81 Memorial Award

Dan Sexton was selected as the recipient of this year's Mari

Peterson Ligocki '81 Memorial Award. The Mari Peterson Ligocki '81 Memorial Award is made to one student who through his or her personal character, has improved the quality of student life at Caltech. It recognizes the student who provides quiet support and kind encouragement to peers. This fund was established by Mr. José F. Helú Jr. '79 to honor the memory of Mari Peterson Ligocki, '81, who possessed these qualities.

The Lucy Guernsey Service Award

Katja Luxem and Lisa Mauger are the recipients of this year's Lucy Guernsey Service Award. The Lucy Guernsey Service Award was established by the Caltech Y ExComm in honor of Lucy Guernsey, the Y's Executive Director from 1989-1991. The award is given annually to one or two students who have provided exceptional service to the Y and/or the community and exemplify a spirit of service.



From left to right: Adam Khan, Shannon Mohler, Sebastian Rojas Mata, Chris Hallacy, Nadia Lara, Dan Sexton, Laura Conwill, Yuyang Fan, Katie Brennan.
Not pictured: Margaret Chiu, Katja Luxem, Tommy Heavey & Lisa Mauger

- Provided by Beth Larranaga

The Tech chats with Irish poet Sinead Morrissey

JONATHAN SCHOR
Editor-in-Chief

From May 1 to May 3, Caltech had the pleasure of a visit from Irish poet Sinead Morrissey. Raised in Belfast, Morrissey was awarded the prestigious Patrick Kavanagh award for poetry at the age of 18. Since then, she has published four collections of poetry and is currently a Creative Writing Lecturer at the Seamus Heaney Centre for Poetry at Queen's University, Belfast.

California Tech: What brought you to Caltech and what have you done these past few days?

Morrissey: I was invited to Caltech by Kevin Gilmartin, who is teaching an Irish Literature course here. I'm one of the writers that is read in the course, so last April he wrote to invite me to come to Caltech, give a poetry reading, and talk to two different groups of students. The first was his Irish Literature course, and the second group was students who were studying creative writing poetry here at Caltech.

CT: When you were first contacted by Prof. Gilmartin, what was your initial reaction? Had you heard of Caltech?

M: I hadn't heard of Caltech... but I was in the States at the time when I got the invitation. I was in Arizona, because my husband's from Arizona...and his family knew about Caltech.

But I was intrigued to be invited to Caltech, intrigued to be invited to California. Subsequently, when I went back to Ireland and I was telling people that I was going to come to Caltech, lots of people had heard of it and knew exactly how prestigious Caltech is as an institution in the states.

So I become increasingly more excited to come here, given people's reactions.



From left to right: Jeff Han, Alison Tan, and Sinead Morrissey talk over lunch at the Athenaeum.

- Jonathan Schor

CT: Learning more about Caltech as a math and science institute, did you have any notions as to how we would react to creative writing?

M: I've been really surprised over the course of my visit at how enthusiastic Caltech students are about humanities, and how integrated the humanities are at Caltech.

I think it's really unique, and it's absolutely extraordinary. I'm used to a much more divided education system, where when you go to university you just study the subject...you major in, and that's all you do from a much earlier age.

There's much more of a division between sciences and the arts at home, and in the States I know that with the Liberal Arts education students are required at all stages to do other things. I think it's a really good system.

It's already more integrated in the American system than it would be in the system at home, but even

given that I'm amazed with the level of enthusiasm that the students show for humanities subjects...I find the students very impressive, and certainly as able for humanities subjects and approaches as anyone I've ever come across at home. I've been very impressed.

CT: A lot of students at Caltech knew from a young age that they wanted to go into math or science. Did you get a similar feeling regarding poetry?

M: Absolutely, yes. I knew by the time that I was ten that poetry was the thing that I wanted to devote my life to.

CT: Do you think it was finding your passion early in life helped you to develop as a poet later on?

M: I think it's very helpful to know what you want to do with your life early on, and I think that it's even more helpful when that idea doesn't

change, in some respect...I'm 40 now...so I've spent three decades trying to be a better poet.

CT: Many Caltech students find that the institution is a good place to nurture that same sort of early passion.

What was your experience nurturing your creative writing as a student at Trinity College?

M: I've never studied creative writing...I studied English and I studied German, they were my two undergraduate subjects, and then I did a PhD in 18th-century fiction.

My experience has been very academic, and the things I teach my creative writing students now are things that I've spent years and years working out for myself. I think the great advantage of a creative writing course is that you get great advice in shorthand.

CT: Can you highlight some of your favorite parts of your visit?

M: There are lots, actually, I've really enjoyed my stay.

I really enjoyed [a conversation I had with students] about the houses, and the culture of the different houses.

I've really enjoyed both of my classes, and I've gotten tremendous amounts of energy back from the students.

I also sat in on [Professor Warren Brown's] Viking class, and I really enjoyed that...The level of interaction between the tutor and the students [in that class] was phenomenal...I've never seen something quite so impressive before...for an undergraduate group of students who are all majors in science and math subjects.

CT: What did you expect to get out of your visit to Caltech?

M: I knew I'd really love it before I came. It was going to be very interesting for me to see a completely different education system...from the one I'm used to working with at home, and I've been very interested to see the intimate workings of such a prestigious institution as Caltech.

It's very small, so I'm intrigued by the sociology of it, and [what it's like] having 900 undergraduate students only...and they're all incredibly smart...The interaction with students has easily been the best.

My expectation in terms of humanities-type questions has definitely been surpassed.

CT: Will you incorporate anything that you have seen here into how you teach in Ireland?

M: Definitely.

I think I've learned a lot from observing the teaching, and I think that that will probably play a part in my own teaching practice...I want to expect more of my students now.

Goldwater winners and CEWS Survey

Three undergraduate students have been awarded Barry M. Goldwater Scholarships for the 2012-13 academic year.

Samuel Gene Goldberg from California, Andrew Chengsi Meng from Louisiana, and Saptarshi Chaudhuri, from Ohio were all named 2012-13 Goldwater Scholars. The scholarship program, honoring the late Senator Barry M. Goldwater, is designed to encourage outstanding students to pursue careers in the fields of mathematics, the natural sciences, and engineering. The Goldwater Scholarship is considered one of the premier undergraduate awards of its

type in these fields. This year the Barry M. Goldwater Scholarship and Excellence in Education Foundation awarded a total of 282 academic merit scholarships to undergraduate sophomores and juniors from across the nation. The recipients were chosen from 1,123 mathematics, science, and engineering students who were nominated by the faculties of colleges and universities nationwide. The one- and two-year scholarships will cover the cost of tuition, fees, books, and room and board up to a maximum of \$7,500 per year. The Goldwater Foundation is a federally endowed agency. The foundation, since its first award in 1989 has bestowed over 6200 scholarships worth approximately \$39 million.

The Counseling Center is pleased to announce that the 2012 Caltech Emotional Well-being Survey, or CEWS, is now active, and we'd like to hear from you.

Your responses are anonymous.

The link to the 2012 CEWS is: <http://www.surveymonkey.com/s/CEWS12>

The survey also supports the https: protocol if you prefer.

All Caltech graduate and undergraduate students who complete the survey will have the option of entering a drawing for one Apple iPad 2.

Graduate students who respond can also enter a drawing for one \$100 Amazon.com gift card, and one of two \$50 Visa gift cards. The

undergraduate house with the most respondents will win a house dinner at Tom Mannion's, and all houses with more than a 70% response rate will win delicious Pocky to satisfy your chocolate cravings.

Entering the drawing is completely separate from taking the questionnaire, and your entry cannot be used to identify your responses.

Thank you for your help, and we look forward to hearing from you. If you'd like to contact anyone at the Counseling Center about your experiences with the CEWS, please call us at (626) 395-8331.

Kevin P. Austin, Ph.D.
Director, Counseling Services

Corrections and Edits

In the April 30th issue of The California Tech, it was incorrectly stated that Paul Asimov is leading the Program Committee for the Bechtel Residence; Vice President for Student Affairs Anneila Sargent is the Chair of the Committee.

The Committee also will not have the final call, but will forward multiple options to President Chameau. The President will consult with the Board of Trustees before making a final decision.

Campus Tour

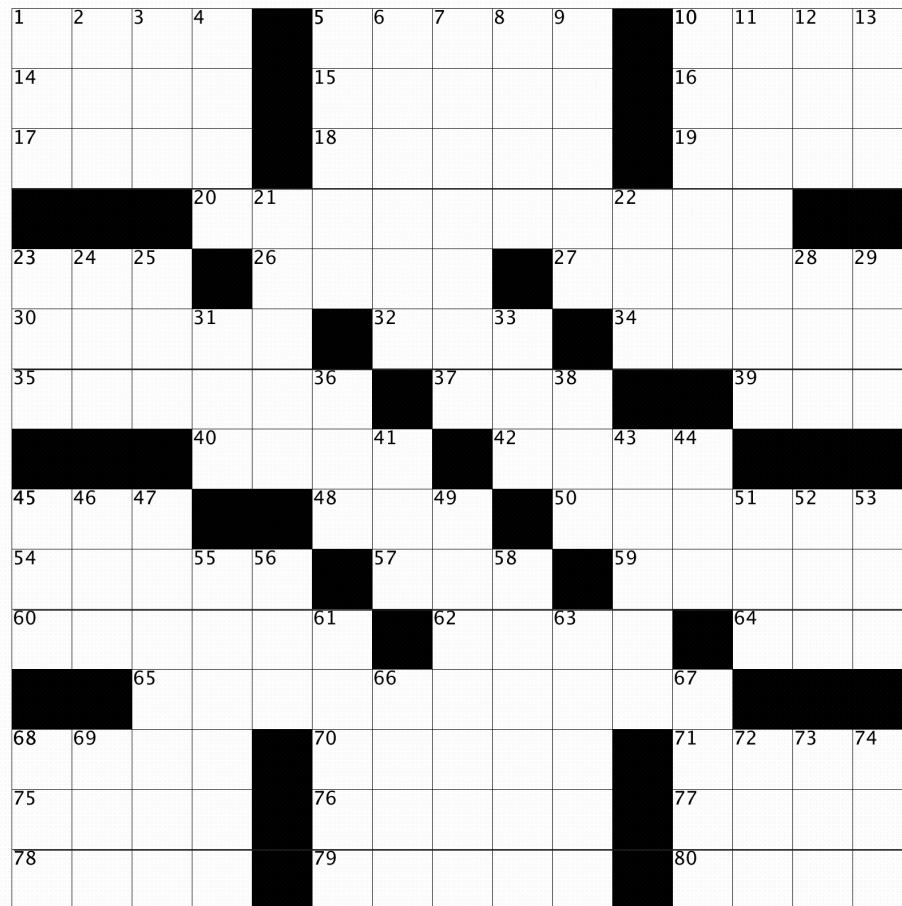
ACROSS

1. Hit with a dessert
5. World carrier
10. "Meaning?"
14. High singer
15. Decentralized religion
16. Golf company
17. Crazy type of motion
18. Southeastern chinese group
19. NBA scoring champ
20. What EEs get
23. Black _____
26. Type of bag
27. Famous dog
30. 1 / sin
32. Man who eats
34. Fuel the fire
35. Turkey's neckpiece
37. ___ ass
39. 8 bit console
40. Croaker
42. 14 across, on a ship
45. Famous boxer
48. Kanye interrupted this
50. Sound system
54. Civic builder
57. Affection
59. Morocco capital
60. _____ Earth metal
62. Crazy chica
64. Chat protocol
65. Holes in the Physics Department
68. Cow product
70. Excited
71. Questionable
75. String instrument
76. A word is to a book as a base pair is to _____
77. Wine locale

78. _____ the fool
 79. Perseveres
 80. Facile
- DOWN**
1. Buddy
 2. Union org.
 3. And then some
 4. MF _____
 5. Temporary solution
 6. Shred
 7. Run _____
 8. Queries
 9. Tiny
 10. US History or BC Calc.
 11. Bart or Lisa
 12. Feminine lat ender
 13. Lion locale on TV

21. Wilde or grouch
22. Caltech division
23. Detail-oriented
24. Raven teller
25. Lansing to Baton Rouge
28. Eisenhower, to friends
29. They make circuits, abbr.
31. Santa's helper
33. Web video maker
36. Perspective, abbr.
38. Professor's helpers, abbr.
41. Time std.
43. Jock _____
44. It can be iced
45. "Eureka!"
46. Cyber chuckle
47. Pen stain
49. Testifies
51. Baseball stat.
52. Corn unit
53. Available w/out prescription
55. Ominously
56. ___ Baba
58. Logical
61. Perfect
63. Is concerned
66. Monster Lady
67. Periodic function
68. Best athlete, abbr.
69. I + II
72. Flying safety org.
73. Halo or COD, e.g.
74. "Hurrah!"

Sam Szufliita



Clement finds unexpected joy in classical music

CLEMENT LACROUTE
Staff Writer

The characters depicted in this story, including myself, are purely fictional. Any resemblance to someone you know is pure coincidence, please don't sue me.

I don't know anything about classical music. I never learned to play the piano or the violin, my parents didn't play any classical music at home, and I didn't pay attention during the music classes in high school. I find the classical music hour on the French equivalent to NPR to be very boring. I once went to see a violin concerto in the Sydney Opera House, but that's really because I happened to be in Sidney and it's a really nice building. In other words, I had never felt drawn to classical music, or really connected to a

particular composer or conductor. I know that this guy Mozart was apparently very talented from a pretty early stage, and that Beethoven composed def tones, according to critics. I like the Gus Van Sant movies and their scores, too. But that's about it.

And then one day, I moved to Southern California. As any one of you, I had to buy a car, and drive my son to school every morning. I'm sorry, let me re-phrase that. As any one of you, I had to buy a car. And I needed to take my son to school every morning. One day my wife, Betty, told me: "hey, I tuned the radio to that station and Junior seems to like it a lot - you should try playing it when you take him to school, it's 91.5 FM"

And so I did. I tuned in to Classical KUSC, and the light fell upon me. A whole new world of music suddenly appeared right in front of my ears. Once every morning I would ask Junior: "let's

put the violins on, shall we?" and we would drive swiftly to school, listening to the merry voice of Dennis Bartel, and to the chanting instruments of old, dead Masters.

I guess it's the combination of the music, the road, and the California sunlight that did it for me. 95% of the time, when I start my engine, I tune in to KUSC. Of course if I am in a rockier mood I would tune in to KROQ or KYSR; if I want to listen to somebody weeping about how sad loving you is, I tune to "the Wave"; and if I want to know what's up in the US or around the world, then KPCC is the right choice (did you know they have a science program sponsored by Caltech?). But Classical KUSC: that's the stuff, really. Traffic jams? Who cares!

Unfortunately, things have changed. My son goes to a different school, and I can walk him there. I bike to work. I hardly have any time at all to listen to KUSC. I thus use the car under any pretense, but

then I feel bad for Mother Earth and my wallet, as the gas price goes up. And then, one day, I'll have to go back to the Old Continent. I'll still be able to listen to kusc.org, but will it ever feel the same? My only cure will then be to sit down in a nice chair, and play one of those Bach violin concertos, or something like that...

Note: It is with great sadness that I learned that Adam Yauch, Beastie Boys' MCA, passed away on Friday, May 4 2012. He died from a cancer that he'd been fighting for the past three years. The Beastie Boys are both one of the oldest and greatest hip-hop bands of all time, and were inducted this year to the Rock n' Roll hall of fame. They pushed the limits of rap and rock on records as well as on stage, and remain icons of the Big Apple, their hometown. Adam Yauch was one of the three MCs, and also their bass and double-bass player, as they would often

switch from rapping, to jamming, to performing punk songs. He was also an activist, fighting for Tibetan freedom through his organization the Milarepa Fund. His early death won't prevent his rhymes from stay lively in the minds of millions of hip-hop heads worldwide.



Caltech athletics honors student-athletes at 18th annual Caltech Sports Awards Show

AMOL KAMAT
Sports Editor

On Wednesday evening, Caltech held its 18th annual All Sports Awards Show at the Braun Athletic Center. The banquet was far more formal than in previous years with athletes in formal attire sitting at fancy tables eating pasta and salad (that's fancy food, y'all). Despite looking like the poor man's Oscars (I guess that's the Golden Globes, but just go with it), the message was the same: we're not that good at sports, but we try really hard anyways. Personally, I thought we could have inflated the statistics a bit, I mean if Claremont can do it with SAT scores...

Anyways, the night celebrated those athletes who made the rest of us look bad. Ben Grabowski (Water Polo, Diving, Track) and Jacqueline Masehi-Lano (Swim/Dive) won the Outstanding Frosh award for embarrassing the upperclassmen with their shear athletic prowess. Good on ya.

Teri Juarez (Volleyball, Basketball) and Rebekah Kitto (Volleyball, Tennis) won Outstanding Female Athlete of the Year. Both players were basically good enough at their sports to be starters at other universities, so it made sense to reward them for not abandoning us.

Brian Penserini (Baseball, Water Polo) and Brice Nzeukou won Male Athlete of the Year (Soccer, Track). Penserini was just named First Team All-SCIAC for baseball and had one of the best batting averages in the SCIAC. Not too shabby. Brice Nzeukou just looks really good in his track uniform and bro tanks.

Peter Buhler (Swim/Dive) and Wubing Ye (Tennis) won the Director's Award. This award is given to seniors who made the greatest contribution in intercollegiate athletics over their careers at Caltech in terms of athletic performance and intangibles. This award probably means a lot more now that Wendell Jack isn't here. Oh yeah, I went there.

Tony Tong and Jessica Swallow were also recognized as SCIAC Scholar Athletes. It's easy to make jokes about "scholar athletes" at

Caltech, because it seems like everybody is one, but these athletes took it one step higher. They excelled in both areas, whereas most of us tend to lean one way or the other.

Peter Buhler and Megan Larisch were awarded the Sportsman and Sportswoman of the Year award. This award was voted on by the student-athletes, so it really is a great honor. I'm not entirely sure what was meant by "sportsman," but I'm sure it was still a great honor. I'm going to go with all around good guy. That makes sense to me. Hey, maybe next year we can do anti-sportsman so some tennis guys can win awards for a change.

Stephen Hinkel won the Staff Appreciation Award (voted on by the SAAC). I think this was one of the most deserving awards of the night. Hinkel works incredibly hard and is personally responsible for making Caltech athletics look so good. I know we all complain about misspellings on the website or errors with scoreboards, but the fact is that he does a fantastic job with all the responsibility he has taken. Also, *the Tech's* sports page would mostly be empty without his articles.

Finally, Jessica Swallow and Caitlin Regan won the Most Outstanding Athlete award which is given to the athlete(s) who made the most outstanding contributions in terms of ability, loyalty, and leadership. Now, I'm not disputing the award, because Jessica and Caitlin absolutely deserved it, but I did have one complaint. There were three nominees and two winners. It makes for awkward time. Therefore, I have decided to award Janis Intoy the *California Tech Sports Page Super Sports Award*. Congratulations. You can come by and get this sports page signed as a prize, if you want.

The ceremony was a pretty big success and looked pretty good. I was quite impressed. However, house dinner that day was breakfast for dinner (brinner), so I was a little bit upset with the whole pasta-battered garlic toast strip things. Just sayin', nothing is classier than brinner.

Now, seriously though, open the Brown Gym doors.



Here is a picture of the people who won awards at the Sports Award Show. Classy lookin group, huh? This is what happens when the picture is too short to fill the page. I have to ramble. Look at Brice's face. It's not as happy as Brian's face. Maybe baseball is just a happier sport than track. I mean, I never liked running around in circles all day. Plus baseball has sunflower seeds. Have you ever tried to be sad after eating sunflower seeds? Yeah, I didn't think so.

-gocaltech.com



It's Brice again! He's everywhere! This time he's throwing something. That must be fun. See what I mean about looking good in a track uniform, though? Yupppp.

-gocaltech.com

Decathletes, heptathletes compete at CMS multi-event

gocaltech.com

CLAREMONT, Calif. – At the annual Claremont-Mudd-Scripps multi-event competition, a handful of Beaver student-athlete competed in the decathlon and heptathlon events.

Brice Nzeukou, Chris Gardner and Ben Grabowski took their best shot at the decathlon while Sarah Wright and Jessica Swallow competed in the heptathlon.

Nzeukou posted a score of 4380 points which ranks as the fourth best decathlon score in Caltech history. Highlighting the 10-event competition for the junior was a first-place finish in his section of the 100 meter dash with a time of 11.63. In the 400 meter run Nzeukou was section in his section

as he cross the finish line in 52.84. That time ties the best mark run by a Caltech student-athlete this season.

Gardner came through in the final event (1500 meter run) with a first place finish. He nudged out the second place finisher by less than a second as he cross the finish line in 4:38.65. Gardner finished the event with a score of 4171 points – the sixth best mark in Caltech history. It was the first time the first-year competed as a collegian in the event.

Grabowski tallied 3840 points in his collegiate debut in the two-day event. The first-year set a personal best mark of 8' 10 1/4" in the high jump to highlight individual efforts.

Wright had an excellent two-day stretch at the grueling event. The junior set her personal best

score in the event by tallying 3962 points which was just over 100 points off from the school record of 4089 set in 2008 by Rene Davis. She set three personal best marks along the way.

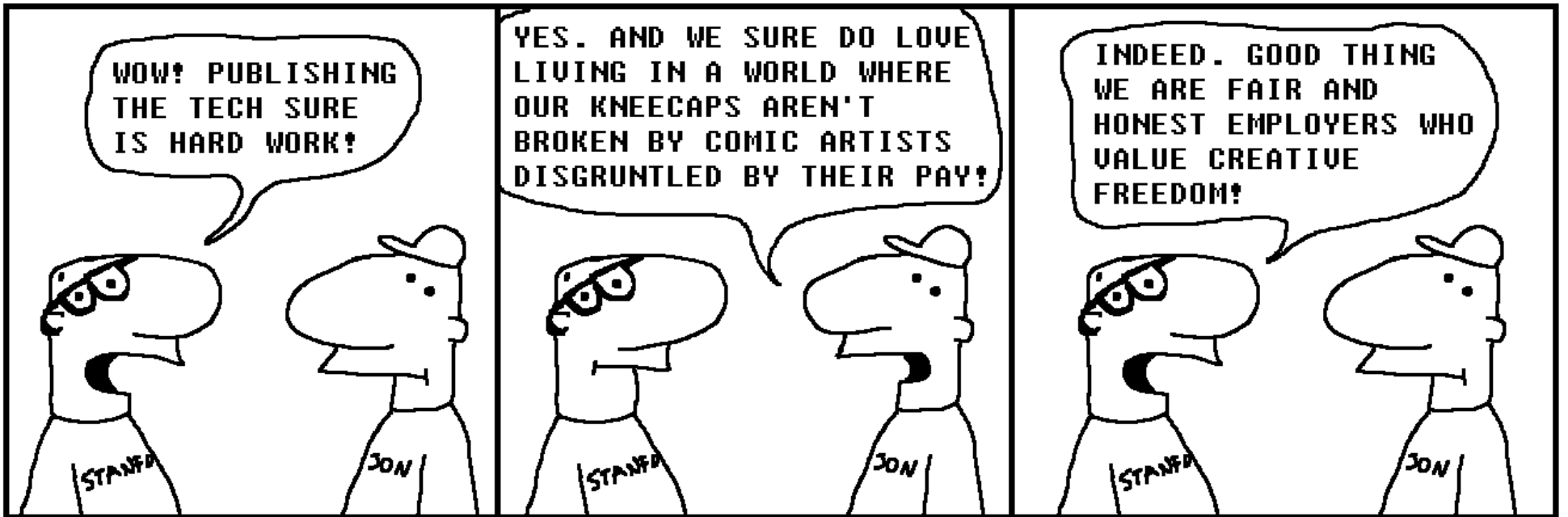
Her throw of 30' 8 1/2" in the shot put moved her into a fifth place for the best mark in Caltech's top 10 list. She also moved to fifth on the school's high jump list with a jump of 4' 11". Wright improved her long jump by seven inches to 16' 5 1/4" to eclipse her personal record she set earlier this season.

In her final collegiate competition, Swallow scored 2717 points which ranked seventh on Caltech's top 10 list.

Also competing in the event as an unattached participant, assistant coach Kim DePrez scored 2860 points.

I HAVE A FAMILY TO FEED

BY ROB SEMOONE



Get ready for the third annual Health Fair on May 14, from 11:30AM until 1PM in front of Chandler Dining Hall!

-Provided by Catherine Xie

*For more photos,
videos, and archives
of previous issues,
check out the Tech
website!*

tech.caltech.edu

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