

Caltech Prank Club pranks MIT Campus Preview Weekend

LIZ LAWLER
Editor-in-Chief

Last Wednesday night, 13 Caltech students flew to Massachusetts in preparation for MIT's Campus Preview Weekend (CPW). Their mission: prove which institute is hot and which one is not. Their arsenal: 800 heat sensitive mugs that at first read "MIT The Institute of Technology" but under the influence of heat change to read "CALTECH The Hotter Institute of Technology." The mugs came in boxes with a card with the instructions to "tweet the most MIT-proud picture of yourself with the MIT mug @ MITmug2018 to be entered in a drawing to win a pair of Google Glass."

Teachers handed out the mugs to unsuspecting prefrish right outside of CPW's formal welcome event Thursday night. They scouted out the gym in which the event was held in advanced, discovered three different possible exits, and then staged six people at the main door and teams of four and three at the



A team of thirteen undergrads led by Julie Jester distributed 800 prank coffee mugs to prefrish at MIT's CPW last Thursday. When cool they read "MIT The Institute of Technology," and when hot they turn orange and read "Caltech The HOTTER Institute of Technology" with a palm tree.

other doors. Thirty minutes before the event let out, they were poised and ready. At 9:30pm prefrish began to trickle out, but then a couple minutes later a massive wave hit.

As the prefrish flooded out, officers from MIT's admissions department tried to thwart the Techers' efforts. The Caltech students were told they would need to stop handing out mugs

unless they could prove they were a registered event.

Senior and Caltech Prank Club President, Julie Jester cunningly stalled the antagonizing admissions staff for 20 minutes with a fake story that their event was registered through the MIT Alumni Association and that they were simply ignorant pawns told to pass out the mugs. When pressed for a name of the person who

approved their event, Jester acted forgetful, fumbled on her phone, pretended to have trouble accessing MIT's wifi as she "searched" for the email thread containing their permission to hand out the mugs. However, the MIT admissions staff was relentless. They demanded a name. Jester called up Tom Mannion while he was mid-lecture in his cooking class and casually asked him for the name of official

-Greg Izatt

who sanctioned the mugs. Initially confused by the abrupt call, Mannion pulled through by questioning his class for a name of a member of MIT's Alumni Association which he delivered to Jester.

While Jester kept the MIT admissions inquisitors occupied, the prefrish continued to pick up the mugs. To accommodate the numerous prefrish, the Techers began putting out boxes in the walkway that the prefrish ferociously attacked in a primal quest for free swag. Prefrish gleefully took the mugs, but admissions officers

refused to let the prank go on. They vainly attempted to shut it down by ripping the mugs out of prefrish's hands, proving MIT hates fun and all things awesome rather than accomplishing their goal.

Despite MIT's best efforts, Caltech's prank went through beautifully. They were able to pass out all the mugs and proved that if you mess with Caltech, you're going to get burned.

Caltech Center for Diversity sponsors "Pride Prom"



Ellen Yu and Netgie Laguerre pose at Dabney Hall, where the prom was held.

-Ellen Yu

PARUL PUBBI
Contributing
Writer

The Caltech Center for Diversity (CCD) aims to support "student access, equality, and inclusion" for all students on campus, specifically targeting under-represented minorities, women, and LGBTQ (lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, and questioning) students.

On Friday, April 11, the CCD sponsored a

"Pride Prom" for LGBTQ students, where LGBTQ students and their allies could bring people of any gender and have fun in a "safe zone."

About 25 students attended the dance, which included a photo booth for students to get their photos taken, lots of food, and a dance floor and DJ. Organized primarily by Anastasios Dimitriadis, better known around campus as Taso, the second annual Pride Prom was a celebration of inclusion.

When asked if there was anything else the Caltech CCD could do to promote a more inclusive culture on campus, Ben Bartlett spoke of how "they're

doing an excellent job promoting LGBTQ equality. It's just that with a school this small, there aren't going to be a tremendous number of gay people in the first place. But despite that, I do consistently feel accepted and safe around campus, which is definitely more important." Ben also spoke of how his high school hadn't allowed same-sex couples to attend, demonstrating by contrast the positive steps the CCD has taken toward inclusion.

Ellen Yu, another freshman, also spoke highly of the Pride Prom and the campus-wide efforts in general, stating "I had a blast dancing with my friends at the Pride Prom, and I think the steps being taken are great!"

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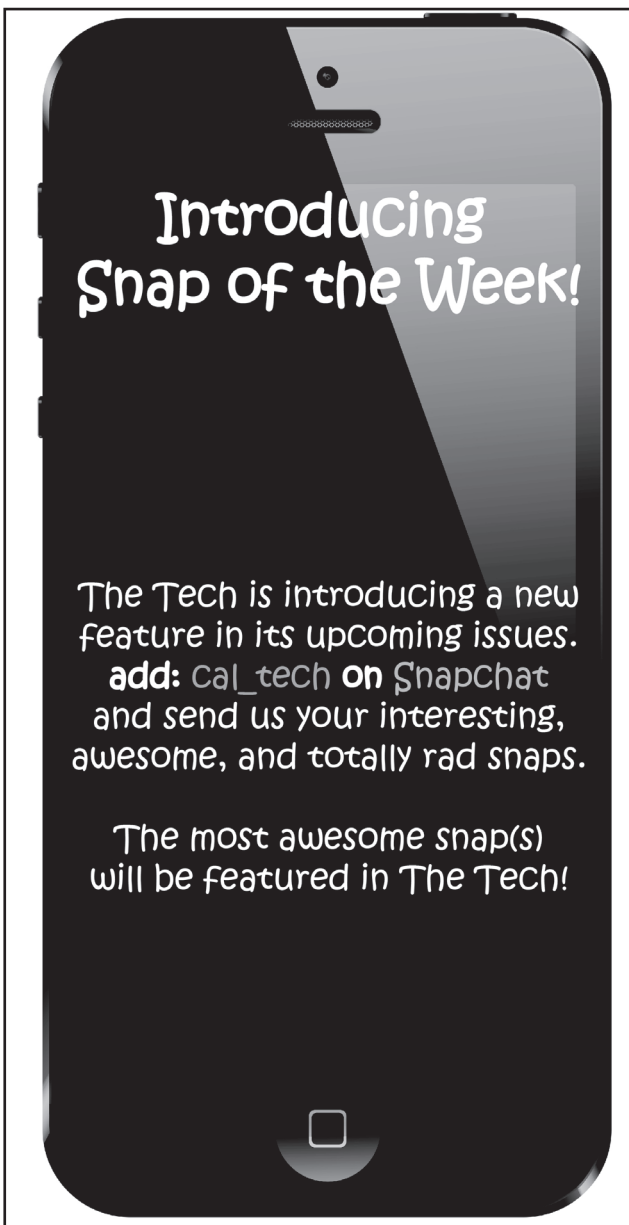
Need to know

< **100** words about the world this week – topics sorted from good to bad

Progress for paralysis	4 patients regaining movement with the help of electric stimulation [CNN]
Cattle dispute concluded	300 head of cattle returned to NV open range after dispute with Feds [CNN]
Farah's marathon debut	8th place in London marathon, lost to Kenyan rival Wilson Kipsang [BBC]
Ukraine to repel violence	10 injured in rival rally, violence strongly discouraged by president [BBC]
MH370 deadline nears	5 days since last pings were received, signals reaching 30-day limit [CNN]
Fire rages on in Chile	500 homes already claimed as a 2000-acre fire grows in Valparaiso [CNN]
High school bus in crash	10 killed as FedEx truck burst into flames, crashed into school bus [CNN]

ASCIT Minutes

http://donut.caltech.edu/ascit/April_8%2C_2014_Minutes



Please keep your SnapChats appropriate - only send in pictures you would want your parents to see.

Caltech Y Column

PHOEBE ANN LAURA SANTOSO
Contributing Writers

Hi everyone! This is the Caltech Y Column, designed to inform you about the Y and the opportunities we provide for you to inspire your passions, whether by participating in our programs or leading your own!

Founded by students in 1916, the Y was organized to provide extracurricular activities planned and implemented by students as an opportunity to gain leadership skills and discover their passions and themselves. The mission of today's Y remains the same—to provide opportunities that will prepare students to become engaged, responsible citizens of the world.

The Caltech Y's mission and core values stand on five key pillars: leadership, civic engagement, service, adventure, and perspective. Regardless of which pillars capture your interest, feel free to attend any of the below programs, or contact us to organize your own!

Upcoming events:

1a. Pasadena LEARNS

Wednesday and Friday Weekly | 3:00 - 5:00pm | Madison and Jackson Elementary School | Pasadena

Come volunteer at Madison Elementary School! We are partnered with the Pasadena LEARNS program at Madison and work with their Science Olympiad teams on Wednesdays and do regular tutoring on Fridays along with occasional hands-on science experiments. We volunteer from 3 to 5 PM on Wednesdays and Fridays. Volunteers should be willing to commit to one visit per week. Transportation is provided. For more information and to RSVP, contact vkkumar@caltech.edu.

1b. Hathaway Sycamores Tutoring

Saturday | April 19th | 1:30-4:30pm | Highland Park

Volunteer at Hathaway-Sycamores, a group that supports local underprivileged but motivated high school students. Some of the subjects being tutored are AP Chemistry, AP Physics, and AP Calculus. The service trip includes about an hour of travel time and 2 hours of tutoring. Transportation is included. For more information and to RSVP, email Josie Kishi at jkishi@caltech.edu or Ted Xiao at gxiao89@caltech.edu. Please note that work study is no longer being offered for this service trip.

If you have any questions at all, feel free to contact the Caltech Y at (626) 395-6163 or caltechy@caltech.edu. Feel free to drop by at one of our weekly meetings at the Caltech Y at the Caltech Y (505 S. Wilson, next to CEFCU), time TBA.

Go to <http://caltechy.org/lists/> to self-subscribe to announcement lists for upcoming events and sign-up information.

For a student's perspective, feel free to contact Phoebe Ann at phoebe.ann2@gmail.com.

Do you know of an awesome restaurant?

Do you have a recipe you want to share?

Do you want to get paid to eat food and write about it?

Then write for The Tech!

The Tech is looking for anyone and everyone who is interested in writing articles. You can submit restaurant reviews and recipes or you can ask The Tech editors for suggestions at tech@caltech.edu! You will be reimbursed for your meal and the article you write!

The California Tech

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Are you interested in feeling more successful during 3rd term?

This weekly group sponsored by the Counseling Center will offer practical, actionable tips for developing new skills to manage emotions, improving focus, and integrate mindfulness into your everyday life. Students may join any time in the series, and new content will be provided each week. Attending each skill session (4 weeks) is recommended but not required.

Tuesday evenings, 8-9:30pm in the common area of the Center for Diversity (CSS 2nd floor).

- April 15 Distress Tolerance - managing difficult situations
- April 22 Interpersonal Effectiveness - setting boundaries and asking for what you want
- April 29 Mindfulness

More information is available at the Caltech Counseling Center website: www.counseling.caltech.edu.

Chemistry Professor Bercaw awarded Willard Gibbs Medal

JOSH KURUTZ
Caltech Alumnus

Prof. John E. Bercaw, Centennial Professor of Chemistry at the California Institute of Technology, has been named the 103rd awardee of the Willard Gibbs Medal from the Chicago Section of the American Chemical Society for basic scientific contributions in inorganic and organometallic chemistry.

Bercaw has made major contributions to our understanding and development of processes that form common plastics such as polyethylene and polypropylene with worldwide production of 200 billion pounds per year. This honor ranks with the Nobel Prize in Chemistry in prestige, placing him among fellow Gibbs awardees Marie Curie, Irving Langmuir, Robert Woodward, Rudy Marcus, Harry Gray, and other luminaries.

He will receive his solid gold Gibbs medal in Chicago on May 16,

and Chemicals: Progress Towards Homogeneous Catalysts”.



For path-breaking advances in inorganic and organometallic chemistry related to the elucidation of olefin polymerization and hydrocarbon oxidation mechanisms and development of early metal polymerization catalysts.

-Caltech

where he will deliver a talk entitled “Hydrocarbon Upgrading to Fuels

The Bercaw laboratory specializes in studying mechanisms of olefin polymerization, especially the Ziegler-Natta (ZN) reaction.

Their work has led to a fundamental understanding of the detailed mechanisms of chain growth in ZN polymerizations and the factors which control syndio- and isotacticities and the degree of comonomer incorporation in copolymerizations; these variables are critical in determining the physical properties of the resultant polymers and copolymers.

Prof. Bercaw elucidated the general principles that dictate nearly perfect facial discrimination of α -olefin insertion into the metal alkyl bonds of metallocene catalysts. He identified key steric and electronic interactions that discriminate

between the two propylene enantiofaces.

He developed a deuterated, isotopically chiral and enantiomerically pure 1-pentene that enables simple quantitative NMR determination of the enantioface selected for insertion.

With Jay Labinger, Bercaw elucidated key mechanisms in the “Shilov” oxidation system, a catalytic system for oxidation of methane to methanol - one of the most promising model systems for further developing useful catalysts for selective alkane oxidation. Using an array of elegant mechanistic probes, including model complexes, isotope and stereochemical labeling, in combination with kinetic studies and isotope effects, his laboratory has established many of the important features responsible for the unique selectivity of this system for primary C-H bonds.

Author of approximately 300 academic papers, Bercaw is a member of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, a Fellow of the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and has received dozens of other honors and awards. For his

basic science, he has been awarded the ACS’ award for Pure Chemistry, the ACS’ A.C. Cope Scholar Award, and the Southern California ACS’ Tolman Medal; he was also named as a Seaborg Scholar by the Los Alamos National Laboratories.

His applied work has been manifested in productive collaborations with major corporations BP, ExxonMobil, Dow, and for a period was named the Shell Distinguished Professor of Chemistry.

The Willard Gibbs Medal, founded by William A. Converse, has been given by the Chicago Section ACS since 1910 “to publicly recognize eminent chemists who, through years of application and devotion, have brought to the world developments that enable everyone to live more comfortably and to understand this world better.” (See http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Willard_Gibbs_Award for more.)

All interested parties are invited to attend Professor Bercaw’s award ceremony in Chicago on May 16; details are available at <http://chicagoacs.org>.

Director of Operations candidate statements (2)

CONNIE HSUEH
Director of Operations
Candidate

Hello, Caltech! My name is Connie and I am running for reelection as your ASCIT Director of Operations. I have been so honored to represent you for the past year, and I would love to continue to do so.

As your Director of Operations, I have sought to achieve a handful of goals. I’ve always had the students’ best interests in mind, and I hope to improve upon my work from this year. First, I’ve looked to strengthen communication between ASCIT clubs, the Board of Directors, and relevant administration. I want our clubs to be successful and well-funded, but sometimes that requires utilizing different avenues of funding or navigating bureaucratic hoops. This year, we moved the club application process online, but there remain some kinks that

need to be ironed out in order to make the process as smooth as can be. I want to represent the clubs better as a member of the Board of Directors, especially when it comes to fighting for funding. I also want to check in with our clubs and publications more often, to see if things are going well or if there’s anything ASCIT can do for them.

Next, I wanted to make ASCIT resources, like lighting and scaffolding, available and easily accessible. ASCIT owns dozens of scaffolding sets that had been gathering dust in our storage closet. When I lent it out to TACIT for their production of Rent, how happy that made them made me realize that we as a community can cut on costs and increase efficiency by sharing resources. I hope to increase our inventory of items and make borrowing availability and procedures clearer.

Another goal of mine has been to assist the Board of Directors in any way possible to better

represent the students. Part of this has meant taking on projects from other branches of ASCIT. For example, this year I took over Take a Prof/TA to Lunch (which you can still do! Email me). This has also meant voicing my concerns when it comes to decision-making, to make sure no subset of students is underrepresented. There are a number of things that I am passionate about, including mental health, student-faculty/administration relations, career development, and athletics, and I make sure that we address issues in these areas as they arise.

I hope to build upon my work so far as Director of Operations, and my strongest resource will be my experience. Many responsibilities of the position, including club applications, club funding, and club fairs, happen only once per year. Having done all of these before, I am much more confident in running them again. It will be easier for

me make improvements to these events now that I know how they work. I wanted to note that I will be studying abroad during second term next year. This doesn’t worry me. The biggest responsibilities of Director of Operations occur during first term. During the rest of the year, it’s primarily routine things, like lending out lights. While I will continue to video-in for all meetings, I also plan to appoint and train an assistant director during first term who would perform certain duties in my place during my time away. My experience as current director makes me confident that I would be able to continue to serve you, even from across the pond.

What I love about being Director of Ops is that I get to serve and represent students directly. This isn’t a position where I’m in meetings three times a week, yet nothing gets done. Instead, I get to make students happy by funding their clubs and helping make

events happen. I have loved serving as your Director of Operations, and I would be honored to do so for another year.

If you have any questions or concerns, please don’t hesitate to email me at chsueh@caltech.edu. Thank you for your time!



ELLIOT SIMON
Director of Operations
Candidate

When I went home for the first time and met up with my friends from high school, we all naturally spoke of our respective colleges. I told them that Caltech was a constant struggle. The concepts don’t make sense, the sets take ages, the school drains on you physically and emotionally; but when one person asked why I wouldn’t transfer, it comment left me thunderstruck. Despite every punch the school throws at me, I love it here. Past wanting a great education and potentially being a masochist, the exact reason why

always avoided me. However, every day I become more convinced that it is not the quality of education and potential opportunities that make a school great, but the culture of the student body.

I have always been amazed at the array of talents held by my fellow students. What makes a school like Caltech unique is that everyone has their own unique talent at which they are truly spectacular. But these skills serve as more than just hobbies. They serve as something to find comfort in, something to relieve stress, or find meaning and humanity at a taxing and high-pressure school. I believe what can help people even more is to find others who enjoy

the same activities, have the same talents, and can have fun together doing what they love. That is the



club culture of Caltech. That is the spirit and pride of this school and that is the foundation I want to build upon to make a better Caltech.

The position of Director of Operations is unique in the benefits it provides to students. While the Social Director can bring students to a school wide event and the upper positions are critical to the policy decisions of the university, none of these provide to students the choice of what they do. That niche is filled by the Caltech club culture. Clubs bring people together to rally behind a common pursuit whether it is Race-To-Canada or Quiz bowl. The Director of Operations is responsible for

the creation and funding of these clubs. As such, this position has enormous influence over the scope of the student culture.

Ever since I got here, I’ve been devoted to giving back to my house and to the school in any way I can. I will give anything it takes and refuse to give up on a cause as long for as I believe in it. For these reasons and more, I believe I would be a great candidate for this job. As the Director of Operations, I would look to expand the Caltech club culture as a means to bring people of different backgrounds together. I would do everything in my power to improve the undergraduate experience in any way I can and give back to the school I love.

ASCIT President candidate statements (4)

ADAM JERMYN ASCIT President Candidate

We all came to Caltech for different reasons. Whether it be an intense academic experience, research, the House system, the social life, or the Honor Code, every one of us had at least one reason for coming to Caltech. I think that sometimes we forget these joys that brought us here: at the very least I have on occasion. When people discuss the bitterness that pervades undergraduate life, they often take it as normal. They take it as something which is to be expected, which is inherent to the experience. I reject the notion that nothing can be changed, and this is why I am running for ASCIT President.

We have a lot of chances in the coming year to change things: our leverage on the future is high right now. Dean Dabiri and President Rosenbaum will be taking over from the current administration. There are ongoing discussions reviewing the efficacy and implementation of the Honor Code which are going to result in recommendations to the Faculty Board. There is an ongoing experiment with longer Counseling Center hours. All of these can result in changes which can either be for the better or for the worse, and so we need to be sure to have our voices heard on these matters. The ASCIT President needs to make a strong push for rebuilding trust with the administration, for strengthening the Honor Code, and for continued support for student mental health. While some of these issues are under the purview of the IHC, ASCIT still has an important supporting role to play, particularly when interacting with faculty. It is important that ASCIT and the IHC work together

on these issues to strengthen our impact.

Change can be difficult, and it is made more difficult by changes over the past several years that have negatively impacted undergraduates. From matters as small as written exams in PEs to matters as all-encompassing as the hazing policy, we haven't fared well. There is reason to be optimistic though. In many of the upcoming changes, unlike past ones, student input has been actively sought by faculty and the administration. We have a chance to make an impression, and we need to seize it. We need to show Caltech that we are responsible, capable, and rational. We need to be united, which means that ASCIT needs to know where students stand on each issue. It is the job of the ASCIT President, I think, to learn student opinion, to lead these discussions, and to ensure that we live up to our view of ourselves.

I believe that this is a job I am uniquely qualified to do. In my time on the ARC, I have often had to assess student opinion on issues ranging in scope and complexity from changes to the UASH handbook to teaching quality to option requirements. My work on the Council for Undergraduate Education and the Curriculum Committee has given me experience coordinating with other students to present a unified front. On the Faculty Board Honor Code Committee I have firmly made the case for keeping the BoC autonomous and entirely student run. When I see proposals on the



table which are at odds with student wishes, I can keep a level head while not yielding my position.

As a result of the various committees I sit on, I already have very good working relationships with much of the administration. I also have significant experience working closely with faculty, as I have worked in four different research groups, each of which had very different expectations and cultures. I believe that I can represent students to both the administration and the faculty in a way which does Techers justice.

Forme, Caltech has been a fantastic experience, but I am acutely aware that this has not been the case for everyone. A big component of this is obviously working to ensure good policy and student freedom, but there's more to it than that. Mental Health support

at Caltech, while improving, is insufficient. The UCC program should come with more training. The Counseling Center's extended hours should become permanent, not merely an experiment. There needs to be more education of students, particularly incoming freshmen, regarding issue-specific resources such as confidential resources, Title IX resources, and so on. It's hard to get help when you don't know what's available, who is safe to talk to, and so on. I believe that by keeping a clear view of our goals and demonstrating our responsibility we can make long-lasting positive change. Thank you for your consideration; I hope to have the chance to represent you.

MATEO MARTINEZ ASCIT President Candidate

Our community now stands on a threshold of numerous changes heralded by the imminent appointment of a new Dean, President, MOSH and in two weeks, new student body lead-ers. Many of us will greet these changes with feelings of optimism founded on a hope that we can improve our college experience even more. It is in light of these new changes that I am running for ASCIT President.

Having supported the mental health network for two years, I have developed positive and productive relationships with the Deans Office, the Counseling Center, the Center for Diversity, the Career Center, amongst others. These relationships will help me engage the administration as regards student opinions on self governance, the house cultures, the honor code, and Caltech's image rebranding. Furthermore, I will engage the SEC (Student Experience Committee) to gauge students' opinions of the new Bechtel dorm, and MOOCs (summer courses) and relay these opinions effectively to the administration.

These relationships will also enable me to actively work with the Student Self-Governance Committee so that the current proposal - which is that events are approved and damages are addressed in a streamlined manner through the student leaders - is approved.

As president, I intend to increase the visibility of the BoD in student life by continuing to be physically present in the houses and open to student concerns. I will encourage the BoD to increase student participation in ASCIT projects. We will encourage students to petition for new club

funding, and current clubs to run more Caltech-wide events. With my experience as a Head UCC, I will help the Head UCCs with projects that will improve the mental health safety net for the entire Caltech community. I am currently drafting a proposal to fund events for the undergrads that live off-campus.v



As a UCC, I understand the academic pressure students deal with. I have worked with students who have been UASH'd and BOC'd, and I have spoken to

ARC reps on aca-demic policies. As president, I will work with the ARC to better advertise the Honor Code to the faculty and also to the Student Freshman Committee, as well as with Ad-missions to emphasize the Honor Code in the admission process.

In the last months, I have been working on several projects with the Center for Diversity (expanding support and diversity events) and the MOSH (improving student faculty relationships). I have drafted a survey that will help find faculty whom will fit the house culture and whom students will feel more comfortable relating to; this survey is pending review from the MOSH and the Faculty Board. As one of the Head UCCs, I assisted in the establishment of a better informed safety net by drafting a Crisis Plan and strengthening the Safety Squad.

This coming year demands student leadership who are transparent and dedicated to their positions. I hope that my experience proves that I am capable of serving you as your president.

CATHERINE JAMSHIDI ASCIT President Candidate

Sometimes we lose sight of the big picture and forget that there a lot of great things about Caltech. As ASCIT President, my goal is to make you happy. I would work to address current issues, as well as proactively prevent new issues from detracting from your undergraduate experience. My experiences and accomplishments have prepared me to solve these problems in collaboration with students, administrators, and faculty, and given me the foresight to address concerns before they are improperly handled in a manner detrimental to student life.

Having served on the Board of Directors this past year as Secretary, I fully understand the responsibilities of the ASCIT BoD and its President. The most important of these is actively communicating with students, administrators, and faculty regarding any policy or decision that affects student life. In working with the Trustee Student Experience Committee, I have not only embraced feedback from students, but actively sought it out through surveys, town halls, and one-on-one conversations. ASCIT ran short surveys first term that provided valuable feedback

from a significant portion of students; I would re-establish and expand these surveys to guarantee that the BoD always accurately represents your interests.

Through the myriad of committees I have worked with this year, I have established strong relationships with many administrators and faculty. They trust me and respect me as a voice of students already, and so, as ASCIT President, I would be well-suited to work with them on an array of issues. Not only is it important that they listen, but that feedback is incorporated and decisions are made



based off of what students express. As a student representative on UASH, when a new proposal came forward regarding academic eligibility, I was first to respond. Initial discussions of the proposal were impersonal

and treated students as statistics rather than considering the full implications of their proposed changes. I spearheaded a fully-written counterproposal from the students. After involving the ARC in discussions and through consultation with Professor Dabiri and members of UASH, we were successful in recommending changes that were incorporated and later approved by the Committee to better reflect the interests of students. As President, I will establish this type of dialogue as the norm: decisions regarding student life should reflect the input and interests of students.

There are already ways to improve this; student representatives sit on more than 20 faculty board and institute committees, and I will work with them to realize the full potential of these opportunities in bringing your concerns to the faculty. The Library Committee will be discussing the future of the 9th floor of Millikan, the Academic Policies Committee is discussing the merits of a technical bookstore, and the Ad-hoc Undergraduate Self Governance Committee is working to enable the traditions of self governance to be sustained. Educating student representatives on the full potential of these roles and involving more

students in discussions is critical to future successes in working with faculty.

Additionally, the ASCIT President is well equipped to guide students in new ventures by connecting them with necessary resources. This will be done through better advertisement of funding resources, such as a short FAQ page, which would simplify the process for new Club Treasurers. Some students have already expressed a desire to have more avenues for getting off-campus; the Pasadena Games, museum trips, intercollegiate parties and events, and more volunteering days are just a few ways this can be done. I would also support clubs in hosting events for Techers and the Caltech Community, like the Health Fair, food drives, MAD day, and free Boba outside Red Door.

The ASCIT President directs the Board of Directors in its initiatives. My experiences as Secretary and regular participation at IHC and ARC meetings this year have prepared me to take on this role and support both of these committees as well as the BoD. I would like to formalize an Executive Social Committee as a way to get more people involved

in planning events that appeal to a wider set of interests. To provide better resources for students, I would work with the Director of Operations in finding a Lighting Manager and submitting funding requests for more event lights. I would like to allocate more of the ASCIT budget to supporting clubs and club events, and look forward to working with the Treasurer in doing so. To better respond to student concerns and focus efforts, I would implement a system where there is a "project of the month" for the BoD; an example being repurposing some of the rooms in the SAC for better uses.

Maintaining and strengthening some of the great things about Caltech will require support from all directions. One of the most defining aspects of Caltech is the Honor Code. We live by it every day, and it remains an integral part of our community. The ARC and BoC work continuously to educate professors on the merits of the academic side, and the CRC and the Undergraduate Self-Governance Committee have been working to strengthen the non-academic side.

ASCIT Treasurer (1)

PATRICK NIKONG
ASCIT Treasurer Candidate

Reliability, efficiency, and initiative. These three words describe the qualities that I hold in the highest esteem, and will be the words that describe my term as ASCIT Treasurer.

To me, the position of ASCIT Treasurer comes with two major responsibilities. The first of these is self-explanatory: to create, organize, and disburse the ASCIT budget. These funds help maintain and support the events and clubs that improve the Caltech experience for all students. As treasurer, I will perform this duty as effectively and efficiently as possible. Firstly, I will evaluate the budget to identify the most underutilized areas and work to either advertise their use or reinvest their funds to other ASCIT functions. Secondly, I will expedite the process of disbursing ASCIT funds and will distribute reimbursement checks as quickly as possible.

The second responsibility of the ASCIT Treasurer is to be an active member of the ASCIT Board of Directors. I plan to be a welcoming and receptive student representative on the ASCIT BoD and will relay student concerns and suggestions to help ASCIT achieve its goals. I am excited to have the opportunity to improve administration policies, ASCIT events, and ASCIT programs. For example, recently, members of the ASCIT BoD have worked to

increase the autonomy of student self-government and, specifically, House ExComms. I think these initiatives will bring greater independence and better student morale, and I am excited to have the chance to work with other



members of the ASCIT Board of Directors on these types of issues to improve student life here at Caltech.

Finally, I feel that I have the qualifications needed to perform these duties. This previous year, I held the position of Ruddock Librarian, an ExComm position that primarily focuses on representing Ruddock sophomores and welcoming new freshmen to Ruddock at the beginning of the school year. This position strengthened my leadership and organizational abilities and I hope to bring these skills to the position of ASCIT treasurer this coming year.

Thank you, and I hope that you strongly consider me for the position of ASCIT Treasurer.

President statements (cont.)

MONICA ENLOW
ASCIT President Candidate

My name is Monica Enlow and I want to be your next ASCIT president. I know the best and worst parts of Caltech. I want to highlight the good and work on fixing what appears to be an infinitely long list of bad. I legitimately care about the campus, and I want to see that undergraduates have a positive experience at Caltech. I will spare you all the laundry list of things I've done in my time here, but I can assure you that I have been working tirelessly to make the student experience better. I know who to talk to when problems



arise. I am visible around campus and plan to continue to do so in order to get feedback about serious and not-so-serious things happening on campus. Let me know what you want done, and I'll try to do it.

CATHERINE JAMSHIDI
ASCIT President Candidate

Continued from page 4

Reminding ourselves and others of the importance of the Honor Code is valuable for its continuation, and I will preserve it as a priority of student government.

The Honor Code provides a foundation for undergraduate self-governance. Recently, our ability to govern ourselves has been called into question; I believe we are absolutely capable of responsibly and effectively managing ourselves, and will work tirelessly to correct those who don't recognize the effectiveness of student self-governance. The Undergraduate Self-Governance Committee was created in response, and has been

discussing ways to support student leaders in their responsibilities. As the student representatives, we have formalized a proposal to shift minor responsibilities from administrators to undergraduates in an effort to increase both the rights and responsibilities of student leaders and to encourage ongoing dialogue between students and administrators; it has been well-received by the Committee and is a step forward in the right direction of students taking charge in running our own affairs.

I hope that you will consider my past experiences and vision for next year when voting for your next ASCIT President. Thank you for reading, and if you have any questions or suggestions, please do not hesitate to contact me.

ARC Chair (2 candidates)

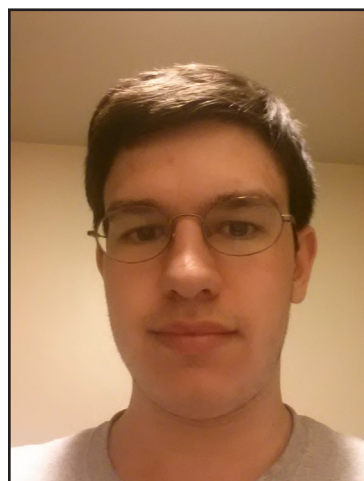
NIMA BADIZADEGAN
ARC Chair Candidate

Have you submitted a course concern on Donut this year? If you have, I was one of a few ARC reps who received and responded to your concern. Over the past year, one of my biggest goals has been improving teaching quality, and I would like to continue working with students and faculty to improve the quality of your education and experience at this school.

The ARC takes on many roles, primarily characterized by two major categories: acting as a liaison between students and faculty, and promoting student-faculty interaction. Over my three terms on the ARC, I have worked on student-faculty interaction and on course concerns, as well as serving as one of the undergraduate representatives on the Academic Policies Committee (APC). Through these opportunities, I have been able to experience both of these major facets of what the ARC does, and I would like to continue and extend both of these roles as the ARC chair.

In my first term on the ARC, I organized student-faculty lunches, and worked on improving student-faculty interaction. As ARC chair, I will continue to promote student-

faculty interactions through the continuation of programs like student-faculty lunches, the take a professor to lunch program. This coming year, as ARC chair, I will also be running a Student-Faculty Conference, where students and professors will have the opportunity to exchange ideas about some of the major issues facing



students and faculty.

Over the past two terms, I have primarily focused on dealing with course concerns on the ARC. This position has given me the opportunity to interact with a large number of professors to help them improve their courses, and the opportunity to build a long-term partnership between

the ARC and Caltech's Center for Teaching, Learning and Outreach. This partnership has allowed us to better manage concerns directed at larger courses and prevent concerns from showing up in the first place. As ARC chair, I will continue to develop this relationship and ones like it so that we can make further improvements in the quality of teaching here at Caltech.

Over this past year, the ARC has recently become very involved in new academic policy decisions. We have worked to provide student input on Caltech's new MOOCs (Massively Open Online Courses), and most recently we provided input on a new proposal to change and simplify the academic eligibility guidelines in the catalog. My position on the Academic Policies Committee has also allowed me to provide input from the ARC and the student body on other similar policy changes. As ARC chair, I will continue to make sure that the voices of students are heard at an early phase in future academic policy decisions.

Having already served more than a year on the ARC, I can come in and hit the ground running as the ARC chair. Please feel free to contact me by email (nima@caltech.edu) or in person if you have any questions about the ARC or my candidacy.

KAYANÉ DINGILIAN
ARC Chair Candidate

My name is Kayane Dingilian and I am writing to you because I have immensely enjoyed my role as an ARC Rep and would like to expand my efforts in the position of ARC Chair.

One of the things that drew me to Caltech was the dedication to the Honor Code, especially in academic situations. I know how hard we worked as students to get to Caltech and how hard we continue working in order to make our dream of graduating come true. I also realize how dedicated the faculty and staff are to providing us the best education in the world. I wanted to make a difference by creating more effective communication, cooperation, and team work between all involved at Caltech. From the moment I started as a freshman, I looked for ways to contribute to the academic well-being of my fellow classmates, and found the opportunity to do that as an ombudsperson in Chemistry, Math, ACM, and Physics. Interestingly, the more I participated, the more enjoyable it became because I realized how hard both faculty and students work to create a common vision of better education.

Now, I would like to build upon my successful experience and grow in my role to support the Caltech academic community as an ARC Chair. I successfully ran for and was elected to become Dabney ARC Representative. I joined the course complaints section, where, last term, I worked with the professors and TAs in Ma2b and ACM95b to address the complaints of the students in a way that we could work together to resolve them. Specifically, negotiations with the Ma2b professor resulted in an extension for the entire class on the

longest problem set, and with the ACM95b professor, removal of the last problem set to allow for more time on exams. This term, I've actively been collecting feedback on ACM95c in order to improve the class; so far ombudspersons have been reinstated, but this is a work in progress.



A common misconception some students have of the ARC is that its sole function is to handle course complaints. However, the ARC also covers a wide variety of other aspects, such as Course Capture, the Option Fair, TQFRs, and the implementation of courses such as Ma0 and CS0. ARC members also work on building positive relations through student-faculty lunches or interviews. I have actively participated in many of these events and initiatives and look forward to doing so for the rest of my time at Caltech. Upon joining the ARC, I interviewed Professor Weinstein about his views on teaching and the Honor Code and published it a few weeks ago. I also started working on a new project in cooperation with the Career Development Center regarding internship focus groups. This brings both students who have and have not received internships into a roundtable discussion on how to successfully obtain internships and the challenges that one might face in

the process. The first focus group is meeting on Friday.

The position of ARC Chair comes with more than overseeing the ARC meetings. The ARC Chair regularly meets with the BOD as the Vice President as well as meeting one on one with faculty and staff as contacts for the ARC and BOD. Though this would take up many hours every week, I am very organized and can set my priorities to finish all the tasks I am assigned. I make meetings on time and set time aside during the day to get all my responsibilities completed. Whatever happens, I get the job done because I believe all of us will benefit from this work. Yes, it is hard work, but we have seen its benefits and I believe we can make even more progress.

My aim as ARC Chair is to continue expanding on the programs the ARC has initiated and to make them better known among the students. Resources such as course capturing, internship focus groups, and the option fair are valuable means of doing well both in classes and careers. As always, one of the main focuses will be on the teaching quality of professors and how well the classes are run; classes of immediate focus are Ch1 and Ma2, as well as a general outlook on Core. Through the BOD, I will better address the needs of the student population and ensure that the Honor Code remains prominent in student life. I would like to emphasize that the better our education here, the more successful we will become individually. As a collected group of individuals, we'll strive to make the school as a whole more accomplished. Everything I will work on as ARC Chair will be to support you, the undergraduate student body of Caltech, and you can trust me to do the job with your vote. Thank you.

ASCIT Social Director candidate statements (3)

ELLORA SARKAR Social Director Candidate

My name is Ellora Sarkar, and I'm very excited to be running for ASCIT Social Director. The first time I set foot on Caltech campus, I was amazed by the strong sense of community here. As I spent more time on campus, I started to love promoting that sense of community, watching people come together over the cookies I baked, chatting and laughing and unwinding. Time went on and I started spending more time planning events, whether it was with Admissions for Prefresh Weekend, or with Tom Mannion, serving Sunday dinners. This summer, I spent hours working

on campus wide events such as the Iron Chef Competition, food nights at Chouse, and the big Fourth of July barbecue, attended by over 400 people. More recently, I planned a schoolwide Holi event. I've also started working with the current Social Director on ASCIT events: I helped plan and execute Be a Kid Again Day, Midnight Donuts, and the pies for Pi Day, as well as worked on the planning for ASCIT Formal. I've loved every minute of these events, and they gave me the ability to learn the ins and outs of event planning on every possible level at Caltech. As Social Director, I can use these varied experiences to facilitate events on every scale. If elected as Social Director, I will of course continue to bring the

undergraduate body our favorite annual events, including the Rotation Carnival, the Winter Carnival, and Be A Kid Again Day. I want to plan more events like Chouse trivia night and ASCIT movie night, which involve different members of the student body than those who attend more publicized events. Moreover, I'd like to actively involve Techers in events around Pasadena, targeting even more of the student population. There are a number of Pasadena events that are perfect for



attending in a group, such as Pasadena ArtWalk, the Chalk Festival, and the Doo-Dah Parade. I would try to connect people between houses and create ways for Techers to attend as a large school group. I'm also hoping to actively encourage interhouse and multi-house events by facilitating their planning through the Houses, as well as finding revenue streams like the little-known ASCIT budget for multi-house events. Finally, I plan to create landmark days, when ASCIT could arrange group transportation to places like the Norton Simon Museum or Huntington, as well as providing snacks or meals. Such plans would

allow more Techers to get off campus and gain new experiences, and I'd love more suggestions for landmarks or other events that would appeal to the population of Caltech. In short, I'm running for ASCIT Social Director because I love bringing people together; I'm sure I can do that effectively and innovatively. Over the past few months, I've spent a lot of time at ASCIT meetings and helped run ASCIT events, so I am confident in my ability to fulfill the position. My prior experiences with, as well as my passion for, creating a community using various events make me a good fit for the role, and I hope you'll give me the honor of serving you as ASCIT Social Director next year.

BRAD CHATTERGOON Social Director Candidate

Hey ladies and gents. As the outgoing ASCIT Social Director, Michelle has done a splendid job at planning and executing events and I believe that she will do the same with the upcoming Spring Formal, which she has organized.

That said, there is still room for improvement in various parts of the social experience here at Caltech. I will first describe what I believe some of these problems are, then address how I intend to solve them, and finally explain why I will be able to implement my suggestions.

TL;DR: More Events. Winter Formal. Inter-college interaction. No weekend without an event.

The Problem:

Caltech is a very small school with a unique culture. The advantages of this are that we feel very safe in that we know most, if not all, of our peers and we have a very strong house culture that aims to encourage socialization and friendships. At the same time the size and house culture introduce their own problems:

- House culture can unintentionally seclude people into their own houses and there are loose lines drawn between Avery, the North Houses, and the South Hovses.

- This seclusion also makes it difficult to meet others across campus who share some of your interests.

- The small size means that we don't have the opportunity to meet new and interesting people at school parties or around campus.

- There aren't many daytime events such as the Snapyourself booth with the cool props that was on campus for Alumni Weekend. There also aren't many nighttime events.

What I want to do about it:

My overarching goal is to improve interactions between members of campus and provide events that techers are interested in having. I want to continue Michelle's popular events such as Be a Kid Again, Trivia Night, and of course ASCIT Movie Night, but I am willing to experiment with new ideas and take risks if the community supports the idea. I intend to obtain feedback from the community before implementing any new ideas and will be actively searching for ideas from you guys to supplement my own. The first thing that I want to do if elected, as Social Director is to find more funding. More funding means more, and better, events.

I want to work with the house social directors to coordinate events between houses. Some of these inter-house events already occur, such as broom ball, but I want to expand on this so that houses can interact by doing joint

events, like go-karting or other activity, to promote friendships between houses. I also want to search for your interests, whether that be museums, snorkeling, or anything else that you're interested in, and try to organize group events around these interests if there is enough support for it.

As for meeting new people, I want to explore the idea of partnering up with nearby schools such as Harvey Mudd and Occidental College to gain invitations to some of their events/parties and in return offer invitations to some of our events/parties based on your feedback. During this academic year the Active Minds club did an event during the day providing students with an opportunity to write thank you cards to other members of the Caltech community. I want to encourage club events like these that offer daytime buzz around campus, and also other club activities reaching out to the community in general.

One of the things that I want at Caltech is that there should not be a weekend where anyone says that there is nothing going on. One of my aims for the Social Director position would be to always have something happening every weekend. This can be any of the activities that I've already described, an interhouse party, or I will plan small scale activities of roughly 50-100 people that you can



attend if you don't have any other plans such as a small movie event, or bring an activity to campus such as a small painting class for an evening.

As Director I would want to consider the idea, provided that I can get the funding, of introducing a themed Winter Formal so that we get the opportunity to dress up in Winter style as well as Spring style. Themes that I am considering now are Sadie Hawkins Dance, or Starry Night, but I will again get feedback from you on this matter. If there were support for a Winter Formal then I would want to work with the Ballroom Dance Club to offer a couple classes in simple dance steps preceding the event.

Additionally I would like to introduce a calendar of all social events across campus including events like special lectures and general social events like department mixers. I want to approach the various departments and discuss the possibility of inviting undergrads to department mixers so that they can meet some of the grad students in their major and the professors.

I've described a sampling of what I want to do as Social Director but it doesn't end there. Most importantly however, I will actively seek and encourage feedback from the community (that means you) on what kinds of activities you would like to have in addition to my own ideas.

Why I can execute my solutions:

I believe that while previous events interested much of the undergraduate population, student participation can still be increased. I will plan events, specifically off-campus events, that would cater to more of the Caltech student body. I understand it is hard to meet everyone's expectations of what a social event should encompass. However, I believe that by holding a greater variety of events, a larger portion of the student population will be involved. I hope to continue the tradition of ASCIT movie nights and ASCIT Formal, host a greater amount of themed-nights at Chouse, and plan more

The main part of getting social events set up is determination to make it happen. I have the energy and focus to follow through on making arrangements and planning for events but I am also interested in perhaps re-introducing the Executive Social Committee (a committee of the social directors of the houses) to help manage the increase in planned events, or a similar type of team.

I currently have working relationships with the deans including Prof. John Dabiri who will soon be taking up the position of undergraduate dean, and I already have a working relationship with Tom Mannion as all ASCIT Social Directors invariably need to have.

I have gained experience in event planning through the hosting of the Blacklight Party at the Holly during winter term 2013 and also through my part in planning my highschool's graduation party. I consider myself to be resourceful enough to locate any contacts that I need for events and will also consult Michelle for her existing contacts.

I'd like to close by promising to do my absolute best to improve Caltech social life and respond to feedback from the community if elected to the role of ASCIT Social Director. I know that it seems like I'm promising a lot for one person to deliver on but I am going to take it one step at a time, set up a team to help me, and stay organized as best I can to follow through. Best of luck for the rest of term.

ANNIE CHEN Social Director Candidate

Although Caltech is not known for its rambunctious party scene, maintaining some sort of balance between academics and social life is still necessary for an enriching college environment. It is my intention to provide students with such opportunities.

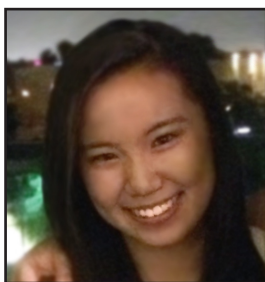
I have much experience planning large, well-attended events - a quality I believe a successful ASCIT Social Director should possess. During my time at Tech, I have been involved in social activities with both ASCIT and my

house. I am currently on the ASCIT social team and have helped with various events such as the Chouse Holiday Bash, ASCIT Formal, and Be A Kid Again. Working with Tom Mannion, and the current Social Director, Michelle Tang, I have gained firsthand experience on how social activities are created, planned, and executed within a timely fashion.

Furthermore, I was also part of the social team in my house. Being on Soc Team has given me valuable insight on how to work with other people and plan house events, such as Happy

Hour, Cocktail Party, and Bubbly (a celebration taking place at the end of each term).

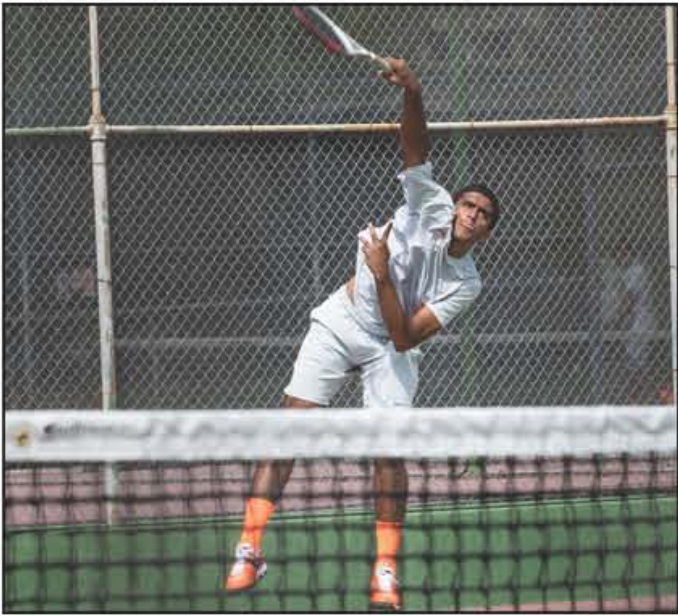
Currently, I am the UCC-at-large, meaning I serve as UCC for the entire house. As UCC-at-large, I do not plan events for individual alleys; rather, I work on a broader scale and create events in which the whole house participates.



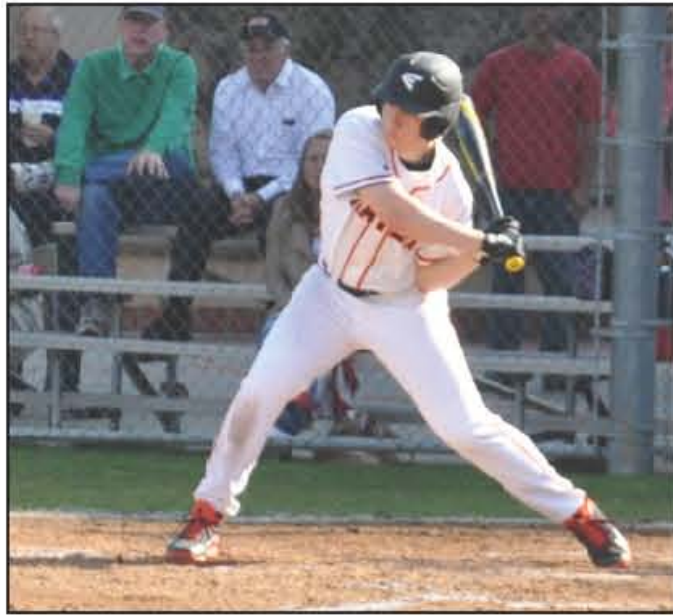
off-campus field trips, such as to the Aquarium of the Pacific, the California Science Center, and the LA Zoo.

As I have always enjoyed working with others and listening to what people say, I am responsive to any ideas or inputs students may have. Although it may be difficult to change the social environment at Tech to include more people, I believe that it is definitely achievable.

Thank you for reading, and I hope that you will all give me the opportunity to serve as your Social Director.



Sathwik Pathireddy isn't playing games when he blasts this serve. Or is he?



It's okay guys...no one likes playing Chapman.



They may not have beat La Verne, but at least Mary Boyajian had a fierce mani.

-gocaltech.com

Weekly Scoreboard

Women's Water Polo
at Pomona-Pitzer
L, 14-1 Final

Men's Tennis
at Redlands
L, 8-1 Final

Women's Tennis
vs. Redlands
L, 9-0 Final

Men's Baseball
at Chapman
L, 15-3 Final

Women's Water Polo
vs. Cal Lutheran
L, 14-3 Final

Women's Tennis
vs. La Verne
L, 8-1 Final

Senior Feature of the Week: Juliette Becker

NEERA SHAH
Editor-in-Chief

Do you participate in another sport on campus except Track & Field?

I run (and am captain of) the cross-country and track teams both.

Do you play any other sports as recreation?

No.

How long have you been in Track & Field (both at Caltech and in general)?

I have been running track at Caltech all four years, and I ran four years in high school as well as one more in middle school. So, nine years total.

Which events do you compete in, and why do you enjoy them?

I compete in the steeplechase, which is a bit shorter than two



-Marlyn Moore

miles and you have to jump over wide wooden barriers that come up to your hip. For an added bit of

fun, one barrier each lap has a big pit of water behind it. This is a race I started last year (and set the school

record that year), so I won't say that my strategy is very good but it's fun because it's challenging and different from normal track races.

I also have the school record in the 10k run, and I run the 800, 1500 and 5k when time permits.

If you competed in high school, how does playing sports in college compare?

The track team here is a lot smaller. Although I only have a few teammates, they are all fun people, and I wouldn't trade them for the 100-person mass that was my high school team.

What do you like most about being part of the Track & Field team at Caltech?

I have enjoyed getting to spend time with my teammates. I supposed I've learned some life lessons from all the races I've lost, too.

How do you plan on keeping up with your sport after you graduate?

I plan to keep running forever!

What are your future plans (in general/life) after leaving Caltech?

I will be attending graduate school with the eventual goal of becoming a professor.

Is there anything else you'd like to say regarding your experience with sports at Caltech?

Sports at Caltech have kept me sane and brought a lot of joy into my life. I would highly recommend that all you frosh try out for a sport at least once!

Track and Field competes in final invitational

JULIETTE BECKER
Contributing Writer

The Caltech Track and Field team spent the majority of their Saturday at the Strehle Track at Pomona-Pitzer in their last Invitational (non-conference) meet of the season.

The Beavers had a strong showing as they competed against a total field of an order of magnitude one thousand athletes. The Pomona-Pitzer Track & Field Invitational is an annual meet that allows NCAA Division Three athletes to compete against many

larger schools as well as a host of professional (or semi-professional) athletes, including the United States Paralympic team. To deal with the logistical difficulties of hosting so many athletes, meet organizers split the field for each event into 'heats,' running the same race several times with subsets of the total field. This strategy avoided what could have been a bloodbath in, for example, the women's 1500, which had a total of 154 spike-wearing women finish the nearly four-lap race.

Caltech had a strong showing in this format, with several athletes

winning their heats and earning a special t-shirt commemorating their win from meet organizers.

Some individual highlights from the meet in the distance running events included a particularly strong showing in the men's 800 meter run: Jared Forte and Aditya Bhagavathi each won their respective heat of the 800, both finishing in only slightly over two minutes for the half-mile race. Aditya also finished third in the 5000-meter run, as did Eric Martin in the 1500-meter run.

Stephanie Reynolds also made Caltech proud, fighting tenaciously

to finish third and second in the 1500- and 800-meter runs respectively. A host of nine other Beavers also competed in the 1500-meter run, peppering the heats with Caltech spirit.

Caltech also brought a small but powerful group of sprints, jumps, and throws. Lucy Chen ran the 100-meter dash, finishing third in her heat, as well as competing in the long jump.

Anup Kishore finished fourth in his heat of the men's triple jump competition, and Ben Grabowski also finished fourth in his heat of the javelin throw.

The Caltech Track team put up a strong showing at such a competitive meet, but its small size (there were only twenty-four competing athletes between the men and women's teams on the Caltech squad at this particular meet) presents a significant difficulty in competing against schools that have as many freshman women as we have on our entire track team.

Despite this imbalance, Caltech's track team perseveres, struggling not to win meets but instead to continually improve on individual performance.

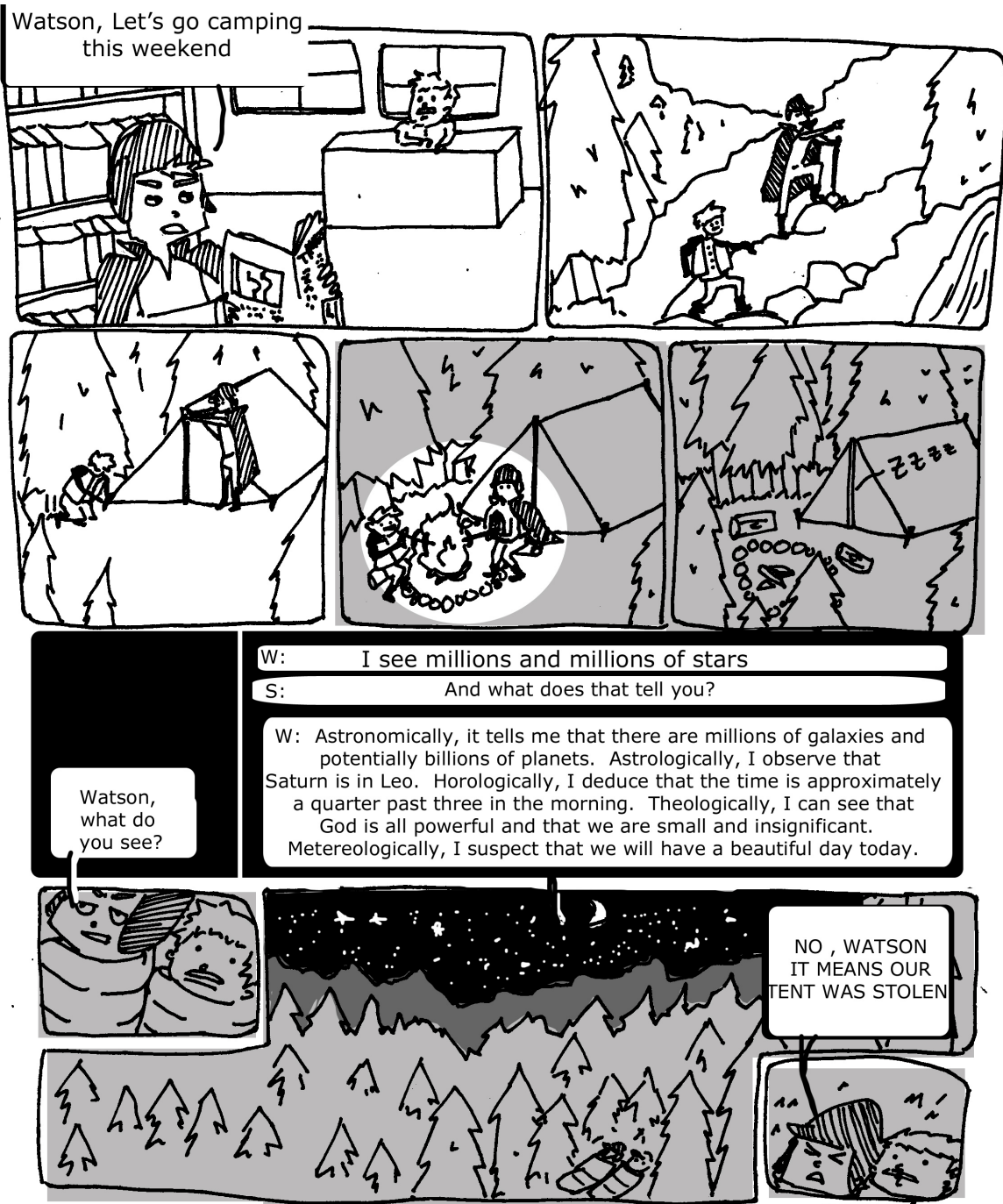
Acquired Taste

Dr. Z



Sherlock and Wastson

Liz Lawler



frenums.tumblr.com/comics

Answers to last week's crossword

G	N	A	W	M	I	C	A	P	A	C	K				
A	U	R	A	A	R	O	M	A	O	V	E	N			
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A	T	T	I	T	U	D	E	C	L	A	S	P			
T	E	A	E	M	A	I	L	M	I	N	U	S			
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Answers to last week's Suodku

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3	8	5	2	7	4	6	1	9
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9	3	8	7	6	2	1	4	5
6	5	1	4	3	8	9	7	2
5	9	2	1	8	7	4	6	3
8	6	3	9	4	5	7	2	1
4	1	7	6	2	3	5	9	8

The California Tech
 Caltech 40-58
 Pasadena, CA 91125