

Update from the Advisory Committee on Residential Life

ADVISORY COMMITTEE ON RESIDENTIAL LIFE
Contributing Writer

The season when housing decisions for next year are being made and prefrish are coming to visit is upon us. For this reason, the Advisory Committee on Residential Life thought that it might be useful to give the community an update on what we've been doing.

The ACRL was established by Joe Shepherd, Caltech's vice president of Student Affairs, with the mandate of making recommendations about how to improve the quality of residential life at Caltech, both in the short term during the launch of the new Bechtel Residence and in the long term to continue to evaluate and strengthen the residential experience. The committee consists of five student leaders, three staff members and three faculty members. As a committee, we are dedicated to reaching consensus recommendations and we welcome the advice and feedback of the broader community to make informed decisions about residential issues. The result of our work will be a set of reports with recommendations to the VPSA.

The first item on our agenda was to think through

the process of how to update the room assignment process for continuing students to accommodate the new Bechtel residence. In order to inform our work, we carried out a survey in collaboration with the Housing Office in which over 650 students participated. A report with the ACRL's consensus recommendations was sent to the VPSA in mid-March, was approved, and is currently being implemented. You can find the report and the results of the survey at the link below. We are now working on how to revamp the Rotation process for fall 2018 and on determining the target number of freshmen for the Houses and Bechtel.

The Rotation revamp that we are currently considering for this upcoming fall has a limited scope determined by the mandate that we received from the VPSA and by the limited time available to carry out the work. In particular, note that:

- There will be a Rotation process after Frosh Camp in which new students have an opportunity to visit and learn about their residential options.
- The Rotation process will include the opportunity to visit each of the eight Houses as well as the ability for each of the eight Houses

to host events and present their distinctive cultures.

- Incoming students will have the opportunity to get acquainted with the new Bechtel Residence during the Rotation process.
- There will be frosh living in all of the Houses, as well as in Bechtel.
- The Rotation and residential assignment process will be made transparent to incoming students.
- Participation in this process will be voluntary rather than compulsory, and incoming students will choose which Houses to visit and which House activities to attend.
- The room assignment process will give incoming students the option to live in Bechtel.

Despite the limited scope of the changes under consideration, several key questions need to be resolved, which the committee is currently exploring:

- How will Bechtel be included in the Rotation events and how will students indicate their preferences for this residential option?
- Will the Houses be able to provide input into the housing assignments of

incoming students and, if so, how?

- How will all of this information be used to determine housing assignments?
- How will student groups like the IHC coordinate with the Housing Office and the administration to implement the process?
- How can we evaluate the quality of the new Rotation process to identify future areas for improvement?

The committee expects to make its recommendations on the Rotation revamp in the second half of May. Afterwards, we will turn our attention to two other pressing items on the committee's agenda: making recommendations on how to implement the new four year on-campus residency plan, and designing a process for selecting future student representatives to the ACRL.

The work of the committee will continue next year and beyond. Our goal is to carry out an ongoing process of evaluation and brainstorming to constantly look for ways of improving the quality of residential life at Caltech. We seek to do this by relying on incremental changes and evidence based approaches. We view our work as an ongoing process of trying things out,

seeing what works, and using data to guide future updates to the system. We won't get everything "right" on the first try, but we are committed to a process of continuous improvement that serves the broader needs of the Caltech community.

We look forward to continue to work together in seeking ways to improve the residential experience of current and future Caltech undergraduates. You can learn more about the work of the committee at the ACRL's website (<https://www.studaff.caltech.edu/acrl>), which includes the agendas for our meetings and copies of our reports.

Diandra Almasco (Blacker House president), Sarah Crucilla (IHC chair), Catherine Day (Avery House president), Kevin Gilmartin (faculty and dean of undergraduate students), Tom Mannion (senior director of student activities and programs), Rachael Morton (former IHC chair), Richard Murray (faculty), Antonio Rangel (faculty, ACRL chair), Candace Rypisi (director of student-faculty programs), Jarrid Whitney (executive director of admissions & financial aid)

Candidacy Statements for ASCIT Positions ASCIT Treasurer (1 candidate)

DANA HE
ASCIT Treasurer Candidate

Hi everyone! I'm Dana He, and I'm running to be your ASCIT Treasurer.

A little bit about me: I am a sophomore in Fleming, an avid a cappella-ist, a UCC, and the current ASCIT Secretary. Since falling in love with Caltech way back during Prefrosh Weekend, I have and continue to make an effort to be as involved as possible. I am running for ASCIT Treasurer because I care about this school and want to play an active role in making it an even better place to be.

As I mentioned earlier, I have been serving as ASCIT Secretary for the past year and believe that my experience in this role will provide

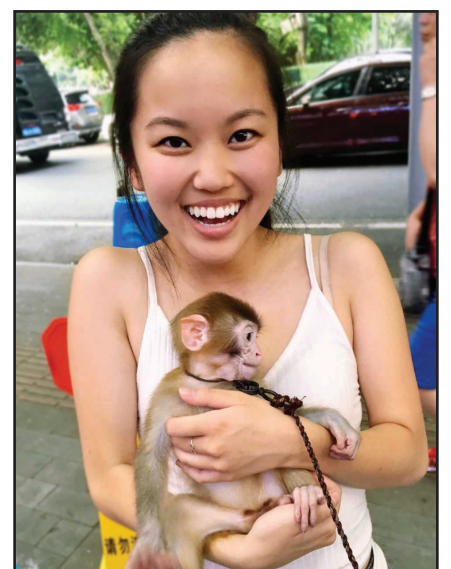
a solid foundation for growing into the role of ASCIT Treasurer. As ASCIT Secretary, my job is to take minutes for weekly ASCIT meetings and post them to the *California Tech* and Donut in order to keep the student body informed about what's going on. I'm also in charge of keeping student positions on Donut and the Olive Walk display case up to date and answering any questions the student body might have. In fulfilling these duties to the best of my ability, I have shown my passion and dedication to ASCIT, and have also learned a lot about ASCIT and the role of Treasurer. I've had the opportunity to listen in on discussions regarding budgeting issues, funding proposals, and the reimbursement process, and feel confident in my ability to take on these responsibilities.

The job of the ASCIT Treasurer is to keep account of all the money ASCIT receives and spends and allocate it to fund various projects, clubs, and events. If elected ASCIT Treasurer, I promise to hold myself accountable for keeping ASCIT fiscally responsible, and to allocate the money in a way that maximizes the benefit it could bring to students. In terms of improvements, one thing that I would like to change is that historically, ASCIT generally has a large surplus of unspent money by the end of the school year. While the money gets added to the ASCIT budget for following years, it means that student dues are not always being spent on the students that are paying them. I would like to improve upon this by modifying next year's budget to

increase funding for certain clubs and projects that are currently underfunded or would be able to really utilize increased funding, and by improving communication with the student body about using ASCIT as a funding resource so that more people are aware of this opportunity. I would also like to work with administration to help streamline the reimbursement process so that students receive their reimbursements more promptly.

Caltech is an amazing institution that I care deeply about, and I hope that by running for ASCIT Treasurer I will have an opportunity to make it an even better place for undergraduate students. With that being said, I would really appreciate your vote

and support, and if you have any questions, suggestions, or would just like to say hi, please reach out to me in person or via email (dhhe@caltech.edu)! Let's make next year the best one yet.



ARC Chair (0 candidates)

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ASCIT Social Director (1)

ALICE ZHAI

ASCIT Social Director Candidate

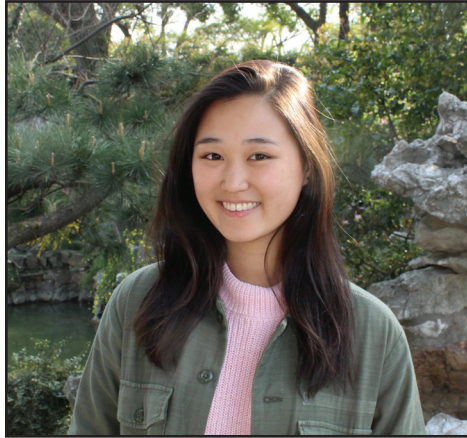
Hey everyone! I'm Alice, a junior in Fleming and the current ASCIT social director. I have been on ASCIT for two years, and I have thoroughly enjoyed participating in student government and representing students' opinions on campus policies. If reelected, I would continue the tradition of planning fun activities like movie nights and parties as well as consider students' feedback while making decisions for social events.

I have learned so much the past year. Now, I have a much better understanding of which components are needed to plan a successful event, what kinds of events are popular among students, and how to communicate well with administration. I also made quite a few mistakes, and I would love to have the opportunity to improve upon what I did last year. I will be studying abroad next year during the winter term, but I will be sure to work with the Interim Social Director so that everything runs smoothly.

Organizing large-scale social events is a time consuming and challenging task, but it is a commitment that I am very excited to take on. I have many ideas for future social events, such as a campus wide Halloween party and trips to local theme parks and

shows. I truly value student feedback, so I'd love to hear what other suggestions you all have! I plan on surveying the student body on what events interest them the most and how to improve events like ASCIT formal or End of Rotation Party in the future. This way, I can tailor campus events to what students want and maximize campus participation.

Caltech can be a stressful environment, and I would love to make student life more fun and bring people together. It has been incredibly rewarding to see so many students attend and enjoy the social events this year, and I would be honored to be reelected as social director. If you have any questions for me, please let me know!



President Rosenbaum and Dr. Faber to Join this Year's Seniors in Giving Back

SENIOR GIFT COMMITTEE

Contributing Writer

It's that time of year when the roses are blooming, the birds are singing and the seniors are kicking off the annual Senior Gift campaign.

So, what is this Senior Gift thing anyway? It's a common tradition on college campuses all across the U.S. and dates back to at least the 1960s here at Caltech. Essentially, the point is to encourage seniors to give back to their soon-to-be alma mater before graduating. Ever wondered where the penny press in the bookstore came from? Or the chess table under the arches in the RF courtyard? Yup. Both purchased with funds raised by Caltech seniors.

Last year, the Class of 2017 changed things up a bit, giving back to all different areas of campus, depending on each individual's preferences. They also set a record, with 52% of the entire class giving to the campaign ... and we've been challenged to do EVEN BETTER.

President Rosenbaum and Dr. Faber joined the Caltech community in 2014 alongside the Class of 2018. We're the first class they've seen all the way through! Because of this, they have challenged us to beat last year's seniors by generously pledging to give \$2,500 to Undergraduate Scholarships if 53% percent of the class (125 students) gives at any level. They will also give \$100 for each additional percentage point earned. The more seniors give, the more support we have for scholarships!

Still on the fence about Senior Gift? Let's address some common misconceptions:

1. Senior Gift money pays for something I don't want and Caltech doesn't need.

Not anymore! Instead of raising money for something specific, we're encouraging students to give back to any area of their choosing. You can give to your House, the Student Life (AKA Tom Mannion's discretionary) fund, the Art House, athletics, clubs, undergraduate scholarships—the world is your oyster.

This structure mirrors what it is like to give as an alumnus, when you will have the choice to make an unrestricted gift (which goes to Caltech's highest priorities, like scholarships and financial aid) or restrict your gift to whichever area of campus matters most to you. Many of the opportunities you've had—from that SURF at JPL to

your House camping trips at Joshua Tree—were made possible by alumni support. That support helps ensure that Caltech will continue to grow and improve, and that the things you loved about your experience will continue to exist for future generations.

2. Ok, but you want me to give \$100 right? I'm a broke college student!
Nope. Gifts of any amount are appreciated. Most seniors give \$20.1X in honor of their class year. Some give \$5 or \$10, a few give \$50 or \$100, and **the minimum amount is just \$1.**

3. \$20 won't benefit anything.
Senior Gift is more about promoting the act of giving than it is about raising a huge sum. The percentage of alumni who give back at any level affects our rankings and incentivizes larger corporations and foundations to invest in Caltech. Plus, if every one of our 23,000 alumni worldwide gave just \$20, it would end up making a pretty big financial impact.

AND, this year, your dollar can go even further, thanks to President Rosenbaum and Dr. Faber's challenge. Additionally, we have the support of Tom Mannion, who is doing his own challenge and treating the House with the highest participation to a multi-course dinner. Professor B.T. Soifer in PMA has also generously supported the campaign since 2015 and will be matching all 2018 senior gifts up to \$40 each and \$2,000 total.

4. All of that said, Senior Gift still sounds like extortion. Why should I give when my parents have already paid a fortune to send me here?

Tuition doesn't even cover the full cost to educate each of us, and 60% of undergrads are receiving financial aid. Alumni support, more so than tuition, is what will help make Caltech more accessible and affordable.

We hope this has answered all your questions. **Look for us in front of Millikan between 11 AM and 2 PM this Wednesday, April 18 for the annual dunk tank event and give there for a chance to dunk the Dean!**

Have more questions about Senior Gift? Feel free to e-mail Kathleen LaManna (klamanna@caltech.edu) in the Caltech Fund office.

ASCIT Minutes

Meetings are every week in SAC 13

ASCIT Board of Directors Meeting

Minutes for April 15, 2018. Taken by Sarah Crucilla.

Officers Present: Sakthi Vetrivel, Kavya Sreedhar, Varun Shanker, Sarah Crucilla, Alice Zhai

Guests: Sean Yu, Jamie Vison

Call to Order: 9:18 pm

President's Report (Sakthi):

- Please vote on Monday ☺ ☺.
- ASCIT calls for an election to vote on the following amendments on the 23rd of April:
 - The BoD voted to propose an amendment altering gendered language to make it gender-neutral.
 - The BoD voted to propose an amendment altering the meeting times of RevComm meetings.
 - The BoD voted to propose an amendment on reallocating committee appointments between ASCIT and IHC.
- ACRL is coming out with a new article (hint, hint: it's in this issue).
- We appointed an interim treasurer, Varun Shanker.
- Pizza will be on Thursday/Friday interface for PFW.

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Kavya):

- Add day this coming Friday!
- Core Connections panel
 - Talked about what we would like to see in core
- Ombuds training will be Thursday, 12pm (subject to change)
- Course Capture will be recording Ph 2c and maybe Psy 13.
- Student Faculty lunches will be May 21 and 22.
- Please, please fill out course compliments ☺ you can get a chance to go to lunch with your prof or TA!
- Vote ... for ARC Chair.

V.P. of Non-Academic Affairs (Sarah):

- ACRL meeting: moving to talk more about rotation, talk to student reps if you questions / concerns
 - Number of frosh in each house will come out 4/25
- PFW this weekend: updated Rotation Rules
 - Included Bechtel
 - Updated alcohol policy (people cannot drink at any events with prefrosh)
 - Removed rule that you cannot talk about past picks procedures.
- Faculty Board Meeting
 - Plagiarism Panel
 - Appointed Alejandro Lopez as Secretary.

Director of Operations (Sara):

- Not in attendance.

Treasurer (Varun):

- Started giving reimbursements!
- Big T is now taking care of own funding.

Social Director (Alice):

- Escape Room event will be next weekend. Signups by lottery
- Chouse trivia night was last Thursday.

Secretary (Dana):

- Updated Olive Walk Display with new IHC
- RevComm is working on ASCIT Bylaws proposals. Full text: <http://bit.ly/2HEgDNI>

If anyone has any questions or concerns about a section of the minutes please email the appropriate officer. We are happy to answer any questions.

Meeting Adjourned: 10:12 PM

ARC Minutes

Meetings are every week in SAC 13

ARC Meeting Minutes 4/15/18

Present: Kavya Sreedhar, Allison Tang, Michael Yao, Amrita Rhoads, Alice Jin, Alejandro Lopez, Sirisha Gudavalli, LC Chen, Arushi Gupta, Andrew Zhou

Minutes submitted by: Allison Tang

1. Announcements

a. **Add Day** is this coming Friday, 4/20. Turn in your add/drop cards to the Registrar by 5 PM with your advisor's signature. If your advisor is out of town or unreachable, the Deans can sign for you.

- i. If you are dropping a class, you do not need the instructor's signature.
- ii. If you are adding a class with a time conflict, you also need to fill out a time conflict card.

iii. This is also the last day to remove conditionals/incompletes.

b. *You have until Drop Day to drop a class with the instructor's signature, change sections, and/or elect to switch between grades and P/F for a class.*

c. **Course Compliments** accepts nominations on a rolling basis; see <https://sites.google.com/site/arccaltech/course-compliments>. If your nominee wins, the ARC will sponsor a free lunch with you and your nominee!

2. Programming


a. **Core Connections Panel Recap:** discussed core and how they connected to other Caltech courses as part of a new initiative to gain insight into Core.

b. **Course Capture:** Ph2c and Psy13 are being recorded this term; students are paid to record their classes and upload the videos -- if you would like a course recorded, contact the ARC.

c. **Student-Faculty Lunches:** tentatively scheduled for May 21st and May 22nd, will have both professors and graduate student TAs.

d. **ASCIT Teaching Awards:** planning committee has been formed, will set a date after confirming room availability at the Ath.

The ARC website at arc.caltech.edu has more information about what the ARC does if you are interested. We meet every Sunday at 11am in SAC13 and our meetings are open to everyone! If you have any questions, please feel free to email ksreedha@caltech.edu.



ARC Tip of the Week

Unique to Caltech are pizza classes, where students get pizza and listen to ongoing research at Caltech, and freshman seminars, where professors teach their favorite subjects, from the science of music to the dance of the photons.

ASCIT President (2 Candidates)

DAVID GUNBY
ASCIT President Candidate

The primary job of the ASCIT President is to act as a student-faculty-administration liaison; the ASCIT President is one of three student representatives on the Deans' Advisory Committee, one of the three undergrads invited to Faculty Board meetings, and sits on the ACRL. If elected ASCIT President, I will have two major goals outside of the stated duties of the President role:

First, I intend to examine the efficacy and functionality of existing student-faculty-administration liaison committees. There are at least three advisory committees with overlapping roles relevant to student residential life. The Deans' Advisory Committee, occupied by a group of students that include ASCIT president and the IHC Chair and Secretary, the Undergraduate Life and Housing Committee, a subcommittee of the Officers of the Faculty (aka. the Faculty Board), and the Advisory Committee on Residential Life, recently formed to advise the Vice President for Student Affairs, all fulfill the role of gathering student and faculty input for issues relevant to student life. However, the existence of these committees doesn't necessarily imply that they are used for their intended purpose. For example, the decision that created the ACRL and announced many other changes to student life did not consult the other existing committees. It seems imperative to examine the lasting nature of these committees, and define standard roles and processes for gathering student and faculty input, to avoid the lack of communication that represented the greatest criticism of the recent decision. Additionally, doing so should help to prevent, say, the next VPSA from forming a "Undergraduate Life Improvement Committee", without consulting and for the same purpose as the three existing committees.

Towards the end of bringing the level of student involvement in the ACRL to the level of Caltech's existing institutions (such as the CRC, ARC, BoC, IHC, DAC, and ASCIT) and towards the end of compliance with the core institute value of Caltech's longstanding respect for and acknowledgement of student input, I plan to make every effort to add a student co-chair to the ACRL. I will show my own appreciation of the importance of widespread student input by attending dinner at each undergraduate House and at the Bechtel residence at least once termly to gather student input, hopefully setting this as a precedent for future ASCIT presidents. Towards the ends of preventing future miscommunications regarding the roles of existing committees and ensuring that future administrators are armed with the tools to properly obtain constituent input, I will do everything in my power to ensure that students are involved in the selection and training of future Student Affairs representatives, including the incoming Associate Dean, and brief them on the input-gathering processes I develop with existing members of Student Affairs.

Second, I intend to work to make the processes of existing Caltech institutions easily accessible to students. I intend to clarify the overall Caltech hierarchy and relevant administrative roles especially as they pertain to students, for the purposes of facilitating future student input and advocacy, clarifying questions such as "Why does a change in Provost matter to students?" and "What does the RLC do, anyway?". I intend to compile a list of resources for summer funding, from disparate sources including the Caltech Y, the Deans' Office, the SURF office, and other individual funds managed by Caltech from private donors, and also for program funding, from sources like

the ASCIT budget, the MHF fund, and other scattered programs, many of which are announced only by a single campus-wide email, once per term or year. I intend to create guidelines for reaching out to alumni networks, faculty, and staff resources, and to put these tools in the hands of the IHC and other student leaders for the purpose of raising awareness about challenges to student life. Finally, I intend to use the platform of President to interview faculty and administrators to determine information relevant to the above goals, and also to publish this information in a way that is easily accessible by future Caltech undergraduates. By doing so, I hope to set the stage for easy student involvement on campus for years to come.

As former BoC Secretary, I have significant experience working with Student Affairs to construct fair and thoughtful processes with significant student involvement. I also have experience interfacing with faculty to obtain feedback. I have experience representing students in times of crisis; for example, I gathered student input after the second Bechtel Town Hall, culminating in an informal recommendation to the then-ASCIT president to form a committee to present student recommendations on the occupancy of Bechtel (the COUCH was, possibly independently, formed by the IHC shortly afterwards). I therefore already have the skills necessary to act as the kind of student-faculty-administrative liaison that an effective ASCIT president must be.

And of course, I will provide tasty and on-time tori for all your Monday and Friday breakfast needs.

If you support my platform, or believe I'd do a good job, I'd really appreciate your vote!

SAKTHI VETRIVEL
ASCIT President Candidate

Hi everyone!

I'm Sakthi Vetrivel, the current ASCIT President, and I'm running for another term. In the past year, I've had the amazing privilege of serving as your president, and as challenging as it's been at times, I've loved acting as your voice.

In the first few months of my term, I fulfilled my promises of getting brighter streetlights, improving the Wi-Fi across campus and yes, even filling up Millikan pond again. Since then, I've restructured our budget to allocate more funding to campus-wide social events and give the yearbook the financial resources they need to operate debt-free, all without raising dues. I've also restructured the process of appointed offices to reduce the risk of corruption. And finally, I've worked with the IHC and the ACRL to form plans to cultivate a safe, welcoming environment in Bechtel while advocating strongly

for the things we love about our house system.

Moving forward, I want to continue doing just that. I still believe that Big I is a huge part of Caltech culture that we've been missing out on, and something I'd love to push for. Taking what I learned about our budget, I want to continue improving it to make sure we're using our money to bring us closer together, by increasing funding for clubs, multihouse social events, Ditch Day, and ASCIT events. And finally, I want to continue serving on the ACRL to maintain the positives of our house system, from the mentorship across different classes to what I can only call the quirks born out of house culture through the guiding principles set out by the COUCH.

It's been my absolute pleasure serving as your president this past year, and I'd love the chance to continue what I've been doing. If you'd like to hit me with any questions, comments, or suggestions for improvement, email me at svetrive@caltech.edu.



ASCIT Director of Operations (2)

SIRISHA GUDAVALLI
Director of Operations Candidate

Hi everyone! My name is Sirisha Gudavalli, and I'm running to be your ASCIT Director of Operations. I am running for this position because I want to help support the Caltech community, and specifically, the student activities and organizations that contribute to its diversity. I believe that they constitute an important part of the Caltech student experience, providing not only a break from academics but also a means for individuals to showcase and develop their passions.

The role consists of 3 main jobs: managing club relations and campus wide publications, looking after general ASCIT equipment, and contributing to discussions regarding student life with deans and other administrators. In my time here, I have made an effort to become involved in the Caltech community and have taken on various leadership positions: I currently serve as treasurer for the CaltechY, the undergraduate board member for Caltech Women in Neuroscience, ARC rep for my house, and run Cross Country and Track. All these roles require organization, time management, and the ability to communicate with various individuals--skills that I would employ as a part of ASCIT. As such, I believe that my passion for being an involved community member and leader coupled with my campus positions and experience make me a well-suited candidate for Director of Operations.

I chose Caltech a year ago because

it provided the unique combination of a stellar academic environment and a diverse community of individuals, each with different talents and skills. I've only been here a year, but I've already begun to establish a sense of home in my house, clubs, classes, and the greater campus. I would love to continue to contribute to Caltech by serving on the ASCIT Board of Directors, giving back to the student body who have made my experience what it is. I will strive to improve student life by continuing to support our various organizations, and by working with administrators to relay concerns and feedback for improvements. If you have any questions, I encourage you to contact me at sgudaval@caltech.edu. Thank you for your time.



VARUN SHANKER
Director of Operations Candidate

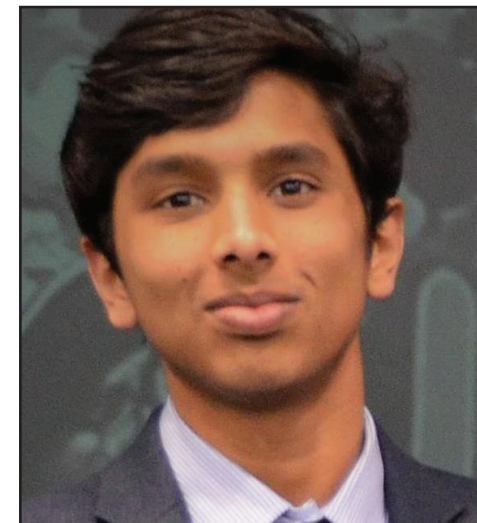
Hi everyone,

My name is Varun Shanker, and I will be a sophomore next year. I was recently appointed Interim ASCIT Treasurer and have gained exposure to the responsibilities of the BoD. I am running for the position of ASCIT Director of Operations next term because of my strong interest in working at the interface of several aspects of student life to enhance the Caltech experience. I would love the continued opportunity to represent the student body and strive to implement new changes that will positively impact life at Tech. In working jointly with the other members of the BoD, I would love to represent the best interests of all students, houses, and groups in mind.

Since joining Caltech, I have come to appreciate much of what the students and the institute, itself, has to offer. In running for the position of Director of Operations, I would love to see student groups flourish. I will work with club leaders improve club growth and development by supporting them in obtaining the necessary resources - from rooms to hold meetings in to equipment, and especially funding. Starting new clubs or groups can often be a challenge. I will work diligently with administration and the RLC's to help students navigate major the obstacles, including the appropriate paperwork, required to start any type of organization.

A major responsibility of the Director of Operations is the oversight of SAC rooms and ASCIT property. Currently, I feel that many of our spaces are heavily underutilized. I would love to renovate a number of these spaces, such as the ASCIT screening room, to make them more user-friendly, accessible, and of utility to the student body. With the arrival of the new Hameetman Campus Center looming in the near future, I would love to work with administration to maximize its benefit for students.

I'm truly passionate about Caltech and improving life on campus, I look forward to hopefully serving as your Director of Operations. Please don't hesitate to contact me at vshanker@caltech.edu, if you have any other questions, comments, or general input.



Upcoming Events

EDITORS-IN-CHIEF

The Upcoming Events column serves to inform students of upcoming events. The list is compiled by the Editors-in-Chief from information available around campus.

The Past and Future of Urban Farming in Southern California

Wednesday, April 18th | 12 PM | Avery Dining Hall

Join Dr. Rachel Surls for a discussion on urban farming in Southern California – from Los Angeles's past as the agricultural center of North America to becoming the nation's most populous urban metropolis. The talk will focus on policy that is helping to pave the way for more urban agriculture development to steps that cities can take to increase urban farming capacity.

Lunch provided (Vegetarian and Vegan options) - come promptly. All members of the community are welcome to attend.

Caltech Y Social Activism Speaker Series: "Company Town" Documentary

Wednesday, April 18th | 4 PM | Beckman Behavioral Biology B180 | Caltech Y

Filmed over nearly four years, "Company Town" follows one man's journey to save his town. He's up against one of the nation's largest paper mill and chemical plants, Georgia-Pacific, owned by billionaire brothers Charles Koch and David Koch, for which many neighbors work their entire lives, making products like, Angel Soft, Brawny Paper Towels, and Dixie paper cups.

This is a rare look inside one hidden American town, where the company rules and the government's negligence pushes them to stand up and fight for justice. Crossett, Arkansas represents all towns across America polluted by big business.

The screening will begin at 4pm with a Q&A with the directors after.

Art + Tech Seminar: Critical Making

Wednesday, April 18th | 7 PM | Guggenheim 133

The longstanding divide between technological work and social critique is collapsing, brought about by new forms of access to the technical and increasing recognition of the critical impacts of emerging technological systems on social life. What then are our responsibilities as engineers, as artists, as social scientists, as citizens? Since 2007 Matt Ratto has been using the term critical making to describe a research program aimed at exploring these questions. In this talk he will outline some of the methods and commitments that have shaped this research, highlighting some of events and objects that have

resulted, and explicitly describing what remains to be done.

Matt Ratto is an Associate Professor at the University of Toronto and director of the Semaphore Research Cluster on Mobile and Pervasive Computing, an interdisciplinary research group exploring, critiquing, and building capacity around new developments in tangible interfaces, smart objects and digital infrastructures. His main focus is on bridging the divide between critical, humanistic perspectives and technical work. He coined the term 'critical making' in 2007 to describe this ongoing research project.

The Path to Transforming California's Electric System

Thursday, April 19th | 12 PM | Avery Dining Hall

California leads the nation in progressive energy and climate policies which have significantly reduced the state's climate footprint. However, meeting future ambitious goals will require the transformation of many systems and processes that touch all facets of life in the Golden State. In the electric sector, fundamental changes are underway that will impact how energy is supplied, distributed, and used for many years. Shifting economics and robust growth have put a future within reach where renewables provide the majority of electricity -- with a current legislative push for 60% and debates about reaching 100% -- but challenges remain to balance distributed, widespread renewables with a reliable grid and to determine the financial

structures that will facilitate the transition.

How should we best handle this transition to gain the benefits of cleaner air, healthy communities, climate-resilient future, while ensuring safety, reliability, and affordability? Join us for a panel discussion with Union of Concerned Scientists, Southern California Edison, a policy expert from Assemblymember Holden's office and moderated by Caltech's Office of Sustainability on the process to put aggressive climate policies in place and the challenges and opportunities related to transforming California's electric grid.

Lunch provided (Vegetarian and Vegan options). All members of the community are welcome to attend.

Earth Day Resource and Engagement Fair

Friday, April 20th | 11:30 AM | San Pasqual Walk

Take a break from your work to enjoy the spring weather and get to know campus groups and local environmental organizations! Get some fresh air, expand your local network, and learn how to get involved with local sustainability efforts at the Earth Day Resource and Engagement Fair on San Pasqual Walk on Friday, April 20th. Organizations will include: LA Metro Bikeshare, TreePeople, Food Forward, Techers for a Sustainable Future, the Theodore Payne Foundation, the Sierra Club, Pasadena Public Works Environmental Programs, and many more! For a full list of participants, visit the Caltech Sustainability website.

Stargazing Lecture: On the Road to a Billion Planets

Friday, April 20th | 8 PM | Cahill, Hameetman Auditorium

Take a break from your work to enjoy the spring weather and get to know campus groups and local environmental organizations! Get some fresh air, expand your local network, and learn how to get involved with local sustainability efforts at the Earth Day Resource and Engagement Fair on San Pasqual Walk on Friday, April 20th. Organizations will include: LA Metro Bikeshare, TreePeople, Food Forward, Techers for a Sustainable Future, the Theodore Payne Foundation, the Sierra Club, Pasadena Public Works Environmental Programs, and many more! For a full list of participants, visit the Caltech Sustainability website.

Caltech Orchestra Concert

Saturday, April 21st 8 PM & Sunday, April 22nd 3:30 PM | Ramo Auditorium

Program: Rachmaninoff's Piano Concerto No. 2 and Beethoven's Symphony No. 5.

Featured soloist pianist Youngjoon Choi is the second winner of this year's Student Concerto Competition to be featured in our concerts. Youngjoon is a fourth year graduate student in physics. At Caltech, he is trying to build a platform for quantum computing experimentally with Nadj-Perge group.

The Caltech Orchestra is comprised of players from Caltech, JPL, and its surrounding communities. Conductor Allen Robert Gross begins his thirty-fourth year as director of the orchestra.

The concerts are free, with no tickets or reservations required, but early arrival is recommended.

Hathaway Sycamores

Every Monday | 5:45 - 8:00 PM | Highland Park | Caltech Y

Volunteer at Hathaway Sycamores, a group that supports local underprivileged and motivated high school students. There are a variety of ages and subjects being tutored. The service trip includes about 40 minutes of travel time and 1.5 hours of tutoring. Transportation is included.

For more info and to RSVP email Elisabeth at egallmei@caltech.edu. Eligible for Federal Work Study.

Mentors for L.I.F.E

Volunteer times: 2:45 - 5:00 PM at various locations in Pasadena | Caltech Y

Stressed out by school? Step outside the Caltech bubble and mentor tweens who've yet to even consider college. Things you could do: Build a baking soda and vinegar volcano, read a book aloud, play sports or board games, teach the alphabet of another language, do a craft. Having a mentor makes an at-risk student 55% more likely to attend college, 78% more likely to volunteer regularly, and 130% more likely to hold a leadership position. Interested? If you have 180 seconds, you can watch this video and be inspired. If you have an hour a week, you can mentor someone and be their inspiration. If you feel unqualified, don't worry. Ultimately, mentoring is about being a consistent, dependable friend—not a surrogate parent or psychiatrist.

To get started, contact noelle@caltech.edu.

Caltechlive!

EARNEST C. WATSON LECTURE SERIES

Wednesday, April 25, 2018 • 8 PM

NEGOTIATIONS AND GROUP DECISIONS: PASSING BILLS WITH BACKROOM DEALS



Marina Agranov, Professor of Economics
Caltech Division of the Humanities and Social Sciences

In this lecture, Dr. Agranov will illustrate how the structure and rules of the negotiation process impact how money gets distributed. She will explore these and related questions using the tools of economic theory and experimental economics.

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SCIENCE SATURDAYS

SATURDAY, APRIL 28, 2018 • 4PM

Beckman Auditorium • \$10 (general admission)
Recommended for all ages

Natural Curiosities: Curious Minds



Discussion Leader: **Mason McGill**
Caltech Computation & Neural Systems, PhD student

Orangutans are clever tool users, but strangely, such skills remained undiscovered for centuries. They were considered as just clever mimics until discovery in remote Sumatran swamps revealed their true potential. Crows are clever birds that can solve problems and they too make surprisingly sophisticated tools. How have the curious minds of these two animals helped them become so inventive?

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Wei ties single-season wins Records at Oxy

GOCALTECH.COM
Actual Sports Content Editor

GLENDALE, Calif. (Apr. 13, 2018) – Freshman James Wei pulled through for another singles victory, this one to tie the program single-season wins record, as the Caltech men's tennis team defeated Occidental College, 6-3 at Scholl Canyon on Friday afternoon. Along with freshman doubles partner Varun Shanker, Wei also notched



Up high ... down low ... too slow!

-gocaltech.com

a hard fought 8-3 victory at first doubles to tie the Pathireddy brothers' single-season doubles wins record set back in 2015.

Wei, whose only loss came on February 17th at Lewis & Clark Colleges, won at second singles, 6-2, 6-3, to help the Beavers secure a key win over the rival Tigers. The rookie is undefeated against SCIAC competition and has now guaranteed himself at least a share

of the program record for single-season singles wins. Wei's 14 wins have brought him even with junior teammate Zixiao Li, who set

the record as a freshman in 2016.

Caltech got off to a good start by taking a 2-1 advantage from doubles action into the singles matches. The Beavers had particularly good success in the bottom three singles matches, which were also the three fastest matches to finish. Freshman

Kevin Yu got his first run at fourth singles and clinched the match for Caltech when he won, 6-1, 6-2. Sophomore Miha Valencic, meanwhile stepped down to fifth singles and responded with a 6-0, 6-0 victory in his own right, the fastest match to finish on the day. Sophomore Connor Soohoo also picked up a routine win, 6-1, 6-2 at sixth singles.

Ganapathi honored on Senior Day



Go little lob-ster goooo!

-gocaltech.com

GOCALTECH.COM
Actual Sports Content Editor

PASADENA (Apr. 11, 2018) – The Caltech women's water polo team recognized its lone senior, Devi Ganapathi before taking on the University of La Verne in Wednesday's home finale. The senior finished her final game in the Beavers' home pool with four shots and one steal.

The Beavers converted on their lone goal in the first period when junior Gemma

Takahashi turned a Leopards' steal into a steal of her own before quickly dishing to sophomore Mackenzie Wooten for the point-blank goal. Takahashi also went a perfect 4-for-4 on sprints and while accumulating two steals and leading the team with five shots over the course of the 32-minute game. Sophomore goalkeeper Sarah Kreider also managed one of her best games of the season, making nine saves while picking up two steals while hold the Leopards to just 11 goals.

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AND
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counseling.caltech.edu

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APRIL 11

COPING WITH ADHD

APRIL 16

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RELATIONSHIPS

APRIL 25

HEALTHY SLEEP

MAY 9

STRESS
MANAGEMENT

MAY 16

MINDFULNESS

SLEEP BETTER.

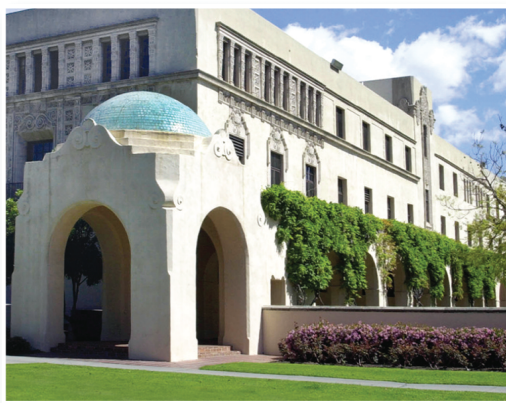
COGNITIVE-BEHAVIORAL THERAPY FOR INSOMNIA

A 4-WEEK GROUP
4:00 - 5:00

TUESDAYS
MAY 1, 8, 15, 22

PRE-SCREENING REQUIRED
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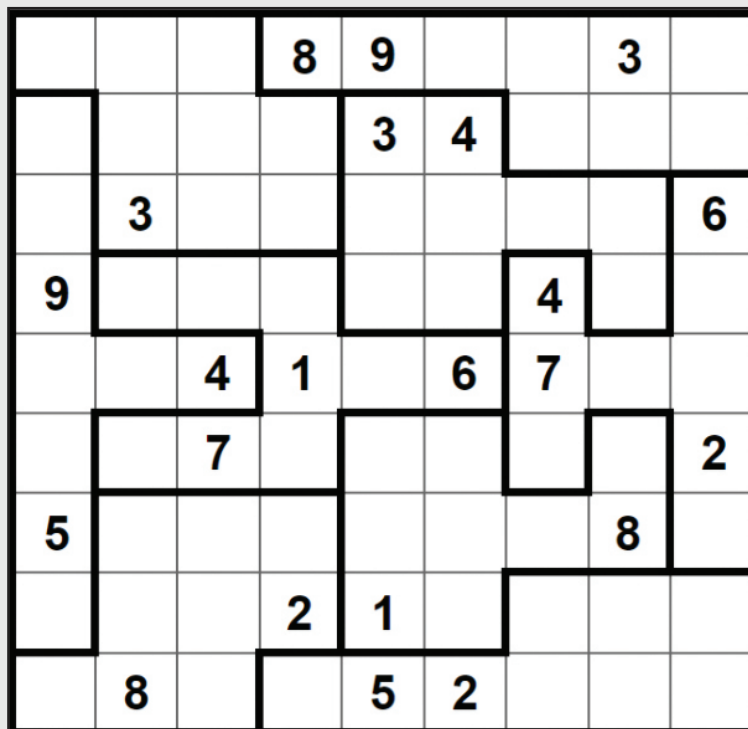
Must qualify for CEFCU membership to join. Minimum \$5 deposit and one-time \$5 membership fee due upon opening any CEFCU account. Federally insured by NCUA.

Jigsaw Sudoku

Jigsaw Sudoku has the following rules:

1. Each column and each row contain the digits 1-9 only once.
2. Every cage (surrounded by bolded lines) contains each of the digits 1-9 only once.

GLHF! (Puzzle from <https://krazydad.com/jigsawsudoku/>)



Diagramless Crossword

The diagramless crossword is similar to a standard US style crossword except in this puzzle there are five main differences:

1. You start with an empty 17x17 grid and are required to block out the unused cells yourself.
2. The clue numbers in the upper left corners are not filled in, so you have to figure out which cells are the correct ones and write in the clue numbers in small print.
3. The word lengths are not given, but all are at least three letters long.
4. The completed grid will form a pattern with ROTATIONAL symmetry.
5. Every white cell forms part of an Across and a Down answer.

Rotational Symmetry... You all happy now?

crossword from <http://www.puzzlechoice.com>

Hint: 1 Across starts at Row 1, Column 2

Across

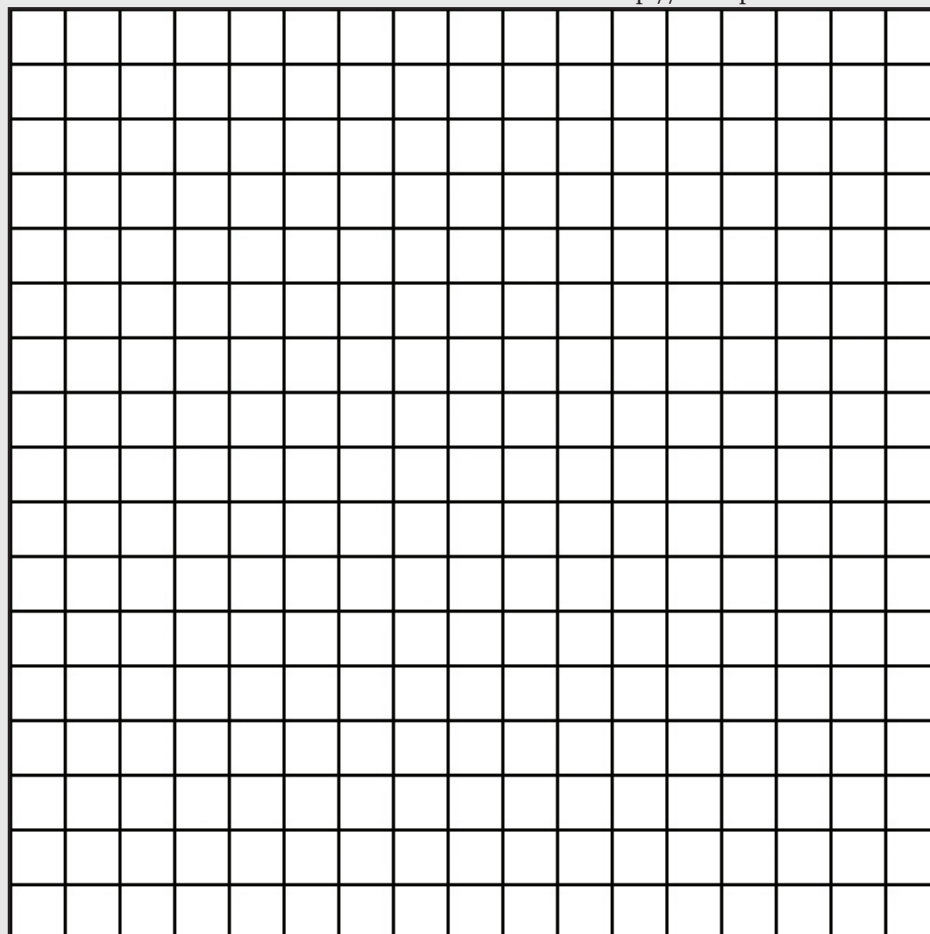
1. Pouch
4. Prod
7. Goat or rabbit
10. Joined by treaty or agreement
14. Surgical knife
15. Annually
16. Song for solo voice
17. Mountain
19. Prevalent
20. Jewel of an oyster
22. Flowers
25. Distribute playing cards
27. Anger
28. Throwing stick
33. Actor's prompt
34. Jumping insect
35. Cheapness
36. Carry with difficulty
37. Point
39. Young child
40. Boundary line
43. Metal container
44. Cut of meat
47. Roof covering
49. Clergyman's residence
52. Nimbus
54. Beverage
57. Mature
58. Large lizard
61. Melodious
63. Person employed to carry luggage
64. Part of a volcano

65. Stitched border
66. Witch

Down

1. Soak through
2. Region
3. Outcry
4. Crested blue bird
5. Alcoholic beverage
6. Cacophony
7. Land measure
8. Water nymph
9. Glower
11. Part of the eye
12. Fairy
13. Staining substance
14. Exhaust
18. First in rank or degree
21. Research area, in short
23. Metal-bearing mineral
24. Feudal land worker
26. Site
29. On the outside
30. Give out
31. Neither male nor female
32. Joke
35. Gratuity
38. Mineral
39. Religious doctrine
41. Floor covering
42. Male sheep
45. Insertion mark
46. Cutting implement
47. Disparaging remark
48. Reluctant
50. Goad
51. Snakelike fish
52. Pelvis
53. In the past

55. Aquatint or engrave
56. Mystique
59. Indicating maiden name
60. Limb
62. Old horse
29. Arab leader
30. Fencing sword
31. Relating to the kidneys
33. Female
36. Praise enthusiastically
37. Animal hunted for food
38. Fiend
39. Tear or be torn violently
43. Impetuous
44. Choker
46. Small gull
47. Statistical average
49. Share of the profits
50. Frozen water
51. Garbage can
52. First or second part in football
53. Aflame
54. Craze
56. Frozen region
57. Alarm
58. Deteriorated appearance through use
60. Bring up
62. Humble request
64. Large vase
66. Of long duration



Comic by Matthew Weidner

Caltech Catalog



- only loves you if you pass 36 units & graduate on time
 - 12 term residency requirement
 - demanding and passive-aggressive
- "Significant study in the humanities and social sciences is an important component of Caltech's core curriculum, giving alumni the ability to navigate the societal, political, and economic factors that influence, and are influenced by, their work."
- fat (755 pages)

Caltech Dogalog



- loves you unconditionally
- happy to see you even if you've been gone for a while
- just wants to play
- "... 90 units of electives within your option ..."
- fit due to daily walks (40 pages)

Tech Takeout Takes

Sophurky Piao

Howdy Teckers! Have you ever read the Teck and thought "wow we should have a restaurant review column?" Well now your dreams have come true! Just send restaurants into tech@caltech.edu and we will eat food and review it!

While putting this issue of the Tech together, we, the editors in chief, ordered dinner from Shakey's Pizza Parlor. For \$44.39, we got a box of fried potatoes, four pieces of fried chicken, and a medium pizza. The fried potatoes came in thin slices, coated with a crispy seasoned batter that lent it both a satisfying texture and a rich, complimentary flavor. The pizza was thicc and tasted like a pretty good pizza. The chicken was a little oily, but had good flavor overall. We'd give it a strong 3.5/5, where 5 is "This is the best restaurant I've ever eaten at." However, due to the high oil content, the food gets a 2.5/5 when cold.

Answers to Puzzles and Crossword:
<http://bit.ly/2H07Ms9>



Dilemma Simulator

Text: Alex Meiburg, Alex Denko

Graphic: Daniel Xu

We are always accepting submissions for comics, and will pay you.

The California Tech

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Letters and submissions are welcome; e-mail submissions to tech@caltech.edu as plain-text attachments, including the author's name, by Friday of the week before publication. *The Tech* does accept anonymous contributions under special circumstances. The editors reserve the right to edit and abridge all submissions for any reason. All written work remains property of its author.

The advertising deadline is 5 p.m. Friday; all advertising should be submitted electronically or as camera-ready art, but *The Tech* can also do simple typesetting and arrangement. All advertising inquiries should be directed to the business manager at tech@caltech.edu.

Letters from the Editors-in-Chief

Milan Roberson: I just started playing Fire Emblem Heroes last week. Does anyone want to add me? My ID is 3328254279. I'll add everyone because I need more friends.

Amrita Rhoads: I don't play Fire Emblem Heroes, but I need more friends anyway.

Sophie Piao: I can't believe I abused my power as Tech editor to try and get FEH friends and the only person who friended me was Milan....

Daniel Xu: I can't believe I abused my power as Tech editor to try to get IRL subscribers and the only person who liked and commented was Milan....

This week's recommended Tech usage after reading is: wallpaper.

The California Tech

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