

The California Tech

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TECH@CALTECH.EDU

CAMPUS REOPENING PLANNED FOR FALL

SNIGDHA SAHA | CURRENT EVENTS

Most Caltech undergraduates remember March 11, 2020 as a turning point in their academic careers: It was the beginning of a remote learning model that has spanned 4 academic terms to this day, and it put on hold a year of countless on-campus traditions and activities that many had taken for granted. After nearly a year of Zooms and Discord voice calls, the question naturally arises: “When will we back on campus?”. While many undergraduates long for a return to campus, the freshmen simply desire to officially begin their Caltech journey as they had desired.

So far, the answer to this question comes every term in the form of an email, indicating that the pandemic is nowhere near an end and signalling yet another remote quarter. The reaction to this answer has been quite varied within the Caltech community; while many students have been able to adjust to the online setting, quite a few have voiced concern and discomfort with the current situation.

In fact, in December, several parents wrote a letter to President Rosenbaum, Provost Tirrell, outlining how the “fully remote model does not adequately replace an in-person one”, leading to many students feeling “distracted” and “considering deferring or transferring”. While it is not clear how or where the authors of the letter collected their data, there is a strong urge for Caltech to “invite all students back to campus for the spring quarter” since other institutions of higher education have “safely brought and retained students on these campuses”. As a concluding action item, these parents urged the Caltech administration to organize a Zoom Town Hall to address their concerns.

With regards to the comparison to other schools across the country and even in LA County, there is quite a unique situation for Caltech. As can be found on the Academic Year 2020-21 FAQ, Caltech has their “own local health authority in the Pasadena Public Health Department (PPHD)” and are thus “restricted by the health orders and restrictions implemented by PPHD and not by the Los Angeles County Health Department (LACHD)”.

On that note, in January the Pasadena Public Health Officer Dr. Ying-Ying Goh expressed that it will be difficult for any college to reopen while the county is in the purple tier, and colleges that are reopening under the current restrictions are “violating the order” and will thus be “ineligible for a lot of government funding”. In addition to the horrifying conditions in LA County, Pasadena also houses a slightly older population and thus higher at risk for COVID-19. Plus, since Pasadena is “70x smaller in population compared to

LA County”, and thus the “close contact between constituents” allows for a tighter enforcement of COVID restrictions. Dr. Goh also confirmed that Caltech has been setting up mechanisms to bring students back, but anytime “20 year olds come together, there happens to be a surge among 60 year olds”, and thus the risk to the community overpowers the need to reopen. However, Dr. Goh emphasizes that with a low enough case rate, protective measures, and vaccines for the older professors and staff, and then students, this risk might be able to be combatted. Thus, the only thing we can do as a community is follow orders and hope that the pandemic takes a better route soon.

Caltech administration did indeed host a virtual town hall on January 25th, 2021. The main points of discussion were a return to campus, vaccinations, academic planning, commencement, SURFS, and student life and mental health. Many of these topics correlate to the issues raised by the parents in the aforementioned letter. There were mentions of a potential hybrid model if approved by the PPHD, and students can expect a decision by mid-February. The administration shared optimism for a return to campus in fall term, and thus a resumption of normal Caltech life, including lab work, in-person classes, and campus traditions. Interestingly, the vaccine is not yet a predetermined requirement for a return to campus. However, as of January 28th, Caltech is an approved community-based provider of the COVID-19 vaccine and thus this may change.

Interestingly, there are a handful of undergraduates and several graduate students on campus currently, but only for the purpose of research. Despite the pandemic and its numerous difficulties, research continues either virtually or, to a limited amount, in-person. Geoffrey Pomraning (Ricketts ‘23) lived in Marks last term and he describes it as a “capital S Surreal experience”, due to “the empty Olive walk and the quiet houses”. Alex Hong (Blacker ‘23) is currently on campus researching “synthesizing nickel catalysts that copolymerize polar and nonpolar monomers to make high molecular weight olefins with polar side groups”. She says that “living on campus is extremely isolating” and that campus is constantly “either barren or scattered with people walking their dogs or their children”, with her only in-person interaction being with her lab mentor. It is evident that campus is now only a skeleton of what it used to be under normal circumstances.

On February 18th, the Caltech authorities informed all individuals of the Spring Term decision. Much like the last two terms, Spring will also be virtual and public health officials in the area did not approve the requests to have a limited number of in-person classes. However, the email still contained optimism for a



Fleming's canon might be firing soon!
Credit: Canon.vs.nikon under Creative Commons

turn to “in-person instruction and residential living in the fall”. As we prepare for yet another eleven weeks of Zoom classes and virtual friendships, this optimism seems to provide a glimmer of hope for the future.

As vaccinations rise and test positivity declines, Caltech is indeed optimistically looking at an in-person fall term. At the March 24 town hall, Caltech administration announced new plans to slowly prepare campus for fall. In the current term (Spring 2021), while classes remain remote, undergraduates living in Pasadena will have access to certain facilities on campus. In summer, there are plans to have a few SURFs and WAVES in-person, with various restrictions. Finally, in fall, Caltech hopes to bring all students back to campus. While graduation remains remote in June, administration is also planning for a celebration in the fall meant for all individuals from the graduating classes of 2020 and 2021. Thus, President Rosenbaum and his team are certainly preparing for a “normal” fall. While it is not a guarantee, it does help us believe that the end is in sight.

The fact remains that many other universities have welcomed students back on campus (although in limited amounts) for Fall 2020 and Winter 2021 - but to varying levels of success. While some colleges such as UC Berkeley have seen surges of cases in their undergraduates, others such as UC San Diego have been able to successfully maintain a low case rate. On the other hand, Stanford University cancelled their plans of being freshmen and sophomores back on campus for winter quarter a mere two days prior to the beginning of term, owing to a spike of cases on the Santa Clara campus. However, most universities are continuing to practice online instruction as much as possible even with students living on campus. It is quite clear that the Caltech administration is trying to find a way to bring students back, but the decision ultimately lies with the pandemic and its state in the larger community of Pasadena and LA County.

VACCINES VS. VARIANTS

ADITEE PRABHUTENDOLKAR | CURRENT EVENTS

It seems almost ironic that just as pharmaceutical companies received approval for their COVID-19 vaccines, new variants of the virus found their way into the country. The vaccines that are currently being released were manufactured and tested in consideration of the original strain of SARS-CoV-2, which originated in Wuhan and quickly made its way throughout the world.

Since the pandemic began, the virus mutated many times, but most of these variants weren't as ideal for survival as the original strain and thus died out quickly. The main reason why there are so many mutated versions is the sheer number of people that have been infected by the virus globally--the more the virus spreads person to person, the more chances it has to make a mistake in DNA replication.

Given how many times the virus has mutated in transmission, as pure probability would have it, there are now two more dangerous and aggressive strains for us to worry about. The B.1.351 strain originated in South Africa and was first observed in the U.S. in December 2020. The B.1.1.7 strain originated in the U.K. and was first observed in the U.S. in January 2021. As of right now, B.1.1.7 is the most common

variant in the U.S. It has a higher rate of transmission than the original strain, especially in those who haven't built up immunity yet (either through previous infection or vaccination).

The question naturally arises: are the vaccines effective against the variants? So far, Pfizer and Moderna have proven effective against B.1.1.7, but less effective against B.1.351. The B.1.351 and potential other variants seem to be pharmaceutical companies' primary concern. Of course, many vaccines are still being tested against these new strains, so information is likely to be updated in the near future.

The companies that are primarily distributing vaccines in the U.S.--Pfizer, Moderna, and Johnson & Johnson--are updating their vaccines and beginning the process of clinical trials in light of the situation. Pfizer and Johnson & Johnson are considering providing an extra dose as a booster against these new variants.

It almost goes without saying, but scientists from the CDC are still strongly encouraging everyone to get vaccinated once they are able to, but it's important that we don't treat vaccines as cure-alls. Vaccines will certainly provide some immunity and highly likely protect us from the original strain, but (given the new variants and the possibility of more) taking precautions is still necessary.

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[REDACTED] | CURRENT EVENTS

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THE TIME CAPSULE THAT ORBITS EARTH: MOON DIRT MAY HOLD THE HISTORY OF OUR SOLAR SYSTEM

ISABEL SWAFFORD | SCIENCE

A village of lunar scientists may be the key to solving the mysteries of our solar system according to the claims of a recent astrobiology paper. In their November 2020 Royal Society publication, Ian Crawford, professor of planetary science and astrobiology at Birkbeck College, University of London, writes that “the Moon itself can be viewed as a giant ‘telescope’ which has been observing and recording astrophysical processes ever since it first developed a solid surface some 4.5 billion years ago.”

Like a time capsule, our neighbor in the night sky has been slowly collecting little mementos from the life of our Sun, and soon we will be able to open it and peer back in time.

For billions of years, this lunar ‘telescope’ has been capturing tiny particles produced by high-energy events like solar winds, cosmic rays, and supernovae ejecta, to name a few. Our Sun generates both low-energy and high-energy particles in its bursts of radiation, and these particles emanate throughout our solar system. Earth’s magnetic field prevents many of the damaging particles from reaching us, but the Moon isn’t so fortunate.

Somewhere between 4.2 and 3.6 billion years ago, the Moon had a magnetic field of a strength comparable to that of Earth’s. It declined over the following 2 billion years, reaching its near-zero point of today approximately 1 billion years ago. Its present lack of a magnetic field is unfortunate for any lunar aliens, but

is extremely fortunate for our lunar telescope. Just as how Earth’s magnetic field prevents radiation from reaching the surface, the Moon’s missing magnetic field allows all radiation to reach its surface and become embedded within the terrain.

This radiation can include electrons, protons, alpha particles, and cosmogenic nuclides, or rare particles only produced by high-energy radiation such as cosmic rays. Particles striking the lunar landscape not only get stuck in the regolith, or Moon dirt, but can also physically change its properties. These particles are able to deplete the abundances of different elements such as sodium and potassium in the surface regolith. The severity of this depletion or the depth of the particles in the regolith can tell us about the strengths of different kinds of radiation over time, and thus about the life of our Sun.

Serving as the chief emitter of radiation in our solar system, the Sun is constantly spewing radiation into space. The strengths and types of radiation that the Sun has produced throughout its life are signatures of different stages in the Sun’s evolution. It is widely believed that stars go through significant changes in their life cycles, but much of the evidence is inferred through observations of stars at different points along their timelines, since this timeline can stretch over billions of years.

By studying the abundances of particles in the lunar regolith, and their relative ages, we can more definitively piece together the evolution of our Sun and other similar stars across the galaxy.

Investigations of lunar samples already returned from missions like Apollo have confirmed the existence of these distinctive particles in the surface regolith, and now it is only a means of studying these samples in more depth.

Accessing this lunar ‘telescope’ is no small task though, and is why Crawford asserts that a ‘Moon village’ is the obvious step forward in lunar studies. Although robotic missions have successfully collected and analyzed soil samples at sites like the Martian surface, a rover can impart limitations to a mission. A permanent or semi-permanent Moon base would cause an immense increase in the capabilities of scientific infrastructure, overcoming the limitations of cramming a few science instruments onto a rover.

Lunar astronauts would also be able to drill to great depths for regolith samples and quickly make ‘game-time’ calls as to where best collect a diversity of samples, unlike a rover which can require hours and hours of re-planning and re-transmitting. A diversity of sample collection sites is also essential to understanding the global trends of solar radiation over time, and sending a rover over the entire surface could be difficult and inefficient, whereas a team of astronauts could cover more area in less time.

With NASA astronauts planning to return to the Moon in a matter of years with the Artemis mission, we may be closer to a Moon village than science fiction suggests.

2021 SPRING ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS (PAGE 1 OF 3)

INTERHOUSE COMMITTEE CHAIR (2 CANDIDATES)

Kaden Taylor

I accepted this nomination as a joke. Please don't vote for me. Instead, gaze upon this picture of high school me dabbing in a mattress suit with a Burger King crown on, so I can remind you, dear Techer, to get some rest.



Katherine Chang



Hello everyone! My name is Katherine, and I am sophomore in Lloyd and Avery. In the case that you don't have the time to read through my entire statement, I've briefly summarized my objectives as Interhouse Committee Chair:

- **Culture:** Emphasize the conservation of house traditions and culture, and their importance to undergraduate life.
- **Funding:** Protect the autonomy of house dues and establish a clear system for obtaining endowment funding.
- **Rotation:** Moderate between houses and administration to promote house desires and streamline the hopefully in-person Rotation, as well as continue promoting the importance greater house input in the Rotation algorithm
- **Safety:** Develop response protocols with administrators and Caltech Security which properly prioritize student safety.
- **Housing:** Advance undergraduate and house desires regarding housing while still meeting health codes for public safety.
- **Mental Health Support:** Support the PA program to better meet the specific needs of each house and expand general accessibility to mental health support training.
- **Communication:** Continue to increase and reiterate the importance of direct accessibility of undergraduates to administrators, as well as strongly promote transparency in all administrative actions pertaining to the student body.

To begin, I am running to be IHC Chair to protect the House system that we know and love. The Houses have been such critical foundations of undergraduate culture for many years, so I found the pause of student life from the pandemic and the corresponding loss of over a year of lived-in experience to be devastating. In response, I am running in an effort to conserve the facets of undergraduate culture that we love throughout my term and beyond. I aim to make sure that the desires and motivations of houses are understood by administration without unnecessary antagonization, and thus promote a productive environment where solutions in favor of the students and houses can be reached. This coming year will be a daunting process to reconstruct student life at Caltech after the collective trauma of the pandemic, and I am ready to champion student interests throughout this entire undertaking.

Culture: Emphasize the conservation of house traditions and culture, and their importance to undergraduate life.

House traditions are part of what makes Caltech Undergraduate culture so special, so I intend to thoroughly communicate with administration the significance of specific house traditions and what parts of student culture would be lost if they were to be redacted completely. I hope to work with administration to increase transparency around all possible liability issues can arise so that houses will know exactly what to work around in order to continue putting on house traditions and minimize having events rejected by the Event Registration Committee. By emphasizing the importance of house traditions to administration and acknowledging specific issues which cause events to be redacted, I believe we are fully capable of reaching agreements with administration that prioritize student and house interests to a greater degree.

Funding: Protect the autonomy of house dues and establish a clear system for obtaining endowment funding.

The ability of Houses to control their own funding is especially important in giving houses the freedom to be self-governed and put on house events without administrative threat of withholding funding, so I will ensure that houses retain autonomy of their dues – for this next term and terms beyond. It is crucial that house dues do not become centralized within Caltech, so you have my promise I will do whatever I can on behalf of houses to keep it that way. Additionally, a lot of houses relied on Tom Mannion to hold traditional house events and Tom's budget cut over this past year will be a significant barrier to the continuation of such events in the near future. In response, I aim to negotiate with administration to formulate a way for those events to receive the funding and resources needed so they can happen by continuing to communicate the significance of those events to improving student life.

Finally, the current process for obtaining funding from the endowment is very unorganized – each house has a different process, contradictory information is being told to different people, etc. – and thus confusing to get. I aim to work with the Investment Office to centralizing the process for getting endowment funding across all houses in order to clarify and minimize future confusion about the procedure for getting this funding.

Rotation: Moderate between houses and administration to promote house desires and streamline the hopefully in-person Rotation, as well as continue promoting the importance greater house input in the Rotation algorithm.

With the event of Rotation hopefully concurring with a return to campus, I aim to continue refining rotation experience for prefrish and upperclassmen by continually gathering student feedback and communicating house desires to administration, throughout the planning and actual event of Rotation. I can't project how the world will look by then, but whatever the situation, I will endeavor to make Rotation run as smooth as possibly by improving the communication between administration, security, and house leadership, especially making sure the expectations of everyone involved are clear to all parties. I will advocate against redacting history-rich events all the while keeping student and general public safety a priority.

Logistically, I will continue the efforts of the previous IHC in increasing house input on the final allocation of the rotation algorithm. In particular, I will strongly advocate for house presidents to be present while the algorithm is being run, and to implement the additional house list suggestion from the previous IHC so that there will be a more optimized fit between prefrish and houses.

Finally, I will work with administration to allow current frosh to experience rotation event in person, and with house leadership to relax house membership guidelines for those who may want to join after experience an in-person rotation.

Safety: Develop response protocols with administrators and Caltech Security which properly prioritize student safety.

The return to campus will be quite an eventful situation, and since this would be the first time in over a year in which students are back on campus, things will inevitably get wild. Additionally, even prior to the pandemic, there was already a general distrust of administrators and security to properly deal with things in a manner that prioritizes student wellbeing. Thus, I aim to develop through plans that are event-specific with administrators logistically and security on ground for properly de-escalating and addressing situations in a way which emphasizes student safety. By continually gathering and communicating student feedback to administrators and security, I believe we can work towards building trust and preventing students from feeling unsupported.

Housing: Advance undergraduate and house desires regarding housing while still meeting health codes for public safety.

Especially in recent years, the issue of housing and room picks has been strictly regulated by administration, so I aim promote house interests by communicating the motivations behind student desires to have room allocated certain ways. Similarly, I will seek out and clearly communicate to the houses reasoning behind administrative decisions in order to best negotiate a solution with administration that follows safety guidelines while still promoting house interests as best we can.

Mental Health Support: Support the PA program to better meet the specific needs of each house and expand general accessibility to mental health support training.

Caltech is a very high-stress environment, and the occurrence of the pandemic and period of subsequent online learning and isolation has only made things more difficult to get help. At the moment, the PA program does not fully meet the specific mental health needs of houses, so I aim to support working with house PAs and Student Wellness Services to better improve the program by working to identify house needs and communicate them as needed.

Additionally, I will advocate for expanding accessibility to mental health support training. Currently, the PA program limits the number of people who can be trained per year by housing situation, so I aim to work with house leadership, Student Wellness Services, and administrators to develop a solution that allows for more people to receive training on mental health support, and for those who are trained to be given clear expectations of how best to support their specific house.

Communication: Continue to increase and reiterate the importance of direct accessibility of undergraduates to administrators, as well as strongly promote transparency in all administrative actions pertaining to the student body.

I aim to prioritize better communication between houses and administrators by personally assuring pertinent information is regularly being disclosed, as well as continue the work of the previous IHC in developing avenues of direct student access to administrators. By improving on the opportunities for the student body to directly interact with relevant administrators, greater communication and transparency can be achieved. In this way, I believe we will be able reach agreements in favor of student interests more often. Ultimately, my goals as IHC chair are to coerce administration into agreeing to decisions which are in favor of the students and house interests, and I have high hopes this is attainable through better communication and understanding of motivations to benefit the student body

In closing, thank you for spending your precious time to read my statement! If you have any questions, feel free to message me on Facebook messenger or email me kchang5@caltech.edu.

2021 SPRING ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS (PAGE 2 OF 3)

BOARD OF CONTROL CHAIR (1 CANDIDATE)

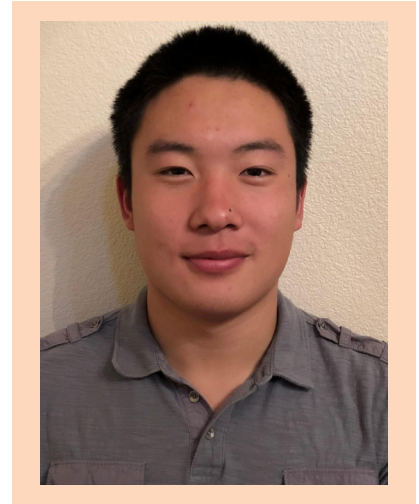
Timothy Yao

A large part of what makes Caltech special is its honor code. It provides an environment where students can feel comfortable collaborating with one another, and thus enhances our ability to learn with and from our peers. It is an integral part of academic life at Caltech.

Through the dutiful participation of students, the Board of Control plays a significant role in upholding the Caltech honor code – a vital part of maintaining the collaborative atmosphere. As BoC Secretary this past year and BoC rep the year before,

I have gained thorough experience regarding the proceedings of the BoC, and have undertaken the key responsibilities of the BoC. As BoC Chair, I will continue to actively help uphold one of the very special things about Caltech and work as a liaison between students, faculty, and the administration to continue to promote academic collaboration in our community.

Feel free to contact me via email (tayao@caltech.edu) with any questions.



BOARD OF CONTROL SECRETARY (2 CANDIDATES)

David Melisso

Trust is important in any scientific community, and at an educational institution, it allows for learning to be more effective and efficient. The student body's respect for the Honor Code separates Caltech from other similar universities.

However, these ethics are not prioritized as heavily outside of Caltech. Luckily, if someone is convicted of an Honor Code violation, the Board of Control has the opportunity to give the respondent an educational approach. This allows the student to learn from the experience instead of simply being punished. This process enables students to learn about one of the most important things they will learn about at Caltech: integrity.

As BoC Secretary, I will continue to uphold the Honor Code. As I have done on the 10 cases I have sat and the 3 cases I have secretaried so far, I will protect the community while being fair to those accused of committing a violation. I will advocate to the deans and to the rest of the BoC leadership to further advertise and bring awareness to "assistants,"—a BoC representative, who can help you through your case. This resource is afforded to all those who are responding to a case, and makes the BoC process more fair to those involved.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact me at dmelisso@caltech.edu.



Jolly Patro

"No member of the Caltech community shall take unfair advantage of any other member of the Caltech Community". The Honor Code is the guiding principle that we all uphold ourselves too – it lets us collaborate on sets, take exams from home without proctoring, leave our laptop in our house lounges, and so much more. In order for the community to do these things, there has to be a deep sense of trust within each other. The Board of Control, plays a strong role in protecting the community to make sure that we maintain the deep trust between each other.

I'm Jolly, and I have been currently serving as an Interim BoC Secretary. Previously I was a BoC

Representative and have gained experience over the past year. As a member of the Board of Control, I have sat 11 cases and secretaried 3 cases. With these experiences, I have gotten to understand how the Board of Control works from both the representative and leadership perspective.

The BoC Secretary, in my mind, should be someone who is dedicated to upholding the trust in the community and understands and is experienced in BoC processes. I ensure you that if elected, I will work with that goal and that with my prior experience I have learned about how the BoC works.

Feel free to reach out to me by email (jpatro@caltech.edu) or message me if you want to ask my anything or have any questions about the BoC. Thanks for reading my statement!



CONDUCT REVIEW COMMITTEE CO-CHAIR (1 CANDIDATE)

Winter Pearson

One of my favorite features of Caltech is the Honor Code, because I believe it's essential to the way that students support each other. It is one of the most compelling things that I have had the chance to be a part of, and I am always excited for every opportunity to help it flourish.

I was elected as a BoC rep during my frosh year, and since then have had the opportunity to sit a large variety of cases. I have found this enormously fulfilling, and I hope to make even more of an impact going forwards.

I would like to serve as the CRC Co-Chair because I love both the Honor Code and the possibilities for its further improvement. I believe it's an important step to transparently formalize CRC procedures in a way more similar to the BoC. More generally, I aim to make the CRC less removed from students. The CRC, like the Honor Code that inspires it, will always work best when it works with the students. I'm excited for the possibilities for where we go next!

If you have any questions, please ask me them at winter@caltech.edu. Thank you!



Candidate statements continued on next page

2021 SPRING ELECTION CANDIDATE STATEMENTS (PAGE 3 OF 3)

TECH EDITOR (13 CANDIDATE TEAMS)

Devin Chotzen-Hartzell, Daniel Contaldi, Aditee Prabhutendolkar

Dear Members of ASCIT,

As the current editor-in-chief, business manager, and a reporter for The California Tech, it has been our pleasure to write and edit articles this past year. We are proud of what we've accomplished despite having to transition to remote operations as a newspaper, and we would like the opportunity to continue our efforts to produce quality journalism that has an impact on the Caltech community.

Since this school year was entirely online for the first time, we adapted the format of our newspaper accordingly. We have switched from distributing physical copies to publishing our issues online and building a social media presence.

This year, we have continued reporting on a variety of topics, including how students have academically adjusted to online school, the construction of new research buildings, and how integral aspects of student life--such as rotation--had to be hosted virtually. We've also closely covered the hot debates on "campus," such as the renaming committee and diversity in undergraduate and graduate admissions.

When we report on campus issues, we always make sure to interview students, professors, and faculty members to get their input and perspectives. We've also conducted polls on our Instagram page to gauge student opinions on recent developments. Our goal has always been to provide a window into the Caltech community's diverse perspectives, and once we return to campus, we hope that the fierce independence, passion, and activity of the student body will once again manifest in full force.

Next year, we plan to have a bigger presence on campus, which will be much easier once we go back in person. We dearly miss publishing physical copies, especially because distributing memes in PDF format only goes so far. Our other plans for next year include having more faculty profiles and columns on student advice. We can't wait to be there on the ground to document the transition back to being in-person and all that will entail, the interhouses, the traditions, and all the moments that make being on campus special.



However, we've grown as a newspaper since we started publishing online. We now have active social media accounts and a real web presence, and we're going to continue to have an online presence going forward. We've taken remote learning as an opportunity to reflect on the Tech's role in the campus community, and it is our hope that you'll give us the chance to continue the work we've been doing. We appreciate your support.

Kenny Thai and Kaden Taylor

In the event that I (Kenny) for some reason actually get elected as Tech Editor and make no attempt to fulfill the campaign promises I make in my candidate statements, I am leaving this candidate statement as a failsafe on the public record. My candidate statements for this election were not intended to be read as serious promises, and that I do not intend to fulfill the vast majority of them. I don't intend to do much of anything if elected, and this should be taken into account while voting.

That statement is being made to prevent myself from getting into trouble relating to violating the honor code by making false promises, but as we all know, politicians are by design never held accountable for their failures anyways, especially in the "real world", so this shouldn't be a major issue. While in theory a decision against me from the Conduct Review Committee could lead to my removal from my position, I believe this will be wildly unlikely, especially given the existence of this statement. This leaves only me ceasing to be a Caltech student during my term (which is unlikely) and the ASCIT recall option. From the ASCIT bylaws,

ARTICLE VIII--RECALL

SECTION 1. Any elected officer may be recalled in a special election. A special election shall be held upon presentation of a petition bearing the signatures of twenty percent (20%) of those eligible to vote for the office or by request of the Review Committee. Signatures will be valid only if the petition was signed not more than seven days before it was submitted to the Board. On the question of whether or not the officer shall be recalled, an affirmative vote from two-thirds (2/3) of the voters shall suffice to remove him from that office; otherwise they shall continue.

With the petition bearing 20% of eligible signatures being wildly unlikely, especially in [current year], the last remaining way for me to be removed from office would be the two-thirds vote for my removal during an election requested by RevComm. While there is a real possibility that RevComm will initiate this vote, I would guess reaching the two-thirds threshold for removing a candidate that was fairly elected under the agreed upon system is very unlikely as long as those elected haven't done something horribly repulsive. I mean, our current editorial staff are operating in violation of the ASCIT bylaws that were loosened just for us that dictate we must publish monthly, and we still don't have a story out for an over year-old event, the removal of the fireplaces in the South Houses. If that's not enough to remove us, I highly doubt that mere inaction will be.

So I feel that I should once again raise the question, why is Tech Editor an elected position? If I'm elected this figurehead position, there is a good chance that we would be left with a position that is effectively empty (as I mentioned in another one of my candidate statements), but not much will change. The only special perk of the job is the ability to send emails to ug-list, a perk that I don't even have at the moment despite my current status as Tech Editor (as you could probably tell from the email I couldn't send out myself on April 1st as Tech Editor). I'm not going to suddenly remove Devin's access to the Tech's website that he created himself, nor am I going to order that the production of the paper halt entirely... but according to the job description in the ASCIT bylaws, I probably could. Isn't the existence of that possibility to begin with a little concerning? (And if you think that would be what finally leads to a two-thirds vote in a special election... I personally have my doubts.)

The title of Tech Editor hasn't held much weight for a long time. Half of our currently elected Tech Editors play little to no active roles in contributing to the publication. One of the most influential students behind the paper this past year, Alejandro, wasn't even elected. In fact, I ran for Tech Editor with him last year and we lost to the team of Mole Frosh, but this hasn't stopped him from being in the Tech Editor group chat or calling some shots in the editors' room back when we were in person. This kind of practice is by no means new to the Tech; precedent goes back to at least a few years ago, with a RevComm forwarded statement by a previous Tech Editor, "anyone could be a Tech editor and join anytime."

At the moment, I feel that the drawbacks of Tech Editor being an elected position outweigh its benefits. Once a year, there is an opportunity for someone new to be elected, for the old style guides to be thrown out, and for the old guard to be relieved of any and all responsibility to help with the publication. Just about anyone to run without any prior experience, and the editors' selection is at the whims of people that aren't always going to be voting with the best interests of the publication in mind. Not ideal.

So of course, I'm going the incorrect frivolous route of running for the position twelve times and posting my manifesto as a candidate statement with someone else's name attached rather than coming up with an alternative way to run the publication, maintain accountability to the publication schedule, prevent abuses of power, and proposing an amendment to the ASCIT bylaws. I mean, I wouldn't want these twelve candidate statements to just become a huge waste of time, now would I?



Editor's Note:

The eleven other (joke) candidate statements were included in the previous issue and will not be reprinted here.

The California Tech

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

Devin Hartzell

PAGE EDITOR

Ankita Nandi | Kenny Thai

COPY EDITORS

Devin Hartzell

STAFF WRITERS

Bridget Yang | Suchitra Dara
Snigdha Saha | Isabel Swafford
Aditee Prabhutendolkar

BUSINESS MANAGER

Daniel Contaldi

ADVISOR

Richard Kipling

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ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 24, 2021
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Kriti Devansenapathy, Megan Wang, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Call to Order: 7:05 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

Staff appreciation award logistics
Marsh funding

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Megan):

SURF deadline update

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

Frosh have houses
Algorithm logistics
Working on getting 3rd term house dues

Director of Operations (absent):

Nothing to report

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Funding for pairs of houses to run events
January 2021 expenditures summary
Budget posted to Donut

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

Social events logistics
Frosh committee send survey for frosh events
Secret Snowman funds reconciled

Secretary (Katherine):

Nothing to report.

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: 7:19pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 31, 2021.
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Kriti Devansenapathy, Megan Wang, Aditi Venkatesh, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Guests: Tom Mannion

Call to Order: 7:34 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

MHF fund progress
Staff Appreciation Awards logistics

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Megan):

Student-Faculty lunches logistics
SURF deadline extended to 3/15
Frosh option video series

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

IHC transition dates
House, IHC Chair, ASCIT BoD transition logistics
Meeting plans with IHC, BoD, Revcomm regarding elections
Rotation algorithm updates

Director of Operations (Aditi):

Starting club funding round 2

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Proposal for cross-House event funding
Centralized club instructions on Donut

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

ASCIT concert logistics
Frosh events logistics
Events with Tom logistics

Secretary (Katherine):

ASCIT newsletter and club announcement changes

Guests:

Tom:

Ice cream event with houses (except Blacker, Ricketts, Fleming)

Event last Friday with Ruddock successful

House social organizers contact Tom to organize events

Movie event for "I'll meet you there" directed by Iram Bilal

Mars/SpaceX event with Elon Musk

Kip Thorne movie events (Interstellar)

Senior movie events (Pixar, Parasite)

Study break on pi day

Senior class clarifications

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: 8:34 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 7, 2021.
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Guests: Tom Mannion

Call to Order: 7:40 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

MHF fund pending
Concert funding concerns

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (absent):

Nothing to report

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

Nothing to report

Director of Operations (absent):

Club funding is going out this week

Treasurer (Eilleen):

ASCIT January spending summary
Joint-house event funding

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

Concert planning logistics
Valentine's event logistics

Secretary (Katherine):

Nothing to report

Guests:

Tom:

Tenet movie event next friday with Kip Thorne

Mars/SpaceX event

"I'll meet you there" (Iram Bilal) event tomorrow night

Vertec platform

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: 8:02 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING - VPSA

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 10, 2021.
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Megan Wang, Aditi Venkatesh, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Guests: Kristin Weyman, Kevin Gilmartin, Tom Mannion

Call to Order: 12:04 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

MHF funding request
Working with Social Director and Tom on concert

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Megan):

Restarted SFL
Assembling SFC special committees
Ma3 course concerns
Video answering FAQs from frosh about options coming third term

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

Will present details in IHC VPSA meeting

Director of Operations (Aditi):

Club funding Round 2 logistics

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Cross-house event funding
Reimbursement for clubs, Rotation, donuts, Secret Snowman

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

ASCIT concert logistics
Valentine's day event (movie + grubhub)
More grubhub/movie events to come
Mars landing event (working with Tom)
Frosh Committee frosh-only events

Guests:

Tom:

Mars landing event details

Vertec platform

Kevin:

Spring term plans to come

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: 12:17 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 14, 2021.
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Call to Order: 7:35 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

MHF Proposal drafted

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (absent):

Nothing to report

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

Nothing to report

Director of Operations (absent):

Nothing to report

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Pcard reconciliations progress
Individual reimbursements
Cross house event matches

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

ASCIT Concert logistics
Reconciliations for Secret Snowman
Vday movie cancelled because link not working, but Grubhub still happened
Kip Thorne movie event
Frosh lunch with upperclassman event in March
Instagram linktree logistics

Secretary (Katherine):

Nothing to report

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: 7:47 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 21, 2021.
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Kriti Devansenapathy, Megan Wang, Aditi Venkatesh, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Guests: Tom Mannion, Prof. George Djorgovski, Santiago Lombeyda, Ari Rosner, Andrew Chan

Call to Order: 7:36 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

MHF proposal submitted

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Megan):

SFC special committees updates
Option Video on FAQs logistics

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

IHC and PFEx panel logistics
RA Appreciation Week plans

Director of Operations (Aditi):

Club Funding round 2 interviews done, set budget
Request for wider circulation from the Tech

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Reimbursed clubs, Houses, and donuts
Club funding round 2 excess funds ideas

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

Valentine's movie event error
Finished Secret Snowman reconciliations
Lunch with upperclassmen event logistics
ASCIT concert offer updates

Secretary (Katherine):

Nothing to report

Guests:

George:

Caltech virtual world (VIRTECH) overview
ASCIT to advertise platform

Andrew:

Second life demo

Santiago:

Virtual island logistics

Contact Santiago or George for question about platform

Tom:

Concert administrative logistics

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: 8:16 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2021.
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Aditi Venkatesh, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Guests: Antonio Caceres, Maggie Sui, Alex

Call to Order: 7:34 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

Worked with Ayooluwa on ASCIT concert logistics

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (absent):

Option FAQ Video

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

Nothing to report

Director of Operations (Aditi):

Finished Club Funding round 2
AAPI statement cosigning logistics and announcement

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Club funding leftover logistics

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

Lunch with an Upperclassman matches + Grubhub scheduled

Game Night event for Frosh next weekend

ASCIT Concert documents signed, waiting to hear back from booking venue

Secretary (Katherine):

Donut ASCIT document updates in progress

Guests:

Antonio:

2/28 Revcomm ruling regarding resolution amendments overview

Maggie:

2/28 Revcomm ruling logistics

Request for ASCIT bylaws amendment to clarify amendment approval procedure

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: 7:58 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR MARCH 7, 2021.
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Megan Wang, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Guests: Tom Mannion

Call to Order: 7:50 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

Finalized election timeline

BoC, CRC, IHC, and Tech Editor elections: signups 3/29-4/2, voting 4/12

ASCIT BoD elections: signups 4/5-9, voting 4/19
Staff appreciation award logistics

Bylaw amendment (specify the procedure for BoD Resolution amendments, and change gendered pronouns to neutral pronouns) voting

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Megan):

Nothing to report

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

Nothing to report

Director of Operations (absent):

ASCIT accounts renewal

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Individual reimbursements for food-related ASCIT events in process

ASCIT Canva subscription for IG posts

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

ASCIT Concert logistics

Midnight Donuts happening finals week

ASCIT Game Night was successful

Secretary (Katherine):

Caltech Community Mentors program updates

ASCIT document updates

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: 8:11 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR MARCH 8, 2021.
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Kriti Devansenapathy, Megan Wang, Aditi Venkatesh, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Guests: Tom Mannion, Kristin Weyman, Kevin Gilmartin

Call to Order: 12:03 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

Staff Appreciation Awards to be presented at Staff Banquet (May); nominations start beginning of 3rd term

Election timeline finalized

BoC, CrC, IHC, Tech Editor elections: sign ups 3/29-4/2, voting 4/12

ASCIT BoD elections: sign ups 4/5-9, voting 4/19

Bylaw amendments to be proposed: 1) clarification on procedure for amendmendments to BoD resolutions (particularly regarding positions), and 2) change gendered pronouns to neutral pronouns

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Megan):

Option FAQs videos made for frosh

Followed up on Ma3 course concerns with instructor

Student Faculty Lunches successful this term

Student Faculty Conference happening in April

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

PFEx upcoming plans: expanding PFEx activities range

All house leadership will have transitioned by 4/10

Director of Operations (Aditi):

Club Funding round 2 finished

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Worked on reimbursements for clubs

ASCIT-organized food event done with Grubhub; individually reimbursing if can't access Grubhub

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

Valentines movie event: Grubhub credit, delayed movie

Lunch with an Upperclassman (organized with Frosh Committee): matched frosh with an upperclassman in their major

ASCIT Game Night successful

ASCIT Concert artist confirmed (Designer)

Midnight Donuts happening finals week: Grubhub credit

Secretary (Katherine):

Nothing to report

Guests:

Kevin:

Felicia will be the point person for Student Faculty Conference

Admin staff and leadership are working hard on summer term plans

Tom:

Work with Academic Meeting Technologies for concert

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: 12:16 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 3, 2020.
TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Megan Wang, Aditi Venkatesh, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Call to Order: 7:34 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

Working on ASCIT Concert planning with Social Manager

Bylaw amendment will be sent to ug for voting when term starts

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Megan):

SFC date changed to 4/23

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

Nothing to report

Director of Operations (Aditi):

Nothing to report

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Worked on individual reimbursements for Grubhub events

Will email clubs about spending club funding which doesn't carryover

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

ASCIT Concert logistics (intro videos, student opener selection, co-hosting)

Secretary (Katherine):

Donut document updates

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: 7:50 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR MARCH 28, 2021

TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Megan Wang, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Call to Order: 7:34 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

Staff appreciation awards form will sent this week
Bylaw amendment logistics

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Megan):

SFC moved to 4/23; will be on Symposium with live zoom for special committees

Extra ARC funding requests for Student-faculty lunches

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

Nothing to report

Director of Operations (absent):

Nothing to report

Treasurer (Eilleen):

Put concert costs on Social PTA
Working on club reimbursements

Sent petition to continue serving as ASCIT Treasurer to Revcomm

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

ASCIT Concert completed
Frosh virtual escape room logistics

Secretary (Katherine):

Donut document updates

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: 7:44 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR APRIL 4, 2021.

TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Kriti Devansanapathy, Aditi Venkatesh, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Call to Order: 7:35 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

Staff Appreciation Awards nominations sent out
Bylaw amendment logistics

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (absent):

Option discord advising event email will go out soon

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

Leadership week for new house Excomms 4/12-16, lunches and dinners

Director of Operations (Aditi):

Figured out car club funding done with Treasurer
Request for a Criterion account (art house films and documentaries) for SAC

Treasurer (absent):

Nothing to report

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

Grubhub for concert people arranged
Frosh event escape room plans

Secretary (Katherine):

Community Mentors Program partnership with Young Legends and Steam Coders

ASCIT Newsletter survey will be sent this week

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: 7:50 pm

ASCIT BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING MINUTES - VPSA

MINUTES FOR APRIL 7, 2021.

TAKEN BY KATHERINE CHANG.

Officers Present: Yuying Lin, Kriti Devansanapathy, Megan Wang, Aditi Venkatesh, Eilleen Zhang, Ayooluwa Odemuyiwa, Katherine Chang

Guests: Leslie Nye, Kevin Gilmartin, Tom Mannion

Call to Order: 12:02 pm

President's Report (Yuying):

Bylaw amendment logistics; additional bylaws suggested by Tom and Felicia

Staff Appreciation Awards nomination form sent, closes on 4/17

Officer's Reports:

V.P. of Academic Affairs (Megan):

ARC Option Videos will be sent out before frosh declare options

Option Advising Discord event this weekend from 3pm-5pm

SFC website created with option session descriptions and option schedule (site: <https://sfc.sites.caltech.edu/>)

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

Worked with Felicia on organizing leadership week for transition of House excomms

Will do more detailed transition with new IHC chair individually with Felicia later

Asked house presidents to bump the house study groups

Director of Operations (Aditi):

Working with Eilleen to notify clubs of remaining club funding from 1st/2nd term

Addressed miscellaneous club questions

Treasurer (Eileen):

Handled club reimbursements from past few weeks

Will send out reminder to clubs to use up funding allocated and compile spreadsheet of remaining club funding

Social Manager (Ayooluwa):

Concert happened, went well; worked on giving rewards for Grubhub winners

Frosh event planning with frosh committee (virtual escape room, may leave to next BoD)

Not planning too many new events before transition

Secretary (Katherine):

Nothing to report

Guests:

Tom:

Felicia and Tom have also have a leadership week for new ASCIT BoD

Met with senior class presidents on ditch day funding

Ditch day logistics

Working on Lesley to craft letter about ditch day

Congrats on the concert

Kevin:

Thanks Kriti, Tom, Felicia for planning leadership week

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: 12:15 pm

ARC MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 16, 2021

TAKEN BY MOHINI MISRA.

SFL updates/action items - in the process of emailing

SURF deadline updates

Institutional Review Board Rep

SFC

ARC Tip of the Week

Action items:

Figure out what exactly IRB is and time commitment

Start getting committees together for SFC

James and maggie interested in Sci Writing

Math1B concerns - prac is like anal, topics covered not listed

ARC MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR JANUARY 30, 2021.

TAKEN BY MOHINI MISRA.

Present: Megan, Mohini, Sophie, Anjini, Halle, James Chen, Nathan, Anna, Maggie

SURF Deadline Pushed

Good feedback among frosh, upperclassmen

CS people finding it more easily

bio/wet lab hard bcs profs are more hesitant

Suggestion- more

SFC

Mental Health Committee - mohini assembling committee

- Looking for another student, female prof

Scientific Writing Committee member recommendations

- Emails being sent out (see SFP folder for who)

- Who else? SEC 10, phys 40/30? STEM specialist on HWC (megan knows her name); ask HWC people for who would be a good prof

- AN- writing 2 page research proposal

- CS prof or career center for industry type

Freshmen Course Concerns

Updates on Ma1b, Ch1b, Ph1b

Handwriting issue?

- Rough screen protector

Ma13? Not much info about it but Sophie asked about it

Student-Faculty Lunches

Number of students per faculty- 60 students, 6 profs, some need to go on waitlist

5 - 7 people/ prof (36-42 students)

Option Buddies Event - program seems to be better for 3rd term

2nd term better to find ways to start picking a option

- Nathan's idea
 - Short video series on options
 - I.e difference between phys and applied physics
 - Send out survey to frosh
 - Videos for smaller majors
- Live event- > panel or something
- Or pamphlet for what is most important for major
- Make a manual for website-> videos, how to parse through major requirements etc.

ARC Tip of the Week

Surf deadline got pushed back, good luck on mid-terms

Action items:

SFC keep compiling

Arc youtube channel?

Option advising things

ARC MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 6, 2021

TAKEN BY MOHINI MISRA.

Present: Megan, Mohini, James C., James B., Anna Li, Sophie

Math 3

Previous version of course also had complaints

Too theoretical

Between lecture/ rec/ practice problems □ too many hours

What to do

- CTLO? Not usually effective

Ombuds will bring to him but not sure how watered down the message will be as it goes through

Messages to bring to him:

- Just because we can do it doesn't mean it isn't hard
- OH moved around
- Not a good learning experience when we have to ask TA for every set

Meet with him next week

Other suggestions

- Have TAs take midterm
- Drop set
- Midterm not one day

Action items:

Make suggestions to PMA from math1a meeting

Reach out to ch1b profs and see if it can be recorded

Megan ask about p/f period for chem3x

Update flowchart for hums

ARC MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 13, 2021

TAKEN BY MOHINI MISRA.

PRESENT: MEGAN, MOHINI, SOPHIE, ANNA, ANJINI, MAGGIE, ARUSHI, HANNAH HU, VIBHA, HALLE

Update on Ma3 Concerns - sounds good, making changes, but we will see concrete changes starting the midterm/next set

SFC Committees

Scientific Writing - meeting next week, maggie interested

Mental Health - still working on getting it together, profs aren't responsive

- Melany Hunt

Math survey/bio E ha

SFLs Review - went well, maybe more profs next time

Option FAQs - send survey out to frosh for Nathan's video

Survey with open-ended

Meeting with Deans - Anjini, Sophie, Anna, Arushi

Phys 1c anal-> people are confused if itll be pass fail

Email Christy about it

ARC Tip of the Week - catalog come out

ARC MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 27, 2021

TAKEN: MOHINI MISRA

Present: James B., James C., Mohini, Megan, Anna, Anjini, Nathan, Alex

Option FAQ video topics

Nathan made a breakdown of the survey statistics: https://docs.google.com/document/d/1pjO-J_8s-Idgp-cIlip47FJ8GvUslvTkVBiGTwTio8M4/edit

In addition to test courses -> also put some profs (link department pages, research page), pizza class

- Plug to MechE chair- pizza class needs to be less industry (or not, because maybe ppl drop because its not for them)

Emphasize that the decision isn't set in stone

Make test course page

Also make page for common major/minor mixes (CS/BEM, MechE/CS)

ARC Tip of the Week - registration Monday

ARC MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR APRIL 3, 2021

TAKEN: MOHINI MISRA

Present: Megan, Mohini, Anna, Alex, Adishree, Gabi, Halle, James B, James C

Option advising event

Saturday

North houses 3-4

South houses 4-5

Ug discord

Save text chat

House reps push

Option video series update

Nathan will do, by end of week

SLFs

Week 6

Got list of profs, need to email

SFC day overview

House reps push website - Mohini will draft email

ARC Tip of the Week

SFC, add day

REVCOMM MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2021

AGENDA: ADDRESS FILED COMPLAINT (BELOW)

Complaint

"The BoD amended Resolution I without requesting RevComm approval to add a provision that ""Candidates running for Senior Class co-presidents must be in groups of no more than 2 people."" This is clearly a reaction to the fact some candidate teams ran last year as teams of more than 2 people. I agree there should be a limit, but 2 is too low, given that it looks like many of the current seniors voted for a team of 3 people over no.

Anyway, here's my actual complaint: The Bylaws Article 4 section 5 say "" Resolutions concerning the formation of a committee or office shall require the approval of the Review Committee."" Clearly, Resolution I creates the office of Senior Presidents. The bylaws do not explicitly say this but I believe it's implied that any amendments to Resolutions like Resolution I also require RevComm approval. (Otherwise, consider the following loophole: the BoD could pass any committee or office-creating resolution in a way RevComm approved and then immediately insert provisions RevComm would not agree to).

I think RevComm should rule that amendments to BoD resolutions that concerns committees or offices require RevComm approval. RevComm should then discuss the BoD's amendment and vote on it, and if they disagree with the 2 person limit, they should send it back to the BoD."

Call to order: 6:30 pm PST Present: Chair Maggie Sui, Fleming Representative Varun Shanker, Ricketts Representative Toussaint Pegues, Ruddock Representative Tarini Singh, Dabney Representative Danny Wendt, Avery Representative Antonio Caceres, Lloyd Representative Emily Du

Maggie: Reads filed complaint and asks for comments

Varun: The complaint seems to be about more than the ASCIT office. It addresses whether Revcomm should approve BoD amendments to solutions.

Antonio: We should note that this resolution is not creating a new office. It's just changing the existing one. But there's nothing that addresses amending BoD resolutions in the bylaws.

Varun and Danny agrees

Danny: We should ask BoD to clarify whether amendments should be approved by Revcomm. Since there is nothing on amendments in the bylaws, we should effectively treat amendments to resolutions creating offices or committees with the same procedure as the resolutions themselves.

Danny: Motion to rule complaint valid.

Antonio seconded.

The motion is passed 6-0-0.

Varun: The next question then is whether we approve this BoD resolution amendment that senior Class co-presidents must be in groups of no more than 2 people.

Maggie: Yeah, let's discuss that. What are your thoughts?

Varun: I think that unless there is a serious issue or bylaw violation, we should approve it. These resolutions are under the jurisdiction of the BoD, so I don't see how we can disapprove it unless there was some gross violation.

Antonio: I agree it's mainly up to the BoD.

Maggie: To play devil's advocate, if it's under the BoD jurisdiction and we should approve it, then why do BoD resolutions need our approval in the first place. Is it just to check that there are no serious issues.

Antonio: Hmm, yeah I'm not sure. Should we be able to approve/reject amendments? It's not covered in bylaws. Reasonable amendments might not need our approval.

Danny: The bylaws are not clear what it means to amend resolution. It doesn't explicitly say whether it's different or the same as passing new resolutions. We should amend the bylaws to clarify. How do we amend the bylaws?

Varun: Student body has to get 200 signatures to propose it or BoD proposes it.

Danny: Easier if BoD is willing to propose a change.

Maggie: Yeah, I'll ask them.

Danny: Let's write a ruling that Revcomm recommends that BoD propose a change to the bylaws to clarify the procedure of amendments to BoD resolutions.

Revcomm Ruling

The Review Committee reviewed the complaint "The BoD amended Resolution I without requesting RevComm approval to add a provision that 'Candidates running for Senior Class co-presidents must be in groups of no more than 2 people.' ... The Bylaws Article 4 section 5 say 'Resolutions concerning the formation of a committee or office shall require the approval of the Review Committee.' Clearly, Resolution I creates the office of Senior Presidents. The bylaws do not explicitly say this but I believe it's implied that any amendments to Resolutions like Resolution I also require RevComm approval..."

Revcomm ruled this complaint valid. In the absence of an amendment procedure in the bylaws for resolutions concerning the formation of a committee or office, Revcomm ruled that amendments should be treated as resolutions. Revcomm thus requests that the BoD send Resolution 1 Section 4 to Revcomm for approval. Furthermore, the Revcomm recommends that the BoD proposes an amendment to the bylaws to clarify the amendment procedure of BoD resolutions and specify whether amendments to resolutions concerning the formation of a committee or office require Revcomm approval.

Danny: motion to pass ruling

Varun: seconds

The motion is passed 6-0-0.

Varun: Should we also motion on the resolution in question regarding the senior class presidents amendment?

Maggie: Yeah, let's settle that now too. We've already discussed it.

Varun motions to approve changes to BoD resolution one

Antonio: seconds

The motion is passed 6-0-0.

Meeting Adjourned 8:40 pm PST

REVCOMM MEETING MINUTES

MINUTES FOR FEBRUARY 28, 2021

AGENDA: DISCUSS ASCIT BoD TREASURER'S PETITION TO REMAIN TREASURER WHILE ON LEAVE

Call to order: 6:00 pm PST Present (email): Chair Maggie Sui, Ruddock Representative Tarini Singh, Dabney Representative Danny Wendt, Blacker Representative Alex Hong, Lloyd Representative Emily Du, Ricketts Representative Toussaint Pegues

To whom it may concern: My name is Eilleen Zhang, I'm currently the ASCIT Treasurer, and I'm writing this petition because I'd like to continue serving as ASCIT Treasurer while I take personal leave for the Spring 2021 term. Due to the virtual learning format of the spring term, I will still be able to effectively complete all my duties during the term. My plans for the spring term also will not interfere with my responsibilities on ASCIT. In addition, because ASCIT elections and turnover will happen during the spring term anyway, it would be more efficient to wait until the new BoD is elected to train a new Treasurer.

Thanks for your time, Eilleen Zhang

Maggie: goes over petition Turnover will happen within half a term anyways, and it doesn't seem like they'll be any issues. Anyone else have any thoughts or concerns?

Danny: Is this allowed in the bylaws?

Maggie: Yeah. She just has to petition us.

Danny: Oh, then I have no problems.

Alex motions to allow Eilleen to remain treasurer

Danny seconded

The motion is passed 5-0-0.

Meeting Adjourned 6:30 pm PST

STILL NOT AN ABUSE OF POWER

KENNY THAI | NOT AN ADVERTISEMENT



Write for
the *Tech!*

If for no other reason than
giving me more flexibility
when editing!

Edit for
the *Tech!*

I've been getting lonely...

