

# THE CALIFORNIA TECH



VOLUME CXI, NUMBER 2

PASADENA, CALIFORNIA

OCTOBER 12, 2009

## Rotation: Officially Over But Numerous Breaches of Rules *Possible revamp of Rotation considered by IHC*

By Rick Paul

STAFF WRITER

Another memorable year of Rotation activities came to an end last week with the firing of the Fleming cannon, signaling not only the end of Rotation but officially marking the prefrosh's transition to frosh.

Reactions towards this year's Rotation, from both freshman and upperclassmen, were for the most part positive. "Meeting cool upperclassmen was probably the best part of Rotation," said Bryan Jadot, a freshman in Fleming. "It was exhausting, but a lot of fun."

A common criticism from some of the freshman was that they would have liked to see the Rotation activities stretched over

a longer span of time. "Rotation was too dense at times, too much activity in too short of a time period," said one freshman.

There was also an increased perception this year that fewer freshmen were assigned to their first choice houses than in previous years.

Along with these usual complaints, there were some serious breaches of the IHC Rotation rules by several houses. Daryl Coleman, president of Fleming, provided some perspective on the situation. "The administration seems to have a less favorable stance towards rotation this year in light of violations of the fire, harassment, hazing, and alcohol policies. I think Rotation is a unique, necessary component of our house system."

"Some people say Rice has a similar system, but when freshmen come in they are randomly assigned to a house. Rotation helps maintain the culture of each house. People think house presidents only look out for the interests of their own houses, but the truth is that everyone collaborates to make sure that prefrosh don't go into unfavorable environments which they may feel uncomfortable in."

Following the recent breaches to the Rotation rules, there have been rumors that the IHC is considering revamping Rotation.

There have, however, been no official actions taken yet at the time of publication. The IHC will continue to tweak the Rotation rules, but must walk a fine line between maintaining the

"spirit" of Rotation and providing a safe environment for prefrosh. We might soon be due for a drastic overhaul of Rotation, the likes of which have not been seen for over almost two decades.

From the house dinners to the always entertaining house skits and videos, Rotation is an institution of Caltech tradition.

Rotation was started in 1934, three years after students moved into the four original South Hovses (Blacker, Dabney, Fleming, and Ricketts).

Rotation ran with no major issues until 1951, when, according to the October 11 Tech, "Dabney flagrantly violated the spirit of rotation." Dabney offered blind dates for freshmen and lent them cars for those dates. They also announced their social schedule

for first term and approached frosh in their rooms late at night and asked them for their House preferences. These actions led to the first written Rotation rules in 1952, which survive relatively intact today.

In 1963, the IHC found an acceptable procedure for Rotation: each frosh would spend one day in each house and at the end could list four houses he was willing to enter.

This stayed relatively constant until 1991, when frosh were first allowed to rank their House preferences with a number 1-7, more or less the same system we have in place today.

## Caltech Adds 12 New Professors So Far This Year despite year's tight budget

By Tina Ding

STAFF WRITER

Every year the campus sees a whole set of new faces with the arrival of the most recent frosh class, but this year there have also been quite a few additions to the faculty. Although noticeably smaller than the number of new students, 12 new professors have already arrived at Caltech since the beginning of the year (ahead of the 7 at the same time last year), despite the recent tight budget.



Guillaume Blanquart

**Department:** EAS

Mechanical Engineering

**Research:** Blanquart's research focuses on the modeling of multi-physics and multi-scale fluid mechanics problems resulting from the interaction between combustion processes and turbulent flows. He focuses on fundamental problems such as the formation of pollutants and the effects of turbulence on dynamics of nano-particles and liquid droplets.

**Other Interests:** "I love football and more precisely Stanford Football. Several times, I drove for more than ten hours to see my favorite team playing. One of the best game: October 6th 2007, when Stanford won against USC at the LA Coliseum (24-23)! I only wish Caltech had a football team. I simply love movies and TV series. Between European and American players, standard DVD and Blu-Ray players, I have about 9 of them!"



John Johnson

**Department:** Math, Physics, Astronomy(PMA)

-Astronomy

**Research:** Johnson's primary research is on the detection and characterization of exoplanets, or else known as extrasolar planet, which are planets beyond our solar system.

**Other Interests:** "I'm a big football (NFL) and basketball (NBA, NCAA) fan, and I enjoy playing basketball and racquetball. I read a lot of nonfiction in my limited free time. I also enjoy playing Legos with my two sons Marcus (1 yr) and Owen (4 yrs), and playing Speed Scrabble with my wife."



Andreas Krause

**Department:** EAS

Computer Science

**Research:** Krause's research is in adaptive systems that actively acquire information, reason and make decisions in large, distributed and uncertain domains, such as sensor networks and the web. The theoretical aspects include statistical learning, Bayesian modeling, decision theory and optimization

**Other Interests:** "I'm a passionate classical guitarist. I play solo and chamber music, and even used to play in an orchestra with about 30 classical guitarists."

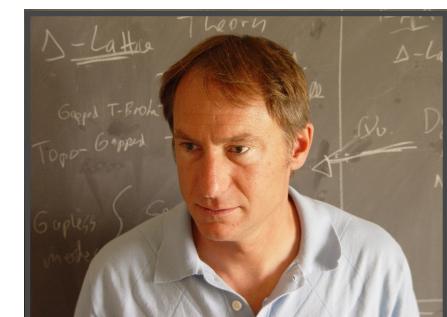


Keith Schwab

(no photo)

**Department:** EAS  
Applied Physics

**Research:** Schwab's interest is in fundamental quantum behavior in mechanical structures, the quantum limits of measurements, and the boundary between the classical and quantum world.



Matthew Fisher

**Department:** Math, Physics, Astronomy  
- Theoretical Physics

**Research:** Fisher's research focuses on conventional mott insulators, spin liquid insulators in 2d, 2d gapless spin liquids, spin liquid insulators in 3d, and non-fermi liquid conductors in 2d.

**Other Interests:** "I am taking up table tennis again here at Caltech after 30 years (!), and am challenged (and frustrated!) by an occasional round of golf. Two years back I started writing a fiction book about a brilliant quantum physicist with bipolar disorder, but this is now on the back burner."

Linda Nazar

**Department:** EAS

Chemistry and Electrical Engineering

**Research:** Nazar's research focuses on investigating the mixed ion and electron transport properties of materials. Her group studies solid state electrochemistry of inorganic materials, with focus on structural and physical property studies of nano-structured materials for energy storage and conversion.

**Other Interests:** "One of my special interests is scuba diving, which I've done around the world including Papua New Guinea which is my favorite diving spot. I enjoy growing a multitude of obscure (and not so obscure) orchids, which isn't much of a hobby in California, but is a rather difficult task in Ontario Canada."

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Magnolia on Lake  
Review

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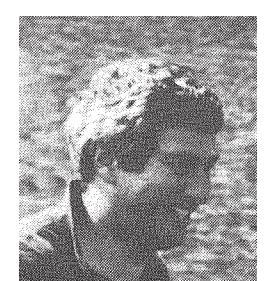
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# OPINION

2 OCTOBER 12, 2009

THE CALIFORNIA TECH

## The Things You Can Learn... From *The Tech* Archives

By Chris Kennelly

EDITOR-IN-CHIEF

The four—or maybe six—years that students spent at Tech gives a breadth of experiences. The collective memory of students frequently doesn't last far beyond their time here.

Many administrators have been here far longer. When it comes to making decisions affecting the student body, promises are far easier to break when the students whom they were made to graduate a few years later.

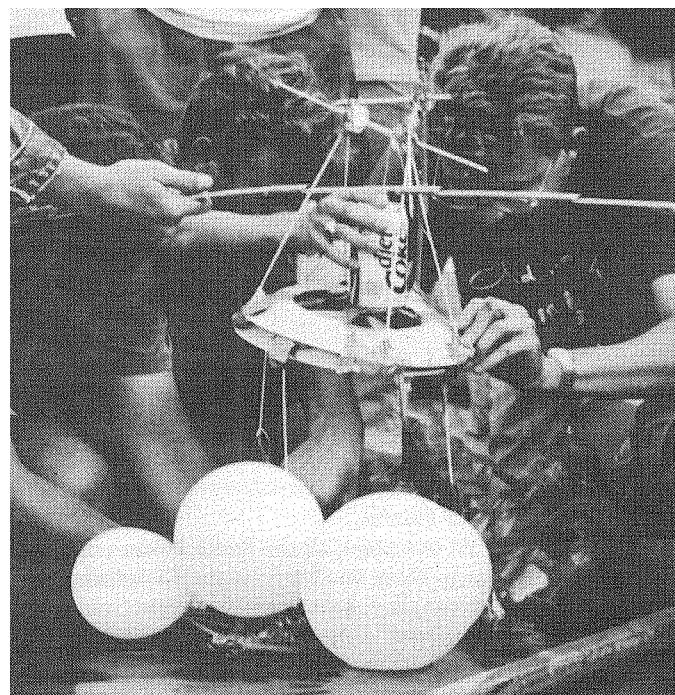
*The Tech* archives provide a glimpse, however biased or flawed it may be, into the past. 18 years of *Tech*'s paint a picture of the formations of Avery House, from conception, to construction, to today. For many of today's curriculums and policies, a brief look into the archives shows how things once were.

- October 27, 1995: Ch1a students pond Nate Lewis for his birthday in Millikan pond, continuing an annual tradition.
- October 6, 2000: The Board Program changes, unveiling the Feynman and Millikan plans to supplement the

Richter plan.

- October 13, 2000: The frosh humanities which plague those who haven't taken them and serve as a bad memory to many upperclassmen.
- Last week, we reported on the switch from Scheme to Python in CS1. This wasn't the first change to CS1's curriculum. Students saw a switch from C to Scheme in 2001.
- October 19, 2001: Professional bartenders were mandated as a part of the Drug and Alcohol policy.
- October 28, 2002: Caltech kicks off a new fundraising campaign, aiming for a "new astrophysics building," a "new information sciences building," and a "new campus center building." Cahill and Annenberg are open for business today. The continually promised, but never delivered notion of a student center seems to have fallen by the wayside.

Or, for those who worry about the quality of *The Tech*, our editors had some advice October 24, 1997, in response to complaints about too many advertisements:

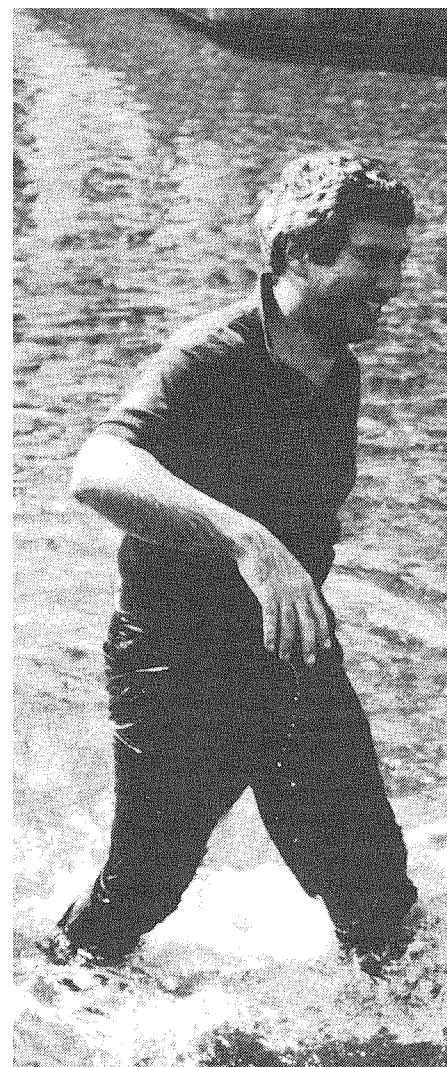


Above: The 1993 Frosh Camp Boat Race  
Right: Nate Lewis emerges from Millikan Pond

"Consider for a moment the fate of *The Georgia Tech*. The poor paper of this institute was so starved for articles that its poor editors plastered the front page with an announcement that which went something like this: There will be no paper

this week, no one has written any articles. It could always be worse. Sometimes it has been."

History, it seems, repeats itself sometimes.



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Letters and submissions are welcome; e-mail submissions to [tech@caltech.edu](mailto: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. 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 PM 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 [business@caltech.edu](mailto:business@caltech.edu). For subscription information, please send mail to "Subscriptions."

## BoC Bylaw Revisions

By Andrew Price

BoC CHAIR

Dear Techers,

I hope this letter finds you well and that everyone had a relaxing summer. I would like to announce and detail a revision to the Board of Control bylaws that was inspired by feedback from students and teachers at the Student-Faculty conference held in 2008.

The Board faced criticism from both students and teachers. Most felt that cases took too long to resolve, that defendants were given insufficient information and resources, and that the standards used to formulate the protection decision were poorly defined. There was also concern about the small group of people that accused students were free to consult, and many suggested expanding the circle to include House Presidents, UCCs, Health Ads, and/or Faculty advisers.

Though few people doubted the accuracy of the Board's ultimate decisions, it was clear that the process could use improvement.

An ad-hoc ASCIT committee, the Honor Code Taskforce, was formed to discuss these problems and to propose alterations to the bylaws and procedures that would alleviate them. At the conference in 2009, they proposed a number of changes: increasing the number of representatives to handle cases more quickly, formalizing a BoC training session for new representatives, assigning 'advocate' representatives to represent the interests of the defendant and the community in each case, clarifying and improving the standards for protection decisions, and clarifying the review and appeals process. Student response was varied.

It fell to me to realize their proposals into a bylaws revision. The "boc-spam" email list was

used to solicit comments on the changes that I was putting together. I received a surprising amount of thoughtful feedback and did my best to compile this into the first draft of revisions.

The new changes have been submitted to the Review Committee, who will run a school-wide election for final approval. The changes will increase the number of representatives to two per house. Formal BoC representative training will be required. This training will be open to the public allowing people to view and comment on the Board's decision making process as the new representatives discuss mock example cases. The defendant is now free to consult an 'assistant representative,' who may be any current or former BoC representative or House president, at any time during or before his hearing. Also, a defendant is now able to select additional 'silent' witnesses'

if given permission from the Chairman or from the Deans. The 'silent witness' must be selected from the Caltech community, and is intended to give the defendant an additional resource for moral support or counseling through a case. There is a new section on review and appeals which details the appeals process as it currently stands. Decisions are reviewed by the Deans and all cases resulting in suspension have an additional, automatic procedural review through the Vice President for Student Affairs.

I believe that these changes, while conservative, will provide some solution to many of the Board's difficulties. This is not a perfect revision, but I hope you will agree that it represents a positive first step toward addressing the Board's faults. Please let me know if you have any questions, comments, or concerns regarding the BoC bylaws or other BoC-related matters.

## Intellectual Creativity 2

By Brian Merlob

UNDERGRADUATE

My passion is education, and my first axiom is that institutional education should be fun. As a student, or a professor, do you enjoy your classes? By design, I love mine! But if they're not necessarily fun, why should you, a student, attend? In classes, professors teach a subset of information you're liable to know, and while ideally, you could attend all your classes, pay attention and take notes, it is more likely that lapses in attention due to sleep deprivation or just short attention spans will prevent you from acquiring and retaining what is presented in class. And if

you learn the material separately (from a textbook, or a friend, or a tutor), what is the rationale behind attending class? But I asked the wrong question, because I believe you should attend the majority of your classes, so let me try again:

What should classes teach?

If classes are to be fun and relevant, what should they teach? As I understand it, professors would prefer that you learn how to think rather than learn the material itself; that you develop the analytical skills that problem sets require, that exams test for, and that Techers are known for. So why not teach those analytical skills by providing small fun

interactive classes that present interesting and illuminating examples. This idea is not unique – they're called recitations (and Ph 1bc practical track does a great job at implementing these). In my theory, all classes should be recitations, and all recitations should be fun and interactive. And just as the students should have fun learning, professors/TAs should have fun teaching – a good rule of thumb is that if one party isn't having fun, neither is the other party.

Other innovative ideas already underway include ARC's "Course Capturing," in which classes are videotaped and placed on a private server for the Caltech community. Videotaped classes allow you to

rewind as much as you desire, to watch lectures at your own pace (in 20 minute intervals), time (2 AM), and place (in your dorm). One might raise the concern that this would decrease class attendance and makes asking questions harder. It should do exactly the opposite. If a formal presentation of the material is available online, classes can afford to be more fun and thus increase class attendance, and Office Hours were specifically created for questions.

My ideas are far from perfect, but I've thought about them for a long time, so I'd love any commentary you'd be willing to give - email me anytime! (Merlob@caltech.edu)

## Welcome Back!

**By Anthony Chong**  
ASCIT President

Welcome back to Caltech! Congratulations to the class of 2013 on finding a new house and finally settling into a permanent residence.

Undergraduates-- I write this halfway through my term as your President. It has certainly been an eventful first half. Upperclassmen will remember that in the Spring we

continued our traditional events like ASCIT Formal and the ASCIT Movie. But you may also remember some new things like a new club registration system that keeps students away from undue personal liability, a general increase in ASCIT funding for student events, and the Harvey Mudd-Scripps Party. But the Spring was just our warm-up.

Yes, I will continue to put donuts on the Olive Walk by 8 AM every Friday. Yes, we are still committed to support inter-house

activities. Yes, we will continue to fund your parties and club events. But you can expect much more out of student government:

We are videotaping select courses and helping with the brand new freshmen advising system to enhance your experience while you're a student here. We are working on 4 years' worth of Big T's so that when you graduate you may have something to remember your time by. And we are building stronger relations with alumni through a close relationship

with Development and Alumni Relations Department so that well into the future your connection to the institute will remain.

This is all just the tip of the iceberg. Much like the school year, our work in ASCIT has just begun. We are a representative government, and we will always need and look forward to your input. So do not hesitate to contact us ([bod@donut.caltech.edu](mailto:bod@donut.caltech.edu)). But ASCIT is also a government by students. So if you have ever had a great idea for how our lives could

be improved, let us know and we'll find the best way for you to apply your energies! Confused by how student government is organized? Consult the rough guide in this issue of the Tech.

I cannot imagine a more exciting time to be a Caltech student. Let's see that we have a great year!

## ASCIT BoD Minutes for October 8, 2009

**Officers Present:** Anthony Chong, Andrey Poletayev, Pallavi Gunalan, Maral Mazrooei, Michael Maseda, Laura Conwill

**Officers Absent:** Nadia Iqbal

**Guests:** Noah Tanabe, Brian Merlob

Call to order: 12:11 PM

### Funding requests:

- **Frisbee!**: The men's frisbee team wants to host a scrimmage with Pomona that will include a barbecue. There are about 30 undergraduate members on the team. Motion to approve \$100 for the Frisbee scrimmage. Vote: Approved (5-0-0).

### President's Report:

- **Budget**: Be mindful of how you are spending money.

### Officer Reports:

- **V.P. of Academic Affairs (ARC Chair)**: The ARC held talks at Rotation, which went well. The ARC is holding a meeting today.

- **V.P. of Nonacademic Affairs (IHC Chair)**: Panel during frosh camp; rotation went well. Pallavi met with the admissions committee readers and will check up on them. Met with Student Affairs. Presidents came up with a list of murals they thought should/could be painted over, and housing is following through with that.

- **Operations Director**: Big T! Over the summer, Mike made a lot of progress tracking things down and finding people who want to work on the yearbook. Bonnie and Stephany (yearbook editors for 2010) are on top of things!

• **Treasurer**: Maral sent out the dinner rotation schedule for BoD members in the houses; these dinners start next Wednesday night. Maral deposited the little t money into its account. Chris will help with club money appropriation this term. Maral is following up on cost for Harvey Mudd party busing.

- **Secretary**: Working on Tech article for Monday's issue.

• **Scheduling**: Meetings will be Mondays at 12:10 on the Olive Walk. A special meeting will be held next Thursday to hear John Onderdonk's sustainability presentation.

Meeting adjourned: 12:40 PM

Submitted by Laura Conwill  
ASCIT Secretary

### ARC Excerpts:

- House ARC reps will be holding ARC talks in the near future to explain their role and inform frosh about the services we provide.
- The courses Bi 150 (Introduction to Neuroscience) and ME 19a (Fluid Mechanics) are being captured this term. Videos from this term and previous terms are available at <http://classes.caltech.edu>

## Upcoming Events:

### Monday, October 12th

- **Lunchtime Meeting for The California Tech** at Broad Cafe from Noon to 1PM
- **CEFCU closed in observance of Columbus Day**
- **LGBTQ Resource Table** in front of Chandler from Noon to 1PM

### Tuesday, October 13th

- **IST Lunch Bunch**. 105 Annenberg, Noon to 1PM.
- **"After Bush: Why America Will Not Change"** - Lecture by Yannick Mireur, presented by Alliance Fancaise and Caltech. Cahill Center, Hameetman Auditorium, 7-9PM.

### Wednesday, October 14th

- **Blood Drive for Huntington Hospital**. Winnett Lounge, 9AM - 3:30PM.
- **Caltech Career Fair**. Bechtel Mall, 10:30AM - 2:30PM.
- **Watson Lecture "Exploring the Ultraviolet Universe."** Beckman Auditorium, 8-9:30PM.

### Friday, October 16th

- **Yella (2007) Screening**. Baxter Lecture Hall 7:30-10:30PM. German film with English subtitles.
- **ADD DAY!**

### Saturday, October 17th

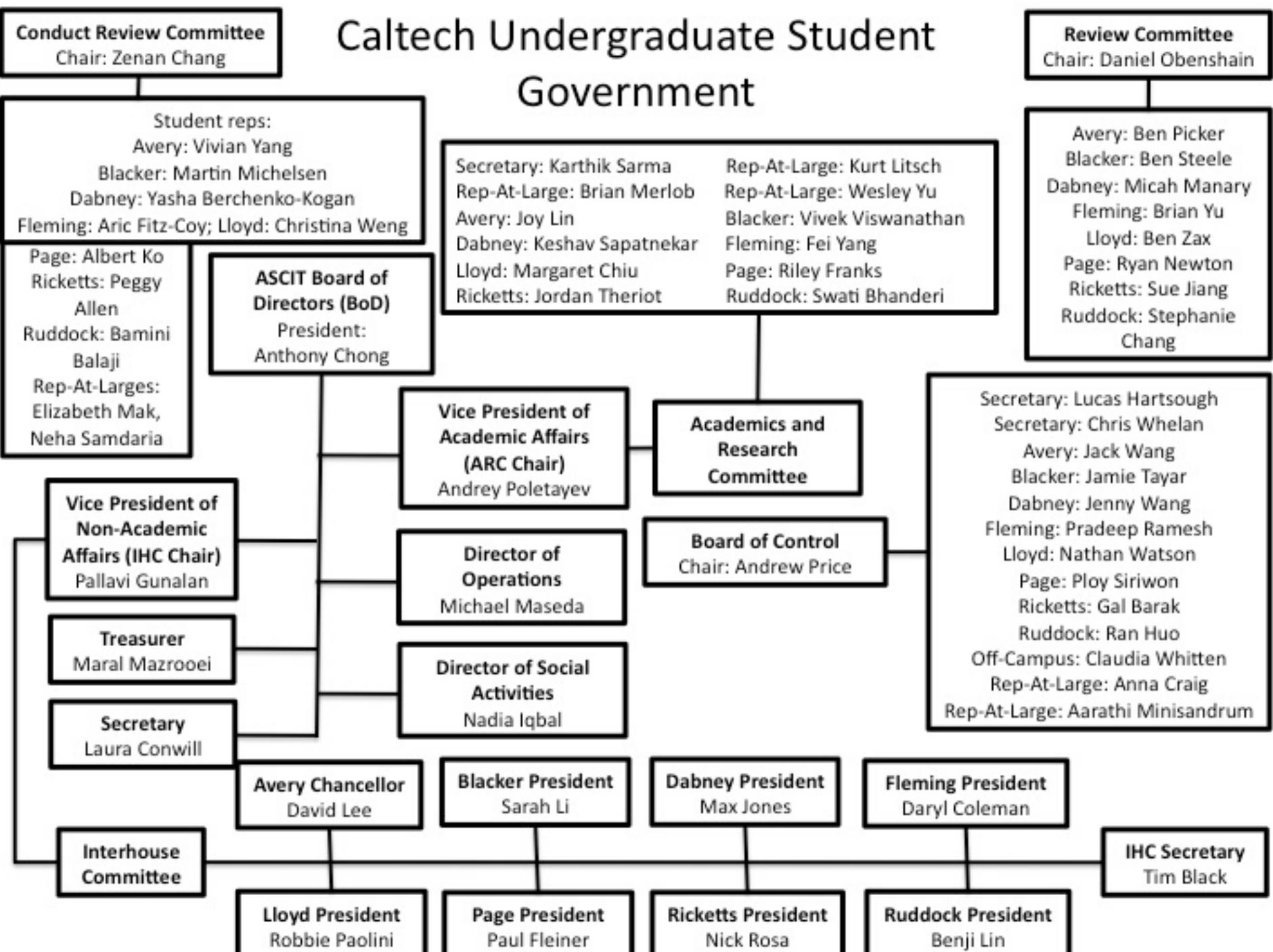
- **SURF Seminar Day** - Campus-wide, 9AM - 5PM.



**Write or take pictures when you can. We pay up to \$30 for news articles.**

**We're flexible.**

**Join us Monday and Friday at noon for lunch at Broad Cafe, or send [tech@caltech.edu](mailto:tech@caltech.edu) an email if you're interested in being a part of the Tech.**



## An Introduction to Student Government and Student Life

- I . Structure: The bylaws say ASCIT shall provide “representation for students to the Institute, seek to improve academic and nonacademic aspects of student life, provide universal student resources, support publications, and uphold the Honor System.” There are a number of standing groups in the student government:
- BoD: The Board of Directors consists of the President, Vice President for Academic Affairs (ARC Chair), Vice President for Non-Academic Affairs (IHC Chair), Director of Operations, Director of Social Activities, Treasurer, and Secretary. The BoD handles day-to-day operations, dealings with the administration, appropriating the student government budget, and planning schoolwide social events.
  - ARC: The Academics and Research Committee acts as a liaison between students and professors by handling course reviews, comments, and making improvements to courses. They also plan the yearly Student-Faculty Conference.
  - IHC: The Interhouse Committee consists of the Vice President of Academic Affairs (the IHC Chair) and the eight house presidents. They deal with Rotation and issues that arise with the house system.
  - BoC, CRC: These two groups handle honor code violations. The Board of Control deals with academic violations, and the Conduct Review Committee covers non-academic issues.
- II . Services
- Online (Donut): donut.caltech.edu is the ASCIT website!
    - Directory: Type “stalker.caltech.edu” (or just “stalker” if you’re on campus) in your web browser to get to the student directory.
    - Course reviews: The results of Teaching Quality Feedback Report surveys at the end of each term are available on the TQFR website, and can help you decide which courses to take.
    - Club resources: The Donut website has resources on how to register a club, fill out a budget proposal, book rooms for club meetings, and post events to the ASCIT calendar.
    - Course videos: Last term, some courses were filmed and put online. You can view these at courses.caltech.edu
  - Not online
    - Donuts and bagels: If you wake up early enough on Friday mornings, you’ll see several boxes of donuts have materialized on the Olive Walk. Enjoy the donut and thank the ASCIT President, who drove all the way to Glendora to find you the best donuts in the San Fernando Valley. On Mondays there are bagels on the Olive Walk.
    - Take a prof to lunch: Sometimes you may want to get to know your professor, but the 200-person lecture hall is just too big to hold a one-on-one conversation. With the take-a-prof-to-lunch program, you can apply to have ASCIT treat you and your professor (and a few of your classmates, if they’re also interested in meeting the prof) to lunch at the Ath.
    - MHF: The Moore-Hufstedler Fund was established by Gordon and Betty Moore and Shirley M. Hufstedler to improve student life. Proposals are accepted once each term, and about \$180,000 is appropriated annually. Basically, if you’d like to make a major purchase for your house or club (such as a foosball table or sports equipment) or sponsor an event (like a schoolwide party), MHF can help you accomplish it.
    - Housner Fund: Similar in style to MHF, but for academic-related activities. The Housner Fund sponsors non-SURF research, academic club events, travel to conferences to present research, independent study (including travel!), and student-taught courses.
    - Fun Fund: The Fun Fund awards \$25 each term to a number of students chosen by lottery. Fund money can be used to see a play, go out to a restaurant, visit an amusement park, or do anything else that has “socially redeeming value”.
    - SAC: The Student Activities Center (SAC) is the basement of the South Houses. In addition to housing such necessities as the laundry room, it boasts several study rooms and soundproof music practice rooms, one of which is also equipped with a mattress. The SAC also has the ASCIT Screening Room, a home theater-type room with a projector and screen, couches, and an amazing sound system.

## *Magnolia Lounge on Lake*

by Dannah Almasco and Andrew Freddo



Walking Time: 12 minutes

Price Range: \$

Contact Info:  
(626) 584-1126  
[www.magnoliaonlake.com](http://www.magnoliaonlake.com)

Go here to...  
relax and enjoy happy hour  
with friends  
(4:30 - 7:00 PM)



Just across from Border's on Lake Avenue there is a little hole-in-the-wall lounge with a discreet storefront. The first impression upon walking into Magnolia's is the open-air courtyard, which until last week had a huge tree (the tree died, but management told us they would replace the tree soon). In addition to the courtyard there is seating inside. The atmosphere is very relaxed and conducive to catching up with friends. To munch on while enjoying our drinks, we enjoyed the Macaroni and Cheese (\$9/\$5), French Fry Trio (\$8/\$5), and the Fried Calamari (\$10/\$8).

The Macaroni and Cheese came out bubbling hot! As opposed to the cheese being sharp and salty (like cheddar), it had a velvety taste and texture. The dish was served in a small bowl right out of the oven, and had toasted breadcrumbs on top. Overall it was a great dish to split, since it was pretty heavy.

If you like French Fries, you will LOVE the French Fry Trio! There are three types: thin-cut Yukon Gold fries, sweet potato fries, and wedge fries. It also came with three dipping sauces: chili/honey, BBQ, and garlic aioli. The fries themselves were not greasy, but were crunchy and great to enjoy. Out of the sauces, the chili/honey and BBQ were the most delicious, complimenting the salty fries with their sweetness.

Lastly, the Fried Calamari was very different from what you would normally find in an Italian restaurant. The crust was crunchy and not too thick, and the squid rings and tentacles were fried to a deep golden brown. The texture of the squid itself was not too rubbery, indicating it was very fresh. This was served with two dipping sauces, the garlic aioli (which went better with this dish than the fries) and a tomato sauce. We did not like the tomato sauce since it tasted more like ketchup or cocktail sauce.

Overall, Magnolia Lounge is an amazing place close by where you can enjoy good food and good times with friends. Note the Happy Hour specials (the second price listed above is the price of the dish during Happy Hour), which runs from 4:30 – 7 every day except for Sunday and Monday, when it ends at 10! Also, make sure you dress up a bit; a nice pair of jeans is a must! And if you're not 21 yet? Don't worry, you can still head over to Magnolia's to enjoy the food and company.

## *The Invention of Lying*

by Jddy Chen and Joy Lin

Imagine a world where humans have not evolved the capability to lie. In fact, the words "lie" and "truth" do not even exist. Everyone speaks their mind honestly every time and all the time, even then it seems inappropriate or harsh in our culture today. Then we have Mark Bellison, played by Ricky Gervais, a not so rich, not so good looking guy (but with a cool English accent) who is going for the girl of his dreams, Anna McDoodles. Unfortunately for Mr. Bellison, she's way out of his league, genetically and financially speaking. And his luck doesn't seem to improve—getting fired from his job and about to be evicted from his apartment—until he stumbles upon the world's greatest discovery: lying.

Naturally, everyone else in the world takes Mark's words to be the truth and hilarity ensues as we follow Mark exploiting his newfound talent. But then the focus of the movie makes a sharp U-turn when Mark says something which ensnares the attention of the entire world. He comforts his almost hysterical mother on her deathbed by telling her that after life, she will go to her favorite place in the world where all the people she loves

will be. Our emotions are then tossed around as the Mark juggles his continuing pursuit of Anna and the dramatic repercussions of his hasty lie.

Since the world contains no flattery, no sarcasm and no false advertising there were certainly some amusing scenes that gave the audience something to laugh about. However, we found the overall plot unconvincing with the sudden, satirical religious focus of "The Invention of Lying" a little overbearing. Fascinating as the premise of the movie is, we're not quite sure that the actual plot line was the best way to go.

"The Invention of Lying" definitely has some intrinsic flaws, but then so does every movie. The comedic acting of Ricky Gervais made the difference for us, cutting through the head-jolting emotional twists which sometimes seemed out of place. We think that this movie is good for the typical night out but is not recommended for the serious viewer. The bottom line? Don't expect too much from this chick-flick. We give it one thumbs up.

From PROFESSORS, Page 1

**Theodore Agapie****Department:** Ch/ChE

Inorganic Chemistry

**Research:** Agapie's research focuses on topics in inorganic catalysis relevant to energy problems. His group develops and studies systems displaying interactions between multiple molecular centers (metals, Lewis acids, hydrogen bonding functionalities, etc.) to facilitate a variety of chemical processes.**Other Interests:** "As a graduate student at Caltech I won the first Chemistry and Chemical Engineering hamburger eating contest (with 17 burgers); I don't think I've eaten burgers since. In my free time I pursue my interest in photography and I explore California's natural wonders, in particular by climbing mountains in the High Sierras."**Pietro Ortoleva****Department:** HSA

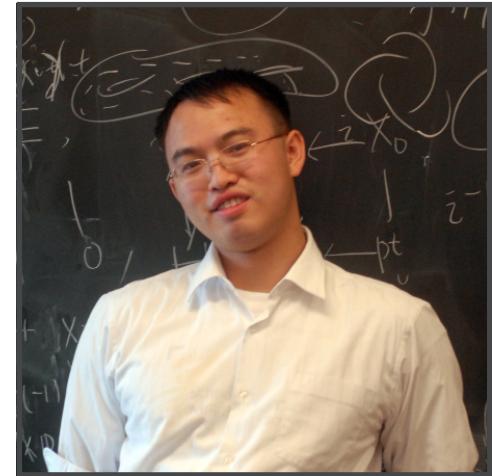
Economics

**Research:** His research is mainly focused in Decision Theory, the branch of economics that tries to give a mathematical representation to human behavior. In particular, understanding and modeling seemingly irrational patterns of behavior: for example, he has studied the fear to change, or the fact that people do not like to make complicated choices.**Other Interests:** "I am married with Francesca, who is also from Torino, Italy. She is an art historian and does not respect sciences at all, let alone economics. Our common joke is that she tries to educate me to the subtlety and depths of the humanities in general, and of medieval."**Simona Bordoni****Department:** EAS

Environmental Science and Engineering

**Research:** Bordoni's research focuses on monsoons and tropical circulations. Her group uses models and observations to investigate fundamental dynamical mechanisms that are implicated in the existence of monsoon systems.**Yi Ni****Department:** PMA

-Mathematics

**Research:** My research interests include three dimensional topology and knot theory (studies how to tie and untie a knot). In particular, his research focus on Heegaard Floer homology and its applications.**Other Interests:** "Besides playing with knots, I like reading novels, watching movies and travel. You may find me in the gym occasionally."**Christian Ott****Department:** PMA

Theoretical Astrophysics

**Research:** Ott's research in stars that blow up (supernovae) and their signatures in gravitational waves (connecting with LIGO at Caltech), neutrinos (connecting with experimental high-energy physics at Caltech), and electromagnetic waves (connecting with Caltech observational astronomers).**Other Interests:** "I try to run every day to stay in shape and I love to hike around the San Gabriel Mountains (when there are no wildfires). I strongly believe in green living -- I bike to work every day and I am all about energy efficiency."**Dehn Gilmore****Department:** HSA

-English

**Research:** Gilmore's research interest is 19th century British Literature, 19th Century European literature, Art History

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# The Weekly Scoreboard

**October 7**

**Men's Soccer vs. Claremont-M-S L(5-0)**

**October 9, 2009**

**Women's Volleyball vs. Whittier L(3-0)**

**October 10, 2009**

**Men's Soccer vs. Pomona Pitzer L(3-1)**

**October 11, 2009**

**Men's Water polo vs. Connecticut College L(18-6)**

**Men's Water Polo vs. Chapman L(29-10)**

## Upcoming Games

**October 12, 2009**

**Men's Soccer  
vs. SOKA University of America  
4:00 PM**

**October 14, 2009**

**Men's Soccer  
at Cal Lutheran  
4:00 PM**

**Men's Water Polo  
at Chapman  
5:00 PM**

**Women's Volleyball  
vs. La Sierra  
7:30 PM**

**October 16, 2009**

**Women's Volleyball  
at West Coast Baptist  
5:00 PM West Coast Baptist Tourney**

**October 17, 2009**

**Cross Country  
at SCIAC Multi Duals@ La Mirada Park  
9:00 am**

**Men's Water Polo  
vs. Pomona-Pitzer  
11:00 AM**

**Women's Volleyball  
vs. Multnomah Bible  
3:00 PM West Coast Baptist Tourney**

The Fannie and John Hertz Foundation  
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**Amit Lakhanpal**  
Quantitative Biology

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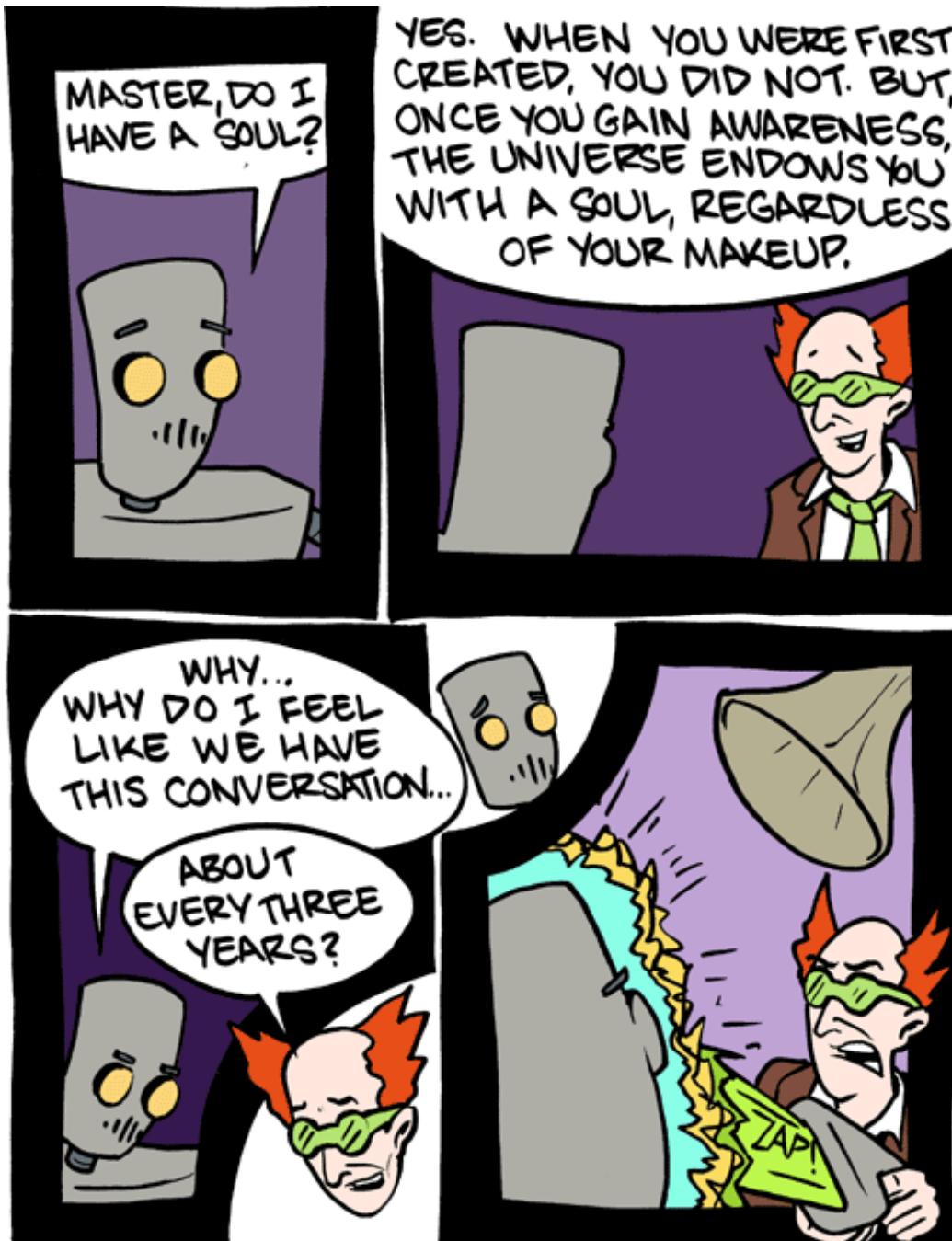


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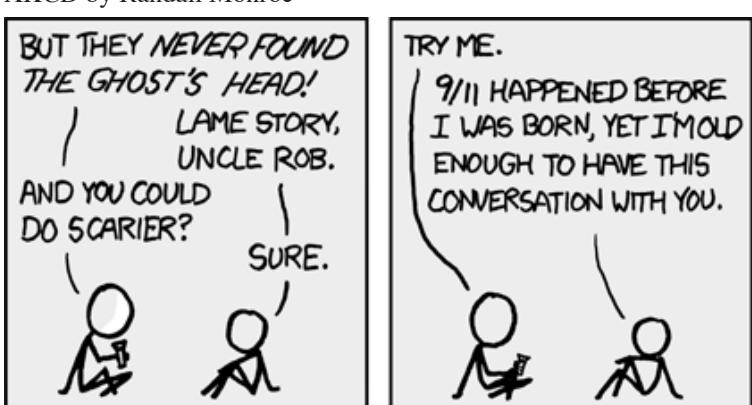
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**CONGRATULATIONS**

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XKCD by Randall Monroe



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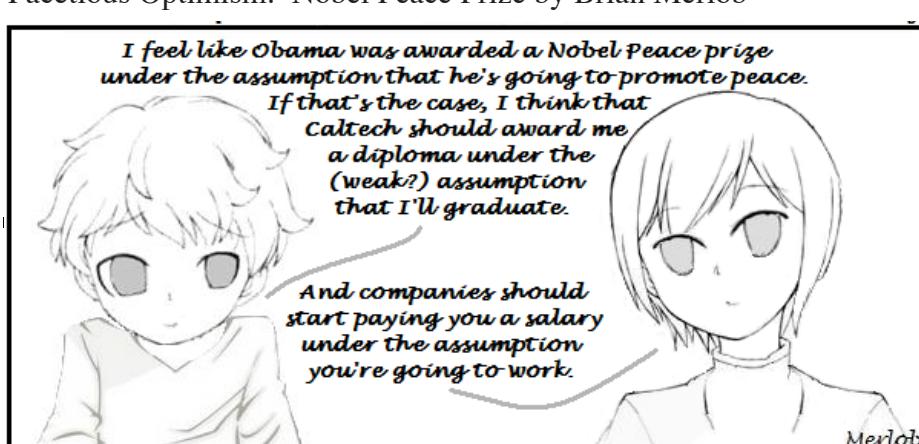
## APPLES AND ORANGES



BY REBECCA LAWLER



Facetious Optimism: Nobel Peace Prize by Brian Merlob



Merlob