**Opening (Jason):**

Welcome to Caltech! Quick couple of questions, make some noise to answer!

How many of you are Caltech Undergrads? Caltech Grad Students? Caltech Postdocs? Caltech Faculty? Caltech Staff?

Other universities? Live in Pasadena? Outside Pasadena?

Travelled more than 30 miles to get here?

That’s fantastic, thank you everyone for being here today, it is absolutely amazing to see this many people up early to celebrate science. My name is Jason Marshall, I’m a researcher in Mechanical and Civil Engineering at Caltech and one of the organizers for this event. On behalf of the organizers, we want to thank the Caltech Postdoc Association, the Caltech Graduate Student Council, and Associated Students of Caltech for sponsoring the event. We also want to give a huge thanks to our list of distinguished speakers and the many, many individuals at Caltech and volunteers who have helped make this event happen. Most importantly, we want to thank all of you for being here and supporting science.

We have a short, but exciting program, where we will hear for 3-4 minutes each from Caltech Professor Mary Kennedy, Congresswoman Judy Chu, Assemblymember Chris Holden, Pasadena Unified School District Board Member and Caltech Alum Scott Phelps, and Caltech Professor Michael Roukes. We will then march to Memorial Park, where we will have another short program including many science activities that we hope everyone enjoys.

We want to start by reading a statement from Caltech President Thomas Rosenbaum that was released this morning.

Here in LA and across the country we gather in support of science.  We march to defend an approach, a mode of inquiry based on data, evidence and reason, that has illuminated the natural world and transformed society. We are here for our nation and for our children’s future. We are brought together from across the disciplines by shared values, whether we spend our time in a laboratory, over a computer, in the archives, or in a studio. We value openness and collaboration, scientific rigor, and the testing of ideas in the search for truth. The fall of our footsteps will echo over the coming days, but we as the Caltech community must continue the march for science by our daily actions year after year.

With that, it is my great pleasure to introduce Dr. Mary Kennedy, the Allen and Lenabelle Davis Professor of Biology at Caltech and Vice Chair of the Caltech Officers of the Faculty.

**Speaker (Mary Kennedy)**

**Judy Chu Introduction (Mary Kennedy)**

**Chris Holden Introduction (Jason)**

Thank you Congresswoman Chu for your words and support of science.

Pause and clap.

Now, I’m excited to introduce California Assemblymember and supporter of science Chris Holden.

**Scott Phelps Introduction (Jason)**

Thank you Assemblymember Holden for your thoughts.

Pause and clap.

It is now my pleasure to introduce Caltech Alum of XXXX and Pasadena Unified School District Board Member Scott Phelps.

**Michael Roukes Introduction (Jason)**

Thank you Professor Phelps for your words and support of science.

Pause and clap.

It is now my great honor to introduce our final speaker for this portion of the program, Dr. Michael Roukes, the Robert M. Abbey Professor of Physics, Applied Physics, and Bioengineering at Caltech.

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**Closing (Jason)**

Thank you Professor Roukes for being here today and sharing your thoughts.

Pause and clap.

Before we start marching a few quick rules of the road and by road I mean sidewalk. We want this to be a peaceful, lawful march. Please obey all traffic laws including walk signs, stay on the sidewalks, allow other people space to walk by, and please do not bring any sticks to hold your signs. It is also Earth Day, so lets leave the areas that we visit better than we found them, with garbage in the trash and anything recyclable in recycle bins.

Lastly, Caltech researchers organized this event, because we want to celebrate science and the role that it plays in our communities from the local level all the way to global interactions between countries. We want this event to give people the opportunity to engage, discuss, and advocate for science. We want to celebrate the tight ties between science and the local community. The two are weaved together in fantastic ways. Scientists at the many local institutions in the San Gabriel Valley perform work that has a direct impact on the community. Science creates jobs and is an engine for growth, it inspires young minds, saves lives, and most importantly, in my opinion, it makes our society a better place.

These positive impacts don’t happen without people celebrating and advocating for the role of science in our society. We hope that the march is an opportunity for everyone to engage with each other and let their voices be heard on the importance of science, technology, engineering, art, and mathematics. Our opinions, thoughts, the little person that sits on our shoulder telling us right from wrong culminate into unique individual perspectives that carry as much weight as the President of the United States, the President of a University, elected officials, supporters of science, or lowly no-name researchers like myself. On this march let your unique perspective shine through, talk with people you wouldn’t normally talk to, hold your signs high, let people know what you stand for, and go forth and march for science.

Board members of the Caltech Postdoc Association and Graduate Student Council are standing behind a banner signed by hundreds of members of the local community - they will be leading us to Memorial park.