



The Caltech Y NEWS

"Making a World of Difference" Since 1916

Announcements

Contribute to the Caltech Y 90th Help sponsor the Anniversary Book

by Toni Perpall, Y Board

You still have a unique opportunity to congratulate the Y on 90 years of making a difference and to show your appreciation by sponsoring an ad or salutation in the Caltech Y 90th Anniversary Book to be distributed in April as a combined issue with the Annual Report.

All donations will be added to the Caltech Y Endowment, thus assuring the future success of the Y.

Costs range from \$100 for a business card size ad to \$1000 for a full page.

Copy must be received by 9 a.m. Monday, March 12.

To find out more, please contact Christopher Kealey at ckealey@caltech.edu or call the Y office at 626-395-6163.

Thank you for your continuing support.

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Student ExComm elects new officers, adds new members

by Vickie Pon '08, ExComm

Congratulations to all the new Caltech Y Student Executive Committee officers!

President: **Peter Liu '09**
 Co-Vice Presidents: **Vickie Pon '08**
Abdul-Ahad Tariq '08
 Secretary: **Ilia Shadrin '08**
 Treasurer: **Vamsi Chavakula '08**

Also, three new members have been elected to the ExComm:

Robin Abraham '09
Sunny Chun '10
Ilia Shadrin '08

Hooray and best wishes for the new ExComm year!

New gifts to the Caltech Y

by Greg Fletcher, Y Staff

New President gives RISE a lift!

Students, Faculty, and Staff returned to campus in January to an email announcement from new Caltech President, Jean-Lou Chameau, and his wife, Dr. Carol Carmichael, that included a strong vote of confidence in the new RISE Program – and funding support as well.

President Chameau and Dr. Carmichael announced that they had selected a web-based New Year's message instead of the traditional holiday cards and that, in the spirit of stewardship, they would be dedicating the resources saved to the RISE math and science

tutoring program, coordinated by the Caltech Y, for students from Pasadena Unified School District.

It was exciting to get such an affirmation from the new President, who had noticed the new RISE Program while both were in their first terms on the Caltech campus. The gift turned out to be \$2,500 that will be put to great use placing Caltech students into our community to help the students in our local public school district.

Moore-Hufstedler Fund equips the Y

The Caltech Y was informed that, upon consideration, the President and the Moore-Hufstedler Fund Committee had approved our

request for funding to increase and improve our supply of outdoor adventure rental gear.

The \$12,750 grant was a result of a proposal put together to promote active lifestyles in the Caltech community, and the committee referred to the Y stating, "we are pleased with the services you offer and hope this new equipment will be heavily used by the Caltech community." This spring students from the Y-Outdoors committee and ExComm will be joining the Y staff in selecting and purchasing equipment that will promote exploration of Southern California and beyond.

Recent Events (February)

Caltech Y RISE Program update

Tutoring program in coordination with Pasadena Unified School District

by Alycen Chan, Y Staff

While the RISE Tutoring Program continued to grow and develop, two other aspects of the RISE Program were initiated this month: College Tours and College Preparation Workshops

College Tours. Occidental College, the only co-ed liberal arts college in the city of Los Angeles, was a pleasant surprise for most of the 23 students who attended the RISE Program's first college campus visit on Friday, February 23.

During their tour of the campus and admissions information session, students learned about what it means to attend a "liberal arts college" and the differences between such colleges at Caltech, Occidental, and UCLA. They heard about campus life, dorm life, and even tried the campus food, which I'm happy to report impressed all the high school students. In the near future, students will be visiting UCLA and Pasadena City College.

College Preparation Workshops.

Following the Occidental visit, was a

Financial Aid Seminar on Saturday morning, February 24. The event was mostly attended by parents of 10th-12th graders, and was facilitated by David Levy, Caltech's Director of Educational Outreach and former Director of Financial Aid. Mr. Levy's explanation of financial aid was truly informative and engaging. He dispelled some myths about financial aid and provided key information regarding the application process and scholarship searches.

Friends Dinner with Larry Wilson

by Peter Mason, Y Board

The winter Friends Dinner on February 22 focused on the Studenski Memorial Awards. The awards are made in honor of Paul Studenski, class of 1972, who was killed in an automobile accident in 1974 while on his way to graduate school at Cornell. His parents established the award to honor his memory by giving Caltech undergraduates an opportunity to investigate alternate careers. Three past recipients were invited to attend: Dean Elzinga, who graduated in 1989 in mathematics and is now a successful opera singer; Katie Homann, class of 2004, who is now in medical school at University of California, Irvine; and Felicia Katz, class of 2006, who is at USC Medical School. Katie and Felicia majored in biology, and both told us that they decided on a medical career while traveling on a Studenski Award. Dean moved even further from his training by deciding on a career in opera. He demonstrated the wisdom of his decision by his rendition of *Man of La Mancha* for us.

Our speaker was Larry Wilson, editor

of the Pasadena Star News. Marka Hibbs, his mother and wife of deceased alumnus, Al Hibbs, was also our guest.



Marka and Al were long-term members of the Y Board, and she has been a faithful supporter and attendee at Y Friends functions. While on the Board, Marka was active in the selection of Studenski Award recipients as a

member of the Student Relations Committee.

Marka and Al invited Paul Studenski and his companion, Jean Hill, to live with them in their large house in Pasadena after Paul's graduation from Caltech. Larry was a teenager at the time, and got to know and admire Paul and Jean. He was able to show us pictures of Paul and Jean in the informal setting of the family home. He thinks of Paul as one of the most brilliant, yet kind, persons he has known. Paul was ahead of his time in that he simultaneously received a bachelor's degree in biology and a master's degree in electrical engineering – a multi-disciplinarian before that became popular. (I must inject here that Caltech encouraged multi-disciplinary studies of this kind even in my day, 20 years earlier.) His admiration extends to Jean, who was a first-rate artist and who, in Larry's estimate, would have become famous.

Ninety people attended the dinner and talk held in the Hall of Associates at the Athenaeum.

Black History Month celebrated

This month the Caltech Y, along with Minority Student Education and the Cultural Programming Group, celebrated Black History Month 2007 with a string of events.

by Sunny Chun '10, ExComm

Jazz Night. To kick off Black History Month, the annual Jazz Night was held at the Center for Student Services on Friday, February 9. The lobby of the CSS was transformed for an evening into a café-style area with easy décor and dim lighting to create the perfect atmosphere for enjoying good food, music, poetry, and the presence of 65 friendly faces in the crowd. A live jazz band, Drew Simpson and Friends, was a major highlight of the event. The musicians – consisting of a bassist, drummer, electric guitarist, and saxophone player – were lively and made amazing music and entertainment. In the audience, some danced and some listened. This was followed by Spoken Word poet, Sonya Renee. The event

was very successful and satisfactory for all participants.

by June Wicks '08, ExComm

Dance and Music. One of the highlights from the Black History Month celebration was a Traditional Dance and Music Showcase featuring artists from Cameroon on February 13.

Literary Speaker. On February 14, a lunch talk took place featuring Dr. Judith Jackson Fossett entitled, *From Chesnut to Obama: Passing, "Color-blindness" and the Politics of Race.*

Art Show. On February 15, artists in association with the Center for the Arts of the African Diaspora showcased their works in an African American Art Exhibition. Rory Perkins and I had the pleasure of attending this Art Exhibition and were very impressed by what we saw, as we had never before been exposed to the genre of African American Art. Artwork ranged from paintings to sculptures to photogra-

phers. It was especially nice to hear from the artists themselves the motivations and inspirations for their work. Thanks for the great experience!

by Rory Perkins, Grad, ExComm

Darfur Lunch Talk. Gabriel Stauring, of Stop Genocide Now, gave a lunch-time talk on February 22 at the Caltech Y, sharing photos from his recent trip to the Darfur region of Sudan. He focused on the everyday tribulations of refugees whom, he stressed, are just like you and me. Students and staff had a chance to ask questions about the ongoing crisis. The talk was well attended with 25 participants.

You can learn more about Darfur at Gabriel's websites:

www.stopgenocidenow.org

www.campdarfur.org

Coming Events (March-April)

Student activity highlights

by Greg Fletcher, Y Staff

With the end of Winter Term fast approaching, the students are actively planning Decompression for March 10, programs for Spring break, and service projects to kick off the Spring Term. As always, student programs will include outdoor trips, cultural events and, of course, community service. Some of our highlights for the coming months are:

Alternative Spring Break 07

Final preparations are under way for the Alternative Spring Break trips to Tecolote, Mexico, and Owens Valley, CA. In Mexico, our team will be staying at, and working with, El Centro de la Comunidad. Our work project will be helping to build shelves for what will be the first public library for the town of Tecolote. We plan to make the largely unused space

practical and inviting so that the community will benefit from the new library. Our team will also have a wonderful opportunity to explore another culture and country as we stay in the community, interact with those there, and enjoy great food from the many stands in the town. Our Owens Valley team will be conducting tamarisk removal on the shores of Owens Lake, with Mike Prather from the Owens Valley Committee, and doing other environmental service with a team from the Bureau of Land Management in the Alabama Hills. The trip will also have educational opportunities including a tour of the newly restored river way, discussion with the LA Department of Water and Power, and a visit to the new film museum, which documents the history of film (mostly westerns) shot in the Owens Valley in the golden age of cinema –

all as our participants wrestle with issues of conservation, responsible recreation and land use, and the intricate relationship between the big city and its neighboring lands.

Santa Cruz Island camping

As teams return from the Alternative Spring Break trips, another group will be preparing for an adventure, all their own, under direction of students from the Y-Outdoors Committee. On the last weekend of the break, they will be setting sail for one of the channel Islands – Santa Cruz – for a weekend of camping and hiking. Santa Cruz Island hosted another group from the Caltech Y during Alternative Spring Break a few years back, there to do service and learn about the unique island environment. This year's group will be there for adventure and recreation.

Make-A-Difference Day

What better way to kick off Spring Term than the 2007 Make-A-Difference Day – Saturday, March 31. The ExComm have been working diligently to seek out service agencies in our local community, make contacts, and set up work projects for what will,

hopefully, be more than 200 Caltech volunteers heading into the community. The Y will coordinate not only the work sites, but registration, transportation, meals, and giveaways for the day. Between 15 and 20 sites have been secured including opportunities to serve – working with children, doing environmental projects, working with

the elderly, doing construction and physical labor, and more. It is a powerful opportunity for our students to make new friends, relieve some stress, and learn about our community – all while making a tangible difference in others' lives.

Friends Dinner with Carol Carmichael

by Susan Murakami, Y Board

Our upcoming Friend's Dinner on April 5 will feature Dr. Carol Carmichael, who will speak on *Universities and Sustainable Development*. Dr. Carmichael was the senior research

scientist for a research program in environmentally conscious design and manufacturing at Georgia Tech. She re-located to Pasadena in September 2006 with her husband, Dr. Jean-Lou Chameau, President of Caltech.

We will also be celebrating the Y's 90th Birthday with some fun surprises! Please come help celebrate, and get to know Caltech's "First Lady"!

Meet the ExComm

Each month the Caltech Y News interviews a member of the Student Executive Committee (ExComm)

by Dominic Alletto, Y Staff

Meet the new ExComm president, Peter Liu. Peter is a dynamic undergrad studying Biology, who has research interests in studying cancer, stem cells, and AIDS. Working with the Y for over two years, Peter has kept busy participating in events such as: the Biloxi Alternative Spring Break trip, Decompression, the Social Activism Speaker Series, and community service. Outside of class, Peter enjoys playing music, making amateur films, designing and screen-printing t-shirts.

Peter is passionate about learning and social justice issues. He helped found "Raise 100 to Free 100," a campaign working with the International Justice Mission committed to raising \$100,000 to free 100 women and children from

Peter Liu '09

the bondage of sexual slavery. In the future, Peter hopes to become a doctor and cancer researcher (MD/PhD). Watch out epidemics – after he discovers the cure for cancer, he plans to move on and fight AIDS.

When asked what he thinks of the Y, Peter responded, "I love that the Y is such a great hub for doing great things while I'm a student. I can go to Mississippi to help with hurricane relief. I can take part in community service projects. If I want to invite a speaker or screen a movie, or just find another excuse to grill burgers at Decompression, I do it with the Y. Oh, and who can resist Greg's warm, cuddly charm?"



CALENDAR OF UPCOMING EVENTS

Note: See the [Caltech Y website](#) for additional information and schedule

March

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
				1 RISE Tutoring Studenski Award Applications Due	2 RISE Campus Tour Full Moon Hike	3 Chancellor Place
4 Gamble House Tour	5 RISE Tutoring Y Board Mtg	6 RISE Tutoring ExComm Mtg	7 RISE Tutoring Y-Outdoors Mtg International Week Planning Mtg	8 RISE Tutoring Reel World Video	9	10 Reading to Kids Decompression
11	12	13 ExComm Mtg	14	15	16	17 Union Station
18 Alternative Spring Break	19 Alternative Spring Break	20 Alternative Spring Break	21 Alternative Spring Break	22 Alternative Spring Break	23 Santa Cruz Island	24 Santa Cruz Island
25 Santa Cruz Island	26	27 ExComm Mtg	28	29	30	31 Make-A-Difference Day

April

S	M	T	W	T	F	S
1	2 RISE Tutoring Y Board Mtg	3 RISE Tutoring ExComm Mtg	4 RISE Tutoring	5 RISE Tutoring Friends Dinner (Dr. Carol Carmichael)	6	7 Chancellor Place
8 International Week	9 RISE Tutoring International Week	10 RISE Tutoring International Week ExComm Mtg	11 RISE Tutoring International Week	12 RISE Tutoring International Week	13 International Week	14 Reading to Kids International Week
15	16 RISE Tutoring	17 RISE Tutoring ExComm Mtg	18 RISE Tutoring	19 RISE Tutoring Reel World Video Lunch	20	21 Union Station
22	23 RISE Tutoring	24 RISE Tutoring ExComm Mtg	25 RISE Tutoring	26 RISE Tutoring	27	28 r
29	30 RISE Tutoring					

The Caltech Y

The Caltech Y is an independent 501c3 organization formally affiliated with the California Institute of Technology. Founded by students in 1916, the Y was organized to provide extracurricular activities planned and implemented by students as an opportunity to learn leadership skills and discover themselves. The mission of today's Y remains the same – to provide opportunities that will prepare students to become engaged, responsible citizens of the world. The Y seeks to broaden students' worldviews, raise social, ethical, and cultural awareness through teamwork, community engagement, activism, and leadership.

Contact Information

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Y Staff

Athena Castro - Executive Director
Greg Fletcher - Student Activities Director
Christopher Kealey - Marketing/Development Director

Alycen Chan - RISE Coordinator
Dominic Alletto - Student Activities Coordinator
Carmelita Hearn - Administrative Assistant

Board of Directors

Executive Committee

Rolf Hastrup - Chairman
Lee Fisher - Vice Chairman

Peter Mason - Treasurer
Barbara Heublein - Secretary

Peter Liu - Student ExComm President

Members (* indicates Student Executive Committee)

Robin Abraham*	Steve Frautschi	Harry Kawahara	Sharyn Miller	Toni Perpall	Allan Sheno
Carolyn Ash	Dave Gillies	Constance Kofahl	Susan Murakami	Don Pinkerton	Betty Sirri
Richard Beatty	Pedro Gonzalez	Nancy Lan	Richard Murray	Jane Pinkerton	Norri Sirri
Donald Brown	Kevin Gunning	Gretchen Leonard	Kenneth Oslund*	Vickie Pon*	Deborah Smith
Vamsi Chavakula*	Gunilla Hastrup	Tony Leonard	Carel Otte	Jean-Paul Revel	Douglas Smith
Sunny Chun*	Eric Hochberg	Martin Lo	Ben Park*	Candace Rypisi	Abdul-Ahad Tariq*
Michelle Cucullu	James Huang*	Tom Mannion	Rory Perkins*	Iliia Shadrin*	Benjamin Turk
Frank Dryden	Shankar Kalyanaraman*	Doreen Mason	Robert Perpall	Susan Shen*	June Wicks*
Daniel Erickson					