
THE NEWSLETTER

November, 2000

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Hi everybody. The GSC has a variety of activities planned this month, such as the fall 2000 *Everhart Lecture*, Sunday night *ice skating*, a Tribute To Travolta *term party*, and a *GUSH*. You can also attend the activities of the many clubs and organizations on campus, like the *social activism talk*, *dance lessons*, *movie* viewings, post-game and dance *parties*, *concerts*, *orienteeing*, *meetings*, and a *ham radio* open house. And if you have issues you want to talk about, check out the various *support and discussion groups* starting soon on p6.

Contributions for the next Newsletter should be sent to gscnews@its by Friday, December 8.

— Catherine Cornu, Newsletter Editor

GSC ice skating

Are you sick and tired of the warm California sun? Do you miss being able to play with ice and snow, and to breath the cold air? Have you been itching to lick a cold metal pole, to relive the memories of your childhood? Well, winter is a long way from California, but the GSC can help bring it a bit closer.... Come to the GSC Ice Skating Fiesta! Sunday, **November 12** from **7:15-9:15 pm** in the Pasadena Ice Skating Center, 310 East Green Street. Admission free with Caltech ID, skate rental \$1/pair.

GSC Triple T term party

On **November 18**, a Triple T party will take place in the North Catalina Rec Room, starting at **9:30 pm**. Triple T stands for Tribute To Travolta and 70's attire is encouraged. The usual refreshments will be provided and since this is a Tribute To Travolta there will be dancing with the focus of the music being seventies music.

November GUSH

Don't miss GUSH on Friday **December 1**. This is a week late due to Thanksgiving. The location will be announced closer to the event. As always there will be free BEvERages, soda and snacks. To receive e-mails for GUSH contact gingrich@its.

— Bob (GUSHmeister) Gingrich

GSC News

Before we go any further, just a brief word about the **e-mail version** of the newsletter. There has been an increase in the number of grad students at Caltech this year, which has led to an increase in the cost of printing the paper version. On one hand, it doesn't matter because the accompanying increase in dues more than offsets the higher cost. However, it is still around \$6000 a year that we could be spending in more meaningful ways. Right now only about 5% of grads are signed up for the e-mail version; it'd be nice to see that number grow. If you're interested, please send a note to gscnews@its. If you appreciate little details like fonts and formatting of the text, you can still see those in the newsletter archive on our website at www.its.caltech.edu/~gsc.

The American people have spoken. At the beginning there was a large field of contenders. Some had good ideas, some did not. Some attracted popular support while others were summarily dismissed by the public for straying too far off the beaten path. Only a select few received the financial backing necessary to mount a full-fledged campaign. And now, at last, we the people have made our choice: **Charlie's Angels** is the top movie in the country.

Was the decision ever in doubt? What other

choice had such broad appeal to every demographic in the book? Men, women, and children under the age of 13 accompanied by a parent or legal guardian finally have a movie that offers strong female leads who are independent and bold yet at the same time maintain their femininity. Therefore, in consideration of those who haven't yet had enough, the remainder of this month's column will be presented Angels' style...

ACT I: Caltech

(In the offices of the Charles Townsend Detective Agency)

CHARLIE: Good morning, Angels.

ANGELS: Good morning, Charlie.

(Hidden panel opens to reveal video wall.)

CHARLIE: Angels, this is Edmund Roskov. He's just developed a remarkable new gene therapy that may be able to reverse the aging process. Unfortunately, this seems to have earned him a lot of unwanted attention. His lab has been the target of several recent break-ins, and he's been receiving threats. Angels, I want you to keep an eye on him and find out who's been trying to steal his work.

DYLAN: So where do we find him, Charlie?

CHARLIE: He's doing his thesis work at Caltech.

NATALIE: Really, Caltech? You know I was accepted there but had to turn it down – it just didn't seem like enough of a challenge for me. But I've heard that their Graduate Student Council does some really good work. Like, some of the academic options have had problems with student-advisor relationships, and the GSC has been working with the faculty and administration to improve the system. They've just started that up again this year and I know they won't stop until it's done. But that's just one of the things they do to help-

ALEX: Fascinating. Really.

CHARLIE: Good luck, Angels.

(At the Pasadena Ice Skating Center on the evening of **Sunday November 12**)

NATALIE: Are you sure he's going to be here?

DYLAN: Probably. These **Ice Skating** events they hold always seem to draw a lot of people. In fact, that looks like him right over there. But what's that he's holding?

ALEX: Let me handle this.

(Alex does a double axle-double toe loop combination before skating over.)

ALEX: Hi. What do you have there?

EDMUND: This? It's just my tribble.

ALEX: Your what?

EDMUND: My tribble. I... well, someone told me I had to bring this here today.

ALEX: Why? What's so special about- (Before she can finish, a shadowy figure runs through the crowd and knocks them over, grabbing the tribble in the process.)

EDMUND: Somebody stop him! He stole my tribble!

ALEX: Calm down. What was so special about your triple?

EDMUND: Tribble. I got an e-mail yesterday telling me that if I didn't put a sample of my work inside a stuffed tribble and bring it to the skating event tonight, they were going to post information about me on the **@Caltech** website at atcaltech.caltech.edu.

ALEX: What kind of information?

EDMUND: Let's just say it's something I'd rather not have become public. The website isn't all that well known right now, but if enough people register it could become *the* site for campus news and events. And then everyone would know about... well, everyone would know.

ALEX: Don't worry, I'll get your tremble back for you

EDMUND: Tribble.

ACT II: Star Trek and Alex Trebek

(Across the street at the Pasadena Convention Center after an incredibly quick costume change.)

NATALIE: Hey Alex, don't take this the wrong way, but your implants are lopsided.

ALEX: Shut up. You don't think the three of us are going to stand out just a little?

NATALIE: Are you kidding? Just take a look around. Every woman here is in costume, sort of like that **Prufrock Halloween party** last month. See, there's a Xena, a Trinity, a couple of Queen Amidalas-

ALEX: Fine, but why do all three of us have to be Seven of Nine?

NATALIE: Well, because she's my favorite. Besides, the little implant things on the face make perfect walkie-talkies. Now try to fix yours before they fall off and ruin the disguise.

DYLAN: Keep the chatter down and your eyes peeled. Say, isn't that Alex Trebek from Jeopardy over there?

NATALIE: Oh yeah, that brings back memories. That's a pretty good costume, although I wouldn't really consider him to be a science fiction character-

DYLAN: No, I mean that looks like the real Alex Trebek. And he's spending money at that auction like he's being bankrolled by a **Quickfunding** request made to fok-yan@its.

ALEX: Not only that, but look at the auction block. Isn't that Edmund's terrible?

NATALIE: Tribble.

ALEX: That must be how they're going to smuggle his work out of the country – hidden inside the belly of that cute, soft, innocent twiddle. No customs officer

would give it a second look. They'd be too busy wanting to play with it and stroke its soft fur and rub it against their face. What kind of twisted mind could even conceive of such an insidious plan?

DYLAN: I don't know, but while you were busy talking I walked over and picked his pocket. Look what I found in his wallet. A coupon good for one free order of *pommes de terre frites* at the grand opening of a Nickels restaurant outside Québec City, and the date is tomorrow night. Anybody feel like making a run for the border?

ACT III: Bienvenue à Québec

(Inside the aforementioned Nickels restaurant.)

DYLAN: So what are we looking for?

NATALIE: I don't know, but check out the jukebox. Does anybody have a nickel? I love that "Who let the dogs out?" song. Woof! Woof! Woof! Woof!

ALEX: Please, don't start dancing.

NATALIE: Fine, so long as you don't go anywhere near the kitchen.

DYLAN: Speaking of the kitchen, doesn't that manager look an awful lot like Alex Trebek?

ALEX: You're right. How did he get here before us?

DYLAN: Excuse me, sir? Could we ask you something?

ALEX TREBEK: Is there something I can help you with?

DYLAN: Yeah, you're Alex Trebek, so what are you doing working here?

ALEX TREBEK: Are you certain you don't have me confused with someone else?

DYLAN: Quite certain.

ALEX TREBEK: Could I interest any of you ladies in today's special?

DYLAN: No, and if you don't stop talking in questions I'm going to knock you out.

ALEX TREBEK: Why would you wish to do something like that?

(She knocks him out.)

NATALIE: Thanks. I wonder what the odds were of finding Alex Trebek here?

DYLAN: That really hurt my hand; it felt like hitting metal. You know, I don't think that is the same Alex Trebek. I think maybe he's a robot.

NATALIE: You know, that would explain why he seemed so aloof on the show when I was on. He acts so smug when someone gets the wrong answer, as if he would've known it without that piece of paper in front of him. Obviously whoever programmed him didn't understand all the nuances of being human and not acting so cocky all the time.

DYLAN: Are you finished? Because I've already gone through his pockets and found a VIP access card for the Château Frontenac. Let's go find out who's paying for his room and board.

(Inside the Château Frontenac)

NATALIE: Wow, this is the nicest elevator I've ever been in. How do we get to the top floor?

ALEX: You're the one holding the access card. So why don't you feel free to stick it in the-

NATALIE: Please, I've heard that joke enough times already.

(At the top floor the doors open ominously slowly.)

DYLAN: I don't believe it, it's...

ALEX: It's...

NATALIE: It's an exact recreation of the Emperor's Throne Room from Return of the Jedi. That's why that Alex Trebek was buying all that stuff at the sci-fi convention! It's all starting to make sense now. The roof of the Frontenac is made of copper, so it'd make a great antenna for beaming transmissions all around the world. Except we still don't know who's behind all this.

DYLAN: Hey, the throne is starting to turn this way.

It's...

NATALIE: It's...

ALEX: It's... Celine Dion. And look, she has Edmund's topple.

NATALIE: Tribble.

CELINE DION: Welcome, Angels. I have been expecting you.

NATALIE: Why, Celine, why? You're one of the world's most beloved chanteuses. You grew up in a rural family, the youngest of 14 children. You had it all and even got to retire from the music industry on your own terms. Why?

CELINE DION: Are you serious? Look at the music industry today. Everywhere it's young blonde girls. Britney Spears, Christina Aguilera, and so many others being created all the time. In this business, once you hit 30 you're finished. I didn't want to retire, I was forced out.

NATALIE: Actually, Jennifer Lopez is 30 and she's still going strong-

CELINE DION: Silence! With this gene therapy I'll be able to erase the years and take my rightful place as Queen of the Divas once again. How unfortunate that you Angels will not be around to witness my comeback tour. Trebeks, eliminate them!

(A squad of Trebeks emerge from the shadows. After a brief scuffle involving a lot of gravity defying maneuvers, only the Angels are still standing.)

ALEX TREBEK: Help! Help!

DYLAN: I'm sorry, you forgot to phrase that in the form of a question.

CELINE DION: Impossible! You may have won the battle, Angels, but the war will be mine! Let's see you slow motion kick your way out of this!

(She presses a big shiny red button on the armrest of the throne, then escapes through a secret passageway.)

NATALIE: Look! The throne has a big LED display showing a clock counting down to 0. She must have triggered a self-destruct device. Fortunately the throne is a movie prop, so they had to put in that clock so that everyone watching the movie will know exactly when it'll detonate.

ALEX: Stand back, I'll disarm it.

DYLAN: There's no time! Run!

Epilogue

(After a spectacular escape, the details of which would take far too long to write about, the Angels return safely to Caltech.)

ALEX: You know, this **GSC Term Party on Saturday November 18** isn't as bad as I'd thought it would be.

NATALIE: I keep telling you smart people know how to have fun too. But I'm waiting for the first of the **Everhart Lecture Series** talks. I don't want to spoil the surprise, but a little bird told me to keep the initials G.K. in mind. Now where's the dance floor?

DYLAN: You know, Celine Dion is still out there and she still has the tribble. There's no telling what her next diabolical scheme for world conquest might be.

ALEX: We'll be ready for her. I told Edmund we'd come back to Caltech for the **next GSC meeting on Thursday December 7 at noon in the penthouse at 1052 E. Del Mar** and make a report.

DYLAN: Really? So you saw him again?

ALEX: Don't read anything into it. I keep him around because he amuses me. Kind of like a pet.

DYLAN: I see. Uh-oh, tell me the DJ didn't just start playing Sir Mix-a-Lot music.

ALEX: He did.

DYLAN: Well, Natalie's at it again. You want to join her?

ALEX: Sure.

(Cue the closing credits.)

— Steve Pracko, GSC treasurer

ELS Speakers Selected

Three graduate students have been selected as the 2000-2001 Everhart Lecturers. They are **Gabriel Kreiman** (Biology/CNS), **Sujoy Mukhopadhyay** (GPS) and **Christopher Voigt** (Biochemistry).

Each term, the Everhart Lecture Series (formerly known as the Distinguished Graduate Student Lecture Series) presents one lecture by an outstanding Caltech graduate student, in which they describe their research and its relationship to recent developments, problems and controversies in their field of study. Everhart Lecturers are chosen by a committee of their peers for research excellence and the ability to communicate to a wide Caltech

audience. Each speaker is awarded a \$500 honorarium and recognition at Commencement. Visit the ELS webpage (www.its.caltech.edu/~els) for more information, lecture abstracts and schedules. The Everhart Lectures are sponsored by the Graduate Office and the GSC.

The ELS committee would like to thank everyone who helped out by nominating students and writing recommendations. We especially want to thank all of the nominees, who this year represented five of the Institute's six academic divisions. We encourage everyone to attend this year's Everhart Lectures to meet some remarkable graduate students and learn about their research.

Fall Everhart Lecture

The Fall 2000 Everhart Lecture will be given by Gabriel Kreiman (Biology/CNS) on Thursday, **November 30 at 4:00 p.m.** in the Beckman Institute Auditorium. Refreshments will be served at 3:45 p.m. in the Beckman Institute courtyard. Gabriel's talk is entitled "**Imagery Neurons in the Human Brain.**"

What we see is not necessarily what we get. The information that impinges on the retina in the eyes is transformed and modified by the nervous system through several stages of computation. There are a number of basic phenomena where there is a dissociation between our perception and retinal activation. While imagining a picture, understanding a description or recalling a route with eyes closed, most subjects report forming an image in the "mind's eye." Whether the neuronal processes involved in vision and imagery are the same or not has long been a matter of debate among neuroscientists, psychologists and philosophers. This phenomenon has traditionally been studied indirectly with psychological experiments, by studying the reports of patients with brain lesions or by non-invasive imaging techniques that look at the blood flow inside the brain. We have had the unique opportunity of directly recording from single neurons in humans. Subjects were epileptic patients implanted with depth electrodes for the clinical purpose of localizing the focus of the seizure for potential surgical resection. We could analyze for the first time the activity of isolated neurons in the human brain during visual imagery. We observed that there are neurons that responded to specific stimuli with the same selectivity during both vision and imagery. Therefore, this provided direct evidence for a common substrate during the processing of incoming visual information and

visual recall. We also studied single neuron activity in the human brain during dreams and bistable percepts. Our studies reveal correlates at the single neuron level of the activity that goes on in our brains during the perceptual processes of vision and imagery.

Social Activism Speaker Series

Amy Goodman, media activist and co-host of Pacifica Radio's Democracy Now, will open the Caltech Social Activism Speaker Series on Friday, **November 10**.

There will be a grassroots organizing roundtable discussion from **5-6pm**. A unique opportunity to talk with Amy about her experiences in a small group setting. Held in Avery Library. Space is limited. Contact the Y at x6163 or athena@caltech.edu to sign up. There will be a dinner with the speaker from **6-7pm**. A limited number of spaces are available to be determined by lottery. Students will be given priority. To be placed on the list, email athena@caltech.edu. The keynote talk, "**Democracy Now! From East Timor to the United States**" will follow at **8pm** in Beckman Institute Auditorium. This talk is free and open to the public.

For more information about the series or Amy Goodman, contact the Caltech Y at x6163 or log on to www.y.caltech.edu/activism.

Discounted "Men of Honor"

Want to see "Men of Honor" on **November 10th** at a discount? Starring Cuba Gooding Jr., Robert De Niro, and Charlize Theron. It's about a sharecropper who overcomes incredible obstacles to become a Master Diver in a newly integrated navy. It's about individual force of will and the unsinkable human spirit, but most importantly, it's about diving and all the cool toys Navy Divers get to play with. See the trailer and other information on the official website at www.menofhonor.com. Club SCUBA and GSC can subsidize each ticket \$2 (student price is usually \$5.50). I will be in front of Pacific Hastings about an hour early to reimburse you (it's opening night so if you arrive too late you may not get a ticket). The show time will be posted under "Schedule of Events" at www.its.caltech.edu/~clbscuba once Pacific Hastings lists this information (it'll probably be **around 7 pm**). I'll also be accepting ticket stubs for one week following the movie if you don't see me there. Only Caltech members will be subsidized and it's first-come-first-served till the cash runs out.

— Tim Cheng, timothy@its.caltech.edu

Technique Editor wanted

The Technique is a guide for graduate students providing useful information about Caltech and life in the LA area. It is published yearly by the GSC and the Graduate Office at the end of the summer. As every winter we are currently looking for an editor. His/her job will be to update and extend the information both in the paper version of the Technique and on the web in collaboration with the GSC.

Every graduate student can be the editor. The Technique editor will receive a compensation of \$5000. This amount can be shared between more than one editors. Applying is easy. Submit a one or two page revision plan to us by **December 15**. We will then call you for an interview.

You can get a copy of the latest version of Technique from the Grad Office (or on line at <http://technique.caltech.edu>). If you are interested or would like to have more information, please drop us a line at gsc@its.caltech.edu.

Folk Music Society presents

The Caltech Folk Music Society will present **Erica Wheeler** at **8 p.m.** Friday, **November 17** in Winnett Student Center. Admission is \$4 for Caltech grads. For more information, visit the Folk Music Society webpage at www.its.caltech.edu/~folkmusi.

Caltech-Occidental Fall Concert

On Friday, **November 17 at 8 PM**, in Caltech's Beckman Auditorium, the Caltech-Occidental Band will perform some exciting selections for you. There will be music by Jerome Kern ("Look for the Silver Lining"), and a set of variations on the old melody from the Shaker hymn, "The Gift to be Simple," by John Zdechnik. There will be additional music by Pasadena area composers Frank Ticheli and Marvin Neumann. Faculty member Paul Asimow and Caltech senior Jason Chua will also conduct. This is a free concert and open to the public.

Library System upcoming sessions

November 14 – "Web of Science for the Humanities and Social Sciences"

November 21 – "INSPEC/SciFinder for Materials Research"

December 5 – "Biological Information Resources"

All sessions will be held from **noon-1:30pm** in Sherman Fairchild Library Multi-media Conference Room. For registration and session descriptions, go to <http://library.caltech.edu/learning>.

Community Service Opportunities

The Caltech Y offers students a variety of ways to participate in community service. Opportunities include working with Habitat for Humanity, Union Station Homeless Shelter, math tutoring (on or off campus), reading tutoring, and working at local hospitals. One-time community service events are planned each term and opportunities for service on a regular basis exist. To be added to the community service interest email list, or for more information about the Community Service Program, please contact Kristin Abbott at kabbott@caltech.edu or call x3180. Or, stop by the Caltech Y in the Center for Student Services (formerly Keck House) for a complete listing of opportunities.

Women's Center November Programs

To sign up for any of the programs, please email beverlyk@caltech.edu or call the Women's Center at x3221. All programs are free to the Caltech community and unless noted, will be held on the second floor of the new Student Services Building in room 265.

Women in Health Series: Eating Soy

With registered dietitian Dawn Conahan, Tuesday, **November 14 at noon.**

Dawn will be talking about the benefits of eating soy and she will be giving suggestions on how to integrate soy into your diet. This is a great program for vegetarians, and for those interested in eating for optimal health. She will also bring samples of soy foods for you to try.

Intro to Self-Defense

Sunday, **November 19, from 10 AM to 5 PM.** This is the only self-defense class offered in November, so sign up soon! This is a full body self defense class and you will learn how to defend yourself, how to avoid dangerous situations and the difference between assertive and aggressive behavior. (note: our next class in 2001 will be on a Saturday.)

Ghandi's Paradox and Making a Difference

With Alan Johnson, Ph.D. on Wednesday, **November 29, from 6 to 8 PM** in Avery Library.

Becoming a part of change begins with changing how we think about change. This program examines several myths that shape how we think about change and the difference we that we can make as individuals. Dinner will be provided. Co-sponsored by Residence Life and the Caltech Y.

Intercultural Discussion and Support Group

What are the challenges of adjustment to a new culture and environment? How do we connect with and relate to someone from another culture? What is American culture? What is it like to be an International student at Caltech? What is it like to adjust to the Caltech culture? These are some of the questions that a new group that is now forming: "Intercultural Discussion and Support Group" will attempt to address.

ISP staff and counselors from the counseling center will facilitate this group which will be open to all Caltech students. The group meetings are scheduled for **Mondays from noon-1pm**, beginning **November 20** at the Center for Student Services (second floor). Anyone interested in knowing more about the group should call the ISP office at x6330.

Women's Support Group

The Counseling Center is offering a women's insight oriented support group for grad students to begin in the fall term. The group will provide an opportunity for women to examine a range of personal and professional issues in a confidential setting. Through group discussion, women will have the opportunity to examine their patterns of relating to others, their family and intimate relationships, and challenges they experience in achieving success. Another important goal of the group process will be to facilitate a sense of closeness and connection within the group. Each new group member needs to meet with the group leaders for a pre-group interview. If you would like more info or to schedule a pre-group interview, please contact the Counseling Center at x8331. The group will be offered on **Tuesdays** at the Counseling Center. Group Facilitators: Jeanette Butler, Ph.D. and Loren Lipshitz, M.A.

Gay/lesbian/bisexual Discussion Group

Looking for a safe and supportive place to discuss issue such as coming out, being out, dealing with family, coping with a homophobic culture, and being GLB at Caltech? Want somewhere just to make new friends? We invite you to the Gay/Lesbian/Bisexual discussion group, which meets on the **first and third Tuesdays** of each month from **8:15-10:15pm** in the Health Center Lounge. This is a confidential meeting and does not imply anything about a person's sexual orientation—only that s/he is willing to be supportive in this setting. Refreshments are served. If you would like more information, please call ext. 8331.

Relating Across Cultures

Culture can be defined as the customs, values and assumptions and norms that are shared by a group of people. These values and assumptions which we were all taught shape the way that we behave, communicate and relate. Encountering new cultures and people who are different from oneself can be an exciting and enriching experience. At the same time, for international students who are living in a culture that is different from the one with which they were raised, it can be quite a challenge to work through the feelings of culture shock, adjustment and identity confusion. For Americans who are encountering differences in a relationship with someone from another culture, this experience can also be confusing, uncomfortable and frustrating. The cross cultural experience can prove challenging from either perspective.

Some international students may cope with adjustment by denying that they are living in another culture by remaining isolated or by only befriending others who are from their own culture. Perhaps some Americans cope in the same way, by either consciously or unconsciously befriending only people who are like themselves. Certainly, one can understand the need to be connected to others who can communicate in the language that one is most comfortable in, and with people who share one's values and beliefs. But, to what extent does this comfort interfere with the process of learning how to relate across cultures and deal with differences?

It is not uncommon for international students who are trying to establish themselves in a new environment to feel ignored, inadequate, invisible, disliked, rejected, or out of place. They may feel anxious about making mistakes, about how they are behaving or about not knowing or doing what is expected. In spite of all the anxiety that an international student goes through, we still place the burden of having to initiate the encounter on the international student. Wouldn't it be nice if some of us Americans could reach out, welcome and play the host once in a while?

But perhaps for some of us Americans, we have our reasons for not being more welcoming and open. Maybe it is because we don't recognize the challenges that international students actually face. Or perhaps our lives and schedules are already too tight and we don't have the time for new relationships, or maybe we feel inadequate in our knowledge of other cultures and are afraid to be found out. It could also be that we are also uncertain about how to behave in a relationship with someone who is different, or perhaps new ideas and challenges to our way of thinking is too much to handle right now. If only we could keep in mind that our fears are ones that others from other cultures can probably relate to and understand...

A cross cultural encounter can be anxiety provoking because the cross cultural encounter is an *emotional* encounter. We are taking a risk and stepping into the unknown. The challenge in these encounters is for us to learn how to manage the emotions that are evoked when we come up against another culture or something that is different from what we expected. When we encounter something that is unexpected, confusion, discomfort and hurt feelings are among some of the emotional reactions that can surface. We often ask at this point the question of *why* someone behaved the way they did. Students come away from a cross cultural encounter thinking "They don't like me," "He's such an idiot," "Did I do or say something wrong?," "They're thinking that I am to aggressive/passive/uninterested," etc. These attributions and judgement are our way of making sense of what has happened. After these judgements are made, we are likely to either do something that will offend the other, or withdraw.

The next time when you notice yourself or the one you are relating to having an emotional reaction, try asking yourself if a cultural difference may be affecting the interaction. Then, try suspending judgement and consider whether the behavior may be culturally normal. When we take the time to reflect on culture and how it affects our reaction, our reaction typically subsides. If we have withdrawn or offended, we can then re-engage and try to rebuild or repair the relationship.

Despite its challenges, it can be very gratifying and eye opening to have a relationship with an individual from another culture, particularly if that culture has values that are directly opposed to those of your own culture. I've found personally, that when I open myself up to other cultures, I open up options and choices for myself. In college, as I gained more in depth exposure to the American culture, I found that I had the option to be assertive with authority figures, something that Korean culture had not previously allowed me. I must say however, it's nice NOW to have these choices. When I first discovered these choices, it hit me pretty hard. I felt like it shook the very foundation on which my values had been built. All of a sudden I wasn't so sure who I was and who I wanted to be. I felt cheated by my own culture and misunderstood by the dominant culture. What helped me the most through this period was talking to others who were striving to be Bicultural or Multicultural, people who could relate and support my struggle. Reading and learning about Intercultural Communication, and Multicultural Identity was also very helpful to me in ways that I would have never expected or imagined. It is my hope that this group on Intercultural Discussion and Support will be able to provide the kind of support and assistance that will enhance the personal and relational struggle for all who are involved. Come Join Us!

— Elizabeth Shon, Caltech Counseling Center

Club News

Amateur Radio Club (CITARC)

If you want to take a look at our revamped shack and find out what ham radio is all about, come see us in action during the 2000 ARRL Sweepstakes, on **November 18-19**, starting at 1pm on Saturday running until sometime on Sunday evening between 4 and 7pm, while we're trying to beat the Stanford University Amateur Radio Club. If you are interested in participating, please let us know. If you are a contest neophyte and perhaps a little shy about jumping into the fray, or your just asking yourself what the heck is Sweepstakes, please feel free to just stop by to listen and learn. Our ham radio station is located on the 2nd floor of Winnett. For more info contact Mike Tope at W4EF@pacbell.net or visit our website at www.its.caltech.edu/~w6ue.

Amnesty International

Caltech/Pasadena Amnesty International Upcoming Events:

- Tuesday, **November 14, 7:30 pm**: letter-writing meeting in the Athenaeum basement recreation area. An informal meeting, a great place for first-timers to ask questions!
- Thursday, **November 16, 7:30 pm**: monthly meeting 1052 E. Del Mar Avenue, top floor. Note this departure from our usual "4th Thursday" meeting date.
- **November 16-19**: "Committing to Conscience" anti-death penalty conference in San Francisco, the largest such abolition meeting ever held! Join us! Visit www.ncadp.org or contact Martha for more info, mtermaat@hsc.usc.edu, 626-281-4039.
- Sunday, **November 19, 9 am-2 pm**: join the Doo-Dah Parade! We will make our third annual appearance as "Animals for the Ethical Treatment of People."
- Sunday, **November 19, 7:30 pm**: Human Rights Book Discussion Group at Borders Books on S. Lake Avenue. This month we discuss "Secrets" by Nuruddin Farah. Ask for a 15% discount if you buy the book at the Pasadena Borders.

See www.its.caltech.edu/~aigp22 for details about any of the above activities.

Ballroom Dance Club

The Caltech Ballroom Dance Club (CBDC) continues its offerings of dance classes and parties as shown below. Refreshments will be provided for all classes and parties, and no partner is required. For last minute changes see www.its.caltech.edu/~ballroom, or call Don at 626-791-3103.

Beginning Lindy Hop, a 4 week series taught by a professional dance instructor, continues on **Monday, November 13, 20 and 27** from **7:30 to 9 pm** in Winnett Lounge with an 1/2 hr. practice period after each lesson. \$24/series.

Beginning Rumba, a 4 week amateur-taught series,

continues on **Wednesday, November 8, 15 and 29** from **7:30 to 9 pm** in Winnett Lounge, with a 1/2 hr. practice period after each lesson. \$1/lesson.

Ballroom Mini-Dance Party: the CBDC hosts a series of free weekly mini-parties in Winnett Lounge after each pro-taught class on **Monday from 9-11 pm**. From 9-9:30pm music pertaining to the previous class will be played, but after 9:30pm feel free to make requests or bring your own music.

A Ballroom Dance Party is being considered for Friday, December 1. Check our web site near that date to see if it will happen.

Dance Troupe

The Caltech Dance Troupe has free ballet classes on **Saturdays**. Beginners meet from **1-2pm** and intermediate dancers meet from **2-3pm** in the Braun aerobics room. All experience levels are welcome. No special clothing or shoes are required. See www.its.caltech.edu/~troupe for more info.

Orienteering Club

Orienteering is an outdoor activity combining cross country running or hiking with navigational skills. The Caltech orienteering club plans to go to Agua Dulce, near Mt. Laguna, on **Saturday, November 11**, to Carrizo Canyon on **December 9-10** for desert orienteering, and to Vasquez rocks on **December 17**. For more info see our website at www.its.caltech.edu/~o-club.

Rugby Club

Interested in a fast-moving, full-contact, non-stop-action sport? Caltech Rugby Club competes in 15-a-side rugby in the Southern California Rugby Football Union. After the last two seasons' winning 4-2 and 4-1 records, we are gearing up for yet another round of winter and spring matches.

Touch rugby continues at **4:45pm** every **Friday** evening on the North athletic fields, followed by the opening of small metal cans holding fizzy liquid. **Tuesday** night full-contact training is on at **6pm** on the South field. For more info send email to rugbyclub@its, or check out our website at www.its.caltech.edu/~rugby.

On **November 18**, we will be hosting UC Irvine on the North athletic field for a pre-season match. Come out and support the team, and see what rugby is all about, then join us for "cultured merrymaking" afterwards. Look for more details posted around campus nearer to match day.

Student Shop

Student shop is now accepting memberships for 2000/2001. The student shop (located next to shipping and receiving) is a full wood and metal working shop and is open to Caltech and JPL faculty, staff and students. Memberships are \$50 for the year and members have full 24 hour access. Visit us at www.its.caltech.edu/~studshop for more info.