Message from the Y Board Chair

by Susan Muakami, Y Board Chair

In this last newsletter of the 2009-2010 academic year, I would like to thank all the Friends of the Caltech Y for their continued support during trying economic times. The number of Friends has increased throughout the year.

We had a well-attended Golf Tournament. This was our second tournament, and we have decided to continue with the effort, so please save October 8, 2010 for the Third Annual Caltech Y Golf Tournament! We also had three exceptionally successful Friends Dinners – well attended, and both informative and entertaining. All this we do in support of the varied student programs that the students budgeted for and managed during the year.

We have selected a Studenski award recipient, Kathryn Brennan, who will be in Malawi this summer. We look forward to hearing about her adventures in the fall.

I would like to take this time to thank all the students for their hard work, and the staff, Athena, Greg, Chris, Carmelita and Alycen for all the programing, marketing and fund raising they do. I would also like to thank the Board for their support during a transition year while we start restructuring the Board to make it more effective in the coming years. Finally, I would like to thank Gunilla and Rolf Hastrup for their continued work on the newsletter!

Executive Director’s Report

by Athena Castro, Y Executive Director

As I write this, the ExComm is preparing to nominate a whole new crop of students for membership. It’s exciting as we look forward to the possibilities of a new year of activities with new energy and ideas from a new group.

Before I get too far ahead, however, this year is hardly over. It has been another wonderful year for the Caltech Y, and we aren’t done yet. There is still Decompression and the Yosemitie/Nelder Grove trip cosponsored with the Gnome Club. It’s a wonderful way to start summer and wrap up the year.

This year would not have been as successful without the help and support of many people. A major part of the Y’s success has been our wonderful group of student leaders who are responsible for planning and coordinating Y programs. These include, of course, the ExComm, Outdoors Committee, and the Social Activism Speaker Series Committee.

In addition, the Y Board has worked extremely hard this year to guide the Y and has contributed to its success. In particular, our Board has considered the long-term health of the Y and has taken steps to work towards ensuring a healthy and vibrant future for the Caltech Y.

And, then, there are our faithful and committed supporters. Thanks to all of you who support the Y! Our community of supporters includes those of you who contribute financially, others who advocate for the Y within the campus and the community at large, and many who do both. Without you, our programs would simply not be possible.

Because of your continuing confidence and support of the Caltech Y, we are able to enrich student life and challenge students to grow into responsible citizens of the world. Thank you! You make a world of difference!
Congratulations to the graduating ExComm seniors!

by Kevin Nguyen, Student Activities Coordinator

Our seniors are graduating!! This year has quickly flown by for a lot of us, especially for our five senior ExComm members. As always, we are sad to see them go, but we are very excited about what they are planning on doing after their time here at Caltech. The Y has asked all five seniors what their summer and future plans are and what advice they would give to other Caltech students. To share this with you, we are providing a brief bio on each of them in this last issue of the Y Newsletter for the academic year.

Elaine To

Hometown: North Hollywood, CA
Major: Biology
House: Ruddock
Future Plans:
Graduate study in Pharmacology at Johns Hopkins
Summer Plans:
TA with Caltech's YESS program, travel to Hong Kong, Shanghai, and Hokkaido, and finally move to Baltimore.
What will you miss from the Y:
The wonderful variety of people who all care passionately for something and have the drive to work for it.
Piece of Advice for Other Caltech Students:
Figure out what makes you happy and hold on to it.

Jonathan Tsai

Hometown: San Jose, CA
Major: Biology
House: Fleming
Future Plans:
Study at the Weizmann in Israel on a Fulbright for a year and then go to Stanford for an MD/PhD
Summer Plans:
Finish up my research in the Baltimore Lab this summer
Piece of Advice for Other Caltech Students:
Don't worry it'll all be fine.
ExComm Seniors (continued)

Leslie Tong

Hometown: Ventura, CA
Major: Biology
House: Lloyd
Future Plans:
  UC San Francisco Biomedical Sciences Ph.D. Program
Summer Plans:
  Finish private pilot's license, backpacking, travel, move to Northern California
What will you miss from the Y:
  Ability to rent backpacking gear
Advice for Other Caltech Students:
  While your academic work is important, the time you spend with your peers here is invaluable.

Sunny Chun

Hometown: Staten Island, NY
Major: Chemistry
House: Blacker
Future Plans:
  Work in an X-ray Crystallography lab at City of Hope where people do great work in cancer therapy; later, considering graduate school
Summer Plans:
  Learn to drive and relax at home with friends for a little bit (2 weeks) and start work
What will you miss from the Y:
  The staff and fun off-campus programs like Alternative Spring Break (ASB) and DC Science Policy Trip; hope to stay in the loop on Social Activism Speaker Series which brings in persons doing amazing things in the world today
Piece of Advice for Other Caltech Students:
  While your academic work is important, the time you spend with your peers here is invaluable.

Leon Liu

Hometown: Cerritos, CA
Major: Applied Physics
House: Avery
Future Plans:
  Grad School in physics at Cambridge University with Gates Cambridge Scholarship
Summer Plans:
  Travel around the world – Peru, Asia, etc.
What will you miss from the Y:
  The awesome people I've worked with all these years, including all the staff, the Board Members and, of course, the fellow students active in the Y; also the great programs we've done – Union Station, ASB, summer trips, Decompression, MAD Day, hikes, etc.
Piece of Advice for Other Caltech Students:
  There are many great opportunities to discover and pursue interests outside of academics that allow us to lead more balanced lives, develop new skills and friendships, and prepare ourselves for the future. They are worth the time and effort. So, don't miss them!
**Announcements & Reports** (continued)

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**Caltech Y Tutoring Programs report**

**RISE**  
*Reaffirming & Increasing Scholastic Endeavors*  
by Alycen Chan, Y Outreach Program Director

The *RISE Program’s* current academic year will end on June 3. A total of 62 Pasadena Unified School District students participated in the program throughout the year. Additionally, the program experienced a very successful year with its Pilot Algebra Class. The class served 11 of the 62 students, providing much needed support in algebra foundation skills. We now have a strong model and foundation for enhancing our support of the Algebra Foundations Course. As the summer begins, we look forward to evaluating the math and science growth of the participants in the program by examining grades submitted by our partner schools.

**ASOSAL**  
*(Association of Salvadorans in LA)*  
by Kaitlyn Lucey, grad student

Each Friday afternoon during the academic year, a group of Caltech undergraduate and graduate students travel to the largely Hispanic downtown Los Angeles to tutor small groups of disadvantaged K-12 students in math and science. We tutor at the *Association of Salvadorians (ASOSAL)* community center that was founded in 1991 to assist Salvadoran immigrants in LA. Likewise, we aim to broaden opportunities in the math and science for diverse and underrepresented individuals by sharing our passion for, and knowledge of, the subjects. Through one-on-one tutoring and careful monitoring of each student’s progress, we hope to empower and enable students who cannot afford tutors to help them in their academic careers.

*ASOSAL* tutors leave campus at 4 PM on Fridays and tutor from 4:30 to 6:30 PM.

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**Recent Events** (May)

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**Spring Friends Dinner features the future of space exploration**

by Christina Weng ’11, Y ExComm President

The *Spring Friends Dinner* this term was held on Thursday, May 6, and featured a talk by Jeff Greason, President and CEO of XCOR Aerospace.

Before Greason’s talk, Catherine Xie spoke about her experiences as a freshman with the Caltech Y. Catherine had an idea for a school wide *Health Fair* to help students learn more about leading healthy lifestyles. The event, which took place on Friday, May 14, featured Caltech organizations, such as the Health Center, as well as off-campus groups from Huntington Hospital and Naked Juice. There were interactive games and demonstrations from student groups such as the Ballroom Dancing Club and Karate Club. Catherine also thanked the Caltech Y for providing her with the means to organize such an event, and we are excited that she took the initiative with this project!

[See Student Health Fair, page 5]

Jeff Greason ’88, an alumnus of Caltech, spoke about his experiences with space technology and his predictions for the future. Greason directly addressed the question that many circumvent: why do we need space exploration? The reason many assume is to increase the scientific knowledge base and, while this is certainly one reason, Greason describes another: Ultimately, space exploration can lead to colonization, which would provide the human race with a “safety net” of sorts. Greason also talked about the importance of having a specific goal and being properly prepared before embarking on any significant space mission.

With the recent changes in funding and the implications for NASA’s manned space flights, private companies are playing an increasing role in space exploration. We look forward to hearing more about Greason’s work in the future.
The first ever *Caltech Student Health Fair* had started as just an idea. I had envisioned a student health fair organized by students for Caltech students to increase Caltech students' awareness on a variety of significant and readily applicable physical and mental health topics.

**Volunteers**

On Friday May 14, the Student Health Fair took place from 11:45-1:15 on the San Pasqual walkway in front of Chandler and the Red Door Cafe. I would barely contain my excitement as my idea became reality. Weeks of preparation and organizing had taken place prior to the Fair, such as applying for funding, contacting organizations and groups, renting equipment, recruiting volunteers and screening shirts. A dedicated group of Caltech undergraduates met numerous times over the past terms and, under the guidance of Y staff and other health experts, coordinated the logistics, volunteers, promotion, correspondence with groups, and entertainment for the Student Health Fair.

**Booths**

On the day of the *Student Health Fair*, a dozen eager volunteers showed up early in the morning to help set up the chairs, tables and umbrellas along the San Pasqual walkway, prepare the healthy fruit, vegetables and other freebies to be given away, and place signs around campus. When participating groups started arriving, several volunteers were stationed to help them unload and direct them where to park. Among the groups and individuals that participated in the Fair, were the Caltech Health Education Office, the Huntington Memorial Hospital and Cancer Center, Caltech Health Advocates, Athletics Department fitness instructors, Caltech Women's Health Center, a professional dietitian, Y Outdoors Committee, Caltech Alpine Club, Naked Juice, a Caltech student presenting her research, etc.

**Jazz Band**

Under the warm sunshine, the atmosphere was lively, as students came through and chatted with the representatives and asked thoughtful questions. Moreover, the animated and energetic performances of different styles of dance from the Caltech Ballroom Dance Club and the focused and intense demonstrations by the Caltech Tai Chi club and Caltech Shotokan Karate Club grabbed students' attention and generated great interest. In addition, a jazz band composed of Caltech students performed dynamic music throughout the *Fair*. In addition, there was a student-organized-and-run Jeopardy Health Game that was very popular since the prize for the winner of each round was a free massage from one of the professional masseuses.

From talking to the organizations and students who came by, it was clear that everyone enjoyed the interactive demonstrations and activities on promoting healthy lifestyles interspersed with the informative booths and talking to knowledgeable experts on relevant health topics such as personal fitness, nutrition and increasing quality of sleep. Many groups looked forward to participating again next year, and even talked excitedly about the activities they could do.

**Tai Chi Demo**

The Caltech students and the participating groups had a wonderful experience at the *Student Health Fair*, and the *Fair* achieved its purpose of promoting healthy lifestyle and helping Caltech students become more aware of certain health related issues and topics, which could not have been possible without the time, dedication and drive of Caltech students and staff members to make the *Caltech Student Health Fair* a success.

Sponsors for the event were: MHF Fund, ASCIT, GSC, Caltech Y, Campus Life, Grad Office, Caltech Bands, Aetna Student Health.
“Chicago”  
*by Xida Zheng ’12, Y ExComm*  
On May 7, a group of 25 undergrad and grad students went to see “Chicago” at the Pantages Theater in L.A. This was an extremely popular event with over 150 people signing up for tickets in a lottery. The show was great. Some highlights of the show were Cell Block Tango, When You’re Good to Mama, and Razzle Dazzle. This trip was made possible with the generous sponsorship of Student Life.

**Pasadena Symphony**  
*by Leon Liu ’10, Y ExComm*  
Thanks to the generous sponsorship of Professor Steven Frautschi, a group of 21 lucky Caltech undergrads and grads obtained subsidized tickets through lottery to attend the Bravo Beethoven concert with the Pasadena Symphony at the Pasadena Civic Auditorium on Saturday, May 15. The concert program included some of the most celebrated pieces by Beethoven, such as the Coriolan Overture, Fifth Symphony, and the Violin Concerto featuring soloist Jennifer Frautschi, daughter of Professor Steven Frautschi. This was also the last concert of the Pasadena Symphony with conductor Jorge Mester, who has been the music director for the last 25 years. An emotional moment of appreciation from the orchestra members and audience for Jorge ensued at the completion of the scheduled program, with the orchestra spontaneously playing Auld Lang Syne. The concert was completed on a high note with the Slavonic Dance. Overall, the concert was very successful and an enjoyable experience for all.

**Explore LA**

**Getty Villa**  
*by Elaine To ‘10, Y ExComm*  
On May 23, just two days after Caltech’s annual Ditch Day celebration, a group of students ignored the tiredness and the problem sets to take a trip to the Getty Villa in Pacific Palisades. Although under the same name as the Getty Center, the Getty Villa specializes in classical Greco-Roman artworks and architecture. In addition to the permanent collections, the Villa was also featuring a look at the Aztec Pantheon and an exhibit on glassmaking in antiquity. The Aztec exhibition was of interest because many parallels were being drawn between the Greco-Roman and the Aztec polytheistic beliefs. In the permanent collections, I was particularly struck by a Greek bronze vase inlaid with an intricate silver floral design. The building itself is true to Greco-Roman architecture, consisting of peristyles surrounded by columns. Both the inner and outer peristyle courtyards contain reflecting pools surrounded by foliage, benches, and replicas of classical statues. They are perfect places to relax and enjoy the tranquility. Overall, the trip was an excellent way for students to get off campus and immerse themselves in the Greco-Roman art and architecture of the classical era.

**Recent Events**  
(continued)

**Caltech Y Alumni Brunch**  
*by Sara Ahmed ’12, Y ExComm*  
“94 reasons for joining the Caltech Y!” was the first thing I saw on entering the Caltech Y room on Saturday, May 15. It seemed that so many good reasons were gradually being written to fill up the white board on the wall. But faster than that, was how the past and present Caltech Y members were filling the multi-purpose room and the lounge for the annual Alumni Brunch.

There were a lot of Alumni who attended the event, from the class of 1950s to the 2000s, and all looked happy and excited to meet their friends as well as new members of the Y. We met many alumni and they all shared their Y stories and memories with us and also asked us about the new events and activities that we are hoping to do.

There was really nice food prepared for everyone by the Caltech Y staff, and many people chose to sit outside to enjoy the pleasant weather. The board kept filling up as the alumni came up with interesting reasons for joining the Y. Everyone seemed to have a great time and we even got an awesome group picture!
Recent Events (continued)

Social Activism Speaker Series (SASS) events

SASS is a Caltech student organization that focuses attention on current social and political issues by inviting prominent activists to share their experiences and perspectives with the Caltech community and the public. This student-run series is coordinated with the help of the Caltech Y, and is made possible by contributions from the Moore Hufstedler Fund, Student Affairs, Campus Life, the Alumni Association, the Graduate Student Council (GSC), and the Caltech Y, as well as staff support from Public Events.

Jeremy Scahill by Ronnie Bryan, Grad

Monday, May 17, a large audience attended a lecture by Jeremy Scahill, author of “Blackwater: The Rise of the World's Most Powerful Mercenary Army.” Scahill's talk covered the history of the use of private forces to supplement the US military and, notably, how this has increased dramatically under President Obama's administration. Although Scahill focused on Blackwater and its owner Eric Prince, he placed Blackwater in the context of hundreds of such private forces operating all over the world.

The most poignant moment in the talk came when Scahill presented a piece he prepared for Democracy Now! that tells the story of the massacre at Nisour Square in Baghdad. The 2007 incident resulted in the deaths of several Iraqi civilians, including a 10 year old boy. Scahill's report told the story of the shooting through the words of the victim's father, who is currently suing Blackwater in US Federal court.

After the talk, Scahill fielded questions from the audience, which had filled Ramo Auditorium to hear him speak, and chatted informally outside for a while afterward. Throughout the talk and during the Q&A, Scahill highlighted the danger of using private contractors for intelligence operations because they may have contracts with other governments or international business with competing interests.

Much of Scahill’s message was grim, but he did offer some hope of regulating the use of this type of force by pointing to the Stop Outsourcing Security Act being discussed in congress. Scahill is a frequent contributor to The Nation magazine and a correspondent for the national radio and TV program Democracy Now! He is currently a Puffin Foundation Writing Fellow at The Nation Institute. Scahill has won numerous awards for his reporting, including the prestigious George Polk Award, which he won twice. While a correspondent for Democracy Now!, Scahill reported extensively from Iraq through both the Clinton and Bush administrations.

Traveling around the hurricane zone in the wake of Katrina, Scahill exposed the presence of Blackwater forces in New Orleans and his reporting sparked a Congressional inquiry and an internal Department of Homeland Security investigation. He has appeared on ABC World News, CBS Evening News, NBC Nightly News, CNN, MSNBC, PBS's The NewsHour, Bill Moyers Journal, and is a frequent guest on other radio and TV programs nationwide. Scahill also served as an election correspondent for HBO's Real Time with Bill Maher. He lives in Brooklyn, New York.

Matt Gonzales by Anna Salazar, Postdoc

On, May 25 Matt Gonzalez gave a talk in Beckman Institute Auditorium to 67 people including a mix of students, postdocs, staff, faculty and community members. The title of his talk was "A discussion on the Arizona immigration law: Civil Rights and Politics: Arizona and Beyond." The talk was well-received by the audience and included an interesting question and answer period and reception following the event, where Matt was able to interact more with students and others, and answer further questions. Prior to the talk, Matt had a great discussion with undergraduate students, graduate students, and postdocs about numerous political and law topics. His main topic focused on the Arizona immigration law.

Arizona Gov. Jan Brewer recently signed the controversial Support Our Law Enforcement and Safe Neighborhoods Act, which requires that police officers determine the immigration status of a person “where reasonable suspicion exists” that the person is in the country illegally. The officer must then verify the suspect's immigration status with the federal government. The Constitution’s equal protection clause forbids the government from differentiating between anyone in the United States, including illegal aliens, on the basis of race. The legality of this new law is in question, and such a law also brings up larger civil rights and societal issues involving the enforcement of such a law. Matt addressed specifics about the legality of this Act and also discussed bigger picture topics about underlying reasons for the immigration, including NAFTA, and what types of reforms would have a more beneficial long-term effect.

Matt had a great discussion with students and other...
Matthew Edward Gonzalez was born in McAllen, Texas, to a Mexican mother, Oralia, and Mexican-American father, Mateo. He spent his first four years in San Juan, Puerto Rico. The Gonzalez family moved to New Orleans, Louisiana; Baltimore, Maryland; and Louisville, Kentucky, before the family returned to McAllen when Gonzalez was 11 years old.

Matt Gonzalez received his Bachelor of Arts degree from Columbia University in 1987, where he majored in both political theory and comparative literature. He was editor of the Stanford Law Review and, in 1990, received his Juris Doctor degree from Stanford Law School. After law school, from 1991-2000, Mr. Gonzalez was a trial lawyer at the Office of the San Francisco Public Defender, where he handled all types of misdemeanor and felony cases including numerous life-in-prison matters.

In 2000, Matt was elected to the San Francisco Board of Supervisors, becoming the first member of the Green Party to win elective office in San Francisco. Two years later, he was elected by his colleagues to serve as president of the 11-member body. In December 2003, Matt Gonzalez narrowly lost the mayor's race in San Francisco, garnering over 47% of the vote and, in 2008, he served as Ralph Nader's running mate on an Independent ticket.

In 2005, Gonzalez, along with a diverse group of attorneys, formed a civil rights law firm, Gonzalez and Leigh. Since leaving office, Gonzalez has been practicing law in San Francisco focused mostly on defending civil rights.

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**Caltech Y ExComm Retreat**

*by Christina Weng '11, Y ExComm President*

On Saturday, May 22, nine Caltech Y students attended the ExComm Retreat, which was also open to non-ExComm members. It was a great opportunity for upperclassmen and underclassmen to interact in a setting outside of Caltech. Students assembled at the Y at 7:00 am, an impressive feat considering that everyone was exhausted from the Ditch Day stacks on Friday! We hiked through Eaton Canyon to the waterfall, where we discussed plans for the summer and upcoming year. Students are especially interested in leading more Explore LA Series events such as trips to musicals.

**Caltech Y Day Hike in Santa Monica Mountains**

*by Arthur Chan and Himanshu Mishra*

On Sunday May 23, the Y organized a hike to Mugu Peak in the Santa Monica Mountains. The weather was very nice, with bright sunny skies and cool ocean breezes. We started at the La Jolla Canyon, overlooking rolling valleys, and reached Mugu Peak by lunch time. The view of the coast was spectacular, especially on a clear day like Sunday. It was a nice adventure, and everyone had fun.

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**Coming Events** *(Jun-Sept)*

**Summer Fun**

*by Greg Fletcher, Y Student Activities & Community Services Director*

For many, summer is a time for vacations, for visiting family, for relaxing, or for doing things we haven’t had time to do during the year. As many students on campus shift into their SURF’s, the Y shifts as well into conducting equipment inventory and refurbishment, follow-up reporting to grant organizations and funding sources, updating systems, wrapping up programs, and the general “save this until summer” list... As always, the Y will still be a go-to place for student fun as well. The Y-Outdoors Committee is already talking about some possible day hikes or camping trips, the Social Activism Speaker Series Committee is considering a possible summer talk or two, and the ExComm, of course, has a few ideas up their sleeves. Some of our highlights that we know of for the coming months are:

**Decompression** *(Jun 5)* – As the 2009-2010 academic year winds down, the Y will close out the year with Spring Decompression. As always, Decompression is the best way to de-stress from the term prior to finals. The spring event will again be a combination pool party and BBQ.

**Grad Reception** *(Jun 11)* – Immedi-
Greetings from an Ex ExComm

I graduated from Caltech in 2003 with a BS in Applied Math (ACM). It was an interesting major and, although I switched twice before, I think ACM was the right choice for me. It gave me the opportunity to explore control and dynamical systems, error-correcting codes and many other fields that were more engaging to me than pure mathematics.

I quickly proceeded to Claremont Graduate University and earned my teaching credential and MA in Education in 15 months. During the year after graduating, I worked as an intern at Alhambra High School, where I am now a certificated employee in my 7th year of service. I teach grades 9-12 to students ranging in ability from remedial Algebra to Advanced Placement Calculus BC.

Overall, my experience at the Y has strongly shaped my professional career. When I felt burned out by the grueling academics at Caltech, I found solace and joy in tutoring students for the Y (in the days before the RISE program). I also found community service very gratifying and a good social outlet that I was missing out on while living off-campus and studying constantly. The Y taught me to be more accessible to people and less of a ‘loner’ – pretty typical behavior for an only child.

Sierra containing five giant Sequoias, and Yosemite is one of the most spectacular natural places in the world. With two nights of camping and plenty of hiking available, this trip is a greatget away. The trip includes transportation, campsites, and food. No camping experience is necessary – in fact, often there are more participants on the trip with no camping history than seasoned outdoor enthusiasts. The trip is also primarily filled with international students, many seeing Yosemite for, perhaps, the only time in their lives.

Huntington Tea (date to be set) – Students join faculty and staff for tea, pastries, and finger sandwiches in the Huntington Tea Room, and then stay for the day to explore the renowned Huntington Library, Art Collections, and Botanical Gardens. It is a very popular and wonderful opportunity to interact with others outside of the campus environment, and to experience all the Huntington has to offer.

Coming Events (continued)

ately following commencement, the ExComm will have one last chance to gather with those members who are graduating. Families and friends are welcome as we celebrate those leaders active with the Y who are graduating.

Yosemite-Centennial Grove Camping & Hiking Trip (Jun16-18) – Students looking for a great way to kick off the summer join us on a camping and hiking trip to Yosemite National Park and the Caltech Centennial Grove in the Sierra National Forest. The Caltech Centennial Grove is a section of the Y’s progressive vision of inclusiveness and mutual respect, and has been a vital part of the Y’s campus environment, and to experience all the Huntington has to offer.

Abel Bourbois ‘03

At Alhambra High, I am involved in mentoring for our Academy of Future Educators (AFE) – an experience directly influenced by the tutelage and support I got from Nathan Wozny when I first started tutoring for the Y. As recently as yesterday, I had high school student tutors take over my class and give their very first lessons in my classroom under my supervision. I have been active in supporting the rights and safety of GLBTQ students on our campus. The Y’s progressive vision of inclusiveness and mutual respect helped me come to terms with my sexuality and encourage young people to do the same. I learned to accept myself at the Y because it welcomed students of all stripes with open arms. I have been adviser of our campus’ Pride Alliance gay-straight alliance for the last few years. We teach kids activism, help them organize protests and solidarity and take them to the Gay Prom at the end of each year in Los Feliz.

Lastly, I have applied my experiences at the Y to my profession as an AVID (Achievement Via Individual Determination) teacher. This nationwide Title I program is for under-privileged and minority students, who would be the first in their family to attend college. It’s an important program at our school because it helps to close the dreaded Asian-Latino achievement gap that is a nationwide phenomenon. The Y helped me value my collegiate education because it placed all that academics in the context of the real-world and balanced it with a perspective of civil service and giving back. These are lessons I try to instill in my students as I work to convince them that going to college (against often insurmountable odds) is worth their time.

I currently live in Downtown Los Angeles with my domestic partner, Nelson, a Yahoo! software developer and our dog, Frida.

9
We are grateful for the continuing support we receive from the Friends of the Caltech Y!

A summary of gifts is reported for the academic year ending September 30 in the Caltech Y Annual Report. To ensure our donors are recognized in a timely manner, recent gifts are announced approximately quarterly in the Caltech Y News and Caltech Y website postings. This listing reflects gifts received from February 1, 2010 through April 30, 2010. Donors of recent gifts are shown in the category reflecting their annual donation to date. Please let us know if there are any corrections.

**Recent Gifts** (2/1/2010 through 4/30/2010)

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**Recent Gifts (continued)**

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**Calendar of Upcoming Events**

*Note: See [Caltech Y website](https://caltechy.caltech.edu) for additional information and schedule updates*

### June 2010

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The Caltech Y

The Caltech Y is an independent 501c3 organization formally affiliated with the California Institute of Technology. The Y mission is to enrich student life and challenge students to grow into responsible citizens of the world.

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Pasadena, CA 91125

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(West of tennis courts at SW corner Hill & San Pasqual)

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Alycen Chan – Outreach Program Director
Greg Fletcher - Student Activities & Community Service Director
Kevin Nguyen - Student Activities Coordinator
Christopher Kealey - Marketing & Development Director

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