**OPENING SOON...**

CITRIS building dedication on Feb. 27

Get ready for the fences to come down! You’re invited to celebrate completion of the Center for Information Technology Research in the Interest of Society (CITRIS) headquarters building next to Davis Hall on Friday, February 27. The event will begin at 2:30 p.m. with a ribbon-cutting ceremony and official remarks to formally dedicate the building, named Sutardja Dai Hall.

Afterward, you’ll have an opportunity to see parts of the building not normally open to the public through guided tours and interactive exhibits during an open house. A reception will follow. (Registration details on the next page.)

Built with public and private funding, Sutardja Dai Hall honors those fundamental to the building’s success, in particular the late Dean A. Richard Newton, who had a key role in the building’s conception and construction.

*Continued on page 2*

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**RESEARCH REVEALED**

LET ME EXPLAIN: EECS Ph.D. student Isaac Liu discusses his poster, entitled “A Precision Timed Architecture for Timing Predictability and Repeatability,” with fellow EECS Ph.D. student Yang Yang. The researchers in the Center for Hybrid and Embedded Software Systems (CHESS) were among several students presenting their work during open houses at the Berkeley EECS Annual Research Symposium on February 12.

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**POP QUIZ**

What class do you recommend other engineers take?

Sarah Price, CEE junior
“Take E 28, Basic Engineering Design Graphics. I never had any computer skills before coming here, and it taught me AutoCAD and SolidWorks.”

Otto Lu-Steffes, ME/MSE junior
“E 45, Properties of Materials. It gives an overview of materials science that every engineer should know. It’s important to know what you’re building with.”

Vishal Singh, NE junior
“NE 101. It’s a broad survey of everything from decays to technology and covers the whole breadth of nuclear engineering.”

Francisco Lozano, CEE sophomore
“Physics C 10, Physics for Future Presidents. It gives you an understanding that the things you’re learning are applicable and viable in society.”
Opening soon...

Continued from page 1

The approximately 141,000 gross square feet of space will house mostly interdisciplinary research laboratories associated with CITRIS; one-third of the building (its entire north wing) is dedicated to the Marvell Nanofabrication Laboratory, which will feature two cleanroom facilities.

Administrative offices for CITRIS will also be located in the hall, along with the Dado and Maria Banatao Institute@CITRIS Berkeley, the Cal component of CITRIS’s multi-campus research effort. Other highlights include a 149-seat auditorium, conference rooms and a technology museum.

Students will find a relaxing place to eat and study at the Qualcomm CyberCafe, which will open by this summer. Located on the plaza level, it will feature tables and couches, a wireless AirBears connection, Peet’s coffee and tea and catering by Cal Dining Services (bring your Cal 1 card!). Hours may extend into the early evening or later, depending on demand. On the same floor will be three classrooms with new audiovisual equipment.

The building’s construction included several sustainable technologies such as the use of recycled fly ash in the concrete and an window sensor system that will detect open windows and shut down local ventilation systems to conserve energy.

After its formal dedication, the building will remain closed for a few more weeks as finishing touches are made on interior spaces; it’s tentatively scheduled to open by April. Room reservation requests will be accepted beginning June 1.

For now, the new plaza west of the CITRIS headquarters will be open and offer a generous walking corridor for those traveling from North Gate toward Bechtel Engineering Center and the center of campus.

Engineers will get a brief respite from construction until the college begins a new project along Hearst Avenue in April. The Naval Architecture Building will undergo an interior renovation and new addition to house IEOR faculty and the Blum Center for Developing Economies. These projects will be completed by summer 2010. Due to construction, pedestrians traveling north to Etcheverry and Soda Halls must continue to access them via the crosswalks at North Gate or LeRoy Avenue.

FACULTY RESEARCH SNAPSHOT

Oliver M. O’Reilly, ME

Joined faculty: 1992

Research areas:
Mechanics of the spine, mechanics of plant growth, wave energy converters

Current project:
“Dynamics of the human spine.” The goal, in collaboration with UCSF researchers, is to develop a framework for analyzing spine dynamics. Future applications include advances in treatments for back pain as well as improved guidelines for spine-related surgical procedures. “This project got started when former students of mine, now at UCSF, asked me questions about measuring the motion of intervertebral discs, and that has led to a great collaboration with [UCSF professor of orthopedic surgery] Jeff Lotz.”

Students working for him: Eight (including three undergraduates)

Percentage of his work week spent on research: 25 to 40

Favorite place to work: The dining room table at home. “There are no distractions, no e-mail. If I’m burning to work on an idea, I go home, close the door and grab pen and paper.”

On his research wish list: Grants totaling $200,000 a year to support three to four more graduate students exploring the mechanics of plant growth

Last word: “The discovery process in research requires patience above all. Most ideas won’t work. It’s a voyage. You’re not certain where you will go, but you always need to leave room for wandering. That wandering can be very fruitful.”
Eng4Kids
Engineering for Kids, which introduces engineering to local fourth through sixth graders, will be held on SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 21. The event is organized by multiple undergraduate engineering societies and will consist of hands-on activities to introduce important principles from a variety of engineering disciplines. For more information, visit http://pts.berkeley.edu/e4k/.

CITRIS dedication registration
Construction is almost over! Come celebrate the dedication of the new CITRIS headquarters building (next to Davis Hall) on FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 27, at 2:30 p.m. To attend the dedication, please register at https://forms.coe.berkeley.edu/citisr-opening.

E 190 Placement Test
EECS, ME, IEOR and Chemical Engineering majors must pass Engineering 190 in order to graduate. If you are planning to enroll in E 190, you need to take the placement test, offered three times a year. The next placement test is MONDAY, MARCH 9, from 5 to 7 p.m., in Sibley Auditorium, Bechtel Engineering Center. You don’t need to sign up for the test, but you will need to check in with your student I.D. For more information, contact tech_comm@berkeley.edu.

Lockheed Martin Technology Day
Bring your resume and chat with practicing engineers from Sandia National Labs, Information Systems & Global Services, and Space Systems. See demos and exhibits, win raffle prizes and enjoy refreshments. The event will take place on TUESDAY, MARCH 10, from 10:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m., in Woźniak Lounge, Soda Hall.

$30,000 in prizes
Have an idea that demonstrates the ability of IT to address a major societal challenge? Consider entering it into the fourth annual CITRIS White Paper competition, which will award $30,000 in prizes. White papers should be 5 to 10 pages in length, not including appendices. Deadline to apply is MONDAY, MARCH 23. For more details, visit www.citris-uc.org/Big-idea-deadline-2009.

Commencement registration
The 2009 Commencement ceremony will be a traditional all-college ceremony held on Saturday, May 23, from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m., at the Hearst Greek Theatre. Departmental receptions will follow at various campus locations. Visit the official website www.coe.berkeley.edu/commencement beginning Wednesday, February 25, to register online to participate in Commencement and reserve your tickets. There is a six-ticket limit per graduating student. Registration deadline is MONDAY, APRIL 20. If you have questions, please contact Dawn Kramer at dkramer@berkeley.edu.

Teach E 98!
Want to share everything you wish you knew as a freshman engineer? We are looking for passionate instructors to teach E 98 in Fall 2009. E 98 is a fun DeCal class designed to help freshmen engineers get the most out of Berkeley. Each section meets one hour a week, with three instructors and 20 students. E 98 is an amazing opportunity to build teaching and communication skills, and it works around your schedule! Apply online at e98.berkeley.edu.

TXT ENGI
Ask a Kresge Engineering librarian your question(s) by texting 66746. Start your message with the keyword ASKENGI. A librarian will text you back an answer within two hours, Monday through Friday, 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. Questions asked after hours will receive a response the next business day. For details, go to www.lib.berkeley.edu/ENGI/txt_engi.shtml.

Ask an engineering student
Need advice about a class or professor? Curious about finding internships or research work? Worried about a grade? Interested in switching majors? Wondering if engineering is right for you? Send us your question (anonymity is fine, but please include your year and major) to engnews@coe.berkeley.edu. We’ll have it answered by one of our student volunteers and publish the answer in an upcoming issue of Engineering News.

Answer to last issue’s crossword puzzle

![Crossword Puzzle Image]

Answered by the CoE student newspaper: http://pts.berkeley.edu/e4k/
COE PHOTO ARCHIVES

Honor at Aquatic Program where she taught swimming tech-
aids years old. Her life was celebrated at the Clark Kerr
Garden Room. The event, a celebration of Liang's remark-
able life, is open to everyone in the Cal community.

Liang died on November 10 at the age of 25 after a
three-year battle with lupus, an autoimmune disease.
Among her many achievements at Berkeley, she served
as president of Berkeley's chapter of the Institute of
Industrial Engineers, worked as an ASUC senator and
received the prestigious Bechtel Engineering Scholar-
ship. She also volunteered for the Special Needs
Aquatic Program where she taught swimming tech-
niques to children with disabilities.

Read more about Liang and make donations in her
honor at www.jengyeeforever.org.

An EJC for everyone?
Two seniors write a proposal to redesign engineering's student
government, will host a meeting to debate

Just two years ago, the Engineers’ Joint Council (EJC)—our official
engineering student govern-
ment—established an officer position dedicated to helping clubs schedule a single room in Bechtel
Engineering Center. Now technology allows for a simpler solution:
Google Calendar. Many other func-
tions of EJC have been replaced by
technical tools, and EJC is more
efficient. But it's also gone
from being an important
body to a dormant
organization that merely
distributes ASUC funds, a
necessary function, but
not one that alone can justify
its existence.

EJC's weakened status is due to the
fact that technology has replaced
direct inter-societal interactions.
These organic interactions could
produce more activities like Engineer-
ing4Kids Day, E 98, Intro to
Berkeley Engineering, and Engineer-
ing Week, which enrich the
Berkeley Engineering experience
more than any independent group
could. But with less communication
between groups, there's less coopera-
tion and a diminished sense of
community.

A hasty remedy would be to revert
back to the traditional EJC structure,
by re-implementing rigid officer
positions and holding mandatory
inter-societal meetings. However,
these organizational traits are obso-
lete for our generation. We believe that
what the engineering student
community needs is an entirely new
student government, one that works
not independently of student groups
but with them.

Here are some of our ideas, and we
welcome the input of all engineers
in formulating them. EJC must not
be run at a tactical level. It shouldn't
coordinate events, even if they're
jointly run by several societies.
Instead, it should be a leadership
body dedicated to supporting the
25-plus engineering student groups.
For example, every semester, Tau
Beta Pi has many more officer can-
dates than it can accommodate,
whereas other clubs may be on the
verge of collapse from a lack of dedi-
cated officers.

A strategic EJC could be
responsible for imple-
menting poli-
cies to correct
this problem.

Our new
vision calls for
an EJC constituted by more
than just a
dedicated and
responsible offi-
cer core that
harnesses tech-
nical tools for day-to-day operations.
We believe EJC also needs a student
committee to analyze the current
status of each society, identify over-
all social capital, relay findings via a
public report and provide policy
recommendations. Such a commit-
tee could also produce and maintain
an overall student society five-year
plan, so clubs wouldn't fall into
inactivity when committed mem-
bers graduate.

The rejuvenation of EJC will
succeed only if the entire student
community works together and
jointly fabricates what could be a
truly revolutionary engineering
student government.

Please join us in sharing your
ideas and discussing these prospects
on Tuesday, March 3, at 7:30 p.m. in
120C Bechtel Engineering Center.
Everyone is welcome.

—Written by MSE/BioE senior Ahmad
Namvargolian and ME senior Sam
Woodard