

Celebrating a New President

As he formally took his place as Caltech's ninth president, Thomas Rosenbaum focused on transition and the ways in which "the past envelops you as the future beckons."

President Rosenbaum's investiture—during which he was presented with Robert A. Millikan's academic hood, a Caltech tradition—was followed by his inaugural address, in which he reflected on important moments in the history of Caltech. The Institute has always played a significant role in advancing knowledge and then applying those advances to the benefit of society, Rosenbaum said—a focus that is as important today as it has ever been.

To succeed in its pursuits, the president said, Caltech will need

to continue its commitment to a combination of excellence, ambition, focus, intimacy, and perspective—five elements that he deemed "difficult to achieve, and perhaps even more challenging to maintain in changing times, but taken together they yield intellectual magic."

The ceremony ended with a festive blast of ribbon confetti over the crowd (below) and was followed by an all-campus reception on the Olive Walk.

For more information on the inauguration of Thomas Rosenbaum, go to caltech.edu/content/inauguration.

And stay tuned for more coverage in the next issue of E&S.

