Methodology

To investigate these questions, it was important to build a historical context for understanding student governance at Caltech. Historical information was obtained from a variety of sources. Much of the research was archival. Issues of the *California Tech* are available dating back to 1918; editions of the *Big T*, the annual yearbook, date back to 1920; copies of the student handbook, the *little t*, date back to 1933; and the minutes of the ASCIT Board are available dating back to 1912. Selected editions of these publications were read for this study.

ASCIT Board Minutes from 1912 to 1935 provided the only early records for this study. Editions of the *California Tech* from 1926 to 1956 and from 1965 to 1974 were read intensively to serve as the principal sources for those periods. Robert Huttenback's memoirs and Eric Tuttle's study of Rotation in the early 1960's were the primary sources for the period from 1958 to 1968. Information regarding the modern era came mainly from a previous study by Andrew Keith Strauss and from a few personal interviews. Judith Goodstein's *Millikan's School* also provided a broad historical framework. Every available issue of the *little t* was consulted to record a list of student officers (Appendix C) and count the number of student activities on campus (Figure 2). Editions of the *Big T* were used to supplement this research.

A survey was also created for this study and sent out to alumni (Appendix A). The survey was distributed via e-mail and reached approximately 3,600 of the 10,103 living undergraduate alumni. There were 632 responses returned (Appendix B), which represents about 17% of those who received the survey and about 6% of all living undergraduate alumni.   The survey asked questions about general demographic information, personal involvement in student government, student issues, the honor code, and general opinions on student governance at Caltech.