

UC SANTA BARBARA

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Economic Outlook for Santa Barbara County Topic of April 22 UCSB Seminar

The Economic Forecast Project at the University of California, Santa Barbara will present its annual seminar on the outlook for Santa Barbara County's economy on Thursday, April 22.

Speakers at the half-day program will review the performance of the local, state, and national economies in 2003 and offer their views on the outlook for the county's economy in 2004. The UCSB Santa Barbara County Economic Forecast Seminar will be held at the Lobero Theatre, 33 East Canon Perdido Street, Santa Barbara. Registration and breakfast begin at 6:45 a.m. The speaking program begins at 8 a.m. and concludes at approximately 11 a.m.

The UCSB Economic Forecast Project is a research unit that provides regional economic data, analysis, and forecasts to the community.

Bill Watkins, executive director of the Economic Forecast Project and a former research economist at the Federal Reserve in Washington, D.C., will present the Santa Barbara County economic review and forecast. Other speakers:

- Dan Walters, a syndicated columnist whose work appears in more than 50 California newspapers, will speak on "California After the Fall"

· Brian Wesbury, chief economist, Griffin Kubik Stephens & Thompson, will offer his answers to questions such as: Is the recent pick up in economic activity sustainable? When will job growth return? How will the presidential election affect the economy?

Admission to the seminar is \$200 per person and includes a copy of The 2004 Santa Barbara County Economic Outlook, featuring 200 pages of data and analysis, including graphs and tables. (The book can be purchased separately for \$106.86, including shipping.) To register for the seminar, or for more information, contact the UCSB Economic Forecast Project by phone, (805) 893-5159, or via its web site at www.ucsb-efp.com

About UC Santa Barbara

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.