Can California's economy get any worse? That will be the topic of a special program to be presented in Sacramento on March 18 by the UC Santa Barbara Economic Forecast Project.

The program will be held at the California Museum at 1020 "O" Street in Sacramento starting at 8 a.m. on Wednesday, March 18.

The program will include presentations by these featured speakers:

- Bill Watkins, Ph.D., executive director of the UCSB Economic Forecast Project and a former research economist at the Federal Reserve in Washington, D.C.: "The California Economy: Can It Get Any Worse?"

- Dan Walters, syndicated newspaper columnist: "State of the State"

- Kirk Lesh, real estate economist, UCSB Economic Forecast Project: "Real Estate Outlook for 2009"
The UCSB Economic Forecast Project is a research unit that provides regional economic data, analysis, and forecasts to the community.

Admission to the seminar is $150 per person and includes one copy each of the project's "United States Economic Outlook" and "California Economic Outlook." To register, or for information, visit the UCSB Economic Forecast Project on the Web at www.ucsb-efp.com

or call (805) 893-5159.

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.