UC SANTA BARBARA

THE Current

September 9, 2010
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UCSB Offers ‘School for Scientific Thought’ for Area High School Students

UC Santa Barbara's "School for Scientific Thought" will begin its second year soon, with 100 local high school students learning about "hot topics" in science and engineering. The series of free Saturday mini-courses, which begins Sept. 25, is offered by the California NanoSystems Institute and supported by the National Science Foundation.

The innovative educational program exposes students in grades 10 through 12 to concepts in science beyond the typical high school curriculum, with topics ranging from nanotechnology to Einstein's theory of relativity. Instructors are UCSB scientists and engineers currently engaged in doctoral research who want to share their enthusiasm for science and their expertise in current research.

"Instructors will not be teaching normal lecture classes," said David Boy, program coordinator for the School for Scientific Thought. "In many courses, the students will experience hands-on learning, including a session called ‘What Are Radio Waves, Really?' in which students will build their own radios. And in ‘Molecules in Motion,' students will run simulations on supercomputers."

Applications for the fall session are due Wednesday, Sept. 15, with classes starting on Sept. 25. Classes are scheduled Saturdays from 10 a.m. to 12:15 p.m. Lunch will

be served to participants at the end of each class. The program is designed so that there will be no homework or examinations for the students.

Early registration for this popular program is recommended.

For more information, call (805) 893-8527, or e-mail sst@cnsi.ucsb.edu.

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.