

# THE *Current*

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## **UC Santa Barbara Engineering Professor Elected into AIMBE**

H Tom Soh, professor of materials, mechanical engineering and chemical engineering at UC Santa Barbara, has been named a Fellow of the American Institute for Medical and Biological Engineering (AIMBE). He is the fifth UCSB faculty member to be elected to the institute. AIMBE Fellows, according to the organization, “represent the top 2 percent of the most accomplished leaders in the field of medical and biological engineering.”

With interests that lie in the directed evolution of materials and integrated biosensors, Soh has conducted research that paves the way for the early detection and personalized treatment of many diseases. One of his recent accomplishments is the development of real-time biosensors that can measure concentrations of target molecules continuously in living organisms — a development that could change the way diagnoses are made and drugs prescribed and delivered.

Soh, who currently holds the Ruth Garland endowed chair at UCSB, came to the campus in 2003 after obtaining his doctorate in electrical engineering from Stanford University and a four-year stint at Bell Laboratories. He is co-director of the Center for Stem Cell Biology and Engineering and associate director of the California NanoSystems Institute. He has also received many major awards and honors throughout his career, including MIT Technology Review’s Top 100 Young Innovator Award (2002); the Office of Naval Research’s Young Investigator Award (2004); the Beckman Young Investigator Award (2005); National Institutes of Health Director’s

Transformative Research Award (2009); the John Simon Guggenheim Fellowship (2010); and the Humboldt Research Fellowship (2012).

Soh and other newly elected members will be inducted into AIMBE on March 24 in a ceremony during the institute's Annual Event at the National Academy of Sciences in Washington, D.C.

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## **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.