

Science and Engineering Council of Santa Barbara: November Luncheon

Elephant Bar Restaurant, Thursday November 13, 2008, 12:00-1:30

----- THIS MONTH'S TOPICS -----

UCSB's Venture Acceleration Initiative

Dr. Don Oparah



The Venture Acceleration Initiative (VAI) at UCSB is a new organization that supports faculty and other campus entrepreneurs who are pursuing ventures based on technology breakthroughs at UCSB. The VAI provides entrepreneurial consulting, business networking, and access to seed funding to accelerate the start-up process. Dr. Don Oparah, founder and director of the VAI will provide an overview of this program and introduce our main speaker, who has a venture supported by the VAI.

Virtual Geology:

Simulating Oceanic Sedimentation Processes for Deep-Water Oil Exploration

Prof. Eckart Meiburg

Extracting oil from reservoirs under deep parts of the ocean requires detailed information on the properties of the suboceanic rock. Traditionally, exploration wells are drilled to obtain this information. In deep water, however, this process is extremely expensive, as a single exploration well can cost upwards of \$100M.

High-resolution computer simulations of the sediment transport processes that led to the formation of the oil reservoir can identify locations without the cost of exploration wells. Dr. Meiburg's team at UCSB has developed the leading computer simulation models for this purpose. Such simulations make it possible to predict the distribution of sediment and the properties of the resulting sedimentary rock without drilling. This talk will provide an overview of such simulations and introduce some interesting physical phenomena caused by sediment transport processes.

----- PRESENTER -----



Professor **Eckart Meiburg** obtained his PhD in Karlsruhe, Germany. Following a postdoctoral stay at Stanford, he held faculty positions at Brown University and USC, before joining the UCSB faculty in 2000. Prof. Meiburg's research interests lie in the general area of fluid dynamics and transport phenomena. He has won a National Science Foundation Presidential Young Investigator Award, an Alexander von Humboldt Foundation Senior Scientist Award, and a Gladden Fellowship of the Institute for Advanced Studies at the University of Western Australia. He also is a Fellow of the American Physical Society. He has held visiting positions at the University of Grenoble, ETH Zurich, ESPCI in Paris, and the Max Planck Institute in Germany.

----- OTHER INFORMATION -----

\$14 SEC members, \$20 non-members.

Information: Barbara Keaney (E-mail scieng@silcom.com) or call (805) 684-4927.

Reservations are not required. **Visit our web page at <http://www.scieng.org>**

Elephant Bar Restaurant: 521 Firestone Road, off Hollister just west of Fairview Avenue, in Goleta.



From the Co-Presidents: This month we welcome **Roger L. Cartwright** of Santa Barbara as a new Individual Member. We are pleased to announce that we have exceeded our goal of \$1,000 in membership contributions to the **Dos Pueblos Engineering Academy's** fundraising efforts, and we have now matched that amount from the SEC Treasury. **Thank you!**

Meanwhile, the holidays are approaching and it is nearly time to consider renewing your annual SEC membership. Please keep an eye out for your renewal letter next month, take a moment to complete and return the form. This will keep our membership strong as we continue to support local students through Science Fair awards and Scholarships; and as we promote science and engineering dialogue in the Greater Santa Barbara Area. See you in November!

Tim Murphy and Gary Kravetz

Please Note: luncheon seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.