

Brown Bag seminar explains engineering options

By **MICHAEL ABURAS**
Staff writer

"In 15 years there will be a shortage of engineers," said Yvette Niccolls math, science, and technology coordinator, beginning Ohlone's second to last Brown Bag science seminar of the semester.

The purpose of this Nov. 15 Brown Bag was to expose students to career opportunities in engineering. The seminar featured four speakers from four different fields of engineering.

The first speaker was Mathematics Instructor Linda Messia who rhetorically asked, "What is Engineering?" She then responded with "engineering is just applying simple scientific principals to make

life better." She added that there are many fields in engineering such as biotech, naval and aerospace

Messia has brought in engineers to speak to her class to demonstrate what engineers are doing in their field. In addition, her class recently took a trip to the NUMMI car plant in Fremont to observe a manufacturing line.

The next speaker, Materials Engineer and Instructor Jennifer Harper, stated that "most people don't know what material engineering is" - which was the area of engineering she was presenting at the seminar. Materials engineering is the understanding of how materials are made and how they work on a molecular scale.

When teaching, Harper provides

her students with three identical pieces of steel, then has them heat the steel and subsequently examine how the material changes on a small scale.

Engineering Instructor Howard Rathbun also gave a presentation about his field of expertise, statics - a branch of engineering concerned with the forces keeping objects at rest.

Rathbun presented an example by explaining how statics can be used to figure out how much tension is being placed on the cable for a ski lift. Another example Rathbun gave was the equilibrium force of gravity on an astronaut. The centrifugal force pushes the astronaut out, while the earth's gravity pushes him in.

Electrical Engineer Carrie Huang also gave a presentation. Huang's class electrical engineering class, for example, gives students the basics to design a Intel processor or a Sony Playstation processor.

Huang explained that electrical engineers are everywhere, as in "telecommunications: they designed the spark plug, designed the tube for television."

Physics is a requirement before someone can take electrical engineering. Engineering jobs include: test engineer for jet engines, sales patent lawyer and failure analysis. "Engineering is a very stable way to make a living," said Rathbun.

The next Brown Bag will be on Friday Dec. 1 from 1 to 2 p.m. The topic will be Nanotechnology.



Photo by Christa Meier

Math Instructor Linda Messia speaks about basic engineering.

NASA and Ohlone to hold 'Science Night'

By **ERIC DORMAN**
Staff writer

NASA bioengineer and microbiologist Jonathan Trent will speak on the origin of the universe and the natural catastrophes that shaped the earth at the sixth annual NASA Science night on Dec. 6.

The talk, entitled "the life and times of life of time" will be given from 7 to 8 p.m. at Jackson Theater.

The event is free and refreshments will be served.

Trent, who received his doctorate from the Scripps Institution of Oceanography in Biology Oceanography, began work at NASA in 1998. He specializes in nanotechnology in relation to life on other planets, said Math, Science and Technology coordinator Yvette Niccolls.

Trent, who also teaches part-time

in the Department of Bimolecular Engineering at UC Santa Cruz, will speak on such subjects as the origin of the universe, how stars and planets are born, and when life began.

He will also be focusing on the specific natural disasters that helped change the way life on earth evolved, said Niccolls. One such catastrophe, she said, occurred when a meteor hit the Earth about

65 million years ago, wiping out the dinosaurs and giving mammals a chance to thrive in their stead.

Furthermore, Trent will examine global warming as an upcoming catastrophe that could possibly change the course of life on earth, said Niccolls.

NASA Science nights began in 2003, when Jim Laub, an Ohlone alumni who had formerly worked at NASA, formed a partnership

between Ohlone and NASA that invited one speaker from NASA to give a talk at the college each fall.

The last speaker was Astrophysicist Scott Sandford, who presented a lecture on comets as part of a Science Night which focused on the Stardust mission to collect samples from the comet Wild 2.

For more information on the event, contact Niccolls at (510) 629-7372.

Project Quad outfits Ohlone



Photo by Christa Meier

Student Chad Bischoff sits at one of the 15 benches placed on campus this semester as part of ASOC's Project Quad. Included in the \$15,000 project will be umbrellas and other furnishings.

Study Abroad trip to India canceled

By **FRANKIE ADDIEGO**
Staff writer

Next Semester's Study Abroad trip to India was canceled for the foreseeable future, as only one student turned in an application. The program will, however, host trips to other countries in the future. The trip was canceled "not from a lack of interest," said Professor Kay Harrison, who heads the program, but because "a lot of people were interested, but not a lot of people followed through with an application."

While in the past the program has had success with trips to countries such as South Korea and Australia (where the current trip is still in progress), this semester, it simply didn't take off, according to Harrison. "I think safety is an issue," said Harrison. She said that, while

there were a few more students who expressed interest, it appeared that their parents were wary of allowing them to travel to India.

Although the Study Abroad trip has been postponed for this semester (as there was no alternative to India as a destination), there are still plans for future excursions. Currently, there are expectations to return to Sydney in the fall of next year and for a trip to St. Petersburg, Russia at one point. Additionally, the program is hoping to schedule trips in the summer months as well as the regular fall and spring semesters.

Despite the failure of this semester's trip to India, Harrison remains optimistic about the possibility of holding a voyage to that country at some point. "I really think in the future, it will catch on," she said, "it's going to be a bigger and bigger trading partner to the U.S."

Wrestling just as real as full-contact football

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jazz. You play in a certain key and improvise here and there. Ella Fitzgerald once told WWE hall of fame inductee Rowdy Roddy Piper "Give them a good beginning and a great ending, and they'll forgive you for a lot in the middle."

Not all wrestlers plan their moves out. Mick "Mankind" Foley in his book "Have a Nice Day" stated that when he worked with Abdulah the Butcher, everything was improvised because Abby, as Foley called him, couldn't remember the moves if they planned them out anyway.

Is professional wrestling a sport? According to the "Oxford English Dictionary" sport is an activity involving physical effort and skill in

which a person or team competes against another or others. Wrestling does fall within those parameters, and what are sports? Sports, unless you're playing them yourself, are just entertainment. If you didn't care about the entertainment value, you would just wait until the results came out in the paper instead of watching an entire game.

If wrestling is fake, why is Mick Foley missing an ear and his teeth? If wrestling is fake, why did Eddie Guerrero dislocate his elbow after a frog splash? If wrestling is fake, why did Roco Rock die in the ring from a heart attack?

Wrestling in this regard is just like any other job, there are people you don't get along with and there's

people who make mistakes.

For example, when "Hardcore" Holly and Brock Lesner met in the ring, Holly felt like it was his duty to teach the green arrogant rookie a lesson. As you know, wrestlers hit each other, however, when these two hooked up they really started to beat each other. As a result from anger, Lesner, when he went for a power bomb, dropped Holly on his head instead of on his back, breaking his neck. Holly was out of action for a year.

Another incident occurred when "Stone Cold" Steve Austin fought the late Owen Hart. Hart performed a pile driver on Austin, but gave him the real thing, causing Austin to become temporarily paralyzed

in the ring.

Wrestlers are trained to kill each other without killing each other, but, the wear and tear add up. Mick Foley retired at 34 because of brain damage from multiple concussions throughout his career. Austin no longer wrestles because of fear of permanent paralysis. Diamond Dallas Page had back issues that ended his career as well.

There is no other form of entertainment or sport where the athlete dedicates or gives more of themselves to the fan. Yes, things are planned out. A wrestler may step into a match knowing that they will be going to the hospital that evening. That was the case with Mr. Danger, who was placed in a tank of parannas. Does

a football player go play a game knowing that he will be stepping into an ambulance that evening? Wrestlers wrestle 300+ days out of the year. There is no off season.

I have witnessed wrestlers set on fire. I have felt the glass of broken light bulbs graze across my legs as a wrestler was scoop-slammed onto them. I have taken home thumb tacks. I have seen wrestlers bleed. If you've ever met a veteran wrestler in person, their forehead looks like leather from all the times they have been busted open. If someone has never been to a live wrestling event, they are too ignorant to call it fake. If you still think wrestling is fake, in the words of DX, "I have two words for ya. S*ck It!"