

'To moon and beyond' at Science Night

By SUCHI GUPTA
Staff writer

Who says moon exploration is dead? Not NASA Scientist Anupa Bajwa, who will present a seminar on the "Future Exploration of the Moon and Beyond" for the college's annual NASA Science Night this Wednesday, Nov. 19 from 7 to 8 p.m. in Jackson Theater.

Bajwa, who works at the NASA Ames Research Center in Mountain View, will be focusing her talk around the next generation of space exploration. A computer engineer, Bajwa is currently working on methods for failure detection and diagnosis for launch vehicles, which includes work on designing modeling and simulators for vehicle systems.

At the seminar, Bajwa will be talking about the life of an astronaut, what it is like to travel in space and what sort of things go into the design of the ship and the space program. She said she will encourage questions throughout the talk.

Among the goals of the seminar, said Math, Science and Technology Coordinator Yvette Niccolls, is to encourage students to pursue careers in the field of space programs. Niccolls also praised several other individuals for their work toward fostering Ohlone's connection with NASA. "Our Vice President of Academic Affairs, Jim Wright, and Dean of Science, Engineering and Technology, Ron Quinta, have been visionary in creating this collaboration between Ohlone and NASA



Graphic by Eric Dorman

NASA Scientist Anupa Bajwa will present a talk on 'Future Exploration of the Moon and Beyond' at Wednesday's NASA Science Night in the Jackson Theater.

Ames," said Niccolls.

Past NASA Science Nights have been very popular with students. NASA Bioengineer Jonathan Trent spoke on the origin of the universe in 2006, and last year Astronaut Janice Voss spoke on her trips to space, both

before packed houses.

The seminar is open to all ages. Admission is free, and tickets may be obtained from the box office starting at 6 p.m. on Wednesday. The theater has a capacity of 400 and the doors open at 6.30 p.m. The first students

in line will receive carabiner flashlight keychains. Tickets are available at the Smith Center Box Office starting at 6 p.m. before the seminar. For more information about the event call (510) 659-7372 or go to www.ohlone.edu/go/nasa.

Cloning within reason

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brand effect pedals and amps.

One of his toys, the Fuzz Factory, is revered in the music scene, and is used by the likes of Trent Reznor (Nine Inch Nails), Matthew Bellamy (Muse), Rivers Cuomo (Weezer), Jack White (The White Stripes), Nels Cline (Wilco) and many others. It is all that and the kitchen sink for processing a guitar signal or otherwise, from sweet to sick. A new one will set you back some \$300.

I can build one from a schematic found online for \$30. But, I'm not going to, at least not right away.

I think there are limits on this whole open source idea, that cloning is only okay to a point. While the Fuzz Factory is itself a clone of an effect made famous by Jimi Hendrix, "Fuzz Face," it's a heavily modified version. A lot of research and development went into making an already-cool toy into something even cooler, and as a builder I respect that a lot. Moreover, he gets to make a living doing what I do for a hobby. Not being a spiteful person, I wouldn't want to take that away from someone. His tech support is personal and legendary. His email responses are prompt and personal. He's an all-around nice guy - absolutely unlike the aforementioned corporate model of "renting" you its wares. His is a product and service worth paying for.

But, like making a copy of your favorite CD for personal use is perfectly legal and moral, I feel that so is making duplicates of gear you own and use. Z.Vex also has a less glamorous version of the Fuzz Factory that runs \$180 - buying this way, I'll have my cake, and eat (or build) it too.

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