General Meeting, Jan. 18th, 10 a.m.

Guest Speaker:
Dr. Michael Isaacson,
Narinder Kapany
Professor of Electrical Engineering

Technology for a Changing World: Biotechnology, Nanotechnology, and Information Technology

As Acting Dean of the Jack Baskin Engineering School here at UCSC, Prof. Isaacson is in a unique position to discuss the latest research on such a wide-ranging topic. Dr. Isaacson was on the faculty of Cornell University for many years after receiving his Ph.D. at the University of Chicago, and has been honored by his profession many times in the course of his career. He has been at UCSC since 2003. Dean Isaacson’s discussion with our Discovering UCSC interest group last winter was extraordinarily stimulating, and we are delighted that he has agreed to speak to our larger group as well.

We look forward to seeing you on the 18th at the Stevenson Event Center.

2009 Winter Classes

Please use the coupon on page 5 to register for any of our three winter classes.

1. Starts January 6th:
On Dreams and Dreaming

This series of lectures and optional workshops, taught by Michal Aizenman, on dreams, their language, function, and use, presents a broad view of dreams by asking such questions as: What are dreams? How can we understand their language and function? How do we best utilize them in our lives?

For more information about the course and Michal Aizenman, see http://lifelong-learners.wikispaces.com/classes.

If you’ve not yet registered and wish to attend, please send the coupon and call Lois Widom, 423-0184. Class meets four Tuesdays starting Jan. 6th, from 10 to noon at the Quaker Meeting House, 225 Rooney Street, near Morrissey Blvd.

2. Can Religion be Understood?

This class, taught by Robert Goff, emeritus professor of philosophy at UCSC, will focus on the philosophical interpretation and explanation of religious life. Topics to be addressed include “proofs” for God; reasons and foundations for belief; morality and sanction; skepticism, atheism, and nihilism; the status of religious experience and testimony; communication across religious boundaries.

There will be opportunities for questions and discussion. Brief outlines, illustrative quotations, and lists of suggestive readings will be distributed.

The class will meet on three Tuesdays, Feb. 3rd, 10th, 17th, from 1:30 to 3:30 at the Quaker Meeting, 225 Rooney Street, just off the Morrissey freeway ramp.

Bob taught a very interesting, thoughtful, and well prepared class for us last year.

3. Romanticism, Continued

Miriam Ellis, Lecturer in French emerita, and our favorite Renaissance woman, will continue her popular class on Romanticism. This year she will focus on the German romantic writers, Goethe and others. She will then discuss how French and Italian composers have adapted these German romantic works to opera. There will be recordings and DVDs of the operas.

The class will meet in the lounge of the Congregational Church, 900 High Street from 1 to 4 in the afternoon on Thursday, March 26th, Tuesday, March 31st, and Thursday, April 9th.
Happy new year! In the midst of these turbulent, and maybe terrible times, I hope each of you found the warmth and goodness of family and friends during this holiday season.

Now that the holidays are over it’s time to look ahead. Lifelong Learners’ first 2009 Winter Course: “On Dreams and Dreaming” is starting almost immediately. The first session will be on Tuesday, Jan. 6, at 10 a.m. at the Quaker Meeting House. More courses are coming up in February and April. Our website and the first page of this newsletter have details.

We are also going to try to address a problem we’ve experienced at our general meetings. We want to give our presenter a full hour, but the bathroom arrangements around Stevenson have caused many of us to arrive after the talk has begun. So we’ll try an experiment.

1. We’ll try to tighten up the business meeting.
2. We’ll start the talk at 11:15, and it will run to 12:15. We’ll follow this schedule in January and February and then evaluate.

Last year, 2008, was astonishing. Things that never seemed possible happened. When the world shifts like this, it usually opens the door a crack to possibilities few would have predicted. 2008, with its financial collapse and historic election, brings us all into the midst of such a shift. What will happen? Will it be more of the same little incremental steps, partisan bickering and gridlock, or will we see gigantic changes in the way we go about our lives?

As the economic crisis gets addressed, will our nation and state finally seriously address the environmental and energy crisis? Will there be major changes in our health care system? In education? In transportation? In retirement security? The problems we face seem so daunting, yet so interesting. As we go forward in 2009 it will be fascinating to see how the Obama administration thinks about these things, and I suspect a lot of us will be following the story closely as it unfolds. I know I will.

If 2008 was the year of change, what will we call 2009? I guess we’ll just have to wait and see but here’s hoping that in the end it will be a good year for you and your loved ones, and for Lifelong Learners.

— Mark Gordon

**Advance Notice—February 15th Speaker**

Ms. Virginia Steel, the University Librarian, will speak on *Creating Library 2.0*. She will discuss the transformative changes taking place in academic libraries today as they recreate themselves for a new technological environment. Among the issues she will discuss are changes in the expectations students, faculty, and other users have for the library, refocusing services to take full advantage of new modes of communication, the challenges and opportunities inherent in large-scale digitization of print materials, and the work that’s underway to refresh and repurpose library spaces. “Ginny” Steel has been University Librarian at UCSC since 2005 and oversees McHenry Library and the Science and Engineering Library. Prior to coming here, she held major positions in the libraries of Washington State University, MIT, and UC San Diego.
Discovering UCSC Group Visits NASA-Ames

Discovering UCSC interest group members got a fascinating look at aviation in the 21st century when we visited UARC (University Affiliated Research Center) NASA-Ames at Moffett Field, on December 3rd. Our first visit, a year ago, provided an overview of the broad range of research tasks the scientists and engineers at the Center are working on, and the ways in which UCSC is involved.

Now our host took us for a closer look, focusing on the Air Traffic Management division — specifically, the challenge of how to adapt the current US air traffic control system to accommodate expected passenger growth in the future. Today, all traffic control is still in the hands of humans, and although they are well-trained and competent, they will not be able to maintain their performance under the heavy workload expected. The solution is, therefore, to automate the highly complex system, and we got a peek at the tools the team is developing to meet this challenge.

We also toured “Future Flight Central,” a tower built to the specifications of an actual airport control tower, but with streamlined, computer-controlled dynamic views simulating the changing action at a typical airport projected onto the full 360-degree windows.

Upcoming Interest Group Events

Events are listed on our online calendar. See “Interest Group Descriptions and Contacts” on pages 4 and 5 for more information, including leaders’ names and phone numbers/email addresses. Upcoming interest-group events follow.

- **Art & Architecture:** Thurs., Jan. 22nd. Visit Hanna House, designed by Frank Lloyd Wright, on the Stanford campus. Cost $11 in advance to Lois Widom. Please RSVP.

- **Dining Out, Lunch:** Tues., Jan. 6th at either Limoncello or Thai House for Vietnamese Pho (Soup). Sherry Eisendorf, 458-2459, sherrye139@gmail.com.

- **Dining Out, Tues., Jan. 27th and Wed. Jan. 28th, 6:30 p.m. Details by email soon. C. Le Maistre.

- **Discovering UCSC:** Wed., Feb. 18th. Visit Marc Mangel, Professor of applied mathematics, who works with sea creatures worldwide. His overall objective is to run a research group working in mathematical and theoretical biology, with a focus on ecology, evolution, and behavior, with the broad goal of combining first-rate basic science with important applied questions. He uses mathematical methods to solve problems in biological and ecological science (rather than problems in biological and ecological science to motivate mathematical studies). Sandy Brauner.

- **The Film Group** will draw from the waiting list for the next series of five films. Those who have never been in the film group may sign up and will be assured a place. Participation is limited to 20 members for each series. The next series will meet Jan. 6th, 20th, 27th, and Feb. 10th, 17th. There are 28 members on the waiting list. If you wish to repeat, send the coupon on p. 4 and you will be added to the waiting list.

(Continued on page 4)
Interest Group News & Activities, cont.

(continued from page 3)

The 20 participants for the group starting Jan. 6th will be notified by email or by phone. Jim Faris.

- **Digital Photography**: Mon., Jan. 12th, 1:30 p.m. Franson home.


- **Wine Tasting**: Fri., Jan. 16th, 1:00 p.m. Soquel Vineyards, 8063 Glen Haven Road, Soquel. The $5 tasting fee is waived if you buy wine. Brooke Ewoldsen.

- **Writers’ Group**: Thurs., Jan. 15th, 1:30 to 4 p.m., Shirley Forsyth.

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<th><strong>Interest Group</strong></th>
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<tr>
<td>Digital Photography</td>
<td>Meets monthly for critiques, photo shoots, and field trips. L: Robert Franson, 469-7042, <a href="mailto:rfanson@cruzio.com">rfanson@cruzio.com</a></td>
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<td>Great Books</td>
<td>Meets monthly at different restaurants. L: Chris Le Maistre. 471-2396, <a href="mailto:clemaistre@sbcglobal.net">clemaistre@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<td>Art &amp; Architecture</td>
<td>Visits places of architectural and/or artistic interest all over the Bay Area. L: Lois Widom, 423-0184, <a href="mailto:lowidom@yahoo.com">lowidom@yahoo.com</a></td>
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<td>Creative Writing</td>
<td>Meets to share members’ writings. (Currently full). L: Donna Love, 479-9857, <a href="mailto:lovedonna@sbcglobal.net">lovedonna@sbcglobal.net</a></td>
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<td>Discovering UCSC</td>
<td>Visits a different UCSC department each month, going behind the academic scenes to discover what makes the department tick. L: Sandy Brauner, 477-7081, <a href="mailto:sanjan@cruzio.com">sanjan@cruzio.com</a></td>
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Interest Group mail-in Registration

If a group has limited enrolment please check with the group leader first. For more information about interest groups and how to join one, see http://lifelong-learners.wikispaces.com/forms#IG

Please make **checks to UC Santa Cruz Foundation** and mail to **Robert Franson**, 216 National Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.

A tax-deductible contribution of $7.00/person is expected for each interest group joined. Please pay by check.

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- Literature Discussion (two sections) — Discusses short stories and poetry from The New Yorker. L: Tuesday: Virginia Law, 425-5453, veelaw2@pacbell.net, L: Thursday: Joan Rose, 477-0360, ramblingroses@yahoo.com (Both sections are currently full.)

- Opera — Meets monthly to view and discuss operatic works. (Currently full). L: Alice Miller, 661-0398, alimat@comcast.net

- Memorial Writing — Gathers to share writing of memorials, tributes, testaments, recommendations, eulogies, and obituaries. L: Bill Patterson, 479-3729, wilderwill@comcast.net

- Play Reading — Reads plays selected by the members. (Currently full). L: Shirley Forsyth, 477-1796, shirclu@hotmail.com

- Reading Circle (books) — Meets monthly to discuss books selected by the members. L: Irene Lennox, 457-2690, scotirene@yahoo.com

- Volunteers in Action — Meets on call to be of service, mostly on the UCSC campus but also for other worthy organizations. L: Bill Patterson, 479-3729, wilderwill@comcast.net

- Wine Tasting — Supports local vintners by visiting, tasting, and picnicking at their beautiful wineries. Meets monthly. L: Brooke Ewoldsen, 475-6188, Marilyn Wingfield, marilynw2@netzero.net

- Writers’ Group — Gathers for “impromptu writing,” sharing members’ writings, guest speakers. Meets monthly 1st and 3rd Thursdays, 1:30 to 4 p.m. Limited to eight. L: Shirley Forsyth, 477-1796, shirclu@hotmail.com

New LLL Members
UCSC Lifelong Learners welcomes these new members:
Claire Cameron, Joan Osborne, Thomas & Brenda Schmida, Robert & Arlene Stamp, Karen Green, Steve & Wendy Edmonds, David & Jeanne Jorgensen.

Winter Class mail-in Registration
One or two people can register with this form.
Please make check payable to UC Santa Cruz Foundation and mail to: Robert Franson, 216 National Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95060.
Each course is $20 per person.
This coupon is also on the web at http://lifelong-learners.wikispaces.com/classes

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Lifelong Learners Membership Form
Use this form to join Lifelong Learners or renew your membership.
Please make check payable to UC Santa Cruz Foundation and mail to UC Santa Cruz Lifelong Learners, University Relations, 1156 High Street, Santa Cruz, CA 95064

Enclosed is my membership contribution: $30 Individual; $50 Couple at same address.
I want to help LLL provide more book scholarships! I’ve enclosed an additional contribution of: $_______

Thank you!

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