



*2007 Interdisciplinary
Arts and Sciences
Enrichment Academy*

Mathematics
Engineering
Science
Achievement



**2007 Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Enrichment Academy
February 9, 2007 (at Solano Community College) and
February 23, 2007 to February 25, 2007 (at Bodega Marine Laboratory)**

Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Enrichment Academy:

The Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Enrichment Academy (IASEA) is a collaborative effort among four Solano College faculty members representing Art, Biology, Geology, and Self Development. These faculty members will guide students in exploring two main themes: Landscape and Scale. Through engaging activities and directed discussions, these four faculty members will reveal how their individual disciplines bring a unique perspective in looking at these themes.

This Academy will be conducted at the Bodega Marine Laboratory (BML), a world-class, academic research facility from Friday February 23, 2007 to Sunday February 25, 2007. Ideal applicants are serious, mature students that are open to using a non-traditional approach in learning about art, science, and themselves. Students that are interested in Geology and Biology are encouraged to apply. Applicants should be aware that many activities are physically demanding, due to the unique landscapes of BML. Students will be chosen based on 1) the professionalism exhibited in and content of their application responses, 2) how well their interests match what this Academy can offer, and 3) their academic standing. Participating students will learn how to think outside of the box by viewing the themes of Landscape and Scale through the different disciplines. This Academy will be an unforgettable experience for both students and faculty.

STUDENT REWARDS:

1. Students with little or no experience in Art, Geology, and Biology will learn about these disciplines.

Students will also:

2. have an opportunity to connect with faculty and students outside of the traditional classroom setting.
3. learn how to look at subjects through many different perspectives.
4. learn about themselves and their environment through a personal, self-enrichment journal.
5. share a unique experience at a world-class, academic, marine-biological research facility.
6. receive a monetary stipend if they abide by the contracts and attend the pre-retreat session and the Academy itself.

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PRESS RELEASE

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For Immediate Release – Robert Payawal (707) 864-7000 ext. 4498

Twenty Mathematics Engineering Science Achievement (MESA) students from five different California community colleges were invited to participate in a unique Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Enrichment Academy (IASEA). The academy was hosted at the world-renowned, academic research facility, Bodega Marine Laboratory (BML), in Bodega Bay, California. This research laboratory is owned and operated by the University of California, Davis. The IASEA Conference was held February 23-25, 2007.

The Solano Community College MESA program organized this academy with four Solano Community College faculty members representing Art, Biology, Geology, and Self Development. These faculty members guided students in exploring two main themes: Landscape and Scale. Through engaging activities and directed discussions, these four faculty members revealed how their individual disciplines bring a unique perspective in looking at these themes.

The MESA program is designed to help students in science majors that are economically and educationally disadvantaged. “We wanted to provide our students with an opportunity to see the world from a different perspective,” says Robert Payawal, the MESA / IASEA Coordinator. This “different perspective” comes from a change of physical as well as educational environment. Many MESA students must work and attend school, leaving them little or no opportunity to become immersed in nature. The change of scenery served to enhance their world-view. Furthermore, removing students from the typical classroom setting ensured that they experienced a different interaction with the faculty and MESA staff. As such, their learning experience was truly unique.

One main goal of this Academy was to teach students to think ‘outside of the box’. Students with little or no experience in Art, Biology, and Geology were exposed to exciting aspects of those fields. Exposure to these subjects widened their educational landscape and encouraged students to think about fields not specific to their majors. The interdisciplinary aspect of the IASEA was designed to demonstrate to students that academic fields are not necessarily discrete and that they often overlap and complement each other.

The IASEA is funded through a grant from the California Community Colleges Chancellor’s Office. For more information on the MESA program and its activities, projects, and academies, please go to www.solano.edu/mesa. For more information about BML, please visit www-bml.ucdavis.edu.

IASEA 2007

The Interdisciplinary Arts and Sciences Enrichment Academy (IASEA) was held February 23 - February 25, 2007 at the Bodega Marine Laboratory (BML), an internationally renowned, academic research facility. This Academy was a collaborative effort among four Solano College faculty members representing Art, Biology, Geology, and Self Development (Professors: Marc Pandone, Brad Paschal, Danielle Widemann and MESA Counselor Amy Gaylor, respectively). 20 students selected from Solano College and other surrounding community colleges were guided in exploring two main themes: Landscape and Scale. Through engaging activities and directed discussions, the faculty members revealed how their individual disciplines can bring a unique perspective in looking at these themes.

IASEA was conducted under the support and counsel of Mostafa Ghous-MESA Director, and coordinated and organized by Robert Payawal-MESA Project Coordinator.