

Media Contact:
Natalie Lesly | nlesly@cscmail.org
(213) 744-7446

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**California Science Center *Science Matters* Speakers Program
Presents**

**“Nanotechnology: Small World—Big Issues”
January 27, 2007**

Los Angeles—The possibilities seem endless in the realm of nanotechnology, a developing field that manipulates matter at the atomic level to create new materials and products with unique properties. On January 27, 2007, at the California Science Center’s *Science Matters* speaker’s program ***Nanotechnology: Small World—Big Issues***, a panel of experts will present the basic science of nanotechnology and discuss promising future applications, potential health and environmental risks, and the legal issues of this emerging field. The program is free to the public and will be held inside the California Science Center’s IMAX Theater, from 1:30 to 3:30 p.m.

Panelists will include: **James Heath, Ph.D.**, *Professor of Chemistry and Director of NanoSystems Biology Cancer Center, California Institute of Technology*, a renowned expert who is working towards the development of nanotechnologies that could aid with the early detection and treatment of cancer; **Daniel Ritter, JD**, *Partner at Preston, Gates, Ellis LLP*, a lawyer and policy advocate who has represented the interests of the nanotechnology industry in Washington D.C.; **Derrick O. Boston, JD**, *Partner at Guth | Christopher LLP*, a lawyer and entrepreneur who advises companies and research organizations seeking to commercialize nanotechnology and other high technology applications; and **Sally Tinkle, Ph.D.** *Assistant to the Deputy Director, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences*, an expert in public health and environmental toxicology responsible for coordinating nanotechnology health and safety research across the National Institute of Health. **Conan Nolan**, *NBC4 reporter* will serve as moderator for the panel discussion.

Nanotechnology Background

Imagine a future where soldiers are protected by materials ten times stronger than steel and one-tenth the weight, and cancer patients receive medicines that target malignant cells at the molecular level, eliminating the negative side effects of current therapies.

Nanotechnology enables us to manipulate matter at the atomic level in order to create new materials, devices, and systems with highly specific properties at pinpoint accuracy. New advances will be possible in the fields of medicine, environment, agriculture, food, and defense to create a wide range of products from better diagnostic technologies and disease treatments to stain and wrinkle-free fabrics and transparent sunscreens.

It is too early to determine if nanotechnology is ushering in a new industrial revolution, yet experts agree that the convergence of nanotechnology, information technology and biotechnology will have profound implications on how we make things and how we live. What is nanotechnology and how will it affect your life? Who will benefit from the fruits of nanoscience and who will monitor its effect? Indeed, behind the small world of nano are some big issues.

Science Matters Programs at the California Science Center

Three *Science Matters* programs are held annually (fall, winter, spring) at the Science Center on Saturday afternoons. The next program will be:

Global Climate Change and the Human Response (*April 21, 2007*)

There is now little debate within the scientific community that the Earth is warming. While not all scientists agree on how much humans are responsible, according to the National Academy of Sciences, the American Association for the Advancement of Science, and the national science academies from all G8 nations, the strong consensus of scientific opinion is that “greenhouse gases are accumulating in the Earth’s atmosphere as a result of human activities, causing surface air temperatures and subsurface ocean temperatures to rise (National Academy of Sciences 2005).” A science presentation explains the current science of global warming and its potential impact. Panelists will discuss a range of human responses to global warming and the potential roles played by government, business and private citizens.

The **California Science Center** and **IMAX Theater** are located in historic Exposition Park just west of the Harbor 110 Freeway at 700 State Drive, Los Angeles. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year’s Day. Admission to the exhibits is free. For recorded information, including IMAX show times, phone 323.SCIENCE (323.724-3623). IMAX ticket prices range from \$4.50 to \$7.50. For advance ticket purchases, group rates, or to make free reservations for any visiting group of 15 or more (*required*), call 213.744-2019. Parking is available in the guest lot at Figueroa and 39th Street at \$6 per car, \$10 for buses or oversized vehicles. Both the Science Center and IMAX Theater are wheelchair accessible. For further information, please visit our website at www.californiasciencecenter.org.