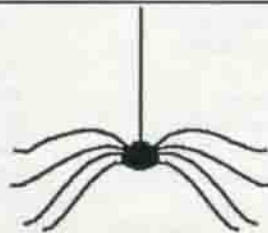




Newsletter

September Dinner Meeting



Speaker: Professor Joseph Humphrey
UC Berkeley

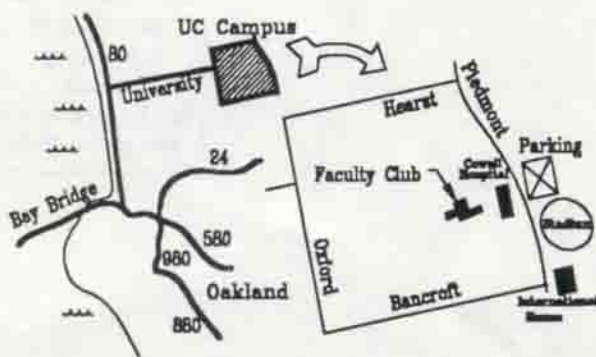
Date: Thursday September 26

Time: 6:00 No-Host cocktails
7:00 Dinner
8:00 Program

Place: UC Berkeley Faculty Club
Heyns Room

HOW SPIDERS SENSE AND USE AIR MOTIONS

Nature abounds in animals whose biotic functions have been perfected through selective evolution over very long periods of time. Spiders are an excellent example. The bodies of these animals are perfectly matched to their natural habitats for dispersing, feeding and reproducing in the most effective way. If for this reason only, such animals are of considerable engineering interest. A spider is the nearest thing one can imagine to a "living microsensor". Most of its body and extremities are covered with receptors extremely sensitive to chemical, thermal, optical and mechanical stimuli that inform the spider about its surroundings. An improved understanding of sensory systems perfected over millions of years, in spiders or other animals, can lead to better models of comparable engineering systems. In the case of spiders, an understanding of the function and mechanical properties of the trichobothria hairs in relation to ballooning and prey capture behaviors could be put to practical use in, for example, the natural control of insect pests in crop fields. The talk will describe the form and function of a spider trichobothrium as well as two known forms of aerial dispersal. Simple (but useful) mechanical models for these three items will be discussed.



Cost: \$18.00 Members
\$20.00 Non-Members
\$ 6.00 Students

Menu: Grilled Chicken
w/ Red Bell Pepper Sauce
or Grilled Snapper w/ Salsa

RSVP: Dennis Lieu
(510) 642-4014
by September 23

San Francisco Section Executive Council Meetings

1st Wednesday of each month at 6:15 pm
Room 3110 Etcheverry Hall
UC Berkeley

All members are welcome and encouraged to help plan this year's Section activities. For more information, call Dennis Lieu (510) 642-4014

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Time to get involved...

Are you interested in advancing your profession? Don't wait any longer, we want you. The San Francisco Section of the ASME is in need of volunteers to organize Section activities. We welcome and encourage members to participate in Executive Council meetings, held the first Wednesday of each month at the University of California, and to our monthly dinner meetings, held approximately the third week of each month. In addition to our monthly meetings, we would also like to organize tours, field trips, outings, seminars, or any other events that may be of interest to our members. Come meet other people in your profession. Establish important contacts for your career. Discover the latest happenings in your field. You can become involved to what ever degree you want. Please call me at (510) 642-4014.

Dennis K. Lieu, '91-'92 Chairman

Advertising Space Available:

\$100 full page
\$ 50 half page
\$ 10 business card
\$ 5 classified (25 word max.)
Contact Wendy Lorimer (510) 643-5281