

PRESS IMAGES



High school students from across the state of Utah get excited about science and math at Science Day at the U.

Photo Credit: University of Utah College of Science

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SCIENCE DAY AT THE U

UTAH, IDAHO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS TO SPEND DAY ON CAMPUS

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What: Utah and Idaho high school students attend a full day of science workshops and get academic advice about college at the University of Utah.

Date: Saturday, Nov. 8, 2008

Time: 8:30 a.m. to 3:30 p.m.

Place: Olpin Union Building and various classrooms on the University of Utah campus

FREE AND OPEN TO THE PUBLIC

Hundreds of Utah and Idaho high school students will get an introduction to education and research opportunities at the University of Utah during the 20th annual Science Day at the U on Saturday, Nov. 8. The event is hosted by the university's College of Science and College of Mines and Earth Sciences, and sponsored by Rio Tinto and XMission.

Science Day is the university's largest student recruitment event. There is no cost to students, parents or educators. Lunch is provided. Most students were invited because they expressed an interest or teachers nominated them, however, any high school student may attend simply by registering online at <http://www.science.utah.edu/>, or at the Olpin Union Building's main foyer on Nov. 8.

News media representatives are invited to cover the event in the Olpin Union Building and science buildings on main campus.

Science Day at the U will begin with an opening reception featuring a keynote talk by Kelly Sanders, chief operations officer at Kennecott Utah Copper, which is owned by the Rio Tinto mining group.

Students then receive academic advice about specific majors, science-related careers and undergraduate research offered by each department. Parents and educators may attend a presentation given by the Office of Student Recruitment and High School Services titled "How to Prepare Your Student for College."

After lunch, students attend science workshops in their areas of interest and presented by faculty from the College of Science, the College of Mines and Earth Sciences and the Utah Museum of Natural History. The following presentations may be of particular interest to news media:

- Noon to 12:45 p.m., "Explosives and Explosions," by chemistry Professor Chuck Wight, Henry Eyring Building, Room 2004. Professor Wight will discuss explosives and how they work, including selected demonstrations of explosions. Bring your earplugs!
- Noon to 12:45 p.m., "Monitoring Earthquakes in Utah and Yellowstone," by Paul Roberson, earthquake specialist at the University of Utah Seismograph Stations, William Browning Building, Room 720. Students will tour the seismology laboratory, including several highly sensitive quake-recording instruments, and learn how the U monitors earthquakes throughout Utah and Yellowstone and Grand Teton national parks. Several small quakes occur each day in Utah, so it is possible students may witness a seismograph recording during the session.
- 1 p.m. to 1:45 p.m., "Extreme Makeover: Human Body Engineering with Metals," by metallurgical engineering Professor Ravi Chandran, in the INSCC Building, Room

110. Students will be introduced to the science behind the design and production of artificial body parts, including hip joints, cardiovascular stents, spine implants and electrodes - all products of metallurgical engineering.

- 2 p.m. to 2:45 p.m., "Making Waves," by physics lecture demonstration specialist Adam Beehler in the James Fletcher Building, Room 103. Students will be treated to a special array of experiments and demos that will educate and entertain. Topics will include gravity, velocity, electromagnetism and properties of air. Beehler will shoot a ping-pong ball through three soda cans, and explain electricity using a Tesla coil.

This year, for the first time, the event will feature a series of "Industry Workshops," where students can learn from scientists at Myriad Genetics and ATK Launch Systems what it is like to work as a geneticist or rocket scientist.

Science Day at the U attracts more than 700 students, parents and educators from as far north as Soda Springs, Idaho, and as far south as Blanding, Utah. It often is the first experience these students have on a university campus.

"We continue to draw large numbers of students from rural areas in the state - students willing to travel several hours each way to attend Science Day," says Jim DeGooyer, program coordinator. "This event is very worthwhile. We are offering 55 workshop sessions that cover 31 specific research topics, and eight academic advice sessions presented by some of our finest faculty members."

Rio Tinto and XMission, a Utah Internet company, are sponsoring the event, and company reps will be on hand throughout the day to meet with students and parents about education and employment opportunities. Academic departments as well as the Financial Aid and Scholarships Office and the Office of Residential Living will host information tables.

For more information, please contact the College of Science at (801) 581-6958 or visit <http://www.science.utah.edu/> to obtain a complete schedule of events.

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