The UCSB brown-bag forum on spatial thinking is pleased to preview the

Proposed UCSB Undergraduate Minor in Spatial Studies

The discussion will be chaired by
Michael Goodchild (Geography, UCSB) and Donald Janelle (spatial@ucsb)

Ellison Hall 5824
12:00 p.m. Tuesday
12 January 2010

The Center for Spatial Studies is coordinating an interdisciplinary effort to establish an academic Minor in Spatial Studies for students at UCSB. The goals of this minor are to:

- provide opportunities for undergraduate students to complement their disciplinary majors with a supportive set of courses that will strengthen spatial reasoning skills for problem solving for the benefit of society and science;
- facilitate acquisition of knowledge and perspective on creativity that transcends disciplinary boundaries, unites quantitative and qualitative thinking, and allies with multi-media graphic display and communication of information.

In this proposal, students may select to focus on an area that aligns most clearly with their disciplinary and/or career interests. These areas include (1) Spatial Thinking, (2) Space and Place, and (3) Spatial Sciences. Students would have the opportunity to select courses and integrate knowledge around spatial themes from elective and required courses from 26 UCSB academic departments and programs. The minor would draw on the academic strengths of UCSB in the arts, humanities, sciences, social sciences, and engineering fields that invoke spatial reasoning and innovation.

The focus of discussion at this session is the draft proposal of 29 December 2009, available for review at http://www.spatial.ucsb.edu/programs/academic-minor.php.

Sponsored by spatial@ucsb, University of California, Santa Barbara

The objectives of the ThinkSpatial brown-bag presentations are to exchange ideas about spatial perspectives in research and teaching, to broaden communication and cooperation across disciplines among faculty and graduate students, and to encourage the sharing of tools and concepts.

Please contact Don Janelle (ext 5267, janelle@spatial.ucsb.edu) to review and schedule possible discussion topics or presentations that share your disciplinary interest in spatial thinking.