The Department of Engineering Science announces the launching of the Engineering Science Lecture Series

This is a series designed to benefit Sonoma State students and faculty in the School of Science and Technology, the high-tech and biotech industries, and related businesses and communities in the North Bay Region.

The lecture series will cover a broad range of topics, with focus on recent developments and trends, and will provide a platform for interaction and exchange of ideas among members of the audience.

Attendance is open to the students, faculty, and staff of SSU and other academic institutions, engineers and scientists from related industries, business people, and members of the community at large.

DAYS & DATES: Third Thursday of every month, starting on September 21, 2006
VENUE: Cerent Engineering Science Complex, Salazar Hall Room #2009A
RECEPTION: 4:00 to 4:30 p.m.
LECTURE: 4:30 to 5:15 p.m.
Q&A: 5:15 to 5:30 p.m.

The first lecture of the series is on “THE BUCK STARTS HERE” by Dr. Jim Kovach 
DIRECTOR, THE BUCK INSTITUTE FOR AGE RESEARCH
(Thursday, September 21, 2006)

ABSTRACT

The Buck Institute for Age Research is the only independent research institute in the United States that is dedicated exclusively to research on aging and age-associated disease. Since the commencement of scientific activities in 1999, the Buck Institute has been named a Nathan Shock Center by the National Institute on Aging, a designation given to the five leading national centers conducting age research. Strategically, the Buck Institute seeks to become universally recognized as the world’s leading age research institute. It will do this through the research conducted on its campus and through educational programs, that will ultimately confer degrees to researchers in the new field of biogerontology.

Despite these global aspirations, the Buck Institute seeks to create and expand key local relationships with universities and businesses in the North Bay Region. This presentation is designed to describe the new landscape of age research, including how research being conducted at the Buck Institute today will lead to the increased healthspan – the healthy years of life – in the population. The presentation will also lay out the role the Buck Institute seeks to play in the North Bay business community.

James Kovach, MD, JD has been Director of the Buck Institute for Age Research since July 2005. Prior to that Dr. Kovach was Executive Vice President and COO of Athersys, Inc. in Cleveland, Ohio. He also directed the Office of Technology Management at the Case Western Reserve University School of Medicine in Cleveland.

Prior to establishing a career in academic medicine and the biotechnology industry, Dr. Kovach had an exemplary career for seven years as a middle linebacker in the National Football League. He attended medical school in consecutive off seasons while he earned his degree, which was granted with distinction in 1984. After completing medical school at the University of Kentucky, Dr. Kovach obtained his law degree from Stanford University.