

MEDIA RELEASE
March 7, 2015



SCIENCE AFTER DARK LECTURE SERIES

Lecture discussing “Marine Ecology from the Bottom Up”

San Luis Obispo, CA – (immediate release) The Central Coast STEM Collaborative (CCSTEM), will continue its ongoing informal, educational lecture series “Science After Dark” at 6:30pm, March 11, 2015, at Luis Wine Bar in San Luis Obispo. The series is scheduled for the second Wednesday of every month through June, 2015. Visit www.ccstem.org for details of future topics and locations.

Here in SLO the ocean is on our doorstep, yet we often miss the beasts and processes that make it tick. What are the animals between your toes at Avila Beach? What processes shape our shoreline habitats, and what on earth might they have to do with Napoleon’s invasion of Egypt in 1798? Join Marine Zoologist and Community Ecologist Brian Paavo for an evening of looking at the often missed animals of the seafloor. And, since this science is happening ‘After Dark’ we’ll spend a bit of our time exploring the salacious sex lives of seafloor animals.

Brian Paavo, PhD, has recently returned to the left coast after spending 12 years studying coastal community ecology in New Zealand. His work centered on seafloor animals and how people can use small seafloor animals to learn about our ocean environment, human impacts, and just how much is happening that we normally miss. Prior to his Southern Hemisphere adventures, Brian spent several years on Catalina Island with the Catalina Island Marine Institute helping thousands of California children experience the ocean through lab and snorkeling adventures.

Where: Hosted by Luis Wine Bar, 1021 Higuera Street, SLO (must be over age 21)
Date: Wednesday, March 11, 2015
Time: Discussion starts at 6:30pm, come early to get settled and order your beverage. Light appetizers available for purchase, or you may bring your own food. All beverages must be purchased at Luis Wine Bar. Selections include wine, beer, organic sodas, coffee, and tea.
Cost: \$5.00 cover charge

CCSTEM is a regional affiliate of the California STEM Learning Network (CSLNet). The statewide network was created in 2011 to advance STEM teaching and learning in local communities. All of tomorrow’s workers will need the analytical, problem-solving and critical-thinking skills that STEM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) impart. CCSTEM is committed to enhancing and promoting STEM learning and developing career readiness in San Luis Obispo and Northern Santa Barbara Counties by fostering the collective impact of local, state, and national stakeholders. Members of CCSTEM currently serve on the leadership committee for the countywide CA Math and Science Partnership grant, the CSLNet Advisory Board, the Business and Youth Councils of the San Luis Obispo County Workforce Investment Board, and on county committees to provide professional development to teachers in the roll out of Common Core and Next Generation Science Standards initiatives.