



***BP employees gearing up to teach
UC Berkeley classes***

*Secret research schedule also to
allow time for trips to kindergarten
classrooms.*

(For Immediate Press Release)

Berkeley, California, April 1, 2007 – In anticipation of the \$500 million agreement between UC Berkeley and BP Amoco PLC, BP is excitedly developing several new courses to add to the curriculum at California's prestigious public university this fall.

Although the deal is still being negotiated, BP is moving forward with planning. "We don't want students to end up thinking that 'Petroleum: Fuel for the Future' is a half-assed course," said a public relations employee working on the course curriculum, "Besides, it's hard work finding enough reading material to support a syllabus like this."

The proposal made by UC Berkeley officials to establish the Energy Biosciences Institute (EBI) included provisions for BP employees to teach courses, mentor graduate students, undergraduates, and postdocs, participate in K-12 outreach activities, organize student groups, and utilize extension centers to build support among farmers.

Courses will be taught in conjunction with Berkeley professors by some of the 50 BP employees who will be working in the on-campus proprietary BP laboratory which will be part of the proposed new EBI facility.

The on-campus BP employees will spend the rest of their time working to commercialize and patent ideas begun by their university-employed colleagues in the "open" section of the institute. Regardless of who ultimately patents the new technologies, BP will have exclusive rights to license any new inventions coming from the EBI. Due to the confidential nature of the proprietary laboratory, the new courses taught by BP scientists will not directly relate to their research.

University spokespeople were equally enthusiastic about the new course opportunities. "Petrochemical Uses in Marine Fisheries' will fill a huge gap in our course offerings in environmental science," stated a UCB bureaucrat involved in negotiating the deal. "We're also excited that 'Black Gold from the Heart of Darkness' will add some diversity to the African Studies department." The latter course would focus on the difficulties of extracting upwards of 3 million barrels of oil a day from remote regions such as the Niger Delta where the African inhabitants have few roads, schools, or hospitals.

"It is my belief that we're reinventing the research university in these kinds of government-public-private partnerships," said UC President Robert Dynes.

See www.stopbp-berkeley.org for more details.