

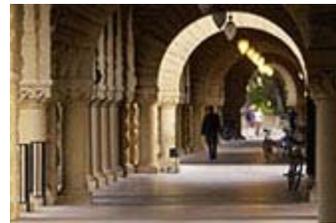
November 7, 2008

TRIP TO STANFORD UNIVERSITY AND MEDICAL CENTER

The Biomedical Physics Students were invited by two departments at the Stanford Medical Center to see the clinic and the state-of-the-art research conducted at the facilities. Before the tour of the departments in the medical center, we got a private tour of the Stanford University with a guide who was a senior in biology at the school. She explained the history of the university and the current conditions and facilities for the students.



Among the buildings covered on this tour were the Hoover Tower, the Stanford Memorial Church, the Main Quad, Science and Engineering Quad, and several new buildings that were recently constructed from donations by the Silicon Valley Entrepreneurs.



After lunch with a former student from Fresno State's Biomedical Physics Program who is currently doing his Ph.D. at Stanford University, we went to the Radiation Oncology Department (<http://radonc.stanford.edu/>) where we split into two groups and were shown

both the clinical facilities and the research that is going on in the department. Drs. Paul Keall and Peter Maxim were our hosts and afterwards, the students heard two talks on the on-going research by Dr. Dan Ruan.



Dr. Peter Maxim was gracious with his time and explained in detail the role of the linacs, cyberknife, and other equipment in treating cancer. This was very interactive and informal and the students got to ask several questions and learn from the tour.



Afterwards, we proceeded to the Molecular Imaging Program at Stanford (<http://mips.stanford.edu/>), where Dr. Craig Levin explained the research that is going on in the department. We were fortunate that on that very day, there was a workshop on Small Animal Imaging and several instruments from many modalities of imaging were on display for demonstration to the participants.



Dr. Levin walked us through each modality used in small animal imaging and explained the workings of each instrument on display. This was also interactive with several questions both by the speaker and the students.



The next day, most of us, visited Muir Woods National Monument where we had a reservation for a private tour and talk by a ranger. The weather was perfect for the type of humid, old-growth forest that is Muir Woods and the tour and talk by the ranger was excellent.

Before heading back for Fresno, we stopped by for lunch at Fisherman's Wharf. All in all, it was a good learning experience for the students and they got to see the people in the field of medical physics in their own working environment.

