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WOMEN IN ENGINEERING & SF BAY AREA NANOTECHNOLOGY COUNCIL

ANGSTROMOLOGY

A Tour of the Universe at the Nanoscale Level and Beyond

Guest speaker: **Robert Cormia**

Date: Wednesday, June 1st, 2005

Time: This talk starts at 7PM. Come join us at 6:15PM for networking & refreshments

Location: Hosted by SRI International, International Building, 333 Ravenswood Ave, Menlo Park, CA 94025. Parking is free near the Ravenswood Avenue entrance.

RSVP: This event is **FREE**, you do not need to be a member to attend. We suggest a \$2 donation to help cover refreshment costs. Email k.chin@ieee.org with your name & affiliation to reserve a spot. Pre-registration a week before is preferred, on-site registration requires photo ID.

About the talk: Nanoscience and nanotechnology have been all the latest buzz, and we've all heard phrases like 'the next big thing is really small'. But quoting Meyya Meyyappan, 'small is necessary, but not sufficient' to define nanotechnology. If you talk to engineers, they'll claim nanotechnology is nothing more than materials science. Chemists will remind you that they've been 'positioning atoms' for hundreds of years. Biologists will quip that nature figured out nanotechnology billions of years ago. Physicists remark that nuclear fission is a controlled process at the pico scale (just to one up us). IBM used quantum technology to 'beam' a particle ten years ago, and just to insult us, our children play with perfect micelles in the form of soap bubbles, and we wash our dishes with economical Langmuir-Blodgett films every day. 'Angstromology' is a tour of the universe at the quantum scale, shedding some light on what is, isn't, or what might be, nanotechnology. For the scientist and non-scientist alike, you'll understand that it is a small world after all.

About the speaker: Robert Cormia is a full-time faculty member at Foothill College, where he teaches XML, bioinformatics, and informatics. Bob's background includes a long career in technology and business development while working at Surface Science Laboratories, specializing in materials analysis and new market development. After entering the Internet in 1994 as an educator and Web developer, Bob developed the eCommerce curriculum at Foothill College. Bob joined Foothill College full-time in fall 2001, where he developed courses in Internet projects, XML for biologists, bioinformatics, and the upcoming nanotechnology program. He completed the UCSC extension Certificate in Bioinformatics in 2003, and helped to develop Foothill College's certificate in bioinformatics. Bob now pursues research topics in Semantic Web Technologies, and strategies for solar energy development to reduce global warming.

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