

The Practice of Science
Entry Survey – Winter Quarter 2008

*Please write your answers to the following questions. When you're done, put this page in the envelope provided, seal the envelope, sign your name over the seal, and write your name on the front. No one will look at these surveys until the end of the winter quarter. We will also be using the information in this survey to evaluate this new undergraduate course. This evaluation process is **very** important, so please take a few minutes to answer this survey carefully and completely. Thanks!*

1. How did you hear about this new course?

2. What aspect(s) of this course do you find most interesting?

3. What previous knowledge or experience do you have in the area of nanotechnology?

4. What previous experience do you have working in a science laboratory?

5. What skills and experiences do you hope to get from this course?

6. What aspect of this course do you think will be the most challenging for you?

7. What kinds of activities are involved in the day to day work of a scientist?

8. a) What **abilities and/or personal qualities** make a person well-suited to being a scientist?

b) What kind of **training** is most important in order to pursue a career in scientific research?

The Practice of Science – January -Entry questions

9. Some people believe that becoming a scientist is mostly a matter of receiving the right training. Other people believe that personal qualities (such as those you have listed above) are the most important factors in becoming a scientist. Other people believe that innate ability is the most important factor. In your opinion, how important are these three factors? Assign relative weights to each (Total = 100%)

training: _____ %
 personal qualities: _____ %
 abilities: _____ %

10. Think about your own abilities and personal qualities, and circle the number that indicates how much you agree or disagree with the following statements:

- a) I have the kinds of personal qualities that make me well-suited to a career as a scientist.

1 ----- 2 ----- 3 ----- 4 ----- 5
 strongly disagree disagree somewhat neither agree nor disagree agree somewhat strongly agree

- b) I have or can get the training that will prepare me for a career as a scientist.

1 ----- 2 ----- 3 ----- 4 ----- 5
 strongly disagree disagree somewhat neither agree nor disagree agree somewhat strongly agree

- c) I have the abilities that are necessary for a career as a scientist.

1 ----- 2 ----- 3 ----- 4 ----- 5
 strongly disagree disagree somewhat neither agree nor disagree agree somewhat strongly agree

11. Rank from 1 to 3 (1 being the highest priority) these three items in making your career decisions and explain why.

- Location. Where will you live? Consider country, state, community, climate, etc.
- Project. What research interests you? High profile projects?
- People. What are the personalities of your ideal peers?

12. Any other comments or questions?

