

## Call for Support



# Science Talks for Children

- Popular Talks Series -

### Summary:

- NCL scientists have begun a series of talks by researchers and practitioners on various topics in science, technology and mathematics for school children in the 8th-10th standard (12-15 years old).
- The goal is to popularize science, engineering and related disciplines, to share the joys and excitement of science with students, and to excite students to pursue careers in science and technology.
- It is proposed to make the activity self-sustaining and broaden the scope of the activity. Sponsorships are sought to make that possible.



## Background

- Scientists at the National Chemical Laboratory, Pune, India (a publicly funded R&D organization under the aegis of CSIR) have begun a popular talks series for school children starting 28 Sep 2008. Venture Center (a non-profit, technology business incubator hosted by NCL) is offering operational and logistics support under its NCL Academy project.
- The talks are given by researchers and practitioners on various topics in science, technology and mathematics for school children in the 8th-10th standard (12-15 years old). Selected science teachers are also invited to the talks. Current frequency: 1 per month.
- The goal is to popularize science, engineering and related disciplines, to share the joys and excitement of science with students, and to excite students to pursue careers in science and technology. The speakers are carefully selected and the talks are planned to be simple, informative, insightful, stimulating and entertaining.
- Participation in these talks is by openly announced registration (on a first-come-first-serve basis). Every talk has 80 seats.



## Recent talks

**Lecture 1:** “Is  $P+C+M = B$ ? : Using physics, chemistry, and mathematics to understand biology”

**Speaker:** Dr. Chetan Gadgil

**Date:** 28<sup>th</sup> September 2008



UICT, IIT-B, U. Minnesota, GSK

**Lecture2:** “The most famous math textbook in history”

**Speaker:** Dr. Chirag Kalelkar

**Date:** 9<sup>th</sup> November 2008



IISc-B, U.Maryland-College Park

**Lecture 3:** “Computer Modeling: The Lab in your Laptop”

**Speaker:** Dr Vanka Kumar and Dr. Nilanjana Sengupta

**Date:** 30<sup>th</sup> November 2008



IIT-KGP, U. Calgary, U. Kansas



U. Burdwan, U. California-Irvine

**Lecture 4:** “Frustrated States of Matter: Glasses”

**Speaker:** Dr. K. Guruswamy

**Date:** 21<sup>st</sup> December 2008



IIT-B, CalTech, Max-Planck



## Forward path and plans

- Currently the program is run with in-kind support from NCL and Venture Center. It is proposed to make it self-sustaining.
- The 2009 calendar is now ready and the speakers have committed to dates through the year. The speakers include some highly decorated scientists.
- It is proposed to publicize the talks and related activities through newspaper advertisements in Pune Newsline (Indian Express), Pune Times (Times of India) and Sakal (Marathi). This is to ensure that a wider cross-section of students are aware of these talks.
- So far talks have been by NCL scientists. It is proposed to now also invite selected researchers from other institutions.
- It is also proposed to use this forum to publicize science/ technology/ invention competitions for children. It is also proposed to run “Challenges/ Competitions” for children with the option of offering meaningful rewards to achievers.
- Depending upon availability of funds, it is also possible that we may make available audio/video archives of events.



## Financial support options

Fund raising target: Rs 8 Lakhs/ year

### Sponsorship options

Platinum	Rs 1 Lakh and above	Prominent mention on all banners (on site); Prominent mention on all newspaper advts; Prominent mention and banner on website; Acknowledgement on annual report; At least one named competition/challenge per year; Mention on stickers on all supplies and refreshment provided to children.
Gold	Rs 50 Thousand	Mention on all banners (on site); Mention on all newspaper advts; Mention on website and smaller banners; Acknowledgement on annual report; Mention on stickers on all supplies and refreshment provided to children.
Silver	Rs 25 Thousand	Mention on all banners (on site); Mention on all newspaper advts; Mention on website; Acknowledgement on annual report; Mention on stickers on all supplies and refreshment provided to children.
Other	Any amount	Grateful acknowledgement on website and annual report

### Donation option

Donations need to be in the name of "Entrepreneurship Development Center".  
Donors will receive a formal receipt and Section 80G certificate.