

ORBS Receives Funding from NSF

The ORBS program (Opportunities for Research in the Behavioral Sciences), headed by UCSD biologist James Nieh, has recently received funding from the National Science Foundation through a CAREER grant to continue its efforts in educational outreach to science students here and abroad. The grant supports continued participation by students from San Diego City College and Southwestern College through the purchase of additional computers as well as travel to Brazil, giving advanced ORBS students the opportunity to gain tropical field experience.

In February 2006, ORBS hosted the annual California Animal Behavior Symposium (CABS) on the UCSD campus. Faculty, researchers, and students from universities, community colleges, and research institutes attended CABS to exchange ideas, form connections, and hear about research

being conducted on animal behavior. The conference was partially funded by the UCSD Biological Sciences Dean's Office to help develop interest in science education among students. For more information about ORBS and its resources for students and science teachers, visit: <http://www.biology.ucsd.edu/labs/nieh/teachingbee.htm>.



Transfer student Michelle Scott-Lopez and Constantine Lau, a UCSD M.S./B.S. student with whom Michelle is conducting research. One of the goals of ORBS is to support the transition of students from 2-year to 4-year colleges through student mentoring.