

Abstract Submitted
for the DPP02 Meeting of
The American Physical Society

Sorting Category: 3.0.0 (Educational)

A Plasma Science Class for High School Students¹ R.A. MOYER, M.J. BURIN, C. CHOW, R.P. DOERNER, R.P. SERAYDARIAN, UCSD, A. NAGY, PPPL, R.L. LEE, J.A. LEUER, General Atomics — The Fusion Division of the Center for Energy Research at the University of California, San Diego hosted a 3-week long, in-residence plasma science class entitled “Radiant Plasmas: from Neon Lights to Nuclear Fusion” during July 2002 as part of the Academic Connections program at UCSD. The class consisted of 3 girls and 6 boys (4 seniors, 4 juniors, and 1 sophomore) from across the US and had a wide range of educational experience since the only prerequisite was a course in Algebra. The students were exposed to a number of hands-on activities developed by CPEP and supplemented with activities that drew on the local strengths of the PISCES program, the Center for Astrophysics and Space Sciences, and the GA Fusion Education Project. We will discuss the specifics of the students activities, the relative effectiveness of each, and some ideas for developing this prototype class into an offering for a more general high school audience.

¹Work supported in part by US DOE Grant DE-FG03-97ER54402 and Contract DE-AC03-76CH03073.

Prefer Oral Session
 Prefer Poster Session

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Date submitted: July 18, 2002

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