

**For Immediate Release**

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***University of California, San Diego Academic Connections scholarship offered***

KAMUELA, Hawai‘i—February 3, 2011—The Kohala Center is looking for highly motivated college-bound island high school students in grades 9–12 to apply for a three-week pre-college summer academic and residential experience at The University of California, San Diego (UCSD). Applications are due Friday, March 25, for the Academic Connections program this July in San Diego.

The Academic Connections program invites students to explore the best UCSD has to offer, connecting select high school students with UCSD by providing hands-on college subject matter courses. Program participation provides students with the opportunity to experience life and learning at a top-ranked research university.

Students will experience courses taught by UCSD graduate students in a college environment in Academic Connections Research Studies or work side-by-side with world-renowned UCSD researchers in their labs on specific projects. Academic Connections not only gives students a feel for academic life at a university, but also offers multiple outside activities to network with other students.

The program will take place July 10–30. UCSD and The Kohala Center are offering one full tuition scholarship, which will provide funding for the selected recipient to attend the program. The scholarship recipient must cover their own travel costs.

The application deadline is March 25. Application information is available at <http://www.kohalacenter.org/scholarships/connections.html> or from The Kohala Center, 808-887-6411. For more program details, visit the Academic Connections Web site, <http://academicconnections.ucsd.edu/>.

UCSD partners with The Kohala Center to offer this competitive program for precollege students. The Kohala Center is an independent center for research and education *about* and *for* the environment, which operates in partnership with local, national, and international research and educational institutions. To learn more about The Kohala Center’s programs, see [www.kohalacenter.org](http://www.kohalacenter.org).