



For Immediate Release

Media Contact: Kristina Kurasz
(213) 744-7446
kkurasz@cscmail.org

California Science Center
Science Matters Speakers Program
Presents

“The Science and Policy of Obesity: Who’s Policing Your Plate?”

Los Angeles- The California Science Center’s *Science Matters* speakers program will discuss “The Science and Politics of Obesity: Who’s Policing Your Plate?” on Saturday, May 17, 2008 from 1:00- 3:00 pm. Featured panelists will offer different perspectives on the current science of obesity, exploring the biological and cultural effects obesity has on different ethnicities and communities. The discussion will also examine the range of responses at the individual, corporate, and government levels to the obesity epidemic that is taking over our nation.

Conan Nolan, *NBC4 reporter* will serve as moderator for the panel discussion, which is free to the public, in the Wallis Annenberg Building for Science Learning and Innovation at the California Science Center.

Panelists include: **James Levine, MD, Ph.D**, *Professor of Medicine, Physiology and Bioengineering, Mayo Clinic*, a senior scientific advisor to the US government, United Nations and the Government of the Peoples Republic of China; **Antronette K. Yancey, MD, MPH**, *Professor, UCLA Department of Health Services; Co-Director, Center of Excellence in the Elimination of Health Disparities*, and a public health commentator for KPCC, a local NPR affiliate; **Manal Aboelata, MPH**, *Program Director, Prevention Institute, Oakland, California*; and **J. Justin Wilson**, *Senior Research Analyst, Center for Consumer Freedom, Washington D.C.*

Program attendees will have a chance to hear the debates on this issue and to ask panelists questions at the end of the program. All those interested in attending may RSVP at 213-744-2420.

Guests visiting *BODY WORLDS 3 and the Story of the Heart*, currently on display at the California Science Center, can witness the harmful effects of obesity first hand as they view a cross section of a human specimen that reveals how organs can be damaged by obesity.

Science Matters Programs at the California Science Center

Three *Science Matters* programs are held annually (fall, winter, spring) at the Science Center on Saturday afternoons.

About the California Science Center

The California Science Center's mission is as follows: "We aspire to stimulate curiosity and inspire science learning in everyone by creating fun, memorable experiences, because we value science as an indispensable tool for understanding our world, accessibility and inclusiveness, and enriching people's lives."

General Info: The California Science Center and IMAX Theater are located in historic Exposition Park just west of the Harbor (110) Freeway at 700 Exposition Park Drive, Los Angeles. Open daily from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m., except on Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Year's Day. Tickets for *BODY WORLDS 3 & the Story of the Heart* are currently on sale. Guests are encouraged to buy their tickets online at www.californiasciencecenter.org. Admission to Science Matters and all other Science Center exhibits is free. For recorded information, including IMAX show times, call 323.SCIENCE (323.724-3623). IMAX ticket prices range from \$4.75 to \$8.00. For advance ticket purchases, group rates, or to make reservations for any visiting group of 15 or more (required), call 213.744-2019. Parking is available in the guest lot at Figueroa and 39th / Exposition Park Drive at \$6 per car, \$10 for buses or oversized vehicles. Both the Science Center and IMAX Theater are wheelchair accessible. For further information, please visit our website at www.californiasciencecenter.org.

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