Francis Parker Students and Faculty Explore Research Opportunities at the UC San Diego MRSEC.

Building on relationships that have enabled ten Francis Parker students over the past 14 years to engage in current research at UC San Diego, Dr. Pierce and Mr. Griggs traveled with a pilot group of seven Francis Parker students to UC San Diego to explore ways to engage further. The group was hosted by Professor Mike Sailor and Professor Tod Pascal, who have been making experimental and theoretical advancements in medical, chemical, and physical applications of materials that are engineered at the nanometer scale.

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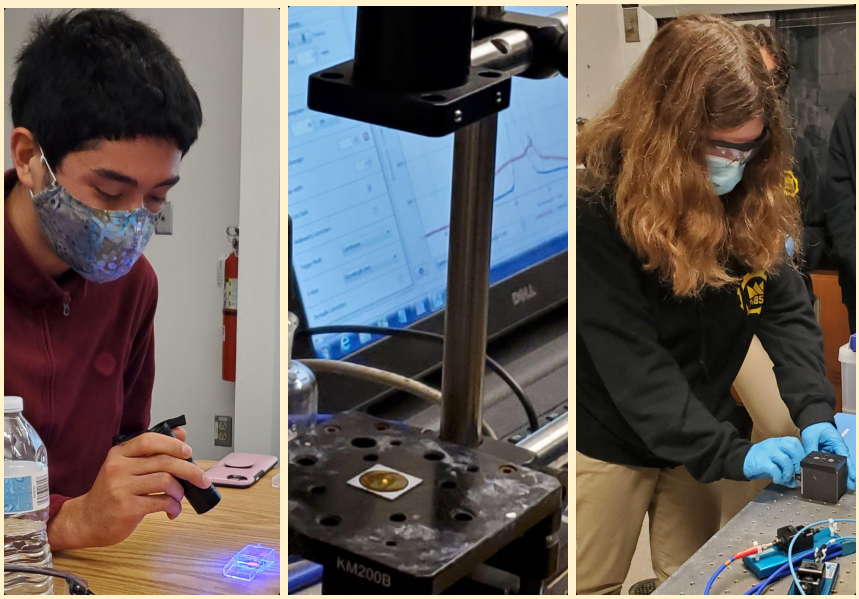
<td>  </td>
<td>left Simon Britton shines UV light at a photonic crystal. The physical dimensions of features in this nano-engineered material are designed such that it returns red light when illuminated with ultraviolet wavelengths.

center Taking spectra from light reflected from a nanoporous silicon surface. In this case, changes in the spectrum indicated the presence of methanol on the surface.

right Sydney Maslow affixes a magnetic instrument mount to an optical table.</td>
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<td>Prof. Michael Sailor (facing the camera) introduces Francis Parker students and faculty to his center's nanoengineering efforts at UCSD.</td>
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Ultimately, Profs. Sailor and Pascal plan to expand opportunities for the community, ranging from high school students to visiting professors, to engage in programs to help them learn, make discoveries, and reach levels at which they can mentor others. UC San Diego MRSEC will continue efforts to collaborate and engage the community in K-12 and secondary education in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) fields.

For details about upcoming summertime programs, visit this site: [UC San Diego MRSEC RIMSE Summer School page.]