This past summer, five undergraduates worked in SIO research labs for 10 weeks, mentored by CCE PIs as well as advised by graduate students and post docs. They worked on CCE-related issues, encompassing a wide variety of science components represented within the CCE community. On alternate Fridays, the “REU lunch bunch” met for an informal pizza luncheon (above) to get to know one another better. Discussions ranged from what they were doing in the lab or thinking about in terms of future education plans to whether the surf was up and other interests outside of the lab.

The last lunch meeting was held 12 September 2008 with each student presenting a short summary of their summer research to a larger group from the 5 represented labs.

Meet the 2008 REUs from CCE!

**Lisa Kamaño** (Lihini Aluwihare’s lab) looked at amino acids as indicators of marine organic matter quality (“freshness”), and source of organic matter.

**Todd Langland** (Mark Ohman’s lab) compared CHN content to measured images of scanned zooplankton from a Zooscan machine.

**Mary McCormick** (Mike Landry’s lab) used N isotope analysis to examine trophic levels of 3 organisms in the CCE, based on what they consumed (El Nino vs La Nina years).

**Brian Pearson** (Greg Mitchell’s lab) examined the emission spectra of phycobiliproteins (photosynthetic pigments) as an index of community structure.

**Emy Daniels** (Brian Palenik’s lab) identified ciliate grazers of a marine bacterium (Synechococcus) using molecular techniques, and participated on a CalCOFI-LTER research cruise.

**Other REU mentors involved at SIO:**
Susan Lang, Alison Cawood, Moira Decima, Brian Seegers, and Bianca Brahamsha