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Summer Fellowship Program June 15-19, 2009

**"Reduction,
Emergence,
and Essence"**

Starts Monday,
June 15th at MIT



*Institute for
the Study of Nature*

Ask the Tough Questions

- We analyze natural wholes into parts (or particles), but are wholes *only* parts?
- "I am just a heap of atoms." Is that a coherent statement? Where does the "I" come from?
- Is the purpose of science to understand or just to meet our bodily needs?
- Are humans forever destined to be aliens to the universe? Or does our ordinary experience count for anything?
- Why do bookstores have separate "science" and "nature" sections? Isn't science about nature?

The Institute for the Study of Nature invites you to join us in a Summer Seminar the week of June 15th, 2009 on the campus of MIT to begin considering these questions with the care they deserve.

Final deadline for all applications (including scholarship essays) is March 16th, 2009.

**Final Deadline:
Monday, March 16th**

Honor Scholarships

Three competitive Honor Scholarships will be awarded that cover full tuition, room, and board. See website www.isnature.org for requirements.



What's the Deal for 2009?

At this year's Seminar we'll devote four days of study and dialog to exploring questions of science, natural philosophy, and their intersection: the efficacy of reduction, the appeal of emergence, and the necessity of postulating essences. The course spans from the beginnings of science in the ancient Greeks, through the early moderns like Descartes and Newton to more recent modern results that have signaled a rebirth of interest in the notion of emergence.