

Changing Climates @ CSU:  
Teaching and Talking about Climate Change  
across the University Curriculum

With the support of the Center for Multiscale Modeling of Atmospheric Processes (CMMAP), an NSF Science and Technology Center headquartered at Colorado State University, English professors John Calderazzo and SueEllen Campbell have developed a science-outreach and education program that explores global climate change from the point of view of over two dozen academic departments. Drawing from Colorado State teachers and researchers who are doing climate-change work, they have created several lecture series that draw on the myriad perspectives available in almost any college or university: a faculty-teaching-faculty primer series, two two-day teaching intensives (one on understanding the problem, one on potential solutions), and a series (Climate Change: What We All Need to Know) for the student body and community citizens. Topics have included atmospheric science and modeling, biological and ecological effects, effects on people, economics, national security, policy-making, the literary imagination, climate-change art, green building, carbon-footprint reduction, and much more. They have also helped sixty sections of freshman composition make climate change their primary writing topic. Their website contains videos of most campus talks and other resources : <http://changingclimates.colostate.edu>. Next, they'll work with core faculty to deepen climate change teaching across the curriculum and provide a model for other schools to use. So far, 100+ faculty (from all eight colleges) and some visitors have given talks to an audience total of some 5700, including faculty, staff, and researchers; graduate, undergraduate, community-college, and high-school students; K-12 science teachers and coordinators; state division of wildlife administrators and city officials; and many concerned citizens.

Changing Climates @ CSU operates on the belief that global climate change is everybody's business and that we all need to understand it, and soon, using the best information available. Its goals include insuring that every student graduates with some climate-change literacy, including understanding how his or her field of study relates to the big picture. Along the way, scientists, scholars, and classroom teachers have also learned to communicate better with the public, policy makers, and each other, enhancing the possibility of cross-disciplinary collaboration. Soon, an educational template will be available to help interested faculty at other institutions to deepen climate-change teaching and research in multidisciplinary ways.

# WHAT WE CAN DO ABOUT CLIMATE CHANGE

February 4 & 5, 2009

Lory Student Center

Changing Climates @ Colorado State University

<http://changingclimates.colostate.edu>

## Wednesday, February 4

10:00

*Toward a Carbon-Neutral Campus* (LSC 228)

*3-D Earth: Our Planet through Space & Time* (LSC 224-226)

11:00

*Cool Art in the Hot Zone: Artists Respond to Climate Change* (LSC 228)

*Mapping the Air: What We're Doing with Climate Modeling at CSU* (LSC 224-226)

12:00

Featured Speaker, LSC 228

*The 2-Week Obama Report Card & 100-Day Presidential Climate Action Plan*

Bill Becker, Executive Director, Presidential Climate Action Plan

1:00

*Developing Climates: How Will Africa Fare?* (LSC 228)

*Ethical Solutions to Climate Change* (LSC 230)

2:00

*Heated Words? How We Talk about Climate Change* (LSC 228)

*Finding Information on the Science & Business of Climate Change* (LSC 230)

3:00

Featured Speaker, LSC 228

*The Climate of Home: What's Happening in Colorado & the Southwest*

Stephen Saunders, President, or Tom Easley, Director of Programs,

Rocky Mountain Climate Organization

## Thursday, February 5

9:30

*Climate Change & Rangelands: What We're Doing at CSU* (LSC 228)

TBA (LSC 230)

11:00

*Earth, Wind, & Fire: Finding Alternative Energy at CSU* (LSC 228)

Student Designs for a Community Climate Challenge (LSC 230)

12:30

Featured Speaker, LSC 228

*The National Scene: Impacts, Mitigation, Adaptation*

Dennis Ojima, NREL & Heinz Center for Science, Economics, & the Environment

2:00

*The Joys of Carbon Dieting: A Workshop* (LSC 228)

(It's helpful, but not necessary, to bring recent utility bills.)

TBA (LSC 230)

3:30

*Looking for Answers: Ecosystem Research at CSU* (LSC 228)

*On the Lighter Side: The Climate Dating Game* (LSC 230)

7:00

Keynote Speaker, North Ballroom

*Solutions to the Climate/Energy Problem*

Scott Denning, Atmospheric Science

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*Poster design by Stephanie G'Schwind*

Colorado State University