

UNIVERSITY OF MINNESOTA

Twin Cities Campus

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September 16, 2015

Dear Friends,

We are pleased to announce that the 23rd Annual Kuehnast Lecture will feature a presentation by Dr. Thomas Peterson, recently retired from the NOAA's National Center for Environmental Information (NCEI) and Center for Weather and Climate (CWC), Asheville, NC. Dr. Peterson is also current President of the World Meteorological Organization's Commission for Climatology and he was a lead author for the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change 4th Assessment Report. We are pleased to have Dr. Peterson come to the University of Minnesota as a contributor to this highly regarded endowed Lecture Series. His presentation is scheduled for 3 pm on Thursday, November 12, in Room 335 Borlaug Hall on the St Paul Campus. There will be a reception, with refreshments, following his lecture. All of those interested in climate science, as well as climate change and its implications are invited to attend.

Dr. Peterson has submitted the following title and abstract for his presentation:

The Story of Climate Data

From the first instrumental climate observations in 1697 up to the likely global temperature record being set this year (2015), professional climate scientists owe a debt of gratitude to the millions of observations taken by volunteers around the world. In addition to describing how average global temperatures are determined and their implications, this presentation will highlight the results of a new NOAA study released this summer (for which I was a co-author) that explained why the so called global warming hiatus was largely an artifact of biases in the data. In addition I will explain why this summer's passage of World Meteorological Organization's Resolution 60 (putting essentially all countries within the U.N. system on record as supporting free and unrestricted access to climate data) does not alleviate all the concerns about sharing climate data and data integrity. So the presentation will end with recommendations about what we can do to improve the global climate record.

If you wish to read more about Dr. Peterson's career and background you can find additional information at.....

<http://www.wmo.int/pages/prog/wcp/ccl/ccl16-President.php>

As in past years, the lecture is co-sponsored by the University of Minnesota Sigma Xi Chapter (the Scientific Research Society), and the lecture will be recorded and available for classroom use by faculty and others who may want to enhance their curriculum in climate science. A comprehensive history of the Kuehnast Endowment Lecture, with updated details can be found at.....

http://climate.umn.edu/kuehnast_lecture

Your continued support of the Kuehnast Endowment is appreciated. In particular our gratitude is expressed to those who have contributed to this fund in recent years. All contributions are tax deductible and can be made out to the University of Minnesota, with Kuehnast Endowment in the memo line. I hope to see you at the lecture on November 12th.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark Seeley". The signature is written in a cursive style with a long, sweeping underline that extends to the right.

Mark Seeley, Chair
The Kuehnast Endowment Committee