



The Second Stony Brook Great Debate Tuesday , November 30
Eric W. Kaler, Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs

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To: Torre,F.Jason

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To: All Faculty, Staff and Students:

The Second Stony Brook Great Debate
Tuesday, November 30, at 4:00 pm in Humanities Institute, Lecture
Hall 1006

Focused on a recent essay by Peter Goldmark, recently retired Head of the Climate and Atmosphere Program at the Environmental Defense Fund (EDF) entitled "Time Is Running Out!", an expert panel will debate the issues surrounding Goldmark's provocative lament that our generation has failed to do anything about climate change.

See Goldmark's article at
<<http://blogs.edf.org/personalnature/2010/10/13/time-is-running-out/>>.

"Is Time Running Out" (...to stop the ever-increasing emission of carbon dioxide and other greenhouse gases into the atmosphere, before it is too late and the planet suddenly switches to a new, essentially irreversible state of climate, unable to support life as we know it)? Is humankind running out of time to take action to prevent a climate, social, and economic catastrophe or it is so uncertain that we don't have to worry??

This is the second Stony Brook Great Debate held this academic year, hosted by the Humanities Institute. The Debate moderator is Jim Klurfeld of the School of Journalism. The debate brings together an oceanographer (Malcolm Bowman), an ecologist and conservationist (Carl Safina), a journalist (Elizabeth Bass), an urban planner (Lee Koppelman), and an economist (Elaine Kamarck) to further debate perhaps one of the greatest questions facing humankind.

Whatever the future holds, what are the scientific, political, economic and public awareness issues that need to be debated, shared and brought into sharp focus?

Best,

Eric

Eric W. Kaler
Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs