


Message from Jeff Sachs

Real Video (10:37) 

Quicktime Video (10:37) 

Nobel laureates Joseph Stiglitz and Robert Solow were among the many great thinkers and economists who participated in the launch of the Center on Capitalism and Society in April, which is led by Professor Edmund Phelps. Says Jeff, "I have full confidence that the new center will be one of the great contributions at Columbia University and a very important part of the Earth Institute." ([download pdf of Professor Phelps' introductory remarks](#)).

Just a few weeks after State of the Planet, the Earth Institute, Columbia's 250th, and the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory sponsored another major event -- the Taming the Climate conference. "Climate change is one of the most complicated issues that we face on the planet -- it's of a global scale, with complex science, complex technology, and many unknowns," says Jeff. "If we put our heads together, we're going to be able to find important and meaningful solutions."

Also featured is an innovative Earth Institute project funded by the Lenfest Foundation -- an international round table on climate that will aim to drive a global consensus on priorities and actions. "I have enormous gratitude for the Lenfest Foundation and to Gerry Lenfest personally for giving us the chance to take on this great challenge. It's a fitting follow-up to the wonderful Taming the Climate conference."

In the News

[The Wall Street Journal -- April 26, 2004](#)

[Time Magazine \(Asia\) -- May 3, 2004](#)

[Reuters -- April 26, 2004](#)

[BBC News -- April 26, 2004](#)

Cardiovascular disease has become a major global health threat and is being largely ignored in developing nations, says a report just released by the Center for Global Health and Sustainable Development, a unit of the Earth Institute and the Mailman School of Public Health.

[> see all 22 articles](#)

[> download pdf of report](#)

[Harper's Magazine -- May 2004](#)

Klaus Lackner, Ewing-Worzel Professor of Geophysics at Columbia University, was quoted in this article on carbon sequestration. No direct link to the article is available.

[The Wall Street Journal -- April 22, 2004](#)

The Access Project, housed at the Center for Global Health and Economic Development, and its quest for funds to match those donated by The Glaser Project Foundation, led by Rob Glaser, to treat AIDS in Rwanda was covered in this article. No direct link to the article is available.

[The New York Times -- April 22, 2004](#)

[The International Herald Tribune -- April 22, 2004](#)

Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, was quoted in this article on the World Bank.

[Time -- April 19, 2004](#)

Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, was included in Time magazine's list of "100 most influential people in the world today."

[The Winston-Salem Journal -- April 16, 2004](#)

[Science Daily -- April 16, 2004](#)

[The Globe and Mail -- April 14, 2004](#)

Dake Chen, researcher at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, was lead author on a paper published in Nature revealing a new method that makes it possible to predict El Niño at long lead times.

[The Rockland Journal News -- April 16, 2004](#)

Lynn Sykes, Higgins Professor of Earth and Environmental Sciences at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, is quoted on earthquake risks for the Indian Point nuclear power plant's plans to transfer radioactive fuel.



CERC's Director and Founder Appointed New Chair of Conservation Biology

Don Melnick, executive director and founder of the Center for Environmental Research and Conservation (CERC), has been appointed to a new chair at Columbia, the Distinguished Professorship of Conservation Biology. Melnick, who has been on the Columbia faculty since 1981, has served as professor in the Department of Anthropology, Biological Sciences and Ecology, Evolution and Environmental Biology. He has used molecular genetics to understand aspects of the ecology, behavior, evolution and conservation of vertebrates, from frogs to elephants. The new chair has been endowed through the generosity of the V. Kann Rasmussen Foundation.





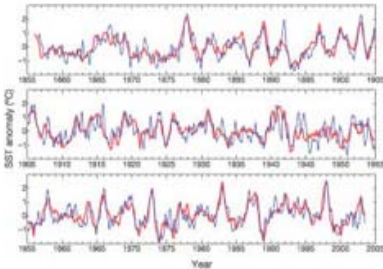
Britain's Top Climate Change Official Working to Reduce Carbon Emissions

"Policies aimed at mitigating greenhouse gases do not need to come at the expense of domestic economic growth," says British Secretary of State for Environment Rt. Hon. Margaret Beckett, M.P., shown above with Klaus Lackner, Ewing-Worzel Professor of Geophysics (left), and Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Earth Institute (right). About 65 people attended a talk given by the Secretary on Britain's position to reduce carbon emissions 60 percent by 2050.

- > [watch video using Quicktime](#)
- > [watch video using Real Media](#)
- > [download transcript of remarks](#)

NOAA Update: Cuts Proposed to Programs Important to Earth Institute Scientists

Working with interested parties at Columbia and other institutions, Columbia's Office of Government Affairs is putting together an advocacy effort in response to proposed cuts to the NOAA FY05 budget. This includes meeting with members of Congress and NOAA officials. You can play an important role in the effort to educate Congress during the coming months. The Office of Government Affairs will be happy to assist you in drafting letters or arranging visits with relevant offices. [more](#)



By Looking Back, Scientists See a Bright Future for Climate Change Forecasting

Dake Chen at Columbia University's Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory recently used climate data to successfully test an improved model of ENSO, the El-Niño/Southern Oscillation that scientists believe impacts climate change in many parts of the world. [more](#)

Comments and Suggestions

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[Past issues](#)

The South China Morning Post -- April 15, 2004

A profile of Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, and coverage of his talk at the Asia Society was published in this Hong Kong newspaper.

[more recently in the media](#)



Reports From the Field: The Antarctic CORC/ARCHES Expedition

Ice covering the Weddell Sea last year prevented scientists from reaching submerged mooring instruments busy collecting data, so Dr. Gerd Krahnmann of the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory is again aboard the Research Vessel Laurence M. Gould heading to the Antarctic's Weddell Sea. Krahnmann is leading a group of five scientists and technicians from Lamont (Dr. Robin Robertson, Dr. Deborah LeBel, Tim Newberger, and Anthony Dacheille) on an expedition to replace these submerged instruments deployed three years ago on the northern rim of the Weddell Sea. [more](#)



Lamont-Doherty Scientist Elected to National Academy of Sciences

Dennis Kent, Adjunct Senior Research Scientist at the Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, was one of five Columbia University faculty members elected this year to the National Academy of Sciences, which is considered one of the highest honors that can be accorded a U.S. scientist or engineer. Kent has made seminal and widely used findings in such fields as paleomagnetism, magnetic mineralogy and the history of the Earth's magnetic field. [more](#)

(Kent will be speaking May 5 on "Hotspot Motions with Respect to Earth's Spin Axis" at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory's Seismology Seminar Room.) [view EI events calendar](#)

Race Against Time authors (from left) Stephen Leeder, Susan Raymond, and Henry Greenberg.

Heart Disease and Stroke in Developing Economies

Report emphasizes that solutions are at hand

The message that heart disease and stroke in developing countries are big problems requiring much more attention from international health agencies received wide attention last week with the April 26th launch of the Earth Institute report "A Race Against Time: the challenge of cardiovascular disease in developing countries." [more](#)



Spring 2004 Public Lectures Series

On May 23, Dr. Steven Chillrud, a Doherty Research Scholar at Lamont-Doherty Earth Observatory, will talk about how Lamont geochemists used backpack air monitors to track potentially hazardous air pollutants to the New York City subway system, and how they are currently investigating the possible health impacts from elements in steel dust in the subways. [more](#)

Science Journal Editorial Features State of the Planet Conference

On March 29 and 30, The Earth Institute held State of the Planet 2004, its flagship biennial conference bringing together an international roster of experts to address major issues facing society and the environment. Immediately following the conference, Jeffrey Sachs, director of the Earth Institute, published an editorial in the prestigious journal Science titled "Sustainable Development." The editorial elaborated on the underlying theme of SOP 2004 — "...global-scale interactions between the growing human population and Earth processes under increasing strain." [download pdf of article](#)

Annual Dinner and Award Ceremony Celebrating the First Ten Years of CERC and Conservation at Columbia University

An annual event celebrating the 10th anniversary of the founding of the Center for Environmental Research (CERC) on May 10th will honor Theodore W. Kheel, lawyer, arbitrator, mediator, and founder of Nurture New York's Nature; Professor Wangari Maathai, a member of Kenya's parliament and founder of the Green Belt Movement; and Dr. Peter H. Raven, director, Missouri Botanical Garden and Time magazine "Hero of the Planet," for their contributions to science, conservation, and sustainable development. [more](#)

