

Global Warming and Climate Change

The Science Basis and a Few Observations on Current Politics

Stuart Jordan, PhD

Although the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC) issued a Science Report in 2007 that assessed the cause of the well established global warming as "90% likely due to anthropogenic greenhouse gases, led by carbon dioxide", this conclusion is still disputed by a vocal minority of competent scientists, and an even more vocal, larger number of non-scientists. This talk will make the science-based case that the near-consensus of approximately 2500 publishing scientists worldwide who contributed to the IPCC Science Report is valid, subject to two further considerations: 1) The IPCC-2007 conclusion explains very well the alarmingly rapid global temperature rise of the last 30 years. 2) While the case for solar driving of this recent temperature rise is very weak, there is reason to believe that the Sun has played a significant role in many longer-term climate changes over the last 1,000 years. The talk will end with a brief discussion of the speaker's recent experience reading proposed global-warming legislation in Annapolis and in Congress. Two current "myths" surrounding the global warming/climate question will be exposed in this context.

Stuart Jordan is Senior Staff Scientist Emeritus at NASA's Goddard Space Flight Center. His career there included serving as Head of the Solar Physics Branch, Project Scientist for the Solar Optical

Telescope on Spacelab, and NASA organizer, with the French CNRS (their NSF), of an 8-volume monograph series on "non-thermal stellar atmospheres". He also spent a tour as Chief of Solar Physics at NASA Headquarters. He holds a Ph.D. in physics and astrophysics from the University of Colorado, following a Rhodes Scholarship at Oxford. His published research includes the structure and dynamics of the solar atmosphere and, more recently, the effect of the Sun on Earth's climate. He is currently associated with the newly formed Center for Inquiry Office for Public Policy in Washington, and is a long-time local leader for the Washington Area Secular Humanists.

Saturday, May 10, 2008
2 - 4 pm
Bethesda Library, 7400
Arlington Rd., Bethesda,
MD (near Bethesda metro)

**FREE admission – Everyone welcome,
members and non-members**

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- **When:** Saturday, June 7, 9:30 a.m. to 4:15 p.m.
- **Where:** S. Dillon Ripley Center, 1100 Jefferson Dr., SW, Washington, DC
- **Telephone:** 202-633-3030
- **Metro:** Smithsonian Mall Exit (Blue/Orange) 

Torn From Today's Headlines

From an April 8 Associated Press story by Nancy Zuckerbrod: "Talk about a civics lesson: A high-school senior has raised questions about political bias in a popular textbook on U.S. government, and legal scholars and top scientists say the teen's criticism is

well-founded. They say *American Government*, by conservatives James Wilson and John Dilulio, presents a skewed view of topics from global warming to separation of church and state. The publisher now says it will review the book, as will the College Board, which oversees college-level Advanced Placement courses used in high schools. Matthew LaClair of Kearny, N.J., recently brought his concerns to the attention of the Center for Inquiry (CFI), an Amherst, N.Y., think tank that promotes science that has issued a scathing report about the textbook."

NCAS's May 2008 lecture speaker, Stuart D. Jordan, Ph.D., authored the CFI report's section on global warming.

URL for the AP article: tinyurl.com/5om4ct 

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