



Environmental Sciences Seminar Series Presents:

Why "Civilization Exists by Geologic Consent" (Will Durant), with special reference to California

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**Thursday March 16, 2006 at 5:00 pm
Smittcamp Alumni House, CSU, Fresno**

(Reception at 5:00 pm, followed by seminar at 5:20 pm)

The Earth & Space Sciences (E&SS) includes geology, geophysics, soil science, oceanography, astronomy, and atmospheric science. E&SS knowledge has a direct impact upon the welfare of every resident. There have been many recent examples in California, the US, and the Indian Ocean of the need for E&SS knowledge on the part of the general population.

Earth and Space Sciences: 1. provide a good background for biology, chemistry, and physics; 2. are exciting and inspiring; 3. are needed in California for daily life (e.g. landslide, earthquake, volcanic, flood, water, aggregate, energy, health, soil issues); 4. are good for disadvantaged students. In addition, California has two major space science facilities, JPL and NASA-Ames. The state has been and remains a major source of petroleum and other minerals.

Despite the growing general need for E&SS knowledge there is some reluctance to approve the E&SS as a 9-12 class that satisfies university admission requirements for laboratory science. Many academics perceive E&SS as being inferior to physics, chemistry, and biology. To win approval of E&SS as a laboratory science for university admission requires convincing both University faculty and administration of the desirability of such a move. A statewide mobilization of E&SS professionals and other interested people could help move this process along.

All members of the professional, educational, and research communities are welcome. For additional information, please contact the Earth & Environmental Sciences department office at (559) 278-3086 or vengieb@csufresno.edu

Parking restrictions will be relaxed in Lot V (Shaw and Woodrow Avenues) between 4:30 and 7:00 pm for seminar participants. An online campus parking map is available at: <http://www.csufresno.edu/univrelations/map>