



Albert Einstein Cell Phones Silent Spring
The Moon Landing The Underground Railroad Polymerase Chain Reaction
DNA Sequencing World Wide Web The Fall of The Berlin Wall
The Polio Vaccine 'I have a dream'
The Emancipation Proclamation Google Woodstock
...created the future. So will we.

CREATING THE FUTURE: THE ROLE OF THE UNIVERSITY IN TRANSFORMING THE WORLD

IN CELEBRATION OF THE INAUGURATION OF DR. DAVID M. DOOLEY

ACADEMIC SYMPOSIUM II -- NARRAGANSETT BAY CAMPUS, 215 SOUTH FERRY ROAD
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2010, 3 - 4:30 P.M.

THE ROLE OF THE UNIVERSITY IN TRANSFORMING THE GLOBE

Moderator

Margaret Leinen, Ph.D., '80, Chief Executive Officer, Climate Response Fund

As head of the Climate Response Fund, Margaret oversees a new nonprofit organization created to stimulate and support discussion and research into 'geoengineering' or climate intervention techniques and other activities needed to explore innovative solutions to the climate crisis facing the world. Prior to that role, she served as Dean of Oceanography and Acting Dean of Environment and Life Sciences at URI, and Assistant Director of Assistant Director of Geosciences at NSF.

Panelists

Medicinal Foods: Dr. Navindra Seeram, Assistant Professor of Pharmacognosy, has a research group, the Bioactive Botanical Research Laboratory that investigates the health properties of plant compounds including medicinal foods such as berries. Navindra, named as one of 10 to watch by URI, is regularly quoted in the popular press, and has co-authored over 70 peer-reviewed research articles, 13 book chapters and is a co-inventor on several international patents. He is also the series editor of a recently launched book series by CRC Press/Taylor and Francis Group called 'Clinical Pharmacognosy'.

Languages: Dr. Alain-Philippe Durand, Professor of French, English, and Film Media, is the recipient of the Palmes Académiques, the highest honor awarded to academics from the government of France, and the URI Foundation Teaching Excellence Award. An expert on French literature and culture, he is the author of 4 books, and over 30 peer-reviewed articles and chapters. He was appointed Visiting Professor in universities in Brazil, France, and Germany. He has helped to establish joint programs with French and any other major offered on campus in addition to placing students in graduate programs and careers in universities, businesses, and organizations all over the world.

Security: Dr. Jimmie Oxley, Professor of Chemistry, participates on a research team that investigates the chemistry of thermal decomposition of highly energetic materials. Among the materials studied are military explosives, such as nitramines, nitroarenes, and nitrate esters; improvised explosives, such as TATP and HMTD; energetic salts, such as ammonium nitrate and perchlorate; and reactive chemicals, such as peroxides, hydrazines, hydroxylamines. Research ranges from laboratory scale-studies determining reaction kinetics, identifying decomposition products, and developing analytical methods to modeling of results and full-scale detonation and cook-off testing. She heads the Department of Homeland Security Center for Excellence in Explosive Detection, Mitigation, Response and Characterization, managing millions in grant funding, and co-directs the URI Partnership in Forensic Science.

Atmosphere: Dr. John Merrill, Professor of Oceanography, conducts research work on long range transport at large scales, in collaboration with atmospheric chemists, volcanologists, and paleoclimatologists. His research team uses ozonesondes to obtain vertical profiles above Narragansett to study the role of meteorological processes in atmospheric chemistry, and in satellite validation efforts.