

Science and Engineering Council of Santa Barbara: August Luncheon

(Please note: The SEC accepts cash or check at the door. We're not equipped to process credit cards)

Elephant Bar Restaurant, Thursday, August 11, 2011 - 12:00-1:30

- This Month's Topic -

Earth Surface Temperatures: A New Assessment of Historic Global Temperature

Is the earth warming -- and if so, how rapidly? The most important indicator of global warming, by far, is the land and sea surface temperature record. Previous studies have been criticized for their choices of stations and methods for correcting systematic errors.

Initiated and sponsored by Novim, the Berkeley Earth Surface Temperature study is performing a new analysis of the global surface temperature record in a rigorous manner that addresses these criticisms. The team is using data from over 39,000 stations, more than five times the 7,280 stations in the data set that has served as the focus of many climate studies to date.

Novim's aim is to resolve criticism of temperature analyses data and to prepare an open record. The results will include not only the team's best estimate for global temperature change, but estimates of uncertainties in the record, the complete raw and normalized databases, and all the algorithms and techniques used.

Novim was formed to focus on the scientific aspects of controversial questions for which action is impeded by media inaccuracies and a lack of public understanding of scientific issues. Its goal is to report results without advocacy. Novim applies techniques and methodologies developed at the Kavli Institute for Theoretical Physics at UCSB.

- Presenters -



Michael Ditmore, Executive Director of Novim, began his business career with IBM as a systems engineer. After receiving an MBA from Stanford in 1970, he relocated to Germany as Director of European Operations for Canberra Industries. Following the sale of his division in 1972, he returned to California, joining a startup--ROLM Corporation--where he served as regional manager for marketing and sales. The company was sold to IBM in 1979. Michael subsequently founded and sold two high-tech medical device companies. In 1995 he co-founded and served as Chairman and CEO of the Systems and Software Consortium, a non-profit association of 150 companies whose first project was the creation of the Pacific Technology Center in Goleta, the largest high-tech incubator in southern California at the time.

Jim Knight, Novim's Executive Vice President, co-founded Amber Engineering in 1981. Over twelve years, the company grew to 200 people and was acquired by Raytheon in 1992. He retired as Senior Vice President in 1994. Jim and three other partners subsequently started Indigo Systems in 1996, which grew to 230 employees before being acquired by FLIR Systems in 2004.



- Other Information -



\$15/SEC members, \$20/non-members. Cash or check only, please. Reservations not required.

Info: Barbara Keaney (E-mail scieng@silcom.com).

Elephant Bar Restaurant: 521 Firestone Road, off Hollister near airport admin. in Goleta.

Visit our web page at <http://www.scieng.org>.

50 years!

From the Co-Presidents: We look forward to seeing you at this timely presentation on Earth Surface Temperatures by Michael Ditmore and Jim Knight of Novim. In addition to last month's interesting presentation, we were pleased to have the SEC's scholarship awardee, Stephanie M. Klein, speak to us expressing how much the scholarship means to her in pursuit of her becoming a Veterinary Doctor. *Tim Murphy and Gary Kravetz*

Please Note: Luncheon seating is limited and available on a first-come basis.

This meeting is partially sponsored by **Community West Bank**

WHAT IS THE SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING COUNCIL (SEC)?

www.scieng.org

- * SEC was formed in 1960 to provide communication channels between engineering, academics, and the general public.
 - Monthly Luncheon Meetings (2nd Thursday, 12:00-1:30; Elephant Bar Restaurant); timely topics presented.
 - One important benefit is the opportunity to network with others in the community.
 - Membership NOT required to attend meetings. FYI, membership is listed below.
- * Monthly Board Meetings (last Thursday, 7 AM, Denny's-Goleta) – open to the membership.
- * Directory: compiles a Technical Services Directory which is posted on the SEC website (www.scieng.org).
- * Science Fair: sponsors the annual awards program at our local junior high and high schools.
- * Scholarship: sponsors annual college scholarship(s) to aid local science student(s).
- * Membership Information: email scieng@silcom.com, website <http://www.scieng.org>, or contact a Board member listed below.

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