

CliSci # 82 2011-12-21

Four Sceptic Scientists testify before the Canadian Senate Committee.

The Senate Energy & Environment Committee Hearing with Drs. Ross McKittrick, Ian Clark, Jan Veizer and Tim Patterson took place on December 15th 2011. The video is now on YouTube at:

<<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=xW19pPFflyg#t=65>>

The COP 17 aftermath

The conclusions of COP 17 are found on <<http://unfccc.int/resource/docs/2011/eng/l04.pdf>>

In the words of Kumi Naidoo, Greenpeace International Executive Director:

*"The grim news is that the blockers lead by the US have succeeded in inserting a **vital get-out clause** that could easily prevent the next big climate deal being legally binding. **If that loophole is exploited it could be a disaster.** And the deal is due to be implemented 'from 2020' leaving almost no room for increasing the depth of carbon cuts in this decade when scientists say we need emissions to peak,"*

"Right now the global climate regime amounts to nothing more than a voluntary deal that's put off for a decade. This could take us over the two degree threshold where we pass from danger to potential catastrophe."

And on December 12th: <<http://news.nationalpost.com/2011/12/12/canada-formally-withdrawig-from-kyoto-protocol/>> Canada put a full stop after Jean Chrétien's folly.

We do not quote *DeSmogBlog* very often, but they seem to have blown their top:

" Canada's decision to turn its back on its international obligations confirms yet again that Stephen Harper and his carbon cronies are securing a hellish future for generations to come. Canada's 'leaders' are brashly choosing pollution-based profiteering over public health and cooking the climate to make a killing in the tar sands."

South American weather systems

Guto Guerzoni sends a short time-lapse video of the weather systems that moved over South America in November.

<http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TtpA9KV8fNE>

Solar Activity and Svalbard Temperatures

This new paper compares the long temperature record at Svalbard, Norway to solar activity. The length of the solar cycle is strongly negatively correlated with the Svalbard temperatures with a time lag of 10 to 12 years. The data "show that 60% of the annual and winter temperature variations are explained by solar activity." The authors predict the Svalbard temperatures to decrease from 2009 to 2020 by 3.5 C, with winter temperatures decreasing by ~ 6 C.

<http://www.friendsofscience.org/index.php?id=227>

The Gospel according to Rahmstorf

Grant Foster and Stefan Rahmstorf have joined the latest desperate attempts to keep the warming trend alive over the past decade to justify the dying AGW credo.

Frank Lansner tries to take their justifications apart on his blog. Anthony Watts gives it greater circulation.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/12/17/frank-lansner-on-foster-and-rahmstorf-2011/>

Thou shalt not question UN "experts"

CPACT's Kevin Klemm and Lord Monckton, wandering the halls of the Durban conference, ran into an interview being conducted. Read this to see what happened.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/12/19/thou-shalt-not-question-un-experts/>

Air Traffic emissions trading

The European Court of Justice has just ruled that the European Union is justified in forcing foreign airlines to regulate their greenhouse gas emissions. It would affect all planes that land or depart at EU airports. It has dismissed the protest from U.S. Airlines that such an Emission Trading system rule contravenes national sovereignty as well as international air traffic treaties.

Meanwhile the US House of Representatives has passed a law that forbids U.S. airlines to participate in such Emission Trading practices. The Senate is now also considering such a law.

May you and your family be as happily gathered under the Christmas tree as these guys and gals are under theirs!

http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/CliSci/Seals_on_bouy.jpg

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Do overlaps of Polar and Sub-Tropical Jet Streams cause “Extreme Weather”?

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/12/05/common-link-in-extreme-weather-events-found-and-no-it-isnt-agw/>>

and while you’re at it, take a peak a 144 hour double jetstream pattern:

<<http://www.weatherimages.org/data/imag192.html>>

Does Solar Magnetic activity point to Maunder depths?

While the sunspots are increasing, the important solar magnetic Ap Index is crashing. Look at Dr Leif Svalgaard’s graphs on:

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/12/06/november-solar-activity-report-sunspots-and-10-7cm-radio-flux-up-but-the-solar-magnetic-ap-index-crashes/>>

Also keep an eye on Watts’ “Solar Reference Page” <<http://wattsupwiththat.com/reference-pages/solar/>>

Combined obliquity and precession pacing of late Pleistocene

<http://www.nature.com/nature/journal/v480/n7376/full/nature10626.html?WT.ec_id=NATURE-20111208>

Peter Huybers - *Nature* **480**, 229–232 (08 December 2011)

Milankovitch¹ proposed that Earth resides in an interglacial state when its spin axis both tilts to a high obliquity and precesses to align the Northern Hemisphere summer with Earth’s nearest approach to the Sun. This general concept has been elaborated into hypotheses that precession², obliquity^{3, 4} or combinations of both^{5, 6, 7, 8} could pace deglaciations during the late Pleistocene^{9, 10}. Earlier tests have shown that obliquity paces the late Pleistocene glacial cycles^{4, 11} but have been inconclusive with regard to precession, whose shorter period of about 20,000 years makes phasing more sensitive to timing errors^{4, 11, 12}. No quantitative test has provided firm evidence for a dual effect. Here I show that both obliquity and precession pace late Pleistocene glacial cycles. Deficiencies in time control that have long stymied efforts to establish orbital effects on deglaciation are overcome using a new statistical test that focuses on maxima in orbital forcing. The

results are fully consistent with Milankovitch's proposal but also admit the possibility that long Southern Hemisphere summers contribute to deglaciation.

At the AGU Fall meeting in San Francisco

"Researchers from around the world gathered here this week for one of the world's largest and most important scientific get-togethers, the <<http://sites.agu.org/fallmeeting/>> annual meeting of the American Geophysical Union, and Oregon State University faculty and graduate students were prominent in the conference's vast program.

But current OSU faculty were just as notable at the science summit, none more so than Associate Professor Andreas Schmittner, who over the past two weeks made headlines for a recently published study in Science magazine.

<<http://latimesblogs.latimes.com/greenspace/2011/11/co2-sensitivity-possibly-less-than-most-extreme-projections.html>>

<<http://oregonstate.edu/ua/ncs/archives/2011/nov/new-study-climate-sensitivity-co2-more-limited-extreme-projections>>

He and collaborators from Princeton, Cornell, Woods Hole and elsewhere developed new climate models that show the likelihood of global warming causing temperature increases of as much as 10 degrees Celsius is extremely remote. An increase in the 2.4-degree range would be more consistent with the new models, and Schmittner was quoted in news accounts as saying increases of 4.7 degrees or more would be "virtually impossible."

James Hansen of NASA and colleagues took issue with that at a Tuesday news conference at AGU, pointing to other models showing increases of 8.6 degrees or more.

<<http://www.usatoday.com/tech/science/environment/story/2011-12-06/global-warming-raises-sea-level/51684646/1>>

Schmittner presented his new models and findings to a crowded room the following day, though, and observers couldn't deny that the OSU researcher and his fellow scientists are driving new and deeper understanding of just

how much the earth will be changed by warming temperatures."

Cleaning up scientific practice:

NOAA and NOAA Administrator Jane Lubchenco have finally unveiled **the first scientific integrity policy** for America's first science agency. This overdue scientific integrity policy may be useful in resolving the differences between OSU faculty member Andreas Schmittner who stated that temperature increases of 4.7 degrees or more would be "virtually impossible"

and "climate change heavyweight" James Hansen of NASA who accepts other climate models showing temperature increases of 8.6 degrees or more.

Some COP 17 tidbits from Durban

Minister Kent on the Kyoto extension:

<<http://www.cbc.ca/news/politics/inside-politics-blog/2011/12/canadas-statement-on-durban-climate-deal.html>> "Nor will we devote scarce dollars to capitalize the new Green Climate Fund — part of the Durban agreement — until all major emitters accept legally binding reduction targets and transparent accounting of greenhouse gas inventory."

Perhaps not all of the Annex 1 countries have agreed to extend the Kyoto Protocol.

Canada's Environment Minister (Peter Kent) statement Sunday regarding the Durban agreement.

Some highlights from the Globe and Mail.

Mr. Kent, who came to Durban saying Kyoto represents the past, declared Sunday that Canada would not undertake a second Kyoto commitment period.

<<http://www.theglobeandmail.com/news/politics/canada-hopeful-of-finalizing-new-climate-deal-by-2015-environment-minister-says/article2267220/>>

The following link says Japan and Russia are out too.

<<http://news.nationalpost.com/2011/12/11/canada-cautiously-optimistic-about-new-climate-deal-despite-not-signing-on/>>

COP 17 agreement codicil:

"In a little noticed codicil to the Durban agreement, the negotiators agreed that representatives to all future meetings will arrive by and only use transportation that does not use fossil fuels either directly or indirectly. Further, all future venues must be entirely powered by wind and solar and have no connection to any existing electrical grid that derives its power, in whole or in part, from nuclear or fossil fuels."

(from WUWT blog 11 December)

The Twelve Days of Christmas Climategate 2

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/12/10/12-days-of-christmas-climategate/>

The Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation goes negative

An important oceanic correlative to Northern Hemisphere rainfall and temperature has turned negative for the first time in 15 years. Joe d'Aleo reports in WUWT on the behaviour of the Atlantic Multidecadal Oscillation index.

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/12/09/the-november-amo-index-goes-negative-first-time-since-1996/>>

and M.A. Vukcevic supplies a refresher on the AMO:

<<http://hal.archives-ouvertes.fr/docs/00/64/12/35/PDF/NorthAtlanticOscillations-I.pdf>>

The Power on the Throne

Canada's Prime Minister has been an enigma to many climate sceptics. Here is a man who - when in opposition - would believe in neither AGW, nor Kyoto and decried the signing of the Protocol by the ruling Liberals.

Now that he is not only PM, but also one with a majority in both the Commons and the Senate, many are wondering if and when he will take the steps to divorce us from the IPCC's creations, which are consuming a large number of dollars out of a tight budget.

What is he waiting for? Has he lost faith in climate scepticism?

Many of us have written letters to politicians and senior civil servants, to little avail. Letters to the Minister of the Environment and the PM get polite and condescending responses, referring to the IPCC wisdom. In these days, and with Canada's brand of constitution, the power is concentrated on the throne, the one in the PM's Ottawa office.

What does Stephen Harper think? What is necessary for him to act?

Kathryn Blaze Carlson has written an article (National Post, December 10th) which involves an analysis of the thinking of Stephen Harper. While it actually deals with legislation involving the Native People and the attempts to change problems on the reserves, it finds that the pragmatic Harper, ruling by the concept that "Politics is the Art of the Possible", solves problems waiting for the right moment and succeeds where others have failed in more confrontational approaches. It belies opposition fears of hidden agendas, but poses one of dictatorial dangers.

If you want to get into Harper's skull read Carlson's article which starts on page A1 and concludes through pp. A6 and 7 of the Saturday edition.

And what about that AGW decision? Personally I put my cards on a quiet exit from Kyoto #1 during the distracting Christmas days. Keep your fingers crossed. -afj.

afj~::~::~

CliSci # 80 2011-12-05

Climate Models versus Observations

One of the problems with climate-cause theories is that one can not experiment in the lab in the way chemists and physicist do to validate a hypothesis. However, one thing that can be done is to compare in "year X" (say: today) how the model predictions in the past (say those made in year "X minus 20") have become true - or not. It's called "hindcasting" and the models by the IPCC have not fared well in this process at all. Someone who has been making some exploits into the reasons why the GCMs are so deficient is Bob Tisdale <<http://bobtisdale.wordpress.com/>> , who is particularly interested in the oceanic observed data which has not been a priority of the CO2 obsessed IPCC in the past.

Of course, the oceanic oscillations are now acknowledged to have links to climate variations and are rather more likely to be associated with extraterrestrial forces than with carbon dioxide.

Recent work by Tisdale has been summarised and reviewed for FoS by Ken Gregory, whose new article can be found at

<<http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/FOS%20Essay/Climate%20Models%20vs%20Observations.html>>

A letter to Phil Jones

Willis Eschenbach has written an Open Letter to the CRU Head, Dr Phil Jones.

The full text is on WUWT:

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/11/27/an-open-letter-to-dr-phil-jones-of-the-uea-cru/#more-52007>>

 **Down to a new Maunder Minimum?**

A paper by Lockwood *et al* in GRL 38 looks at the signs that preceded the Maunder and investigate whether the characteristics of the present decline in solar activity look ominously like a Maunder onset. The authors conclude they do.

The paper is behind Pay-wall. (I can make a copy available to researchers under certain restrictions.)

Abstract

The recent low and prolonged minimum of the solar cycle, along with the slow growth in activity of the new cycle, has led to suggestions that the Sun is entering a Grand Solar Minimum (GSMi), potentially as deep as the Maunder Minimum (MM). This raises questions about the persistence and predictability of solar activity. We study the autocorrelation functions and predictability $R_{2L}(t)$ of solar indices, particularly group sunspot number R_G and heliospheric modulation potential F for which we have data during the descent into the MM. For R_G and F , $R_{2L}(t) > 0.5$ for times into the future of $t \approx 4$ and ≈ 3 solar cycles, respectively: sufficient to allow prediction of a GSMi onset. The lower predictability of sunspot number R_z is discussed. The current declines in peak and mean R_G are the largest since the onset of the MM and exceed those around 1800 which failed to initiate a GSMi.

Lockwood M., M. J. Owens, L. Barnard, C. J. Davis, and F. Steinhilber (2011),

The persistence of solar activity indicators and the descent of the Sun into Maunder Minimum conditions, Geophys. Res. Lett. 38, L22105, doi:10.1029/2011GL049811

NCAR's Wigley wants to have Cato's Patrick Michael's Ph.D. revoked.

Seriously. Read Pat's rebuttal at

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/12/02/team-ugliness-an-call-to-get-a-skeptics-phd-thesis-revoked/>>

I must admit the outspoken Patrick does generate uneasiness in some people, particularly when he is right. But this seems absurd.

Comments by your favourite Cartoonist

<<http://www.cartoonsbyjosh.com/climatechangeact.html>>

A come-uppance for Rahmstorf

Stefan Rahmstorf (Potsdam climate impact research institute, "PIK") could be the German equivalent of Hansen; he is well known for outrageous Sea Level estimates and a venomous pen. He falsely accused a journalist who took him to court and won. Those who know of the situation in Europe will smile.

Roger Pielke Jr reports on the incident
<<http://rogerpielkejr.blogspot.com/2011/12/journalist-fights-back-and-wins.html>>

What does it take to preserve CO2 *in situ* in ice cores?

In a discussion this past week on the Climate Sceptics Forum of the legacy of the late Zbigniew Jaworowski, which discussion dealt mostly with the reliability of CO2 readings from ice cores and the possible contamination problems caused by the coring operation itself, Ferdinand Engelbeen contributed a useful summary of what he thought of the "sealing" from the outside atmosphere of CO2 in the pores of ice caps.

<http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/Engelbeen-CO2_ice_cores.pdf>

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Climate Gate - 2.0

It has happened. Again!

A second instalment of incriminating correspondence files from the CRU/ East Anglia Hockey Team and their IPCC colleagues has just been leaked (Nov.22), (in)conveniently in time for the COP-17 Durban conference. The word is that there is much more to come at an appropriate time, which is now held back under 256 bit encryption. The "appropriate time" may hang as Damocles' Sword over the heads of CRU staff.

Here are some samplings from the collection of >5000 e-mails

<http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/FOIA+2011.pdf>

The entirety of the second release is contained in a 173 MB Zip file. Anyone with the broadband capacity and download agreement to pull this in can find it at

<<http://www.megaupload.com/?d=ROCGER37>> with a choice of speeds and cost. Or go to

<<http://sppiblog.org/news/climategate-2-0#more-6500>>

Anthony Watts' WUWT <<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/11/22/climategate-2-0/>> is keeping track of comments, as people with time on their hands are reading though the material.

Unprecedented thinning of Arctic Sea Ice?

Nature 479 contains an article by Kinnard *et al* which promptly hit the international press, as these IPCC-favoured pieces are wont to do.

Even the Abstract leaves one puzzling as to what these authors are trying to prove:

sea ice extent is now more than two million square kilometres less than it was in the late twentieth century, with important consequences for the climate, the ocean and traditional lifestyles in the Arctic^{1, 2}. Although observations show a more or less continuous decline for the past four or five decades^{3, 4}, there are few long-term records with which to assess natural sea ice variability. Until now, the question of whether or not current trends are potentially anomalous⁵ has therefore remained unanswerable. Here we use a network of high-resolution terrestrial proxies from the circum-arctic region to reconstruct past extents of summer sea ice, and show that—although extensive uncertainties remain, especially before the sixteenth century—both the duration and magnitude of the current decline in sea ice seem to be unprecedented for the past 1,450 years. Enhanced advection of warm Atlantic water to the Arctic⁶ seems to be the main factor driving the decline of sea ice extent on multi-decadal timescales, and may result from nonlinear feedbacks between sea ice and the Atlantic meridional overturning circulation. These results reinforce the assertion that sea ice is an active component of Arctic climate variability and that the recent decrease in summer Arctic sea ice is consistent with anthropogenically forced warming.

Here we see terrestrial proxy data to prove something which is - by their admission - mainly driven by "enhanced advection of warm Atlantic water to the Arctic" (and, may I add, from the Bering Sea gap from the Pacific also), after which you should re-read the closing sentence of the abstract. The article also points to the existence of many uncertainties "especially before the 16th century" when proxy data become scarce.

The graphs in the article itself would find approval from hockey stick adherents. The proxy data were computer-processed to serve as input for the model used by the authors, but their relevance to floating sea ice is not clear to me.

As to the sea ice, there are historical records of voyages which also make one doubt the conclusions.

"What is wrong with the IPCC?"

That is the title of a 49 page paper by Dr Ross McKittrick, issued as Report #4 of the GWPF, in which the University of Guelph Environmental Economist and frequent writer on GW/CC issues takes the structure and procedures of the IPCC apart and criticises the many irregularities (opaqueness, lack of inclusivity, conflicts of interest and loopholes and gaps in the peer review process).

He then proposes eleven "recommendations to fix the IPCC assessment process".

http://www.thegwpf.org/images/stories/gwpf-reports/mckitrick-ipcc_reforms.pdf

Coming on the heels of Donna Laframboise's characterisation of the IPCC as a delinquent teenager, comments on this new study contain much admiration for Ross' detailed analysis. But the blog posts generally show

Zbigniew Jaworowski, originally a physician, but eventually a multi-disciplinary scientist, died on November 12th in Warsaw. In the field of climate controversy he was well known for his work on ice cores, in particular with reference to the controversial stability of CO2 in those cores.

Attached is an interview with EIR Science & Technology, "A Lie aimed at Destroying Civilisation", which he gave in December 2010, at the time of the Copenhagen Summit. In the last few of the nine pages he traces the origin of current climate alarmism back to Thomas Malthus (1798) and his demographic based anti-development, the Club of Rome (1960) with its industrial limitation and world government aspirations, to Maurice Strong who cherishes the same priorities.

http://www.21stcenturysciencetech.com/Articles_2010/Jaworowski_interview.pdf

Tim Ball reviews Jaworowski's contribution to climate science on his blog
<<http://drtimball.com/2011/zbigniew-jaworowski-m-d-ph-d-d-sc/>>

Surprises in Special Report by IPCC elicits comments

A preliminary report released by the IPCC, states there will be no detectable influence of mankind's influence on the Earth's weather systems for at least thirty years, and possibly not until the end of this century. "*Projected changes in climate extremes under different emissions scenarios generally do not strongly diverge in the coming two to three decades, but these signals are relatively small compared to natural climate variability over this time frame. Even the sign of projected changes in some climate extremes over this time frame is uncertain*".

<<http://ipcc-wg2.gov/SREX/>> contains an 8 MB SPM (Summary for Policy Makers) of the "Special Report on Managing the Risks of Extreme Events and Disasters to Advance Climate Change Adaptation (SREX)". -WG 1&2

Feel free to work your way through the usual IPCC gobbledygook but the shortcut is here to look at the Comment by David Whitehouse and Benny Peiser of the Global Warming Policy Foundation.

Quo Vadis IPCC?

<http://thegwpf.org/press-releases/4369-natural-variability-to-dominate-weather-events-over-coming-20-30-years.pdf>

On the BBC's Science & Environment website, its notorious environment editor Richard Black (ever noticed he looks a bit like Michael Mann?) has been given a peek at the first draft of some of the IPCC's draft text for AR5, due in 2014. One is struck by the sentence "*Uncertainty in the sign of projected changes in climate extremes over the coming two to three decades is relatively large because climate change signals are expected to be relatively small compared to natural climate variability*".

More disclosures: <<http://www.bbc.co.uk/news/science-environment-15698183>>

Roger Pielke Jr remarks: "

"The good news about the leaked document is that efforts to alter the text will be noticed. Based on Black's report, it seems that the IPCC has at long last done the right thing on extreme events and climate change. It will be most interesting to see the reactions."

..... and Pachauri, unrepentantly, make a revision

In an interview, IPCC Chairman Rajendra Pachauri said that the glaciers of the Himalayan Mountains may not melt until 2040 or 2050, rather than the previously stated 2035 in AR4.

"The Economist" debates a Motion on Carbon Capture and Storage

On its website *The Economist* regularly conducts formal debates, Oxford style (almost). Upcoming is one that debates the Motion

"This House believes that climate-control policies cannot rely on carbon capture and storage."

Like many UK publications the paper maintains a cautious lukewarm position on the GW/CC topic with an occasional bout of realism.

Of course, to start with, the premise of "climate-control" is absurd in our eyes. But given that faulty base of wisdom, there could still be an interesting discussion developing, which you can follow - and contribute to - on the Website.

<<http://www.economist.com/debate/upcoming>>

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CliSci # 77 2011-11-10

The so-called "source" of climate change

Tim Ball has a new article on his website <http://drtimball.com/> about the irrelevance of CO2 in climate change. He writes "A research centre in Japan published the results of satellite observations of [the source of] CO2 emissions. It showed higher levels in the third world and lower levels in the developed world. It is presented as a contradiction. It isn't. The error is in assuming human emissions of CO2 would swamp natural sources.

This [Japanese] article is trying to be cute, but it is obscured by the lack of understanding of CO2 facts and science."

<<http://drtimball.com/2011/whether-it-is-warming-or-climate-change-it-cannot-be-the-co2/>>

You don't even need to consider the physics for this.

Dr Pat Michaels in *Climate Report* : Will IPCC be forced to lower Climate Sensitivity again?

There is word circulating that a paper soon to appear in *Science* magazine concludes that the climate sensitivity—how much the earth's average temperature will rise as a result of a doubling of the atmospheric concentration of carbon dioxide—likely (that is, with a 66% probability) lies in the range 1.7°C to 2.6°C, with a median value of 2.3°C. (The IPCC's AR4 gives a likely range of 2.0 to 4.5, with a best estimate of 3.0 Celsius)

(Of course, we think it is not even that high; see Tim's above !)

<http://www.worldclimatereport.com/index.php/2011/11/08/a-new-lower-estimate-of-climate-sensitivity/#more-513>

Debating the Science of Climate Calgary November 29th
<http://www.fcpp.org/eventgroup.php/316>

In Canada, like almost anywhere else, public debates between warmists and sceptics are few and far between. We have been trying for years to get intelligent representatives from the two sides to engage in an intelligent discussion. Did we succeed? Come to the debate at Mount Royal University and see for yourself !

Speakers: Dr. Shawn Marshall and Dr. Ian Clark

<https://secure.fcpp.org/files/5/Marshall-Clark2.jpg>

Location: Venue tbd; Mount Royal University, Calgary

Date: November 29, 2011 - 7:00 pm

Cost: \$0

We know the politics well by now. But what about the science behind climate change? Much of the climate change debate in the public arena engages more politics than science. The result has been a vacuum on the scientific arguments in the public space. The Frontier Centre is proud to sponsor the upcoming open and scientific debate in which science meets science in the context of climate change. Two opposing scientific positions relating to anthropogenic global warming will be respectively presented by prominent scientists: Professors Shawn Marshall and Ian Clark. Dr. Marshall is the Canada Research Chair in Climate Change at the University of Calgary while Dr. Clark is Professor of Earth Sciences at

Ottawa University. You may recall Ian Clark as the one who gave the prologue and epilogue in the FoS' video "**Climate Catastrophe Cancelled**". Drs. Marshall and Clark have been actively engaged in climate change issues in their research and are respected scholars in this field. We look forward to a lively and stimulating debate open to the university community and to the public at large. Presentations will be followed by a period of questions and answers.

New articles on the <[Friendsofscience.org](http://www.friendsofscience.org)> website

Eleven documents were added to the site during Sept and Oct, 2011.

[New articles are listed at <http://www.friendsofscience.org/index.php?id=393>]

[Global Warming Panic Explained Animated Video](#) [Interesting Videos] added October 30, 2011

[Excerpt & Review of "The Delinquent Teenager"](#) [In Consensus and Skeptics] added October 30, 2011

[The Wind Power Industry - the Greatest Scam of Our Age](#) [In Policies & Economics] added October 29, 2011

[Permafrost and Climate Change in the Colorado Front Range](#) [In Temperature History] added October 22, 2011

[Electricity in The Netherlands: Wind Turbines Increase Fuel Consumption](#) [In Policies & Economics] added October 16, 2011

[Regulation Without Reason](#) [In Policies & Economics] added October 14, 2011

[Global Warming and Phanerozoic Climate Changes](#) [In General Climate Sciences] updated October 13, 2011

[FoS Response to Environment Canada's CO2 Emissions Reduction Plan](#) [In FoS Initiatives] added September 29, 2011

[The UN's 50 million Climate Refugees](#) [In Consensus and Skeptics] added September 27, 2011

[Contribution of Cosmic Ray Flux to Global Warming](#) [In The Sun] added September 17, 2011

[Forbush Decreases – Clouds Relation in the Neutron Monitor Era](#) [In The Sun] added September 12, 2011

The Al Gore Tour - Review by an erstwhile Friend in *Nature Climate Change*

Getting Gored and bored.
<http://wattsupwiththat.files.wordpress.com/2011/11/fullscreen2bcapture2b11820112b1127562bam.jpg>

FoS Submission on Environment Canada's Proposed CO2 Regulations

The Friends of Science Society has taken Environment Canada up on its request for comments on its proposed Regulations to reduce CO2 emitted in the coal-fed generation of electric power.

A one page summary of its arguments written for the general public, media and politicians is found below.

http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/FoS_CO2_reduction_plan_Summary.pdf

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CliSci # 76 2011-10-30

The Gore Show

For those who are unfamiliar with WUWT's resident cartoonist "Josh" take a look <http://wattsupwiththat.com/climate-fail-files/the-gore-a-thon-on-wuwt/> at his Gore-a-ton, the 24 hours of the Gore "Earth show" on September 14th, with a cartoon every hour.

New temperature proxy

Before the days of the thermometer proxies like historically recorded grain prices were used with some success. The following news release adds another one:

"Brewing group Heineken reported a 1.7% drop in third quarter group beer European sales on Wednesday, due in part to the poor European summer.

But total sales in volume terms rose 1.1%, boosted by growth in four other regions, including a 4.9% rise in central and eastern Europe, the company said in a [statement](#).

http://www.heinekeninternational.com/nv_third_quarter2011.aspx

Total revenues reached €4.6bn, unchanged on the year-earlier period. Net profit was also stable at €525m.

Heineken said at the end of August it expected this year to be difficult and reiterated earlier forecasts that net profit would be broadly in line with last year."

Heineken seems to realise that warming has stopped.

Kininmonth on early IPCC history

It is important to put the global fight against the presumed human-caused warming of the planet in context of the political beginnings of the UN Environmental Program (UNEP) in which Canadian manipulator Maurice Strong played such an important part.

Retired Australian meteorologist William Kininmonth disagreed with the suggestion by one ClimateSceptics Forum member that the ICSU (International Council of Science [Scientific Unions]) was the power behind the throne and contributed the following posts, hereby distributed with the author's permission.

http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/CliSci/Kininmonth_on_early_IPCC.pdf

See also the extensive 2009 report by John McLean/SPPI .

<http://scienceandpublicpolicy.org/images/stories/papers/originals/climate_science_corrupted.pdf>

Tabling science in the Alberta Legislature

With a new Premier, is there some hope that a new look can be taken at the underpinnings of Alberta's GHG policies, with such outrageous expenditures as a two billion dollar subsidy for a CCS project ("Carbon Capture & Storage")?

Geophysicist Norm Kalmanovitch is trying. He found a friendly opposition MLA prepared to table the following science summaries on one of the few days that the Legislature is in Fall Session this year.

http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/CliSci/Carbon_Dioxide_Emissions_and_Global_Temperature.pdf
http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/CliSci/Geophysical_evaluation_global_temperature_CO2.pdf

"It's libel except when Mike does it"

Paul Driessen reviews the latest libel suit launched by Michael Mann with respect to Martin Herzberg's comments in the *Vail Daily Voices* where Martin is supposedly "*making false and defamatory statements about me and my climate scientist colleagues*". He also revisits and updates readers on Tim Ball's similar case.

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/10/25/its-libel-except-when-mike-does-it/>

Why did the temperature rise stall?

More from "Josh": This is thanks to Roger Pielke's compilation of responses to this question: *'Why, despite steadily accumulating greenhouse gases, did the rise of the planet's temperature stall for the past decade?*

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/10/27/climate-scientists-and-their-excuses/>

Cartoon by Josh:

http://wattsupwiththat.files.wordpress.com/2011/10/josh_aerosols_650.jpg

(from WUWT 29 Oct)

Increase of extreme events in a warming world

1. This paper by Potsdam's Stefan Rahmstorf and
2. Dim Coumou in PNAS was "edited", not "peer-reviewed" and is the latest attempt to maintain the charade.

<<http://www.pnas.org/content/early/2011/10/18/1101766108.abstract>>

1. Potsdam Institute for Climate Impact Research, PO Box 601203, 14412
Potsdam, German

1. *Abstract*

We develop a theoretical approach to quantify the effect of long-term trends on the expected number of extremes in generic time series, using analytical solutions and Monte Carlo simulations. We apply our method to study the effect of warming trends on heat records. We find that the number of record-breaking events increases approximately in proportion to the ratio of warming trend to short-term standard deviation. Short-term variability thus decreases the number of heat extremes, whereas a climatic warming increases it. For extremes exceeding a predefined threshold, the dependence on the warming trend is highly nonlinear. We further find that the sum of warm plus cold

extremes increases with any climate change, whether warming or cooling. We estimate that climatic warming has increased the number of new global-mean temperature records expected in the last decade from 0.1 to 2.8. For July temperature in Moscow, we estimate that the local warming trend has increased the number of records expected in the past decade fivefold, which implies an approximate 80% probability that the 2010 July heat record would not have occurred without climate warming.

—> *late news*:

"BEST" has exploded

The premature release of the Berkeley surface temperature study, on which I reported earlier (see CliSci #75: "Not the BEST") has blown up into something which Professor Judith Curry compares to ClimateGate. I can do no better than to refer you for the full story to today's WUWT

<<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/10/29/uh-oh-it-was-the-best-of-times-it-was-the-worst-of-times/>>

afj~~~~~30~~~~~

CliSci # 75 2010-10-25

Dutch sceptics and the Royal Dutch Academy of Sciences (KNAW)

Further to my report (CliSci #74) on the goings-on in the Netherlands, where the Academy had published a report on a discussion between protagonists and antagonists of AGW, which turned out not to be a *précis* of that meeting, but a recital of IPCC dogma, there has been protest from a number of sides. Some members have sent in their objections and some other sceptics have used their blogs to take the Academy's paper apart.

One of these is in the Dutch language <climategate.nl> in which the English translation of blogger/engineer Theo Wolters' comments appear.

<<http://climategate.nl/2011/10/19/bad-science-in-alarmist-report-from-royal-dutch-academic-council/#more-13523>>

It should be noted that the KNAW brochure which supposedly reports on a discussion of the causes of Climate Change, was written by five people, of which two are experts in food supply, one is an environmentalist (University Faculty of Literature), one is an oceanographer and one a palynologist/ecologist. The KNAW Chairman is a mathematical physicist.

Not the BEST

Berkeley's Physics Professor Richard Muller, in an attempt to clear up the uncertainty surrounding surface air temperature measurements, which have been attacked by skeptics for years, took the initiative to test the various temperature series with The Berkeley Earth Surface Temperature project ("BEST"). In an article in the October 21st Wall Street Journal, he jumped the gun on the conclusions of the project with "The Case against Global-Warming Skepticism, *There were good reasons for doubt, until now*".

As is usual in those cases, the media promptly

picked it up and spread the earthshaking story around the world.

In spite of the fact that a number of reputable sceptics were on his team, it seems that Muller missed his target.

Says Maurizio Morabito: "*World is warming. Pope is Catholic.*"

I have attached [2nd link below] an English language version of a summary by Hans Labohm, (*with thanks!*) originally published in

<http://www.dagelijksestandaard.nl/2011/10/toetsing-temperatuurreeksen-ontaardt-opnieuw-in-klimaatpropaganda-%E2%80%93-niet-zo-best>

http://www.friendsofscience.org/assets/documents/CliSci/BEST's_Muller_Comments.pdf

In a post on their own *Real Climate* on October 24th even the Warmists distance themselves from Professor Muller and his "findings".

The Subterfuge Weapon in the "Warmist's" Arsenal.

An 'editorial'

It seems that the Warmists are taking a leaf out of the IPCC PR manual which releases a SPM ("Summary for Policy Makers") - banking on an alarmist media stir - before the actual Assessment Reports are published, which would have put the "if", "but" and "maybe" comments under unwarranted statements. It appears (See <wattsupwiththat.com/2011/10/22/a-preliminary-assessment-of-bests-decline/>) that the IPCC has its followers in this method of propagandistic communication.

The Berkeley Earth Surface Temperature project ("BEST") is spreading some computer information and resulting charts from several sources of surface temperature measurements of the past two centuries, presumably in order to prove that the sceptics are all wrong to condemn the hockey stick. The problems with these controlled leaks are manyfold. While the media are writing their headlines, critics are aghast at the lack of tangible back-up, the reliance on what appears a single set of data, albeit manipulated by four organisations and the lack of a peer-reviewed publication. In fact, it is being released while peer review is still underway. (See <wattsupwiththat.com/2011/10/22/a-preliminary-assessment-of-bests-decline/>)

Now comes the Dutch Academy example (above). While the Report on "Climate change, Science and Debate" was reportedly published on October 4th, it was not received by the Academy's members after the following weekend and only after a small group behind the Report had presented its one-sided message to the parliamentary environment committee. How's that for "cutting them off at the pass"?

afj

Ocean Heat content: More questions than answers

Bob Tisdale has posted (WUWT of 25/10) an examination of how the ARGO data are changing the perception of ocean heat below the long available 700 metre depth. ARGO floats, available since 2003, measure to 2000 metres.

The surface layers of the oceans are important in the the heat and CO2 transfer with the atmosphere it poses a new set of questions, as well (says Bob) a new version of "hide the decline". Do not expect too many answers here

<http://wattsupwiththat.com/2011/10/24/tisdale-on-the-new-hide-the-decline-version-of-ocean-heat-content-data/>

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