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FRIDAY FORUM #23

Clean Tech, Green Tech and Sustainability Research **Friday, 9 July 2010, 9am – 12 noon**

Case Room 1, Floor Zero (down stairs from main foyer)
Owen G Glen Building, School of Business, University of Auckland, Grafton Road.

Speakers: **Dr Richard Fragaszy, National Science Foundation (NSF), USA**
And
Eric Pyle, Ministry of Research, Science and Technology.

The NZ Society for Sustainability Engineering and Science has taken the opportunity of inviting Dr Rick Fragaszy from the United States, currently visiting New Zealand, to speak about international sustainability research. His presentation will be complemented by Eric Pyle of MoRST who will speak about the state of New Zealand research and the future directions it might take.

Rick Fragaszy

Profile: Since 2000, Rick has been a Program Director in the Division of Civil, Mechanical and Manufacturing Innovation (formerly Civil and Mechanical Systems) at NSF. He currently manages the Geomechanics and Geomaterials Program and the Geotechnical Engineering Program, and is the Cluster Leader for the Resilient and Sustainable Infrastructure Cluster. He has been a Principal Engineer at Northwest Geotech, Inc. and Geoenvironmental, Inc., where he is on the Board of Directors. He is active in American Society for Civil Engineers, and has served as the Chair of ASCE's Committee on Soil Properties and Modeling and as a Councilor on the GeoInstitute's Technical Coordinating Council. He served many years on the editorial boards of ASTM's Geotechnical Testing Journal and ASCE's Journal of Geotechnical and Geoenvironmental Engineering.

Eric Pyle

Profile: Eric has a wealth of experience in managing environmental issues, particularly, water, biodiversity and biosecurity. As MoRST's Director of Environmental and Social Development, he has oversight of science in the natural resources and social sectors. One of the programmes Eric has led at MoRST explored trends at the economy-environment interface and identified implications for science in New Zealand. Through his environmental work he is experienced in the challenges of community involvement in difficult issues, and is particularly interested in sustainable development issues and their social aspects. He enjoys the challenge of linking social development and environmental issues and ensuring there is good RS&T to underpin sustainable development and innovation. Eric has worked in the environmental field all his professional life. More recently Eric has been working with the business sector to explore business innovation in a low carbon economy. He has worked for the Department of Conservation, the Department of Science and Industrial Research, the private sector and most recently the Ministry for the Environment (MfE) where he led Water

Policy. He left MfE in 2000 and most recently worked for the Royal Forest and Bird Protection Society of New Zealand Inc as their Conservation Manager (Co-Chief Executive). Eric has a Bachelor of Science degree with a Physics major and a Masters (Hons) in Natural Resource Management.

Programme

9am	Welcome, outline of the forum and its objectives	Facilitator : Dr Carol Boyle Chair NZSSES
9:10am	Presentations Rick's talk will focus on the role of the US National Science Foundation (NSF) in sustainability science, as well as related topics such as global climate change, renewable energy, and green buildings. NSF is the primary funder of basic research in non-medical science and engineering. Examples of current programs will be described. Interest in sustainability research by NSF mirrors increased efforts by other federal agencies to fund applied research related to renewable energy, reduction of fossil fuel use, greenhouse gas emissions, and water use. Impediments to actions to reduce CO ₂ will be discussed.	Rick Fragaszy
9.50 am	New Zealand in the 21 st century has been dealt a mixed deck of cards. On the one hand we have some enviable natural resources, such as abundant water, and we are unlikely to suffer the severity of climate change compared to many other countries. On the other hand we are a small distant nation and as the world grows "smaller" we seem to grow more distant from it. Eric's talk will look at trends in natural resource use, business sustainability and social trends, for example, as being expressed by retailers. He will propose some key opportunities and threats for New Zealand and explore the question: What science does New Zealand need to support innovation in an increasingly resource-constrained world? What science do we need, and how should we do it, to maximise New Zealand's future opportunities and minimise risks? As a background to his seminar Eric invites participants to review a report titled "The economy, the environment and opportunities for New Zealand".	Eric Pyle http://www.morst.govt.nz/current-work/futurewatch/The-economy-environment-and-opportunities-for-New-Zealand-a-futures-resource/
10:30 am	Morning tea	
11am-12noon	Discussion, responding to objectives of the forum	

This event is free – all are welcome

RSVPs are required - Email vicky@nzsses.org.nz

NZSSES

The New Zealand Society for Sustainability Engineering and Science is a Learned Society established to foster the discipline of sustainability engineering and science as the study of complex systems. NZSSES provides training and information sessions on sustainability through its workshops, seminars, forums and bi-annual international conferences.

The NZSSES is a Technical Interest Group of the Institution of Professional Engineers of New Zealand and an Affiliated Organisation of the Royal Society of New Zealand.

Sustainability Forums

The NZSSES hold regular forums aimed at exploring different engineering and science sectors and their approach to sustainability. The forums are morning sessions and comprise brief presentations from guest speakers followed by a facilitated discussion.

The aim of these Forums is firstly to give the speakers the opportunity to outline their understanding of the topic, and secondly, and perhaps more importantly, to provide the background information to resource what is hoped – and expected to be - a stimulating and forthright discussion.

Topics to date:

- *Forum 22 – Future of Food, Auckland (Apr 2010).*
- *Forum 21 – Future of Transport, Christchurch (Apr 2010)*
- *Forum 20 – Sustainable Water Supply for Auckland. (Feb 2010)*
- *Forum 19 – Conservation v Mining (October 09)*
- *Forum 18 – Sustainable Air Quality for Auckland (Sept09)*
- *Forum 16 – Auckland: Sustainable Transport (July 2009)*
- *Forum 15 – Auckland: Complexity, Innovation and Decision (May 2009)*
- *Forum 14 – Auckland: Municipal Three Waters (April 2009)*
- *Forum 13 – Christchurch: Blueprints for Sustainable Infrastructure Conference Papers (March 09)*
- *Forum 12 – Auckland: Sustainable Housing (Sept 2008)*
- *Forum 11 – Christchurch: Strategies for Canterbury Water (Aug 2008)*
- *Forum 10: Auckland: Sustainable Electricity (July 08)*
- *Forum 9 - Auckland: Biofuels (May 2008)*
- *Forum 8 – Christchurch: Water: Supply and Storage (March 2008)*
- *Forum 7 – Auckland: Future thinking and Frontier Design (Feb 2008)*
- *Forum 6 – Auckland: Carbon Trading (Oct 2007)*
- *Forum 5 – Auckland: Sustainable Transport: Cars and Congestion (Aug 2007)*
- *Forum 4: Auckland: Governance and Sustainability (Sept. 2006)*
- *Forum 3 – Auckland: Consultants and Sustainability (May 2006)*