

The Lunar and Planetary Institute Presents

COSMIC EXPLORATIONS: A SPEAKER SERIES



September 16, 2010

COMPARATIVE CLIMATOLOGY

What lessons do we learn from the climates of Mars and Venus? Could they have started out as Earth did, with atmospheres of water, carbon dioxide, and nitrogen, and then evolved along different paths? There is evidence that Venus, which gets twice as much sunlight as Earth, boiled all its water away. Water is abundant on Mars, but because of its distance from the Sun, the water is all frozen. The lesson is that the habitable zone, where water is mostly liquid, may be narrow, and the Earth might not stay in it forever. Dr. Andrew Ingersoll of the California Institute of Technology examines these issues as he begins the 2010–2011 Cosmic Exploration Speaker Series — Changing Climates in the Solar System.

This FREE presentation at 7:30 p.m. is intended for inquisitive adults and will be followed by a light reception and an opportunity to meet Dr. Ingersoll.

Groups should plan to carpool; parking at the LPI is limited.

Speaker presentations held at
USRA's Lunar and Planetary Institute
3600 Bay Area Boulevard, Houston TX
(entrance on Middlebrook Drive)

For more information, please call
281-486-2163 or visit
www.lpi.usra.edu/education/lectures