

The Lunar and Planetary Institute Presents

# COSMIC EXPLORATIONS: A SPEAKER SERIES

November 18, 2010

## *MARS: THE DECLINE AND FALL OF AN EARTH-LIKE CLIMATE*

Today, Mars is an inhospitable, cold desert. Its carbon dioxide atmosphere is very thin. Its average surface temperature is a frigid  $-75^{\circ}\text{F}$ . Mars' surface has no liquid water — only ice in its polar caps and soil. In the past, however, Mars was different. Its atmosphere was thick, like Earth's. Liquid water flowed freely across its surface, cutting river channels, filling lakes, and even forming a shallow ocean! For Mars, the processes of climate change are not certain, but the fact of climate change is clear. What happened to Mars' climate?

What lessons from Mars can we apply to Earth? Dr. Allan Treiman of the Lunar and Planetary Institute continues LPI's Cosmic Explorations 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. Treiman.

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](http://www.lpi.usra.edu/education/lectures)