

SEPT 2006

FOS MEMBERSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER No. 11

“FOS is dedicated to providing the public with insight into Climate Change”

PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE

As predicted in our last newsletter, the global warming debate has heated up. There have been important scientific papers, which are at variance with IPCC projections and are pointing to solar influences and related forces as being the major causes of global warming. There was the welcome news that there will be fewer hurricanes than predicted, despite the alleged link between global warming and hurricanes.

There has also been a great deal of Friends of Science activity, and news surrounding the politics of climate science. As we foresaw, as scientific arguments for man-made global warming are being challenged, the front of the activists attack has changed from scientific argument to personal attack.

The best evidence is on some online blogs, where non-edited amateur journalists write their thoughts. Lately, some of these, which appear to have been associated with the Suzuki Foundation, have been trying to discredit the work of scientists opposed to theories of man-made global warming, by creating a supposed link to oil and gas firms. These attacks culminated in a piece in the Focus section of the Globe and Mail in August, which attacked FoS and Dr. Tim Ball. The Liberal Party of Canada later repeated the attacks in a press release. We are grateful to Terence Corcoran and to Albert Jacobs for rebuttals, published in the National Post, to issues raised in the Globe and Mail article. The Globe has refused to print any dissenting letters sent to it.

Ironically, the effect of these attacks is to draw more and more people to our website, creating more awareness of the fact that there are serious flaws in the science of man-made global warming. They have thus given us a larger platform for educating the public concerning the facts of climate change.

Friends of Science will continue to take the high road. We refuse to descend to the level of name-calling, or personal attacks.

Recently, the board and supporters of Friends of Science spent a Sunday afternoon discussing next steps for our organization. Despite accusations that we are awash in oil and gas money, we are getting very low on funds, and need to choose our projects carefully. While we would like to engage in another advertising campaign, we cannot at this time. So, while we will strive to grow our available funds, (and need your help to do so), we are focusing on a major conference to kick start the debate on climate science in Canada, and on being a resource to media and decision makers. We will remain true to our mission statement - to be a source of education to the public on the science of climate change.

*Douglas Leahey, PhD
President,
Friends of Science Society*

SCIENCE NEWS

REPORT ON NEW CLIMATE SCIENCE ARTICLES

As usual, we are contributing an update on climate science articles to the FOS News Letter. Because of the recent articles in the media and the Al Gore movie “An Inconvenient Truth” most of the recent articles are more about calamity and politics than science.

A very good quote for the definition of scientific validity is “Even if there is only one observation unexplainable by the hypothesis, the hypothesis is wrong and must be modified or abandoned” and most of these articles violate this definition.

In July of this year the “Wegman Report” on the “hockey stick graph” (Mann Bradley Hughes) was released representing the most serious blow to the Anthropogenic (man-made) Global Warming, ‘AGW’ promoters. The Report was commissioned by a Committee of the US House of Representatives, and can be viewed at, http://energycommerce.house.gov/108/home/07142006_wegman_report.pdf (1.41mb)

Others have shown and even proven that this temperature reconstruction was not valid, but the Wegman Report showed how the peer review process that allowed the Mann Bradley Hughes paper into the scientific literature base was flawed. Mann et al was the only actual peer-reviewed paper clearly linking CO₂ and global warming, although a “link” does not prove a specific cause-and-effect relationship. All previous work could only suggest the link because there was no physical proof to make it fact. All subsequent work supporting AGW could now use this established link, and a new wave of “peer reviewed” papers using the “hockey stick” reference as a factual basis for their argument flooded the scientific journals and consequently the media. This large volume of “scientific research” is now corrupted by the unfortunate circumstance that one of the “building blocks” of its scientific foundation has been identified as flawed, and without this body of reference material AGW is back to not having the support of a single peer reviewed paper.

High profile media shows - such as the “An Inconvenient Truth” movie, which consolidates all of the AGW claims - have spawned consolidation of rebuttal scientific arguments that can point by point dispute these claims. Go to www.cei.org/pdf/5539.pdf for a draft of a large work (4.8mb) that has consolidated just about everything that we know into a well referenced point by point rebuttal of every false statement (just about all of the statements) in “An Inconvenient Truth”.

Articles constantly appear depicting the shrinking ice sheets of Greenland, but for the most part they do not represent the full picture. The CO₂ Science website has a compendium of Greenland Ice measurements at: www.co2science.org/scripts/CO2ScienceB2C/subject/i/summaries/icesheetgreen.jsp that gives a much broader perspective to the issue.

Computer models and simulations have been used to prove the validity of AGW, but there is no mention of the severe limitations of this process. A score card listing the success of models can be found at: <http://www.warwickhughes.com/hoyt/scorecard.htm> I think that these last three items give a good perspective of where the science stands at this point in time.

Norm Kalmanovitch

OTHER NEWS

CLIMATE OF FEAR: FROM NUCLEAR WINTER TO GLOBAL WARMING

August 24th, 2006 American Thinker

Before there was Global Warming Theory to scare the public into rash action, there was Nuclear Winter Theory. The two theories are contradictory, but both were peddled by the political left, and both used some similar rhetorical and political tactics. *Read more...*

http://www.americanthinker.com/articles.php?article_id=5790

STUDY: LINK BETWEEN GLOBAL WARMING, HURRICANES IFFY STORM EXPERT: OLDER TECHNOLOGY INACCURATE

By Martin Merzer

McClatchy Newspapers in 1/83/8

Miami studies that link global warming to an increase in hurricane ferocity might be full of hot air, according to a research paper that will be published today in a major scientific journal. *Read more...*

<http://www.myrtlebeachonline.com/mld/myrtlebeachonline/news/nation/15142157.htm>

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PETROLEUM MONEY DRIVES CONSERVATIVE CLIMATE CHANGE SKEPTICISM

August 15, 2006

Prime Minister Stephen Harper must come clean about who is driving his anti-Kyoto agenda, say two Liberal MPs. Hon. John Godfrey, Liberal Environment Critic, and Mark Holland, MP for Ajax-Pickering, charge that Harper's policies are being driven by climate change skeptics closely aligned with the Conservative Party and funded by petroleum companies...

“The ties between the Conservatives, fraudulent science, and the petroleum industry appear to be quite an incestuous network,” says Holland. “Not since big tobacco twisted medical science to find cigarettes harmless has there been such an extensive campaign of misinformation to deceive the public on one of the most important issues of our time.”

Calgary-based Friends of Science is an organization of Canadian and international climate change sceptics.

“Financial links between the petroleum industry and climate change skeptic groups in the United States are well documented,” says Godfrey. “We need more transparency about who is behind this campaign in Canada.”

Read more at http://www.liberal.ca/news_e.aspx?type=pressrelease&id=11827

DO YOUR PART TO PROMOTE SENSIBLE PUBLIC POLICY

Get involved with Friends of Science

- 1) Volunteer. We need people who can help us carry out the day-to-day tasks that a volunteer organization requires to get jobs done. To offer a few hours of time, call Douglas Leahey at 243-6969.
- 2) Help us grow. Pass our website address to friends, family and people at work, then encourage them to get involved in Friends of Science by taking out a membership. Talk your business colleagues about the possibility of corporate donations to Friends of Science. A membership and donation form can be downloaded at www.friendsofscience.org
- 3) Make a donation. Your membership is critical to us and we are grateful for it. However, we intend to do more than disseminate information internally. We want to get the word out aggressively – and that costs money. Please consider donating to the following address:

**Friends of Science
PO Box 23167, Connaught PO
Calgary, AB T2S 3B1**

Thank you for your support of Friends of Science. Global warming myths are just one example of politicians and media ignoring common sense and expert opinion in the quest to drive an agenda. It's time to take the agenda back.