



FRIENDS OF SCIENCE SOCIETY

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## *FOS MEMBERSHIP QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER*

*No. 25*

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

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### **PRESIDENT’S MESSAGE**

The Friends have strongly advocated the need for more debate and more discussion with reference to applicable science connected to issues relating to climate change. We have delivered this message at our luncheons, in our newsletters, on our web page and in our radio campaigns. But we have had only grudgingly attained success.

The alarmists are losing. A major cause for their troubles rests in their arrogance with respect to sceptics. These they have marginalized as deniers of “settled science” and mouthpieces of “big oil”. In consequence alarmists have consistently refused to debate or defend their conclusions in an open forum and have been able to flourish for many years without due diligence, accountability or responsible oversight.

The general attitude of alarmists towards their critics has been locally illustrated by the condescending approach adopted by professors at the University of Calgary towards The Friends. In the past they have denigrated our supposed views in newspaper articles while refusing to defend their positions in an open debate. But they now appear more agreeable and we are hopeful of arranging a debate between Dr. Tim Ball and Professor David Keith in the near future.

Now sceptics are in the ascendancy. There are many reasons for this dramatic change in events: the work of a whistle blower at East Anglia University, colder winters and the disclosure of unsupported claims of disaster on the part of the IPCC. There is growing international acceptance that the work of groups such as the IPCC must be more transparent and more inclusive. Views supported by the sceptics should be acknowledged and addressed. This will mean the recognition of the Medieval Warming Period and the Little Ice Age with a consequential final rejection of the hockey stick. It should also mean a rejection of predictions based upon computer model simulations. If, as expected, these conclusions prevail then the cause for AGW will be severely and perhaps fatally wounded.

While the future of the AGW movement is problematical its failure should not be taken for granted. The Friends are continuing to work for its demise. Our efforts lie in stressing the need for better education of the general public. They include sponsorship of luncheons, radio campaigns, web page maintenance, circulation of pertinent news items, open debates, encouragement of original research and the issuing of newsletters.

As part of our program to encourage an examination of the AGW movement we are co-sponsoring a breakfast on March 18, 2010 with Dennis Avery as featured speaker. Dr. Avery is a popular speaker and well-known man-made global warming sceptic who has written articles for many of America's national news papers. He is also the co-author, with atmospheric physicist Fred Singer, of the New York Times best-seller *Unstoppable Global Warming -- Every 1,500 Years* (see attachment).

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This year's featured speaker at our 7<sup>th</sup> Annual Luncheon to be held Monday May 17, 2010 will be Professor John R. Christy. He is a climate scientist whose chief interests are global climate change, satellite sensing of global climate and paleoclimatology. He is best known, jointly with Roy Spencer for his version of the satellite temperature record.

The Society produces an e-mail Newsletter called "**FoS Extracts**" which once or twice a week brings members up to date on what happens in the 'Climate Wars' around the world, but particularly closer to home. The material comes largely from articles published on the web and from Newspapers. If you do not already receive this Newsletter, but would like to be added to the list, please send an e-mail to its Editor, Ian Cameron, at [<cameroni@shaw.ca>](mailto:cameroni@shaw.ca) with the word SUBSCRIBE.

These are exciting times with the end of the tunnel finally in sight. But we will need your continuing moral and financial support to press home our recent advantages. These include the increasing reluctance of the public to grant credence to an AGW movement which is being perceived as having hidden agendas - not directly related to the understanding of atmospheric phenomena.

Douglas Leahey PhD  
President Friends of Science

### Goodness! Look at all the Gates.

If you have been following the growing controversy concerning the validity of the science underlying the now infamous IPCC report "**Climate Change 2007**" you will have noticed the large number of "gates" that have sprung up as the world looks deeper into the so-called "peer-reviewed science" that supposedly provided the basis for the drastic conclusions contained in the "**Summary for Policy Makers**". For example, there is the original "**ClimateGate**" that sprung up on November 17, 2009, with the world-wide release of the e-mails from the Climate Research Unit (CRU) at the University of East Anglia. These e-mails reveal evidence of non-scientific conduct by those in charge. These have been well covered elsewhere, and have led to a government enquiry now in progress.

**ClimateGate** has been followed in quick succession by "**Freedom of InformationGate**" where scientists using public funds refuse to release their data (and in some cases have lost or destroyed it) for corroboration by other scientists; by "**ChinaGate**", where weather measuring stations used in the IPCC report cannot be located; and by "**HimalayaGate**", where the

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Himalayan glaciers were predicted to melt away by 2035, based on a speculation lifted from a popular magazine.

About this time, things started to get personal with “**PachauriGate**”, named after Rajendra Pachauri, Chairman of the IPCC, who knew about **HimalayaGate** and did nothing, although he had been advised that the report was in error. Mr. Pachauri is now the subject of an investigation by the Indian government. Then came “**SternGate**”, where the conclusions reached in the Stern Report of 2006 reported a firm link between global warming and severe floods and hurricanes. This link was denied by the scientist that did the original research.

“**Peer-reviewGate**” gives the lie to the oft-repeated assertion that all of the scientific conclusions reached in the IPCC report have been peer-reviewed. This technique was used to reject scientific studies that contradicted the preconceived notions that form the basis for the report. In fact, much of the data that is contained within the report comes without peer review chiefly from advocacy groups such as the World Wildlife Fund and Greenpeace, from magazine articles, or even quotes from individuals, This is the case with “**AmazonGate**”. “**IceGate**”, “**ReefGate**”, and “**Africa Gate**”.

“**US Gate**” is very subtle. If the weather measurement data doesn’t show the required result, simply remove enough stations, preferably those in colder regions or higher altitudes, to produce the desired result. Over 40 years, the total number of stations reporting has dropped from 6,000 to 1,500.

Lastly, there are the gates based on outright lies. We’ll call these “**DutchGate**” and “**AlaskaGate**”. These concern assertions made which were or which should have been knowingly false. Only 20% of the Netherlands lies below sea level, not 55% as the report claims; and the Alaska glacier ice loss has been overestimated by 40% over many years.

There may not be any other gates. Scientists around the world are starting to screw up their courage and report what they actually find, not what the powers that be want found. That is a good thing. But still, I hope that there is one more gate to come for all of those responsible for this dangerous and costly exercise in futility. Let’s call it “**PrisonGate**”.

Peter Burns  
Director Friends of Science

## SCIENCE NEWS

The Climategate emails from the Climate Research Unit (CRU) of the University of East Anglia in England are largely concerned with inappropriate adjustments to temperature data and the refusal

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to release the computer code and data used to create the datasets in apparent violation of Freedom of Information laws. The December 2009 science new described how the CRU scientists

used "tricks" to "hide the decline" of proxy temperature data to mislead the public. The CRU temperature index has been criticized for the failure to eliminate the effects of urbanization which

causes a temperature increase unrelated to climate. The emails have led to a renewed interest in examining the adjustments to all temperature indexes. Three recent papers that examine the temperature adjustments are discussed here.

A paper "Surface Temperature Record: Policy Driven Deception?" by Joseph D'Aleo and Anthony Watts, January 29, 2010, is a comprehensive study of the surface temperature record. Instrumental temperature databases exhibit very serious problems that render them useless for determining accurate long-term temperature trends. This report shows that contamination by urbanization, changes in land use, improper siting and a reduction of reporting stations have caused a severe warming bias. More than 6000 stations were used in the NOAA temperature index in the 1970's, but less than 1500 are used today. Most of the eliminated stations were colder, high elevation and rural stations, resulting is a warming bias. Environment Canada operates over 100 stations north of the Arctic Circle, but NOAA uses only one.

The report includes relevant comments from the Climategate files by the CRU programmer "Harry" where he complains of "the hopeless state of the database. This whole project is SUCH A MESS." The report includes a three page excerpt of a Friends of Science article by me "Correct the Correction" (pages 47-50), and a case study "Canada's Weather Network" by FoS Science Advisor Dr. Tim Ball (pages 74-76).

Read the paper at <http://www.friendsofscience.org/index.php?id=490>

A paper "Contiguous U. S. Temperature Trends Using NCDC Raw and Adjusted Date For One-Per-State Rural and Urban Station Sets" by Dr. Edward R. Long, February 2010, examines the raw and adjusted temperature trends for rural and urban station data utilizing the National Climatic Data Center dataset. The paper shows that the adjustments have increased the rate of temperature change for the total data set for the period from 1940 to 2007 from a 0.1 °C/century for the raw data to a 0.6 °C/century for the adjusted data.

The raw data for the period 1895 through 2008 shows that the rural and urban environments have temperature trends of 0.13 °C/century and 0.79 °C/century, respectively. The adjusted rural and urban temperature trends are 0.64 and 0.77 °C/century, respectively. Note that the adjustment procedure had almost no effect on the urban trends, so it failed to eliminate the urbanization effect. However, the adjustments increased the rural temperature trends five-fold to almost that of the urban trend. Instead of eliminating the effects of urbanization, the adjustment protocol adds an artificial urban warming to the rural temperature trends.

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Read the paper at <http://www.friendsofscience.org/index.php?id=488>

New Zealand's National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research (NIWA) maintains the nation's climate database. The institute adjusts the raw temperature data to create a temperature index used to support political action such as cap and trade legislation. The institute refuses to provide the reasons or their methods of adjusting the data. The adjustment protocol was made by Dr. Jim Salinger when he was employed at the Climate Research Unit in the U.K.

A paper "Are We Feeling Warmer Yet?" by Richard Treadgold, November 2009, compares the raw and adjusted temperature trends in New Zealand. The official adjusted temperature trend is 0.92 °C/century. The raw data temperature trend is 0.06 °C/century, both since 1850. The paper shows that half of the adjustments created a warming trend where none existed, and half greatly increased an existing warming trend, with the exception of only one station, which slightly reduced the raw trend. The adjustments increased the trend fifteen-fold. There is nothing in the station histories to warrant these adjustments.

Read the paper at <http://www.friendsofscience.org/index.php?id=489>

Ken Gregory  
Director Friends of Science

### **DONATIONS**

As said before FOS is very proud of the accomplishments of our small group of volunteers . We are especially buoyed up at this time because of the Climategate hacking revelation, which presents a heretofore unbelievable opportunity to make citizens aware of Data Doctoring that we have long expected to have been perpetrated on the unsuspected citizenry.

Although it may appear that FOS has successfully denigrated the Warmers, we know that they; Suzuki, Gore, desmogblog etc. will not take this lying down. Rather they will continue to attack FOS, expounding on the lie that we are funded by Big Bad Oil. That, in fact, is one of our problems we are unable to attract money from corporations.

As Canada's leading public advocate for natural climate change we need to press on to encourage debate of AGW in Canada before misdirecting money from much needed Health, Education, Military and infrastructure programs. We must also promote reduction of environmentally damaging manufacturing processes and personal excesses- the real pollutants.

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The other aspect of this hoax that is of concern is the fact that our offspring are being misled. At every turn, education facilities, School systems and Universities have been stonewalled. All have refused to debate objectively all types of observed data, their interpretation and uncertainty of

conclusions; instead they rely on computer models based on questionable input and programs based on an unproven hypothesis.

To accomplish our educational goals we need your financial help. I realize that these tough economic times are not conducive to many Charitable donations, but in order to get life back onto a normal stream we need to raise important questions – **this debate matters, and it starts with you**. Please go to [www.friendsofscience.org](http://www.friendsofscience.org) and make your contribution; on the upper right of the home page.

Remember Lord Nigel Lawson, who said “The new religion of global warming. is a great story, and a phenomenal best seller. It contains **a grain of truth and a mountain of nonsense**. And that nonsense could be very damaging indeed.”

Chuck Simpson  
Past Director Friends of Science

Donations made directly to Friends of Science will provide us with funds for administrative expenses which are sorely needed in order to back up our volunteer work force.

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