

MEDIA ADVISORY

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**“Science Denialism,” presented by Dr. Eugenie Scott
7-8:15 p.m., Wed., Mar. 12 at Berkeley City College Auditorium**

WHAT: The Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI) and Berkeley City College will host a free public talk on “**Science Denialism**,” by Dr. Eugenie Scott. Dr. Scott’s presentation will discuss how both evolution and global warming are “controversial issues” in education, but are not controversial in the world of science. Rhetoric and factual anomalies are used to place science under attack for ideological reasons. There is remarkable similarity in the techniques that are used to dispute reputable, established science. The scientific issues are presented as “not being settled,” or that scientists are engaged in arguments over the validity of claims. Dr. Scott will parse the debate and explore the issues surrounding “Science Denialism.”

WHO: Dr. Eugenie C. Scott is executive director of the National Center for Science Education, Inc., a not-for-profit membership organization of scientists, teachers, and others that works to improve the teaching of science, evolution, and climate change. A former college professor, she is an internationally-known expert on the creationism and evolution controversy, and is called upon by the press and other media to explain science to the general public. The author of *Evolution vs. Creationism: An Introduction* and co-editor with Glenn Branch of *Not in Our Classrooms: Why Intelligent Design is Wrong for Our Schools*, she is the recipient of numerous awards from scientists and educators.

WHEN: 7:00–8:15 P.M., WED., MARCH 12

WHERE: Berkeley City College’s Auditorium at 2050 Center St. in Berkeley (between Shattuck Ave. & Milvia St., one half block west of the Downtown Berkeley BART station on Shattuck Ave; for a map, see <http://goo.gl/0vJRT>).

WEB PAGE: Go to: <http://tinyurl.com/EugenieScott>

HOW: Free. Please note that tickets are required for admission, go to <http://eugeniescott.bpt.me/>

SPONSOR: The generous support of the **Simons Foundation** (www.simonsfoundation.org) has made possible the “Not on the Test: The Pleasures and Uses of Mathematics” MSRI-BCC lecture series.

PHOTO: A photo of Dr. Scott is available by request to Anne Pfister at annepf@msri.org.

About MSRI: The **Mathematical Sciences Research Institute (MSRI, www.msri.org)**, in Berkeley, California, is one of the world’s preeminent centers for research in the mathematical sciences and has been advancing mathematical research through workshops and conferences since its founding as an independent institute in 1982. Approximately 2,000 mathematicians visit the MSRI each year, and the Institute hosts about 85 leading researchers at any given time for stays of up to one academic year. The Institute has been funded primarily by the National Science Foundation with additional support from other government agencies, private foundations, corporations, individual donors, and nearly 100 academic institutions. The MSRI is involved in K-12 math education through its annual Critical Issues in Mathematics Education conferences for educators, math circles, the National Association for Math Circles and its website (NAMC, www.mathcircles.org), and Olympiad math competitions; in undergraduate education through its MSRI-UP program; and in public education through its “Conversations” series and a variety of public events.



About BCC: Berkeley City College (BCC) (www.berkeleycitycollege.edu), one of California's 112 community colleges, is part of the Peralta Community College District, which includes College of Alameda, Laney College and Merritt College. BCC, which began in 1974, is centrally located in downtown Berkeley, only 1-1/2 blocks from the U.C. Berkeley campus. BCC's mission is to contribute to the success of all students and to the well-being of the community by offering the best possible education which promises intellectual growth, social mobility, economic development and an understanding of diverse ideas and peoples. The college is accredited by the Accrediting Commission for Community and Junior Colleges of the Western Association of Schools and Colleges. BCC offers transfer and occupational training classes, associate degree and certificate programs. The college is an active partner in local economic development and employment training endeavors. Financial aid, academic and career counseling, programs for students with disabilities and assistance for economically disadvantaged students are available. The college maintains a strong and unique community college/university collaboration with the University of California at Berkeley. BCC is second in California in the percentage of students who transfer to U.C. Berkeley and is second in the state in the percentage of students who transfer to all U.C. campuses in Northern California.

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