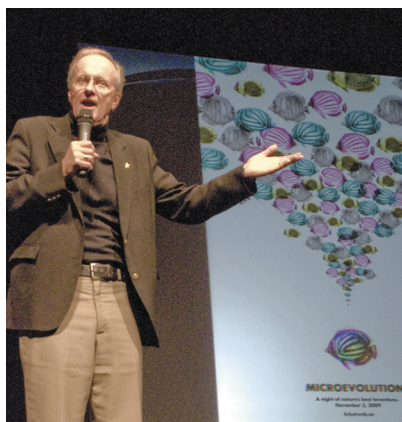


The 2009 Honorary Address: “Islands of Time – Microevolution”

Featuring Brian Keating of the Calgary Zoo and Professor Dr. Paul Johnston of Mount Royal University



Brian Keating of the Calgary Zoo enthralled the audience with tales of his travels.



Paul Johnston of Mount Royal University talks about his new theory of the Burgess Shale.



Annette Milbradt of CSEG Outreach describes the seismic signal display to a future geoscientist and his Dad.

The mandate of the CSPG Honorary Address is to provide an exciting and dynamic scientific presentation targeted at junior high and high school students, who are to be future geoscientists, during the morning event, and the general public in the evening. The committee believes that it has successfully met its mandate once again in 2009.

The Committee would like to thank both speakers on their exciting and knowledgeable talks. Dr. Paul Johnston, Professor in the Earth Sciences Department at Mount Royal University and guide with The Burgess Shale Geoscience Foundation in Field, B.C., gave his morning speech to a packed auditorium of young adults and put forward an interesting comparison between his mud flow theory at the Burgess Shale and what are interpreted to be similar conditions on Io, one of the four Galilean moons of the planet Jupiter. The students could not help asking questions about when aliens are going to invade the earth and what they might look and smell like. The evening event was Dr. Johnston's opportunity to introduce to the audience his new theory on the Burgess Shale and its original environment half a billion years ago. The audience was excited to be offered a new theory.

Brian Keating, our second speaker, is always dynamic. He excited everyone during the morning event with stories of his travels around the world identifying species in remote areas. Brian's evening talk was just as exciting and he again spoke about his travels and about the different ways in which animals have evolved due to the pressures, or lack thereof, that their local environments impose upon them. Brian gave the audience a 50-minute visual tour of Papua New Guinea, Madagascar, the Galapagos, northern Canada and locally here in Calgary. The most enjoyable was his last example of a beaver outside his home on the Bow River that had evolved to walk on its two hind legs while carrying a large amount of twigs used in re-building its dam. This beaver could be the only “Bipedal Bow River Beaver” in existence... for now!

This year the morning presentation was appreciated by 1,751 Calgary school children. The evening event was attended by

350+ individuals of many ages. We invite everyone to watch the event once it is posted at:
<http://www.cspg.org/events/events-honorary.cfm>

The Honorary Address is presented by the CSPG in partnership with APEGGA and the CSEG. However, this event would not be possible without the support of the following sponsors: Alberta Lotteries Fund, Devon Canada Corporation, Weatherford, Nexen Inc., AJM Petroleum Consultants, Sundog, MacLaren McCann, AVW TELAV and the Burgess Shale Foundation. All the contributors were very gracious and supportive with their donations, especially in a very difficult financial climate, to bring our vision of raising interest in science, in particular geoscience, among junior high and high school students and the general public. Telus World of Science once again gave all the children attending the morning event a free day pass to their facility.

Of course every year there are individuals that put the Honorary Address together and we need to acknowledge and thank them for their hard work that made this event a success:

Alyssa Middleton – CSPG, Stacey Perilli – U of C and CSEG Outreach, Alex Wright – Darian Resources, Tom Sneddon – APEGGA, Annette Milbradt – CSEG Outreach, Devon Henderson – Hotwell Canada, Jay Williams – Hotwell Canada, Shawn LaFleur – PetroBakken Energy, Stephen Kotkas – Sigma Explorations and CSEG Outreach, Jen Dunn – ConocoPhillips, Marissa Whittaker – Oilsands Quest and CSEG Outreach, Dayna Rhoads – CSPG, Mike DesRoches – Talisman

The Committee wishes to also thank, once again, the CSEG and APEGGA for their donations and hands on assistance with this year's event. *R*

Linden Achen – Achen Resources, Chair, Honorary Address Committee.

“N.B.: The Canmore Museum and Geoscience Centre through efforts of its President, Rick Green, sponsored the buses to bring 75 grade 7 students, teachers and helpers from Lawrence Grassi Middle School in Canmore to the morning session of the 2009 Honorary Address.”