

# MURPA Seminar Friday 21 May 2010, 10am at seminar Room 135, Building 26 Clayton

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Presenter: **Prof Larry Smarr**, Harry E. Gruber Professor, Jacobs School's Department of Computer Science and Engineering at UCSD and Senior Researcher Calit2

## **Global Climatic Disruption and its Impact on Victoria and California**

### Abstract

Both the United States and Australian governments have recently backed away from putting through climate/energy legislation that would set up carbon markets. Greenhouse gas emissions continue to increase globally. I will review the potential for these increasing emissions to cause global climatic disruption, focusing specifically on the potential impacts for water and wildfires on Victoria and California. I will go over the radical changes on short time scales in the world's energy system which need to occur to prevent global temperatures from rising above 2 degrees centigrade over pre-industrial levels. There is still time to make these changes, but that time is running out...

### Bio

Larry Smarr became founding director in 2000 of the California Institute for Telecommunications and Information Technology (Calit2), a University of California San Diego/UC Irvine partnership. He holds the Harry E. Gruber professorship in the Jacobs School's Department of Computer Science and Engineering at UCSD. At Calit2, Smarr has continued to drive major developments in information infrastructure-- including the Internet, Web, scientific visualization, virtual reality, and global telepresence--begun during his previous 15 years as founding Director of the National Center for Supercomputing Applications (NCSA).

Smarr served as PI on the NSF's OptIPuter grant and is currently PI on the Moore Foundation's CAMERA microbial metagenomics projects, as well as co-PI on the NSF GreenLight Project. Smarr was a member of the President's Information Technology Advisory Committee for President Clinton and served until 2005 on the Advisory Committee to the Director of the National Institutes of Health and the NASA Advisory Council. He served on Governor Schwarzenegger's California Broadband Taskforce in 2007. He is a member of the National Academy of Engineering and a Fellow of the American Physical Society and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences. In 2006 he received the IEEE Computer Society Tsutomu Kanai Award for his lifetime achievements in distributed computing systems. He spent October 2008 in Australia as the Leadership Dialog Scholar.

You can follow Larry at <http://twitter.com/lsmarr> and on his lifestreaming portal

at <http://lsmarr.calit2.net> .

**Register** with Rob Gray (rob.gray@infotech.monash.edu.au) by Wed 19 May