



“Plants and the changing water cycle in the United States”

SPEAKER : Dr. Nir Krakauer
University of California at Berkeley

Date: Monday, June 16, 2008
Room: T-623 : Time: 11.00 A.M -12.00 P.M

Vegetation, terrestrial water, and climate are closely coupled, which adds many potential feedbacks to climate forcing that are incompletely understood. Notably, greenhouse warming and the direct effect of high CO₂ on plant transpiration impact evapotranspiration and streamflow in opposing ways. I will show how the effect of climate and CO₂ changes thus far is seen in the US streamflow record, and discuss why precipitation seasonality may be an important influence on the direction of streamflow response. I will conclude by outlining some strategies for combining ground measurements with remote sensing and with earth system models to study drought and to monitor and predict changes in water availability and vegetation health over this century.

The City College of New York, 140th Street & Covent Ave. New York, NY 10031

Phone: 212-650-8099 ** <http://earth.engr.cuny.cuny.edu/noaa/>

Refreshments will be served.