

Looking back to our future:

how past climate change can tell us about our future
and how to create a Climate of Change

Dr. Stephen Pekar's Bio:

Dr. Stephen Pekar is a geology professor in the School of Earth and Environmental Sciences at Queens College (City University of New York) and conducts research on past climate and oceanographic changes during times (16- 45 million years ago) when carbon dioxide was as high as what is predicted for the 21st century (450-1000 ppm). With CO₂ rising rapidly today due to fossil fuel use and changes in land use (e.g., cutting down forest, etc.), humanity has started an uncontrolled experiment that is like putting our climate on a "hot plate". With greenhouse gases rising to levels not seen in tens of millions or years, exploring these past time intervals for him is like "Looking Back to Our Future". His research has taken him on expeditions around the world, including four to Antarctica, one of which he was the project leader.

Dr. Pekar will talk about what the Earth's climate was like when greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide were as high as what is predicted this century and what it means for humanity's future. He will also discuss what we as citizens, politicians, and others can do to create a more sustainable world.

Dr. Pekar is a Queens native, growing up in the Rockaways and attending Queens College, first as a 20th century music composition major and ended up studying Geology and getting his PhD at Rutgers University, followed by PostDoctoral Research at Columbia University. He is enthralled with exploring newplaces, cultures, and ideas. He has traveled to all eight continents and has been to nearly 60 countries, working in six of them.

eco festival 2018

CREATING A
CLIMATE OF CHANGE

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10:20am | Thursday, May 10, 2018 | in the Lighthouse

Breakfast will be served prior to the talk.

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