# December 6<sup>th</sup>, 2010 7:00 PM

# Can Particulates Solve the Global Warming Problem? Dr. Lorraine A. Remer

**NASA Goddard Space Flight Center Laboratory for Atmospheres** 

From the local paper to prestigious scientific journals, and from conversations in our living rooms to an Academy Award winning movie, we are all aware of the current discussion of the likelihood of human-induced changes to our planet's climate. We have all seen the Mauna Loa curves of increasing CO2 in the atmosphere, and compounded by other greenhouse gases we understand how the increased absorption of radiation in the atmosphere will lead to a warmer planet. The planet is indeed getting warmer. Summertime Arctic sea ice and year-round mountain glaciers are melting. The potential for catastrophic change certainly exists. Because of this potential danger, several well-respected scientists have begun to ask the question, "What can we do to offset this potential disaster?" One suggestion has to do with particulates. Particulates, sometimes called aerosols, are small liquid or solid particles suspended in the atmosphere, such as desert dust, sea salt, smoke and pollution. Like the greenhouse gases they interact with the Earth's energy budget, some times cooling and some times warming the planet. The cooling aspect has some scientists very intrigued. Is it a good idea to consider geoengineering, adding a cooling type of aerosol to the atmosphere to counterbalance a catastrophic global warming?

The lecture will be held in the new Davidson Science and Mathematics Center on the campus of UNR in Reno, Nevada

Free parking off of Evans Ave near the Davidson Building

Lecture series made possible by a NASA EPSCoR grant, and DRI, UNR, TMCC.

Additional information available at <u>www.sciencenevada.org</u> or tony@sciencenevada.org

# COGLO RAL

# Can Particulates Solve the Global Warming Problem?



A PUBLIC LECTURE WITH

# DR. LORRAINE A. REMER

NASA GODDARD SPACE FLIGHT CENTER LABORATORY FOR ATMOSPHERES

#### DECEMBER 6, 2010 | 7:00 PM

Davidson Science and Math Building Redfield Auditorium University of Nevada, Reno

### FREE PUBLIC LECTURE SERIES











