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Ostrich or Phoenix? *Responding to the Challenges of Climate Change*

Prof. Dr. Kevin Anderson



Talk followed by discussion panel
(politics, economics, ENGO, government)

6 pm Wednesday Oct. 14th 2015

WU Campus

Teaching Centre, TC 1.02



Fourteen of the warmest years on record occurred since 2000; with oceans both warming and acidifying; and unequivocal scientific evidence that burning fossil fuels is the principal cause:

“What can we do to rapidly reduce greenhouse gas emissions?”

Prof. Anderson will revisit the scale of the climate challenge, arguing that whilst the science of climate change has progressed, we obstinately refuse to acknowledge the rate at which our emissions from energy need to be reduced. Highly speculative geo-engineering is increasingly used to balance incremental tweaks to a ‘business-as-usual’ model with rapidly dwindling carbon budgets for 2°C. Similarly, the eloquent rhetoric of green growth continues to eclipse analysis demonstrating the need for radical social as well as technical change.

Tackling these issues head on, Prof. Anderson will present a quantitative framing of mitigation, using IPCC carbon budgets, and qualitative examples of a potential, genuine low-carbon future.



Dr. Kevin Anderson
Professor of Energy & Climate Change
School of Mechanical, Aerospace & Civil Engineering (MACE)
University of Manchester, England

Deputy Director of the Tyndall Centre for Climate Change Research
Scientific advisor, Welsh Government, Climate Change Commission
Non-executive Director of Greenstone Carbon Management

The Discussion Panel:

- ❖ **Ulrich Brand, Professor of International Politics, Universität Wien**
Author: *Beautiful Green World: Myths of a Green Economy*
- ❖ **Magdalena Heuwieser, Finance & Trade Watch**
Initiative: *"System Change, not Climate Change!"*
- ❖ **Manfred Kohlbach, Climate Change, Federal Ministry of Environment**
Negotiator: Austrian delegation to UNFCCC
- ❖ **Clive L. Spash, Professor of Public Policy & Governance, WU, Wien**
Author: *Greenhouse Economics: Value and Ethics*

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