

Speaker to Explore Links Among Land Cover Dynamics, Human Land Use, Environmental Processes

Dan Brown, associate dean for research with the University of Michigan's School of Natural Resources and Environment, will speak Monday (Feb. 9) on how environmental modeling can bridge the social and natural sciences to evaluate the interactions between the land surface, human activity and environmental processes including hydrologic flows and ecosystem productivity.

In his talk, "Characterizing Land Cover and Land Use Dynamics for Coupled Modeling," Brown will discuss the need for environmental modeling efforts to include land cover dynamics, which Brown characterizes as a "key determinant of a number of environmental processes."

A special seminar in the EarthTalks series, Brown's talk is slated for 4 p.m. in 112 Walker Building and is open to the public.

His talk also will be available online at

<http://e-education.mediasite.com/dutton/Viewer/?peid=0a6365c6-4f60-4410-83a0-8076d9d58c5f>.

Brown also will discuss a number of efforts that he has been involved with to represent land-cover dynamics and link these to anthropogenic land-use processes.

This talk in the EarthTalks series is sponsored by the Earth and Environmental Systems Institute (ESSI), the College of Earth and Mineral Sciences and the Penn State Institutes for Energy and the Environment (PSIEE).