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Future of World's Energy is Subject of Keck Day Lecture Nov. 30

ORANGE, Calif., Nov. 9, 2006 – Dr. Nathan Lewis, a noted chemist and environmental expert from the California Institute of Technology, will give a public lecture at Chapman University on Thursday, Nov. 30 at 3:45 p.m. in the Bush Conference Center, Beckman Hall Room 404. “Powering the Planet: Where in the World Will Our Energy Come From?” will examine the world’s current energy challenges in terms of social and fiscal policy and geopolitics. The lecture is free and open to the public. Call 714-744-7862 for more information.

“Where in the world will our energy come from,” asks Dr. Lewis, “and what will it take for the world to get away from fossil fuels and switch to alternate energy?” The answers may be surprising. Lewis will discuss the technical, political and economic hurdles that must be overcome before the widespread adoption of alternate energy technologies can be achieved.

“Dr. Lewis has made a scientific analysis of the world’s energy requirements for the next 50 years, and where that energy will have to come from,” says Dr. Arnold Shugarman, director of the Keck Science Initiative at Chapman University. “He is trying to raise awareness as to the urgency of this problem, and he’s trying to get our government, and governments around the world, to treat this crisis with the zeal and focus it requires.”

Professor Lewis’s presentation is part of an all-day program to celebrate and recognize the achievements of Chapman students participating in the W.M. Keck Science Education Initiative at Chapman University. Students in physical science, biological science and honors classes conduct science projects and present them either through presentations or posters. Student presentations will take place from 8 a.m. to 3:45 p.m., with a buffet lunch at 11 a.m. Admission to the student presentations (which take place in Beckman Hall Room 404) is also free and open to the public, but the lunch is open by prior reservation only: call 714-744-7862.

The W.M. Keck Foundation supports Chapman’s innovative science program, emphasizing teamwork and an interdisciplinary approach to research and problem-solving. In addition to the Student Research Day, the Keck grant supports professors and visiting speakers, funds special projects for ten to 15 classes each semester in a variety of disciplines, and supports students’ attendance at conferences.

About the Speaker:

Dr. Nathan Lewis, 2002 George L. Argyros Professor of Chemistry, has been on the faculty at the California Institute of Technology since 1988, and has served as professor since 1991. He has also served as the principal investigator of the Beckman Institute Molecular Materials Resource Center at Caltech since 1992. From 1981 to 1986, he was on the faculty at Stanford, as an assistant professor from 1981 to 1985 and a tenured associate professor from 1986 to 1988. Dr. Lewis has been an Alfred P. Sloan Fellow, a Camille and Henry Dreyfus Teacher-Scholar, and a Presidential Young Investigator. He received the Fresenius Award in 1990, the ACS Award in Pure Chemistry in 1991, the Orton Memorial Lecture award in 2003, and the Princeton

Environmental Award in 2003. He has published more than 200 papers and has supervised approximately 50 graduate students and postdoctoral associates. His research interests include light-induced electron transfer reactions, both at surfaces and in transition metal complexes, the photochemistry of semiconductor/liquid interfaces, novel uses of conducting organic polymers and polymer/conductor composites, and development of sensor arrays from these polymers that use pattern recognition algorithms to identify odorants, mimicking the mammalian olfaction process.

For more information on Dr. Nathan Lewis and Keck Science Day, reporters can contact:

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