



PennState
Eberly College
of Science

CHEMISTRY

*Tuesday, April 19, 7:30 p.m.
100 Thomas Building*

*Fourth Quadrennial Frank Whitmore Lecture on
Chemistry Education and Public Policy*

“Climate and Energy: Big Challenges and Bigger Opportunities”

*Dr. Richard Alley
Evan Pugh Professor of Geosciences
Penn State University*



“[Climate change] is not the biggest problem in the world. The biggest problem in the world is getting along with each other. But it's part of that because we're not going to get along with each other if we're not getting along with the planet.”

“If we approach Earth as if we have an Operators' Manual, we can avoid climate catastrophes, improve energy security, and make millions of good jobs.”

Richard Alley, “EARTH: The Operators' Manual”

Richard Alley exemplifies the rare ability to be both a superb scientist and superior communicator. In addition to his research, Alley has made several appearances on television. In April 2011, PBS debuted a three-part series on climate change entitled “EARTH: The Operators' Manual” hosted by Alley. The program's aim was to present an objective, accessible assessment of the Earth's problems and possible solutions, with the stated intention of leaving viewers informed, energized and optimistic. Alley combines in-depth technical expertise on climate change with a unique ability to connect with and speak with (and not merely to) a non-scientific audience. In 2014, the National Center for Science Education presented its first annual *Friend of the Planet Award* to Alley and Michael Mann, Penn State professor of atmospheric science. Also in 2014, Alley taught the Coursera MOOC “Energy, Environment, and Our Future”. This Spring, Alley presented a TEDxPSU talk at Penn State. He has been recognized with numerous awards including election to the US National Academy of Sciences and the Royal Society, the 2009 Tyler Prize for Environmental Achievement, a 2011 “Focus on the Environment” Heinz Prize, the 2007 Revelle Medal of the American Geophysical Union, the 2005 Seligman Crystal of the International Glaciological Society and others. He has also been honored for teaching and service, including the American Association for the Advancement of Science Public Engagement with Science Award, the Public Service Award of the Geological Society of America, the American Geological Institute Award For Outstanding Contribution To Public Understanding of the Geosciences and the Schneider Award for Science Communication. Pennsylvania State University has awarded him a Faculty Scholar Medal, the Eisenhower Award (the highest University-wide teaching award) and the College of Earth and Mineral Science's Wilson Teaching Award, Mitchell Innovative Teaching Award and Faculty Mentoring Award.

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*Questions? Contact'
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*Hosted by:
Department of Chemistry
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