Boise State University
Student Jordan Ballroom

Tuesday, October 20, 2009

The 26th Annual
FRANK CHURCH CONFERENCE ON PUBLIC AFFAIRS

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The GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT:
from Kyoto to Copenhagen
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The GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT: From Kyoto to Copenhagen

In a 1970 speech entitled GIVE EARTH A CHANCE, Senator Frank Church said: “This is one of those times in our history when we have been given ample warning in advance. The evidence lies all about us, challenging us… to master our impulses and rescue our imperiled habitat.”

Thirty-nine years later, environmental ministers and officials will meet in December at a U.N. summit in Copenhagen to thrash out a global deal on climate change. As President Obama said in a recent U.N. speech on climate: “The journey is long. The journey is hard. We don’t have much time left to make that journey.” These issues will be the focus of the conference on the GLOBAL ENVIRONMENT: FROM KYOTO TO COPENHAGEN sponsored by the Frank Church Institute.

SECRETARY OF THE INTERIOR STEWART UDLALL

9:00 am
Opening Address
The Hon. Byron Johnson, President, the Frank Church Institute, former justice of the Idaho Supreme Court
Michael Buck, Representative, the National Association of Foresters; trustee, the Alaka Foundation

9:45 am
Panel Discussion – Climate Policy and the Congressional Role
Moderator: Former Congressman Larry LaFalce (D-NY), President, LaFalce & Associates; served on the House Banking and Financial Services, and the Natural Resources Committees.
Former Congresswoman Carolyn McCarthy (D-NY), Counselor to the President, The World Bank, served on the House Appropriations, Intelligence, Agriculture, and Interior Committees; chaired the Arms Control and Foreign Policy Caucus.
Former Congresswoman Don Miller (D-FL), Professor, University of South Florida; former Fellow at the Institute of Politics, Kennedy School of Government; served on the House Appropriations, Budget, and Government Reform committees.
Dr. John Gardner, Associate Vice President for Energy Research, Policy and Campus Sustainability, Boise State University.
Dr. Don Reading, Vice-President and Consulting Economist, Ben Johnson and Associates; affiliate with the Climate Impact Group, the University of Washington.

9:45 am
“Will man’s vaulted intelligence save him from, or seal him to, his own extinction? The issue is very much in doubt. Our peculiar genius has been to learn how before learning why. We have pinned wings upon ourselves before achieving a winged spirit. We have shrunk the world into a close neighborhood of nations before nations learned to live as neighbors. And we have poisoned, polluted, defiled and degraded our living space in the arrogant assumption that man could conquer nature—that the creature could somehow subdue its creator. Unless wisdom can at least overtake man’s run-amuck willfulness, the scales will tilt inexorably beyond the point of redemption.”

Senator Frank Church
“Give Earth a Chance” • April 15, 1970

AGENDA >>> Tuesday, October 20, 2009

8:30 am
Welcome and Introduction
Bethine Church, Chair, the Frank Church Institute
The Hon. David Bieter, Mayor, City of Boise
Dr. Melissa Lavitt, Dean, the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs

9:00 am
Opening Address
Introduction: The Hon. Byron Johnson, President, the Frank Church Institute, former justice of the Idaho Supreme Court
Michael Buck, Representative, the National Association of Foresters; trustee, the Ailora Foundation

9:45 am
Panel Discussion – Climate Policy and the Congressional Role
Introduction: Bethine Church, Chair, the Frank Church Institute
William Meadows, President, The Wilderness Society; member of the boards of the League of Conservation Voters; Campaign for America’s Wilderness Coalition; the National Wildlife Refuge Association; and the National Resources Council of America; co-chair of the Partnership Project, a coalition of 21 of the nation’s largest environmental groups.

10:00 am
Adjournment
Former Congressmen McCuloh and Miller: meetings with students in the Congress to Campus program created by the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress and sponsored by the Frank Church Institute.

12:00 pm
Luncheon Address
Introduction: Bethine Church, Chair, the Frank Church Institute
William Meadows, President, The Wilderness Society; member of the boards of the League of Conservation Voters; Campaign for America’s Wilderness Coalition; the National Wildlife Refuge Association; and the National Resources Council of America; co-chair of the Partnership Project, a coalition of 21 of the nation’s largest environmental groups.

11:45 am
Break

12:00 pm
Luncheon

12:45 pm
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Introduction: Bethine Church, Chair, the Frank Church Institute
William Meadows, President, The Wilderness Society; member of the boards of the League of Conservation Voters; Campaign for America’s Wilderness Coalition; the National Wildlife Refuge Association; and the National Resources Council of America; co-chair of the Partnership Project, a coalition of 21 of the nation’s largest environmental groups.

2:00 pm
Adjournment
Former Congressmen McCuloh and Miller: meetings with students in the Congress to Campus program created by the U.S. Association of Former Members of Congress and sponsored by the Frank Church Institute.

3:00 pm
Reception – Banner Bank Building

5:30 pm
Keynote Address
Welcome: Dr. Melissa Lavitt, Dean, the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs
Introduction: The Hon. Byron Johnson, President, the Frank Church Institute
“The Political Climate for Climate Change Negotiations,” William Davis, Director, the United Nations Information Center

7:30 pm
Keynote Address
Welcome: Dr. Melissa Lavitt, Dean, the College of Social Sciences and Public Affairs
Introduction: The Hon. Byron Johnson, President, the Frank Church Institute
“The Political Climate for Climate Change Negotiations,” William Davis, Director, the United Nations Information Center

9:00 pm
Adjournment

WILLIAM K. DAVIS
Will Davis is currently the Director of the United Nations Information Center in Washington, DC. In this capacity, he is the United Nation’s senior representative in Washington, serving as a spokesman for the organization and working with officials in the Executive Branch, the Congress, the media, civil society and the business community to further the relationship between the UN and its largest contributing Member state.

Before joining the United Nations, Mr. Davis was the Director for Global and Functional Affairs in the State Department’s Bureau of Legislative Affairs. Mr. Davis oversaw the Department’s interaction with the Congress on global priorities such as international organizations, human rights, refugees, counter-narcotics and international environmental affairs. He led a staff of ten foreign policy professionals who served as liaisons with the Congress. Mr. Davis was also the Department’s senior legislative adviser on relations with Congress regarding the Secretary of State’s Office of Reconstruction and Stabilization.

From 2001 to 2004, Mr. Davis was the Deputy Head of the Public Affairs Division for the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), an international organization based in Paris, France. Mr. Davis served as the OECD’s main liaison with the private sector; organized labor; non-governmental organizations, and parliamentarians. He was also instrumental in establishing the now annual OECD Forum, one of the world’s largest high-level civil society/government summits. From 1999-2001, Mr. Davis was the Head of Center for Public Affairs of the OECD’s Washington Office, responsible for all aspects of the OECD’s outreach in the United States and Canada.

From 1990-1998, Mr. Davis served in the State Department’s Bureau of Legislative Affairs and on the White House’s National Security Council (NSC) staff. At the State Department, Mr. Davis became expert on the annual budget and appropriations process, particularly with respect to funding for foreign assistance. At the NSC, he worked closely with the President’s National Security Adviser and other senior White House and Administration officials, coordinating legislative strategy on major foreign policy matters, such as funding for international affairs programs, trade and sanctions issues, peacekeeping, and counter-narcotics activities.

Mr. Davis’ other government service includes tenure as a Presidential Management Intern in the Executive Office of the President’s Office of Administration, as well as assignments with the U.S. Department of Treasury and the U.S. Department of Defense.

Mr. Davis graduated cum laude from Duke University with a Bachelor’s degree in Political Science. He subsequently earned a Master’s Degree in Public Policy Studies, also from Duke University. He is married with two children and resides in Bethesda, MD.

Secretary of the Interior Stewart Udall and Senator Frank Church, 1968.