Middlebury Professor Rich Wolfson Visits Monterey To Present “An Environmentalist’s Perspective on Nuclear Power”

November 11 Event Continues Monterey/Middlebury Lecture Series

Monterey, CA – On November 11, Middlebury College Professor Rich Wolfson will visit the Monterey Institute to offer “An Environmentalist’s Perspective on Nuclear Power” in the latest edition of the ongoing Monterey/Middlebury Lecture Series.

Professor Wolfson is Benjamin F. Wissler Professor of Physics at Middlebury and also teaches in Middlebury’s Environmental Studies Program. His lecture will center on the argument that for an environmentalist, nuclear power is too complex for a simple “pro” or “anti” stance. Decidedly dangerous for reasons clearly understood, nuclear power nonetheless provides a significant fraction of the world’s electricity with minimal carbon emissions, and is one of only two long-proven, large-scale alternatives to fossil fuels for electric power generation. In his lecture, Wolfson aims to present one environmentalist’s nuanced answer to the nuclear power dilemma.

Professor Wolfson holds a master’s degree in environmental studies from the University of Michigan, and a Ph.D. in physics from Dartmouth. His published work encompasses such diverse fields as medical physics, plasma physics, solar energy engineering, electronic circuit design, nuclear issues, observational astronomy, and theoretical astrophysics. His books Nuclear Choices: A Citizen’s Guide to Nuclear Technology (MIT Press, 1993) and Simply Einstein: Relativity Demystified (W.W. Norton, 2003), exemplify his interest in making science accessible to nonscientists. Professor Wolfson has also published in Scientific American, writes for World Book Encyclopedia, and has produced three video courses for The Teaching Company, including Physics in Your Life (2004) and Earth’s Changing Climate (2007).

The Monterey/Middlebury Lecture Series was established to promote shared expertise and education through the exchange of faculty speakers as Middlebury College and the Monterey Institute of International Studies proceed with integration. On July 1, 2010, the Monterey Institute will formally become known as a graduate school of Middlebury College.

Professor Wolfson’s lecture, scheduled from 6:00 pm to 7:30 pm in Room 100 of the McGowan Building at 411 Pacific Street, Monterey, is free and will feature limited public seating.
What: Middlebury College Professor Rich Wolfson presents “An Environmentalist’s Perspective on Nuclear Power”

When: Wednesday, November 11 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m.

Where: Room 100
        McGowan Building
        411 Pacific St. (corner of Pacific & Franklin)
        Monterey, CA 93940

###

The Monterey Institute of International Studies is at the forefront of international professional education, preparing students for global careers in the private, public, nonprofit and educational sectors. A private graduate institution located in Monterey, California and affiliated with Middlebury College, the Institute offers fully accredited degree programs in international business, translation and interpretation, international policy studies and language teaching. The Institute’s approximately 800 students come from more than 50 countries. For more information about the Monterey Institute, visit www.miis.edu.