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International Environmental Leaders To Address Journalism and Activism

Monterey Institute To Host Panel Discussion On Earth Day 2009

Monterey, CA – This April 22, while the world celebrates Earth Day 2009, a group of leading environmental and political authors, journalists, and academics will gather at the Monterey Conference Center and Portola Hotel and Spa for a panel discussion on the role of activism in journalism.

Guest speakers Bill McKibben, author of *The End of Nature*, Eric Schlosser, author of *Fast Food Nation*, Rebecca Solnit, author of *Storming the Gates of Paradise*, and Jason Scorse, Chair of the International Environmental Policy Program at the Monterey Institute will hold a panel discussion as part of the ongoing Environmental Speaker Series presented by the Monterey Institute of International Studies and the Middlebury Fellowships in Environmental Journalism. The panel will conclude a full day of environmental events coinciding with Earth Day, including the second annual Monterey Sustainable Business Showcase and the Sustainable Cities Symposium.

McKibben, a widely published author and journalist, directs the Middlebury fellowships, which each year brings ten fellows to the Monterey area to work on stories they report with funds from the fellowship. He also started 350.Org, which brings together people from all over the world who hold events raising awareness of global warming.

"For journalists dealing with key social questions--and in our new media environment for activists dealing with getting facts out--the shifting line between what counts as reporting and what constitutes advocacy is an interesting question that can shed some light on both endeavors," McKibben said.

Thanks to a generous contribution by the Hayward Foundation the event will be free and open to the public. For more information about the event, please contact Jason Scorse at jason.scorse@miis.edu.

**What:** International environmental leaders address journalism and activism

**When:** Wednesday, April 22, 2009, 6:00pm to 7:30 pm

**Where:** Monterey Conference Center and Portola Hotel and Spa
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.