

ARMS 54

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SUBJECT:: Invitation to Cooler Heads Coalition briefing by Dr. Willie Soon

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 Please note that reservations are required. Please respond to the  
 Marshall Institute--not to me--at [info@marshall.org](mailto:info@marshall.org) or (202) 296-9655.

The Cooler Heads Coalition  
 and the  
 George C. Marshall Institute

invite you to  
 a Congressional Staff and Media Briefing

Was the 20th- Century Climate Unusual?

Exploring the Lessons and Limits of Climate History  
 with

Dr. Willie Soon  
 Harvard-Smithsonian Center for Astrophysics

Friday, May 16, 2003  
 Noon-1:30 PM  
 Room G-50, Dirksen Senate Office Building  
 Lunch provided.

Reservations required.  
 Please RSVP by calling 202-296-9655  
 or e-mail [info@marshall.org](mailto:info@marshall.org) <<mailto:info@marshall.org>>

Dr. Willie Soon will discuss the findings of a new Marshall Institute report, Lessons and Limits of Climate History: Was the 20th Century Climate Unusual? (at <<http://www.marshall.org/article.php?id=136>>), which shows that the temperature record of the late 20th century was not remarkable relative to that of the past 1,000 years.

The report, authored by the Marshall Institute's Senior Scientists Willie Soon and Sallie Baliunas, challenges frequently made claims that the 20th century was warmer than any other in the millennium, that the 1990s were the warmest decade of the millennium, and that 1998 was the warmest year in the past 1,000 years.

After reviewing more than 200 climate studies, the report concludes that the temperature record for the past 1,000 years is far too incomplete and

uncertain to support such definitive conclusions about the 20th century, any decade in it, and especially any given year -- the 20th century is neither the warmest century nor the century with the most extreme weather of the past 1,000 years.

Dr. Soon, a research physicist, is also the lead author of a related scientific article, *Reconstructing Climatic and Environmental Changes of the Past 1000 Years: A Re-Appraisal*, which was published this spring in the journal *Energy and Environment* (at <http://cfa-www.harvard.edu/~wsoon/1000yrclimatehistory-d/Energy+EnvironmentSoonetal2003.pdf>).

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