

THE OHIO STATE UNIVERSITY
DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY
COLLOQUIUM SERIES 2012-2013

Arthur H. Robinson Cartography Colloquium

THE WORLD IN 2050: Four Forces Shaping Our Northern Future Laurence C. Smith

Professor & Vice-Chair of Geography
and Professor of Earth & Space Sciences
University of California at Los Angeles

This talk will present a politically neutral projection of what the world might look like in forty years' time, should current global trends in (1) population demographics, (2) resource demand, (3) economic globalization, and (4) climate change continue their current trajectories. The first part of the talk ("The Push") identifies key global pressures and trends, for example in urbanization, population aging, energy technology, water supply, immigration, and the rising economies of China, India and the developing world. The second part ("The Pull") describes transformations in the "Northern Rim", comprised of Canada, the northern United States, Greenland/Denmark, Iceland, Norway, Sweden, Finland, and the Russian Federation (coined the Northern Rim Countries or NORCs). These eight northern countries and their surrounding seas will experience profound transformation over the next 40 years, making the Northern Rim a place of rising human activity and global strategic value relative to today.

Friday, April 5, 2013
3:30-5:00 pm

165 Thompson Library (Multipurpose Room)
NOTE NEW LOCATION



The Geography Colloquium series is funded in part through the John Nelson Endowment and the alumni, faculty, and friends of the Ohio State Geography endowment.