

The Wittenberg Saturday Science Program

Presents:

“Exploring Mountain Glaciers”

With Dr. Sarah K. Fortner



Extreme mountain glaciers in the ice-free dry valleys of Antarctica stand tall above the horizon with steep cliffs that stand 5 people high; these are among the strangest on earth. Fierce winds blow sediment onto their surfaces. During the 24-hour summer this debris creates pockets of life in an otherwise hostile glacier surface and streams flow into ice-covered lakes. While dry valley mountain glaciers are in the same position seen by explorers a century ago, most of the mountain glaciers in temperate and tropical regions are retreating at alarming rates. Glacier retreat in the Cordillera Blanca Peru threatens water quantity and quality, especially during the dry season important to agriculture. In this session of Science Saturday, I will overview mountain glaciers in the extreme. Together, we will model how glacier retreat relates to water availability. We will also use ‘flubber’ to model how the flow of glaciers depends on factors such as slope and temperature.

Saturday, October 6, 2012

10:00 AM - 12:00 noon

Main Atrium

Barbara Deer Kuss Science Center

Wittenberg University

Please register at <http://www.wittenberg.edu/science-outreach>.

Directions and more information can be found on the website.