

Opinion

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LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Climate change shouldn't be political

I attended NMSU's Climate Change Education presentation the evening of Feb. 6 by Texas Tech's Katharine Hayhoe delivered by video link. Dr. Hayhoe was polished, folksy, contained interactivity by audience members by internet connection, masterfully displayed audience manipulation, was shallow in content and contained numerous technical errors.

Hayhoe showed the last 10,000 years temperature history as a smooth declining line, followed by a hockey stick blade up, showing today's temperature warmest the past 10,000 years.

Greenland ice cores, Atlantic Ocean mud cores, Alpine tree rings and western history all show dramatic shifts in climate the past 10,000, significant cooling the last 8,000 years. It's dominated by ~thousand-year cycles (see "Bond Cycles," published by Gerard Bond et al in SCIENCE, in 1997 and 2001). Warm periods: Minoan, 1500 BC, Roman, 0 AD, Medieval, 1000 AD, now, the present warm period. The cold intervals: Bronze Age Collapse, 1200 BC, Dark Ages, 700 AD, Little Ice Age, 1300-1850 AD.

Sierra Nevada's semifossilized trees above the present tree line, are radiocarbon dated 1000 AD, are located on Whitewing Mountain and Boreal Plateau, and are evidence the present isn't yet as warm as the Medieval Warm Period in the mountain west, and elsewhere.

After Hayhoe's presentation opened to questions, I asked why she didn't show the 1000-year Bond Cycles. Unaware of these cycles, I repeated, "Bond Cycles. They were published in SCIENCE."

I was aware that she wasn't allowing me to answer but talking over me. "Did you ever voter for a Demo-

crat?" she asked. I answered, "Sure, Bill Richardson, governor." Hayhoe wasn't listening but lecturing. I should start reading climate alarmist blogs and publications.

When I asked a science question, Hayhoe reverted to politics. By her actions, she showed this isn't about science, but politics.

— Robert Endlich, Las Cruces