

## CGLOBAL RESEARCHER AND ECOLOGIST TO SPEAK AT UF

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Contact: Allyson A. Beutke, College of Liberal Arts and Sciences Publications Office

(352) 846-2032

Writer: Kimberly A. Lopez

GAINESVILLE — While certain dogmas have satisfied the inquiry of many about the development of the Amazon's diverse ecosystem, one forefront researcher believes he has reason to debate the theories.

Dr. Paul A. Colinvaux, Ohio State University professor emeritus and adjunct scientist at Marine Biological Laboratory, Woods Hole, Mass., will present "The Damage of False Paradigms in Science: The Case of Amazon Refuge Theory" on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. in the Florida Museum of Natural History as part of the Florida Frontiers Lecture Series. The event is free and open to the public.

"Colinvaux is at the center of an interesting controversy in ecology," said Mark Brenner, UF Land Use and Environmental Change Institute director. "He has vast field experience in remote areas, such as the Arctic and Galapagos Islands, and brings a real global perspective with a dynamic lecturing style."

Brenner said students, faculty and community members will walk away with an appreciation for the fact that today's diverse ecosystems have a history and developed over long periods of time.

A renowned ecologist and author of well-known texts such as "Why Big Fierce Animals are Rare" and "Fate of Nations," Colinvaux's research interests are broadly in the areas of paleoecology and historical biogeography, with a special emphasis on Amazonia. His research expeditions, however, have included Nigeria, Galapagos Islands, Brazil, Ecuador, Panama, Siberia and the Russian Kola Peninsula.

Colinvaux is the third speaker in the Florida Frontiers Lecture Series celebrating UF's sesquicentennial celebration. Organized by the College of Liberal Arts and Sciences, the series brings to campus prominent speakers and performers who lead the frontiers of modern research. Speakers are hosted every Wednesday at 7:30 p.m.

The lecture series continues Feb. 5 with Marjorie Hoy, eminent scholar in the UF Department of Entomology and Nematology, presenting "Bioterrorism in Agriculture: Myths and Realities" at the Harn Museum of Art. UF Emeritus Professor of History Michael Gannon will deliver a lecture concerning crises in modern Florida history on Feb. 12 at the Florida Museum on Natural History.

For more information about the Florida Frontiers Lecture Series visit [www.clas.ufl.edu/150](http://www.clas.ufl.edu/150).