



Public Lecture Series Invitation

The International Institute for Applied Systems Analysis (IIASA) and the Austrian Academy of Sciences have a joint public lecture series on scientific topics of mutual interest, aimed at a broad academic audience, decision makers and the public.

We would like to invite you to the second lecture of the series.

Surviving the Century

By **Lord Martin Rees**, and opening remarks by Professor Helmut Denk (President of the Austrian Academy of Sciences) and Professor Pavel Kabat (Director/CEO of IIASA)

on: Monday 3 June 2013 at 18.30 followed by a reception

Venue: Festsaal of the Austrian Academy of Sciences (1010 Vienna, Dr. Ignaz-Seipel-Platz 2)

RSVP by 25 May 2013:

Ms. Claudia Heilig-Staindl (staindl@iiasa.ac.at or 02236-807-266) or

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OAW
Austrian Academy
of Sciences

Surviving the Century:

Our Earth has existed for 45 million centuries. But the present century is the first when one species – ours – has the planet's future in its hands. We have forecasts of the pressures that will stem from a rising population, more demanding of energy and resources. But technological advances are less predictable. We need to worry about the downsides of bio- cyber- and nano-technology. We must minimise vulnerabilities stemming from the increasing interconnectedness of the global economy and global society, and the greater empowerment of small groups. This lecture will address some of these issues, looking towards 2050 and beyond, with a focus on the responsibilities of scientists and policy-makers.

Lord Martin Rees:

Martin Rees is a cosmologist and space scientist with a long involvement in policy issues. He has been based for much of his career in Cambridge, where he has been Director of the Institute of Astronomy and (until recently) Master of Trinity College. He was President of the Royal Society (the academy of science for the UK and Commonwealth) during the period 2005-10 and in 2005 he was appointed to the House of Lords.

He is a foreign associate of the U.S. National Academy of Sciences, the American Philosophical Society, and the American Academy of Arts and Sciences, and is an honorary member of the Russian Academy of Sciences, the Pontifical Academy, and several other foreign academies. His international awards include the Balzan Prize, the Bower Award of the Franklin Institute, the Cosmology Prize of the Peter Gruber Foundation, the Einstein Award of the World Cultural Council, the Crafoord Prize (Royal Swedish Academy) and the Templeton Prize. He has been president of the British Association for the Advancement of Science and the Royal Astronomical Society and a trustee of the British Museum, the Science Museum, the Kennedy Memorial Trust, and the Institute for Public Policy Research. He is currently on the Board of the Princeton Institute for Advanced Study and has served on many bodies connected with education, space research, arms control and international collaboration in science. He is the author of many research papers, mainly on astrophysics and cosmology, as well as numerous general articles and eight books, including 'Before the Beginning', 'Our Final Century?', 'Gravity's Fatal Attraction', 'Just Six Numbers', and (most recently) 'From Here to Infinity: Scientific Horizons', an expanded version of his BBC Reith Lectures.