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Mathematics of Ice to Aid Global Warming Forecasts

Ken Golden, professor of mathematics at the University of Utah, made a presentation to Congressional representatives at a Capitol Hill briefing on his work on polar sea ice as both an indicator and regulator of climate change.

Golden discussed polar sea ice and its function as a primary habitat for microbial communities and how it sustains marine food webs. He spoke of a new understanding of how salt water flows through sea ice, which promises to improve forecasts of how global warming will affect earth's icepacks and how polar ecosystems may respond.

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Footage from his recent Antarctic research expedition was also presented.



Previous AMS Congressional Lunch Briefings:

- November 2006, The Necessity of Mathematics: From Google to Counterterrorism to Sudoku, presented by Amy Langville, professor of mathematics at the College of Charleston.
- November 2005, From Katrina Forward: How Mathematics Helps Predict Storm Surges, presented by Clint Dawson, professor at the University of Texas and a member of the Center for Subsurface Modeling in the Institute for Computational Engineering and Sciences; and Joannes Westerink, associate professor of civil engineering and

geological sciences at the University of Notre Dame.

- September 2004, Homeland Security: What Can Mathematics Do? presented by Fred S. Roberts, professor of mathematics and director of the Center for Discrete Mathematics and Theoretical Computer Science (DIMACS) at Rutgers University.
- July 2003, Mathematics is Biology's Next Microscope, Only Better; Biology is Mathematics' Next Physics, Only Better presented by Joel E. Cohen, Laboratory of Populations, Rockefeller and Columbia Universities.
- February 2002, *Mathematics, Patterns and Homeland Security* presented by Ingrid Daubechies, Princeton University.
- July 2001, Adding It Up: Helping Children Learn Mathematics, a briefing on this National Research Council Report presented by Deborah Loewenberg Ball and Hyman Bass, University of Michigan and by Roger Howe, Yale University.
- Other previous briefings include: *What Does Water Know About Mathematics* by Mary Fannett Wheeler, The University of Texas at Austin

Calculating the Secrets of Life: Mathematics in Medicine by DeWitt Sumners, Florida State University

Eavesdropping on the Internet: Mathematics and Policy by Carl Pomerance, University of Georgia Mathematical Transcriptions of the Real World: Fingerprints, Magnetic Resonance and Video by Ronald Coifman, Yale University AMS Congressional Briefing



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