The Alan K. Simpson-Norman Y. Mineta Leader Series

Climate Change – Causes, Effects, Solutions and Balance to Meet our Energy Needs

June 16, 2014 | 3:00 pm to 4:15 pm | Blinken Auditorium, TWC Residential & Academic Facility (dress code is business professional)

The Simpson-Mineta Leaders Series is founded in the spirit of the lifelong friendship of two extraordinary leaders from opposite sides of the aisle. Norman Y. Mineta and Alan K. Simpson met during World War II when Simpson’s Boy Scout troop met with Mineta’s in the Heart Mountain Relocation Center in Wyoming where Secretary Mineta’s family was then interned with over 10,000 other Japanese-Americans. Despite their differences, both their friendship and their commitment to leadership and public service endured.

The Simpson-Mineta Leaders Series aims to create a forum in which students from around the country and the world can engage with extraordinary leaders, explore issues of contemporary public concern, and articulate their own views about the meaning of leadership and citizenship in today’s society.

Ben Geman
Energy and Environment Correspondent
National Journal

Ben Geman is a National Journal Energy and Environment Correspondent, and has nearly a decade of experience on the beat. Before joining National Journal he spent four years as an energy correspondent for The Hill, where he helped launch the paper's energy blog. From 2004-2009, Ben was a reporter for Environment & Energy Publishing, writing for Greenwire and other E&E newsletters. Ben also worked at the newsletter Inside EPA, and before moving to Washington, D.C. in 2002 he wrote for several Boston-area newspapers, including the Boston Phoenix.

Bob Deans
Director, Federal Communications
National Resources Defense Counsel

Bob Deans is the Director of Federal Communications for the Natural Resources Defense Council, the nation’s foremost environmental advocacy group. A leading voice on the central environmental issues of our time, Deans is a frequent commentator on national radio, television and newspapers. He is the author of the 2012 book, "Reckless: the Political Assault on the

A native of Richmond, Va., Deans spent 25 years as a correspondent for the Atlanta Journal-Constitution and other Cox Newspapers, including four years as Chief Asia Correspondent, based in Tokyo, and eight years covering the White House. He is a former president of the White House Correspondents’ Association.

David W. Kreutzer, Ph.D.
Research Fellow in Energy Economics and Climate Change
The Heritage Foundation

David Kreutzer is the Research Fellow in Energy Economics and Climate Change at The Heritage Foundation’s Center for Data Analysis. In this position, Kreutzer researches how energy and climate change legislation will affect economic activity at the national, local, and industry levels.

Before joining Heritage in February 2008, Kreutzer was an economist at Berman and Company, a Washington-based public affairs firm. From 1984 to 2007, he taught economics at Madison University in Harrisonburg, Va., where he also served as Director of the International Business Program.

In addition, Kreutzer was a Visiting Economist at the U.S. Food and Drug Administration in 1994 and was a visiting economics instructor at Ohio University in the early 1980s.

Kreutzer also has some local political experience. From January 2003 to December 2004, Kreutzer served as Mayor of Dayton, Va., a town of about 1,300 people in Rockingham County near the West Virginia state line. Before that, Kreutzer served on Dayton’s Town Council for nine years.

Kreutzer's research has appeared in journals such as The Journal of Political Economy, the National Tax Journal, Economic Inquiry, The Southern Economic Journal and The Journal of Energy and Development. He has also written for mainstream media outlets including The Wall Street Journal, The Washington Times, the Journal of Commerce, the Cleveland Plain Dealer, and Fort Lauderdale Sun-Sentinel.

Kreutzer earned a doctorate in economics from George Mason University in 1984. He also has a bachelor's and master's degrees in economics from Virginia Tech.