



**Dr. Gordon McBean, CM, PhD, FRSC**

Professor, Departments of Geography and Political Science, University of Western Ontario, London. Director of Policy Studies, Institute for Catastrophic Loss Reduction. Appointed Member of the Order of Canada. Dr. McBean's research interests are in atmospheric and climate sciences, ranging from the natural phenomena, the hazards they generate to the policies of government and responses of people to them. He has extensive publications on climate science and natural hazards and related policy issues. He is a Convening Lead Author for the newly-commissioned IPCC Special Report on Climate Extremes.



## Seminar Series 2010

*Presented by the Interdisciplinary Centre on Climate Change*

### Reducing the Impact of Climate-Related Hazards

The assessments of the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change (IPCC, 2007) have demonstrated that the climate is changing and the future will see higher sea levels, more heat waves, intense storms and heavy precipitation events and extension of drought areas.

These climate hazards are having impacts on human settlements causing major loss of life, social disruption and economic hardship and these impacts will increase in the future if actions are not taken. It is important to link climate change adaptation with disaster risk reduction. A new international research initiative - Integrated Research on Disaster Risk (IRDR): Addressing the challenge of natural and human-induced environmental hazards takes an integrated, interdisciplinary research approach focusing on disaster risk reduction. To reduce impacts requires integrated risk analysis, including consideration of relevant human behaviour and decision making processes in face of risk. Coupling of natural sciences' examination of hazards with socio-economic analysis of vulnerability and mechanisms for engaging the policy decision-making process is needed to avoid at least some of the tragedies to come.

**February 10, 2010, 12:00-1:15 pm, EV1 - 221**

**All are welcome. Refreshments will be provided.**

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