

From: "Ben Matthews" <ben@chooseclimate.org>
To: "Mike Hulme" <m.hulme@uea.ac.uk>
Subject: Re: interactive climate science-policy website,
Date: Tue, 5 Sep 2000 00:14:56 +0100
Reply-to: "Ben Matthews" <ben@chooseclimate.org>

Dear Mike,

Regarding my last message,

In case you wonder about my background, I have attached a 2-page version of my CV, in rich-text format, file bjhmcv2.rtf

My experience, ranging from laboratory work with CO2 fluxes and marine algae, through to organising events at the UN climate negotiations, combined with a strong mathematical and linguistic background, is a somewhat unusual combination which perhaps makes me more a "jack of all trades" than a specialist. On the other hand, this has given me an interdisciplinary overview which may be valuable for bridging the gap between science and policy, appreciating dilemmas and uncertainties, and communicating these around the world.

However, Kyoto left me very disillusioned by the apparent lack of connection between climate science and policy -in the protocol there was not one sentence discussing what we need to do to stabilise the climate in the long term, based on scientific predictions. This made me wonder, what is the use of my intricate research on air-sea CO2 exchange, if the policymakers ignore even the most basic knowledge? I left UEA and started working at home, developing interactive web graphics showing the link between per-capita emissions and global climate change. Eventually, I realised that working alone was neither effective nor sustainable, and this has led to unfortunate personal circumstances. Now I need the stimulus of working again in a team, in an institute, even if this requires sacrificing of my own ideas. I am not just looking for a "job", it is more important to me, to rejoin the research community, and feel I am making the best use of my skills. I hope you can help, if only to discuss the possibilities.

I have also attached a zip package containing the interactive java applets which I developed, it's only 90K including supporting webpages and historical data. Once unzipped (all in one directory), you have to open the file "starthere.html" in any java-enabled web browser. I can send a self-extracting windows version if you prefer, on the other hand you may find it easier just to look at the website www.chooseclimate.org/applet/ Currently, this uses only very crude formulae loosely based on IPCC SAR and GCI's C&C, -but the presentation is unique: you can adjust the parameters just by dragging controls with a mouse, and all the linked plots respond instantly. It's hard to describe in words, which is why I encourage you to have a look.

Ben

Dr Ben Matthews ben@chooseclimate.org,

----- Original Message -----

From: Mike Hulme <m.hulme@uea.ac.uk>
To: Ben Matthews <ben@chooseclimate.org>
Sent: 04 September 2000 13:38
Subject: Re: interactive climate science-policy website,

> Thanks for this note Ben.
>
> I would be interested in talking about your ideas at some stage,
> particularly in relation

> to our outreach strategy. We are appointing a Communications Manager very
> soon and you are
> welcome to attend the presentations as listed below:
>
> I would suggest that we arrange a meeting a little further down the line,
> once the Centre
> has started operating in its new premises after 2 October.
>
> Mike
>
> _____

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Attachment Converted: "c:\eudora\attach\bjhmcv2.rtf"