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The Scale of Science Panel Discussion

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[摘要] 22 March 2007, At tonight's Cambridge Science Festival lecture, a group of world-class scientists will explore how research is performed and field questions from the audience. 'The Scale of Science Panel Discussion' lecture will take place at the Law Faculty, close to Sidgwick Avenue, today, Thursday, 22 March at 7.30pm.

[关键词] Science Festival lecture;Panel;Neurobiology;genetic

22 March 2007, At tonight's Cambridge Science Festival lecture, a group of world-class scientists will explore how research is performed and field questions from the audience.

'The Scale of Science Panel Discussion' lecture will take place at the Law Faculty, close to Sidgwick Avenue, today, Thursday, 22 March at 7.30pm.

The panel will consist of: Lord Martin Rees, President of the Royal Society; Professor William Sutherland, Professor of Conservation Biology at the University of Cambridge; and Dr Andrea Brand, Director of Research in Developmental Neurobiology at the Wellcome Trust. It will be chaired by the well-known science journalist and writer, Tim Radford.

Lord Rees is both the Astronomer Royal, an appointment that dates back to 1675, and the Master of Trinity College. In 2005 he was appointed President of the Royal Society, the UK's independent scientific academy.

Lord Rees has been connected to Cambridge for most of his professional life. After studying at Trinity College, he has held post-doctoral and professorships at the University.

His work has contributed significantly to our understanding of the universe. He even has an asteroid named after him: Asteroid 4587 Rees.

Conservation biology is becoming increasingly important, as habitats of rare plants and animals are lost through human activity. Professor William Sutherland's work focuses on the impact of environmental changes on bird populations.

Best practice in conservation needs to be shared. Professor Sutherland has been instrumental in setting up the website ConservationEvidence.com, a collection of projects that can be used as a resource by other groups.

Winner of the 2006 Rosalind Franklin award, given for an outstanding contribution to natural science, Dr Andrea Brand is one of the leading genetic researchers in the UK.

Her research group studies how the nervous system, the most complex system in the body, is put together. Her groundbreaking work involves developing an innovative system to discover what happens to cells during the lifetime of the fruit fly *Drosophila*.

Dr Brand is a keen advocate of women in science and has presented a number of lectures to encourage more children and pupils to consider careers in science.

Tim Radford, who will chair the discussion, began his career with the New Zealand Herald at the age of 16. He worked for the Guardian for 30 years, many of them as Science Editor. His work has won him four nominations as Science Writer of the Year by the Association of Science Writers.

