

Town and Gown

EARTH SCIENCES



FULLERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY



WHY ARE PUPFISH IN DEATH VALLEY?

DR. JEFFREY R. KNOTT

PROFESSOR OF GEOLOGICAL SCIENCES

CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY FULLERTON

TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 14, 2012

7:00 P.M.

FREE ADMISSION

COMMUNITY ROOM

Salt Creek in Death Valley is barely a creek, it's more like a 2-mile-long trickle of water that is saltier than the ocean that begins and ends below sea level. But in this and other harsh environments – Owens Valley near Bishop, Amargosa Valley near Shoshone and Devil's Hole spring – is where the pupfish are found. No river connects these places today, but DNA analysis says that the pupfish have a common ancestry and must have traveled to these locations millions of years ago. For over 75 years geologists have tried to find when and how pupfish ended up in Death Valley. By studying volcanic deposits as much as 3 million years old, Dr. Knott and his colleagues have begun to unravel the pupfish mystery as they search for that ancient river pathway that led to Death Valley and the lakes that filled it.

Dr. Knott earned a B.S. from UCLA (1983) and worked as a staff engineering geologist for G. C. Masterman & Associates, Foundation Engineering and CALTRANS from 1984-1992. Jeff completed an M.S. from CSULA in 1992 and a Ph.D. from University of California-Riverside (1998). From 1997-2001 he was Senior Geologist for the Environmental Technology group at the Union Oil Company. He is a California Professional Geologist and Certified Engineering Geologist. His present research interests are in the areas of Quaternary geology, tectonic geomorphology and tephrochronology.



Programs include time for Q & A.

TOWN AND GOWN IS CO-SPONSORED

WITH CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY FULLERTON (CSUF)

FREE PARKING

 Find us on
Facebook

Fullerton Public Library
353 W Commonwealth Avenue
Fullerton, CA 92832 visit our website at
www.fullertonlibrary.org or
call 714-738-6326

 CALIFORNIA STATE UNIVERSITY
FULLERTON

FULLERTON PUBLIC LIBRARY