Recognizing the impact of building energy use on national energy and global environment, the Department of Energy and its partners joined to sponsor the first Solar Decathlon in 2002. The Solar Decathlon is an intercollegiate competition to design, build and operate a home powered completely by solar energy. In 2002, 2005, and 2007 university teams from the US, Canada, and Europe transported their homes to Washington, D.C., where they constructed a solar village on the National Mall. The event is a powerful public demonstration of solar energy, energy efficiency, the best in home design, and the ability of students to create daring world-class structures. A multidisciplinary team of students and faculty from the University of Colorado’s schools of engineering, architecture, and business competed in the Solar Decathlon events. They also sought to promote energy efficient and environmentally sensitive building technologies and develop educational materials to increase public awareness.

University of Colorado teams won both the 2002 and 2005 Solar Decathlons, and placed 7th overall in 2007.

**EVERYONE IS WELCOME.** The discussion starts at 6:30 in the Mercantile Room (no food service there). Come before 6 PM to leave yourself time to get something to eat in the restaurant area, or stay and eat afterwards. We end around 8 PM.

There’s no charge. The Wynkoop are generously providing the facility; we buy our own drinks. It is first come, first seated, and **seating is limited** by the fire laws!

The Colorado Café Scientifique in Denver is organized by an informal committee of faculty from CU and institutions up and down the Front Range, as well as writers, students, and science fans from industry, government and all over. We welcome your input, including ideas for speakers and topics. Bring them with you to the next Café, or e-mail them and any questions to John.Cohen@UCDenver.edu

**Essential information on our Web site at** [http://CafeSciColorado.org](http://CafeSciColorado.org)