

Colorado

CAFÉ SCIENTIFIQUE

Tuesday 16 November 2010

at the Wynkoop Brewing Company

<http://www.wynkoop.com/>

Corner of 18th and Wynkoop in LoDo, Denver

About a block from Light Rail. Thirteen minutes by foot from Auraria.

Long Hot Nights in the Eocene Arctic:

What they tell us about global temperature change

**Jaelyn J. Eberle, PhD, Curator of Vertebrate Paleontology,
University of Colorado Boulder Museum of Natural History**

Mammals living above the Arctic Circle 53 million years ago endured six months of darkness each year—but in a far milder climate than today, according to a new study led by Jaelyn Eberle. The findings suggest how modern mammals might migrate if today's global climate continues to warm. Several varieties of prehistoric mammals as heavy as 500 kg each lived on what is today Ellesmere Island in Canada's High Arctic, just a few hundred kilometers from the North Pole. Their summer diet was flowering plants, deciduous leaves, and aquatic vegetation. But in winter's twilight they apparently switched over to foods like twigs, leaf litter, evergreen needles, and fungi. The study has implications for the dispersal of early mammals across polar land bridges into North America and for modern mammals that likely will begin moving north as Earth's climate continues to warm. Dr. E. promises to bring us some ancient show-and-tell!

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, or stay and eat afterwards. We end around 8 PM.

There's no charge. The Wynkoop is generously providing the facility; we buy our own drinks. It is first come, first seated, and **seating is limited** so that everyone can take part in the discussion.

The Colorado Café Scientifique is organized by an informal group of faculty from CU and institutions up and down the Front Range, as well as science fans from industry, government and elsewhere. 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 about the topic and the event on our Web site at:
<http://CafeSciColorado.org>**