

# Global energy issues topic of Wyoming discussion

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ROCK SPRINGS -- As one of the largest energy-producing states in the nation, Wyoming has a direct stake in the emerging global energy markets.

A panel of energy experts will discuss important aspects of the international energy debate and the implications for Wyoming and the world at a free symposium scheduled for this morning at Western Wyoming Community College.

"The global competition for energy" symposium is sponsored by the University of Wyoming's International Studies Program, School of Energy Resources and History Department and Western Wyoming CC.

Jeanette Reisenburg, advising/project coordinator for the International Studies Program, said the focus on the symposium will be on the geopolitics of energy, with a specific focus on the central role that the U.S. and Asia play in the global energy equation.

She said a range of issues will be discussed, including challenges to U.S national security; the roles of China, Russia and Asia in global energy markets, and the broader global energy business environment.

Panelists for the event include Ronald Surdam, director of the Wyoming State Geological Survey, who will speak about the future of Wyoming coal; Jean Garrison, director of the International Studies Program, who will discuss China's rising energy demand, and Phil Roberts, a UW professor of history, who will look at oil exploration and tribal boundaries in the Middle East.

"Motivated by three simple, but interrelated ideas, the symposium will focus on the issue of energy security, how to address the looming global energy crunch, and how the world's response will determine future prospects for cooperation or conflict," Garrison said in a media release.

The symposium begins at 9:30 a.m. in Room 1302 on the Rock Springs campus.