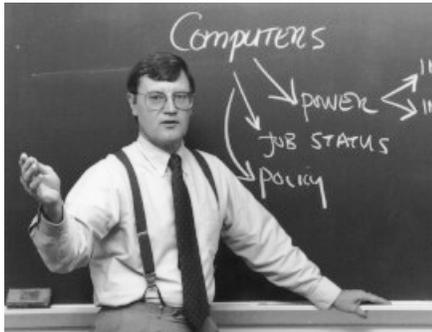


SKEPTICISM & CITIZENSHIP



Professor Steve Frantzich,

Department of Political Science, U.S. Naval Academy discusses and signs his book

*CITIZEN DEMOCRACY:
Political Participants in a
Cynical Age.*

"Citizen Democracy shows ordinary people engaged in extraordinary civic activity. Their causes run the gamut from civil rights to flag burning, from the Internet to the international fronts of landmines and the UN, but their common cause is the fact that they creatively entered the arena of national public policy making and made a difference." -- from the publisher



AFTER HIS TALK,
PROF FRANTZICH WILL
SIGN HIS BOOK, WHICH
MAY BE PURCHASED AT
THE EVENT.

Saturday, February 17, 2001, 2 pm - 3:30 pm
Bethesda Branch of the Montgomery County Library
7400 Arlington Road, Bethesda, Maryland
(a short walk from the Bethesda Metro station)



National Capital Area Skeptics Public Lecture Series

FREE admission - Everyone welcome - members and non-members

For more information call the 24-hour NCAS Skeptic Line recording at (301) 587-3827

e-mail: ncas@ncas.org

www.ncas.org



Shadow of a Doubt

THE MONTHLY CALENDAR OF THE NATIONAL CAPITAL AREA SKEPTICS

FEBRUARY 2001

YOUNG SKEPTICS

As many of you may already know, CSICOP recently unveiled "The Young Skeptics Program". It has begun as a web-based project gathering useful, thought-provoking and fun-filled content for students, parents and educators. You can find the project on the web at: <http://www.csicop.org/youngskeptics/>. If you are interested in helping develop the resources for this program, please contact Amanda Chesworth at a.human@mindspring.com.

THE FALLACY ZOO

While not specifically skeptically-oriented, this is a categorization of dodges often used by the credulous (what IS the opposite of skeptic?) to avoid having to defend their ideas on their "merits": <http://www.primenet.com/~byoder/fallazoo.htm>

SKEPTICAL MEDICINE

The following are several medical and health-based web sites of interest:

<http://www.quackwatch.com> <http://www.chirobase.org> <http://www.mlmwatch.org>

<http://www.nutriwatch.org> <http://www.ncahf.org>

Editor, Consumer Health Digest <http://www.ncahf.org/digest/chd.html>

Weekly column: <http://www.canoe.ca/HealthAlternative/home.html>

WORST SCIENCE OF THE CENTURY

The Statistical Assessment Service (www.stats.org) has given awards to the worst science of the previous century:

Grand Prize Winner: *The Evil of Scientific Racism*- Probably the most pernicious piece of pseudoscience in history was taken to a new level when Houston Chamberlain published his theories of the superiority of the "Nordic" race in the early years of the century.

First Runner-Up: *Stalin's Scientist - The Folly of Lysenkoism*- The favored theory of Stalin's chief scientist, Trofim Lysenko (1889-1976), rejected orthodox genetics in favor of a belief that plants could be trained to be other plants, e.g. wheat cultivated in the proper environment could produce rye seeds, mainly because the orthodox theory violated the doctrine of dialectical materialism.

Second Runner-Up: *Sex Mad - Kinsey's Theories of Sexual Behavior*-The favored theory of Stalin's chief scientist, Trofim Lysenko (1889-1976), rejected orthodox genetics in favor of a belief that plants could be trained to be other plants, e.g. wheat cultivated in the proper environment could produce rye seeds, mainly because the orthodox theory violated the doctrine of dialectical materialism.

The complete list is on the Statistical Assessment Service web site.

TIME TO RENEW?

Check your mailing label. If the renewal date has passed, please send \$20 (for 1 person) or \$30 (for 2-member households) for a one-year renewal to the NCAS address at the top of this page, or you will be dropped as a member.



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