

UC SANTA BARBARA

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Eileen Conrad

UCSB History Associates Lecture to Examine Earthquake Prediction: 'The "Big One" -- Coming Soon on a Fault Near You?'

The San Andreas Fault is responsible for the formation of California's dramatic landscapes and for the earthquakes that occasionally rattle us.

In an illustrated lecture, titled "The 'Big One' -- Coming Soon on a Fault Near You?," pioneering UC Santa Barbara scientist Tanya Atwater will examine the future of earthquake prediction. Using animation, maps, and images, she will demonstrate how researchers are learning about future seismic activity by studying sediment layers in the walls of trenches.

The event, sponsored by the History Associates, will be held on Nov. 30 at 7 p.m. at the First Presbyterian Church, 23 E. Constance Avenue, Santa Barbara.

Admission is \$10.

Reservations are recommended, and can be made by calling (805) 617-0998.

"We will learn about how a 'trench party' gleans information about possible future earthquakes, and vicariously experience what the next big one might be like," said Atwater, an emeritus professor of geography.

A member of the National Academy of Sciences, Atwater is renowned for her work on the plate tectonic evolution of western North America and the San Andreas Fault system.

An outstanding teacher, her animations are used in classrooms, teaching laboratories, museums, and public forums around the world.

She has a lifelong passion for maps and large-scale landscapes, both oceanic and terrestrial, and for the plate tectonic processes that shape them.

About UC Santa Barbara

The University of California, Santa Barbara is a leading research institution that also provides a comprehensive liberal arts learning experience. Our academic community of faculty, students, and staff is characterized by a culture of interdisciplinary collaboration that is responsive to the needs of our multicultural and global society. All of this takes place within a living and learning environment like no other, as we draw inspiration from the beauty and resources of our extraordinary location at the edge of the Pacific Ocean.