

Calendar announcement, David Quammen will deliver a lecture on ecology and the significance of islands

April 29, 1996

Media Contact: Warren R. Froelich, 534-8564

CALENDAR ANNOUNCEMENT

David Quammen, an award-winning novelist/essayist who recently completed an eight-year book project on evolution and extinction of island species, will deliver a lecture on ecology and the significance of islands at 8 p.m., Wednesday, May 8 at Mandeville Auditorium, on the campus of the University of California, San Diego.

During his round-the-world travels researching his book, titled "The Song of the Dodo: Island Biogeography in the Age of Extinction," Quammen tromped through some of the world's most remote and extraordinary ecosystems; he encountered some of the world's most spectacular creatures and spoke to some of the world's most respected field biologists. Among other things, his research confirmed that islands not only are conducive to evolution, they are also especially conducive to extinction.

Quammen, a visiting professor at UCSD, will talk about both the splendors and jeopardies of island ecosystems. His lecture, titled "On the Trail of the Dodo," will feature slides of giant reptiles, flightless birds, faraway places. And he'll discuss the modern revolution in ecological thinking that has awakened ecologists to the significance of island biogeography.

The event is free and open to the public. For additional information, please contact Michael Gilpin, professor of biology, at 534-4114.

(April 29, 1996)