

University of Wisconsin-Madison
Hilldale Lecture in the Physical Sciences
March 12, 2026, 2:30 pm, Union South Marquee

Taking the fingerprints of global sea level change

One of the most counterintuitive results in climate science is that sea level falls near a rapidly melting ice sheet and generally rises with increased magnitude at greater distance. Each ice sheet (and glacier) drives a unique geometry of sea level change and thus these patterns have come to be known, colloquially, as sea level fingerprints. I will discuss recent work detecting these fingerprints in satellite observations, and also some pressing policy issues that arise from projections of the patterns of sea level change in our progressively warming world.

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This event is free and open to the public
Hosted by the Department of Geoscience