

Abstract Submitted
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Communicating science to students and the public GORDON AUBRECHT, Ohio State University — Unless something is done, millennium-length consequences of the greenhouse gases we have already released will cause harm to the planet. Groups of people supported by political forces and money have decided that denial of scientific data is not only reasonable, but a moral force that opposes that of stewardship. I characterize these people as “denialists,” to distinguish them from true skeptics, scientists who must be skeptical to do their work. Denialists have succeeded the people who just want the problem to go away by sowing doubt about scientific integrity and distorting the meaning of scientific uncertainty. How scientists can change the framing of the issue and how individual scientists can influence the public through reasoning with fellow citizens and writing letters to their local papers countering misinformation is the focus of this work.

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