

# SEMINAR NOTICE

*Department of Physics and Engineering Physics*  
*University of Saskatchewan*

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**SPEAKER:** Prof. M.V.Ramana Simon Chair in Disarmament, Global and Human Security, Professor, School of Public Policy and Global Affairs, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, BC

**TOPIC:** *Small Modular Nuclear Reactors: Fantasies for the Interregnum*

**DATE:** Tuesday October 13<sup>th</sup>, 2026

**TIME:** 3:30-4:30 p.m.

**Room:** Phys 103

**Abstract:** In recent years, Small Modular Nuclear Reactors (SMR) have often been cited in the news as a way to reinvigorate nuclear power. This talk will begin by describing the global status of nuclear energy to explain the motivations for small modular reactors, and the claims made about these reactors. This will be followed by an assessment of these claims, as a way of answering the question that is of widespread interest: can small modular nuclear reactors, or nuclear energy in general, help mitigate climate change.

**Brief Bio:** Author of "Nuclear is not the Solution: The Folly of Atomic Power in the Age of Climate Change" (Verso books, 2024), "The Power of Promise: Examining Nuclear Energy in India" (Penguin Books, 2012), and co-editor of "Prisoners of the Nuclear Dream" (Orient Longman, 2003). Membership: the International Panel on Fissile Materials (IPFM), the International Nuclear Risk Assessment Group (INRAG); The Forum on Physics and Society of the American Physical Society, the Scientific Advisory Board of the International Physicians for the Prevention of Nuclear War Canada, The Canadian Pugwash Group, and the team that produces the annual World Nuclear Industry Status Report.

**Awards:** Guggenheim Fellowship; Leo Szilard Award (APS); 2026 Alliance for Nuclear Accountability DC Days award.