Dr. Jeffrey J. Marlow
Postdoctoral Scholar, Harvard University

Thursday, March 14,
12:00 – 12:45 pm
403 Altschul Hall, 4th floor,
Barnard College

Dr. Marlow will be giving a campus talk at Barnard entitled

“Methane & Microbes: Building a Functional Understanding of Microbial Communities Modulating Global Change”

Methane plays a critical role in determining environmental conditions across our planet: a strong greenhouse gas, it has been implicated in many of Earth's most dramatic climate convulsions. In deep sea and coastal marshes, however, a complex community of microorganisms is able to consume methane, diminishing its flux into the atmosphere.

Dr. Marlow will share experimental results from several field sites that reveal an enormous methane sink, decoding the micro-scale interactions between organisms that make it possible and highlighting new methods for interrogating environmental microbial communities and their essential contributions to global ecosystem services.

Dr. Jeffrey Marlow is a Postdoctoral Scholar at Harvard University, where he studies the ways in which complex microbial communities shape and are shaped by environmental change. From deep-sea methane seeps to coastal salt marshes and active volcanic lava lakes, he examines the interface between greenhouse gas reservoirs and the microbial "bio-filters" that temper emission rates. Jeff is also a science journalist, the Executive Director of the Ad Astra Academy educational organization, and a participating scientist in the United Nations' negotiations to develop a conservation framework for the high seas.

For more information, please contact Catherine Cook, Environmental Science Department at ccook@barnard.edu.