



OFFICE OF THE SENIOR VICE PRESIDENT AND PROVOST
PRESIDENTIAL DREAM COURSE
The UNIVERSITY of OKLAHOMA

CEES 4373/5373 Water Resources Management

Distinguished Seminar Series

April 6 (Monday) 3:00-4:00 PM National Weather Center 5600

Greater Than the Sum of Their Parts

Deceiving Assumptions and Misleading Policies in Modelling and Managing Water



Dr. Kaveh Madani

Coupled human-water systems are characterized by uncertainty, limited predictability, bounded rationality, indeterminate causality, and evolutionary change. To determine the impact of a specific policy intervention, an integrated analysis approach is needed that provides a holistic view of complex interactions within such systems. In this talk, Kaveh Madani highlights some of the major challenges of modeling and managing complex human-water systems to argue why we often fail to develop comprehensive technological and policy solutions that can solve one problem without creating new ones.

Dr. Kaveh Madani is an environmental scientist, educator, and activist with expertise in modeling and analysing complex human-nature systems. He has previously served as the Deputy Vice President of Iran in his position as the Deputy Head of Iran's Department of Environment, the Vice President of the UN Environment Assembly Bureau, and Chief of Iran's Department of Environment's International Affairs and Conventions Center.

He is currently a Henry Hart Rice Senior Fellow at the MacMillan Center for International and Area Studies of Yale University and a Visiting Professor at the Centre for Environmental Policy (CEP) of Imperial College London. He has received a number of awards for his research, teaching, as well as outreach and humanitarian activities, including the New Faces of Civil Engineering recognition, the Hydrologic Sciences Early Career Scientist Award, the Arne Richter Award for Outstanding Young Scientists, and the Walter Huber Civil Engineering Research Prize.