The Evergreen State College
Olympia, Washington 98501

for immediate release April 1, 1977

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The impact of the evolutionary process on ecology and on human behavior will be explored by Dr. Edward Kormondy in the third of The Evergreen State College Wednesday Evening Lecture Series April 13, beginning at 7:30 p.m. in Lecture Hall Three.

Dr. Kormondy, an Evergreen faculty biologist who has served as the college's chief academic officer for four years, says his evening address is founded on the fact that "humans are the product of a very long, natural evolutionary process."

He'll examine the implications of that process from both ecological and behavioral points of view.

The author of eight biology texts and three dozen scientific articles says he'll stress his belief that "humans are a natural part of the environment whose place within it began to change drastically with the arrival of the agricultural revolution some 10,000 years ago.

"Humans began then to significantly modify their environment to a greater extent than any other organisms," he says. "That modification has continued at an ever accelerating pace as we ve learned to control our environment, through such means as irrigation, and as we've begun to exploit it, through mining, overharvesting of resources, and other means.

"The long evolutionary development, coupled with modifications humans have made on their surroundings, have greatly affected both the environment and humans themselves," he adds. The provost plans to illustrate some of those impacts through a variety of examples.

He'll also discuss the behavioral forces which shape humanity.

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JUDY ANNIS, DIRECTOR Information Services "Like other organisms, we humans are subject to behavioral forces, but to a greater extent than most people are willing to acknowledge," he says. "Yet, our perceptions of the world in which we live and our response to those perceptions are largely determined by our evolutionarily-derived anatomy and physiology."

Dr. Kormondy has spent more than 30 years accumulating his knowledge of humankind. His studies took him to Tusculum College where he earned his bachelor's degree in biology, and to the University of Michigan, where he completed both his master's degree and doctorate in zoology.

He has taught at the University of Michigan, Oberlin College, University of Pittsburgh, and at Evergreen, where he joined the faculty for the college's opening session in 1971. He accepted appointment to an academic deanship at Evergreen in 1972 and became provost in 1973.

His Wednesday Evening Lecture is free and open to the public.