FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

BILLINGS -- Livingston author and scientist Eric Schneider will read from his most recent book, “The Purpose of Life: Closing the Gap Between Science and Religion,” Thursday, April 22, 2010, at 4 p.m. in Room 125 of Morledge – Kimball Hall, on the campus of Rocky Mountain College.

This book, as Schneider’s last collaborative published effort, “Into the Cool” (2006), an international scientific best seller, is co-authored by famed science writer Dorion Sagan.

“The Purpose of Life: Closing the Gap Between Science and Religion” is an inquiry into life’s purpose. The answer the authors provide in their book is simple, powerful, and illuminating: If we strip myth and religion away from the question, we are left with philosophy and science.

“Since he (Schneider) was the eighth person hired by the EPA and had a behind-the-scenes role in writing the National Environmental Policy Act, we decided he might talk a bit about that as well,” according to David Strong, RMC professor of philosophy and a friend of Schneider.

Schneider says he and Sagan present the premise in their book that “life does have a purpose, a purpose more basic, more profound and, once revealed, more obvious than anything most of us are ever been taught.”

According to Schneider, “The Purpose of Life” does not pretend to be all-inclusive and does not necessarily contradict most spiritual and atheistic perspectives. Rather, the book presents “a Science 101 answer,” and provides a physical basis for all logical perspectives, “be they down-to-earth and empirical or high-flying philosophy.”

“Indeed, we bet that you will find that our exposé enriches both scientific and spiritual
perspectives,” says Schneider.

Schneider lives with his wife in the mountains of southwest Montana and spends his time between science and writing. He is best described as a biophysicist, synthesizing biology and physics at a most fundamental level. He has been Chief Scientist of the National Oceanic Administration and Director of National Marine Quality Laboratory of the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency.

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