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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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COLBY-SAWYER TO HOST THIRD SPRING ENVIRONMENTAL LECTURE APRIL 4 Award-Winning Nature Photographer Gerry Ellis Presents *EARTH 2000*

New London, N.H. – On Tuesday, April 4, at 8 p.m., award-winning photographer/naturalist Gerry Ellis will present *EARTH 2000*, a multimedia event that propels audiences through the socio-environmental passages and turmoil of the past century. It will be held in the fully accessible Wheeler Hall, Ware Campus Center, and admission is free.

With hundred of images accompanied by state-of-the-art field recordings and original scores, Ellis takes audiences on a 75-minute audiovisual voyage exploring wildlife, wild places, and life on Earth. A dynamic journey through the dramatic technological, social, and industrial changes of the twentieth century, this presentation helps shape the way we think about the natural world. From the cold of Antarctica to the heat of Africa, from Papua New Guinea cultures so linked to nature that they have no words for it to vanishing South American rainforests, Ellis examines where we have come in a century and where we must go next. This honest-but-hopeful experience begins with the Industrial Revolution, the start of technological upheaval and human expansion that sparked a profound shift in how humans perceived their planet. From toxic chemicals introduced in WWI to invention of the assembly line, our focus was on working faster. The Post-WWII era saw populations explode—with modern science as a panacea and nature an impediment. Earth Day began as a wake-up call to a world in which human relationships with nature were parasitic rather than symbiotic. However, Ellis maintains we now have perspective on such problems as greed and over-consumption.

Ellis has been photographing the world's wilds for more than fifteen years. He is photographer/author of ten books and his work has appeared in *Audubon*, *BBC Wildlife*, *International Wildlife*, *Natural History*, *Ranger Rick*, and *National Geographic*. He was twice named winner of the BBC Wildlife Photographer of the Year Competition.

Sponsored by the Colby-Sawyer College Cultural Events Committee, the spring Environmental Lecture Series presents outstanding scholars and authors who address current issues relevant to our natural environment.

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ASSOCIATED EVENTS:

Wednesday, April 12, 8 p.m., Wheeler Hall, Ware Campus Center Lecture/slide presentation, "Reading the Forested Landscape." Using evidence of past forest disturbance—logging, fire, agriculture, blow downs, blights, beaver activity—Antioch/New England Graduate School Professor Tom Wessels will guide participants in learning to "read" a landscape's history while wandering through the woods. Free admission.

Colby-Sawyer College, founded 1837, is an independent four-year, residential, co-educational college set on 200 acres in the Lake Sunapee region. The college offers 13 academic programs—including a new Community & Environmental Studies major—that integrate liberal arts and sciences with pre-professional training. Hailing from 27 U.S. states and seven foreign countries, Colby-Sawyer's 800 students experience individual attention, a student/faculty ratio of 12:1, and an average class size of 18. Please visit our campus on the World Wide Web at www.colby-sawyer.edu.

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