David Crystal

Language Death: Writing the Obituary of Languages?

Tuesday, October 20 8:00pm
Mary Graydon Center Rooms 4 & 5 (1st floor)
American University

Half the languages of the world will die out within the next century. Professor Crystal will examine the ways in which languages are dying, asking why, and what can be done. The lecture suggests a parallel with other ecological domains, and draws upon Crystal’s play 'Living On', which dramatizes the endangered language situation.

David Crystal is internationally known for his wide-ranging studies of language. The author of more than 100 books (including the Cambridge Encyclopedia of Language and Language Death), Professor Crystal is a frequent guest on the BBC, as well as on television programs and videos involving language. In 1995 he received an OBE (Order of the British Empire) for services to the English language.

For more information, contact Lori or Rebecca at 202-885-2582 or e-mail tesol@american.edu.