

Energy Transformations: Earthquakes and Hot Rocks

04/12/2024

Energy Transformations: Earthquakes and Hot Rocks

Featured speaker Alexis Ault, PhD, geoscientist

Associate Professor, Department of Geosciences, Utah
State University

Date

Friday, April 12, 2024

7 p.m. [Eccles Science Learning Center](#),

Emert Auditorium, Room ESLC 130

Hands-on learning activities and refreshments follow the
talk in the Eccles Science Learning Center atrium.

Admission is free and all ages are welcome.

[Directions and Parking Information](#)

Talk Description

We associate earthquakes with seismic waves and potential destruction because that is what we can feel and see. But energy during an earthquake is also transformed into heat (the First Law of Thermodynamics.) This energy transformation is mostly hidden from us, but powerful, because it allows an earthquake rupture to take off. USU geoscientist Alexis Ault describes how we can “see” the record of earthquake energy transformation in fault rocks down to the scale of atoms. She’ll also share how we can use these same tools to identify faults that are deforming, not by earthquakes, but slowly, and why that is important, too.