The Graduate Research Fair Planning Committee is pleased to announce that Dr. Milford Wolpof will be the Sigma Xi Keynote speaker at 7:30 p.m. in Roosevelt Auditorium. Dr. Wolpof is an internationally-renowned paleoanthropologist who captivates the human imagination through his work.

He taught at Case Western Reserve before coming to the University of Michigan. He is currently a professor of anthropology and an adjunct associate research scientist at the University of Michigan’s Paleoanthropology Laboratory Department of Anthropology.

Wolpof is one of the few people in the world who can comfortably wade through the world of ancient skulls and mitochondrial DNA, and help humans understand their origins.

Perhaps the most controversial issue that he addresses in public forums is the “Eve” or “Out of Africa” theory, which states that all living people are the descendants of a single African ancestor about 200,000 years ago.

Wolpof disagrees with this theory in his book, “Race and Human Evolution: A Fatal Attraction.” He describes the world as a giant melting pot during the one million years that people have existed.

“Modern humans have many origins,” he said. “Americans come from all across Europe, Asia and Africa.”