



May 2012 Newsletter

Dear SCORAI,

This month brings a number of conferences just around the corner as well as a number of new videos, blogs, and articles from other SCORAI members.

We look forward to hearing updates about all of the activities underway during the month of May!

Kate & Debbie & Maurie

[The Top Ten Myths about Behavior Change](#)

In this [video](#) Ruben Anderson, Communications Specialist for Metro Vancouver, addresses and debunks the top ten myths of behaviour change at the Recycling Council of British Columbia's 2011 Annual Conference.

[Global Research Forum: Sustainable Consumption and Production](#)

The two and a half-day [workshop focusing on the transition to sustainable production/consumption](#) will be hosted next month, June 13-15th in Rio De Janeiro and will be divided between a focus on the production of SCP research and its communication and application in practice. The workshop will be equally divided between researchers and practitioners from various regions of the globe.

The theme of the workshop is "Global and Regional Research on SCP: Achievements, Challenges, and Dialogues"; it will address the following issues: (1) looking for answers (2) trends, crises, and research needs (3) integrative technologies (4) replication mechanisms (5) beyond behavioral incentives (6) alternative systems (7) translation gap (8) growth model (9) well-being, lifestyles, and livelihoods (10) transitions and (11) global and national sustainability goals.

[Young People Tired of Old Economic Models](#)

Andrew Revkin has recently [posted a blog](#) on emerging attitudes among younger students toward neoclassical economics model. Revkin highlights the protests underway by Harvard students, who note in [an open letter](#) protesting the bias inherent in Harvard's introductory

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Halina Brown
Clark University

Maurie Cohen
New Jersey Institute of Technology

John Stutz
Tellus Institute

Philip Vergragt
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economics course, "The dominant narrative says that environmental restraint must be limited and gradual, while social spending must be contained, otherwise the economy will not grow and we will all suffer. This kind of thinking is pervasive, dangerous, and outdated. Infinite growth in a finite world is impossible, growth based on speculative finance is unstable, and since the 1960's, GDP growth and self-reported well-being have been completely uncorrelated phenomena. In this sense holistic, deep-reaching change of both thought, education and practice is needed."

New Publications & Reports by SCORAI Members & Friends

Benders, R. M. J., H. C. Moll, and D. S. Nijdam. 2012. From Energy to Environmental Analysis: Improving the Resolution of the Environmental Impact of Dutch Private Consumption with Hybrid Analysis. *Journal of Industrial Ecology* 16(2): 163-175. <http://dx.doi.org/10.1111/j.1530-9290.2011.00408.x>

Chasek, Pamela S., and Lynn M. Wagner. (eds). 2012. *The Roads from Rio: Lessons Learned from Twenty Years of Multilateral Environmental Negotiations*. Abingdon: Routledge/Resources for the Future. <http://www.routledge.com/books/details/9780415809771/>

de Graaf, John and David K. Batker. 2011. *What's the Economy For, Anyway?: Why it's time to stop chasing growth and start pursuing happiness* Bloomsbury Press.

Swedish Consumption and the Global Environment (Jan. 2012). Swedish Environmental Protection Agency. <http://www.naturvardsverket.se/Documents/publikationer/978-91-620-1285-4.pdf>

Sussex Energy Group Launches a New Masters of Science in Energy Policy for Sustainability

The Sussex Energy Group has launched a new MSc Energy Policy for Sustainability. This MSc provides broad-based, interdisciplinary social science training for future energy policy professionals working in the public, private and not-for-profit sectors and combines innovation studies, policy and economics to look at the challenges of how to make the transition towards sustainable energy systems.

The focus of the MSc is the opportunities, challenges, and constraints associated with making the transition to low-carbon energy systems in both the developed and developing world. Key challenges include promoting the innovation and diffusion of low carbon technologies and balancing multiple economic, social and environmental objectives. The MSc offers a comprehensive coverage of the energy and climate policy agenda including energy security, market liberalisation, carbon mitigation and energy poverty.

The new programme adds to a suite of Energy, Policy, Technology and Sustainability postgraduate programmes. There are new SPRU MSc

scholarships available open to UK, Europe and Overseas students. More information on the program is available [online](#) as well as [information about scholarships](#) specifically.

Bookmark it! Useful Web-Based Resources

This month we would like to call your attention to an April 8th column in the [Daily Kos](#), an American political blog, highlighting Bill McKibben's take on the end of growth. Author, barath, praises McKibben for his keen insights into the fact that limits to growth--especially on a changed planet Eearth--is the central challenge of our time on which all other issues hinge.

Job Opportunities

University of Maryland, College Park. The College of Behavioral and Social Sciences seeks a computational social scientists to expand strengths in the computational aspects of global environmental change. One appointment will be in Economics/Geography and another appointment will be in Geography/Sociology. A description of the positions and application instructions is available [online](#) (position 117853).

Eindhoven University of Technology has a vacancy for Lecturer (Docent) in System Innovation and Sustainability Transitions. More information is available [here](#).

Arizona State University is hiring faculty either at the tenure-track assistant professor level or tenured associate professor level. The appointment is in an innovative interdisciplinary academic program in [sustainability](#). To review and apply to this position, please visit <http://www.academicjobsonline.org> and search for the Global Institute of Sustainability.

Fellowships

The University of Sussex's Economic and Social Research Council (ESRC) Doctoral Training Centre, in collaboration with the STEPS Centre and the Institute of Development Studies (IDS), is looking to recruit seven doctoral students to join their vibrant research community. Applications are invited from highly-motivated students, working in fields around development studies, science and technology studies, innovation and policy studies, and across agricultural, health, water or energy issues. For more details, visit the STEPS Centre [website](#).

Upcoming Conferences & Workshops

The [RESPONDER Project](#) links sustainable consumption and growth debates and takes into account aspects of green growth, non-growth and degrowth. The next events as part of RESPONDER will be:

Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Household Savings and Debts. May 2012, London.

Multinational knowledge brokerage event: Green ICT for Growth and Sustainability? Linking Science and Policy. For any questions, please contact: ict@scp-responder.eu. May 30- June 1, Vienna University of Economics and Business, Austria.

Sustainable Consumption During Times of Crisis. First Trans-Atlantic SCORAI Workshop will be held May 1, 2012, Bregenz, Austria. Please contact scoraieurope@gmail.com to request a program.

European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption & Production (ERSCP), May 2-4, 2012, Bregenz, Austria.

International Conference on Degrowth in the Americas, May 13-19, 2012, Montreal, Canada.

Consensus International Conference on Sustainable Consumption, May 18-20, 2012 at the National University of Ireland, Galway. The [final program](#) is now posted [online](#).

10th International Association for the Study of Peak Oil & Gas Conference, will be held from May 30 to June 1 2012, Vienna.

2nd Annual Slow Living Summit will take place May 30-June 1, in Brattleboro, Vermont.

Strategies for a New Economy. June 8th-10th at Bard College, in Annandale-on-Hudson, New York.

North West Sustainability Forum. There is a pressing need to help consider fresh ways to connect with one another - business, public sector, faith, academic and third sector - in order to re-ignite and scale up progress towards a sustainable North West of England. This event attempts to explore how by connecting with faith perspectives different questions could be pursued and possibilities for action explored. It has been developed following the organisers' attendance at the [Sustainability in Crisis conference](#) which happened in September 2011 in Cambridge. The Forum will be held June 14th in Preston, UK.

The International Society for Ecological Economics is holding its next biennial conference in Rio de Janeiro, 29 June 16-19, 2012 to dovetail with Rio+20 UNCSD.

Global Research Forum on Sustainable Consumption and Production, will be held in Rio de Janeiro June 13-15, just before the Rio+20 conference. This is a SCORAI style workshop, will discuss systemic change towards SCP. Participation is by invitation only; however if you are interested in participating contact [Philip Vergragt](#).

The International Association for Society & Natural Resources (ISSRM) is holding its annual symposium June 17-21, 2012 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada.

18th Annual International Sustainable Development Research Conference, 24-26th June 2012, University of Hull, UK.

The World Congress on Global Well-Being will be held July 16-21, 2012 in Melbourne, Australia.

Summer School on Theories in Environmental and Economic Psychology (STEEP) will be held from 2-6 July 2012 in Aarhus, Denmark. The aim of the school is to provide PhD students in environmental and economic psychology the opportunity to collaborate with senior scholars and to meet other PhD students in the same area.

XIII World Congress of Rural Sociology, July 29-August 4, 2012, Lisbon, Portugal. Session 43-Consuming the Rural: Food, Nature, and Space. Apply [online](#).

International Conference on Sustainable Development 2012. Montclair State University Montclair, New Jersey, August 1-2, 2012.

The International Conference on Culture, Politics, and Climate Change. September 13-15, 2012 in Boulder, Colorado USA.

3rd International Conference on Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity. September 19-23, 2012 in Venice, Italy.

"Beyond the Culture of Nature: Rethinking Canadian and Environmental Studies" will be held September 29-30, 2012 at the University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada. Please send queries and proposals to Matthew Evenden, Chair of Canadian Studies, UBC: CNS-conference2012@geog.ubc.ca.

Sustainable Innovation 2012 Resource Efficiency, Innovation and Lifestyles which is part of the 'Towards Sustainable Product Design' series of conferences will be hold their 17th International Conference 29th-30th October 2012 at Alanus University in Bonn Germany. The deadline for abstracts is May 8 for SCORAI members.

Boundaries of Consumption: Critical Perspectives on Race, Class, Gender, Citizenship and Space in Changing Markets. This session will explore different theoretical approaches to consumption with particular attention devoted to critical perspectives of race, class, gender, citizenship, and space to examine the intersections of materiality and boundaries. Session proposals are due by April 15th. The conference will be held in San Francisco, CA from November 14-18.

Workshop: Responsible Supply Chains and Networks: Challenges for Governance and Sustainability. The deadline for submitting abstract (400 words) is May 31, 2012, to Magnus Boström (magnus.bostrom@sh.se). The conference will be held in Stockholm, Sweden, 22-24 November 2012.

Conference on Innovators and Concepts of Innovation 2012
The deadline for submitting abstracts and workshop proposal of up to 500 words to the ICICI 2012 in Friedrichshafen is May 10

2012. Contributions are invited to the fields of: sustainable consumption and production, social innovation and sustainability, sustainable technology development, societal change and transformation towards sustainability, sustainability science and theories, politics of sustainability and governance, civil society and sustainability. November 22-23 2012, Friedrichshafen, Germany.

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Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI) | c/o Tellus Institute | 11 Arlington Street | Boston | NJ | 02116