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SCORAI Newsletter (Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative)

1 message

SCORAI (Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative)

Wed, Nov 1, 2017 at 5:11 PM

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Dear Robert,

We are excited to present a newsletter full of opportunities to get involved in our thriving community of scholars, advocates, activists and more! Please consider submitting research or papers to the avenues below.

Best,
Darcy and Emily

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November 15 Deadline for Abstracts for SCORAI 2018 Conference!

In collaboration with the VELUX Endowed Chair in Corporate Sustainability and hosted by the Copenhagen Business School, the Third International Conference of the Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI) will be held in Copenhagen on June 27-29, 2018. The theme for the event is Sustainable Consumption: Fostering Good Practices and Confronting the Challenges of the 21st Century and it will comprise paper presentations, panel discussions, and keynote presentations by acclaimed speakers.

The deadline for submission of individual abstracts is November 15. Submission instructions are at <http://www.confmanager.com/main.cfm?cid=2980>. Questions regarding SCORAI 2018 should be directed to Louise Thomsen, Conference Coordinator, at lth.msc@cbs.dk.

SCORAI Prize for Outstanding Early Career Scholar Paper

The Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative is proud to announce the first SCORAI prize for an outstanding paper by an early career scholar. The prize of \$500 is intended to recognize an outstanding early career scholar based upon a paper presented at the SCORAI 2018 conference. Two additional prizes of \$200 each will be available for papers that merit a second and third place award in the competition.

Young scholars are defined as being enrolled in a graduate program or are within four years from when they earned their PhD or equivalent.

The prize will recognize papers that are well written, theoretically and/or empirically innovative, and make an original contribution to understanding sustainable consumption. The selection process will be conducted by a committee of diverse scholars in the field of sustainable consumption.

To apply send a cover letter and your final paper to Halina Brown (hbrown@clarku.edu) with the subject heading "YOUR LAST NAME: EARLY CAREER SCHOLAR PAPER." Deadline: June 10, 2018. Your cover letter should provide information on your eligibility for the early career scholar paper prize (that you are currently a graduate student or that you earned your PhD prior to June 15, 2013).

Call for Papers - The Yearbook of Sustainable Economics 2017/18

Focus - the future of a sustainable economy

Background information on the yearbook of sustainable economics

The Yearbook of sustainable economics has been published annually since 2011, since 2016 biannual. The yearbook is based on the key-statements of sustainable economics represented through the Network for sustainable economics that has been founded in 2009. Today, about 250 renowned academics and professionals are Network members. The yearbook contributes to a reform of our current economy towards a more sustainable mode of economic activity and life. Until now, five yearbooks have been published so far.

We welcome you to share your findings, ideas, results and thoughts on (but not limited to) these key topics:

- focus: existential risk of global society in the ecological dimension
- focus: existential risk of global society in the economic dimension
- focus: existential risk of global society in the social dimension
- policies and governance
- alternative models and methodology of research on sustainability

Practical information

The Yearbook will be in German. However, it is possible and has been common that some of the articles are in English.

* **Deadline for the Abstracts (no more than 200 words): 27 November 2017**

* Notification of acceptance: 11 December 2017

* Deadline for the final papers: 12 February 2018

Papers should be no longer than 11 Pages (using the style guide of the publisher) or 3.000 words + references.

Call for Papers

The Journal Sustainability is now accepting submissions for a special issue on "Education for Sustainable Consumption", guest edited by SCORAI-er Prof. Dr. Daniel Fischer (Leuphana University of Lüneburg). Submissions are accepted on an ongoing basis. **Deadline is May 31st 2018.**

Special Issue Information:

Education is prominently referred to as an indispensable element of a transition towards more sustainable consumption practices and features prominently in strategy documents on the national and international level. While significant quantitative progress has been made in the implementation of education for sustainable development in education systems, the discourse has shifted its focus more on the quality and effectiveness, and the question of what type of education for sustainable consumption (ESC) is needed to achieve substantial progress (as manifested in SDGs 4 and 12). This requires careful evaluation of intended learning outcomes and their assessment (both individual and collective), learning contexts and approaches (didactics, curricula, whole-school approaches), as well as implementation strategies.

Given the lack of a solid and consolidated evidence base on the effectiveness of existing approaches, this Special Issue of Sustainability aims to provide a critical appraisal of the state of art in research on ESC and to identify promising new directions for future research. We are seeking contributions from all educational fields (formal, non-formal, informal) that are thought-provoking, methodologically rigorous, and innovative in the way they approach an educational engagement with the notion of sustainable consumption. Particularly welcome are articles reporting intervention studies, synthesizing existing research and conveying critical perspectives on dominant discourses, narratives and framings of sustainable consumption in ESC.

Feel free to contact me for any queries related to this Special Issue. I look forward to an inspiring collection of papers on the state and prospect of education for sustainable consumption.

Prof. Dr. Daniel Fischer
Guest Editor

The call for paper is available at: http://www.mdpi.com/journal/sustainability/special_issues/Education_Consumption

UPDATE ON AND BEAUTY FOR ALL CAMPAIGN

Friends, the AND BEAUTY FOR ALL campaign is growing rapidly. You can find some earlier information regarding the campaign at www.scorai.org/beauty. Thanks to Robert Orzanna for posting that! We are now a part of the non-profit, Earth Economics, an ecosystems services assessor, which will be creating a template for cities to evaluate the value of beauty. We are now in the process of forming and advisory board and I invite you to let me know if you are interested in joining: jodg@comcast.net. We are also beginning to plan activities for AND BEAUTY FOR ALL DAY, to be celebrated next October 2. I have three city mayors on board and we are reaching out

to many more, as well as potential partner organizations. If you are part of an organization that might consider joining our And Beauty for All coalition please let me know. I have been speaking about this in Europe and the US, most recently at the Economics of Happiness conference in Pt. Townsend, Washington this past weekend.

I am increasingly convinced that beauty can be a unifier in a polarized political environment and a way to encourage lowered consumption. As I have written:

BEAUTY MATTERS

His beauty was not the simple glitter of outer appearance but a sense of the interconnected harmony of life. "A thing is right," ecologist Aldo Leopold once wrote, "when it tends to preserve the integrity, stability and beauty of the biotic community." True beauty is life-enhancing. It calls us to awe and stewardship, and demands that we reproduce it in art, in design. It softens us, makes us kinder and less aggressive, awakens generosity in our hearts, and even, as Harvard philosopher Elaine Scarry argues convincingly, moves us toward justice. The words "fair" as in beautiful and as in just, come from the same root.

As Pope Francis expressed it in his 2015 Encyclical:

If we approach nature and the environment without this openness to awe and wonder, if we no longer speak the language of fraternity and beauty in our relationship with the world, our attitude will be that of masters, consumers, ruthless exploiters, unable to set limits on their immediate needs. By contrast, if we feel intimately united with all that exists, then sobriety and care will well up spontaneously...the desire to create and contemplate beauty manages to overcome reductionism through a kind of salvation which occurs in beauty and in those who behold it...If someone has not learned to stop and admire something beautiful, we should not be surprised if he or she treats everything as an object to be used and abused without scruple.

Moreover, a focus on beauty can answer the question: if not more consumption growth, then what? People engaged in beautifying their surroundings-be it by gardening, art, or other activities, have less need for the addicting material products of consumer society, thus reducing their ecological impact. People may choose conviviality in public parks and squares and beautiful places shared with others instead of home entertainment systems or addictive consumer toys and other private consumptive pleasures, for example.

Beauty, as Hermann Knoflacher, a lead designer of Vienna, Austria's remarkable public transportation system, told me, stirs pro-environmental behavior: when Vienna added separate paths and greenery alongside traffic-filled streets, its residents were willing to walk three times as far to use public transit instead of driving, or simply to cycle or walk where they needed to go. Their stress levels dropped sharply. "Beauty produces energy in people like a battery," says Knoflacher. When Vienna beautified its Metro stations, making them varied and artful, ridership doubled, and unexpectedly, crime around the station was cut in half.

Thanks, and I look forward to hearing from you-all feedback welcome.

John de Graaf



Featured Publication

Burke, M. and J. C. Stephens (2017). "Energy Democracy: Goals and Policy Instruments for Sociotechnical Transition." Energy Research & Social Science.
<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.erss.2017.09.024>

Energy democracy is an emergent social movement advancing renewable energy transitions by resisting the fossil-fuel-dominant energy agenda while reclaiming and democratically restructuring energy regimes. By integrating technological change with the potential for socioeconomic and

political change, the movement links social justice and equity with energy innovation. Through a policy mix lens, this research examines the energy democracy agenda in the United States to understand how and to what extent the mix of policy instruments currently proposed among energy democracy advocates corresponds to the overarching goals of the movement. This assessment compares 22 policy instruments to 26 intended outcomes for energy democracy. The mix of policy instruments holds potential for advancing renewable energy transitions based on the combined goals of resist-reclaim-restructure, although current policies relate unevenly across the set of intended outcomes. Bolstering the energy democracy agenda will likely require developing new policies, strengthening existing policies, and integrating efforts to simultaneously resist dominant energy systems while also supporting their democratic and inclusive replacement. This research increases the visibility of the energy democracy movement and clarifies and assesses the core claims and policy instruments advanced by its advocates, contributing to policy design for renewable energy transitions and energy democracy.



New Publications in Sustainable Consumption Research (October 2017)

Adeel, Z. 2017. A renewed focus on water security within the 2030 agenda for sustainable development
Sustainability Science, pp. 1-4. Article in Press. DOI: 10.1007/s11625-017-0476-7

de Jong, A., Varley, P. 2017. Foraging tourism: critical moments in sustainable consumption
Journal of Sustainable Tourism, pp. 1-17. Article in Press. DOI: 10.1080/09669582.2017.1384831

Dermody, J., Koenig-Lewis, N., Zhao, A.L., Hanmer-Lloyd, S. 2017. Appraising the influence of pro-environmental self-identity on sustainable consumption buying and curtailment in emerging markets: Evidence from China and Poland
Journal of Business Research, . Article in Press. DOI: 10.1016/j.jbusres.2017.09.041

Iran, S., Schrader, U. 2017. Collaborative fashion consumption and its environmental effects
Journal of Fashion Marketing and Management, 21 (4), pp. 468-482. DOI: 10.1108/JFMM-09-2016-0086

Iyanna, S., Papastathopoulos, A. 2017. Measuring private sphere environmentally significant behaviour of residents in Abu Dhabi
International Journal of Sustainable Society, 9 (2), pp. 178-192. DOI: 10.1504/IJSSOC.2017.086820

Kiss, G., Pataki, G., Köves, A., Király, G. 2017. Framing Sustainable Consumption in Different Ways: Policy Lessons from Two Participatory Systems Mapping Exercises in Hungary
Journal of Consumer Policy, pp. 1-19. Article in Press. DOI: 10.1007/s10603-017-9363-y

Lo, A., King, B., Mackenzie, M. 2017. Restaurant Customers' Attitude toward Sustainability and Nutritional Menu Labels
Journal of Hospitality Marketing and Management, 26 (8), pp. 846-867. DOI: 10.1080/19368623.2017.1326865

Martiskainen, M., Heiskanen, E., Speciale, G. 2017. Community energy initiatives to alleviate fuel poverty: the material politics of Energy Cafés
Local Environment, pp. 1-16. Article in Press. DOI: 10.1080/13549839.2017.1382459

Puaschunder, J.M. 2017. Ethical decision making under social uncertainty: An introduction to Überethicality
Sustainable Production and Consumption, 12, pp. 78-89. DOI: 10.1016/j.spc.2017.05.005

Rosca, E., Reedy, J., Bendul, J.C. 2017. Does Frugal Innovation Enable Sustainable Development? A Systematic Literature Review
European Journal of Development Research, pp.

1-22. Article in Press.

DOI: 10.1057/s41287-017-0106-3

Salim, H.K., Padfield, R., Lee, C.T., Syayuti, K., Papargyropoulou, E., Tham, M.H. 2017. An investigation of the drivers, barriers, and incentives for environmental management systems in the Malaysian food and beverage industry Clean Technologies and Environmental Policy, pp. 1-10. Article in Press. DOI: 10.1007/s10098-017-1436-8

Thongplew, N., Spaargaren, G., van Koppen, C.S.A.K. 2017. Companies in search of the green consumer: Sustainable consumption and production strategies of companies and intermediary organizations in Thailand NJAS - Wageningen Journal of Life Sciences, . Article in Press. DOI: 10.1016/j.njas.2017.10.004

Weller, I. 2017. Gender dimensions of sustainable consumption Routledge Handbook of Gender and Environment, pp. 331-344. DOI: 10.4324/9781315886572

Yao, L., Liu, J., Yuan, Y. 2017. Growth of carbon footprint of Chinese household consumption during the recent two decades and its future trends. Huanjing Kexue Xuebao/Acta Scientiae Circumstantiae, 37 (6), pp. 2403-2408. DOI: 10.13671/j.hjkxxb.2017.0054

Upcoming Conferences



University of Portsmouth logo, FTIS logo, FAIRNESS logo, www.port.ac.uk/FTIS2018, www.fairtradeinternationalsymposium.org, Fair Trade logo, FAIRTRADE logo.

CALL FOR PAPERS IS OUT!
DEADLINE: 15 DECEMBER 2017

Fair Trade International Symposium
26 - 28 June 2018
Portsmouth (UK)



Call for Abstracts 3rd NEST Conference
"New Frontiers in Sustainability Transitions"
March 15-16, 2018, Utrecht University, the Netherlands

The 3rd edition of the the **NEST-conference** , "**New Frontiers in Sustainability Transitions**" , follows the successful first two editions in April 2016 in London (Greenwich) and April 2017 in Lausanne (EPFL). The conference will take place March 15-16, 2018 at the Copernicus Institute of Sustainable Development at Utrecht University in The Netherlands.

The conference is organized by NEST, the Network of Early Career Researchers in Sustainability Transitions , formerly known as the PhDs in Transitions Network. NEST is a part of, and serves as a complement to, the Sustainability Transitions Research Network (STRN), and caters specifically to the needs of researchers new to the field of sustainability transitions. The name change was effected to make our network more inclusive and reaffirm our founding commitments to create a safe space for new entrants in the field of sustainability transitions.

The aim of the upcoming conference is to discuss and exchange work in progress, leading to fruitful debates and feedback (from both peers and senior researchers) to help you further your current research. We welcome contributions at any stage of progress. Discussions will be on the methodological, empirical, conceptual, and/or contextual part of the study, depending on the research stage and need of the presenter. We invite all PhD students and ECRs working on sustainability transitions to submit a **400-word abstract by Friday, December 15, 2017 for a 15 minute presentation followed by a 10 minute discussion . The abstract should be accompanied by a short biography of no more than 100 words** . We ask interested parties to link their project to sustainability transitions as discussed below. This description is based on the STRN research agenda. The full research agenda can be found online on the STRN homepage .

Please submit the abstracts for your presentation and accompanying biographies in PDF format to nest.conference@uu.nl by Friday, December 15, 2017. We will respond to all applications with our decision by the 15th of January 2018.



AMERICAN ASSOCIATION of GEOGRAPHERS ANNUAL MEETING

AAG 2018 CfP: Dwelling on Energy: Exploring social and cultural influences on domestic energy use in international contexts

Association of American Geographers (AAG) Annual Meeting,
New Orleans, 10-14, April 2018

Session Organizers:

Dr Gary Goggins and Dr Frances Fahy,
Geography, National University of Ireland, Galway

Reducing residential energy use and related CO₂ emissions is a key policy focus across many developed countries. Yet, despite ongoing efforts, prevailing market-based and technological focused approaches have had limited success in bringing about long-term reductions in domestic energy use. Without adequate consideration for the social, cultural and contextual influences on residential energy use, it is highly unlikely that dominant efficiency-driven approaches will deliver the necessary reductions in energy demand. Social-scientific approaches will need to play a key role if sustainable energy transitions at the household level are to be successful. Social practice theory, for example, has been increasingly utilized by geographers to demonstrate that household energy use varies among different socio-demographic groups, and across cultures and contexts. But, despite gaining traction in some academic circles, complex social-scientific approaches have had limited impact on non-academic stakeholders and public policy, not least because of the difficulty in translating findings into concrete policy recommendations.

This session will advance social-scientific debate through theoretical development and empirical investigation related to the social and cultural influences on household energy use. We are

particularly interested in papers that deal with cross-cultural variations in household energy use. Papers may include, but are not limited to, topics such as:

- Comparing and contrasting energy use across cultural contexts
- The role of government and intermediary actors in influencing routine energy use
- Innovative energy reduction initiatives at the household or community level (including Living Lab approaches)
- International case studies which reflect the drivers of individual and collective energy choices and energy-related practices
- Socio-technical innovations and cultural influences

Ultimately, this session aims to bring together papers that offer international insights that explore the significance of socio-cultural perspectives and practices involved with transitions to a low-carbon society and future. We welcome theoretical and empirical contributions from a broad geographical spread.



Knowledge/Culture/Ecologies International Conference
November 15-18, 2017 - Universidad Diego Portales, Santiago - Chile

Knowledge/Culture/Ecologies is the 4th conference in the Knowledge/Culture series, a sequence of international conferences created by the Institute for Culture and Society (ICS), Western Sydney University, Australia. The conference is hosted by Universidad Diego Portales in partnership with Pontificia Universidad Católica; Núcleo Milenio de Investigación en Energía y Sociedad (NUMIES); and Centro de Estudios de Conflicto y Cohesión Social (COES).

Ecological change and catastrophe are proliferating in a world in flux and crisis. These new socio-ecological assemblages are creating forms of interspecies intimacy and environmental emergency that challenge existing knowledge practices and demand different modes of collaborating and acting. If life on earth is changing for everybody and everything how can we invent different habitats, milieus, ways of being together that enable more things to matter and make a difference? How are novel forms of social cohesion emerging around socio-environmental conflicts and justice? What experimental knowledge and political practices do we need to understand these emergent socioecologies and provoke new ones? And how do these profound earthly challenges intersect with obdurate and unevenly distributed forms of violence and inequality/exploitation particularly in the 'global south'?

[Visit the conference website.](#)



This XIX ISA World Congress of Sociology will focus on how scholars, public intellectuals, policy makers, journalists and activists from diverse fields can and do contribute to our understanding of power, violence and justice.

Although the scientific consensus on causes and implication of global warming is well established, the climate crisis has provoked three distinct political-economic projects, rooted in differing class fractions and social interests, which currently vie for hegemony at different levels and regions of the world-system. Carbon capitalism is a project of 'business as usual' (in the Stern report's terminology), with efficiency improvements (and possible sunseting of coal) but no major changes to the political ecology of contemporary capitalism. Climate capitalism proposes the ecological modernization of the energy base of capitalism, by redirecting flows of capital away from fossil fuels, and toward more climatically benign sources of energy including hydropower, solar, wind and nuclear. The first two projects are capital-centric: they leave the class structure of capitalism untouched, including the concentration of economic power in the hands of a relatively small group of major investors, executives and corporate directors. In contrast, energy democracy finds its social base in environmental and other progressive movements, including sections of the labour movement. It mandates a dual power shift, from fossil-fuel power to renewables (decarbonization) and from corporate oligarchy to public, democratic control of economic decisions (democratization). This session welcomes papers exploring the sociology of these projects, singly or in combination, especially analyses that foreground issues of political economy and political ecology. For more information on this session see [here](#).

New SCORAI Affiliates

A warm welcome to the following new SCORAI affiliates joining us during the past month, bringing our total membership to 956 individuals:

Louka Andenmatten
Karoline Augenstein
Paul Behrens
Aleksandra Burgiel
Nichola Hutson
Alexandra Kessler
Bettina Koenig
Patrizia Lombardi
Tadhg O'Mahony
Sue Riddlestone
Luciano Villalba
Franziska Wolff
Carolin Zorell

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