



## December 2011 Newsletter

### Dear SCORAI,

This month's newsletter features an exciting contest, opportunities for postdoctoral students, new issues on sustainable consumption, and a synopsis of a symposium on Eugene Rosa's intellectual contributions to the field. Also, Emily was fortunate enough to meet and listen to Annie Leonard, who spoke at the University of Alberta on a very cold, snowy evening. Freshly inspired by this lecture, we have included a link to Leonard's most recent film, "The Story of Broke," in addition to the content you have seen to date.

All the best hopes for a relaxing holiday season, perhaps even avoiding some of the material excesses that accompany this time of year.

Emily and Maurie

### Prize Offered for the 350th SCORAI-er

The current SCORAI membership comprises 300 people (see newsletter item below). With a nod to the climate policy target of 350 ppm of CO<sub>2</sub>, the SCORAI Executive Committee is announcing a campaign to expand the reach of the network to the next level. To incentivize this initiative, SCORAI-er Erik Assadourian, co-creator of the new boardgame *Catan: Oil Springs* (<http://www.oilsprings.catan.com>), has generously offered to provide a free copy of the game. The next fifty people to "get on board" by joining SCORAI will be entered into a random drawing and one lucky individual will receive the prize! Feel free to spread the word to your colleagues and others who might be interested!

### The Story of Broke

Annie Leonard (the Story of Stuff Project) recently released a new movie on the website (<http://www.storyofstuff.org/movies-all/story-of-broke/>). The *Story of Broke* recounts the state of the US economy in the same engaging format that followers of the Story of Stuff Project have come to expect.

### Eugene Rosa's Work as Topic for Boeing

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#### Quick Links

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## Symposium

 Forward to a Friend

Boeing Symposium, Washington State University, 24 September 2011

The appointment of SCORAI-er Eugene (Gene) Rosa as the Boeing Distinguished Professor of Environmental Sociology provided a propitious opportunity to collect a variety of scholars, from both the United States and Europe, from the fields sociology, geography, psychology, energy studies, and policy to examine a variety of cross-cutting topics within Professor Rosa's oeuvre. Symposium speakers presented their current research, at whatever its stage of development, and described how it intersected with Rosa's work-- sometimes extending, sometimes challenging, but always intersecting and always as part of a collective enterprise on understanding pressing societal issues. The central theme of the symposium was risk broadly conceptualized. The outcome was an examination of risk across the full intellectual and policy landscape that the concept envelopes. The presentations, therefore, ranged from examining comprehensive schemes for risk assessment and governance for nation states, to the broad risks of un-sustainability, to theoretical issues about how technology may change the definition of what it may mean to be human (and how that has consumption implications), to how to improve our metrics for understanding the deep underlying attitudes of citizens about the environment. In successfully meeting their charge, the speakers provided promising pathways for moving our understanding of the collection of topics forward. **A volume of symposium papers to collect the insights about those pathways by this remarkable collection of symposium scholars is expected.**

## Job Opportunities

**Northeastern University** has announced a call for several open-rank positions in urban sustainability. Applications are invited from any discipline that contributes to the issue of urban sustainability. The appointment will be made in an appropriate college and department of Northeastern University. Cross-college appointments are also possible and indeed encouraged. Candidates must have a PhD or equivalent terminal degree at the beginning of the appointment and a record of scholarship and teaching commensurate with rank.

To apply, please go to <http://www.northeastern.edu/provost/faculty/positions.html> and click on the Faculty Positions link. Applicants will be asked to upload a letter of application, CV, a statement of current and future research interests, a writing sample of no more than 50 pages, and the names of three referees. Review of applications will begin October 20, 2011. Inquiries from potential senior candidates are welcome and may be directed to the Chair of the Search Committee, Georges Van Den Abbeele, Dean of the College of Social Sciences and

Humanities, [g.vandenabeele@neu.edu](mailto:g.vandenabeele@neu.edu).

And another position in Boston...

**Corporate Accountability International** is looking for a Senior Researcher. The Senior Researcher will play a leading role in developing strategies for our Campaign Challenging Corporate Control of Water and Challenging Corporate Abuse of Our Food.

Candidates should be able to demonstrate a commitment to corporate accountability and social justice, with a global perspective with at least 3 years experience in strategic corporate research, organizing, and advocacy, preferably at a campaign-oriented organization. Other qualifications include: excellent written and oral communication skills; knowledge of corporate accountability issues; demonstrated experience in quantitative analysis, including facility with spreadsheets; experience with fact-checking; and an ability to thrive in a fast-paced campaign environment.

TO APPLY: Email cover letter, résumé, and 3-5 references to Sarah Bennett at [jobs@stopcorporateabuse.org](mailto:jobs@stopcorporateabuse.org)

**Loyola University Chicago** is seeking a Non-Tenure-Track Instructor in Environmental Science (Citizen Engagement). The appointment will be for 3 years, with possibility for renewal. The position primarily involves teaching. Therefore, engaging in independent research and applying for external funds is not required but will not be discouraged.

Candidates must have a Ph.D. and teaching experience at the university level. The successful candidate will be able to teach broadly across the environmental sciences curriculum with particular expertise in the theory and practice of engaging citizens in environmental issues. Within this framework, a focus on undergraduate engagement is especially encouraged. Candidates should submit a current Curriculum Vitae, a teaching statement, and a letter of interest to [www.careers.luc.edu](http://www.careers.luc.edu). Candidates should arrange for three letters of recommendation to be submitted directly on-line at the preceding address. Applications must be submitted on-line by **20 December, 2011** for full consideration.

## **Sustainability Science Fellowships at Harvard University**

The Sustainability Science Program at Harvard University invites applications for resident fellowships in sustainability science for the academic year beginning in September 2012. The fellowship competition is open to advanced **doctoral and post-doctoral students, and to mid-career professionals** engaged in research or practice to facilitate the design, implementation, and evaluation of effective interventions that

promote sustainable development.

The 2012-13 fellowship competition will focus on regional initiatives pursuing an integrated perspective on sustainable development in India, China and Brazil. It will also include a cross-cutting research initiative to integrate work focused on the theme of Innovation for Sustainable Development. The Program is also open, however, to strong proposals in any area of sustainability science.

Due date is **January 15, 2012**, and successful applicants will be notified by March, 2012. See <http://www.hks.harvard.edu/centers/cid/programs/sustsci> for more information.

## **Simplify the Holidays**

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Are you dreaming of the perfect holiday... one with more meaning and less stuff?

It's not too late to take the 2011 Simplify the Holidays Challenge - an easy way to add more meaning and more environmental mindfulness to the holiday season. It's also a great way to build awareness and support for the programs and services of the Center for a New American Dream! Here's how the Challenge works: Choose 5 actions (or more!) to adopt this holiday season. Then, ask your friends and family to sponsor you in support of your efforts, perhaps even in lieu of a material gift. You will receive an email letting you know when friends and family have made a donation on your behalf.

Click here to check out the pledge:  
<http://www.newdream.org/programs/beyond-consumerism/simplify-holidays-challenge>

All sponsorship donations will help New Dream expand our programs and resources, such as our Collaborative Communities program and videos like our Plenitude animation, which has received nearly 60,000 views and counting!

## **Special Issues with Sustainable Consumption Content**

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### **Environmental Politics**

The recent issue of the Journal *Environmental Politics* (now on-line at: <http://www.tandfonline.com/toc/fenp20/current>) offers a symposium on local environmental conflicts, communities and culture.

### **Advances in Ecopolitics**

The most recent (Volume 8) in Emerald's series of publications focuses on Advances in Ecopolitics. The latest issue, "Sustainable Politics and the Crisis of the Peripheries:

Ireland and Greece" examines the impact of the economic crisis on peripheral European states such as Ireland and Greece. See: <http://www.emeraldinsight.com/products/books/series.htm?id=2041-806X> for more information.

## **Special Issues Seeking Content**

### **Sustainability: Science, Practice, and Policy**

The journal *Sustainability: Science, Practice, and Policy* has issued a call for contributions to a special issue on "Sustainable Food Consumption: Current Trends, Policy Approaches, and Future Scenarios."

Food is a major issue in the politics of sustainable consumption and production (SCP) because of its impact on the environment, health, social cohesion, and the economy. Achieving sustainable food consumption requires the design and implementation of policies that tackle the problems of both over- and under-consumption, together with food-safety issues in affluent societies, and food-security considerations in the poorer regions of the planet.

This special issue will focus on food consumption in the context of unsustainable environmental, health, social, and economic trends, among other topics. Abstracts of up to 500 words should be sent by **December 1, 2011** to Michal Sedlacko, Research Institute for Managing Sustainability (RIMAS), Vienna University of Economics and Business, E-mail: [michal.sedlacko@wu.ac](mailto:michal.sedlacko@wu.ac). See the following link for more detailed information:

<http://sspp.proquest.com/about/special.html>

### **Journal of Nonprofit and Public Sector Marketing**

The *Journal of Nonprofit and Public Sector Marketing* announces plans for a special issue on Transformative Ethical/Sustainable Consumption Research. The special issue is scheduled to be published in Issue 4 2012.

In this call for papers we contend that the time to just "describe the phenomenon" has passed and thus seek rigorous ethical consumption research that provides actionable insights for practitioners and consumers. In this light, after two rounds of academic review, we will facilitate the collaboration of leading ethical consumption practitioners/marketers with the authors of accepted papers to co-develop relevant insights and practical guidance for marketing managers. These insights will form Managerial Implications sections at the end of each paper in the special issue.

Prospective contributors are welcome to contact the Special Issue Co-Editors to clarify questions about the potential suitability of topics: Dr Iain Black ([ian.black@ed.ac.uk](mailto:ian.black@ed.ac.uk)); Dr Terry Newholm ([terry.newholm@mbs.ac.uk](mailto:terry.newholm@mbs.ac.uk)); and Michal

Carrington ([m.carrington@latrobe.edu.au](mailto:m.carrington@latrobe.edu.au)). Please submit your papers for peer review for the Special Issue by **December 30, 2011** to Michal Carrington.

## **New Publications by SCORAI Members and Friends**

Venkat Somasundaram sent us links to two of his recent articles:

1. REPORT for businesses involving Stakeholders:  
After summarizing research reports from PwC, KPMG, Deloitte, AccountAbility, Harvard Business Review(HBR), I interviewed Mike Krzus, the author of One Report: Better Strategy through Integrated Reporting & Joanne Westwood of Vancity for determining action plans for implementing in any company. <http://www.carbon49.com/2011/10/integrated-reporting-views-from-pricewaterhousecoopers-kpmg-experts-practitioners/>
2. The Future of CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY v3.0:  
According to the findings in the 2011 McKinsey survey "The Business of Sustainability", businesses are moving from merely managing reputations to recording and reporting impact and finally to action and engagement. In this article, I have divided corporate sustainability initiatives into three versions, based on the level of maturity. Further on, I will present the three key challenges for the future of corporate sustainability. <http://www.carbon49.com/2011/09/the-future-of-corporate-sustainability-mckinsey-pwc/>

## **Upcoming Conferences & Workshops**

Eighth International Conference on Environmental, Cultural, Economic, and Social Sustainability, January 10-12, 2012, University of British Columbia, Vancouver, Canada See: <http://www.SustainabilityConference.com>.

The RESPONDER Project. The project links sustainable consumption and growth debates and takes into account aspects of green growth, non-growth and degrowth. See <http://www.scp-responder.eu>.

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Next events as part of RESPONDER:

- 26-27 January 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Food Consumption (Lisbon)
- 15-17 February 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Household Electronics (Vienna).
- 7-9 March 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Household Savings and Debts (London).
- 21-23 March 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Mobility (Bratislava).
- 28-30 March 2012 Multinational knowledge brokerage event on Sustainable Housing (Barcelona).

European Seminar on the "Geography of Innovation," January

26-28, 2012, Saint-Etienne, France. See:  
<http://www.euolio.eu>.

"Challenging Consumerism: Toward Living Well Sustainably". The Sustainable Consumption Research and Action Initiative (SCORAI) is collaborating with the Liu Institute for Global Issues at the University of British Columbia (UBC) and the One Earth Initiative Society to convene the Third SCORAI Workshop on the UBC campus on 8-10 March 2012.

The Partnership for Education and Research about Responsible Living (PERL) will host "Beyond Consumption. Pathways to Responsible Living" 19-20 March, 2012 in Berlin. You will find the Call for Proposals on the PERL website <http://www.perlprojects.org/Project-sites/PERL/News-Events/News/PERL-conference-Berlin-March-2012>.

European Roundtable on Sustainable Consumption & Production (ERSCP), 2-4 May, 2012, Bregenz, Austria. See <http://www.erscp2012.eu/> for more details.

The International Society for Ecological Economics is holding its next biennial conference in Rio de Janeiro, 29 May-1 June, 2012 to dovetail with Rio+20 UNCSO. For details see <http://www.ecoeco.org/content/2011/06/2012-isee-conference-call-for-papers>.

**NEW:** The International Association for Society & Natural Resources (ISSRM) is holding its annual symposium June 17-21, 2012 in Edmonton, Alberta, Canada. Abstracts for traditional science paper presentations are due by **January 15, 2012**. See the conference website for more details: <http://www.issrm2012.iasnr.org/>

The World Congress on Global Well-Being will be held July 16-21, 2012 in Melbourne, Australia. See the conference website for more details: <http://www.ifhe2012.org/>.

The International Conference on Culture, Politics, and Climate Change will be held September 13-15, 2012 in Boulder, Colorado USA. Deadline for abstracts: **January 10**.

3rd International Conference on Degrowth for Ecological Sustainability and Social Equity will be held September 19-23, 2012 in Venice, Italy. See the conference website for more details at <http://www.venezia2012.it>.

**NEW:** "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. Proposal deadline is Wednesday, **February 1, 2012**. Please send queries and proposals to Matthew Evenden, Chair of Canadian Studies, UBC: CNS-conference2012@geog.ubc.ca.

**New SCORAI Affiliates**



SCORAI welcomes the following new affiliates to the network during the month of November. Total membership is currently 300(!) people.

Laura Burgess  
Karin Doberig  
Rebecca Elliott  
Felicitas Evangelista  
Lenka Fendrychova  
Alice Gronhoj  
Andrew Jamision  
Johan Jansson  
Julia Meyer-MacLeod  
Ruta Petersonaite  
Silvia Rief  
Andreas Ruether  
Martin Schweighofer  
Barbara Smetschka  
Arnold Tukker  
Anne Wiese

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