



Dear SCORAI,

We hope this newsletter finds you enjoying the last days of summer and gearing up for a great fall. This month we have a number of updates about SCORAI'S new social media tool (which we encourage you to take advantage of!) and conferences in the works. As always, there are a host of new publications, videos, and other items of interest we hope you enjoy learning about.

All the best,

Kate & Debbie & Maurie

## **Session Proposals and Abstracts Now Being Accepted for SCORAI Conference!**

Proposals for sessions and paper/poster abstracts are now being accepted for the upcoming SCORAI conference, being held June 12-14 2013 at Clark University in Worcester, Massachusetts, USA. The theme of the conference is "The Future of Consumerism and Well-being in a World of Ecological Constraints." The deadline for submissions is October 1. Further details are available on the SCORAI website: <http://www.scorai.org>

The conference aims to:

1. Improve our understanding of the complex driving forces underlying prevalent consumerist lifestyles in the wealthy parts of the globe.
2. Generate insights about fostering a necessary transition toward alternative ways of pursuing individual and societal well-being in a technological society cognizant of ecological limits.
3. Build on recent developments to establish a vibrant global research community focused on sustainable consumption.

## **September**

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**issue:**  
**SCORAI**  
**Conference**  
**New Social Media**  
**Tool**  
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**Opportunities**  
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## **Executive Board**

**Jeffrey Barber**  
 Integrative  
 Strategies Forum

**Halina Brown**  
 Clark University

**Maurie Cohen**  
 New Jersey  
 Institute of  
 Technology

**John Stutz**  
 Tellus Institute

**Philip Vergragt**  
 Tellus Institute and  
 Clark University

Contributions to the conference should seek to advance theoretical and applied research relevant to the field of sustainable consumption. Especially welcome is interdisciplinary work that addresses the following and related topics:

- [Consumerism from different perspectives](#)
- [Alternative visions and framings of post-consumerism](#)
- [Emergent contours of post-consumerist society](#)

For details on the submission of session proposals and paper/poster abstracts, timetables, registration instructions and fees, and accommodations, please visit the SCORAI 2013 website. Questions regarding the conference can be directed to [scorai2013@clarku.edu](mailto:scorai2013@clarku.edu).

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## Sign-Up for SCORAI's New Social Media Tool

Here is an exciting development! The new SCORAI website features a social media tool to facilitate networking and collaboration. View the current list of participants under the "affiliates" tab on the main menu bar at <http://www.scorai.org>. The more people who engage with this forum the more useful it will become. Building your own profile is simple. Just follow these easy steps.

1. Go to <http://www.scorai.org> and create an account by clicking on "register" in the upper right-hand corner.
2. Fill in the fields on both the left and right sides of the form and click "complete sign up."
3. You will receive an email asking you to activate your account. Click on the link in the email to activate. (Important: Make sure your previous browser is closed otherwise you will receive an auto-generated notice about an activation key. If you receive a prompt asking for an activation key, just close the window).
4. You can then view your profile under the "affiliates" tab on the main menu bar. You can also make any changes to your profile by clicking on "profile" and then "edit."

You should also add a picture to your profile using the following steps:

1. Go to <http://www.scorai.org> and login in using your user name and password.
2. Click the "affiliates" tab on the main toolbar and then select your own profile.
3. Click "profile and then "change avatar."
4. Follow the on-screen instructions for uploading a picture.

By clicking on the academic or professional specializations in your own or any of the other profiles you will be able to quickly and effortlessly find others with similar interests. The profile tool also allows you to create affinity groups and to create your own communication platforms. that will run off of the website. Feedback welcome to Maurie Cohen at [mcohen@adm.njit.edu](mailto:mcohen@adm.njit.edu).

## Greening Growing Giants

**Rapidly industrializing countries** represent a crucial environmental challenge and opportunity. The *Journal of Industrial Ecology* is pleased to announce the publication of a special issue, [Greening Growing Giants](#), focusing on the application of the concepts and tools of industrial ecology material flow analysis, environmentally-extended input-output analysis, life cycle assessment to problems, developments, and strategies in these countries.

With a strong emphasis on China, articles address the greening of national policies, industrial sectors, cities and supply chains. Quantification of the flows and consumption of resources, and of the emissions of greenhouse gas and sulfur dioxide along with detailed disaggregation and analysis of the drivers of those flows and emissions are of particular focus. Countries examined include China, Brazil, Thailand, Japan, Russia, India, South Africa and Argentina. Materials, resources and industries include construction, steel, nickel, water, phosphorus, pulp & paper, palm oil, and biodiesel from waste.

*The [Journal of Industrial Ecology](#) is a bimonthly peer-reviewed scientific journal, owned by Yale University, published by Wiley-Blackwell and headquartered at the Yale School of Forestry & Environmental Studies. It is the official journal of the [International Society for Industrial Ecology](#). Seiji Hashimoto of the Ritsumei University (Japan), Sangwon Suh of the University of California, Santa Barbara (USA), Xuemei Bai of the Australian National University (Australia), and Marina Fischer-Kowalski of the SEC - Social Ecology (Austria) served as co-editors of the special issue.*

## **Check Out These New Videos**

Two short videos that will likely interest the SCORAI community (and teachers in particular) were recently released.

[The Story of Change](#) - produced by Annie Leonard's Story of Stuff Project

[Don't Worry Drive On: Fossil Fools and Fracking Lies](#) - produced by The Post Carbon Institute

## **Professional and Educational Opportunities**

**Colorado State University.** The Department of Sociology invites applications for an entry-level tenure-track Assistant Professor (nine-month position) to begin August 15, 2013. Completion of Ph.D. in Sociology or related social science is required by time of appointment. Applicants must also be able to teach a combination of courses related to sociology and environmental and natural resource sociology. The Department offers B.A., M.A., and Ph.D. degrees and consists of thirteen tenured and tenure-track faculty members. The focus of the graduate program is social change with four areas of strength in 1) environment/natural resources, 2) food, agriculture, and development, 3) crime, law, and deviance, and 4) social inequality, social justice, and governance. Faculty members are expected to participate in instruction,

to develop a program of research and publication, be engaged in the graduate program, and to be active in service. Applications will be considered until the position is filled; however, candidates should submit complete applications by September 28, 2012 for full consideration. Once the search committee has identified semi-finalists, departmental faculty will have access to those files. Interested candidates should send as email attachments (1) letter of interest outlining research agenda and teaching interests, (2) a curriculum vitae, (3) if available, evidence of teaching effectiveness (e.g., syllabi and teaching evaluations), and (4) three letters of reference to: [cla-soc\\_faculty\\_search@mail.colostate.edu](mailto:cla-soc_faculty_search@mail.colostate.edu)

Full position announcement can be viewed at: <http://central.colostate.edu/department/sociology/>

Colorado State University is an EO/EA/AA Employer and conducts background checks on all final candidates.

## **New Publications & Reports by SCORAI'ers**

A new book by Ann Thorpe, *Architecture & Design versus Consumerism: How design confronts growth* (Earthscan for Routledge, 2012) will be released this September. Taking as its premise that in high income countries consumer-driven economic growth constitutes one of the biggest obstacles to real sustainability, the book focuses on the ways that spatial and material designers can confront this constant pressure for growth.

The book opens by tackling the four main challenges of consumerism, including the accelerating pace of consumerism, and highlights how designers are responding. The second half of the book turns to examples that illustrate the five main methods design activists use to confront the challenges of consumerism including organizing, mobilization, design competitions or demonstration buildings. Closing chapters examine how these methods and tactics have the capacity to bring about change, despite their low budgets and speculate on how the role of design might be transformed in a "post-growth" society.

The author is offering workshops on the book and promoting the idea that readers form discussion groups. Learn more at <http://www.designvsconsumerism.net>.

Hawkins, R. 2012. Shopping to save lives: Gender and Environment meets Ethical Consumption. *Geoforum*. 43(4): 750-759.  
<<http://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0016718512000024>>

## **Transition Lessons from Complex Systems Modeling**

A call for papers has been issued for contributions to a special issue on complex systems modeling and transitions with a special emphasis on interdisciplinary input. The underlying idea is that research on transitions can benefit from insights gained in other fields dealing with systems displaying phenomena such as lock-in, meta-stability, cascades,

positive and negative feedback, emergence, and hierarchical organization. These phenomena arise in a wide variety of systems - including most prominently biology and social systems - and they can be understood using a variety of models. Under the label of complex systems modelling we want to include approaches to the analysis of sustainability transitions that explicitly deal with historical path-dependency through complex systems, developmental, evolutionary or other types of models.

Focusing on the structure and dynamics of transitions in the context of sustainability there are two questions of particular import: (i) which aspects of the current organization of innovation are responsible for producing unsustainable outcomes, and which changes and policies are needed to alter this situation? (ii) What roles do and can models play in the interactions between researchers, policymakers and society, and what does this imply for the design and use of models?

Abstracts of potential contributions (1 page maximum) can be submitted until October 30 to the editor of the special issue (Claes Andersson, [claeand@chalmers.se](mailto:claeand@chalmers.se)). Full papers can be submitted before 15 January 2013 through the journal's website (<http://ees.elsevier.com/eist>). Papers will be submitted to a normal review procedure. Publication is foreseen by the end of 2013 or early 2014.

## **Upcoming Conferences & Workshops**

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

**3rd International Conference on De-growth 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](mailto:CNS-conference2012@geog.ubc.ca).

**Sustainable Innovation 2012 Resource Efficiency, Innovation and Lifestyles** will hold their 17th International Conference 29th-30th October 2012 at Alanus University in Bonn Germany.

**Boundaries of Consumption: Critical Perspectives on Race, Class, Gender, Citizenship and Space in Changing Markets** will be held in San Francisco, CA from November 14-18.

**Workshop: Responsible Supply Chains and Networks: Challenges for Governance and Sustainability**. The conference will be held in Stockholm, Sweden, 22-24 November 2012.

**Conference on Innovators and Concepts of Innovation 2012** will be

held on November 22-23 2012 in Friedrichshafen, Germany.

**The 3rd Annual European Postgraduate Symposium - "Sustainable Development Symposium"** will be held February 13th - 15th 2013 at "Parthenope" University of Naples, Italy. The Symposium, in the past editions, represented an important occasion for many PhD Students and young researchers to present their work and share ideas with young colleagues from all parts of Europe. The Abstract Submission phase will be open from 1st September to 30th October 2012. You can find further and detailed info at : <http://sds2013.uniparthenope.it/>

**ECEEE 2013 Summer Study** will be held 3-8 June 2013 at Belambra, Presqu'île de Giens, Toulon/Hyères, France. In June it will be 20 years since eceee held its first Summer Study; however, you can start celebrating now. It is time to sharpen your pen (well, they do request all abstracts to be submitted on-line) and focus your thoughts on abstracts that will contribute to the eceee 2013 Summer Study. Papers presented at the Summer Study form the scholarly backbone of eceee's work to provide evidence-based information on energy efficiency.

Abstracts will be welcomed under the following thematic topics: Foundations of future energy policy, energy efficiency policies, local action and national examples, transport and mobility, cutting the energy use of buildings, appliance policy and technology, the ICT supply chain, advanced building technologies, monitoring and evaluation, and dynamics of consumption.

The call for papers will open in early September and will close the 4th of October. Please contact [marlyne.sahakian@graduateinstitute.ch](mailto:marlyne.sahakian@graduateinstitute.ch) with questions.

## **New SCORAI Affiliates**

A warm welcome to our newest SCORAI'ers, who bring our current number of affiliates to 449.

Donica Belisle	Stephen McCauley
Anita Bhappu	Michael Mintz
Ryan Collins	Jeremy Osborn
Terence Duerden	George Papachristos
Althea Godfrey	Jane Raftery
Anne Hawthorne	Richard Rosen
Jennifer Hirsch	Guy Salmon
Donald Huisingh	Marco Sonnberger
Elias Jones	Jennie Stephens
Amanda Marchosky	Ines Thronicker
Ezra Markowitz	Ivo Valkenburg
Heather Marsh	Adam Werbach

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