The 2012 Charles L. Miller Lecture was marked by an outstanding turnout and an engaging discussion of the study of complex sociotechnical systems, as ESD Interim Director Joseph Sussman presented the lecture to an overflowing audience in Grier Room B (Building 34) on Wednesday, April 25. A brief overview of the talk is provided in an MIT website news item, and the complete lecture will be available for online viewing on the TechTV website. (Once the video is live on the TechTV site, the link will be provided in the ESD Digest and on the ESD website.)

Last week, Professor Nancy Leveson hosted a three-day workshop at which more than 250 safety engineering professionals from around the world gathered to learn about STAMP (System-Theoretic Accident Model and Processes) and to explore the event’s theme, “Engineering a Safer World.” The event also coincided with the publication of Leveson’s book on the topic, titled Engineering a Safer World: Systems Thinking Applied to Safety (which is a part of the MIT Press Engineering Systems Book Series). Read a full news item about this event on the MIT website.

Tony Craig and Woei Ling Leow have both successfully defended their ESD PhD dissertations. Tony Craig’s dissertation title is: “Measuring Supply Chain Carbon Efficiency: A Carbon Label Framework” (Committee: Y. Sheffi (chair), E. Moniz, E. Blanco, R. Kirchain, M. Khan). Woei Ling Leow’s dissertation title is: “Zoning and Occupancy-Moderation for Residential Space-Conditioning under Demand-Driven Electricity Pricing” (Committee: R. Larson (chair), J. Kirtley, R. Welsch). Congratulations to both!

Reminder: On May 8-9, the Leaders for Global Operations program presents the conference “The Future of Manufacturing in the U.S.” The impressive roster of speakers includes industry leaders, MIT faculty (including several from ESD), and government and labor representatives. Full details at: http://lgo.mit.edu/conference/.

Ruth Carrasco-Gallego, Eva Ponce-Cueto (Visiting Professor, MIT Center for Transportation & Logistics), and Rommert Dekker. Closed-loop supply chains of reusable articles: a typology grounded on case

Also, a recent, related conference presentation:

IN THE MEDIA

Eric von Hippel talks about user innovation
“America’s 12 Million Amateur Innovators”
NPR: Blogs – April 23, 2012

Also, this recent blog post cites his user innovation research:
“Go Innovate on the Periphery”

EVENTS

Monday, April 30, 2012
SDM Systems Thinking Webinar Series: The Emergence of a Digital Money Ecosystem
Irving Wladawsky-Berger, PhD, Visiting Lecturer, MIT Engineering Systems Division and MIT Sloan School of Management.
Time: 12-1pm

Wednesday, May 2, 2012
LAI Research Seminars:
Pankaj Kashyap - Defining True Business Potential of an Enterprise
Time: 4:00-4:45pm
Deniz Eralp - Performance Analysis Task for Siemens ABDC Project
Time: 4:45-5:30pm
Location: E38-615

Thursday, May 3, 2012
Supply Chain Innovation and Leadership Speaker (SCILS) Series
"Leading Global Cost Reduction Programs @ Toyota and Johnson Controls: How the MLOG Degree Helped"
Derrick Redding (SCM'02) Title: General Manager Toyota Business Unit, Johnson Controls, Inc.
Time: 12-1pm
Location: E51-315
Derrick will discuss how his MLOG degree helped at Toyota as well as at Johnson Controls in his various roles, including leading global cost reduction for the Nissan business and, in his current role, leading the global Corolla Seating business. He will talk about tools that can be used to identify variation in manufacturing plants and how it can be eliminated, reduced or contained. (Lunch available starting at 11:30)

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