ESD NEWS

The Sociotechnical Systems Research Center (SSRC) is launching a new seminar series entitled: Designing Systems for a Complex World. The inaugural lecture will be “Designing Processes for Understanding Complex Sociotechnical Systems: Are We There Yet?” and will be delivered by Professor Joseph Sussman on Wednesday, February 6 at 4:15-5:30pm in E25-111. (Reception to follow.)

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The students of IAP subject ESD.S50 and Professor Noelle Selin have been attending negotiations in Geneva for a global treaty on mercury, and have been blogging and tweeting about it. (Read more on the MIT website.) Prof. Selin was quoted in this article on the negotiations: "Mercury emissions threaten ocean, lake food webs" - Environmental Health News - January 18, 2013, which was picked up by Scientific American. Additional coverage to follow.

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The MIT Portugal Program’s key role in transforming Portuguese higher education was recently acknowledged by a publication in the top journal on university developments, Higher Education Policy. The MPP leadership team published data that was collected from multiple surveys and interview studies over the course of MPP Phase 1. The publication is: “Seeding Change through International University Partnerships: The MIT Portugal Program as a Driver of Internationalization, Networking, and Innovation.” This and other news about MIT Portugal can be found in its most recent newsletter.

IN THE MEDIA

Editorial about BLOSSOMS co-authored by Richard Larson
“A richer Science, Maths experience”
New Straits Times – January 18, 2013

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Professor Utterback honored by KU Leuven at its bi-annual Leuven International Forum
“James Utterback honored as exemplar of excellence”
Also on the SDM and ESD websites

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Additional coverage of traffic research led by Marta González
“Key source of Bay Area traffic headaches revealed by top researchers”

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John Hansman quoted in coverage of recent Boeing Dreamliner problems
“Japan Airlines 787 Springs Fuel Leak; Second Incident This Week”
ABC News - Online – January 8, 2013

“High-tech Dreamliner grounded by small fire” (includes video)
Boston Globe – January 8, 2013

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Item on the work of Sandy Pentland
“The Science of Subtle Signals”
Forbes – Online – January 7, 2013

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Op-ed co-authored by Alan B. Davidson, visiting scholar at TPP and former director of public policy for the Americas at Google
“Is Google Like Gas or Like Steel?”

EVENTS

Friday, January 25, 2013
Dissertation Defense of Dan Sturtevant
Time: 10am–12pm
Location: E40-298
Title: System Design and the Cost of Architectural Complexity
Committee: S. Eppinger (chair), A. MacCormack (supervisor), C. Magee, D. Jackson

Monday, January 28, 2013
SDM Systems Thinking Webinar Series:
Applying a Complex System Architecture Evaluation Method to the 2005 Ford GT 200 MPH Supercar
Scott Ahlman, MIT System Design and Management alumnus President, Ahlman Engineering, Inc.
Time: 12-1pm

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