ESD NEWS

The MIT Leading Technology and Policy Initiative forum (Sept. 25-27) brought together 45 academics and policy-makers from across the U.S. and Europe. The specific focus of the forum was how research and analysis can better capture real-world systems that include social, natural, and technological dimensions in policy-relevant ways. Discussions focused on the domains of energy, environment and sustainability. Read more on the MIT website.

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Elsa Olivetti, research scientist in ESD, has been hired as Assistant Professor of Materials Science and Engineering, joining the DMSE faculty in January 2014. Since completing her PhD in DMSE in 2007, she has worked in the MIT Materials Systems Lab with Joel Clark and Randy Kirchain.

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Shardul Phadnis, Robert Perez-Franco, Chris Caplice, and Yossi Sheffi presented a paper at this year’s CSCMP Educators’ Meeting. The paper is called, “Educating supply chain professions to work in global virtual teams,” and examines nine characteristics of teamwork, eleven demographic and personality attributes of individual team members, and various methods of communication that influence the performance of global virtual teams in the supply chain profession. The full paper can be downloaded here as a PDF.

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The Zaragoza Logistics Center (ZLC), Zaragoza, Spain, is celebrating its 10th anniversary this week. Read more in this new post on the Supply Chain @ MIT blog, “How to Harness the Economic Power of Logistics Clusters.”

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Dimitri Weideli, a master’s student at the École Polytechnique Federale de Lausanne in Lausanne, Switzerland, who completed his master’s thesis at CTL under the supervision of Dr. Edgar Blanco, won the BG Ingénieur-conseil (système et développement durable) prize, which honors a master’s project making a significant contribution to the design of systems in the field of sustainable development. This prize is awarded by BG Consulting Engineers, one of Switzerland’s leading international engineering companies.

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Joseph Coughlin, director of MIT AgeLab, received the Partners Healthcare Connected Health Leadership Award for his innovative research in health technology and services to improve the lives of older adults. Presented at the Annual Meeting of the Center for Connected Health, a gathering of global thought and industry leaders in health systems innovation, Dr. Coughlin was presented with the award by
Dr. Joseph Kvedar, Director of the Center for Connected Health and Harvard Professor of Medicine at Massachusetts General Hospital. The award cites Coughlin as an innovator, mentor and leader in the field and acknowledges his "extraordinary skill, commitment to improving the lives of others and dedication to enabling a world where people live independently and with dignity."

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News from MIT Portugal: The international conference “Railroads in Historical Context: Construction, Costs and Consequences” brought together more than 40 experts on Oct. 11-13 to discuss both the history and the future of the Tua railroad and Tua Valley. Read more on the MIT website.

IN THE MEDIA

Article on public health research project from ESD team
“MIT researchers seek to create tool to identify sources of foodborne illness outbreaks”
MIT News - October 21, 2013

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Noelle Selin quoted in article on global treaty on mercury
“Global treaty on mercury emissions signed”
Chemistry World – October 24, 2013

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Article by ESD PhD candidate Josephine Wolff
“If You Have a High-Profile Job, Do Not Create a Jerky, Anonymous Twitter Account”
Slate – Future Tense blog – October 24, 2013

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Item on Warren Seering’s spring design class, 2.739 (Product Design and Development)
“Students prepare for real-world product development through hands-on collaboration”
MIT News – October 22, 2013

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Sandy Pentland quoted in article about unreliable research
“Trouble at the lab: Scientists like to think of science as self-correcting. To an alarming degree, it is not”
The Economist – Online – October 18, 2013

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Joseph Coughlin quote in article about immediate annuities and retirement planning
“Immediate annuities: When guaranteed income is a bad bet” (includes video)
CNN Money - October 11, 2013

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Nicholas Ashford talks about the perils and challenges posed by distractive driving related to computers, GPS technology, and mobile communication devices in automobiles
Episode 266: “The Pros and Cons of Connectivity”
The Peggy Smedley Show (radio) – October 15, 2013
EVENTS

Tuesday, October 29, 2013
ESD Faculty Lunch
Time: 12-1pm
Location: E40-298

Wednesday, October 30, 2013
ESS Doctoral Symposia
Adam Williams: "System Security - Reframing the Protection of Nuclear Materials and Facilities"
**RSVP by Monday at midnight: http://signup.mit.edu/ess**
Time: 12-1pm
Location: E40-298

Wednesday, October 30, 2013
The MIT Sociotechnical Systems Research Center (SSRC) continues its series, "Conversations on Sociotechnical Systems."
Sloan PhD student Phech Colatat will present "Organizational Influence in Autism Diagnosis: Adaptation from Imprinting."
Time: 4:15-5:30pm
Location: E38-615
Light refreshments will be served.

Wednesday, October 30, 2013
Global Technology & Policy Research Seminar
Professor Venkatesh Narayanamurti, Department of Engineering and Applied Sciences, Harvard Kennedy School
"Innovation, Science and Technology Policy, and the Public Good"
Time: 3:00-4:30pm
Location: E40-298

Friday, November 1, 2013
CTL Distinguished Speaker Series
Robert C. Johns, Director of Volpe National Transportation Systems Center, Research and Innovative Technology Administration, U.S. Department of Transportation
(Lunch to be served.)
Time: 12-1pm
Location: 32-155

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