



Sustainability Perspectives

Spring 2019

All talks in this series take place on Mondays at **12:20PM**
in the **deWitt Lecture Room** (Zabriskie 106).

February 4 *Sustainable Architecture: exploring and unraveling elements of healthy, livable and resilient buildings and communities*

Dennis Andrejko, FAIA, head, Department of Architecture, *Golisano Institute for Sustainability*

Service to society is at the core of the architectural profession. In a multitude of ways, the architectural design process explores methods and suggests solutions to enrich and improve not only buildings, but also regions, communities, and neighborhoods. Sustainable architecture provides an opportunity to provide cutting-edge design that is high performing, energy efficient, environmentally sensitive, and contextually driven. This presentation shares ideas centered on forward-thinking sustainable built environments that ultimately enhance the health, well-being, resiliency and vibrancy of those we serve.



February 11 *Change is in the Air: Global Climate Change from a NY Perspective*

Art DeGaetano, director, *Northeast Regional Climate Center*

Historical climate observations and climate model projections will be used to show how global climate change is affecting New York and the Northeastern United States. Future projections rely heavily on simulations from climate models. To gain an appreciation for the accuracy of these model projections, an introduction to the Earth's climate system and the basic working of a modern climate model will be discussed.

February 18 *The State of Environmental Policy and Sustainable Land Use Policy in NY*

Rachel Partington '13, J.D., attorney, *Knauf Shaw LLP*

This Wells alumna will explain the current state of environmental policy in New York State and how state policies can serve as a backstop to the rollbacks of environmental protections by the EPA under the Trump administration, and how effective land use policy can shape sustainable community development.



February 25 *Be an Informed Consumer: How the purchases we make affect health & the environment*

Kate Winnebeck, senior program manager, *NYS Pollution Prevention Institute*

How can we make a difference every day in our health and the environment? This talk will provide valuable information about where toxins may be in our everyday lives, what's being done to reduce them, and recommend best practices to make informed decisions about the products we buy.

March 4 *Fashion Sustainability Optimism: On Pace for a Healthier Fashion Industry*

Laura Taylor, instructor of Fashion Business Merchandising, *Genesee Community College*

Varied fashions are required to fill the needs of diverse consumer target markets, resulting in a range of slow fashion and fast fashion products. The fast/slow fashion spectrum results in unique sustainability barriers and challenges in the fashion industry. This presentation explores current industry, business, academic, and consumer contributions to a sustainable fashion industry that can encourage small changes in our behavior.



March 25 *Recycling is Mightier than the Sword*

Theresa Evans, recycling specialist, *Onondaga County Resource Recovery Agency*

The Chinese government recently announced a "National Sword" campaign to cut down on recycling contamination. China is a major player with significant influence in global recycling markets and their "sword" has caused many U.S. municipalities to rethink their recycling programs. Whether this changes what is accepted in curbside recycling, raises costs felt by taxpayers, or impacts paper mills and other infrastructure in this country, a lot is happening with recycling right now. Learn about this dynamic and changing industry, current and future recycling trends, and actions you can take at home to help ensure that recycling remains strong in New York State. Bring your toughest trash questions and try to stump the expert!

April 1 *"God's in his heaven— All's right with the world": The power of story in communicating climate change*

Fae Dremock, assistant professor, Department of Environmental Studies and Sciences, *Ithaca College*

What's happening to the ecosystem as a result of global climate change is terrifying. Explaining the possibility of human extinction, and making clear the subsequent extremely urgent need to move to sustainable, regenerative lifestyles, is absolutely vital— yet the obstacles of belief, fear of change, and the frenzy of fake news are formidable. We will take a look at the power of story as a tool to undermine science— and as a tool to fight back.



April 8 *Alive or Undead? Wild Food Foraging and the Fear of a Zombie Apocalypse*

Taylor Reid, assistant professor of Applied Food Studies, *Culinary Institute of America*

This talk will explore the links between two recent phenomena: the meteoric rise in popularity of the zombie genre, and a surging interest in wild food foraging among survivalists, chefs, nature lovers, and average Joes. It is argued that both are connected to issues of environmental alienation, and fears of ecological collapse. The presentation will also provide an introduction to foraging, and an overview of the health and nutrition benefits of many commonly available wild foods.

April 15 *Veganism is Environmentalism*

Demosthenes Maratos, Communications Director for the Sustainability Institute, *Molloy College*

A growing and convincing body of evidence clearly indicates that raising animals for human consumption is the driving force behind virtually every major category of environmental damage now threatening the planet. Via an overview of widely and lesser-known global reports and studies on the subject, this presentation will demonstrate how adopting a vegan diet and ethical framework is something all of us can do today, and something that can have far-reaching implications for the planet and all life on Earth.



April 22 *The Promise of Silvopasture*

Steve Gabriel, farmer, author, extension specialist for *Cornell Small Farms Program*

Humans' relationship to animals has a long and storied past, yet modern agriculture has sought to separate forest and field, animal and pasture. The agroforestry practice of silvopasture combines trees, animals, and forages in a symbiotic and dynamic ecosystem. Steve will discuss the potential for this innovative farming practice that ranks among the best for addressing a changing climate.

All **Sustainability Perspectives** series talks are free and open to the public.